

Highlands' Newspaper

FREE

Volume 6, Number 44

PDF Version – www.HighlandsInfo.com

Thursday, Oct. 30, 2008

This Week in Highlands

- Junior and Seniors at Highlands School! There's a tour of UNC-Asheville, set for Saturday, Nov. 8. Nine students have signed up but there's room for four more. Mars Hill and Warren Wilson College may also be visited. The trip is free. If interested, call Buz Dotson at 526-5587.

- The Bascom offers art classes for preschoolers to pre-teens. Call (828) 526-4949, ext. 0#, or visit www.thebascom.org.

- Collections for men and women overseas at Chestnut Hill Retirement community. To schedule a drop-off, contact Jeremy Duke in our community office at (828) 787-2114.

- Various exercise classes at Health Tracks at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. Call 828-526-1FIT.

Mondays & Wednesdays

- Middle School students After School Program from 3-5 p.m. at the Rec Park. For more information please call 526-3556.

Mon., Wed., & Fri.

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

Wed., & Fri.

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

Mondays

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

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

Thursdays

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

Thursdays & Fridays

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

Friday & Saturday

- 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. Flat Mountain Road. 526-2121.

Saturdays

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

Thursday, Oct. 30

- Halloween "Enchanted Forest" Nature Trail at the Highlands Nature Center. Group tours leave every 15 minutes from 6:30 – 8:30 pm. \$1 per person.

Thurs.-Sun., Oct. 30-Nov. 2

- "Booze It & Lose It" Highway Safety Initiative. The Macon County Sheriff's Office will participate in this ini-

tiative by proactively patrolling and operating Motor Vehicle Checking Stations to enforce Highway Safety Laws.

Friday, Oct. 31

- At the Instant Theater at 8 p.m.. Hurricane Creek in a Halloween Costume Dance. Doors open at dusk. Adults in costume get in for \$10, Adults with no costume pay \$15. Children \$5. No reservations are necessary.

- Methodist Church Family Pizza Dinner, Friday at 5 p.m. before your family heads downtown for trick-or-treating fun! Call the church office, 526-3376 to R.S.V.P. Space is limited

- Downtown Highlands Trick-or-Treating on Main Street and on the Fourth Street hill from 6-8 p.m.

Saturday, Nov. 1

- The Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival annual Fall Concert on Saturday, at 5 p.m. at PAC. Call 526-9060 for tickets.

- At Community Bible Church, "Fireproof My Marriage" LIVE Nationwide Simulcast! With Dr. Gary Smalley, Dr. Les Parrott. R.S.V.P. Tickets are \$30 per couple. Call 526-4685.

- The Nantahala Hiking Club will hike from Wayah Crest to Siler Bald. Call leader Dave Sapin at 369-2628 for hike description and reservations.

- At Cyrano's Bookshop on Main Street, Karl Lenker will autograph his novel, "The Final Trumpet" 1-3 p.m.

- A tour of The Bascom's new facilities at 10 a.m. To attend call 526-4949, ext. 8# or email jconnor@thebascom.org.




Sunday, Nov. 2

- Daylight Savings Time ends. Turn clocks back one hour.

- Highlands-Cashiers Players auditions for An American Daughter at the PAC in Highlands at 3 pm. with call backs Monday, Nov. 3 at 6 pm. There are parts for eight men and six women. The play is at the libraries in Highlands and Cashiers.

- The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a two-mile, easy hike through nice woods and fields on the Tessentee Farm land, a Land Trust property currently being rehabilitated. Call leader Kay Coriell at 369-6820 for information.

Weekend Weather:

FRI	SAT	SUN
		
52-29°F	57-32°F	55-30°F

Weather predictions for Highlands

Just how realistic are winter predictions for Western North Carolina? If Tuesday's early snow fall is any indication, perhaps predictions of a "numbing" winter for 2008-2009 are valid.

The Farmers' Almanac is forecasting below-average temperatures for the rest of 2008 and the winter of 2009

for at least two-thirds of the country.

No one can remember when it actually snowed – not just flurried in Highlands – in October.

"I remember that it flurried in Oct. 7, 1955, but it wasn't a real snow," said Isabelle Chambers.

Her husband Tony said

Isabelle's father, Tudor Hall, who lived 1905-1985, said "he saw snow every month of every year he was alive except for in the months of July and August."

Local historian Ran Shaffner couldn't find any statistics on early snowfalls in Highlands, but said "it's safe

• See WEATHER page 6

School system to launch new website

Teachers, administrators, parents and students will soon see a new website when they log on to www.mcsk-12.org

Besides saving the district money, it will establish a unified look on the district website throughout the school system.

At Monday night's school board meeting, Director of Technology Tim Burrell explained the reason for the new interface and what it will mean to the community.

"I am excited about several aspects of our new web portal," he said. "The new SharePoint server system will really move us away from static, view only, web pages, we have now into a more dynamic and collaborative way of using our web sites."

"The internal side of the web based application will allow us to create team-based or department sites, meeting workspaces, shared calendars, surveys, document re-

• See WEBSITE page 28

Oct. 28 brought snow to the plateau



Scarlet and russet colored leaves and drying hydrangeas – all tell tale signs of Fall – were accentuated by snowfall Tuesday, when about an inch fell during early morning hours. School was delayed two hours and bone-chilling winds blew winter weather and snow about Highlands earlier in the season than anyone can remember.

Photo by Jim Lewicki

From the candidates

MC Commission & BOE hopefuls state their case for the last time before the election

Two candidates are vying for Charlie Leatherman's seat on the Macon County Commission – Jimmy Goodman and Bobby Kuppers.

In the school board race, 10 candidates look to fill four of the five seats – District I, Frieda Bennett and John Shearl; District III, incumbent Tommy Baldwin and Brian Bateman; for the two

seats for District IV, Alan Allman, Jimmy Breedlove, Gregg Jones, and Dwight Vinson and filling the District IV unexpired seat currently occupied by Roberta Swank is Swank and Bobby Bishop.

Each candidate was asked the same three ques-

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Middle East expert presents 'Iraq 101'

This begins a multi-part series on Sandra Mackey's talk

With ease, humor, precision, and clarity, Middle East specialist Sandra Mackey explained the reasons for and the outcomes of the political atmosphere in Iraq, Iran, Pakistan, Afghanistan and Israel as it applies to the U.S.

She addressed a standing-room only crowd at the Highlands Community Building the night of Oct. 20

Having lived and worked in the area, she is considered an expert on the subject.

She has authored books and publications and appeared as a commentator on Middle East policy for CNN, Fox, ABC Evening News and Nightline, CBS Sunday Morning, NPR, BBC, Canadian Broadcasting and German Public Broadcasting.

She says like it or not, Middle Eastern countries are increasingly complex and central to U.S. economic health and security.

• See MACKEY page 19

• THE PLATEAU'S POSITION •

• LETTERS •

Beware: voting the 'straight party ticket' in North Carolina can mean a 'no vote' for the presidential candidate

Dear Editor,

North Carolina may have the country's worst ballot. It is already causing confusion with early voters. And if the presidential race is close, it could change the outcome. Like a number of states, North Carolina allows its voters to choose a straight-party ticket. To do that, voters can mark one box and cast votes for all of the nominees of their preferred party.

But North Carolina's ballot has an unexpected twist.

Even if a voter checks the straight-party box, he or she MUST VOTE SEPARATELY for a presidential candidate.

North Carolina's ballot explains the need to check two boxes, and election officials make an effort to inform voters of the drill. But the ballot is still far too confusing.

This peculiar form of straight-ticket voting was adopted in the 1960s, to help the state's Democrats keep getting elected, even as a growing number of voters began to choose Republicans for president. Not surprisingly, North Carolina has an unusually high rate of under-votes, ballots that do not record a vote for president. In the last two presidential elections, the rate has been about double the national average. Poor ballot design is a burden on all voters. Less-educated voters and the newly enrolled are even more likely to be confused and to end up not casting a vote for president.

This year, North Carolina's flawed ballot could again result in tens of thousands of votes being lost. That is particularly worrisome since polls indicate a very close presidential race in the state. And as we saw in 2000, a presidential election can be decided by a mere 537 votes.

It is too late to change the ballot for this year's election, so election officials must do everything they can to explain to voters how the state's straight-ticket voting works. When the election is over, North Carolina needs to include the presidential race in its straight-ticket voting, or require voters to choose candidates one by one.

• Excerpts from an editorial in the Oct. 27 edition of *The New York Times*

Important issues transcend party lines

Dear Editor,

With the election cycle coming to a close, we need to confront the realities of the coming four years. I would suggest the following areas of concern:

1. The world economy is dependent on the consumption patterns of the American public. While we have declined as a manufacturing country, we have increased consumption at an unsustainable rate. We have been recently consuming goods and services at a level in excess of our income, as witnessed by our negative savings rate. This is to say that we have borrowed the money to finance our lifestyle. Recovery from the current worldwide crisis is dependent on the United States resuming its position as the world's consumer of choice. Unfortunately, this would depend on increased credit to the American public at a time when it is neither available nor advisable.

2. Our lifestyle is energy dependent. We need vehicles that are energy efficient. One way to address this is to use the diesel technology that is common in the rest of the world. We need to encourage this efficiency by making vehicles under 10,000 GVW (which would include large pickup trucks) from a tax structure designed to recover road costs from over-the-road freight haulers. We also need to recognize

that most car travel is by individual drivers and revisit our fixation on adapting new technology to the four-door sedan. Mass transit must become an available option for all Americans. We need no more new Interstate highways until it is proven that their needs statement cannot be served by mass transit.

3. Education needs to reflect the needs of society. We need to educate all of our citizens to their maximum potential and desires. College must become more affordable. Additionally, under No Child Left Behind, we have decimated our vocational education system. We cannot design an education system based on all students attending college, we need to prepare the workers we need. Furthermore, we need to promote the idea that there is dignity (and a prosperous lifestyle) in skilled labor, and that failure to attain a college degree does not constitute failure. If we produce skilled workers, we will not have a continuation of the max influx of immigrant workers coming here for our higher paying skilled labor jobs. Currently, we have immigrant bricklayers making \$15. per hour buying hamburgers from our dropouts making \$7. per hour. Nature does not like a vacuum, and filling these jobs with enthusiastic, well trained American workers will remove the necessity of hiring

immigrant labor. This needed change will also necessitate a shift in our value system, with the dignity of labor becoming once again part of our core belief system. Not Donald Trump, the entertainment star, or the high paid athlete, but the everyday American citizen must become an object of admiration, and not campaign caricature.

4. We need to realize that not all solutions are related to partisan politics. While we need to recognize the need to restructure our health care and education delivery systems, the solutions need to be bipartisan. There may be worthwhile elements offered by a variety of sources. Our compulsion to see everything as blue and red talking points reduces our ability to objectively evaluate our situation. Social Security, national security, and the implementation of a viable long term environmental program are issues that demand our collective will and ability.

5. There is nothing guaranteed concerning the future dominant position of the United States. We have profited by the intelligence, sacrifice, and courage of those who preceded us. If we continue to fail to realistically and intelligently address our needs, we run the risk of joining other dominant nation-states in history as a topic of analysis to determine the causes of our decline. It should be the mission of all Americans to try to eliminate future elections where personalities and fringe issues are the prism through which we view our choices.

Ron Leslie
Highlands

Remember those overseas

Dear Editor,

The collection of gifts to send to our overseas military is gaining momentum. Many people are bringing paperbacks, CDs, DVDs and other donations to the collection point under the flag by the Club House at Chestnut Hill on Buck Creek Road, just ½ mile off Rt. 64.

The response has been heartwarming. From Kuwait: "Your shipment was a great hit. Nearly 30% of the books are already gone and I had a high speed NCO that really appreciated the T shirts. I gave the phone card to our new Lieutenant that has her fiancée deployed in Iraq and we are all still consuming the eatable goodies."

• See LETTERS page 3

LETTERS-TO-THE EDITOR-POLICY

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

Please email letters by Monday at 5 p.m.

There is a 500-word limit without prior approval.

Highlands' Newspaper

"Our Community Service - A Free Local Newspaper"

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ABC Cardinal part of Red Ribbon week events at Highlands School



To kick off Red Ribbon Week at Highlands School, Mayor Don Mullen read a proclamation and Police Chief Bill Harrell gave everyone red ribbons to wear. Each day there were activities commemorating the event whose focus is drug use prevention through education. Through ABC Store funding, two banners were purchased as well as educational displays and materials for high school, middle school, and elementary school. Funding also paid for the ABC Cardinal to come educate younger students. The Macon County Sheriff's Department also made presentations about Risky Behaviors at two assemblies. Red Ribbon Week is a vehicle for communities to take a stand for the hopes and dreams of children through a commitment to drug prevention and education and a personal commitment to live drug-free lives in a drug-free America. Red Ribbon Week commemorates the ultimate sacrifice made by DEA Special Agent Enrique "Kiki" Camarena, who died at the hands of drug traffickers in Mexico while fighting the battle against illegal drugs destined for this country. The Highlands School Red Ribbon committee includes Christine Murphy, Tracy Hedden, Carla Harris, Jim Draheim, Thomas Jessup, Carol Bowen, Sallie Taylor, and Resource Officer Ronnie Castle.

... LETTERS continued from page 2

Items are being distributed farther from Kuwait, to Iraq and Afghanistan. Supplies are still needed. Ideas for your donations are: AT&T long distance phone cards, food that will last, such as beef jerky, hard candies, coffee (Starbucks, ground Sumatra is a favorite), paperback books, DVDs, black or gray T-shirts, hygiene products (not sample size), insect repellent, lotions, letters and cards of encouragement, new slippers, hand-held games, lip balm

(Chapstick), backpacks, CD players, \$\$\$ for phone cards and mailings.

Be a player. Donate. This an excellent way to show our love and support for individual soldiers, sailors, and airmen. Your contributions will be packaged and shipped to those serving so very far away from their homes. You can make a difference for them.

William Bathurst
Macon County, NC USA

Excercise your right; do your duty on Nov. 4 – VOTE

Dear Editor,

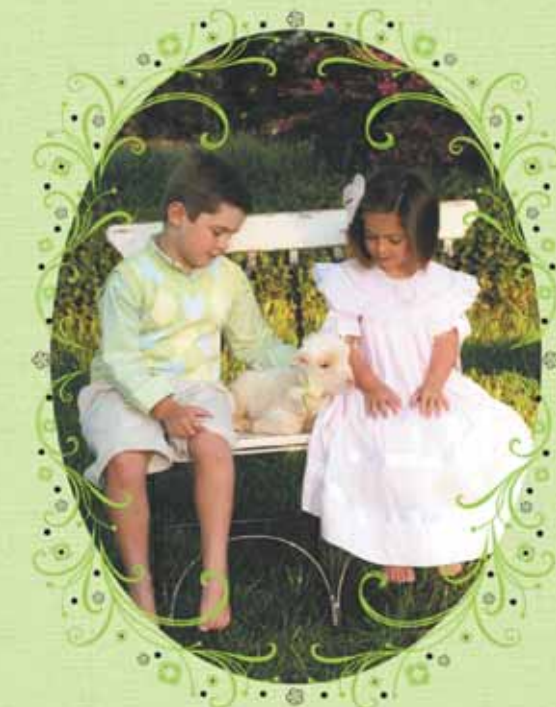
We'd like to add our voice to the chorus of those urging you to vote. This election is of vital importance to our nation and our future and it demands your careful consideration. Please don't allow yourself to be distracted from casting your ballot.

Whichever way you intend to vote, while you're waiting to cast your ballot,

we hope you'll give a thought to the men and women who've made it possible for you to participate in this cornerstone of our democracy – the men and women of our armed forces. They're scattered across our globe, ensuring that all of us can enjoy this remarkable privilege.

Please keep them and their families in your prayers,

SOAR of Highlands



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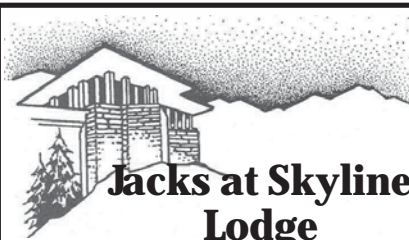
\$36 inclusive of tax and gratuity.

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Jacks at Skyline Lodge

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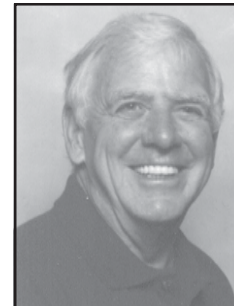
Jack's at Skyline final Sunday Brunch is Nov. 2, 2008 - don't forget to make your reservations early - you won't sample Chef Jim's wonderful culinary delights until May 1, 2009 when we reopen.

Hours Tuesday - Saturday dinner 5:30 until... and breakfast Saturday and Sunday from 8-11-am. Thank you so much for your patronage - it has been our pleasure to serve you. Have a wonderful winter.

• LAUGHING AT LIFE •

Go green, be cynical and trust no one

Special Notice: Palm Beach County, Florida, will, once again, not disappoint America; they will get it wrong on Election Day. That's why an army of attorneys is headed that way.



Fred Wooldridge

**Feedback
is encouraged!
email:**

askfredanything@aol.com

I'm surviving this national money crisis better than some of my friends. Looking over my portfolio, I realize if I didn't have much going in, I can't lose much going out. That's how life is with the little people. Millionaires, on the other hand, are toast. If this keeps up, there'll be no wealthy folks left for Obama to tax. Now that's funny.

Lots of rich Republicans are grumpy because their candidate is losing in the polls and they're broke. The Democratic Congress, with the help of Republicans, created this mess. Is that funny, or what? Hmmmm, maybe not!

I think the only thing that can save Republicans from Obama is the “Bubba Factor.” The “Bubba Factor” might kick in on election day when every racist, red neck and good ole boy in America shows up unexpectedly and votes for McCain, the good ole white boy. Don't laugh 'cause Republicans are counting on it. It's sooooo good to be an Independent.

I watched a group of angry supporters boo McCain at his own political rally because he defended Obama, calling him a “nice and decent man.” He told supporters not to be afraid because Obama is not an Arab. Could I make this up? Does Obama look like a camel rider? The more he defended Obama, the louder the booing. Is McCain nuts? Doesn't he know he can't win by being honest? He's much too classy to be our president.

Hey, if Obama were an Arab, it could be a good thing. I know Hamas and Hezbollah are rooting for him. Plus, Arabs have cheap gas and Obama could say, “Yes we can have a camel in every carport.” Also the Mafia term “go to the mats” would have a fun new meaning.

So I'm adjusting to less money and the shortcomings of both candidates. One is too kind and respectful to win this cutthroat race and the other is a rookie who dazzled America with his bull s...oops, silver tongue.

None of this matters anyway because your vote is meaningless. Wanna get sick? Bone up on the operation of the Electoral

College, its origin and function. These coneheads are all powerful and do as they please. The number of electoral votes each state gets is based on population and their representation in Congress. Since everyone moves every Friday night, how do they keep track? They don't. Can anyone tell me how many people are moving in and out of Florida on any given weekend? Circus music, please.

Are you depressed yet? No, well read on.

Fraudulent voter registration is raging in America. Currently, there's more people registered to vote in Philadelphia than there are persons living there. Hmmmm, could something be amiss? Ask me if I've lost faith in our voting system. One clown registered as a Democrat 74 times for money and cigarettes. I think this happened to Rome when it began to crumble. These are not crimes against McCain or Obama; these are crimes against democracy, what's left of it.

If our president were elected by popular vote, fraudulent voter registration wouldn't matter. First, using my KISS system, I would dump early voting to further eliminate cheating. Next, a voter would walk into a polling place, stick his left index finger into a large jar of bright green indelible ink. (Sound familiar?) He votes...he's done. He can't vote again for 48 hours because the indelible ink won't wash off. Will anyone scrape off three layers of skin to vote again for money and cigarettes? That really hurts! Who cares if he has 74 voter registration cards? Who cares if he registered as Mickey Mouse? One person...one vote...one green finger. DUH!

One last thing. Fire all volunteer poll workers. These clowns are nothing more than voters who are rooting for a particular candidate. Who anointed them honest and keeper of the votes? Bite the bullet and hire professional bonded companies to run polls. Trust no one. Helloooooo, trust no one. Hire an off-duty Republican policeman and an off-duty Democratic firefighter to stand watch together at each precinct to make sure everyone sticks their finger into the green ink well. Oh well, maybe in 2012.

Wait, does green ink show up on black skin? Ha, no problemo. It's just like going to Chucky Cheese or searching for semen, it all glows under a black light.

• THE VIEW FROM HERE •

Happy Halloween

I don't know if you ever had that dream in which you're falling through space? Maybe it's just because I had it so often as a kid that I assume everyone else had it at least once. I always woke up before I hit the ground. Older boys at school, who seemed to know, said that if you didn't wake up before you hit, you would die. Maybe. I don't know. I never proved it one way or the other.

I hadn't had the dream for years, decades really, until the other night. I was driving Lizzie's car, a big stable four wheel drive model. Bull was in the seat beside me. I don't know where we had been. Skiing, maybe, because it was cold and icy. I guess we were headed home, but I don't know that for sure either. It doesn't matter and that often how it is with dreams. I guess they have to start somewhere. We were having a good time, talking and laughing. Then we were on ice, just like that, a gigantic sheet of ice. There was a hill to our right and a cliff to our left. We skidded toward the hill. "Take it easy," I told myself. "Don't over correct or you'll be into the hill." Considering how things turned out, that would have been a good idea. But I loosened my grip on the wheel, turned ever so slightly to the left and the car straightened. It drifted a little to the left, toward the cliff, but just a little. A tiny tug to the right and we were going straight again, over an endless sheet of ice. I didn't want to brake, fearing another skid. We were going faster than I wanted, but it was OK, until I saw that the road turned sharply to the left just ahead of us. For some reason I didn't even try to turn. The car seemed to accelerate, but my foot was not on the gas pedal. We broke through a guard rail and plunged into space.

The car didn't start to fall immediately, but sort of hung in space, as if we were in zero gravity, but, of course I knew that we were both going to die, and that my son's death was my fault. I turned to where Bull had been, wanting to hug him tightly for our last few seconds of life. But he was not in his seat. He had somehow been thrown from the car and was floating next to it. He was in a sitting position, just as he were still in his seat, but of course he wasn't. He looked calm, as if he hadn't yet realized our peril. I wanted to comfort him. The thousands of times, in the past 12 years that I had told him I love him, meant nothing. I shouted as loudly as I could, "I love you Bull, and I'm sorry." He couldn't hear me. He sat quietly as if he were a jet pilot who had ejected, but not yet separated from his seat. He hadn't heard me. He looked for



Dr. Henry Salzarulo

Feedback is encouraged.

email:

hsalzarulo@aol.com

bewildered than frightened. I was devastated. Then we started to fall and I woke up.

I don't know if Bull's crying awakened me, or if I heard him after I was already awake. Bull has never cried at night. He'd come to our room a few times to climb into our bed after a bad nightmare, but I couldn't remember him ever awakening sobbing. I went into his

room, still somewhat unnerved myself, sat on his bed and hugged him. "Dad," he sobbed. "We were falling and I couldn't hear you." I went cold. Then he added, "What does it mean?" I had no idea what it meant, and I wasn't about to lie or to tell him that we had shared the same dream. Maybe sometime, in years to come, but not tonight, not with a sick

feeling in my belly and fear in my heart. "I have no idea, Little Buddy, Go back to sleep. It's just a dream. I love you." He pulled away. Tears streamed down his face. Terror shown in his eyes, mixed with dread and confusion. Through the tears he managed to say, "I still can't hear you, Dad."

Happy Halloween.

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10am-Brunch; 11am-Lunch; 4:30-Dinner
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Upcoming Events

CULINARY WEEKEND

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

Silver Oak Cellars Wine Dinner with Tom Johnson "Life is a Cabernet!"

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... WEATHER continued from page 1

to say Tuesday's snow was a rare thing."

A cold wet winter means snow in the mountains and according to the Almanac precipitation-wise, most of the South, is supposed to experience above-normal conditions with above-normal precipitation predicted in January and February 2009 with wet and snowy conditions for the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic states.

Considered the oldest continuously published periodical in the U.S., since 1792, the Almanac has been using a combination of local folklore and a secret scientific formula to produce long-range forecasts and claims an accuracy rating near 80%.

It is predicting the coldest temperatures in early and mid-December, early and late January, and early and mid-February.

But even the Almanac didn't predict Highlands' Oct. 28 snowfall only saying that it would be cool and rainy that week. It does say there will be snow in time for Thanksgiving, though, with the biggest snowstorm in early January, with frequent snowfall and cold weather through March.

Old-timers around Highlands claim the acorns fell profusely and early this year which means a cold hard winter, something not seen in these parts for several years.

Other local lore involves fogs in August, when katyids first chipped, much about woolly worms and more.

The woolly worm indicates a hard winter if they have heavy, hairy coats, if there are lots of them seen crawling around, if they're moving unusually slowly before the first

frost and if their black bands are wider than the rust-orange band separating them – which is definitely the case this year, according to those who watch such things.

Weather lore says there will be as many snowfalls during winter as there were fogs in August.

Also, the winter will be cold and hard if animals have thicker coats of hair or fur; if squirrels build their nests low in trees and gather nuts early; if ants build their mounds high; if there are more spiders than usual in the fall; if a heavy crop of berries are found on holly and dogwood trees, if birds are seen migrating early or huddling on the ground, if there is lots of rolling thunder during late fall; if leaves shed before changing color; if chimney smoke flows toward the ground; and if the breastbone of a turkey cooked in the fall is purple or dark blue. If it is white, a mild winter is in store.

There is also winter weather lore concerning the persimmon.

After a fall frost, cut into the seed of a persimmon from the narrow side, and look at the kernel. See if it looks like a spoon, fork, or knife.

If the kernel is shaped like a spoon, winter will be harsh with heavy, wet snow; if it looks like a fork, winter will be mild with light, powdery snow and if it looks like a knife, winter will be cold, icy with cutting winds.

The only thing people in Highlands know for sure is its weather is a fickle thing best taken a day at a time.

– Kim Lewicki

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... CANDIDATES continued from page 1

tions. Their answers follow.

Jimmy Goodman: MC Commission

1. What do you want the public to know about you concerning your credentials to run for a seat on the Macon County Board of Commissioners?

I have run a successful small business in Macon County for 14 years; I have been involved in and around local government for more than 10 years; I served on the Macon county planning board for 3 years; I understand how to work with people – debate, compromise, solve problems; I got involved in Macon county politics because I wanted to find a way to get as many people involved as I could.

2. Exactly what sets you apart from the other candidate?

Two issues that I think we disagree on for the future of Macon County are schools and planning.

First I want to say I fully support public schools. I am from a family of four children. I was the only child that graduated high school. So I am a product of public schools.

I think we can save our community schools. I also believe that the children of Macon County are better served in a community school. I have visited schools in Macon County and I have a plan to save the community schools. I would love the chance to ask the citizens of Macon County if they agree with me. Then if they do, implement a plan to save our community schools. The question I have to ask is. Are we talking about saving money or giving the children the best education possible?

The other issue is the planning issue. In the past year one of our main sources of the county economy has dropped off considerably. That being the housing industry. I would like to see our planning board take a break on any more ordinances for a short while.

We have passed a high impact ordinance and a subdivision ordinance in the past two to three years.

I think we need to slow down and see how these ordinances are affecting our economy and see how they are working before we go any further. Also we need to make sure we have the staff to enforce the ordinances we have already.

In the last few years permitting fees have increased quite a bit making it harder for first time home buyers to afford to build a new home. Affordable housing is an issue here, too.

3. Please tell us a little about your vision for the future of Macon County and how you will help that vision come to fruition.

I got involved in county policies because

I want to get as many people involved as I can; I believe if you inform the citizens as much as possible you get better government; I would like to start by recording all county commission meetings putting them on the web so any citizen could watch a commission meeting for their home at there leisure; I would like to get as many people as I can on an email list for update on county policies and meeting dates; I believe in the hard working

honest people in Macon County and I also believe that if you are up front and honest with them they will do the right thing.

If elected I pledge to Respect every single person's opinion; Involve the Public more; Allow additional public input at public meetings; I propose informal emails & e-votes on issues for a quick public response and voice; Web-broadcast public meetings; Research every issue - find sources and solutions; Propose monthly radio shows or news paper (i.e. commissioners corner) to let citizens know more about what is going on.

Bubby Kuppers: MC Commission Candidate

1. What do you want the public to know about you concerning your credentials to run for a seat on the Macon County Board Commission?

I have been a resident of Macon County for 48 years and I'm a proud product of Macon County schools and Franklin High School from which I graduated in 1971. I attended the United States Naval Academy and served in the United States Submarine Service for 25 years. During that time, I personally managed government budgets of over 10 million dollars. I also served as Commanding Officer of the nuclear submarine USS Key West and the Navy's Trident Training Facility in King's Bay Georgia. Upon retirement in 2000, I could have done any number of things, but I chose to return home and invest my time in the county that had given me so much in my youth. For the past 8 years I have taught Civics and AP Government and coached football at Franklin High School. I believe I have the leadership experience to serve Macon County well. Having worked in and around the government for most of my adult life and having studied and taught about government for the past 8 years, I think I have seen government



Jimmy Goodman



Bobby Kuppers

at its best and at its worst and I have the experience to know the difference.

2. Exactly what sets you apart from the other candidates?

First, I believe my leadership experience and my experience with governmental budgets give me the ability to "ask the hard questions" and "make the tough calls". We are facing uncertain economic times today, and I believe it is essential that we look forward and evaluate carefully our spending plans and stand ready to ask those questions and make those decisions. Second, I am deeply invested in Macon County and its citizens. I work with and teach the youth of Macon County every day. I serve on the Board of Directors of the Burningtown-Iotla Fire department and am an active member and officer of the Snow

Hill United Methodist Church. I believe that a County Commissioner should have close ties to the county and its people so that their interests can be better served. I strongly support our public schools and will work hard to ensure that we have the infrastructure necessary to give our children the best education that we can. Finally, I believe that open communication between the Board of Commissioners and the people of Macon County is an essential aspect of a representative form of government and can and should be improved. The difference is that I don't believe that the people of Macon County want to listen to their commissioners talk; I think that the people want their County Commissioners to listen more to the people! There

• See CANDIDATES page 9

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VOTER ALERT!

To the Voters of Highlands:

With the election fast approaching, there are some important issues at hand.

Jimmy Goodman, who is running for County Commissioner, would be a breath of fresh air and a conservative voice for voters who are concerned with the tax-and-spend policies of the current board.

After the failure of the bond issue, the board has ignored the wishes of the voters and has borrowed tens of millions of dollars.

In a down economy, is this wise?

In the non-partisan school board Districts I and IV, the clear choice is **John Shearl** in District 1 and **Alan Allman** in District IV. These men are deeply concerned about the falling test scores, teen pregnancy and 40% drop-out rate in our schools.

There is a distinct possibility that the Macon Middle School will be taken over by the state next year.

Spending millions of dollars for bricks and mortar is not the answer to these problems.

These men will be committed to finding solutions to the critical issues facing our schools.

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• CONSERVATIVE POV •

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...to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness. That, to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed.”



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

In our Declaration of Independence, Thomas Jefferson, as brilliant as he was, probably didn't foresee the time when the governed, that's us, would willingly give up our Liberty. He followed the above with, "That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive to these ends, it is the right of the people to alter or to abolish it..." Evidently he assumed that the people would rebel before giving up their Liberty. Evidently he further assumed that the governed would know it before it was lost.

If the worst happens next Tuesday, and Obama is elected with a filibuster-proof Congress, your liberty and mine will be greatly diminished. Is this just the raving of a hopeless old man? Maybe. However, it is based on some rather amazing admissions that many of us have chosen to ignore. On September 7, 2008, Barack Obama said to George Stephanopoulos on ABC's This Week, "my Muslim faith." Obama didn't correct himself, Stephanopoulos had to tell him, "you mean Christian faith." Assuming you are a Christian, can you imagine yourself telling someone about your Muslim faith? Where would that come from?

I don't know if Obama's remark in Oregon in May 2008 that he had campaigned in "57 states" is meaningful or not. The fact that the Organization of the Islamic Conference has 57 member states may have been on his mind at the time. I don't know. I don't know if it is significant or not to his political thinking that he carried and assumedly read "The Post-American World" written by an India born Muslim.

I don't know who is dumber, Obama for picking Biden, or Biden for making his remarks in the final stage of their campaign, in which they are leading. Joe is in Seattle at the home of one of those filthy "wealthiest Americans", when he made the following statement.

"Mark my words. Within the next, first six months of this administration, if we win, they're going to – we're going to

face a major international challenge. Because they're going to want to test him, just like they did young John Kennedy.

They're going to want to test him... Watch, we're going to have an international crisis, a generated crisis, to test the mettle of this guy. And he's gonna have to make some really tough – I don't know what the decision's gonna be, but I promise you it will occur."

Do you really want to elect a guy whose running mate says, if elected, is certain to precipitate an "international challenge." Do you want to see an international challenge with a totally untested Commander-in-Chief? A president who will wave a white flag in Iraq, one who will sit down a talk with any world leader without preconditions? Do you think Obama can out lie Putin or Ahmadinejad?

Would America come out ahead in any such conversation? That's like thinking that Bush was going to bring peace to the Middle East. It ain't going to happen.

And then there is Obama's now famous statement to Joe the Plumber that we need to spread the wealth. Well, I don't think my wealth needs be spread, as paltry as it is, and I don't think your wealth needs be spread anymore than it already is, through multitudinous forms of existing taxation. Recently, parts of Obama's plans for obtaining more of your money have been disclosed. Taxing retirement funds is one. Eliminating the tax deductibility of contributions to retirement plans is another.

Freedom can be lost in many ways, and with it, the pursuit of happiness. One way is through taxation. When the government spends more of your money than you do, your freedom has been diminished. When a coach can't lead his team in a pre-game prayer, their freedom has been diminished. When the vote to allow a labor union to organize is no longer done in secret, that freedom has been diminished.

When a Pastor doesn't direct his flock based on scripture for fear of losing his church's tax-exempt status, that freedom is lost. When the "fairness doctrine"

is back on the table, possibly to be passed, everybody's right to free speech is in jeopardy. Socialism is on the horizon, and this means a lack of freedom for all of us, and with it, the pursuit of happiness. Think about it when you vote.

... CANDIDATES continued from page 7

are 15 precincts in Macon County and 5 commissioners. If each commissioner went to a different precinct once each month, we could visit each precinct four times a year! These meetings would happen in the community centers of the county and would allow citizens to have unfettered access to their elected officials. If I am fortunate enough to be elected, I will try to get the other commissioners to implement this plan, but if they don't agree, I will still make every effort to reach out to my constituents to find out what they need and want from their county government.

3. Please tell us a little about your vision for the future of Macon County and how you will help that vision come to fruition.

Growing up in Macon County was a terrific experience for me and living here as an adult is even better. Still with the remarkable growth the county has experienced, we face many challenges with respect to infrastructure, schools, environmental concerns and others. My vision for Macon County is to create an economically prosperous county, with an outstanding education system, that protects and enhances the natural beauty that has attracted so many to our area. This will require a county government that addresses the needs of people across a demographic spectrum to maximize the quality of life for all Maconians. It will require the vision of a comprehensive long range plan to keep us on track and ensure the most efficient use of the taxpayer's dollars. To achieve this vision, we must throw off the bonds of partisan politics and agendas and embrace the idea that in order to fully reap the benefit of a bright future, we must ensure that we bring all of our citizens with us. We must put less emphasis on Democrats and Republicans and the ideologies that divide us and we must seek to emphasize the thing that unites us – the well being of Macon County's citizens. If I am fortunate enough to win this election, I will work as hard as I can to represent all my constituents, not just those that happened to vote for me. All governments work best when we work together and take care of one another. If you honor me by electing me as your commissioner, I will not forget where I was raised or who I represent.

Frieda Bennett **BOE District I**

1. What do you want the public to know about you concerning your credentials to run for a seat on the Macon County Board of Education board?

My formal education includes the following: graduation from Highlands School in 1965, masters in social sciences from WCU and advanced hours in special needs, economics and reading from Clemson. 34 years of teaching included 5th grade in Clayton, 8 years in middle school in SC, 3 years

in alternative education and 21 years as a social studies teacher in Highlands. My years in alternative education with students from 7th grade to adult made me aware of how much technology must be used in today's classroom; I took various levels of courses to increase my ability to use the tools now available. Peer evaluation certification made it possible for me to serve as a teacher evaluator for administration. As a certified writing consultant for SC, I was involved in workshops and teacher instruction. Board members must have the ability to make team decisions, to conduct research, reach conclusions based on rules and facts and to apply all practices fairly and openly. Development and implementation of these skills is important to an educator and should translate well into board membership.

2. Exactly what sets you apart from the other candidates?

Due to my various teaching positions in schools ranging in size from 75 to 1200 students, I understand the challenges of meeting the needs of elementary, middle, high school and adult students. As a retired educator, I have the time and willingness to do what is needed as a member of the board. The future of Macon County schools depends upon short and long term planning. I have experience in developing programs and courses that would help within the board setting. Children have been a part of my life for a long time. I would appreciate getting to work for them in this new level of board membership.

3. Please tell us a little about your vision for the future of Macon County Schools and how you will help that vision come to fruition.

Macon County schools serve about 4500 students. This provides an opportunity to become the top school system in the state if we employ everything we can learn from research and experience while hiring the best personnel possible. Increased vocational education is a must. Early childhood intervention for learning and behavioral problems must be increased; the state guideline of 1 counselor per 500 students is not adequate for the problems that some students are now experiencing. Our district must join 96 other counties in putting the district employment application online through the state. We must encourage our students to become educators to aid in teacher retention. Decisions for the county must be made by will of the majority; there must be transparency and openness. I would like to see a grass-roots effort to make our system the strongest in the state. My reasons for seeking board membership include: interest in policy making and educational initiatives, student achievement and engagement through tech-



BOE DISTRICT I
Frieda Bennett

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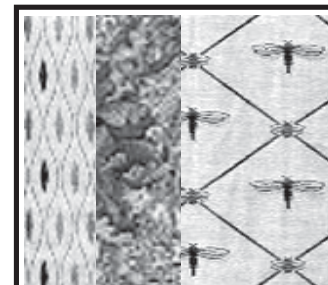
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• COOKING ON THE PLATEAU •

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Small plates are transforming the way we eat. Across the country, from restaurants to homes, exciting menus of diverse small plates are being served instead of old-school one plate entrees.

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Think tapas, American style — Burgers go mini to become stylish sliders. Salad wedges and shots of soup transform favorite fall classics into snazzy utensil-free finger foods. Add an exotic touch with mini-quesadillas, shrimp skewers or lamb lollipops.

Add panache on the beverage side by pairing your small plates with premium wine.

Sizzling Mini-Sliders

Serves 4

Time: 30 minutes

1 teaspoon onion powder
2 teaspoons minced garlic
1/2 cup Boho Vineyards Cabernet
1 1/2 pounds ground chuck
1/2 teaspoon ground black pepper
1/2 teaspoon kosher salt
12 3-inch dinner rolls
Condiments: Caramelized onions
(sauté in olive oil, very slowly, about 20 minutes)
1/2 cup loosely packed watercress
1/2 cup thinly shredded radicchio
In medium bowl, combine onion powder, garlic, wine, beef, salt and pepper. Shape into twelve 1/2-inch-thick patties. Grill until browned, 3 to 4 minutes per side. Grill dinner rolls until slightly toasted. On bottom of each roll, place caramelized

onions, patty, watercress and radicchio. Top with roll top. Pairing Suggestion: Boho Vineyards Cabernet Sauvignon

Mint Pesto Lamb Lollipops

Serves 6

Time: less than 30 minutes

1 clove minced garlic
1/4 cup minced fresh mint
2 tablespoons ground pine nuts
1/2 teaspoon ground cumin
2 tablespoons Parmesan cheese
2 tablespoons olive oil
1/3 cup Pinot Evil Pinot Noir
12 small lamb chops or lamb riblets, frenched and trimmed
2 tablespoons olive oil
Salt and pepper to taste
Combine first six ingredients in food processor until a paste forms. Set aside.

• See COOKING page 37



... FUNDING continued from page 9

nology and innovative classroom instruction, increased guidance personnel, facility design, state initiatives in the realignment of high school courses, community and parental inclusion, post-secondary education, legislative issues and fiscal policy. As a board member, I would welcome concerns, ideas and points for consideration from parents, teachers, students, community leaders and administrators as short and long term planning went forward. Accountability and expectations are two key words that should be applied to teachers, administrators, superintendent and board members

John Shearl BOE District I

1. What do you want the public to know about your concerning your credentials to run for a seat on the Macon County School board?

I am a 1987 graduate of Franklin High School. I am married and I have three children. My oldest son is a 2005 graduate of Highlands School and just graduated in the spring of 2008 from WCU. My middle son is a sophomore at Highlands School and my youngest son is in 2nd grade at Highlands School.

I started my own business (J&J Lawn and Landscaping Services of Highlands) 20 years ago and I still own and operate the business. I am a member of Highlands Fire and Rescue with 20 years of dedicated service. I have been active in Highlands Little League since 1991 and was president of HLL for many years until I stepped down before the 2008 season. I am an active member of the Highlands School Booster Club and my responsibilities include help with decision making, help with fund raising, and I over see the concessions operations at all sporting events. I donate a lot of time and supplies to the school, school grounds, and many of the functions. I like helping and being around the kids. I am interested in the kids having what they need to do their best and being competitive and proud in whatever their desires are.

2. Exactly what sets you apart from the other candidates?

I think what sets me apart from my opponent is I currently have children enrolled in Highlands School and I am very active in school functions and activities. This is what I will bring to the Board if I am the one that is elected for District 1 School Board. Hard work, common sense, my background of owning and operating my own business, a huge interest in helping see that the teachers, students, parents, and all school employees have everything that we can possibly provide for the school system and the classrooms for our kids to get the best education that is offered in public schools. A huge interest in the future of Macon County "our

children". I will do everything that I can to protect the tax payers without compromising a quality education for our children.

3. Please tell us a little about your vision for the future of Macon County and how you will help that vision come to fruition.

I would like to see all children stay in school and graduate, provide the students with as many vocational classes to prepare them for a bright future in whatever their

interests are and the career that they seek, make the public schools a place where everyone will feel comfortable sending their children to get a quality education, make every child feel that they are as important and cared for as everyone else, help pick up the kids if they stumble and don't just give up on them, see that all students are treated equal and have the same opportunities, provide for the less fortunate students and students with special needs, get parents to be more active in their schools,

open up communications between teacher, parents, student, school officials and various boards in Macon County, make the tax payers proud of Macon County School System and show them that their tax dollars are being used wisely, and make decisions based on the best interest of the majority of the people.

How I plan to help this vision come to fruition; listen, research, wise decisions and hard work.

Tommy Baldwin Incumbent BOE District III

1. What do you want the public to know about you concerning your credentials to run for a seat on the BOE?

I am motivated to be a member of the Macon County School Board by my desire to help the administration, faculty and staff of Macon County schools to educate our students so that they are prepared to meet the challenges of the 21st Century. I believe potential Board Members should have experience in leadership roles as well as be involved with the youth in their community. I have experience in both of

these areas. As a member of the Board of Education for 24 years, I have dealt with the issues of finance, personnel, budgeting and looking after the teachers and students of our county. As President of the Tomato and Apple Growers Association I have dealt with all aspects of operating a business which include payroll, hiring, termination, labor disputes, budget, shipping and receiving and conducting meetings. I currently own and operate my own business, Baldwin Grading, and have had a tomato farming business in the past. I have attended both Tri-County Community

• See CANDIDATES page 12



BOE DISTRICT I
John Shearl



BOE DISTRICT III
Tommy Baldwin
Incumbent

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... CANDIDATES continued from page 11

College and Western Carolina University. In my community, I have been president of the PTO and involved with the school. I am an active member of my church and in the community. I have coached both high school and youth league basketball for a total of 32 years. I take kids to the Crossfire Christian basketball camps as well as on camping trips. I support the students in our community by attending their ballgames and other school functions, by buying whatever they are selling, and looking out for their educational well-being as a current member of the BOE. I was also involved in the early set up of New Century Scholars where the Macon County BOE gave money to begin the program.

2. Exactly what sets you apart from the other candidates?

The youth of Macon County have always been in my heart and because they are dear to my heart I have been very involved in making sure that they are the very best they can be and assuring them they can accomplish anything they desire. I am involved with our school youth and our church youth. The thing that sets me apart from the others is that my decisions have always and will continue to come from my heart and thru earnest prayer. The best interest of the students has been the basis for my decisions. I am also motivated by my belief that the community should have a voice in the development of the policies that govern our schools. These policies must be in the best interests of students and everyone's voice must be heard without fear of reprisal. It is my desire that all students are successful and I will help insure their success as a member of the BOE.

3. Please tell us a little about your vision for the future of Macon County and how you will help that vision come to fruition.

The future of Macon County is in our schools. Our students are our future. I believe that we should educate each student to their full potential, as well as instill in them character values. Our students need to be prepared for the 21st century in order to be successful. I will insure that our school system be up-to-date and able to prepare our students for the future. In these difficult economic times we must be very considerate of how we use our educational dollars. The tax payers expect it and we owe it to our children to provide them with the best education possible. We need to develop young men and women who possess high standards, good character, and have good work ethics.

We must continue the progress that we have made with regard to technology in education. The 21st Century will require these skills. We must also continue to actively pursue grants and other alternative funding



BOE DISTRICT III
Brian Bateman

sources so that none of our academic or extracurricular programs are cut. Our budget must also continue to have a level of transparency that allows the community and County Commission to see exactly how their tax dollars are being spent.

Macon County students are our future. I believe in our students and that today's preparation and education for them will ensure Macon County will continue to set the example for the state and nation. Join with me in doing all we can for our students of today and the future of tomorrow to prepare them for the 21st century.

Brian Bateman
BOE District III

1. What do you want the public to know about you concerning your credentials to run for a seat on the BOE?

I was elected to the Macon County Board of Education in 1996 and served to 2000 representing District III, the Nantahala Community. I own and operate my own excavation business. I have been involved with the Nantahala Fire and Rescue for 17 years and have had the honor of being chief for 12 years. These experiences have provided many, important decision making opportunities that will be very beneficial to this position.

2. Exactly what sets you apart from the other candidates?

My wife being an Exceptional Children's Teacher for 16 years and my son being a junior in high school motivates me to pursue 21st century policies that will allow our young people to be competitive when furthering their education or moving into the working world. As a board member, I will commit to being a person of integrity, with high moral values, being insightful, not spiteful, to be receptive, not deceptive, and to be a policy maker, not a micro-manager.

3. Please tell us a little about your vision for the future of Macon County and how you will help that vision come to fruition.

Board members have to be "visionaries" with a mission. My vision for Macon County is as follows: "Every public school student will graduate from high school, be globally competitive for work and postsecondary education, and be prepared for life in the 21st century." To be globally competitive, resources have to be sought to continue "connecting" our students to the working world. Technology is a learning tool and if not used, we will move back into the 20th century. I will support technology and other resources to insure that this vision is carried through.

Alan Allman
BOE District IV

1. What do you want the public to know about you concerning your credentials to run



BOE DISTRICT IV
Alan Allman

• HIS & HERS •

Under overcast skies, we left our hotel in

Letterkenny, and headed south past the Blue Stack Mountains. We drove through the town of Donegal, and followed the Atlantic shoreline of Donegal Bay to Belleek, where we stopped to visit the Belleek Pottery Factory. We were in for a real treat, first watching a film to see how skilled craftsmen form and decorate delicate porcelain masterpieces, and then wandering around the factory gift shop to pick up some wonderful pottery to take home. A note to visitors – Belleek does not sell “factory seconds” – each item is perfect, or they destroy it! Belleek even has a nice tea room where you can recover as your credit card cools enough to put back in your wallet.

After our factory tour, we continued our journey south through County Sligo and the windswept landscape of County Mayo through the heathery mountains of the Connemara region. Our bus pulled into the Connemara Coast Hotel in Galway, and we were delighted to have another two night stay.

The next morning was rainy and miserable – just what we didn’t need for our planned trip to the Aran Islands. Several of our group bailed out, deciding not to risk a rough crossing, and opting to spend the day visiting Galway instead. We drove to the pier with a sense of foreboding, hoping we’d made the right decision. The crossing from Rossaveal to Aran Mor (the largest of the three islands) was very choppy and rough; fortunately, Maman, John and I are all pretty good sailors. The Aran Islands are 30 miles west of Galway city. We had a great local guide, who took us around the island by minibus, giving us an overview of the island with the most delightful, musical Irish lilt. Most of the islanders speak Irish Gaelic, and still retain many of the traditional ways of farming and fishing. The land is extremely stony, and the islanders have formed dry stone walls to protect the windswept fields. Seaweed is used to make the land more fertile. Our guide took us to Dun Aengus, a vast fortification perched on the side of a cliff that falls to the Atlantic Ocean 300 feet below. The site consists of three concentric enclosures and dates back to 1,000 BC or earlier. A small museum on the site gives excellent information about the area.

We couldn’t wait to see the famous hand-knit Aran sweaters. The original reason for their distinctive patterns is



**Michelle Mead-Armor &
John Armor**
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John_Armor@aya.yale.edu

The Honeymoon, Part V

sobering. Each family had a unique pattern so that they could identify their dead, should an unlucky sailor wash ashore and the body be too badly decomposed to identify it. The oiled wool is actually rather waterproof, and wool is the only fabric which stays warm when wet. All three of us found great sweaters – we can’t wait for the weather to get cool enough to show

them off. Fortunately for us, the weather cleared up more and more during the day. By the time we took the boat back to Rossaveal, we were able to sit on the top deck, not cowering inside the way we had on the trip over. There were smiles all around, and lots and lots of sweaters in shopping bags!

The next day, we left Galway for the center of Ireland, and a visit to Clonmacnoise. This monastic settlement was founded in 545 AD by St. Ciaran, and is set on the banks of the River Shannon. We learned about the history of the site through an audiovisual presentation, and checked out an amazing collection of Celtic Crosses, brought indoors to protect them from inclement weather. Several small stone buildings still exist, without their roofs, alas. It’s a lovely and impressive area to walk around.

Our last leg of the trip took us across the rolling pastures of Ireland’s heartland to the village of Dunboyne. We checked into our hotel – the fabulous Dunboyne Castle Hotel – and prepared to be spoiled. What a place! The original part of the hotel is a magnificent 18th century mansion, once the home of The Lord of Dunboyne, a gentleman with an interesting story. John Butler was the Roman Catholic Bishop of Cork when the previous peer died. Butler appealed to the Pope, asking for a dispensation from his vow of celibacy so that he could marry and presumably father an heir. This would keep the peerage in direct line of this ancient house. Well, the Pope said “no,” and Lord Dunboyne became a Protestant. He and a pretty young distant cousin married, but their young son died, and the line died out. The story goes that John Butler was driving along a country road one day, and a distraught woman rushed out of a cottage, calling for a priest for the dangerously ill person inside. Butler is said to have said “I am a priest,” and rushing inside, heard the confession of the dying person. His will was disputed by his sister, on the grounds that, having reconverted to Catholicism, he was not

capable of making a will!

After a brief walk around Dunboyne, we had a tasty dinner, followed by an evening of traditional Irish music in the Cellar Bar. It was a great way to end what had been an exceptional trip.

In spite of somewhat iffy weather, we enjoyed ourselves enormously on our trip. I was delighted to see Scotland again, and even more pleased to be able to share it with John and Maman. Perhaps more importantly, in seeing Northern Ireland, John and I were able to see the country where our ancestors came from. Our brief stay there only made us want a longer visit, hopefully one of those fly-drive ones so we can explore certain areas in more depth. It’s good to see that Scotland isn’t all about

bagpipes and haggis, and that Ireland is more than peat bogs and potatoes. It’s true that travel broadens the mind, and in our case, it took a pretty good hit at our waistlines, too. We have our Aran Island sweaters, some Belleek pottery, great tweeds, and a new recipe for oatmeal. Not bad for ten days in the rain, huh?

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. Michelle thanks all of those nice people who enjoyed this trip around Scotland and Ireland, and told her so. The next column will have her Stateside again.

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• REFLECTIONS FROM TURTLE POND •

The path of common purpose

I have found it very interesting over the last couple of months that, in the midst of a global financial crisis, when banks are supposedly refusing to make loans, I am still receiving credit card offers in the mail for zero percent balance transfers. I have gotten plenty of them in the last few months, and most interesting of all, three — three! — from Washington Mutual, the large savings and loan that went broke last month.

Of course this economic crisis has many causes; I have written about some already. A major contributor in my opinion is the culture of consumption that has

taken over this country, and I find this the factor people are least willing to talk about.

In a column earlier this year ("Our Country's Future," March 13), I discussed the statistic that 2.7% of all consumer spending was from home-equity loans. Americans used to save a hefty percentage of their salaries — an average of over 8% in the years 1959-1990; now the average American savings rate is negative. We spend more than we make.

I have felt in my gut for a couple of years now that a day of reckoning was coming because it was obvious to me that this spending spree could not be sustained. How could an economy based on debt keep going on forever? Yet most economists and politicians didn't see any problem with it!

I am reading a new book called *The Limits of Power: The End of American Exceptionalism* by Andrew Bacevich (320.973B), and was struck by Mr. Bacevich's assertion that a major pivot point in modern American history happened in July 1979. I couldn't remember anything of major significance happening that month, and was surprised to read he was referring to a speech by President Jimmy Carter.

That summer was not a good time in America. The Iranian revolutionaries had taken the hostages earlier that year, the price of gas had shot up again, inflation was 11 percent, unemployment was 7 percent, and interest rates were in the double digits.

President Carter gave a speech on July 15 to the nation. He said that Americans were "experiencing a crisis of confidence, a crisis that strikes at the very heart and soul and spirit of our national will." He diagnosed the cause of this crisis: "too many of us now tend to worship self-indulgence and consumption. Human identity is no longer defined by what one does, but by what one owns. But we've discovered that owning things and consuming things does not satisfy our longing for meaning. We've learned that piling up material goods cannot fill the emptiness of lives which have no confidence or purpose."

He concluded, "There are two paths to choose. One is a path I've warned about tonight, the path that leads to fragmentation and self-interest. Down that road lies a mistaken idea of freedom, the right to grasp for ourselves some advantage over others." The other path was "the path of common purpose and the restoration of American values."

Carter believed that "energy will be the immediate test of our ability to unite this nation, and it can also be the standard around which we rally." He called for,



Katie Brugger
k-brugger@hotmail.com

among other things, developing alternative energy sources and conservation of energy by carpooling and turning down the thermostat. He expressed confidence that one day America could achieve energy independence, but in the meantime "there was simply no way to avoid sacrifice."

This was labeled the "malaise speech" and was used by Carter's opponent in the next year's presidential race against him (if you'd like to read the whole speech, just google "carter malaise speech.").

Ronald Reagan's slogan in 1980 was "Morning in America." Reagan's theme was the opposite of what Carter spoke of in that "malaise" speech: we're Americans, the most powerful country in the world, and we can have it all. There's no need for sacrifice. Bacevich calls him the "modern prophet of profligacy, the politician who gave moral sanction to the empire of consumption." Bacevich quotes Reagan, "When it comes to energy, he was insistent: 'We must decide that 'less' is not enough.'"

The American people obviously chose consumption over sacrifice, the path of easy-living-now over investment in our collective future. I think Carter was a poor salesman, but I was 21 at the time of his speech and I understood what he was talking about. I was excited at the prospect of defining a new American purpose and the development of alternative energy. It was obvious to me even back then how vital this was to our future, and I was crushed at the shortsightedness of the American people when Reagan won the election.

The main body of Bacevich's book is the documentation of the next 30 years in which America has "wielded U.S. military power to ensure access to oil, hoping thereby to prolong the empire of consumption." By dominating the planet and claiming "American Exceptionalism" we have maintained our increasingly unrealistic glittering lifestyles at great cost to the planet's and our nation's health.

To bring this column back to where I

• See BRUGGER page 23

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... CANDIDATES continued from page 12

for a seat on the Macon County Board of Education board?

My credentials qualifying me to run for the Board of Education. BS degrees in Chemistry and Mathematics from Western Carolina University ; 27 years in corporate management with DuPont, where I managed budgets exceeding \$20-25 million/year; Retired as a Senior Research Chemist in 1991 ; 1 year law school; 8 years on the Board of Trustees at Western Carolina University; 3 years as a volunteer teacher, teaching 8th grade Economics at Brevard Middle School, Brevard, NC2.

2. Exactly what sets you apart from the other candidates?

What sets me apart from the other candidates is that I have an understanding of the education system from Kindergarten through the university level. I am a free and independent thinker who "tells it like it is", even if it is unpopular. My years of management experience I understand that Board members are accountable to the taxpayer/citizen.

3. Please tell us a little about your vision for the future of Macon County Schools and how you will help that vision come to fruition.

The classroom (teacher, assistant, supplies, technology, and student) is the focal point of the education system. This is where the product is produced-the expected results are obtained. Classrooms must not be shortchanged. Minimize, to the greatest extent possible, mandated distractions that take time and resources from the classroom. I believe in open and honest communication, government, and working relationships. This means employees can "tell it like it is" without fear of retribution. This stimulates critical creative thinking, resulting in better ideas for the good of the school system.

All too often in the public service sector, if we don't agree with the message, we shoot the messenger! One should never have to sacrifice free speech for fear of retribution. We all learn more from our critics than we do from our fans.

Jimmy Breedlove **BOE District IV**

1. What do you want the public to know about you concerning your credentials to run for a seat on the BOE?

I am a life-long resident of Macon County, a father of two children who are graduates of Macon County Schools and a husband of a guidance counselor in the school system. I have worked in the banking industry in Macon County for 29 years and currently hold the position of City President for United Community Bank. In addition, I have served on numerous Boards for civic and non-prof-

it organizations in Macon County. I have a deep commitment to our schools and to providing the best education we can to our students.

2. Exactly what sets you apart from the other candidates?

The Board of Education is charged with working with the superintendent to insure that our schools conform with federal, state and local policies, and guidelines while maintaining the highest degree of efficiency in the operation of our school system we can possibly obtain. I think my background in finance and business allows me to understand these factors and provide the leadership and direction to achieve these goals.

3. Please tell us a little about your vision for the future of Macon County Schools and how you will help that vision come to fruition.

Our future in Macon County depends heavily on how we prepare our students to best cope with changing economic environments. It is vital we give them the vocational, technological, and academic tools necessary to compete and succeed in the competitive workplace they will face upon graduation.

Dwight Vinson **BOE District IV**

1. What do you want the public to know about you concerning your credentials to run for a seat on the BOE?

I am a graduate of Franklin High School and attended ALL of 12 years of school in the Macon County School System. I graduated from Appalachian State University in 1986. I have been employed in businesses in the Macon County area until opening up my real estate appraisal firm in 1998. I have a 16 year old daughter, currently a junior at Franklin High School and have been active with the kids as a softball coach, basketball coach, member of the Franklin High School athletic Boosters Club and Band Boosters. I am currently the president of the Franklin High School Band Boosters. I am past president of the Franklin Jaycees and Franklin Rotary Club. I am currently the music director at South Macon Baptist Church and have been a member of Blue Ridge, a nationally recognized southern gospel quartet, for over 28 years.

2. Exactly what sets you apart from the other candidates?

As described above, I have been and am currently very active in the local community. I am a small business owner that has to make practical fiscal decisions every day. My business takes me into all parts of Macon County on a daily basis. This includes Franklin, Highlands and Nantahala. I have a child in the local school system that is involved in band, athletics and is an honor student academi-

cally. I believe that I have the widest range of knowledge and day to day contact with the parents and children who are in the Macon County School system.

3. Please tell us a little about your vision for the future of Macon County and how you will help that vision come to fruition. I suppose you are asking more specifically about the Macon County School system. I believe that the school board is 1st and foremost to be an advocate of the children of the Macon County School system. The Macon County School system is experiencing challenges now that will probably get larger in the near future. Due to excessive demands placed on schools systems, from Federal and State mandates, i.e. No Child Left Behind, it is getting increasingly difficult to meet budget demands. Demands to meet grade level requirements for "new" students entering our system, is forcing the local systems, across the state, to divert resources, both money and teachers, away from the mainstream students as well as the honors programs. These diversions may NOT be direct, but it is having the same effect, when the budget "pie" is being split into smaller pieces. This problem is frustrating for the kids, teachers, parents and taxpayers. I believe that this frustration is also evident in the state reported drop-out rate. I would like to assist the school system in planning and prioritizing in the upcoming years and also to help implement a program that includes the parents, in lowering the drop out rate as well as increasing the graduation rate.

Note: In the Sept. 18 issue of Highlands'

Newspaper, we mistakenly reported that Vinson's wife Martha worked at Franklin High School. She works at Macon Bank. We also mistakenly reported that he had a five-year-old daughter. His daughter is 16. We regret the error and are happy to set the record straight.

Bobby Bishop **BOE District IV** **Unexpired Term**

1. What do you want the public to know about you concerning your credentials to run for a seat on the Macon County BOE?

I'm 40 years old, a native of Macon County. I have two girls in the school system, Breanna at Franklin High School, Kaitlin at Macon Middle School. I've been coaching little league sports for the children of Macon County for the past 13 years. I've been a Building Inspector for Macon County for 15 years.

2. Exactly what sets you apart from the other candidates?

I'm willing to listen to the public and try my best to give the teachers of Macon County the tools they need to give every boy and girl the best education possible.

3. Please tell us a little about your vision for the future of Macon County and how you will help that vision come to fruition. I will try my best to be fair and wise with every decision that is made in our school system. I will base my decisions on what is best for the students of Macon County.

Robert Swank **Incumbent** **BOE District IV** **Unexpired Term**

• See CANDIDATES page 26



BOE DISTRICT IV
Jim Breedlove



BOE DISTRICT IV
Dwight C. Vinson



BOE DISTRICT IV
UNEXPIRED TERM
Bobby Bishop



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A forelorn cabin with a 'spooky' story

By Barbara Lawrence

Owner of Mountain Rarities

The Joe Webb log cabin stood alone, looking unloved and abandoned, hidden by tall Mountain Laurel bushes that bloomed profusely in the summer. While Highlands carried out its busy life, it seemed that time stood still for the old house. The rumor was that an old musician had lived there and hung himself by his violin string. Music was said to be heard coming from the house occasionally. When the police were called, they reported everything was in order but the wooden beams were unstable so people should stay away.

There used to be a "For Sale" sign in the garden, but that had fallen down and rotted many years ago. The garden was overgrown with weeds interspersed with day-lilies, mint and old country roses. It was peaceful, and the birds had found a haven here.

I walked my dogs by the house every morning. Neighbors had told me to stay away. "It's haunted and dangerous" they said. Noises had been heard in the night, and lights had been seen once or twice. I didn't believe in such nonsense, so I enjoyed my walk and always thought what a nice home it would make if it were fixed up. Besides, I could take my dogs off their leash, so they could enjoy sniffing through the long grass and flushing out the occasional rabbit.

One morning I was surprised to notice that the curtains had been moved, ever so slightly. "That's strange" I thought, maybe someone came by to give the place a clean. The next morning they were back in the usual position. "Must be my imagination" I thought.

About a week later, I noticed a little vase in the window had been moved. Now I was beginning to wonder if my friends



were right. Maybe this place was haunted – maybe I should change my route in the morning. I decided to take my last walk to the house the next morning, and then take a detour by the lake. I had avoided this in the past because my dogs loved to chase the ducks.

As I came around the Mountain Laurel bush I stopped in surprise. Coming out of the house was someone I knew and was very close to years ago, one could say in another life when I worked for the government. I nodded to him. He smiled and nodded back. I understood then what the house was. For the next week I walked by the lake, and my dogs suffered the indignation of being on a leash.

One morning I decided to go by the

house again. I wanted to take one last look. That encounter had sure brought back memories.

To my amazement, the doors were open; cleaners were busy washing floors and windows. A new For Sale Sign was up. A young couple was looking at the house.

They came over to me.

"We are thinking of buying this house. The owner, Mr. Usam, just put it on the market last week. It's a great price, and really cozy, it looks as if it has been well cared for inside, but people told us this house had a reputation of being haunted and dangerous" What do you think?

"Oh! I can assure you; this has always been a very "safe" house....."

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• COACH'S CORNER •

Confession time

OK, so every so often I use this space as a personal confession booth, where I spill out some of the deepest and darkest things that keep me awake at night. (or during the day, depending on how you look at these things).

Tonight, I had an epiphany as I was sitting at home. I was supposed to be working, either on this column, or a homework assignment, or some lesson plans, or laundry, or some of the other 10 million things that needed to be done. As I was thinking, I was holding a Playstation controller in my hand and had just finished throwing for 340 yards with 5 touchdowns. It was then that I realized that I have a problem, and it manifests itself in the video game world. To fully explain what I am talking about, I'll have to take you back to my childhood. It was a time of social awkwardness, etc., but it was also the dawn of modern video games. These video games allowed one to escape reality and enter a virtual world full of all kinds of fun. It was also the dawn of the first sports games, with RBI baseball (which allowed the pitcher to magically move the ball back and forth defying all laws of gravity), Tecmo Bowl (which featured a 4-play playbook similar to the Tennessee Volunteers actual playbook) and Double Dribble (which allowed players to dunk from behind the 3-point line on the baseline).

All of these games were extremely generic, not even featuring real teams or real players (except Tecmo Bowl, which featured a cyborg version of Bo Jackson), but they did allow gamers to get their first taste of virtual sports.

However, as the games advanced, so



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did the realism that they provided. Soon, gamers could take control of their favorite players or favorite teams and play to their hearts' content. At this point, you may be asking yourself about this supposed confession, which I promise I will be getting to eventually. However, I must outline one other advancement within the newest sports games — the Create-a-Player feature. This feature

allows gamers to create themselves, or any other player they would like to see in the game. And here now, in this particular column, I am going to confess I abuse the Create-a-Player system.

The pattern of abuse started with my Sega Dreamcast, and the ability to create myself in College Football. Soon, I was a 6'8" quarterbacking monster with a rocket arm and 4.4 speed that would make Reggie Bush look slow.

Next came MLB baseball, where my 96 mph fastball was almost as dominant as my knee-buckling curve ball.

College basketball was next, where my supreme handles and deadly 3-point shooting made me the best white player with glasses since George Mikan. And lest you think that at some point I got over this sick manipulation of the Create-a-Player system, last night I just won my third BCS championship, as captain and quarterback of the Duke Blue Devils.

At this point, I feel like I have a problem — one that can only be solved with a lot of therapy, and perhaps even a life. Of course, the first step to recovery is admitting you have a problem...right? Now, if you will excuse me, I have to start game 7 for the Pirates in the World Series in a few minutes.

'Bobby Jones' tournament nets \$130,000 for hospital

2008 marked the 27th Annual Bob Jones Invitational Golf Tournament hosted by Highlands Country Club and played for benefit of the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital Foundation. This year's tournament played on Aug. 16 generated \$130,000 for the hospital.

Played in honor of immortal golfer Bobby Jones, the invitational featured Walker Cup players. Every two years, the best amateur golfers in the United States compete with those from Great Britain and Ireland in team play for the coveted Walker Cup, with play alternating between here and overseas. It all began in 1922, when the first match was played in this country. In an effort to get international play started, George Herbert Walker, a prominent golfer of the time, donated an "International Challenge Trophy". The press termed the trophy the "Walker Cup" in honor of the donor, who happened to be former President George Bush's maternal grandfather, and President George W. Bush's great-grandfather. Bobby Jones was selected to play on five Walker Cup teams and chosen twice to serve as team captain. In nine individual matches, he was undefeated.

The Bob Jones Tournament Committee is comprised of Earle Mauldin, Chairman, Wayne Beckner, Anne Bailey, Bill Gaston, Allen Hardin, John McKey, Jr, Helen Olnick, Ruthie Watts and Club Administrator Martha Betz. Proceeds to the hospital foundation exceed \$2.8 million.



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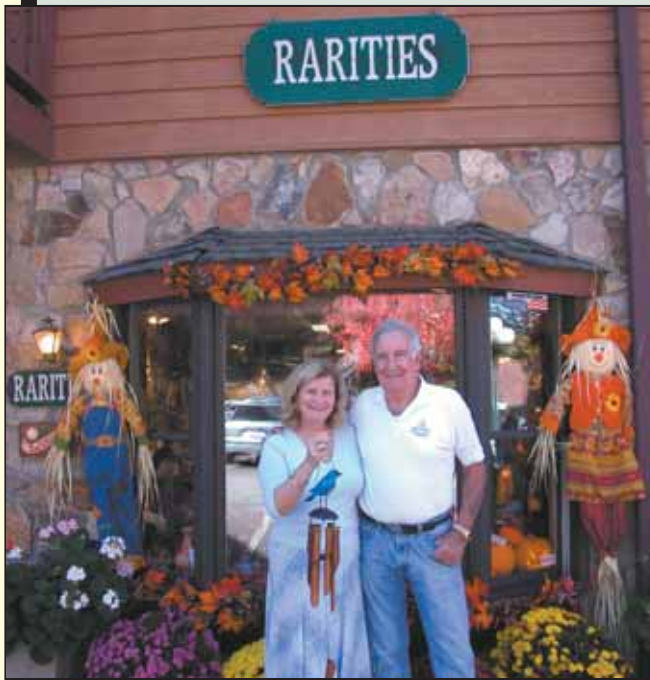
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From left: Bob Jones, IV, grandson of immortal golfer Bobby Jones, Club Administrator Martha Betz, and Chairman emeritus Walter Wattles.

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• **ANOTHER POV** •

Vote Baby Vote!

As you read this there are just four days before the election. What's left to be said? Each candidate has made his or her point; they have bombarded us with ads to the point where we can recite the rhetoric with the sound turned down on the TV. As we come to the close of the campaign, it and the ads have turned extremely negative. The campaign has come to the point where it's become distasteful even to watch. I personally have had my fill of it. I've never liked nor respected those that try to make themselves look better by making other look worse. In election campaigns, I want to hear what the candidate has done and intends to do, not just a ranting why the other candidate is an idiot.

So now the end is near and I have wondered how, at this point, people could be uncertain for whom they were going to vote; certainly the data is available on every candidate's position on every issue if you want it. Since I have been writing this column I have received a lot of feedback, and from their comments I know that some people will never vote beyond their party affiliation no matter who is their candidate — that's just the way they are. So I asked myself, who are the undecided? I wondered if they were those that truly couldn't decide between the candidates, and then I thought how could they not? McCain and Obama are as different as two candidates can be. This isn't a case of deciding between desserts you love, or two colors for your new car, these two candidates are polar opposites. Can the undecided be that uninformed?

I have had a thought recently that perhaps some of the undecided are not ill informed at all, but are struggling to make a



Matthew G. Eberz
Feedback is encouraged
Email: matt@matteberz.com

change in their voting party of which they have never done before nor would have even considered doing before. I have a dear friend who is at the total opposite of the politic spectrum as me. We have discussed politics for a long time, and although our goals for America are the same — a strong, self reliant, free society where business thrives — our method of

getting there are very different. The thought of this life-long Republican voting for Obama was a foreign to him as me not rooting for my Phillies. We disagree on the Patriot Act, aid to those struggling, Guantanamo, and don't even get us started on discussing the war in Iraq. Our conversations have challenged our knowledge of the issues and have sometimes caused us to re-think our positions.

This past weekend you could have knocked me over with a feather when he told me he was thinking of voting for Obama. We talked for some time and there is no need to relay the reasons for his change of heart; they are all around us these days. He has always believed in tax cut for business, trickle down economics, America's right to intercede in world affairs, and pulling yourself up by your own bootstraps, as the saying goes. Now, he's questioning his long standing philosophies and those of his party. He's embarrassed to be even considering voting other than Republican; his wife will be voting McCain and this is something he chooses not to discuss with her (I think fears is a more apt description).

I told him I live in a great town most of whom support the Republican platform.

•See ANOTHER POV page 23

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• FROM MY PERSPECTIVE •

Looking ahead

Next Tuesday is one of the most important days of our year. We all must realize the importance of the election which is before us at this time because of the major issues which face us. Everyone must get out and vote. I encourage each and every one of you to exercise your right as a citizen of this free country to go to the polls and do your duty to our country.

On a local level, which is where all government begins, the Town Board is hard at work searching for a Town Manager to begin in February, and we are making excellent progress. As most of you know we have moved from a Mayor-Council form of government to a Manager-Council one. We are paying close attention to the public comments which have been made on the issue and have received more than 75 applications for the new manager position. Soon we will be in the process of interviewing the top candidates and hopefully will come to the point of offering the position to our top person. We indeed have a difficult decision to make because we truly have some outstanding candidates, many of them with experience in Western North Carolina. Our search consultant has done an outstanding job of coming up with this great list of applicants.

The governing Boards of the county, Town of Franklin and Town of Highlands had a good meeting at the Fireside Restaurant this past Tuesday and had some good discussion regarding common issues. There is no better way to negotiate many issues than to have direct conversations with the County Commissioners. We will continue the conversation with them



Mayor Don Mullen

the recreation money which comes to us from the county and hopefully will be able to negotiate a longer term contract. Our expenses in the recreation department continue to climb yearly and that must be taken into consideration. Also the occupancy tax which returns to the coffers of the town is important to us for use in the tourism industry of our town. The details of this are yet to be worked out but good progress has been made.

But most of all, just having a social gathering of all the people who make these decisions goes a long way in developing the camaraderie we need in our county to get things done in a proper and civilized way. We are grateful to Jack Horton, the county manager, and Joe Collins, the Mayor of Franklin in helping make the meetings meaningful with the great majority of the commissioners and aldermen attending. And we thank Allan Shultz at the Fireside Restaurant in putting together a terrific meal for us all with all the trimmings.

Everybody come on down town in Highlands Friday night if you are not afraid

regarding

of the spooks attacking you. It should be a great time with Main Street closed off for a fun Halloween event. Fun for both children and adults. . . one of the most exciting events of the year in Highlands. Come dressed for the day and have a great time. And remember, everybody, buy in Highlands. No reason to go off the mountain to buy.

And after years of struggling to get roads around the lakes paved, we have achieved success and we are partially done. Hickory Hill, Chowan, Cullasaja and Wyanok are paved and Dogwood and Azalea are next. This will go a long way to reducing the silt in the lakes and making travel along these roads cleaner and more comfortable. We are grateful to State Senator Snow and Representative West for their assistance in obtaining the funds to achieve these pavings the way they should be done without the destruction of property which would have happened if we had to abide by the original proposal required by the state.

The residents along those roads tell me they are very pleased with the results. We can all celebrate this achievement together and move on with the progress we are having in paving our roads as we also try to obtain funds for the total development of the sewage projects we so desire in our town and obtain funds for the removal of silt from our water supply on the Big Creek arm of Lake Sequoyah.

These are all important projects but in the current economic slowdown they will be difficult to obtain, but it is a goal to which with must persist.

Alkade, actually offended the populations they needed for support.

"So the U.S. decided to adopt the surge. We injected 130,000 additional troops into Iraq to establish stability. It is now stable. It was a short-term tactic, not meant to be a long-term thing. Troops were sent into Iraq to set up operating bases in neighborhoods to maintain order.

"In a military sense, the surge has worked. But in a political sense it hasn't worked. It bought the Iraqi's time to get their political act together and build a country without interference from the outside groups using their country as a battleground.

"The Iraqi election is in January. We'll see how that goes. Then we will know if the surge promoted any political progress. If not, then the U.S. is back to where it was when the surge started."

— Kim Lewicki

• For part 2 see next week's edition of Highlands' Newspaper.

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... MACKEY continued from page 1

Without bringing party politics into the presentation, she said the U.S. has done some things right concerning the Middle East and most recently Iraq, and some things wrong.

How it started

"The U.S. got involved with Iraq in 2003 with the dual purpose of removing Hussein, eliminating Weapons of Mass Destruction and establishing a beacon of democracy in the Middle East.

"The strategy was brilliantly planned and executed but was botched politically because there was no real plan for what to do with Iraq after we got rid of Saddam Hussein.

"From 2005-2007 the country was out of control. We never secured Iraq after the invasion. We were faced with insurrection by Sunis who had been cut out politically and economically by the new Iraq. The Arab population in Iraq is 20% Suni and 60% Shites and the Kurds make up 20% of the population.

"On top of that there was violence within the community groups — within the Sunis and Shites and between the Sunis and Shites — and the U.S. suffered a lot of casualties.

"In that way, Iraq resembled Lebanon from 1975-1990. There were huge demographic shifts where there used to be mixed neighborhoods. People were moved into isolated enclaves and separated with physical barricades which were erected so they couldn't have contact.

"The Suni Triangle was the heart of the insurgency. It was a tribal group making war on the American army, so the army adapted a classic counter insurgent strategy by hiring insurgents to get them on our side. This gave employment and economic stability.

"To add to the mix, there were other tribal groups from other countries going to war against each other and using a foreign country — Iraqi soil — to fight Americans and other tribal groups. In doing so, these groups like

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<p>BALLOT MARKING INSTRUCTIONS:</p> <p>a. With a black ball point pen or the marking device provided, completely fill in the oval <input type="radio"/> to the left of each candidate or selection of your choice, like this: <input checked="" type="radio"/></p> <p>b. Where authorized, you may write in a candidate by filling in the oval and writing the name on the Write-In line.</p> <p>c. If you tear, deface or wrongly mark this ballot, return it to request a replacement.</p> <p>The offices of President and Vice President of the United States are not included in a Straight Party vote. These offices must be voted separately.</p>	<p>PARTISAN OFFICES</p> <p>US SENATE (You may vote for ONE)</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Kay Hagan DEMOCRAT</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Elizabeth Dole REPUBLICAN</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Christopher Cole LIBERTARIAN</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Write-in</p>	<p>COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE (You may vote for ONE)</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Wayne Goodwin DEMOCRAT</p> <p><input type="radio"/> John Odom REPUBLICAN</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Mark McMains LIBERTARIAN</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Write-in</p>
<p>PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (You may vote for ONE)</p>	<p>US HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES DISTRICT 11 (You may vote for ONE)</p>	<p>COMMISSIONER OF LABOR (You may vote for ONE)</p>
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<p>STRAIGHT PARTY VOTING</p> <p>a. A Straight Party vote is a vote for all candidates of that party in partisan offices. Individual partisan office selections are not necessary if you select a Straight Party below.</p> <p>b. You may select a Straight Party AND ALSO vote for a candidate of a different party in any individual office.</p> <p>c. In any multi-seat race, a Straight Party vote is a vote for ALL candidates of that party. If you individually vote for any candidate in a multi-seat race, you must also individually select all other candidates in that race for whom you wish to vote in order for your vote to count.</p> <p>d. If you do not select a Straight Party below, you may vote by marking each office separately.</p> <p>e. A Straight Party vote does not vote for US President and Vice President, unaffiliated candidates, or nonpartisan offices or issues.</p>	<p>GOVERNOR (You may vote for ONE)</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Bev Perdue DEMOCRAT</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Pat McCrory REPUBLICAN</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Michael C. Munger LIBERTARIAN</p>	<p><input type="radio"/> Elaine F. Marshall DEMOCRAT</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Jack Sawyer REPUBLICAN</p>
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	<p><input type="radio"/> Beth A. Wood DEMOCRAT</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Leslie Merritt REPUBLICAN</p>	<p><input type="radio"/> John J. Snow, Jr. DEMOCRAT</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Susan C. Pons REPUBLICAN</p>
	<p>COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE (You may vote for ONE)</p>	<p>NC HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES DISTRICT 119 (You may vote for ONE)</p>
	<p><input type="radio"/> Ronnie Ansley DEMOCRAT</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Steve Troxler REPUBLICAN</p>	<p><input type="radio"/> Phil Haire DEMOCRAT</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Dodie Allen REPUBLICAN</p>
		<p>COUNTY COMMISSIONER DISTRICT II (You may vote for ONE)</p>
		<p><input type="radio"/> Jim Davis REPUBLICAN</p>

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The "One-Stop" voting process permits voting at the Board of Elections office. This year, "One-Stop" voting ends on Saturday, Nov. 1.

NONPARTISAN OFFICES		DISTRICT COURT JUDGE DISTRICT 30 (You may vote for ONE)	
SUPREME COURT ASSOCIATE JUSTICE (You may vote for ONE)		<input type="radio"/>	Richard K. Walker
<input type="radio"/>	Robert H. (Bob) Edmunds, Jr.	SCHOOL BOARD DISTRICT I (You may vote for ONE)	
<input type="radio"/>	Suzanne Reynolds	<input type="radio"/>	Frieda Bennett
COURT OF APPEALS JUDGE (You may vote for ONE)		<input type="radio"/>	John Shearl
<input type="radio"/>	John C. Martin	<input type="radio"/>	Write-in
COURT OF APPEALS JUDGE (You may vote for ONE)		SCHOOL BOARD DISTRICT III (You may vote for ONE)	
<input type="radio"/>	Jewel Ann Farlow	<input type="radio"/>	Tommy Baldwin
<input type="radio"/>	James A. (Jim) Wynn	<input type="radio"/>	Brian Wendell Bateman
COURT OF APPEALS JUDGE (You may vote for ONE)		<input type="radio"/>	Write-in
<input type="radio"/>	Sam J. Ervin, IV	SCHOOL BOARD DISTRICT IV (You may vote for ONE)	
<input type="radio"/>	Kristin Ruth	<input type="radio"/>	Alan Allman
COURT OF APPEALS JUDGE (You may vote for ONE)		<input type="radio"/>	Jim Breedlove
<input type="radio"/>	Cheri Beasley	<input type="radio"/>	Gregg Jones
<input type="radio"/>	Doug McCullough	<input type="radio"/>	Dwight C. Vinson
COURT OF APPEALS JUDGE (You may vote for ONE)		<input type="radio"/>	Write-in
COURT OF APPEALS JUDGE (You may vote for ONE)		SCHOOL BOARD DISTRICT IV Unexpired term ending 2010 (You may vote for ONE)	
<input type="radio"/>	Dan Barrett	<input type="radio"/>	Bobby Bishop
<input type="radio"/>	Linda Stephens	<input type="radio"/>	Roberta Swank
COURT OF APPEALS JUDGE (You may vote for ONE)		<input type="radio"/>	Write-in
<input type="radio"/>	John S. Arrowood	SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT SUPERVISOR (You may vote for ONE)	
<input type="radio"/>	Robert N. (Bob) Hunter, Jr.	<input type="radio"/>	Calvin Conley
DISTRICT COURT JUDGE DISTRICT 30 (You may vote for ONE)		<input type="radio"/>	Dennis Desmond
<input type="radio"/>	Richlyn D. Holt	<input type="radio"/>	Write-in
DISTRICT COURT JUDGE DISTRICT 30 (You may vote for ONE)		<hr/> <div>End of Ballot</div> <hr/>	
<input type="radio"/>	Monica Leslie		

Polling places on the plateau
6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Highlands
Highlands Civic Center, 100 Cashiers Road, Highlands

Flats
Scaly Mountain Community Center: 41 Buck Knob Road,
Scaly Mountain



ELECT

John Shearl

School

Board

District 1

‘Better Education For All’

Paid for by the committee to elect John Shearl School Board

Girls' Clubhouse helps promote Art League 'Color' show



On a cold Oct. 18, The Girls' Clubhouse members walked around town giving out postcards directing people to the Art League show at the Rec Park where handmade wares were on sale. Pictured is Ivy Satterwhite, Meredith Garren, Elizabeth Houston, McKinley Mosely and April Moss. Not pictured is Veronica Garcia and Grace Brassard.

Photo by Supervisor Kim Lewicki

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Area events prepare for Halloween!



Photo by
Katie Brugger

This little guy carved a spooky jack-o-lantern at Mountain Fresh Foods on Saturday. RBC Centura is also sponsoring its annual pumpkin decorating contest for second-graders of Highlands School. Their masterpieces will be on display in the lobby of the bank on the Franklin Road through Friday, Oct. 31. Go by and cast your vote for the best one and the winner will get a Halloween Goodie Bag from RBC Bank. Little goblins will have to bundle up, but Highlands annual Trick-or-treating will take place on Main Street and on the Fourth Street hill on Friday, Oct. 31 from 6-8 p.m. Don't miss it!

... BRUGGER continued from page 14

started: Supposedly one of the main problems in this crisis is the freezing of the credit markets, in which it is impossible for businesses or consumers to get loans for new equipment, new cars, etc. So the Treasury Department has given some of the bailout money to banks with the intention that they use that money to make loans.

Of course there was no stipulation that they use the money that way and it turns out instead of making loans they are buying up small troubled banks. See the October 25, 2008 *New York Times*, "So When Will Banks Give Loans?" by Joe Nocera.

Paul Krugman wrote this week that the

Treasury plan contains no safeguards against the possibility that banks will simply sit on the money. He quotes from Nocera's article: "Unlike the British government, which is mandating lending requirements in return for capital injections, our government seems afraid to do anything except plead. And sure enough, the banks seem to be hoarding the cash."

My hope is that this economic meltdown will lead us as a nation to embrace the message of Carter's speech.

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

... ANOTHER POV continued from page 18

The town has two industries, real estate and tourism and both are crashing. Real estate sales are down 50% and that hurts the real estate companies who have no sales, the lawyers who file the deals, the painters, plumbers, carpenters who do the eventual remodeling, the furniture dealers the decorators and host of others. Tourism is down and the retail sales have followed. The B&Bs are hurting, and when you do see folks in town the tell tale of bad times are the shopping bags they are not carrying. I have heard some of the town folk go from, "No for Obama" to "Oh no he's going to win" to "I hope he can help us." Quietly and slowly, people's attitudes are changing.

When things remain the same attitudes remain the same. When the world changes, when we see what we worked for and lived for change and perhaps slip away we become angry and unthinking. In some countries those conditions would cause a major uprising, even violence and death. But this is America, and in America we

think, we learn, we change. Unlike many countries our political process, and just about everything we do, gets better over time. It may not seem that way but it really does. Our political process is not perfect, but this election it's better than the last, and that one was better than the one before it. This is a country where the liberals push us to the social "left" and the conservatives push to the "right" and the country, where absolutely no one has all the answers, moves forward with a slightly different middle – but never too fast. This is a country where my social agenda and my friend's business agenda have caused us to talk, to think and both move towards a mutual supporting middle point of view.

Some people would say that my friend needs to stay the course and vote the party. I have Another Point Of View; I believe your vote is private, your business and the single most powerful weapon for change. Don't waste it. Vote!

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Main Street **Stone Lantern** Highlands

• BUSINESS NEWS •

Meadows Mountain Realty joins Leading Real Estate Companies of the World™

MEADOWS MOUNTAIN REALTY joins over 700 real estate companies from across the United States and internationally in Leading Real Estate Companies of the World™, the largest network of leading residential firms, with 170,000 associates and over \$380 billion in collective sales volume, which is more than that of any national brand or franchise.

The network affiliates are widely recognized as the premier providers of quality residential real estate and relocation services. Leading Real Estate Companies of the World™ also excels in the upper-end market, with \$70 Billion in sales of homes valued over \$1 million.

As an affiliate of Leading Real Estate Companies of the World™, MEADOWS MOUNTAIN REALTY can assist individuals purchasing or selling property in virtually any community in the U. S. or abroad with services including real estate assistance, comprehensive destination orientation programs, household goods, move management and more. The membership also enables MEADOWS MOUNTAIN REALTY, to assist with corporate relocation accounts through RELO Direct™ Leading RE's third party relocation company.

Judy Michaud notes that selection as an

affiliate of the Leading Real Estate Companies of the World™ network represents another step in the development of the firm and its ability to meet the real estate needs of the Highlands-Cashiers-Glenville area.

MEADOWS MOUNTAIN REALTY, with its twelve sales associates, was selected for Leading Real Estate Companies of the World™ membership only after meeting the network's exacting standards.

"We are delighted that MEADOWS MOUNTAIN REALTY has joined Leading Real Estate Companies of the World™," commented President and CEO of Leading Real Estate Companies of the World Network™ Services Ruth Ann Pepple. "Their selection was based on the company's outstanding reputation, as well as its demonstrated ability to deliver the same high quality service and reliability as our other affiliates. This level of services is the foundation of our network and is the basis for our longevity and success as one of the industry's leading providers of real estate and relocation services."

MEADOWS MOUNTAIN REALTY is located at 450 North 5th Street, Highlands and at 130 Highway 64 East in Laurel Terrace in Cashiers. The company has been serving Highlands-Cashiers-Glenville communities since 2003.

Century 21 Mountain Lifestyles welcomes new agent

CENTURY 21 Mountain Lifestyles is pleased to announce the following agent has joined its firm as a sales associate, specializing in residential sales: Diane "Dee" Coates in the Cashiers office.

Diane has worked as a senior vice president & director of marketing in the banking industry for 20 years and managed a surgical facility for 12 years. She is active in the Rotary Club of Highlands and Friends of Lake Glenville.

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



Dee Coates

Some Quickdraw proceeds go to HCCDC



The Highlands Mountaintop Rotary recently made a donation to the Highlands Community Child Development Center with funds raised from their recent "Quickdraw" fundraiser. Accepting the donation on behalf of the HCCDC was director Pat Hedden. Presenting the check was Mountaintop Rotary President Elect Al Bolt, and Quickdraw Sponsor Nick Bazan. Hedden said a portion of the funds will be used to re-stock the library at the center.

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EDWARDS
INN *Spa*

HOLIDAY STYLE WEEK

Festive ambiance, holiday music, and the elegance of the Hummingbird Lounge set the stage for our memorable events.

ENTERTAINING WITH SIMPLE STYLE

11/04 from 4-6 pm

Complimentary hors d'oeuvres, recipes, holiday music, champagne, extended hours & discounts at Acorns.



HAIRSTYLES & MAKEUP November 11/05

Free tips and demonstrations, 10% off products, complimentary virgin Spa-Tinis; cocktails and spa gift baskets for purchase, gift with salon booking.



HIGH TEA & FASHION SHOW

11/06 from 3-5 pm

Holiday event in the Hummingbird. Buy \$25 tickets at Acorns, in Lobby or by calling 526-8008.

HOLIDAY HAPPY HOUR 11/07 from 5-6 pm

Complimentary tasting of Old Edwards his & her cocktails, favorite holiday libations, light nibbles and a cozy fire to warm your spirits.

For reservations at Madison's following any event, call 828-526-8008.
For more information, visit www.oldedwardsinn.com.

• BUSINESS NEWS •

Wayah Insurance Group chosen 'Agency of the Year'



Wayah Insurance, a member of the Keystone Insurers Group, was chosen Agency of the Year for 2007-2008. The award is given by Keystone to the agency with superior results in growth, profitability, and underwriting excellence. Keystone Insurers Group is a partnership of over 150 independent agencies operating in five states. "The award is the result of the professionalism and expertise of the employees in both the Highlands and Franklin offices," said Steve Chenoweth.

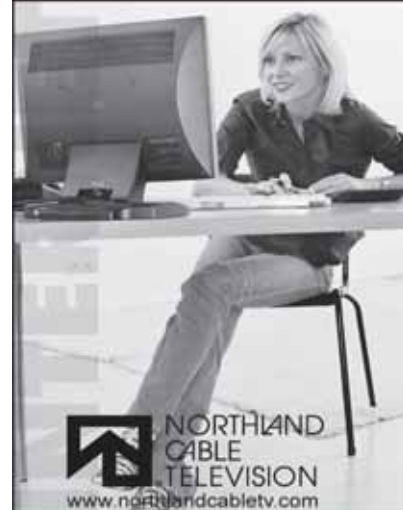
Amended lease and new catering kitchen means more opportunities for community at PAC facility



Stewart Manning and Elaine Whitehurst inspect the new catering kitchen that has been installed at the Performing Arts Center on Chestnut Street. Mr. Manning and his wife, Brenda, donated top-of-the-line equipment for the kitchen, including the warming oven seen here, as well as a commercial refrigerator, an ice-maker, a microwave and two stainless steel work tables. The primary mission of PAC will always be to provide a state-of-the-art facility for performances including chamber music, plays, dance and lectures. But if the schedule permits, portions of PAC can now be rented for such events as wedding receptions, anniversary celebrations, and family reunions. To reserve space at PAC, call 526-9047.

Photo by Kim Lewicki

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email: highlandseditor@aol.com



HOLIDAY HIGH TEA & FASHION SHOW



JOIN US THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6 FROM 3-5 PM

Make warm holiday memories with good friends while viewing this seasons most stylish and wearable fashions amid the festive atmosphere of the Hummingbird Library and Piano Bar.

Limited Seating
Reserve Early.

Enjoy extended shopping hours and discounts at Acorns Boutique following the event. You can purchase tickets by phone, in the lobby of the Old Edwards Inn or in Acorns Boutique.

\$25 Per Person
Call 866-526-8008

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Join us also for Entertaining with Simple Style, Holiday Hair & Makeup and Holiday Happy Hour — all complimentary events with hors d'oeuvres and libations.

www.oldedwardsinn.com.

“WE HAVE A CHOICE to make in this election. We can either choose a new direction for our economy, or we can keep doing what we’ve been doing.”

“It’s time for something new. It’s time to restore balance and fairness to our economy so it works for **ALL** Americans.”

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Reduced from \$3.5 million to \$2.475 million!

Rockcliff is in gated Highlands Point and offers elegance, high-tech features, stream and long-range view all in one package. 4+ bedrooms with private decks, 8 1/2 bathrooms, media room, exercise room, paneled library, formal dining and living rooms, in-law/staff suite with private kitchen, gourmet kitchen with top-of-the-line stainless steel appliances, breakfast room, granite countertops, 3 large decks, outside stone fireplace, glass elevator, paved, heated driveway and more. 2.5 miles from Main Street. Appraised at \$3.5 million.



Bear’s Den in Whiteside Cove
Reduced from \$1.2 to 980,000

Large rustic home on 8.86 acres with 7 bedrooms, 7 bathrooms, a tennis court and much more. Beautiful mountain views abound. \$980,000.

Estate Property w/ 5-bed septic permit

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

... CANDIDATES continued from page 15

1. What do you want the public to know about you concerning your credentials to run for a seat on the Macon County Board of Education board?

My professional background includes 10 years experience as consulting Dietitian for five hospitals in western North Carolina (including Highlands Hospital); and 20 years as Child Nutrition Director for Macon County Schools. I have served as a member/ chairman of several boards including Southwestern Community College, Angel Medical Center, Friends of the Macon County Library, Macon County Health Board, Macon County Community Foundation and Church Trustee.

2. Exactly what sets you apart from the other candidates?

Honestly, experience! I was a parent for 20 years as our four children attended and graduated from Macon County Schools. I was active in many phases of school activities including the academic foundation, Little League, high school athletics and our Franklin High Band. I have served as a dedicated volunteer in many areas of our county for the 42 years that we have lived here. As a retiree I have the time, energy and commitment and would like to continue to serve our school system.

3. Please tell us a little about your vision



**BOE DISTRICT IV
UNEXPIRED TERM**
Roberta Swank
Incumbent

for the future of Macon County Schools and how you will help that vision come to fruition.

Macon County is a great place to live and we have a very good school system—but good can become better! We need to keep working on the building program we have started. The renovation and addition at East Franklin Elementary, the building of Macon 5-6 school and the building of the Elementary K-4 in Iotla; Maintain our existing buildings and strive to keep them updated; Work to obtain salaries for Macon County employees at least equal to the surrounding areas.; Keep a constant evaluation of class size and strive to lower the numbers below our state guidelines; Increase opportunities for students to graduate so we can lower our dropout rate. One option that I would like to see added is vocational classes geared to technology; Examine the budget and our needs each year to make certain that we are using our dollars wisely throughout the county. These things can be accomplished with involvement and communication of faculty, students, parents, administration and funding sources.

Note: Candidate Gregg Jones, running for District IV was unable to participate in the Q&A because he didn’t have access to email or a FAX machine.



Lakefront house & lot or house & 5 lots!

Charming two-level home on Apple Lake with great open space. Old growth rhododendron, extensive landscaping and a garden area. Feed fish from your own deck! Three bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, in Highland Hills and includes 5 lots. House and one lot \$895,000 or house and 5 lots for **\$1.2 million.**



New Listing!

Historic Webbmont 5.22-acres with private lake. A rare offering **\$950,000.**



Views of Blue Valley & Whiteside

Family home located at the top of Brushy Face Mountain with views of Blue Valley and Whiteside. The elevator services all 3 levels with the master bedroom on the main level. 8 bedrooms, 8 1/2 baths, 6 fireplaces and everything you’d expect in a house of this calibre. Many fabulous details. **\$5.5 million.**



Near Harris Lake

This is a wonderful recently remodeled house is absolutely charming! Walk to the Nature Center and downtown Highlands. 4 bedrooms, guest room, and children’s room with bunk beds. Great room, kitchen, dining with bedrooms up and down. Outside room with living, dining areas and fireplace. **\$899,000.**

• SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING •

How the Grinches Stole from Christians

(With apologies to Dr Seuss)



**Chaplain Margaret
Howell**
Holy Family Lutheran
Church – ELCA

The folk who lived in Cherokee loved their church a lot.

The thugs who lived in Cherokee did not.

The Thugs HATED churches, quite without reason,
They thought that booze and drugs were more please'n
It could be their heads weren't screwed on just right.

It could be, perhaps, that they weren't too bright.

But I think that the most likely reason of all
May have been that their hearts were two sizes too
small.

But, whatever the reason, their hearts or IQ's,
They stood in the underbrush with mud on their shoes,
Staring out from their hiding place with sour, Grinchy
frowns

At the warm lighted windows of the Lutheran church in
town.

For they knew every Christian all over the place was
busy now,

Giving thanks for God's grace.

"The place is unguarded," they snarled with a glee,

This is too easy — we're surely home free."

Then they growled, with their thug fingers nervously
drumming,

"We MUST find some way to keep Sunday from
coming!"

For, tomorrow, they knew all the Lutheran young and
old would wake up first thing.

They'd rush to the church and then!

Oh, they'd sing!

And they'd sing, and they'd sing and they'd sing, sing,
sing, sing!

One thing the thugs hated was the jubilant sing.

But How?

Then the thugs got an idea! They got a wonderful, awful
idea!

They loaded some bags and some old empty sacks in
their ramshackle van, and then they made tracks.

The thugs yelled 'Yee Haw!' and then the van started
down toward

The tiny wee church on the edge of town.

All the windows were dark, autumn leaves filled the air.

All the church folk were dreaming sweet dreams
without care.

•See SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING page 33

• 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

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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

Dr. Don Mullen, Parish Associate 526-3175

Sun.: Worship – 10:55 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 Matt Shuler, (828) 526-8425

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

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

Booster Club sponsors Highlands School Fun Run

October 18 was the Fun Run which is an annual event the Booster Club sponsors to promote good health and fitness in Highlands Schools up and coming athletes. Pictured are participants in this year's run and members of the Booster Club.



... WEBSITE continued from page 1

positories, and document management workflows with Microsoft Office integration," he said.

Designated webmasters at each school will begin training next week so they can

teach the administrators and staff at their respective schools.

"On the classroom side of the web application, the teachers will have the ability to easily create their own pages and sites, easily edit their own pages without third-party web editing software," said Burrell. "The can also create wikis and blogs, create a class syllabus,

create instructor-led web-based learning material, and create online quizzes that will give instant feedback."

Burrell said the new SharePoint server gives the school district the ability to use a customizable template system for creating sub-sites and pages. "This allows us to have a consistent look and feel while providing the same functionality across all sites," he said. "We also gain the benefit of integration with our current MS Active Directory server system. This will permit us to utilize our current users and groups in our server system, to centrally manage security and access to pages and documents across all sites."

Currently teachers use various templates, and programs to create their websites to which they encourage students and parents to visit to keep up with assignments and projects. Now everyone will be using the same software.

The license for the SharePoint server is \$1,580 yearly and the district will be running the SharePoint server software on existing servers at the district office in Franklin and hosting all sites internally.

"We currently spend about \$2,160 a year with our static web pages hosted elsewhere," said Burrell.

He said the district will also save about \$2,800 per year on third-party web editing software licenses needed now to service all the teachers.

The board also learned that Macon County Schools was commended for the participation of students, staff and administrators at four schools in the district during this year's Relay for Life event.

The school district raised more than \$13,000; Highlands raised more than \$1,800.

Facilities Director Terry Bell announced that work on the Highlands School roof is supposed to begin the first week of November with the canopy and covered walkway to follow when the roof is finished.

Work on the bathrooms and soccer field will begin when school is out in June and will likely continue for four to five months, he said.

— Kim Lewicki

The Summer house

Antiques ~ Accessories ~
Gifts ~ Upholstery ~
Large Selection of Bedding

Home of
**Tiger mountain
WoodWorks**
Custom Handcrafted Furniture

The PanTry
*Decorative Accessories for Kitchens
and Keeping Rooms*

PaTio & Porch

Visit Our Sale Room
for
Irresistible Savings!

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828-526-5577

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(2 miles from Main Street)
www.summerhousehighlands.com

Chintz & Company

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ENTIRE STOCK...
which is already priced to
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Now through Nov. 1
(Chintz China not included)

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PRICES!**
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Come and See!

Open noon-5 p.m.
Tuesday-Saturday

At Spring & 3rd • 526-4222



• UPCOMING EVENTS •

On-going Events

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

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

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

• Collections for men and women overseas at Chestnut Hill Retirement community. A wide variety of items currently are needed, including books and magazines, CDs and DVDs, and small pocket books, which fit neatly in the BDUs (Battle Dress Uniforms). Phone cards, lounge pants, grey or black t-shirts, and cards

of encouragement are also in great demand. Consumables such as insect repellent, lotions, and other hygiene products must come new, in original packaging. Monetary donations to fund the flat rate APO shipping at \$10.95 per box should be left at the front desk of Chestnut Hill. The drop point for all items will be under the flagpole at the Chestnut Hill Clubhouse on Clubhouse Trail. For any questions, or to schedule a drop-off, contact Jeremy Duke in our community office at (828) 787-2114.

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

• Raffle of handcrafted Stiefel Botanical Book to Benefit The Bascom. To purchase a raffle ticket, call 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 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.

Wed., & Fri.

• Open AA meeting noon 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

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

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

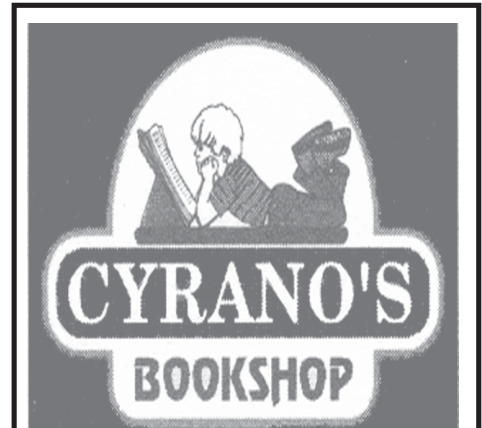
Tuesdays

• Highlands Rotary Club meets at noon at the

Highlands Conference Center.

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

• See EVENTS page 30



390 Main Street • 526-5488

www.cyranosbooks.com

Upcoming Book Signings

Saturday, Nov. 1

1-3 p.m.

Karl Lenker will autograph his novel, "The Final Trumpet"

A Halloween tradition continues at ITC, Friday, Oct. 31 at dusk



Friday night October 31st, is one of Highlands favorite nights. Halloween. On this night as the Main Street party starts to wind down, The Instant Theatre Companys Studio on Main cranks up the energy for aliens, witches, pirates and even Elvis to party. Hurricane Creek provides the vibes to keep the spirits happy. Doors open at dusk and close when the last Faire flies. Adults in costume get in for \$10, Adults with no costume pay \$15. Children \$5.00. No reservations are necessary. For information call 828-342-9197. The Studio on Main is located at 310 Main Street Oak Square, upstairs in Highlands.

Artisans of the Highlands Plateau sale is Nov. 28-29



For two days, Friday and Saturday, Nov. 28-29, Artisans of the Highlands Plateau will feature handmade wares at the Highlands Community Building from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Above is weaver Deborah Bryant of "Whats Your Bag."

• UPCOMING EVENTS •

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.

Thursdays & Fridays

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

Friday & Saturday

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

Friday-Sunday

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

Saturdays

- Live music at Cyprus Restaurant at 9:30 p.m. Through Nov. 12

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

Through 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.

Through Nov. 22

- The Hambidge Center for Creative Arts & Sciences presents Celebrate Clay, a pottery show featuring Western North Carolina Potters. Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Hambidge can be reached at 706-746-5718 or visited online at www.hambidge.org.

Thursday, Oct. 30

- "Strangers on a Train" (1951), rated PG, stars Robert Walker as a psychotic socialite who confronts a pro tennis star (Farley Granger) with a theory on how two complete strangers can get away with murder, a theory he plans to implement. 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.

- Halloween "Enchanted Forest" Nature Trail at the Highlands Nature Center. Group tours leave every 15 minutes from 6:30 - 8:30 pm. Bring a flashlight to go trick-or-treating through the Botanical Garden. Encounter friendly forest creatures (portrayed by students of the UNC Institute for the Environment) and learn interesting nature facts! Fun and educational for all ages, cost is only \$1 per person. Call 526-2623 or visit www.wcu.edu/hbs/Naturecenter.htm for more information.

- Friends of Panthertown work day. Meet at the Salt Rock Gap entrance at 9 am. Volunteers needed to maintain trails. For more information, contact Nina Elliott at 828-526-9938 (ext 258).

Thurs.-Sun., Oct. 30-Nov. 2

- The North Carolina Governor's Highway Safety Program (GHSP) will sponsor a "Booze It & Lose It" Highway Safety Initiative in conjunction with State and Local Law Enforcement Agencies. The Macon County Sheriff's Office will participate in this initiative by proactively patrolling and operating Motor Vehicle Checking Stations to enforce Highway Safety Laws.

Friday, Oct. 31

- At the Instant Theater at 8 p.m.. Hurricane Creek in a Halloween Costume Dance. At the ITC's Studio on Main. Doors open at dusk and close when the last Faire flies Adults in costume get in for \$10, Adults with no costume pay \$15. Children \$5. No reservations are necessary. For information call 828-342-9197.

- Highlands United Methodist Church Family Pizza Dinner, Friday at 5 p.m. before your family heads downtown for trick-or-treating fun! Call the church office, 526-3376 to make your reservations. Space is limited

- Downtown Highlands Trick-or-Treating on Main Street and on the Fourth Street hill from 6-8 p.m.

Saturday, Nov. 1

- The Macon County Public Health Center has expanded its flu shot clinic to be held on Saturday to include both adults and children. Shots will be given from 9 am to 2 pm at the Macon County Public Health Center on Lakeside Drive in Franklin for children and adults. The cost of the vaccine is \$25 for adults or it will be billed to insurance. Vaccine is free or billed to insurance for children through age 18. No appointments are necessary. For more information, call 349-2081.

Audition Notice

Highlands Cashiers Players auditions for *An American Daughter*, by Wendy Wasserstein will be held at PAC in Highlands on Sunday, Nov. 2 at 3 pm. If necessary, call backs will be held on Monday, Nov. 3 at 6 pm. *An American Daughter* is witty and observant; this drama/comedy concerns the nomination of a senator's daughter for US Surgeon General. When a small indiscretion from her past is turned into a scandal by the media, Lyssa Hughes is faced with the decision to pursue or decline the job. The play entertains even as it examines politics and the influence of the media.

There are parts for eight men and six women. Performance dates are: Feb. 26, 27, 28 & March 1 and March 6, 7, & 8, 2009. There is a copy of the play at the libraries in Highlands and Cashiers. For more information call Director Mary Adair Leslie 526-2673 or 706-782-9579 or email: summitonegallery@verizon.net

Ruby Cinemas

Hwy. 441, Franklin • 524-2076

Showing Oct. 31-Nov. 6

APPALOOSA

rated R

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

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

Mon - Thurs: (4:20), 7:10

BODY OF LIES

rated R

Friday: (4:30), 7, 9:30

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

Mon - Thurs: (4:30), 7:00

HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL 3:

SENIOR YEAR

rated G

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

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

Mon - Thurs: (4:15), 7:05

MAX PAYNE

rated PG-13

Friday: 9:30

Sat & Sun: 9:30

Mon - Thurs: 7:15

FIREPROOF

rated PG

Friday: (4:15), 7:15

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

Mon - Thurs: (4:15)

SPECIAL HALLOWEEN MOVIES

Special Halloween Movies on both Halloween Night and Nov 1st with shows at 11:30 pm and 1:30 am. Additional information and advance tickets are available at our box office window.

Author, aviator to sign new thriller

Karl Lenker will autograph his novel, "The Final Trumpet," at Cyrano's Bookshop this Saturday, Nov. 1, from 1-3 p.m. Set in Kenya in 1993, "The Final Trumpet" is a fast moving adventure set amidst the beautiful landscapes of East Africa, and the terrible scourge of the illegal ivory trade.

A young couple honeymooning on safari is wickedly attacked by ruthless elephant poachers — he is murdered, she is kidnapped. Their fathers, who served together as Army Rangers in Vietnam, agonize over the loss (they and the incompetent Kenyan police believe both are dead) and choke on the certain truth that justice will never be served. That is, until John Ruger Forrest, an airline pilot and a former highly skilled and decorated sniper, assembles a team of his old Army Ranger comrades to do what must be done.

At great risk to his career, Steven Henry Henderson brings CIA resources to bear to provide Forrest with the support necessary to pose as an elephant researcher while stalking and hunting poachers. But a mission that begins as an act of pure vigilante justice and revenge becomes something much more complicated when Henderson discovers his daughter may be alive and Forrest falls in love with Africa, the magnificent elephants and a woman whose husband hides a dark secret which has the potential to bring them both down.

"The Final Trumpet" was chosen as "the buzz book" at this fall's Southern Independent Bookseller's Alliance trade show in Mobile, Ala., and has been greeted with rave reviews by readers. The author knows about adventure: He's a Lieutenant

Colonel, USAF (retired), A-10 Warthog fighter pilot and combat veteran (Bosnia), who's logged over 29,000 hours in the air. He's also a friend of Tom Clancy, who visited Lenker's combat unit while researching his breakout novel "The Hunt for Red October."

In civilian life, Lenker was a long-time Delta Airlines pilot. His novel is based on an actual premise. A conservation group once asked Lenker to teach wildlife protection officers how to use small ultralight craft to patrol game reserves from the air, keeping track of poachers. Col. Lenker's busy life did not then allow him the time to travel to Africa, but the idea intrigued him, and after viewing evidence of the horrible methods used to remove the elephant's tusks, he was determined to do something to promote awareness of the horrors of poaching. During a recent radio interview in Atlanta, Lenker spoke of these "magnificent African elephants — beautiful animals murdered for their ivory" and said that part of the profits from sales of his book will go to combating poaching. Karl says that "retirement" is not in his lexicon, and now flies helicopters for emergency EMS rescue missions, and helps conservationists track alligators in Central Florida swamps. He is working on his second novel.

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

• UPCOMING EVENTS •

Chamber Music Festival Fall Concerts

The Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival presents its annual Fall Concert on Saturday, Nov. 1 at 5 p.m. at the Performing Arts Center in Highlands. The program will feature a cornerstone of the chamber music repertoire, Johannes Brahms' three Sonatas for Violin and Piano, performed by violinist Cecylia Arzewski and pianist William Ransom.

Brahms' three published sonatas for violin and piano were written over a span of ten years, from 1878 to 1888. This is considered his late period, to which the adjective "autumnal" has often been applied. The calm, richly melodic yet slightly bittersweet character that permeates much of the writing in these works makes that description especially appropriate, and makes them perfect for an autumn concert.

Ms. Arzewski is the former Concertmas-



ter of the Atlanta Symphony, and Mr. Ransom is Artistic Director of the HCCMF. Come enjoy this perfect complement to the leaf season in Highlands with beautiful and exciting music performed by internationally-known performers.

On Saturday, December 20th at 5 PM at the PAC, the HCCMF will present its first ever Christmas Concert, a benefit concert for the whole family entitled "Father Christmas' Favorite Chamber Music." Santa Claus himself will be on hand to introduce some of his favorite works for violin, viola, cello and piano; and good listeners will receive a treat from Father Christmas on the way out.

The Christmas concert will be a benefit for the Highlands Emergency Council.

For more information and tickets, call 828-526-9060; online at hcmusicfestival.org.



• The Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival presents its annual Fall Concert on Saturday, at 5 p.m. at PAC. Call 526-9060 for tickets. The program will feature a cornerstone of the chamber music repertoire, Johannes Brahms' three Sonatas for Violin and Piano, performed by violinist Cecylia Arzewski and pianist William Ransom. For more information and tickets, call 828-526-9060; online at hcmusicfestival.org.

• At Community Bible Church, "Fireproof My Marriage" LIVE Nationwide Simulcast! With Dr. Gary Smalley, Dr. Les Parrott and more. R.S.V.P. Tickets are \$30 per couple. Call 526-4685. Featuring renowned marriage experts and best-selling authors. Dr. Gary Smalley and Dr. Les Parrott, the conference will help couples discover the source and the language of lasting love. Joining Parrott and Smalley are the film's directors and brothers Alex Kendrick and Stephen Kendrick, pastor and producer Michael Catt and pastor Ted Cunningham. Community Bible Church is located on Highway 64 between Highlands and Cashiers. For more information call the church office at 526-4685 or go to www.cbchighlands.com.

• Land Trust of Little Tennessee is hosting its annual fall celebration in Historic Tellico Valley 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. The day includes music by the Frog Town 4, hayrides, guided hikes, tours of the Tellico Trout Farm, and our annual conservation award presentation. All activities are FREE for the entire family, and food may be purchased on-site from Big Mountain BB-Q. For

more information, contact Kate Parkerson at 524-2711.

• The Nantahala Hiking Club will hike from Wayah Crest to Siler Bald. Call leader Dave Sapin at 369-2628 for hike description, ease rating, meeting place and time, round trip drive distance and reservations.

• At Cyrano's Bookshop on Main Street, Karl Lenker will autograph his novel, "The Final Trumpet" from 1-3 p.m.

• A tour of The Bascom's new facilities at 10 a.m. To attend call 526-4949, ext. 8# or email jconnor@thebascom.org.

Sunday, Nov. 2

• Highlands-Cashiers Players auditions for An American Daughter, by Wendy Wasserstein will be held at the Performing Arts Center in Highlands on Sunday, at 3pm. If necessary, call backs will be held on Monday, November 3 at 6 pm. An American Daughter is witty and observant; this drama/comedy concerns the nomination of a senator's daughter for US Surgeon General. When a small indiscretion from her past is turned into a scandal by the media, Lyssa Hughes is faced with the decision to pursue or decline the job. The play entertains even as it examines politics and the influence of the media. There are parts for eight men and six women. Performance dates are: February 26, 27, 28 & March 1 and March 6, 7, & 8, 2009. There is a copy of the play for reading at the libraries in Highlands and Cashiers. For more information call Mary Adair Leslie, Director at 828.526.2673 or 706.782.9579 or email:

summitonegallery@verizon.net.

• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a two-mile, easy hike through nice woods and fields on the Tessentee Farm land, a Land Trust property currently being rehabilitated. Meet at the Smoky Mt. Visitor Center on 441 South, Otto, at 2 PM; drive 6 miles round trip. The hike is suitable for children 10 and over. Bring a drink, a snack if you wish, and wear sturdy comfortable shoes. Hikes are limited to 20; reservations are required. Call leader Kay Coriell at 369-6820 for reservations or more information.

Friday, Nov. 7

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

Saturday, Nov. 8

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

• The Smoky Mountains Chapter of the Ruffed Grouse Society is having a potluck lunch at the Wayah Crest picnic tables on Saturday at 11 a.m. We'll bring the chicken and the drinks. You bring a side dish. This event is open to everyone. Bring your pup and we'll team up and hit a few nearby grouse coverts. Directions to Wayah Crest: Drive 3 miles west of Franklin on U.S. 64. Turn right at the Wayah Bald directional sign. Take the first left onto the Wayah Road (S.R. 1310). Drive 9 miles to Wayah Gap. Wayah Crest is to the left of Wayah Gap.

Thursday-Sunday, Nov. 13-16

• Grab your calendar and block the dates! Highlands Second Annual Culinary Weekend is set to take place. Join us as Highlands' area restaurants, accommodations and merchants partner to present a variety of uniquely designed classes, tastings, dinners, and events. Call Highlands Area Chamber of Commerce

• See EVENTS page 32

SCALY MOUNTAIN



828-226-2154



VIEW OF SCALY MOUNTAIN from your own private lake. Lakeside acreage with long range views of Scaly Mountain. Cascading waterfall, natural springs, flowering trees all above 3500' and easy access from Highway 106.

Contact Lorri at 828-226-2154 or Rita Houston at 828-421-4433 for a showing. Offered at \$895,000

YOU CAN HAVE YOUR SMOKY MOUNTAIN VIEW!

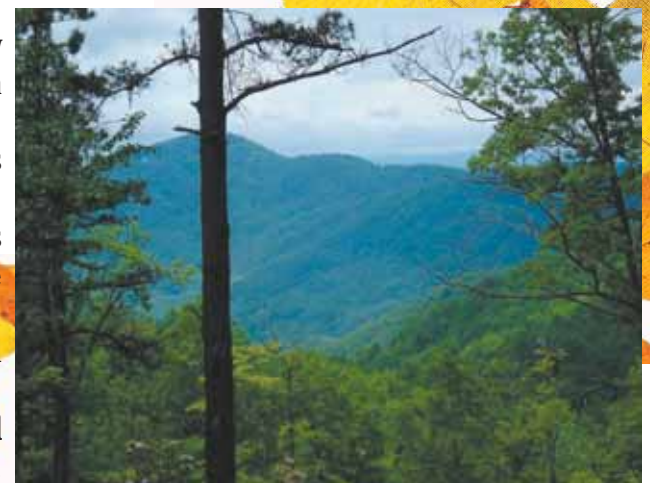
Acreage off of Highway 64E between Highlands and Franklin.

Acreage lots starting at \$39,000.

Septic Permits on file. These lots have views, homesites, gravel driveways and more...

Call Lorri Bell at 828-226-2154.

email: lorribell@dnnet.net • website: www.onamountainview.com



• UPCOMING EVENTS •

Exhibition highlights region's best



Peachy Staley eyes a work in The Bascom's latest exhibition, "2008 Juried Art," featuring creations from artists throughout the southeast. Judged by acclaimed Atlanta gallery owner Fay Gold, the exhibition showcases a variety of media selected from hundreds of entries. Five thousand dollars in cash prizes were awarded to winners at Gold's discretion. The exhibition continues through Nov. 13 Tuesdays through Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is free.

and Visitor Center at 866-526-5841 or 828-526-5841
Friday-Sunday, Nov. 14-16

- At Acorn's on Main Street, a MarieBelle Chocolates Trunk Show. MarieBelle offers fine gourmet chocolates for the true connoisseur.

Friday, Nov. 14

- Culinary event at ...on the Verandah from noon - 2 p.m. "A Taste of Spice" featuring Myron Redford, Winemaker of Amity Vineyards. \$50 plus sales tax & gratuity

- Culinary event at ...on the Verandah at 6:30 p.m. Caymus Vineyards & Wines of the Wagner Family is OTV's Guest Chef Wine Dinner Series Jeremy Lieb of Atlanta's Trois Restaurant. \$145 plus sales tax & gratuity

- Wine Luncheon at Wolfgang's Bistro. Domaine Serene, Flavor Spectrum Luncheon. Call Wolfgang's at 828.526.3807 or visit our web site at www.wolfgangsg.net.

- Wine Dinner at Wolfgang's Bistro. Boutique Winery Gala, "Battle of the Sexes" Women Winemakers vs. Male Winemakers "Battle of the Sexes" Gala Cocktail Party. Six wonderful wineries will be represented at Wolfgang's with pairing of food both at the wine tables and passed throughout the night. Call Wolfgang's at 526-3807.

Sat. & Sun., Nov. 15-16

- The annual all children's play "Cinderella" 7 p.m. Saturday and 3 p.m. Sunday at the Dillard Playhouse, in Dillard, Ga. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children under 11. Call 706- 212-2500.

Saturday, Nov. 15

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

- Culinary event at ...on the Verandah from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. "Southern Comfort" Cooking Demonstration featuring Virginia Willis, Author of Bon Appetit Y'All. \$40 plus sales tax & gratuity

- Culinary event at ...on the Verandah at 6:30 p.m. "Play It Again Tom — Caribbean Fusion, Part II" Tom Harvey of Atlanta's One. Midtown Kitchen Warren Sangeorge of Majestic Fine Wines. Featuring Archipel, Hartford Family Winery & Matanzas Creek Winery. \$115 plus sales tax & gratuity

- Calena Alta Wine Dinner at OEI's The Farm. \$169 per person, inclusive of tax and gratuity. For reservations, call 866-526-8008.

- Wine Dinner at Wolfgang's Bistro Silver Oak Cellars Wine Dinner with Tom Johnson "Life is a Cabernet!" Featuring Twomey Merlot, Twomey Pinot Noir, Alexander Valley Cabernet and Napa Valley Cabernet from Silver Oak Cellars. Call 526-3807.

Wednesday, Nov. 19

- The Iconic Smothers Brothers are coming to Cullowhee, NC. Tom and Dick Smothers with special guest appearance by the Yo Yo Man will be performing on at the Fine & Performing Arts Center at Western Carolina University to help raise awareness and funds for R.E.A.C.H of Jackson and Macon Counties. To order your tickets contact the Fine and Performing Arts Center at 828-227-2479.

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Hard-hat tours at The Bascom continue throughout November




Because of the popularity of its October public hard-hat tours, The Bascom will continue tours of its under-construction Oak Street art center throughout November. On Nov. 1, Pat Taylor, owner's representative and co-chair of The Bascom's facilities committee, will conduct a tour at 10 a.m. On Nov. 8, 15 and 22, Executive Director Linda Steigleder will conduct tours at 3 and 4 p.m. Construction on the campus is 75 percent complete. The art center will open mid 2009. Above, workers install the metal roof on top of one of the cupolas of the 21,000-square-foot main building. The rest of the roofing should be winding down this coming week. To attend a tour, call (828) 526-4949, ext. 8#, or email jconnor@thebascom.org to sign up for a tour time. Reservations are required.


Photo by Pat Taylor

... SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING from page 27

When they came to the quant little church in the glen.
 "This is gonna be easy," the Grinchy Thugs hissed,
 And they crept 'round the back, empty bags in their fists.
 They broke the glass doors, and said "This is a cinch!
 A child could do it and not even flinch!"
 They hesitated just once but just for a minute,
 Then they opened their bags and started stuffing loot in it.
 Spying the chapel, the thugs cried "Ho-ho!"
 The equipment in here is the first thing to go!
 They slithered and slunk with smiles that couldn't be meaner,
 Why, they even took the church vacuum cleaner!
 Sound system, candlesticks, copier and printer,
 Computer and fax machine and scanner.
 And they stuffed it in bags, and then the Thugs,
 Very snide, crept out and packed their loot in their ride.
 The next thing they did was jimmy a door
 That led down to the basement food pantry for the poor.
 They rummaged around and they took all the food!
 They stole all the pudding, and the frozen roast beef.
 They cleaned out that pantry as quick as a flash,
 They even stole the last can of Spam hash!
 They hurried outside and loaded the van,
 Then they drove off, delighted with their scam.
 In the church they left nothing but hooks and some wire.
 And the one speck of food that they left in the house,
 Was a crumb that was even too small for a mouse.
 They had done much the same to other folk's houses,
 leaving crumbs much too small for the other folk's mouses.
 The very next Sunday, the thugs hid and watched the wee church.
 Delighted they'd left all the folks in the lurch.
 "Pooh-pooh to these people!" they hissed with a smirk,
 They're just now discovering we ransacked their church.
 They're just finding out and we know what they'll do,
 All the folks will stand around for a moment or two,
 And then an all the members will cry "Boo-hoo!"
 That is a sound we simply must hear,
 So they paused and the Thugs put their hands to their ears.
 And they did hear a sound coming out of the door,
 It started out low then it started to grow.
 But this sound wasn't sad, this sound was merry
 It couldn't be so, but it was merry, very!
 They stared down at the chapel. The thugs popped their eyes!
 Then they shook! What they saw was a shocking surprise!
 All the folk at the church, the tall and the small,
 Were singing! Without any equipment at all!
 They sang praises to God for all of their blessings,
 As if nothing at all in the building was missing.
 They read and they worshipped without microphones,
 And you could still hear the music at neighboring homes.
 And then something happened that made the thugs freeze. All
 All the church members got down on their knees
 And prayed for THEM! Asking that they repent,
 And turn their lives over to The One Who Was Sent.
 They hadn't stopped worship from coming, it came,
 Somehow or other, it came just the same.
 And the thugs, with their Grinch-feet with feet ice cold in dread,
 Stood puzzling and puzzling and scratching their heads.
 "It came without phones, It came without computers,
 It came without sound systems, printers or Hoovers."
 And they puzzled three hours, till their puzzlers were sore.
 Then the Thugs thought of something they hadn't before!
 "Maybe being Christian," they thought, "doesn't depend on your stuff."
 "Maybe being Christian...perhaps...means God is enough!!"
 To Be Continued (?)



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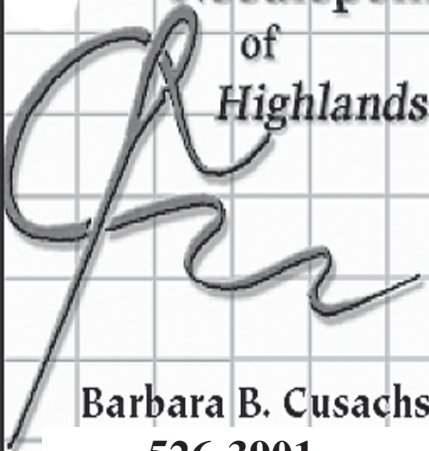


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 470 Skyline Lodge Drive off U.S. 64
 on Flat Mountain Road

We're still open but...

Skyline Lodge & Restaurant would like notify all our guests that we will be closed for accommodations November 9, 2008. Thank you for your patronage this season and we look forward to welcoming you again May 1,

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HELP WANTED

RETAIL MANAGER — The Bascom seeks experienced art gallery manager for retail store & information desk. Winter: part-time. Spring, summer & fall: full-time including some evenings & weekends. Duties: locate, vet, purchase or commission, display, promote & sell high quality crafts & artwork; develop & manage budget, point of sale & inventory control; hire, schedule & supervise sales associates. Required: college degree & five years related experience. Submit resume & cover letter by November 14th to: Director, The Bascom, P. O. Box 766, Highlands, NC 28741. 11/13

DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION — The Bascom seeks experienced art educator with strong academic, organizational & communication skills for management position. Develop, plan, budget & deliver studio courses (via contract faculty), artist-in-residence workshops, school age & adult programs. Required: college degree & five years related experience; PC & AV skills; master's degree preferred. Submit resume & cover letter by November 14th to: Director, The Bascom, P. O. Box 766, Highlands, NC 28741. 11/13

NOW HIRING AT BUCK'S COFFEE CAFE OF CASHIERS — Call Steve at 828-200-9824 after 4 p.m. 11/6

SKILLED MAINTENANCE TECHNICIANS — needed by Thompson who has immediate openings in the Franklin, NC area. Candidates must have strong electrical and mechanical experience in a manufacturing environment. Successful candidates will be responsible for maintaining all production equipment and associated hardware. Electrical, hydraulic, pneumatic and mechanical skills required. Strong PLC skills and robotics experience a plus for some positions. Requires 5 to 7 years of maintenance experience in a manufacturing environment. Shift work and some overtime required. Excellent compensation and benefits. Salary based upon experience. You may apply using any of the following resources; apply online at www.thompsonind.com, email resume to tnorman@thompsonind.com or apply at the Franklin, ESC office. EOE.

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

SOUS CHEF — Experience required. Full time

position available. Team player. Call 787-2200.

Laundry Attendant: needed at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. Full time, day shift available. Position requires weekend rotation and holidays. Salary based on experience. Full benefits, or the option to opt out of benefits for an increase in pay, available after 60 days of full-time employment. Pre-employment screening required. Call Human Resources at 828-526-1376 or apply online at www.hchospital.org.

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

IT SPECIALIST — needed at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. Full time, day shift position available. Should have one year experience in minor network operations and end-user troubleshooting skills as well as Microsoft Office skills. A two year degree in an IT related field preferred. Full benefits, or the option to opt out of benefits for an increase in pay, available after 30 days of full-time employment. Pre-employment screening required. Call Human Resources at 828-526-1376 or apply online at www.hchospital.org.

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

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

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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

DOG — Small long haired black dog found in Franklin near old Ingles, call 828-371-1574 to claim specific identification.

CANOE — on Lake Sequoyah. Call 526-5721.

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

DOGS

FOR SALE — Yorkie/chihuahua mix puppy. Petite and sweet. Ready for a wonderful home. 11-weeks old. Shots current. \$200. Call 828-369-9391. 10/16

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

FREE. A MALE LAB MIX — Please call 526-9027.

LOST

YELLOW CAT — No tail. From Rocky Hill/Raoul Road area. "April Mae" If seen please call 526-0991.

A CELL PHONE — in the vicinity of HorseCove and Whiteside Cove roads. Call Lisa Dickey at 743-3684.

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.

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

3 BED/3 BATH, DILLARD, GA — with office. Like New. Great location. Carport, storage building and many other features. Credit Check and References required. Available Nov. 1, 2008. Call 706-782-1447. 11/6

LUXURY LONG-TERM RENTAL HOME W/ OFFICE — Convenient "Heart of Cashiers." Quiet lake. Furnished 3 bdrm/3 bath with large home office. www.nc-mountainhouse.com \$2,600/month + utilities. (828) 526-3704 or (828) 526-0169. 11/6

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

HOUSE FOR RENT AND SALE — 3/2 w/ office, great roommate plan 1600 sq. ft., gated community, Scaly Mt. half way between Highlands and Clayton, access to 17 acre lake and hiking from 424 sq ft porch or watch sun rise from 424 sq. ft. deck. \$1,200/mo plus utilities. Internet and satellite available. No children, pets, or ATVs; house actively being shown for sale during rental. Call Pat 828-243-9646 re rent or Becky 828-526-2475 re sale. pscherrer@mindspring.com

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

2 BEDROOM, 1 BATH CABIN — Laurel Falls. 2 minutes from hospital, 5 minutes from town. \$850 per month, plus utilities. Fully Furnished. Available Nov. 1. Call 787-2423. 10/30

1 BED, 1 BATH and small room with bunk beds on Lake Sequoyah. Furnished, two boats. \$1,000 a month including utilities except phone. Call Tony at 828-332-7830.

SAPPHIRE NC — 2 Story 3Bed/3 Bath, Yr round views, 2 decks, remodeled, Furnished, 2 car garage. Available yearly or seasonal. 561-626-9556

RIVER RUN II — studio Apartment, Large wrap around deck, completely remodeled, furnished or unfurnished sale or lease. 561-626-9556

3BD/2BA HOUSE IN SKY VALLEY GA. — Fireplace, nice view, huge decks, unfinished basement. \$825 month plus security deposit and utilities. Call Ann at Cabe Realty 828-526-2475.

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

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,

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

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

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

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.

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

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

VACATION RENTAL

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

THE LODGE ON MIRROR LAKE – Fish or canoe from deck. Available weekly, monthly, No min. Call 828-342-2302.

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

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

MOTORHOME, LOT and ADJOINING COACH HOUSE. Absolutely beautiful and shining 40 ft. PREVOST COACH "Liberty Lady" model by Liberty Coach. Garaged since new. 55,000 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

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.

ATTENTION INVESTORS — Lake Glenville area subdivisions being sold wholesale! One 17.5+/- acre subdivision with Lake Glenville access and one 26.5+/- acre subdivision with Lake Glenville views, each for under \$1M. Call now! These are truly two of the best deals you will find. 1-800-526-1648 ext. 1388 and 1398. Green Mountain Realty Group

HIGHLANDS/CASHIERS AREA FORECLOSURES — This is your chance to take advantage of some of the best home prices you will find in this area. We have put together a growing list of bank owned properties in the Highlands/Cashiers area and we want to give you our list for FREE. Just call now 1-800-526-1648 ext. 2098 to request your copy. Don't wait... investors know a deal when they see one! 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

10" TABLE SAW, Craftsman, with Dado Blade, Crown Set and extension table. \$150 or OBO. Call 743-25670.

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

SPICE MIX FOR BRUSCHETTA – eight different spices in packet, no salt seasoning, 50 packets for \$35. Buy entire stock. Alex. (828)332-0138.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

5-PC BEDROOM SET C.1920 Bed/Chest of Drawers/Vanity-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.

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

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

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

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

• See CLASSIFIEDS page 36

• CLASSIFIEDS •

488-2193 and ask for Randy.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

BEAMS, FLOORING AND ENTIRE STRUCTERS: HAND HEWN BEAMS. Beautiful material, large faces, \$3.50-\$4.50 per board foot. Wormy white oak flooring (milled w/ a t&g), 6-12" widths, \$8 per ft. Original, reclaimed white and yellow pine flooring, random wide widths (6-16") \$6/

board ft. Wide barn siding, \$3/ft. Also historic log cabins and barns ready to reassemble. 215-529-7637. Delivery available.

ANTIQUE CHERRY DINING TABLE – drop-leaf. rope carved legs. Seats 4-10 people. \$1,500 obo 828-787-1515

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

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

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

VEHICLES FOR SALE

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

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

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

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

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

SERVICES

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

HANDYMAN SPECIAL – Repairs and Remodeling, Electrical and Plumbing, Carpentry and more. Low prices. For free estimate call 828-342-7864. 11/13

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

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LEGALS

Macon County Board of Elections
5 West Main Street
Franklin, NC 28734
828-349-2034

Notice is hereby given that the Macon County Board of Elections will meet for the purpose of counting Absentee ballots at 5:00 pm on November 4, 2008. This will take place in the board room on the 1st. floor. Any voter of the county may attend this meeting and observe the count. The results of the absentee ballot count will not be announced before 7:30 pm on that day.

Sara R. Waldroop, Chairman
Macon County Board of Elections
10/30

Macon County Board of Elections
5 West Main Street
Franklin, NC 28734
828-349-2034

Notice is hereby given that the General Election will be held on Tuesday, November 4, 2008. The Polling Places will be open on this day from 6:30 am to 7:30 pm. **You must go to your polling place on Election Day** if you did not vote Absentee by mail, or if you did not vote Absentee One-Stop. The following is a list of the Macon County polling places. There is NO voting

at the Macon County Board of Elections office on Election Day.

NORTH FRANKLIN	SCC (Adjacent to Macon Co. Courthouse)
SOUTH FRANKLIN	OLD Macon County Public Library
EAST FRANKLIN	MACON Co. Environmental Resource Center
IOTLA	IOTLA Elementary School
UNION	MACON County Community Building
MILLSHOAL	HOLLY SPRINGS
Community Building	
ELLIJAY	CULLASAJA Elementary School
SUGARFORK	PINE GROVE Community Building
HIGHLANDS	HIGHLANDS Civic Center
FLATS	SCALY Mountain Community Center
SMITHBRIDGE	OTTO Community Building (behind fire dept.)
CARTOOGECHAYE	WEST MACON Fire & Rescue
NANTAHALA	NANTAHALA Elementary School
BURNINGTOWN	BURNINGTOWN Community Building
COWEE	COWEE Elementary School

Sara R. Waldroop, Chairman
Macon County Board of Elections
10/30

Candidate Pons visits Highlands

Susan Pons, Candidate for 50th District NC State Senate, visited Highlands, NC on Tuesday October 28th. After meeting with small business owners and home school families over lunch she walked around downtown meeting the business owners, their employees and the customers and residents. She also stopped in for a coffee break with some concerned voters, taking the time to hear their concerns about the corruption in Raleigh.

Susan's Platform:

- Return Honor to God and Country
- Reduce Taxes
- Redirect Educational Priorities
- Restrict Governmental Controls
- Reassure Private Property Owners
- Re-enforce Legal Immigration Laws
- Reinstate Integrity Instead of Corruption
- Revive Respect for Life

... COOKING continued from page 10

Combine olive oil and wine, brush chops with mixture and season with salt and pepper. Grill chops for 2 minutes per side. Arrange on a platter and serve with mint pesto. Pairing Suggestion: Pinot Evil Pinot Noir

Grilled Shrimp and Chicken Kebabs Serves 6

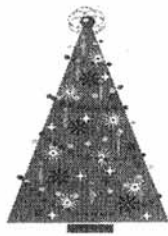
Time: 30 minutes
(plus 1 hour marinade)

- 2 cloves minced garlic
- 1/3 cup fresh lemon juice
- 1 teaspoon fresh chopped rosemary
- 2/3 cup olive oil
- 1/3 cup Angel Juice Chardonnay
- Salt and pepper to taste
- 24 large shrimp unpeeled & deveined
- 12 chicken tenders
- 12 wooden skewers (6 or 12-inch)
- Salsa (optional)

Whisk garlic, lemon juice, rosemary, olive oil, wine, salt and pepper together; divide into two bowls and marinate shrimp and chicken separately for 1 hour. Thread 2 to 4 shrimp per skewer and 1 to 2 tenders per skewer. Grill chicken about 4 minutes per side and shrimp about 2 to 3 minutes per side until pink. Remove kebabs from grill and serve with salsa of your choice. Pairing Suggestion: Killer Juice Merlot or Angel Juice Chardonnay

• All materials courtesy of: Pinot Evil Wines and Family Features

Tree of Lights



This December At Highlands-Cashiers Hospital Place an ornament on the Hospital Christmas Tree in memory of, or in honor of, a family member or friend with a gift of \$10.00 or more. These bells (in honor of) and stars (in memory of) will display the name of your friend or loved one. Your tax-deductable donation will go toward scholarships for students entering the health care field.

Given in memory or honor of (circle one):

Given by: _____

Address: _____

Amount donated \$ _____

Send acknowledgement to:

Address: _____

Date: _____

A donation in the amount of \$ _____ has been made by:

(Name of Donor) _____

(Address of Donor) _____

Signature of Hospital Auxiliary member receiving donation

**Make Checks payable to Highlands-Cashiers Hospital
Auxiliary, PO Box 190, Highlands, NC 28741.
Any Questions Call 526-3700.**

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The following students were inducted into the New Century Scholars program at a SCC Sylva campus on Tuesday September 30th. Macon Middle 7th grade students: Clell Ashe, Nathan Aydelotte, Kailin Carpenter, Megan Crisp, Lucas Dodge, Kyler Fitch, Deaven Golding, Russell Helma, T.J. Harden, Morgan Henry, Brooke Jones, Nathan Jowers, Brendan Karcher, Luke Keener, Rachel Kelly, Daniel Marr, Carissa McGaha, Kayla McLane, Amelia Owens, Austin Powers, Chris Richards, Cassandra Rodgers, Kaitlyn Roper, Dwight Shampine, Brent Shepherd, Hope Stewart, Ethan Stiles, Danielle Waldroop, Faith Williamson, Kayla Woods, Highlands 7th grade students: Cara Hedden, Matthew Rodriguez, Nantahala 7th

New crop of New Century Scholars inducted

The New Century Scholars Program is a collaborative educational effort among the

public schools in Macon, Jackson and Swain counties and Southwestern Community College. The New Century Scholars program targets "high potential" students at the end of sixth grade and provides extra support to those students through their middle school and high school years. Students are nominated based on their potential for academic success, yearly promotion and leadership ability. Selected students must display effort in the classroom and have a positive attitude and desire for education. They must display good behavior and character and meet the county attendance policy.

Upon completion of high school, each student, who has successfully followed the contractual agreements with the schools and the parents, will be awarded a tuition scholarship for each of his/her two years at Southwestern Community College. Western Carolina University has added a guaranteed scholarship that will enable students who complete the NCS program and earn an Associates Degree at SCC to continue their education at the University for two years and earn a Bachelors Degree.

In addition to maintaining good grades and behavior, students are required to perform 10 hours a year of volunteer service. This volunteer service to our community is a way that the New Century Scholar can give back the gift that he or she has been given.

New Century Scholars is a locally funded initiative. For each new class of NCS students inducted, funds are raised on their behalf to support participation in New Century Scholars. The number of new NCS is determined by the sum of the collective funds

raised within the community each year. These funds are pooled and used for the collective benefit of the students in that class of students. Funding currently comes from local businesses, individuals, clubs, organizations, and fund-raisers. All funds raised for NCS tuition support are held until graduation and used for tuition and fee payments.

For further information regarding the New Century Scholars Program please contact Pam Collins NCS Coordinator for the Macon County Schools at 524-3314.

• THANK YOU •

Fundraiser a success

Because of the support and generosity of you, the families and friends of Highlands School, we have had a very successful Sally Foster fundraiser, raising more than \$6,900. These funds provide enhanced technology, scholarships, and materials for our students as well as teacher appreciation activities. Remember, our school continues to earn 50% profit on every purchase made on Sally Foster.com, until June 30, 2009. Just enter our account number 605265 at checkout. Thank you so much for making our Sally Foster campaign a huge success!

Debbie Hornsby
2008-9 Sally Foster Chairperson
Highlands School PTO

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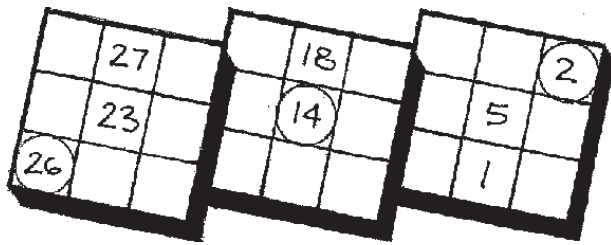
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• FUN & GAMES •

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#BN1F Level of Difficulty Easy

THE SETUP:

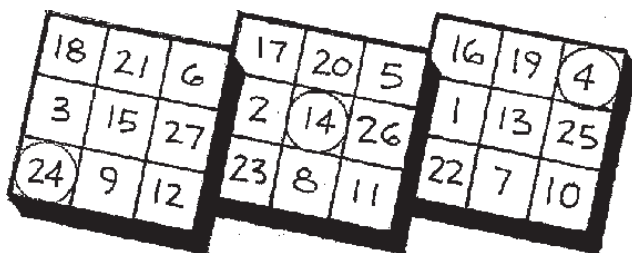
The cube has 27 consecutive numbers in it, arranged in three layers with 9 numbers each. These numbers are arranged in a special pattern: For each layer, the sum of the three numbers in each row, column or diagonal, is 3 times its center number. Eight diagonals connect all 3 layers by running through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

THE CHALLENGE:

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

Email: pseudocube8@aol.com.

Solution to #AZ1F in Oct. 23 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 #D604

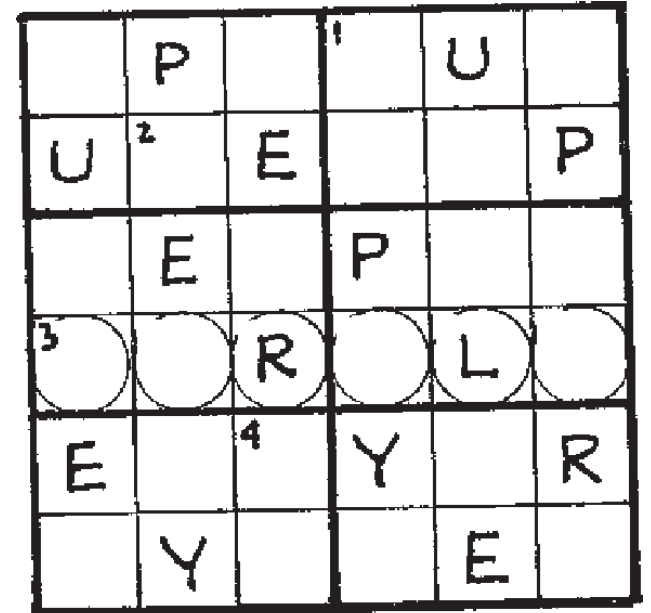
With unmixed composition (6)

Across

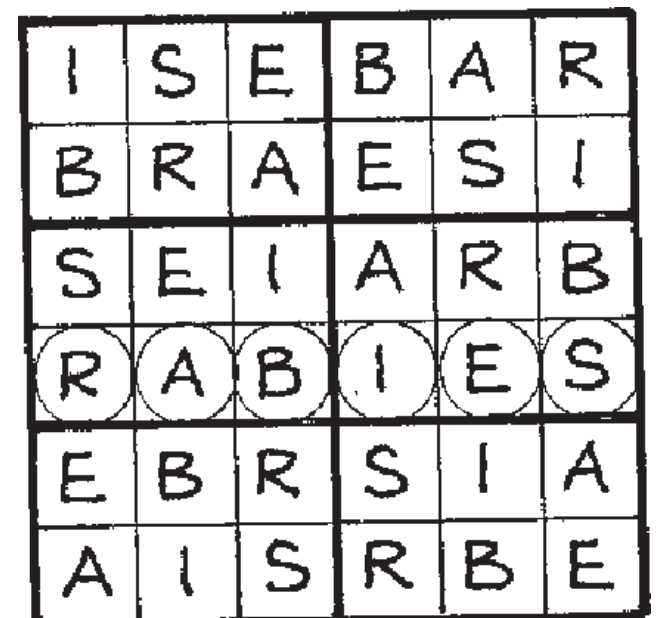
1. Regret (3)
2. Depend on (4)

Down

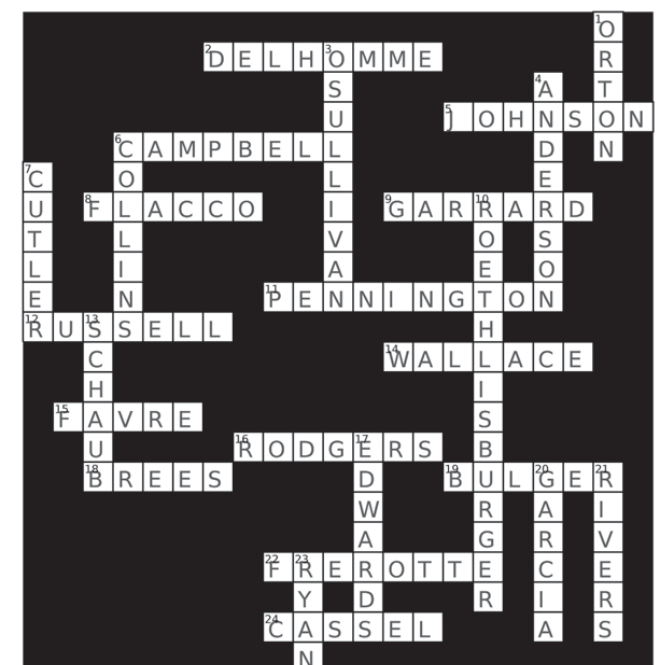
3. For every (3)
4. Move vertically (2)



Solution to Oct. 23 Sudo-Grams



CROSSWORD SOLUTION



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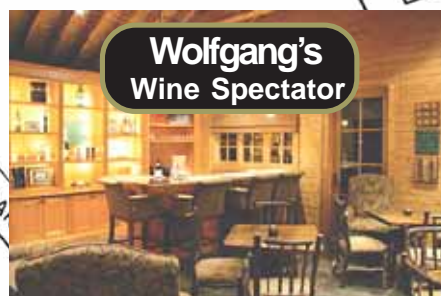


2008 Highlands Map

Scudder's Antiques - Nightly Auctions 8:00 PM

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

6 Shiraz Rug Gallery - Big October Sale



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3 Creative Concepts	3 Out On A Limb	3 Century 21
4 Head Innovations	3 On The Rocks	4 Chambers
5 Images Unlimited	6 Shiraz Rugs	5 Country Club
6 Michael's	7 Summer House	6 Green Mountain
7 Mountain Rayz	8 Twigs The Season	7 John Cleaveland
8 Pro Nails	9 Twigs	8 John Schiffl
9 Taylor Barnes	10 Wholesale Down	9 Meadows Mtn.
10 The Salon		10 Prestige Realty

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- 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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