

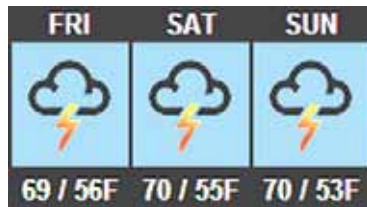
Highlands' Newspaper

FREE

Volume 7, Number 34

PDF Version – www.HighlandsInfo.com

Thursday, Aug. 27, 2009



This Week in Highlands

Through Sunday, Aug. 30
• "Dial M for Murder" at the Highlands Playhouse. Tuesday-Saturday, 8 p.m. Sunday 2 p.m. Call 828-526-2695 for tickets.

Thurs.-Sun., Aug. 27-30
• HCP's "Accomplice" a comedy, mystery, thriller. Evenings at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday matinee at 2:30 p.m. Call 526-8084 for tickets.

Fri.-Sun., Aug. 28-30
• At the Episcopal Church, Barbara Brown Taylor, Friday at 7 p.m. "Red Letters in Red Clay: The Bible in the Christ-Haunted South." Reception & Book Signing to follow. On Saturday at 7 p.m., she'll present "From Adam to Armageddon: Biblical Literacy in the South" with preaching Sunday at the 10:30 Eucharist.

Sat. & Sun., Aug. 29-30
• Mountain Makings Summerfest Art & Craft Show at the Dillard City Hall Grounds in Dillard. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. both days.

Friday, Aug. 28
• MountainTop Relay for Life at the Rec Park 6 p.m. until 7 a.m. Saturday morning.

Sunday, Aug. 30
• Holly Near presents an afternoon of story and song at The Mountain Retreat & Learning Center. \$15 per ticket.

Monday, Aug. 31
• AUDITIONS for the HCP production of A.R. Gurney's *The Dining Room* at the Performing Arts Center in Highlands at 6 p.m. Call Kathryn Cochran at 770-315-1286 or Kirk Howard at 828-734-5756 for information.

• The Art League monthly meeting at the Civic Center Rec Park in Highlands at 5 p.m. featuring artist Barbara St. Denis.

Tuesday-Thursday, Sept 1-3
• AUDITIONS for the HCP's production of A.R. Gurney's *The Dining Room* at the Performing Arts Center in Highlands at 6 p.m. Call Kathryn Cochran at 770-315-1286 or Kirk Howard at 828-734-5756 for more information.

Wed., Sept. 2
• From now on, the Highlands Mountain-top Rotary will meet at Ruka's Table in Wright Square in Highlands at 7:30 a.m.

• CLE presents *Elderhood: A Second Look at Aging* from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at PAC. Call 526-8811.

Grants, loans financing town projects & cars

Due to its many "shovel ready" projects and foresight on the part of the Town Board, Highlands is receiving several stimulus money grants which will be used for infrastructure and now even USDA grant money has become available to upgrade the Police Department vehicle fleet.

The subject of replacing police cars – even offering them as an incentive for recruiting purposes – spurred discussion at the Aug. 19 Town Board meeting.

During the public comment portion of the meeting, Gary Drake, who is running for the Town Board in November against incumbents

Commissioners Hank Ross and Amy Patterson, questioned the need for a large police fleet.

"Chief Harrell has verified that letting officers drive patrol cars home has added 15,000 miles per year to the fleet. As a taxpayer, I ques-

• See GRANTS page 12

Horton earns ICMA credential designation

Macon County Manager Jack Horton recently received the Credentialed Manager designation from the International City/County Managers Association (ICMA), the premier local government leadership and management organization.

He is one of more than 1,000 local government management professionals currently credentialed through the ICMA Voluntary Credentialing Program.

To receive the prestigious ICMA credential, a member must have significant experience as a senior management executive in local government, have earned a degree, preferably in public administration or a related field, and demonstrated a commitment to high standards of integrity and to lifelong learning and professional development.

Horton is qualified by his 30-plus years of professional local government executive experience. Prior to his appointment in January, 2008, as County Manager of Macon County, he served as County Manager of Caldwell County, NC.

• See HORTON page 23

School begins in Highlands



This youngster was one of those "raring to go" students the first day of school in Highlands Tuesday morning. She's frolicking in Ms. Chalker's Great Beginings Class. For more school photos see pages 16-17.

Photo by Kim Lewicki

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County's community garden is growing

In five short months, the seed of an idea thrown out during a January worksession has sprouted.

At Monday's Macon County Commission meeting, the Community Garden Committee reported on the garden project which was suggested by Commission Chair Ronnie Beale, saying it is definitely doable.

"These are hard economic times and a lot of people will benefit from either growing their own food or receiving food grown in these gardens," said Beale. "In addition to that, we are considered a rural county, but there are a lot of people who don't know anything about gardening, so this can be a learning experience, too."

The plan is to open the garden, which is off Siler Road near the SCC campus along The Little Tennessee River, to 16 nonprofits for \$25 per year per plot.

Currently there is room for 16,

• See GARDEN page 31

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• THE PLATEAU'S POSITION •

• LETTERS •

The SAVE Act will be good for Americans

Dear Editor,

The Secure America through Verification and Enforcement (SAVE) Act, H.R.3308 that would make illegal the employment of illegal immigrants by using the E-Verify system a Federal law. I doubt if the liberals in Congress will ever pass it.

With the economy in the country struggling, I believe the E-Verify System is a partial solution. If Macon County and the towns of Franklin and Highlands would make all contractors, including their sub-contractors, use the E-Verify system to ensure that all jobs are for those who are legally allowed to be employed, it would not only help the employment situation but keep more of the wages from leaving the area.

We have several construction projects pending and our jobs should go to legal residents of this country. The people who prepare the bids must make sure this happens. Presently employers are only required to fill out a I-9 form which shows they have seen a social security card, driver's license, green card etc. This is no assurance these documents are not forgeries. The E-Verify system would catch the discrepancies.

There is a difference between legal and illegal immigrants that must be observed and those that do not differentiate must be penalized.

Some may say it will increase the cost of projects by requiring higher wages and the additional time it takes to make these E-verify checks. It possibly will, but the money spent will stay in the area and not be mailed out of the country

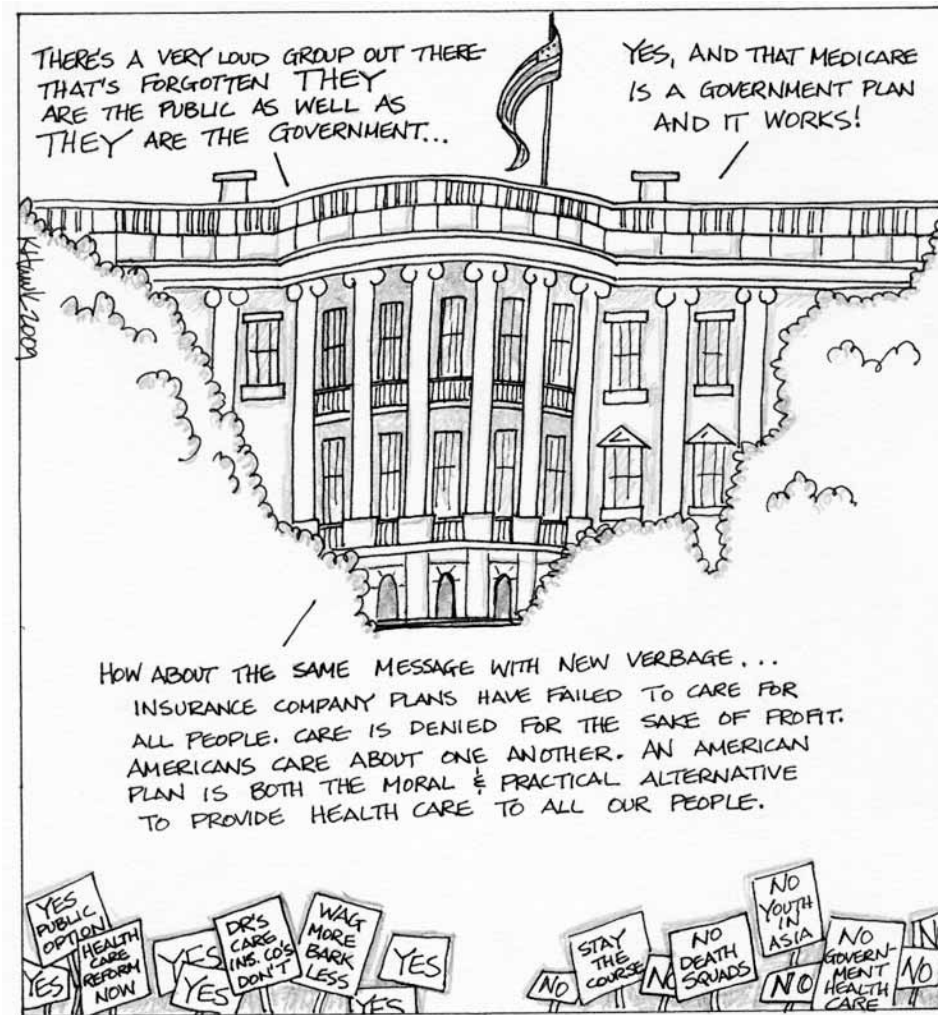
David C. Maynard
Franklin, NC

We need to let legislators know how we feel about the health plan

Dear Editor,

I am not an **ugly campaigner or un-American** as House leader Pelosi accuses those of us who oppose the present health care bill. What she is saying is unAmerican. Since when do citizens of the U.S. not have the constitutional right to express opinions to our elected officials ... and that is what I

• HAWK'S EYE VIEW •



LETTERS-TO-THE EDITOR-POLICY

We reserve the right to reject or edit submissions. **NO ANONYMOUS LETTERS WILL BE ACCEPTED.** Views expressed are not necessarily those of Highlands' Newspaper. Please EMAIL letters by Monday at 5 p.m. There is a 500-word limit without prior approval.

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am doing right now!

I urge you to oppose the President's health care plan!

As American citizens, we should not be required to turn over our private and personal healthcare decisions to bureaucrats on Capitol Hill. As Americans we should maintain the freedom to make these kinds of decisions for ourselves and with our loved ones. Obama's current plan is another aggressive attempt to co-opt our rights as citizens, and bring us closer to a European socialist state. I reject this effort, and urge you to stand with me in strong opposition of this plan. Stand against the loss of personal freedom, the skyrocketing tax increases and the healthcare rationing that will result from this rushed plan.

Many Americans are speaking out against this plan. I urge all to listen and become a champion for the preservation of our individual rights by opposing this socialized health care plan.

Carol Adams
Glenville, NC

Swanson's got global warming facts all wrong

Dear Editor,

Regarding Don Swanson's recent point of view in his Aug. 20 column "Observations from Outer Space." I would like to add my earth-based observations.

His opening remarks imply that climate change is Michigan warming, not global warming. Citing what appears to be contradictory evidence of global warming in a small segment of the earth - Michigan - and that it just had its coldest July on record - is misleading.

The latest measurements from NOAA, which monitors global warming, show that: (1) the global ocean surface temperature for July 2009 was the warmest on record, and broke the previous July record set in 1998 (2) the combined global land and ocean surface temperature for July 2009 was the fifth warmest on record. (3) large portions of many continents had substantially warmer-than-average temperatures during July 2009. The greatest departures from the long-term average were evident in Europe, northern Africa, and much of western North America. Broadly, across these regions, temperatures were about 4-7 degrees above average (4) Arctic sea ice is 12.7 percent below the 1979-2000 average extent and the third lowest July sea ice extent on record, behind 2007 and 2006.

Mr Swanson then discussed cap and trade legislation. He stated that cap and trade

• See LETTERS page 6

• OBITUARIES •

Brig. Gen. Leland C. Shepard, Jr. USAF Retired

Brigadier General Leland C. "Bob" Shepard, Jr., (USAF Retired) died July 22, 2009 in his home in West Palm Beach, FL with Patricia, his wife of 65 years, and his daughter Harriet Miller of Newport News, VA, at his side. He is also survived by his daughters: Judith Chapman in Los Angeles, California and Patricia Moran Shepard in Madrid, Spain. In addition, he has three grandsons and five great grandchildren, with a sixth on the way.



Following the war "Shep" went on to fly operationally in F-86, F-86D and B-57. His love of flying also found him in The B-47 as well as a T-39 instructor. His service to his country sent him to command post positions in Japan, England, Spain, Seoul, Korea, S.A.C. Headquarters, as well as The Pentagon.

In April, 1977, after 35 years of service, he retired from the Air Force with the rank of Brigadier General. He was then

Bob was born in Miami, FL on July 5, 1923 and raised in Coral Gables, FL. He entered the University of Florida in September of 1941, but after Pearl Harbor, he enlisted as a private in the Army Air Corps. He soon entered training as an Aviation Cadet - Pilot and graduated as a 2nd Lieutenant in May of 1942 and went on to fly 58 missions in Southern Italy, North Africa and the Burma Chinese Theatres.

At the end of World War II, he requested release from active duty to finish his degree of Juris Doctor. After admission to the bar, he applied for duty with The Air Force Judge Advocate General Office and by 1951 he was Staff Judge Advocate at Moody Air Force Base, GA. However with the onset of The Korean War he volunteered to return to the line of duty, flying the B-26, "The Night Light Intruder."

asked to join the law firm of Adams, Coogler, Watson, and Merkel of West Palm Beach. After a distinguished civilian law career, General L.C. Shepard retired from the firm as a full partner.

Bob enjoyed his retirement sailing his boat "Fiddler's Green" and traveling between his homes in West Palm Beach, FL and Highlands, NC with his wife and their two Corgies, Molly and Ladd.

He earned Command Pilot status during his military service and his awards include two Legions of Merit, Distinguished Flying Cross, Air Medal, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Air Force Commendation Medal, and a Distinguished Unit Citation Emblem.

General Shepard will be buried in Arlington National Cemetery on October 14, 2009 with full military honors.

James Spratt Taylor

James Spratt Taylor, son of J. Glover and Margaret Spratt Taylor, died Saturday, August 22, 2009. A native of Jacksonville, FL, he was born March 18, 1928, and graduated from The Bolles School in 1944. He attended the University of North Carolina, the United States Merchant Marine Academy, and received his B.A. degree from Washington and Lee University in 1950.

In 1953, he received his Juris Doctor degree from the University of Michigan Law School. While in law school he distinguished himself as a member of the Barrister's Society, Order of the Coif and was Editor of the Michigan Law Review.

Before returning to Jacksonville, Mr. Taylor practiced law briefly in Atlanta with the firm of Sutherland Tuttle and Brennan. He joined the Jacksonville firm of Stockton Ulmer and Murchison in 1953, and enjoyed a successful and rewarding career with that firm and its successor, Ulmer Murchison Ashby and Taylor until his retirement.



At the time of his death he was of counsel to the firm of Taylor Stewart Houston and Duss.

Mr. Taylor was well known in real estate circles throughout Florida and the South. For more than 50 years he was recognized as one of the "Best Lawyers in America" by the publication of the same name. In addition, he was counsel to several national and regional real estate development firms. During the 1970s, he served as Trustee of Barnett Winston Investment Trust and was a member of the Board of Directors of Florida Physicians Insurance Reciprocal. He was a member of Meninak, Friars, Ye Mystic Revelers and served as a past Commodore of The Florida Yacht Club. He also served on the Board of Directors of Boys and Girls Clubs of NE Florida, and Gateway Girl Scouts.

A lifelong member of St. Marks Episcopal Church in Jacksonville, he was also a communicant of the Episcopal Church of the Incarnation in Highlands, NC, where he had a

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vacation home.

He is survived by his wife of 53 years, Nancy Bishop Taylor; sister, Peggy Watson, and sister-in-law, Sally Taylor; three daughters: Nancy Manning (Richard) of Greensboro, NC, Elizabeth View (P.J.) of Highlands, NC, and Margaret Spratt Taylor of Neptune Beach; family friend, Pam Davis; and four grandchildren: Nancy View, Richard Manning III, Sgt. James View (Jillian), USMC, and Taylor Manning. He was predeceased by his brother, Glover Taylor.

A memorial service was held at St. Marks Episcopal Church on Wednesday, August 26, at 10 a.m.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Hubbard House, Children's Home Society, or Safe Harbor Boys Home. Funeral arrangements are under the care of Hardage-Giddens Edgewood Funeral Home, 729 S. Edgewood Ave., Jacksonville, FL 32205.

•See OBITUARIES page 12

To make donations to CareNet...

Following our story in the Aug. 13 issue entitled "Need in county surpasses funds" we have had inquiries from readers asking how they may donate to CareNet.

Please contact CareNet Executive Administrator, Vanessa Bailey at 130 Bidwell Street, Franklin, NC, 28734 or call 828-369-2642.

They also have a thrift store on Palmer Street across from Ace Hardware if anyone wants to make donations of clothing, household items, etc.

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• LAUGHING AT LIFE •

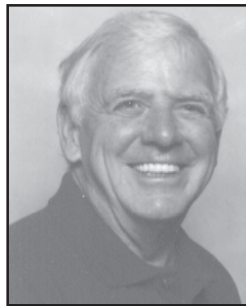
A bridge to nowhere

No, no, no, not the infamous, stupid "bridge to nowhere" Congress approved several years ago for \$50 million. By the way, doesn't \$50 million sound like a trivial amount these days? No, I'm talking about another bridge to nowhere. It's where people assemble several times a week and play a card game called "Bridge" and get absolutely nowhere for their hard work. Since I'm a fellow player, I'm qualified to report on these loonies.

For starters, you must show your AARP card to even get into a bridge room. The biggest game in town is at the Highlands Rec. Park, run by Dwayne and Marge Meeter. This different couple has managed to stay married, even as Bridge partners. The divorce rate among Bridge partners is as high as cop divorces. The Meeters are called Bridge Directors and run the show. Marge is the Sergeant of Arms and you most definitely don't want to irritate this woman. But Dwayne is a softie and the main Director. He carries a police whistle to show his power and authority. Dwayne needs to go to "whistle school." He would be killed instantly if directing traffic at a busy downtown Miami intersection. But for wimpy Bridge players, his weenie technique seems to work.

Not only is Dwayne an expert Bridge Director and whistle blower, he also sings. Just before the game, Dwayne breaks into song, giving us one of his famous ditties about a Bridge rule. Are you falling asleep? Not only that, he encourages his many players to chime in for the chorus. If you are caught not chiming in, you'll be excluded from next week's game. We chant, at just the right time, "Face down, face down," which doesn't mean you put your face down on the table. Could I make this up? For a small fee, I could smuggle you into the room for a first-hand look at this insanity.

Anyway, here's how the system works. You enter the bridge room with your money in hand and approach Marge at a table. You try to give her your money but she says, "No tickie, no washy," meaning you must fill out a Bridge ticket and then get back at the end of the line. Also, make sure your AARP membership hasn't expired. Once Marge assigns you a seat, you go there and wait quietly for the sound of



Fred Wooldridge

**Feedback is encouraged!
email:
askfredanything@aol.com**

Dwayne's whistle.

This is also a good time to go over plans with your partner on how you're going to cheat. The room is abuzz with players plotting with each other on how they'll cheat. Since I play Bridge only for the free candy, I use the candy as my secret signals. By the way, here's a tip. If you eat \$5 worth of candy per session, you play Bridge free. Bittersweet Hershey's morsels are my favorite.

The manner in which I peel open the wrapper is a signal to my partner on what I want her to do. How do you think we're able to always come out number one?

The game lasts for about three plus hours. During that time, players waste every brain cell they have playing this complicated game against some very talented players who, if they wanted, could own their own whistles. If I cheat real good and win, where does it get me, you ask? Nowhere, absolutely nowhere but a belly full of candy. Where do I take my winnings? Well....please, use your imagination.

Most players are official members of an organization called the ACBL, not to be confused with the ACLU or ACL which is a tear in the knee. Most players already have an ACL.

The ACBL, on the other hand, is a tear in your brain rather than your knee and is a national organization of duplicate Bridge players. This is how "Bridge to nowhere" got started.

You go to a Bridge tournament sponsored by the ACBL. You pay to play Bridge 24/7, then pay your five-day hotel bill, gather up your gas and meal receipts and head home exhausted, having caught the flu from one of the 5,000 grumpy players at the tournament. TA DA, you just earned one point....maybe....maybe not. Of course, these points are worth absolutely nothing. After earning five skillion points and spending hundreds of thousands of dollars, you are entitled to be called a "Life Master." Where does this awesome title get you, you ask? Absolutely nowhere. That's why we call it "Bridge to nowhere."

Remember this if nothing else. Bridge players never smile. If you see one smile, they have gas and can't find a private place to get rid of it.

• THE VIEW FROM HERE •

When is Christian compassion too much?

The hero's welcome accorded convicted mass murderer, Abdel basset al-Megrahi, on his return to Tripoli, Libya, from imprisonment in Scotland, demonstrated the vulgarity and barbarism of his adoring audience.

Al-Megtahi was convicted of the December 21, 1988 bombing of Pan Am flight 103 which resulted in the deaths of 270 people; passengers, crew, and 11 people on the ground.

The murderer served eight years of his life sentence or about 11 days for each man, woman, and child who died. The Scottish government claims that the release is a compassionate one, that al-Megrahi is suffering from terminal pros-

tatic cancer. One wonders what compassionate al-Megrahi felt for his victims.

Skeptics believe that the release was part of a deal to guarantee British access to Libyan oil fields. The deal, if there was a deal, will eventually be revealed. Those things always do.

One must wonder if anyone other than the families of the victims will care. In some trans-oceanic arm twisting, American discouraged the release, and after it was announced, asked Libyan leader, Momar



Dr. Henry Salzarulo

**Feedback is encouraged.
email:**

hsalzarulo@aol.com

Kadafi, to place the terrorist bomber under house arrest. The image of al-Megrahi, with Kadafi's son, Saif, standing next to the butcher, rose petals fluttering around them, while an adoring crowd cheered, may become an indelible along with a flaming monk and Viet Cong general, a pistol at his right temple, his brain blowing out his left.

Saif Kadafi who declared the release a victory for Libya, confirmed that the release was part of a deal to permit British exploi-

tation of Libyan oil wealth. If true, it represents sacrificing justice for commercial interests, an abhorrent action, and one without precedent, unless one's memory is long enough to remember outgoing President Clinton's pardon of fugitive financier, Marc Rich.

Even more troubling is of the sad spectacle is the of hatred the Libyans feel for the West. They celebrated the return of, and treated as a hero, one of history's great mass murderers. What did this hero, worthy of being accompanied home by the son of his country's leader and showered with flower petals, accomplish? He killed 270 human beings, un-

• See SALZARULO page 6

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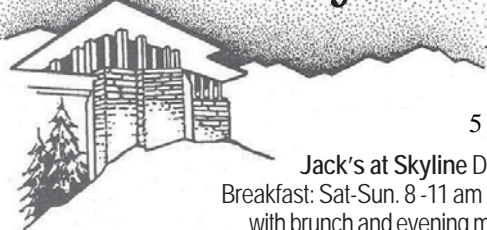


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... SALZARULO continued from page 5

suspecting noncombatants, college kids returning home for Christmas and Scottish citizens minding their own business, citizens who found themselves in the path of debris, the remnants of a com-

mercial airliner and human remains. And what was the crime for which they suffered? They were mostly Westerners flying aboard a United States flag carrier. They came from 21 countries, none a

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Muslim majority nation. Reason enough to celebrate.

We must wonder at the failure of our efforts to neutralize the Islamic threat and shudder at the thought of the depth of their loathing. The United States has attempted to reintroduce Libya into the family of civilized nations. Kafadi dismantled his weapons program and declared opposition to terrorism. We have been negotiating weapons sales to Libya, negotiations which will almost certainly be suspended. Colonel Kadafi has pandered to extremist elements of his own country and betrayed his own disdain for us.

Violence has increased in Iraq. The situation is deteriorating in Afghanistan. Libyans are honoring a mass murderer as a returning hero. We have spent billions of dollars and thousands of lives in an attempt to curb the Islamic threat. One wonders if, for all the effort, we are safer or more imperiled than on September 10, 2001.

... LETTERS continued from page 2

legislation (which will help reduce greenhouse gasses and lessen the effects of climate change) will have a "devastating effect" on the economy and cause "economic suicide." This scare story sounds quite ominous, and for Mr. Swanson, it is inconsistent, as he chided the media for using scare stories about global warming. Trying to prove his point that cap and trade would cause economic suicide, he cited a study by two lobbying groups, one of which, The American Council for Capital Formation, has received \$1,634,523 from ExxonMobil since 1998. The other, The National Association of Manufacturers, won't even address global warming - causing Duke Energy to resign from its ranks. It becomes understandable then, why this study proves his point.

But the figures from this study don't hold up because they (1) underestimated the buying of cost saving carbon offsets, (2) failed to include the billions saved by reduced foreign oil dependence, and (3) assumed that unemployment in the polluting sectors of our economy would become permanent, when in fact, workers will be needed in the industries that will improve energy efficiency and produce energy alternatives.

Too bad we can't harness the energy of these lobby groups, who unfortunately are only concerned with corporate America and not the environment of our planet.

Mike Bagby
Franklin, NC

•See LETTERS page 15

• REFLECTIONS FROM TURTLE POND •



Katie Brugger
k-brugger@hotmail.com

I have driven to Asheville a few times in the last month, and every time I am stunned when I drive by the auto dealerships that just a year ago were jammed with cars. Now they look like an amusement park lot at the end of the day — vast stretches of pavement with a few scattered cars.

I wonder to myself, how can this happen? How can everything collapse so completely all at once?

Now we're starting to hear talk that a recovery has started; you'll hear good news one day but the next there'll be some contradictory story. But it seems the consensus of economists is that the steps taken last fall by the Bush administration and this spring by Obama's team saved us from entering a depression.

However, it seems to me that we are going to be living in an age of anxiety for some time now. Millions of people are out of work and/or losing their homes and that is not going to change any time soon.

In fact, I think that some of the people who are disrupting health care town halls, and the tea-baggers protesting government spending, are really anxious about the state of the country. They are scared when they hear about the scope of the federal deficit.

Earlier this month the Congressional Budget Office projected the federal deficit would reach \$1.8 trillion by the end of the fiscal year, Sept. 30. The deficit in 2008 reached \$455 billion, which was a record at the time.

Something is bothering the teabaggers about our system. And they are right to be bothered.

The system is rigged. This country is bought and sold. As President Obama put it shortly after his inauguration, "Many Americans have come to believe that the system is in hock to the interests of powerful lobbyists or the wealthiest few who have run Washington far too long."

Last fall the banks, in trouble because of the insanity of their subprime mortgage spree, were bailed out with massive amounts of taxpayer money, with no accountability for where the money went. The little people are still being foreclosed on; there's no bailout there, just "Hope for Homeowners" that has accomplished almost nothing. And now the banks are paying out huge bonuses to their financial "wizards" while raising the fees and

Age of anxiety

interest rates on credit cards in advance of the regulations Congress imposed last spring. Did you notice how Congress gave the banks enough time before the new regulations were imposed so they *could* raise the rates?

And who did Obama put into the positions of financial power in his administration? The very people who helped put us in this financial mess to begin with (see my column "Status Quo We Can Believe In," Dec 2008).

At the end of July, when the Blue Dog Democrats were blocking the passage of health reform before the August recess, the *Washington Post* carried a story about the contributions these members of Congress received from the health-care industry.

The Blue Dog Coalition in the House has set a record pace for fundraising this year through its political action committee, collecting more than \$1.1 million through June. More than half the money came from the health-care, insurance and financial services industries, marking a surge in donations from those sectors compared with earlier years, according to an analysis by the Center for Public Integrity.

A look at career contribution patterns also shows that typical Blue Dogs receive significantly more money — about 25 percent more — from the health-care and insurance sectors than other Democrats. This put them closer to Republicans in attracting industry support than the average Democrat.

The article quoted David Donnelly, national campaigns director for the Public Campaign Action Fund, which favors public financing of political races, as saying the heavy industry contributions cast doubt on the Blue Dogs' motives. "The public believes that campaign contributions shape or stop public policy," Donnelly said. "When we see significant fundraising to one segment of Congress, it raises serious questions about the campaign finance system and whether it works to the benefit of all Americans." ("Industry Is Generous To Influential Bloc").

President Obama, whose campaign promises included transparency in the dealing of his administration, made a *secret* deal with drug companies to not include a provision in any health care reform bill to negotiate for lower drug prices.

Frank Rich, in his August 9 column in the *New York Times* wondered whether Obama was "punking us." "It's a measure of how out of touch G.O.P. leaders like Mitch McConnell and John Boehner are that they keep trying to scare voters by calling Obama a socialist. They have it backward. The larger fear is that Obama might be just another corporatist, punking voters much as the Republicans do when they claim to be all for the common guy."

Rich gives another example of the health

industry buying votes — the Democratic Senate Campaign Committee raked in nearly \$500,000 from a single doctor-owned hospital in McAllen, Texas — the very one that Obama has cited as a symbol of runaway medical costs ever since it was profiled in *The New Yorker* ("The Cost Conundrum: What a Texas town can teach us about health care," by Atul Gawande, June 1, 2009. Read this article if you haven't already).

You notice I've only mentioned Democrats. Obviously the Republicans are just as bad.

Personally I think it's time for another revolution in this country, one where we "common guys" of all political parties get together and rise up against the elite who are running this country. We need to form a People's Party and throw all the Democrats and Republicans out.

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

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• COOKING ON THE PLATEAU •

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It's time again for the back-to-school rush! With the kids needing rides here and there, deadlines at work, and the never-ending list of chores, it can be hard to find the time to put together a delicious family meal and stay in budget.

Cook's Ham asked one busy mom of a family of four to see what recipes she could come up with using a Cook's Spiral Sliced Quartered Ham while sticking to her budget. She was able to portion her ham into three family-friendly meals. Try her recipes and then take the challenge yourself to see if you can come up with your own delicious recipes while saving some much needed money.

Breakfast:

With kids constantly on the go, this **Bus Stop Breakfast Pita** is the perfect morning meal.

- 4 whole wheat pita bread
- 4 slices Cook's Spiral Sliced

Quartered Ham

- 4 slices provolone cheese
- Salt and pepper to taste
- 1 thinly sliced granny smith apple
- Apricot preserves (optional)

Preheat oven to 350° F. Lay a slice of ham, cheese and thinly sliced apple inside each pita. Wrap each pita in aluminum foil. Warm in oven for 10 minutes or until cheese is melted. Cool as needed and enjoy.

Lunch Box:

Instead of packing your child's lunch box with the average sandwich, why not surprise them with **Hammy Pizza Bites**?

- 1 7 1/2 ounce package biscuit dough
- 1/4 cup pizza sauce
- 3 slices Cook's Spiral Sliced

Quartered Ham, diced

- 2/3 cup shredded mozzarella cheese

To prepare, spray cookie sheet with nonstick spray. Separate biscuits and flatten on cookie sheet. Spread 1 teaspoon pizza sauce on each biscuit. Top each biscuit with 1 tablespoon diced ham and 1 tablespoon shredded cheese. Bake in a 400° F oven for 8-10 minutes. Pack in foil for a warm lunch box meal.

Quick Sit-Down Dinner:

As the days get shorter and cooler, nothing satisfies like pasta. Try this delicious **Ham Linguine**.

- 2 cups Cook's Spiral Sliced Quartered Ham, shredded
- 1 pound linguine
- 4 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil, divided
- 3 garlic cloves, minced
- 2 tablespoons capers
- 1 cup peas, fresh or frozen, thawed
- Zest and juice of 2 lemons
- 1 teaspoon sea salt
- 1 teaspoon ground black pepper
- 1 cup mint, chopped
- 1 cup basil, chopped

While pasta is cooking, heat 2 tablespoons olive oil in a non-stick skillet over medium-high heat. Sauté garlic. Add ham and continue to sauté until ham begins to brown. Finally add capers and peas, sauté for one more minute. While skillet is still hot, drain pasta and add to ham mixture. Add lemon zest, juice, salt, pepper and 2 more tablespoons of olive oil. Sauté for 1-2 minutes to let flavors combine. Remove from heat and toss with herbs. Serve immediately.

For more easy recipes for family meals or entertaining, visit www.HamIdeas.com.

• Courtesy of Family Features



• HIS & HERS •

Inching toward Oprah

By Michelle A. Mead-Armor

On the 17th of this month, I turned 59, for the first time. Many women would stop there, staying in a holding pattern at 59, refusing to turn 60. Fortunately, I have the example of both my mother and my grandmother before me. They not only divulged their ages – they were proud of them!

While America has an obsession with youth, Europe reserves a kinder fate with those no longer in the first blush of youth. As Coco Chanel said: "Nature gives you the face you have at 20; it is up to you to merit the face you have at 50." "Elegance is not the prerogative of those who have just escaped from adolescence, but of those who have already taken possession of their future," she also mused. My friend, Mary Ellen, came back from a business trip to Switzerland, beaming from ear to ear. "Men actually flirted with me," she declared. "In the States, I'm invisible!" It's frustrating when more press time is given to the musings of some airheaded bimbo in her twenties than a bright, thoughtful woman of more mature years, who may be attractive in her own unique way.

It's easy to say that we're only as old as we let ourselves be. While a good diet and exercise may help keep us fit, there's no denying genetics. For example, in his later years, my father had 10% hearing left in one ear, 15% in the other. My brother is starting to experience hearing loss himself, and I've become aware of a noticeable change as well. Dropping to the floor and doing 20 push-ups certainly isn't going to cure that one. Regular visits to the doctor might help keep this from becoming a major health issue, however.

How do you find the right balance between aging gracefully, and letting Mother Nature jump into your gene pool and start splashing around? That's a tough one. I can understand wanting to change an unfortunate nose, or having the odd nip and tuck, but over a certain age, just how good are we supposed to look? It amazes me to see people who are obsessed with correcting a physical imperfection which is completely invisible to the rest of us!

I realize it's an unrealistic goal, but I'd like to start inching toward Oprah. Sure, she has all the money in the world to take care of herself, but you don't get the feeling that the lady is in the plastic surgeon's office every month, having



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

something done. She's smart, she's funny, and she isn't so obsessed with herself that she can't share her wealth and talent. It isn't all about her. Her weight goes up; her weight goes down. Oprah comes out in public, and tells us how disappointed she

is that she fell off the wagon (and presumably into the fridge...). Having said that, she gets on with her life. I like that.

I've had a great opportunity to see the effects of aging up close and personal. Maman fell and broke both her hip and her elbow, resulting in a two-week stay in the hospital. Now she's back in Summit Square, in Assisted Living. Any chance she had of going back to her apartment in Independent Living slipped away with her recent fall. Moving to Assisted Living also meant another case of downsizing her personal effects, something we had already done when she moved from her house on Shawnee Road to come to Summit Square in the first place.

"I hate this," I said to her, feeling powerless and holding back tears. "Every time we go through your stuff, and get rid of things, I feel I'm losing you." "I know," replied Maman. "I feel I'm losing myself." At least we're on the same page. It's hard to lose the person you love by bits and pieces. You fear that like the Cheshire cat, they will disappear down to a smile, and finally, that smile will go, too. Why doesn't anyone tell you how gut-wrenching that is?

If there is an "up" side to getting older, it is that I am increasingly less concerned with being polite to rude people. This month, I've done the unthinkable – I've told off two older ladies. The first I encountered in the Resident Services room at Summit Square. A lady came in, and asked after my mother. "I guess she won't be able to go to Europe with you now!" she chortled. "I guess she won't be able to go back to her apartment, either!" She didn't seem the least bit sad about either fact; actually, she appeared rather smug about being in good shape, while she saw my mother as going downhill. Someone had warned me about how ruthless older people can be about each other. Quite

• See HIS & HERS page 10

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... HIS & HERS continued from page 9

unlike myself, I snapped back at her. "My mother is upset, in pain, and really depressed about her situation. She doesn't need people reminding her of all the things she can't do anymore, and I don't particularly appreciate people who make her feel any worse than she already does." Raised in the kind of family where you never spoke harshly to your elders, I waited for the bolt of lightening that was going to zap me dead on the spot. It never came.

It didn't hit me a few weeks later, either. Our spring was running low, and rather than tax it with several loads of laundry which awaited my return to Highlands, I loaded the stuff into bags and hauled it to the laundry. An older woman looked up as I entered. "Boy, you've got a big family!" she called out. I briefly explained the water situation. Her eyes lit up. "Well," she began. "If you'd only pray to the Lord, you'd find your spring full to overflowing!" I mused that Atlanta's problem with Lake Lanier last year had obviously been caused, not by a lack of rain, but because nobody was praying hard enough. She started up again, and really went at this religion thing like a dog with a bone. I cut her off. "I'm sure you mean well, but I came in

here to wash my laundry, not wash away my sins. I respect your opinions, and I'll have to ask you to respect mine. I don't want to discuss my religious beliefs." Years ago, I would have never dreamed of saying that.

Getting old isn't just about developing a sharp tongue, however – at least I hope it isn't. I'd hate to completely lose my sense of humor. So many people know Maurice Chevalier's famous quote: "Old age isn't so bad when you consider the alternative." I prefer another one of his famous sayings: "You don't stop laughing because you grow older. You grow older because you stop laughing."

• 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. Like Eubie Blake, Michelle feels that if she'd known she was going to live this long, she would have taken better care of herself.

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• CONSERVATIVE POV •

Always love your country...

...but never trust your government."

Most recently attributed to Bob Novak, the recently deceased journalist, in the finest sense of the word, but uttered by others before him. I have never understood why that concept is so difficult for otherwise intelligent Americans to believe.

I was startled when I read my second favorite column in the Highlands' Newspaper a few weeks ago. For some reason, words seem to have more meaning when they're read in the paper as opposed to when you are writing them in Word. I made mention of Obama's impending implosion within three months.

Since I've stuck my neck out, let's see how he's doing.

The "cash for clunkers" program stimulated some activity at the dealerships, and if you feel good about paying for someone else's car, I suppose it's a minor success. Everything was going swimmingly until the funding ran out in the first couple of weeks. Can you image that their projections were off by a few hundred percent? Congress scrambled to find some more billions to pour into the project and the volume resumed.

However, one small matter. The dealers discounted the sales price of the new cars by \$3,500-4,500 that comes out of their pocket. The Department of



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

Transportation, given the task of administering the program and paying the dealers their money, fell just a little short in the organization department and, as of this writing, practically none of the dealers had been reimbursed. Since the more you sell, the deeper your cash flow hole becomes, 425 New York dealers said we can't afford to finance your cash for clunkers thing any longer so we're opting out of it. The head of the DOT said

"don't worry, you'll get your money."

I'm going to try that next April 15th and see how that works for me.

Then there is the cap and trade legislation that came out of the House, much to the peril of those who voted for it. Seems that the Senators heard the reaction from the people (voters) and decided that maybe putting a huge burden on an already fragile economy might not be a great idea in spite of Obama's aspirations in that direction. Isn't it interesting how, when people start to learn the details of what their government is trying to foist on them, their reactions are increasingly negative. It appears the cap and trade is DOA in the Senate, at least for now.

The White House tried to pull off a real cutie. They took a lot of fire for sending an e-mail asking supporters to send "fishy" information received through rumors,

• See SWANSON page 15

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... OBITUARIES continued from page 3

John Kruse

Mr. John Kruse died August 24, 2009 at the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. He is survived by his wife, Norma Jean Carrow; his brother, Robert Kruse and a large extended family.

John and Norma Jean were permanent residents of Highlands for the past three years. John was a graduate of Harvard College and Harvard Law School. After practicing law in New York and Paris, he began his own venture capital businesses.

He and Norma Jean lived in Charleston, SC, prior to moving to Highlands. John will be missed for his keen wit, enormous intellect and his kind and loving nature.

In celebration of John's life there will be a private memorial service. the family requests that donations in his memory be sent to the Highlands-Cashiers Hospice, PO Box 190, Highlands, NC 28741.

Bryant-Grant Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

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... GRANTS continued from page 1

tion what I'm getting for that?" he asked. "I can understand the Sheriff's Department having cars for its deputies more than I can understand our police officers having cars. When you consider the added cost for fuel, oil, and tires, is that a benefit to the taxpayer? The board needs to look at this."

He also reiterated what he's said at past meetings that the purchasing of new patrol cars should be rotated so the cars don't wear out at the same time putting a strain on the town's budget.

In response, Magistrate Pat Taylor said he fully believes that just like the Sheriff's Department, having a patrol car to drive to and from work is a recruitment tool for Highlands.

"The Sheriff's Department has been using the patrol car as a recruitment tool for years and Highlands needed to do it, too," he said.

In his line of duty as magistrate he said he's seen first-hand the shape some of the Highlands patrol fleet is in.

"I was called to the office for a DWI and when the officer opened the back door of the patrol car I saw the door panel was duct-tapped. I asked him why and he said it was the only way to keep the panel on. Another time, I noticed a patrol car running in the parking lot and the officer said he was afraid if he turned it off he wouldn't be able to turn it back on. Don't shortchange our officers on the premise that they don't need reliable vehicles," he said.

Commissioners discussed buying nine vehicles with a combination of USDA grant money and a low interest loan over a two-year period.

The approved FY09 budget included \$92,000 for patrol car replacement but since it wasn't spent, it was included in the FY10 budget recommendation as a general fund balance appropriation.

Town Manager Jim Fatland suggested buying nine vehicles for \$320,000 with \$48,000 funded with USDA grant money and the balance funded with a loan for \$272,000 at an interest rate no more than 4.375%.

He said there is no penalty for prepayment and suggested paying off the loan in one year with money available in the Electric Fund. "That way we're only paying interest for one year," he said.

Commissioner Buz Dotson voted against the recommendation – the final vote was 4-1 – saying just because the town is getting \$48,000 of "free" money from USDA didn't mean it should go into hock for \$272,000.

The new cars will include all the bells and whistles standard for law enforcement vehicles these days, including in-car computers and video cameras.

Commissioner Ross said the police department shouldn't have to worry about its cars running properly. "We have a police department and it needs all the necessary resources for hometown security which includes reliable police cars."

Chief Bill Harrell and Public Service

Director Lamar Nix verified that the department has six patrol cars that are constantly in the shop.

Under the adopted replacement schedule, six new cars will be bought in FY10, three in FY11, none in FY12, none in FY13, three each in FY 14, FY15, FY16 and FY17.

The board also discussed using stimulus money to address stormwater and water quality issues on Pine Street and in Kelsey-Hutchinson Park.

The town has been awarded a grant for stormwater improvements for the Pine Street Stormwater Treatment Project for \$546,517. There is no local match, but 50% of the award is an interest-free loan for 20 years.

In addition, FEMA has notified the town that serious consideration will be given for the stormwater bypass project later this fall if designs are in place.

Therefore, Nix suggested the town approve the design portion of the two projects and get final plans done by McGill & Associates to pursue more funding.

Commissioner Ross said the preliminary projects presented to FEMA and DENR have been called the "highest ranked green project in the state." "In addition, this will be good for the watershed in the Highlands area," he said.

Fatland said all money the town spends during the design phase will be reimbursed with the grant money – but the designs have to come first.

The board unanimously approved the engineering service agreement with McGill which includes getting the NCDOT encroachment permits, the final design, plans and specifications, bidding, and contract services for the installation of the detention and treatment project under the park not to exceed \$37,300.

Commissioners also approved the engineering service agreement with McGill for the preliminary final design for Kelsey-Hutchinson Park improvements including a wetland garden design and permitting not to exceed \$30,000.

Ross reminded the board that the park design will leave Pine Street open.

They also gave Fatland permission to ask the Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust to use unspent funds from the purchase of the park property to pay for the park design.

In other business, the board agreed to approve the Recreation Agreement with the county whereby the county pays Highlands \$500,000 in FY09-10 for recreation but asked Fatland to discuss more funding prior to the county's FY10-11 budget process.

"The town is spending a lot more than \$500,000 on recreation so the reimbursement should be higher," agreed Fatland.

Commissioners also agreed to a lease with Macon Bank of \$1,911.82 per year for .19 acres housing the gazebo on Pine Street.

Town Attorney Bill Coward said the amount is equal to the town and county taxes. The board agreed to pay it on or before Jan. 15, 2010.

– Kim Lewicki

• A REVIEW •

On stage at PAC HCP's 'Accomplice'



Actors Ronnie Spilton, Jim Gordon and Mary Adair Leslie in Highlands-Cashiers Players' mind-boggling play within a play within a play, "Accomplice" now on stage at the Performing Arts Center.

Anyone looking for a way to stave off dementia should attend Highlands-Cashiers Players' current production "Accomplice" on stage at the Martin-Lipscomb Performing Arts Center on Chestnut Street.

If, at anytime during the play, you figure out what's going on, and if by the end of the play what you thought was going on was correct, then your brain cells are working top-notch.

"Accomplice" is the kind of production that only a seasoned cast and crew should attempt – the timing has to be perfect, the chemistry a sure thing and the acting first-rate.

Happily, the HCP cast was up to the task and pulled this production off without a snag.

"Accomplice" is like the pre-show press said "a comedy, mystery, thriller," but it's really a play within a play within a play, and so describing it as a comedy, mystery, thriller, doesn't really describe it at all.

Boring it's not. Though it's funny,

it's not rip-roaring funny, and that's OK. If you spend too much time laughing, you'll miss key banter critical to figuring out what's going on.

After you see the play, you'll understand why the characters listed in the program are only listed as Man 1, Woman 1, Man 2, Woman 2 and Man 3. That's all I'm going to say.

Why? Because everyone who attends a production of "Accomplice" becomes an accomplice and is sworn to secrecy. No one is allowed to say what's REALLY goes on. So, sorry, can't say much, except that this play depicts what high caliber community theatre can be.

As usual, the set was impeccable, with a telltale focal point that draws attention throughout -- this time a backlit painting depicting a vista outside a window.

Show dates are Thursday-Sunday, Aug. 27-30. Call 526-8084 for tickets.

– **Kim Lewicki**

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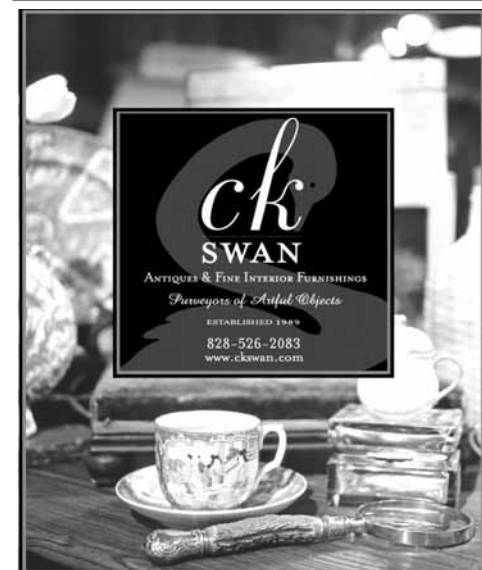


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... SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING continued from 28

from heaven?
What food of everlasting life, what gracious gift is given!
This, this is Christ the King, the bread come down from heaven.
Oh taste and see and sing! How sweet the manna is given!

What light of truth is offered here, what covenant from heaven?
What hope of everlasting life, what wondrous word is given?
This, this is Christ the king, the sun come down from heaven.
Oh, see, hear and sing! The Word of

God is given!

What wine of love is offered here, what crimson drink from heaven?
What stream of everlasting life, what precious blood is given?
This, this is Christ the king, the sweetest wine of heaven.
Oh, taste and see and sing! The Son of God is given!

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... SWANSON continued from page 11

chain e-mails and casual conversations to a White House e-mail address. From FoxNews.com, "Sen. John Cornyn, R-TX charged the White House with compiling an 'enemies list.' In a letter to the president, Cornyn urged Obama to provide Congress with more details on what the White House plans to do with anyone reported for "fishy" speech." They were concerned about factual information being distributed on the internet concerning the horrors of his health care reform proposal. After taking serious heat for this "Orwellian" activity, the White House shut down their tattle-mail account.

The real biggie in the mix is the internecine battle in the Democrat-dominated Congress over health care reform. Obama publicly stated a number of times in the past that only a public option (government controlled medical industry) would do. When public reaction proved that this was a seriously unpopular idea, he sent out his Secretary of Human Services Kathleen Sebelius on the Sunday news shows to float the "it really isn't that important" balloon. This raised the hackles of the far left element of their party

so Obama tells spokesman Robert Gibbs to accuse Sebelius of speaking out of her ear and that it is an essential part of the program.

The fun has just begun. Pelosi comes out and says she'll lose 100 votes for the plan in the House if it doesn't contain a PO and they won't be able to pass it. Kent Conrad (D-ND) one of the "gang of six" Senators who are trying to work out compromise legislation says the Senate won't pass a bill of which PO is a part.

Well, all right!! Now if that isn't fun enough, there is more.

The Politico leads a commentary with, "A day after House Speaker Nancy Pelosi said that health reform won't get through the House without a public option, House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer (her right-

hand man) said Friday that the public option may have to go in order to get a bill passed. Does it get better than this?

Obama at odds with his HHS Secretary, the House Dems on the other side of the Senate Dems, and finally, the House Speaker and Majority Leader dancing to different tunes. Sounds like "Dancing in the Dark" to me.

Just as I was about the wrap this column up, the White House announced perhaps the worst PR move of the month. Obama has decided to lend \$2 billion to Petrobras, Brazil's state-owned oil company through our Export-Import Bank.

Eventually as much as \$10 billion. What are they going to do with the money? Why, drill for oil offshore Brazil, of course. While he's dead set against drilling offshore US by US firms for US consumption, he

sees the need to bolster Brazil's economy in the time of our need. I won't bring up the George Soros connection in this fiasco. It's too clouded for me to get my arms around, but he's in there.

Goof grief, the nightmare just won't stop. The Office of Management & Budget just announced that Obama's spending plans would create a deficit over the next ten years of nine trillion dollars instead of the seven trillion previously announced. But don't dismay, unless you have a really big income, your taxes won't be going up (wink-wink).

What's that sound I hear, louder and louder? I do believe it's the air escaping the Obama agenda balloon. Can you hear it, too?

... LETTERS continued from page 6

Brugger should do some research

Dear Editor,

I am writing in response to Katie Brugger's column in the Aug. 20 issue of this paper entitled "America's Nervous Breakdown."

I presume she has some type of journalistic degree otherwise she couldn't demean the poor woman of whom she writes as a "shallow" tea-bagger.

Sometimes the simplest of things make the most sense. Government spending is out of control. She's right.

I have a B.A.A. in marketing from Uof M. I couldn't have said it better. "Eloquent."

Also, may I suggest that Ms. Brugger research her facts before she puts pen to paper. But I know liberals don't like facts to get in the way of a good story.

Fact: Look it up. Bush's eight years had the lowest percentage of debt to the GDP of any administration ever!

Watch the business channels on TV. You might learn something!

Also, we now know that revenue coming in to the government is 18% below what Bush brought in.

It looks like Reagan's "Trickle Down" works. Let's see how the "Trickle Up" works. It won't.

Thomas R. Martin
Sky Valley, GA

• See LETTERS page 19

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A new portico, lobby bathrooms, and other structural upgrades were part of the county's commitment to Highlands School this past year. The soccer field is under construction and the new elementary hall bathrooms -- which can be accessed from the soccer field and from the elementary hall -- will soon be completed. Though at this point head count is a moving target, on the first day of school there were 432 students in attendance -- 66 from out-of-state or -district. Four more were approved at the Monday night Board of Education meeting.

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New high school English teacher – David Baker

I am happy to be on the faculty at Highlands School and appreciate the support given to us by the community. I attended Sam-

I've been hoping to get a job at Highlands since my wife began working here and constantly tells me about the good things going on in Highlands. When the opening was announced, I was very excited about the opportunity. I feel that I can bring a vast array of experiences and knowledge to the classroom and have always had a heart for the youth of our country. Highlands is a great school with a wonderful faculty and wonderful students where anyone would be fortunate to work.

Portland, Oregon and pursuing a degree to become a chaplain.

I've been hoping to get a job at Highlands since my wife began working here and constantly tells me about the good things going on in Highlands. When the opening was announced, I was very excited about the opportunity. I feel that I can bring a vast array of experiences and knowledge to the classroom and have always had a heart for the youth of our country. Highlands is a great school with a wonderful faculty and wonderful students where anyone would be fortunate to work.



David Baker
High School English

New portico, new faces, new teachers, at Highlands School on the first day of school Tuesday, Aug 25, 2009



From Kindergarten to high school, some students were raring to go, others were a bit wary... either way, Highlands School and its teachers had it covered.

Photos by
Kim Lewicki



New Spanish teacher – Hector Butron

Hector Butron, 52, has been trying to get he saw the opening for a Spanish teacher at Highlands School and he jumped on it. More than a decade ago, he was the teaching pro at the Mountain Laurel Tennis Club. After earning a B.S. Ed in Spanish from Western Carolina University, he taught at the Erwin Middle School in Asheville for nine years before returning to central Mexico in 2004.

The father of four and grandfather of five – most of whom live in the states – he was eager to return.

When visiting with her daughter Alicia in San Diego, who was on the verge of having a baby,



Hector Butron
Spanish

As a Latino, he hopes to bring a new and more authentic air to the Spanish course offered at Highlands School and would love to see Spanish III not just I and II offered at some point.

"My approach will be to ensure that students progress and learn the same way one would learn to speak Spanish if he were born a native," he said.

He plans to introduce and teach the language through storytelling and cultural projects.

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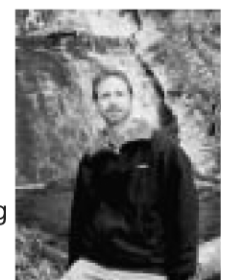
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• COACH'S CORNER •

Highlands soccer preview

Most schools look forward to the autumn season with the thoughts of Friday night football games and late summer workouts. However, the students at Highlands School have been working all summer to continue their dominance on the soccer pitch.



Ryan Potts
tryanpotts@hotmail.com

Despite losing 5 starters to graduation and 2 more contributors to transfer, the Highlander men's soccer team will once again be heavily favored to win the Smoky Mountain Conference.

It is not surprising that Highlands is the favorite, seeing as the Highlanders put more emphasis into the sport due to the lack of football. However, what may be a bit surprising is the dominance that the Highlanders have displayed over their conference brethren. Since joining the SMC in soccer, the Highlanders have never failed to win the conference championship, and have lost just one conference game in the past 5 years.

The Highlanders have not only dominated the Smoky Mountain Conference, but they have also performed well in the state playoffs. Highlands has played in the state semifinals once this decade, and has consistently performed well against the best 1A schools in the state. If senior captain Will Mathowdis has his way, Highlands will finish the year with a state championship and continue the Highlands tradition of winning on the soccer field. Mathowdis has led summer workouts since June and is excited about the possibilities for Highlands soccer this year. "We have a lot of speed on the attack," said Mathowdis, "and if we can play technical soccer and avoid playing kickball we are going to have a great year." Mathowdis also added that "summer workouts really helped us to get closer as a team, which we will need to do if we want to win conference and challenge for a state title."

Highlander coach Chris Green echoes the sentiment of his senior about the closeness of the team and the challenges that lie ahead. "Anytime you lose 5 starters including Ez (keeper Ezra Herz) it forces guys to come together," said Green, "but I think that this group is a very flexible group that can play at a faster pace and really take on their own identity." Green also has high expectations for this team, but cautions

that it will take a lot of hard work and effort from the players to win a conference title this season.

The Highlanders began their season yesterday with a home match against Franklin, but results were not yet available at press time. The next home game is Friday versus Tallulah Falls at Zachary Field at the Buck Creek athletic

complex. Check back next week for recaps from the Franklin game as well as Tallulah Falls. Go Highlanders!

Highlands School
Boys Soccer Home Game Lineup

Date	Day	Opposing	Time
8/28	Fri.	Tallulah Falls	5
9/4	Fri.	Thomas Jefferson	6
9/12	Sat.	Rabun Gap	2
9/16	Wed.	Andrews	6
9/26	Sat.	Polk County	1
9/28	Mon.	Blue Ridge	6
10/1	Thurs.	Madison Cty	6
10/7	Wed.	Hayesville	6
10/14	Wed.	Murphy	6
10/22	Thurs.	E. Henderson	6
10/26	Mon	Swain	6

Conference games are in **BOLD**
Coaches: Chris Green and Hank Ross
Home games are played at Zachary Field on Buck Creek Road.

from the history guy....

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that continues to affect us still.

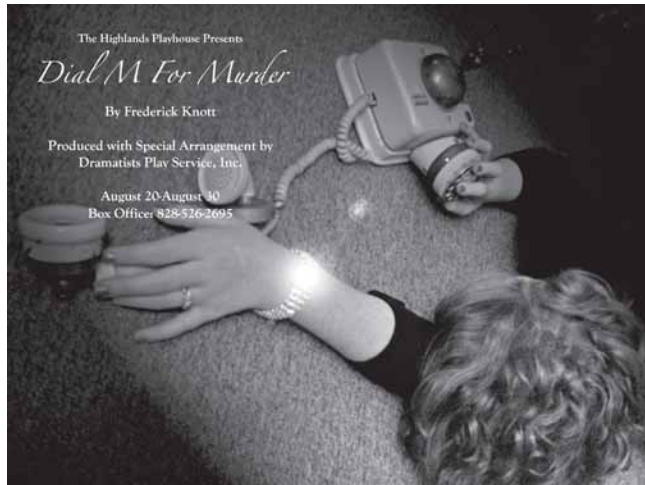
Deep under the soil
was found lots of oil.

You can bet they were thrilled,
that place to have drilled.

Nothing could have been thought rude,
but all things considered, it was rather
crude

• A REVIEW •

On stage at The Playhouse 'Dial M for Murder'



"Dial M for Murder" now on stage at the Highlands Playhouse is a real "who done it" mystery — British style.

In a deliberate, methodical British way, the audience is pulled into the story and along with the cast experiences, and then tries to figure out not who the culprit is, but how the culprit can get away with his dastardly deed.

The small cast of six played by Playhouse regulars, Shannon Webber, who also designed the set, Benjamin Reed, Jeremy Miller, Jamey Bailey, David Reynolds and Highlands' own Stuart Armor, does a good job keeping the audience interested during this classic British mystery.

The audience will remember Benjamin Reed who resurrected at least part of his dastardly character from "Arsenic and Old Lace," Jeremy Miller who casts off his limey cop persona in "Arsenic" for that of a selfish,

cunning, dishonest, sociopath want-to-be murdering husband. Armor plays a great Inspector Hubbard who like Peter Falk in Columbo convinces both the culprit and the audience — at least for a while — that he believes the culprit hook, line, and sinker.

There are a few laughs, but mainly this is a serious murder mystery which is truly engaging.

If you yearn for "theater" in the Playhouse, then this is it.

Dial M for Murder runs through Sunday Aug. 30. Ticket prices are \$25 for adults and \$12 for children. Show times are Tuesday-Saturday at 8 p.m. with Sunday matinees at 2 p.m. For tickets, please call the Highlands Playhouse Box Office at 828-526-2695 or visit our 362 Oak Street location in downtown Highlands.

— **Kim Lewicki**

... LETTERS continued from page 15

Dear Editor,

During that time I have always looked forward to reading Fred Wooldridge's columns, although I must admit to having been put off a couple of times by what I am sure you felt was humor, but my heightened sensitivities told me otherwise. So much so that it sparked me to write a few articles in the paper myself. Anyway, thankfully, I must have chilled out some, or matured, depending on how you look at it; and now I just enjoy what you write, without trying to read too much into it.

Concerning last week's column entitled "Cellphobia," I could not agree with you more

I am a CPA in my life in Fort Lauderdale, FL (Plantation actually). I keep my cell phone in the car in case of an emergency. My business partner, on the other hand, attaches his to himself as an appendage and uses it anywhere and everywhere.

His clients probably appreciate it that he does ... mine think I am backward for not being forever in ready mode.

What I find particularly humorous, as well as disturbing, is almost every day when

I get into my car and turn out of my cul-de-sac to work, I generally see three SUVs coming around the bend with three women (sorry, it is mostly women) on three cell phones and I immediately wonder who possibly could someone need to call, the second they leave their house?

A nail appointment? N, that would have had to have been made a week earlier. A baby sitter? No, they're already in the car alone, so the kids are covered. An affair? I doubt that, too. Not many guys will jump on their phone at 8 a.m. They probably need nothing. I guess if the gadget is there, they just have to use it.

Anyway authorities should give out tickets for using while driving. That is the case in certain places. Managers ought to kick people out of restaurants for using them. I commend the couple of restaurants in Highlands that do that. And, if caught using them in the doctor's waiting room, they ought to be kept waiting for their appointment and extra hour for imposing their one-sided conversations to us while we wait.

Rick Lundy
Cashiers and Plantation, FL

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LICENSED COSMETOLOGIST NEEDED – Inquire by phone 828-526-3939.

C.N.A I needed at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital in the Acute Department. Full-time and PRN positions available, night shift. 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 60 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 828-526-1376 or apply online at www.hchospital.org.

RN needed in the Emergency Room at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. Full Time position available. ER experience required. Full benefits, or the option to opt out of benefits for an increase in pay, available after 60 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 828-526-1376 or apply online at www.hchospital.org

OUTPATIENT CODER needed in the Medical Records department at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. Knowledge of all aspects of outpatient coding; ICD-9, CPT, and HCPCS codes. 3M Encoder preferred. Full-time position that offers 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 ap-

ply online at www.hchospital.org.

RN's at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. Experienced Med-Surg Nurses needed in Acute/ER department. Strong leadership skills is a must. PRN positions available for 12 hour day and night shifts. Excellent wage scale, with shift and weekend differentials. Pre-employment screening required. Call Human Resources at 828-526-1376 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.

YARD SALE

SATURDAY, AUG. 22 – Multi Family, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. 174 Dolly Lane, Highlands. Mirror Lake Area.

WANTED

HARDWORKING COUPLE LOOKING FOR LANDSCAPING AND YARD-WORK AND HOUSECLEANING WORK – Call Juan Diaz at 828-200-1038 or 828-526-1025.

ABOUT PETS

BEAUTIFUL FEMALE MALAMUTE MIX. FREE TO A GOOD HOME WITH REFERENCES. 12 years old, bred to be the head of a sled dog team and in excellent health. Must sacrifice. Owner's granddaughter has life threatening asthma. This is a very special animal and deserves a forever home. 828-526-3961 oremailstarpony@earthlink.net for pics and more info.

YARD SALE

SATURDAY, AUG. 29 – 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. 477 Wildwood Drive (between Highlands and Cashiers). Antiques, furniture, books, toys, cool stuff. To benefit World Vision. Rain or Shine.

FRI.-SUN, AUG. 28-30 – Basement of Highlands Pharmacy at 238 Helen's Barn Ave. 9 a.m. until. Tools, lumber and household items.

RESIDENTIAL FOR SALE

FIVE BEDROOM, 4 1/2 BATH HOUSE FOR SALE/LEASE WITH OPTION. Owner financing possible. Handicap accessible, separate office below. Close to town. See at vrbo.com/

Manley's Auto & Towing



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WANTED TO RENT

10' X 10' VENDOR TENT WITH SIDE WALLS. Must be in good condition. Please leave message at 526-1031. 8/13

RESIDENTIAL FOR RENT

HOUSE FOR LEASE/SALE SCALY MOUNTAIN – 2BR/2½ BA. Large deck, great views. Partially furnished or unfurnished. FP, W/D, Central H/A. No smoking. \$1000 + utilities. first/last/security/references. Call 828-200-1513. st. 8/13

YEAR-ROUND HOUSE NEAR GLENN FALLS. Responsible adult for one bedroom, one and one-half baths, furnished or unfurnished. Wood and carpet floors, sunny deck with mountain and pond views, w/d, private. No smoking. \$650 furnished, negotiable unfurnished. First, last, security required. 828-421-7922. (st. 5/7)

APARTMENT FOR RENT - partly furnished 1BR/1ba - no dogs/smokers - Whiteside Cove - \$100/week - call (828) 787-1515

ROOM FOR RENT - furnished or not - no smokers - must love dogs - \$50/week - call (828) 787-1515

HOUSE FOR RENT – Near Post Office. 2 bed/1 bath, central H/AC, hardwood floors, fireplace, deck, basement, W/D, nice yard. No smoking. \$850/month plus utilities. Call 526-4073. 9/24

APARTMENT FOR RENT – newly furnished one bed/one bath. AC/Heat. Deck. Fantastic view. 5 min from Highlands. Adults only. No smokers, no pets. Utilities included. \$795. Call 526-2694. st. 7/30

SEVERAL HOUSES AVAILABLE – 3 bedroom, 2 bath plus large out building that could be a workshop or storage. \$900 per month; 3 bedroom, 2 bath MH \$750 per month; 4 bedroom, 2 bath MH close in \$ 1,000 per month; 2 bedroom, 2 bath

208433 Call for details 808 443-7353 st. 8/27

BEAUTIFUL 5 BEDROOM, 4 bath home in Wildwood. View at [#215385](http://www.infotube.net) (st. 8/13)

4BR/2.5BA HOME – with long-range mountain views only \$299,000! Call for recorded property info: 1-800-526-1648 ext. 1238. Also available, 2Br/2.5Ba remodeled cottage only \$209,000! Call for recorded property info: 1-800-526-1648 ext. 1228. Available together or separately. Offered by Green Mountain Realty Group. st. 7/30

FOR SALE – 4.28 acre great building lot in Pine Forest, (adjacent to Spring Forest) Sapphire. Paved roads, underground utilities, three bedroom septic approved, \$170,000. Call 828-371-0645 or 828-743-2800.

BY OWNER – No AC needed. Classic Country home. 4.2 acres. Perennial Landscaping. 4 bed, 3 bath. Garage and shed. 2,900 sq. ft. living space. 1,523 sq. ft deck. Many extras. Call 828-743-5788. \$340,000 OBO. 8/27

QUAINT SUMMER COTTAGE walking distance to Mirror Lake. 2Br/1Ba, quiet neighborhood, mature rhodo and laurel, wood floors, fire pit and wood burning stove. Offered By Green Mountain Realty Group, Call now for more info: 1-800-526-1648 ext. 1018

2001 MANUFACTURED HOME – 2 Bed, 1 Bath, on 2 lots – 2.09 unrestricted acres. Private, great long range view. Private well with 25 G.P.M. \$65,000. (845) 239-3236.

INCREDIBLE VALUE – 3 bed, 2 bath remodeled home. Huge master suite, 2 big decks, storage building, pond, elevation approximately 3500ft, located in Scaly Mountain. \$139,500 MLS# 67308. Call Ann at Cabe Realty 828-526-2475.

FOR SALE BY OWNER – 535 N. 4th Street. Zoned Commercial. \$350,000. Currently rented at \$2,500 a month. Call 770-827-0450. (st. 2/19)

• CLASSIFIEDS •

Home Carport; \$1,000 per month; Garage apt, 1 bedroom, 1 bath \$1,100 per month. All homes are plus utilities and no pets. Contact Terry Potts at Country Club Properties 828-526-2520. (st. 7/2)

OPEN HOUSE — LEASE/SALE CREEKSIDE — 3 bd, 2 1/2 bth; hot tub; Saturdays 12-5pm; 828 526 2759; marbago@hughes.net st. 8/27

INTOWN — 1,500 sq. ft. 2 bed/2 bath. beautifully furnished apartment. Vaulted ceiling, AC, W/D. No pets. No smoking. \$1,000 per month plus utilities. Call 828-526-5451 or 828-526-2729. (st. 7/2)

APARTMENT FOR RENT — 1 bed, 1 bath, living area, kitchen and utility room. \$600 per month. \$300 security deposit. Rent includes utilities (electric, water heat). 1 year lease. Prefer nonsmoker. No pets. Unfurnished. good for 1-2 people. 838-526-9494.

GREAT 2 BEDROOM/1BATH APARTMENT — Main Street, Highlands includes 9-foot ceilings, central heat & air, balcony, large laundry room with washer/dryer. \$900 per month plus utilities. Lease and references required. Contact John Dotson - 526-5587. st. 5/21

HOUSE FOR RENT ON MIRROR LAKE — 3 bed/3 ba, with w/d, central h/a, deck. \$1,100 per month plus utilities. Security deposit required, yearly lease, no smoking. 828-526-4073.

APARTMENT FOR RENT — 1 bed, 1 bath, living area, kitchen and utility room. \$650/month. \$300 security deposit. First and last month rent. Rent includes utilities, (electric, water, heat, local phone) One year lease. Prefer non-smoker. No

pets. Unfurnished. Good for 1-2 people. Call 526-9494.

FOR RENT AND SALE — 2/2 condo, LR, DR, Sun room, W/D. Walk to town. Available year round. Call 828-421-2144 **FURNISHED 3BD 2BATH HOUSE IN MIRROR LAKE** area available for 6-12 month lease \$1200+ utilities. Call 770-977-5692.

3BR, 2BA COTTAGE NEAR MIRROR LAKE — In town. \$1,250 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 (includes utilities) leave message @ 526-1975

COMMERCIAL FOR RENT

OFFICE/RETAIL/SPA RENTAL SPACE -1,080 sq. ft. divided into four rooms along with full bath. Conveniently located on Spring Street. \$750/mo. with the first month free. Call 352-245-3901. (st. 6/18)

RENTAL SPACE IN WRIGHT SQUARE — Half a building or two floors of one building. Call Harold Brammer. 828-526-5673. st. 4/16

2,300+/-SQ. FT. OF OFFICE/RETAIL AVAILABLE for lease or rent to own. Excellent visibility! Location is 2271 Dillard

Road. Asking \$1,250 per month. 526-8953.

VACATION RENTAL

AVAILABLE IN HIGHLANDS MOUNTAIN CLUB SEPT. OCT., NOV — Next to Highlands Country Club. 2 bdrm, 2 bath, condo at Highlands Mtn. Club. AC, gas logs, hdwd floors, wireless internet, cable TV, fully furnished. Deck and screened porch. In city limits. Amenities include heated pool, tennis courts, road and entrance snow removal. Adults only. Price depends on length of stay. 828 200-0786

SKY VALLEY 1 BED CONDO AVAILABLE SEPT. 6-12. Swim, tennis, hiking, golf available. \$600. Call 828-526-4778 8/20

COACH CLUB RV RESORT — Downtown Highlands, Class A Diesel Coaches Only. Weekly and Monthly rental. terryhallhomes.com. Call 352-494-1531. 9/17

RUSTIC FARMHOUSE — 3br/2b, central heat/air, spring water, big yard, access to fish pond, bordered by Buck Creek located on Buck Creek Rd.; close to Highlands and Franklin, NC. \$800 wkly or can be rented monthly. 828-524-6038

RV SITES FOR RENT IN TOWN — Short Walk to Main Street. Daily, Weekly, or Monthly Rates Available. Contact Charlie @ (828)526-8645 e-mail: chestnutcottages@yahoo.com

ADORABLE COTTAGE FOR 2 — Four blocks from town at 539 Chestnut Street, next to PAC. \$80 per night. Call 828-526-

9375. 8/27

RESTORED FARMHOUSE ON SHORTOFF ROAD. — 2 bedrooms, 2 baths in a country setting. Well furnished with a large screened porch. See details and pictures at www.homeaway.com #23644 \$800 per week. (912) 354-6917.

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.

ITEMS FOR SALE

2002 DUTCHMAN 27' LITE TRAVEL TRAILER. Front sideOut. Queen master bedroom. Great Condition. \$10,000. Call 526-3824. st. 8/27

CEDAR LOG BED — King size. Never used. \$350. 526-3824.

4 TIRES W/RIMS. BF Goodrich radials. Size 35/12.5-9.5 off a Ford 250. \$350. Call 526-3824.

4 FACTORY RIMS OFF 2004 FORD EXPLORER. 16". \$250. Call 526-3824.

4 TIRES WITH FACTORY RIMS off 2000 Toyota Tacoma. Size 31/10.50-15. \$200. Call 526-3824.

WALL UNIT CABINET FOR DISPLAY AND STORAGE — 80 inches high, 36 inches wide, 20 inches deep. Three-section top. Glass Doors. Mirror Back. Wall middle section and bottom section Formica doors. All have inside lights. Almond color. \$395. Call 526-4077.

See CLASSIFIEDS page 22

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COLLAPSIBLE LADDER – \$270. Call 526-5025.

COLEMAN 5000 ER ELECTRONIC GARAGE DOOR. \$500. Call 526-5025. st. 8/13

SEARS KRAFTSMEN 4.5 HP 22" CUT LAWNMOWER. Bridge & Stratton engine. Asking \$125. Call 349-4930. st. 8/6

GM TRAILBLAZER CARGO ORGANIZER. Asking \$100. Call 349-4930.

TWO AMANDA WINDOW AIRCONDITIONERS. One Fan & Temperature Control. One Vent Control. Best Offer. Been in storage. 349-4930. st. 8/6

PALLADIUM STYLE WINDOW — Mahogany two section 1-3/4" thick x 42" H x 70-1/2" W. \$160, OBO for photo call 828-526-2671.

WOOD BURNING STOVE W/ ELECTRIC BLOWER. \$200. 342-3234.

6X10 ENCLOSED TRAILER - Classic 2 Dr. Good condition. \$1,150. 828-526-8079. st. 7/30

MARY KAY — offering state-of-the-art

skin care, new mineral makeup and other great products, as well as self-employment opportunities. Call Laurel at 349-6402 for more information. 10/29

40-PIECE STONEWARE DINNER SET — \$15 or best offer. Call 526-5367.

VENT-FREE CAST IRON STOVE — Still in the box. Sand color. \$400. Cal 526-9027 or 342-6988.

OLD-FASHIONED PUSH MOWER — No gas needed! In great shape. \$50. Call 526-9027 or 342-6988.

5-PIECE MAPLE TWIN BEDROOM SET — plus mattresses and box springs. Excellent condition. \$700 including mattress and box spring. Call 526-5995 ST. 8/13

OLD BRASS BALL FIREPLACE ANDIRONS WITH ACCESSORIES. Asking \$500 but negotiable. Call 526-0439.

4 PIECE OUTDOOR FURNITURE SET. Glider, 2 rocking chairs & table. Metal frame, with cushions. Great condition \$125 369-5863.

ANTIQUE BEAR TRAP — Very old. \$350. Call 828-226-2027.

EPIPHONE 6 STRING ACOUSTIC GUITAR with hard case-great condition- \$250 828.482.2222

ETHAN ALLEN KING SIZE BEDROOM SET — Very good Condition. \$450. Call 787-1831

HIGHLANDS LICENSE PLATES — New Photo Designs by Cynthia Strain. Cashiers & Franklin, also. Mill Creek Gallery & Framing on oak Street. 828-787-2021.

APPLIANCES; white Whirlpool electric stove, like new, \$200, white Frigidaire dishwasher \$100 very good condition. 349-6402

AIR CONDITIONING UNITS; Whirlpool 20,500 BTU \$150, Whirlpool 13,000 BTU \$75, call for more details 349-6402 5/21

4"X6" OAK TIMBERS Lengths 12'-30' \$10 per foot. Delivery available. Call Joey at 828-734-0101

BRAND-NEW, NEVER WORN, WEDDING DRESS AND VEIL. Beautiful; ivory with beading at waist and scoop neck. Size 6. Price tags: dress \$640 and veil \$265. Make offer. Please call 828-526-

5733 or 601-316-3147.

GE PROFILE WHITE COUNTER-TOP GAS RANGE WITH DOWNDRAFT. Like new. \$185 Call 787-2232.

KOLCRAFT JEEP WAGONEER TAN-DEM DOUBLE STROLLER. Used rarely. Basically brand new. \$100 or OBO. Call 526-2536.

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

BABY LOCK SERGER MACHINE with extra spools of thread. \$200. 828-631-2675 after 5 p.m. Sylva area.

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

MARTIN-C-1740 UNVENTED GAS HEATER — with oxygen depleting sensing system. BTU 40,000. H. 14 24 3/4 W. 25" D. 13". Fan blower-model B35. \$125. Call 526-5640.

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

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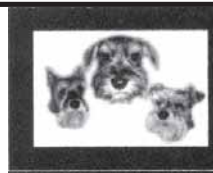
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MacGregor Tourney 9 irons (2-9 P.W.) 1980. Persimmon Drivers, new. \$50. Used \$25. Also miscellaneous items cheap. Call 706-746-3046. (Sky Valley).

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

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

FREE BRICK FRONT FOR BUILT-IN FIREPLACE. 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.

VEHICLES FOR SALE

2002 MAZDA ES 626 Luxury leather and economy 30mpg. Low miles 58k, auto, alloy wheels, moon roof, all power. \$7,800 please call 526-2780. (st. 8/13)

1997 NISSIAN PICK UP – 5 speed. 140,000 K, 4-cyl., Great on gas! \$1,500. Call 526-4741.

2004 FORD EXPEDITION XLT, olive green, beige leather, 72,000 miles, Excellent condition, V-8 5.4 liter. \$13,500. Call 828-526-4707.

CADILLAC DEVILLE 2002 – Silver, 85,300 miles. One owner, garaged. \$8,950. See at 150 Shelby Circle, Highlands. 787-2310. (St. 7/9)

SCOOTER 2007 YAMAHA VINO 125 -- Never used. 15 miles logged. Mid-life crisis purchase. \$2,200, helmet included. Call 828-526-0844.

SERVICES

CLOTHING ALTERATIONS FOR PUBLIC. At Desire, 369 Main Street. Call 526-4160. 8/27

ECONOMIC CONDITIONS GOT YOU DOWN? Need help processing feelings, creating an action plan? Contact Betty Holt, M.Ed, Licensed Professional Counselor at the Conscious Connection, 526-8885. Sliding scale, recession rates. (st. 6/25)

CLOCK REPAIR – Antique or modern, complicated antique clocks are my specialty. Experienced, dependable and courteous with housecalls available in the Highlands area. Call 706-754-9631. Joseph McGahee. Clock-maker. www.oldclockrepair.com. 9/1

DEPENDABLE LOVING PET SITTER – for all types of pets! Houseitting and landscaping services also available. Call 443-315-9547.

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

RELIABLE CHILD CARE IN MY HOME – Minutes from Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. Daily/Weekly. 12 years experience, references and Early Childhood credentials. \$5 per hour for first child, \$10 a day for second sibling. Call 743-2672.

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

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Highlands Democrats pick up litter

During its July community service project which was litter pick-up, the Highlands Democrats picked up 60 pounds of garbage from the streets in Highlands in just a few hours.

The group plans on doing monthly community service projects and we would like to partner with other organizations for future projects.



... HORTON continued from page 1

Previous to that he served as County Manager of Haywood County, NC from 1991 until 2006. He also has previous service with Macon County having served as County Manager from 1985 until 1991.

His local government experience also includes a two-year stint as the Town Manager of Huntersville, NC.

Horton began his career in local government in 1976 as an intern in local government for Swain County, North Carolina where he was later appointed Tax Collector and Tax Supervisor before being selected as Swain County's first professional County Manager in 1978.

In addition to his membership in the ICMA, Horton has served on various committees with the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners including membership on The Board of Trustees of the NCACC Risk Manage-

ment Pool. Mr. Horton is a member of the North Carolina City/County Managers Association and the Western North Carolina Managers Association where he served as Chairman in 2001/2002. He earned undergraduate and graduate degrees from Appalachian State University and is a graduate of the University of North Carolina's School of Government's County Administration Program and the Public Executive Leadership Academy.

Horton has been active in civic and community affairs which include serving as president of the Rotary Club of Waynesville, NC, and as a member of the United Way Board of Directors. He has participated in many local and regional committees including a term as president of the Association of Tennessee Valley Governments, a member of the Region A Smart Start Board, and Chairman of the State of Franklin Health Council.

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• UPCOMING EVENTS •

Week Long

• YOGA - all levels all week, schedule posted
Moonrise Yoga 464 Carolina Way. 828.526.8880
www.highlandsyoga.com 8/27

• Nantahala Tennis Club at the Rec Park, six days a week at 9 a.m. Public invited.

• RBC Bank Highlands (225 Franklin Rd) is

Weekend of 'author' events at Episcopal Church Aug. 28-30



Barbara Brown Taylor

The Episcopal Church of the Incarnation Speaker Series presents Barbara Brown Taylor, Friday, August 28 at 7 p.m. "Red Letters in Red Clay: The Bible in the Christ-Haunted South" Reception & Book Signing to follow. Then on Saturday, Aug. 28 at 7 p.m., she'll present "From Adam to Armageddon: Biblical Literacy in the South" with preaching Sunday, August 30 at 10:30 Eucharist

Barbara Brown Taylor teaches religion at Piedmont College in rural northeast Georgia and is an adjunct professor of spirituality at Columbia Theological Seminary in Decatur. She is the author of twelve books, including *An Altar in the World*, published by HarperOne in February 2009. Her first memoir, *Leaving Church*, met with widespread critical acclaim, winning a 2006 Author of the Year award from the Georgia Writers Association. An at-large editor for *The Christian Century* and sometime commentator on Georgia Public Radio, Taylor lives on a working farm with her husband Ed and a yard full of animals. For more information, call 526-2968.

selling raffle tickets to win a Weber table portable gas grill. Tickets are \$5 and raffle is limited to 100 tickets only. Get them while they last! Also selling American Cancer Society "Fight Like A Girl" shirts in their lobby at 225 Franklin Rd. Highlands. 100% of proceeds donated to the American Cancer Society.

• Registration is now open for the 2009 summer nature day camps at the Highlands Nature Center. Five different camps are offered. Call 828-526-2623 or visit www.wcu.edu/hbs.

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

Sundays

• Old-fashioned hymn-sing at the Little Church in the Wildwood 7-8 p.m. Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day weekend. For more information call Kay Ward at 743-5009.

• 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

Mackey to speak on Iran and Afghanistan tonight, Aug. 27 at PAC



With the continuing interest in the events in Iran and the escalating American involvement in Afghanistan, Sandra Mackey has offered to repeat and update the Iran portion of her June lecture to CLE. She will also discuss American policy in Afghanistan and the linkage of U.S. interests in a region that includes Iran, Iraq, Afghanistan and Pakistan.

Mackey is a veteran journalist and award-winning author of multiple books on the Middle East. The lecture with a question and answer period will be Aug. 27, from 10 a.m. until noon at the Performing Arts Center (PAC) on Chestnut Street. Please contact the Center for Life Enrichment (CLE) to make reservations (526-8811 or clehighlands@yahoo.com). The cost is \$20 for members and \$30 for non-members.

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.

• Hal Phillips on piano at Skyline Lodge and Restaurant on Flat Mountain Road during the Champagne Brunch 12-2pm.

Mon., Wed., & Thurs.

• Yoga On The Mat. New location. The Episcopal Church of Incarnation on Main Street. Enter through single door facing Mountain Fresh. M/W @ 7:30 a.m.; Thurs. @10:45 a.m. Bring your mat. 828-482-2128 7/30

Mon., Wed., Fri.

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

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

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

Tuesdays

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

• Closed AA Women's meeting, 5:30 p.m. at the Episcopal Church at Fifth and Main streets.

Beginning Sept. 10 on Tuesdays & Thursdays

• Zumba Classes at the Rec Park. Aerobic/dance/toning. No dance experience necessary. One-hour. \$5/class. Tuesdays, 12:30-1:30, Thursdays, 8-9 am. and 1 p.m. Thursdays at Cashiers Rec Park. Call Mary K. Barbour at 828-342-2498.

Murder thriller continues at The Playhouse



The Highlands Playhouse will wrap up its 71st season with the chiller *Dial M for Murder*. The production is most famous for the 1954 film adaptation by Alfred Hitchcock, however it was first produced as a BBC Television play in 1952 and was later performed on stage in London's West End in June 1952 and on Broadway in October 1952. The Highlands Playhouse version of *Dial M for Murder* is nothing short of spectacular. The entire production, from the set to the costumes and to the performance makes for a true 1950's thriller!

Nostalgia and elegance mingle in the costume design. Each costume highlights the actor's character and is an asset to their performance. The set design is Shannon Webber's Highlands Playhouse debut. Shannon is also the leading lady in *Dial M*, portraying the character of Margot Wendice. Shannon has created a stylish London flat perfect for a murder! The set

is lavishly decorated with large portraits, high, mansion-like walls, plush furniture, and a meticulous 'marble' floor. The performance is as exceptional as its surroundings. Each actor executes his or her British accent with natural grace, aside from the American, who truly is an all-American gentleman. The ensemble perfectly weaves this exciting mystery of murder and money. It will keep you on your toes until the final curtain.

Dial M for Murder, sponsored by Lupoli Construction runs through Sunday Aug. 30. Ticket prices are \$25 for adults and \$12 for children. Show times are Tuesday-Saturday at 8 p.m. with Sunday matinees at 2 p.m. For tickets, please call the Highlands Playhouse Box Office at 828-526-2695 or visit our 362 Oak Street location in downtown Highlands.

• 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.

Wednesdays & Fridays

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

Every 3rd 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.

Thursdays

- The Zahner Lecture Series at the Nature Cen-

ter at 7 p.m. Subjects vary.

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

- Summer Reading Program at the Hudson Library for kids. Every Thursday at 10 a.m. through July 30. More info: 526-3031

Every 2nd Thursday

- NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) Appalachian South support group will meet once a month through the summer on the third Thursday of each month. The meetings will be held at 7 p.m. at the Children's Home for Family Restoration, 827 Wiley Brown Rd. in Franklin. NAMI is a grassroots organization providing support, advocacy and education for indi-

• See EVENTS page 26

Last Weekend for HCPs 'Accomplice'



Ronnie Spilton and David Spivey in "Accomplice."

After weeks of rehearsal with little response except for the directions of the director, the cast of "Accomplice" has been thrilled by the laughter and attentiveness of appreciative audiences during last week's performances. "I wasn't sure the audience would catch some of the humor of the dialog," said one cast member, "but they laughed uproariously at the big moments and chuckled appropriately for the smaller quips. It was wonderful!"

The Highlands Cashiers Players' production of Rupert Holmes' comedy murder mystery thriller "Accomplice," winner of the Edgar Award from the Mystery Writers of America, continues its run at the Performing Arts Center, August 27 through the 30th. Previous audiences have been cautioned not to reveal the plot and thus spoil the fun. But it can be revealed that the action begins in a renovated old

mill in the English countryside amazingly re-created on stage by designer Kathy Evans and the construction crew from Warth Construction and HCP volunteers. In this moorland cottage Janet and Derek Taylor seem to be preparing for a visit of friends from London. But nothing is as it seems in this clever, tricky thriller. The audience is kept guessing until the end.

The cast includes HCP actors Ronnie Spilton, Mary Adair Leslie, David Spivey, Kirk Howard, and guest actor from Atlanta, Paul del Gatto. "Accomplice" was directed by Virginia Talbot and is sponsored in part by Cyrano's Bookshop. It is rated PG13 and contains adult situations.

Tickets are \$20 and may be reserved by phone, 526-8084, or purchased at the Performing Arts Center on Chestnut Street in Highlands between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.

Children's school-year art classes begin Sept. 14



Children's school-year art classes begin Sept. 14 at The Bascom. Registration is going on now. To register or for more information, call (828) 526-4949 ext. 0 or email kcollany@thebascom.org.

Back-to-school time also means a return to the high-quality children's art program at The Bascom.

For years, The Bascom has offered its Young Artist Program (YAP), which presents fun and thoughtful art classes during the academic year geared to the skills and interests of children from preschool to pre-teen. This year's significantly expanded offerings will take place at The Bascom's new six-acre art campus in a specially designated, spacious children's studio complete with a full wet studio and sink area for cleanup.

The fall YAP begins Sept. 14 and continues through Dec. 16. Students sign up for a six-class session. Offerings are as follows:

- Little Stars (preschoolers), Tuesdays 11–11:30 a.m., \$15 for a six-class session (class held at Episcopal Church of the Incarnation)

- Artventure I (grades K–1), Tuesdays 3–4 p.m., \$30 for a six-class session

- Artventure II (grades K–2), Wednesdays 3–4 p.m., \$30 for a six-class session

- It's Masterful I (homeschoolers ages 4–7), Wednesdays 12:30–1:30 p.m., \$30 for a six-class session

- It's Masterful II (homeschoolers ages 8–14), Wednesdays 1:30–2:30 p.m., \$30 for a six-class session

- Art Odyssey (grades 2–5), Mondays 3–4 p.m., \$30 for a six-class session

Financial assistance is available.

To register for YAP or for more information, call (828) 526-4949 ext. 0 or email kcollany@thebascom.org.



Upcoming Book Signings
526-5488 • Main Street

e-mail: cyranos@nctv.com

Sept. 5

Pat Conroy

South of Broad

At noon

Sept. 20-25

Southern Women Authors

Teamed with Old Edwards Inn for the first Highlands Southern Women's Writers Conference - Cassandra King, Mary Kay Andrews, Kathryn Stockett, Angela Dove, Kathleen Parker, Sandra Mackey, and more.

Ruby Cinema

Hwy. 441, Franklin, NC
524-2076

August 28 to September 3

THE FINAL DESTINATION

rated R

Mon-Fri: 4:15, 7:05, 9:15

Sat-Sun: 2:05, 4:15, 7:05, 9:15

HALLOWEEN II

rated R

Mon-Fri: 4:30, 7:15, 9:30

Sat-Sun: 2:15, 4:30, 7:15, 9:30

INGLOURIOUS BASTERDS

rated R

Mon-Fri: 4, 7, 9:45

Sat-Sun: 4, 7, 9:45

DISTRICT 9

rated R

Mon-Fri: 9:20

Sat-Sun: 9:20

THE TIME TRAVELER'S WIFE

rated PG-13

Mon-Fri: 4:20, 7:10

Sat-Sun: 2:10, 4:20, 7:10

• UPCOMING EVENTS •

viduals with mental illness and their families. Membership is not required to attend meetings. For more information contact: Ann Nandrea 828 369-7385, Mary Ann Widenhouse 828 524-1355, Carole Light 828 226-6213

2nd & 4th Fridays

Bel Canto tickets now on sale

For 17 years, Bel Canto has brought beautiful music to opera lovers in the area, and this year is no exception.

"Bel Canto is like eating the heart of the watermelon," said board chairman Stell Huie – no work, no fuss and nothing extraneous to distract you from the very best of what it has to offer."

On queue this year is tenor John Pickle and soprano Lynette Tapia.

Both performers could not resist the opportunity to perform in this year's performance and gave credit to artistic director Stella Zambalis, herself an acclaimed performer, who requested each singer to perform at this year's concert.

Tapia is coming to Highlands to sing a variety of arias and said she is pleased to be singing an excerpt from one of her favorite pieces, Massenet's Manon.

Both performers are married to opera singers – just not to each other! As a strange catch, the travel required for performers is both the most difficult and most enjoyable part of the job.

Tapia's husband's work as a tenor has left him touring mostly in Europe, which is where the family spends a great deal of its time.

"Keeping the family together is the most important and love above all makes that happen. We cherish every moment together and with God as the center of our lives, all things are possible," she said.

Pickle agreed that travel is the compromise he and his wife continue to work on to pursue each of their singing careers.

"The difficult part of the travel is being away from my wife. The enjoyable part is that I love seeing new places and meeting new people," Pickle said. "Fortunately, since my wife is a performer as well, there are many chances for us to travel together."

It is a wonderful opportunity that has allowed both Pickle and Tapia to find room in their schedules to come to Highlands to perform in this year's Bel Canto.

Bel Canto is scheduled for Sunday, Sept. 13, at 4 p.m. with a dinner at Highlands Country Club to follow. Tickets are selling out quickly. To ensure your seat, contact (828) 526-9142.

• Community Drum Circle at the Highlands Rec Park, from 6-7:30 p.m. For more information call 421-0551.

Fridays & Saturdays

• At Fressers Eatery, Cy Timmons live from 6 p.m.

• Hal Phillips on piano from 7-9:30 pm at Skyline Lodge and Restaurant on Flat Mountain Road.

• At Highlands Wine & Cheese, at Falls on Main, complimentary wine samplings during business hours.

Fridays & Sundays

• Highlands-Cashiers Music Festival Concerts every Friday at 6 p.m. and 5 p.m. on Sundays at PAC in Highlands through Aug. 9. For tickets or more information, call (828) 526-9060 or visit www.h-cmusicfestival.org.

Every Third Saturday

• The Highlands Memorial Post #370 of the American Legion meets at the Shortoff Baptist Church. Breakfast is at 9 a.m. Meeting is at 10 a.m. All veterans are

invited to attend.

Every Fourth Saturday

• Friends of Panthertown work days, are the fourth Saturday of each month. (Time and location varies). Volunteers needed to maintain trails. For more information, contact Nina Elliott at 828-526-9938 (ext 258).

Saturdays

• At Cyprus International Restaurant, live music beginning at 9 p.m. No cover.

• At Highlands Wine & Cheese, Falls on Main, Wine Flights from 4-6:30 p.m. Five wines, artisan cheeses and specialty foods. \$19 per person.

• 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.

Saturdays & Mondays

• Highlands-Cashiers Music Festival Concerts at 5 p.m. at the Albert Carlton-Cashiers Community

Library. For tickets or more information, call (828) 526-9060 or visit www.h-cmusicfestival.org.

Through Sunday, Sept. 6

• The 12th Annual Cashiers Designer Showhouse, the "ONLY" showhouse in the mountain area this year at the historic Hanks House, 1903 Highway 107 South, just south of the Cashiers crossroads. The hours are Monday through Saturday, 10am- 4pm and Sunday 1 - 4pm. General Admission is \$25. For more information, call 828-743-7710.

Through Sunday, Aug. 30

• "Dial M for Murder" at the Highlands Playhouse. Performances Tuesday-Saturday, 8 p.m. Sundays 2 p.m. Call 828-526-2695 for tickets.

Thurs.-Sun., Aug. 27-30

• HCP's "Accomplice" a comedy, mystery, thriller by Rupert Holmes. Evenings at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday matinee at 2:30 p.m. Call 526-8084 for tickets.

Fri.-Sun., Aug. 28-30

• The Episcopal Church of the Incarnation Speaker Series presents Barbara Brown Taylor, Friday, August 28 at 7 p.m. "Red Letters in Red Clay: The Bible in the Christ-Haunted South" Reception & Book Signing to follow. Then on Saturday, Aug. 28 at 7 p.m., she'll present "From Adam to Armageddon: Biblical Literacy in the South" with preaching Sunday, August 30 at 10:30 Eucharist.

Fri. & Sat., Aug. 28-29

• Gary Carden's one-man play, "Prince of Dark Corners," will be performed at the Albert-Carlton Library in Cashiers, at 7:30 p.m. The show is based on the life and times of Lewis Redmond, a 19th century bootlegger and upstate folk hero who at one time was more popular than Jesse James and Billy-The-Kid. Steve Brady performs as Major Lewis Redmond.

Sat. & Sun., Aug. 29-30

• Mountain Makings 16th Annual Summerfest Art

Tickets on sale now for Autumn Leaves auction festivities



Guests have some fun at last year's Autumn Leaves Party. Tickets are on sale now at www.thebascom.org/autumnleaves or call (828) 526-4949, ext. 4.

A blue jeans, bluegrass and barbecue party from 5 to 8 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 3, will help raise money for The Bascom's art programming.

Called the Autumn Leaves Party, the event costs \$35 for adults and \$5 for children ages five and up, and it is designed to be a community night of fun. In addition to live bluegrass band The Grass Roots Revue and barbecue from Highlands' Smokehouse, the party will feature a silent auction, art demonstrations, beer and wine, and a marketplace where people can buy unique crafts, many of them made by local artists. Children under age five are free.

"It's going to be the best party in Highlands — a great night of fun for a great cause," said Beth Nellis, event chair. "We've priced it affordably so everyone

can enjoy a good time, from young families to retirees. You don't want to miss this."

The Autumn Leaves Party is the second of a two-night festival to benefit The Bascom. The first night, Friday, Oct. 2, is called the Auction Gala and will be held at The Farm at Old Edwards Inn. Featuring a seated dinner and a live auction, the event costs \$225.

Friday-Saturday Combination Tickets are available for \$250, and benefactor options are also available.

Corporate sponsors of the event are Old Edwards Inn & Spa (presenting), ZWJ Investments (gold), and Franklin Ford/Moss Robertson Cadillac, Highlands' Newspaper, InMed and The Laurel.

For tickets, visit www.thebascom.org/autumnleaves or call (828) 526-4949, ext. 4.

Singer. storyteller coming to The Mountain, Sunday, Aug. 30



Sunday, Aug. 30, Holly Near presents an afternoon of story and song at The Mountain Retreat & Learning Center. \$15 per ticket. Call 526-5838 by Saturday, Aug. 29.

• UPCOMING EVENTS •

& Craft Show at the Dillard City Hall Grounds, just off Hwy. 44I, next to Dillard House Restaurant in Dillard. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. both days. The event is free to attend, with plenty of free parking, plenty of good food, and art & craft demonstrations. For more information, call 828-526-3181.

Friday, Aug. 28

• MountainTop Relay for Life at the Rec Park 5:30 p.m. until 8 a.m. Saturday morning.

Saturday, Aug. 29

• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a moderate-to-strenuous 7-mile hike to Ellicott's Rock where three state boundaries meet on the Chattooga River. Elevation change: 300 feet. Meet at the Cashiers Wachovia Bank (in back) at 10 a.m. Drive 16 miles round trip. Call leaders Mike and Sue Kettles, 743-1079, for reservations. Visitors are welcome, but no pets please.

Sunday, Aug. 30

• Holly Near presents an afternoon of story and song at The Mountain Retreat & Learning Center. \$15 per ticket. Call 526-5838 by Saturday, Aug. 29. 8/27

• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a one-mile very easy hike on the Taylor Lake loop trail in Black Rock Mt State Park in Georgia, then visit the Ranger Station and a small museum. Meet at the Smoky Mt. Visitor Center on 441S in Otto at 2 pm. Drive 30 miles round trip. Share a \$3 per car parking fee at the park. Call leader Kay Coriell at 369-6820 for reservations. Visitors and children over ten are welcome, but no

pets please.

• The Jackson County Republican Organization has announced plans for **Concerned Citizens Opportunity - Let Your Voice Be Heard** on Sunday from 3-6 p.m. at Poteet Park in downtown Sylva. The event offers voters throughout the area an opportunity to connect with national and state elected officials for an exchange of ideas on issues facing the nation. Invitations have been issued to Representative Heath Shuler, Senators Richard Burr and Kay Hagan and North Carolina legislative leaders Senator Paul Stam and Representative Phil Berger. The group expects the elected official or a top aide from each office to attend. Leaders of political and citizen organizations in surrounding counties have been alerted to the event which appears to be the only voter/citizen face to face comment opportunities presently available to voters in Jackson, Macon, Swain and Haywood Counties.

• The 13th Annual Cashiers Shape Note Singing from 2 to 5 p.m., the Albert Carlton-Cashiers Community Library. We will sing from the reissue of the 1873 William Walker Christian Harmony song book. We will have loaner books available, so come and listen, or, better yet, join in with Christian Harmony singers from all over western North Carolina. For information, call Carl Blozan (828) 743-1765.

Monday, Aug. 31

• **AUDITIONS** for the Highlands Cashiers Players' production of A.R. Gurney's *The Dining Room* will be held at the Performing Arts Center in Highlands Monday at 6 pm. The production will be directed by Kathryn Cochran and Kirk Howard, two of

the graduates of this year's Highlands/Cashiers Players' Directors Class and will run October 15 – 18 and 22 – 25, 2009. There are 54 roles for men and women of all ages so you may audition for more than one role. The play is set in the dining room of a typical well-to-do household, the place where the family assembled daily for breakfast and dinner and for any and all special occasions. The action is comprised of a mosaic of interrelated scenes – some funny, some touching, some rueful – which, taken together, create an in-depth portrait of a vanishing species: the upper-mid-

dle-class WASP. Dovetailing swiftly and smoothly, the varied scenes coalesce, ultimately, into a theatrical experience of exceptional range, compassionate humor and abundant humanity. Rehearsals will begin Sept. 6. Scripts are available at both the Cashiers' and the Highland's Library for reading. Please contact Kathryn Cochran at 770-315-1286 or Kirk Howard at 828-734-5756 for more information.

• The Art League of Highlands monthly meeting at

• See **EVENTS** page 30

Two September fundraisers set for Bolivian Mission



Joanna Baumrucker with several children who will benefit from the daycare center named for her for the volunteer work she has done in Montero. The mission bought \$10,000 of equipment for the center

The Highlands Bolivian Mission is conducting two fundraisers to help support its missions in Montero, Bolivia. Since the mission was founded in 1998, over one million dollars of medical equipment have been sent to this impoverished nation.

Despite the friction between our government and the left leaning Bolivian government, under Evo Morales, the mission has been received with great love and affection by the Bolivian people. The mission has supplied monitors, defibrillators, fetal monitors, ultrasound machines, EKG machines and even x-ray equipment to five hospitals and two clinics. Free medical and dental care have been given for twelve years, and groups of students have come to Bolivia from UNC-A, Ole Miss, and Johns Hopkins Medical School, in addition to many people from the Highlands area. The mission runs a foster home for boys and builds classrooms for feeding programs in the poor parts of the town in addition

to helping several churches with Bibles and other educational material.

To help support these missions there will be an auction/dinner at the Highlands Falls Country Club on Thursday night, September 3, 2009. The silent auction will begin at 6PM, the dinner at 7 and the live auction after dinner. Auction items include Bolivian artifacts and knitted dressware and some locally donated art work. Entry to this event is \$125 per person. Reservations can be made by calling the Methodist Church at 526-3376 or 526-3605.

The Highlands All Male Beauty Pageant will be held at the Highlands Playhouse on September 14, a Monday. This bi-annual show is always a fun filled event with 12 of Highlands most famous people competing in evening gown, talent, and lingerie for the title of "Missed Highlands." This is an event that cannot be missed. Ticket for this event are available by calling 526-3605. Tickets cost \$100 but this is a fully tax deductible

Labor Day weekend arts & crafts show in Kelsey-Hutchinson Park



Find out what all the excitement is about — come to the Village Square Art & Craft Show Sat./Sun. Sept. 5th and 6th. All regional, all hand-made, all high quality fine art, folk art and crafts. Food, parking, bathrooms. Highlands Village Square and Kelsey-Hutchinson Park 10 to 5 both days. 787-2021 for more info.

Art League presents St Dennis Aug. 31



This painting by Barbara St. Denis invites the viewer to create an accompanying narrative. St. Denis, a signature member of the prestigious National Watercolor Society, will present a dynamic program at the August 31 Art League of Highlands meeting at the Rec Park in Highlands. The gathering begins at 5 and promises to be as fun-filled as her whimsical compositions.

• SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING •

What kind of bread?



Chaplain Margaret Howell
Holy Family Lutheran Church – ELCA

Most of us at some time have ventured into a sandwich shop. One of the first questions you are asked is “What kind of bread do you want?”

Usually, I am so involved in choosing among the other ingredients — meat, cheese, veggies, condiments — that I have haven't really given much thought to the kind of bread I want. Often, the kind of bread I really want — some luscious creation with herbs or olives and/or cheese — isn't what would help my ever expanding waistline, so I sigh and dutifully choose a whole grain selection.

I have a bread machine at home and I love the bread that it makes, based on, of course, my Mum's recipe. Still, no bread is a good as the bread my Mum made by hand, a practice a bit too arduous for her now that she is getting older. Even though she makes hers now with a bread machine it is still tastier than anything I can manage.

Why is her bread better than anyone else's? She uses the same ingredients — flour, oil, salt, sugar, yeast — just like master bakers the world over.

My sister and I have tried in vain to duplicate her bread, but ours just isn't as good. I believe that there is a secret ingredient that she puts in her bread that no one else in the world can duplicate — her love for us. No one in the world loves us like our Mum.

No one, except maybe Jesus. Come to think of it, his bread is special, too.

For those of us who use the common lectionary in our churches (predetermined sets of readings and psalms for the church year), we have been hearing a lot about bread lately.

In John's gospel, Jesus says, “I am the bread come down from heaven, and whoever eats it will live forever.”

I'm pretty sure that Subway and Quizno's don't carry that particular kind of bread! Wouldn't it be really awesome if Jesus could come into our church kitchens every week and bake bread for us! Can you see him in an apron, covered with flour, measuring, mixing and kneading? I can imagine that the smell of his bread baking would be, well, heavenly!

The type and quality of the actual bread served at your Holy Communion are probably not that good, unless you have a dedicated baker in your congregation. Those thin little wafers of wheat and water don't have much to commend themselves — but maybe that's the point.

It's not the bread itself — it's the love that goes into it that makes it special.

What Feast of Love is offered here, what banquet come

See SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING page 14

• 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

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

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE CHURCH

Third and Spring Streets, Highlands
Sunday Service - 11 a.m.; Sunday School - 11 a.m.
Wednesday Testimony Meeting - 11 a.m.

3rd Wednesday of the Month

CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS

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

CHRIST ANGLICAN CHURCH

Father Jim Murphy: Office – 526-2320

Sunday: Holy Communion – 11 a.m.

Highlands Community Center

Monday: Evening Bible Study at 6 p.m.

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

at First Baptist Church

Pot Luck Lunch last Sunday of each month.

CLEAR CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Everett Brewer

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

Prayer – 6:30 p.m.

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

COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH

www.cbchighlands.com • 526-4685

Pastor Gary Hewins

3645 U.S. 64 east, Highlands

Sundays: 9:30am Sunday School; 10:45am

Childrens/Family Program; 10:45 Worship

Tuesdays: 9:30am Women's Bible Study

Wednesdays: 5pm Dinner; 6pm Pastor's Bible Study

Fridays: 6:30pm Re:Act Middle & High School

Gathering

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. Lee Bowman, Pastor

Dr. Don Mullen, Parish Associate 526-3175

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

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

Tuesdays: 10 a.m. – Seekers

Wednesdays – 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 8:45 a.m., 11 a.m.; 5 p.m. Youth Group

Wed: Supper; 6; 7:15 – 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 and Adult discussion group

9:30 a.m.; Worship/Communion – 10:30

HEALING SERVICE on the 5th Sunday of the month.

LITTLE CHURCH IN THE WILDWOOD

Kay Ward - 743-5009

Sundays: 7-8 p.m. Memorial Day - Labor Day

Old Fashioned 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 MOUNTAIN CATHOLIC CHURCH

Rev. Dean Cesa, pastor

Parish office, 526-2418

Sundays: Mass – 11 a.m.

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

85 Sierra Drive • 828-524-6777

Sunday Worship - 11 a.m.

Child Care - 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Religious Education - 11 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

Youth from 8th - 12th grades meet the second

Sunday of each month from 5 - 7:30 p.m

WHITESIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Cashiers, Rev. Sam Forrester, 743-2122

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

POLICE, FIRE, SHERIFF LOGS

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

Aug. 19

- At 7:10 p.m., officers assisted another agency with a woman at a residence on Center Drive who was unresponsive.
- At 1:29 a.m., officers responded to a noise complaint at the Wild Cat Cliffs Country Club employee housing.
- At 11:15 a.m., officers conducted a K-9 check of a vehicle that was stopped on U.S. 64.
- At 9:00 p.m., officers responded to a call of an intoxicated couple who was fighting at the Hampton Inn.

Aug. 21

- At 4:30 a.m., officers responded to a call of a tree across NC 106.
- At 2:40 p.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident in Wright Square. There were no injuries.
- At 5:30 p.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident at Main and Fifth streets. There were no injuries.
- Residents on Laurel Street complained to police about the disappearance of neighborhood cats due to coyotes in the area.
- At 8:30 p.m., officers assisted another agency with a K-9 check of a vehicle but nothing was found.

Aug. 22

- At 10:10 p.m., officers responded to a call of a bear at a residence on Moorewood Circle.
- At 7 p.m., officers assisted another agency with an intoxicated subject.

Aug. 23

- At 8:40 p.m., officers responded to a call of a bear at a residence on Harris Drive.

Aug. 24

- At 9:06, officers responded to a construction noise complaint at on Hickory Street.
- At 7:20 p.m., officers responded to a residence on Picklesimer Road where the owner claimed someone had been using his water while he was away.

Aug. 25

- At 3 p.m., Thomas K. Ray, II, 22, of Waynesville, NC, was arrested for DWI on Hicks Road.
- At 7:34 p.m., officers were called to assist another agency at the Episcopal Church while a victim was being put in an ambulance.
- At 8:37 p.m., officers responded to a 9-1-1 hang up from a residence on Dillard Road. Everything was OK.
- A little after midnight, officers on patrol found an open door at the Methodist Church.
- Officers responded to a call at the Hampton Inn concerning an intoxicated person.

During the week, police officers responded to 5 alarms and issued 34 citations.

The following are the Highlands Fire & Rescue Dept. log entries from Aug. 19:

Aug. 19

- At 11:45 a.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm from a resident on Satulah Road. It was cancelled.
- At 1:58 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with a medical call at a residence on Hemlock Lane. The patient was transported to the hospital.
- At 6:40 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with a medical call at a residence on Hummingbird Circle. The patient was transported to the hospital.
- At 6:48 p.m., the dept. first-responders to assist EMS with a medical call at a residence on Center Drive. The patient was transported to the hospital.

Aug. 20

- At 8:38 p.m., the dept. responded to mutual aid call to Cashiers but it was cancelled en route.
- At 4:16 p.m., the dept. responded to a two vehicle accident on U.S. 64 at Turtle Pond Road. A victim was transported to the hospital.
- At 15:40 p.m., the dept. stood by for the Satolah, GA, Fire & Rescue Dept., when that dept. went on a rescue mission.

Aug. 21

- At 1:57 p.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at a business on Main Street. It was false.
- A little after midnight, the dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with a medical call at a residence on Whiteside Mountain Road. The victim was taken to the hospital.

Aug. 22

- At 4:25 a.m., the dept. responded to a call of a tree down on NC 106.
- At 7:35 p.m., the dept. responded to a possible structure fire at a residence on Old Farm Road. It was a chimney fire that burned itself out by the time the dept. got there.

Aug. 23

- At 2:34 p.m., the dept. responded to a call of a man at a residence on Wilson Road who fell. He was taken to the hospital.

Aug. 24

- At 7:55 a.m., the dept. responded to an alarm at a business on Main Street. It was cancelled.
- At 5:40 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with a medical call at a residence on Walkingstick Road where a man had fallen. The victim was taken to the hospital.

• FUN & GAMES •

Hex-a-Ku[©] 2009 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, 3x2 cells in the puzzle layout have the same different letters. (This is similar to 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 row, column or cell.

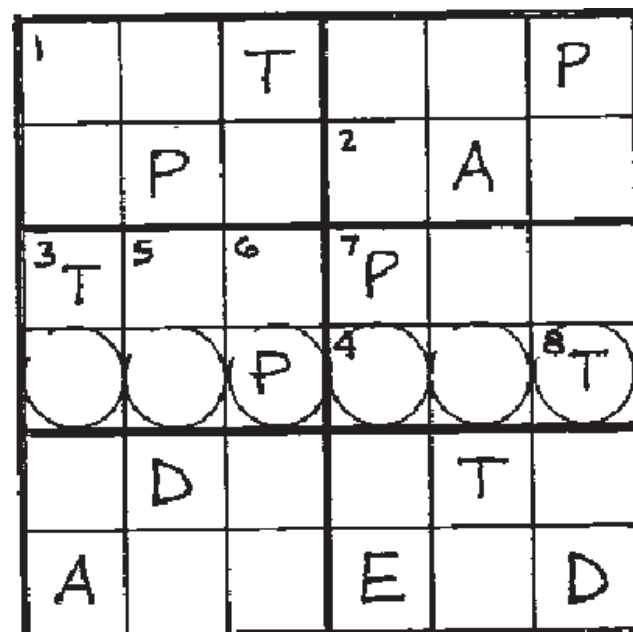
Mystery Word: Take Leave

Across

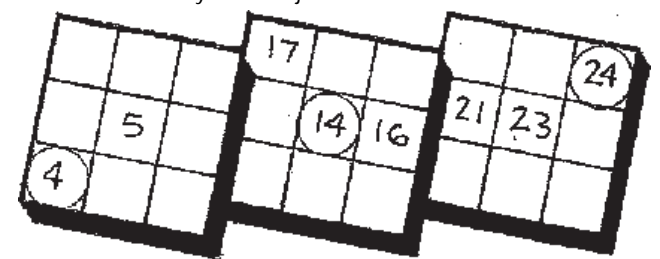
1. Rodent (3)
2. Ashaltic material (3)
3. Secret enclosure (4)
4. Aesthetic representation (3)

Down

5. First rainbow color (3)
6. Primate type (3)
7. Expert golf score expected (3)
8. small amount (slang) (3)



PseudoCube[©] by Pete Sarjeant and Don Cook



#BZ4A Level of Difficulty – Moderate

THE SETUP:

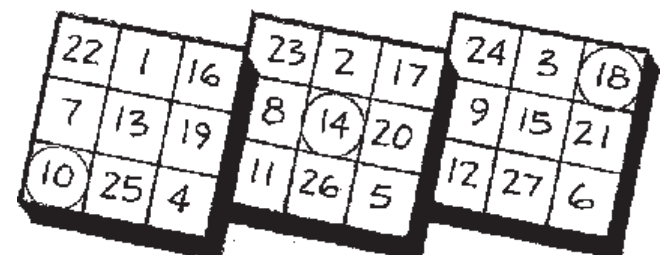
The cube has 27 consecutive numbers in it, arranged in three layers with 9 numbers each. These numbers are arranged in a special pattern: For each layer, the sum of the three numbers in each row, column or diagonal, is 3 times its center number. Eight diagonals connect all 3 layers by running through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

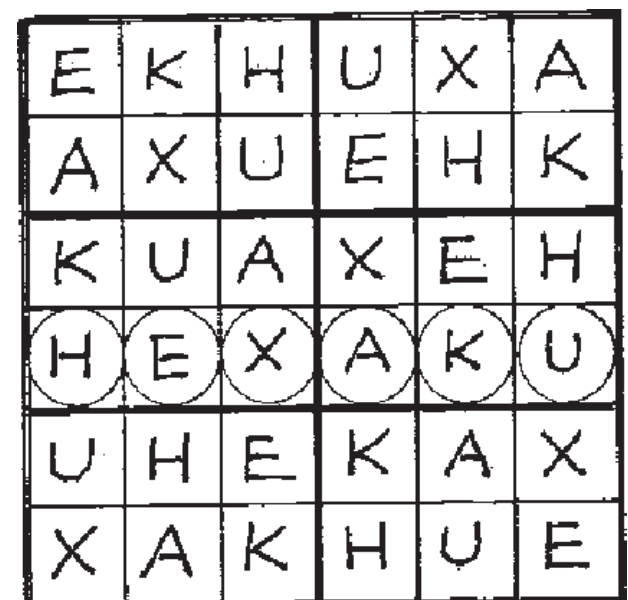
Start with the three center numbers for each layer and the other numbers given. Now pour a cup of coffee, pick up a pencil and eraser and try to figure out where the other numbers belong. Good Luck!

Email: pseudocube8@aol.com.

Solution to #AZ4A in Aug. 20 issue



Solution to Aug. 20 Hex-a-Ku



• UPCOMING EVENTS •

Music Festival 'Feasts' continue

Brenda and Stewart Manning will host a deeply personal Feast of the Festival to benefit the Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival at their Highlands home on Sunday, August 30th.

"Catch and Parchment" is the theme of the dinner, which begins at 6:30 p.m. The menu will be prepared and presented by Last Resort Grill of Athens, Georgia, and paired with appropriate wines from the Manning collection. Cost is \$125 per person.

The Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival's just-completed 2009 season was remarkable in its scope – with a staggering 21 concerts stuffed into a few weeks; world class artists offering precise, deeply-felt performances; al fresco picnic concerts; informal sessions at Buck's Coffee Shop, even a mini film festival.

Attracting groups like The Eroica Trio or The Biava Quartet is a fulltime proposition and the Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival relies on ticket sales, fundraising dinners at Wolfgang's Restaurant & Wine Bistro and Lakeside Restaurant, and benefits like that staged by John Collette Fine Art. But those just aren't enough to maintain the entire

enterprise.

That's why the festival relies on the Feasts of the Festival. They're an opportunity to meet interesting people and enjoy wonderful food and drink at some of the area's most beautiful private homes.

"An Umbrian Feast on Satulah" will be staged at 6:00 p.m. Saturday, September 12th, by Carter and Nancy Bruns. Antipasti, homemade pasta and a special surprise entrée are on the menu. Cost is \$125.

Christine Johnson Lucas and Martyn Lucas will host "Prosecco on the Patio" at 12:30 p.m. Sunday, September 13th. The menu offers Traditional Brunch Fare with a Flair. Cost is \$100 per person.

Ann Julian and Wright and Betsy Turner are offering "A Casual Fall Supper" at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, September 24th. The menu promises Barbecue with All the Fixings and Baked Apples. Cost is \$100 per person.

"Texas Barbecue," complete with brisket, ribs and fun sides will be served up by Peter and Valerie Whitcup at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, October 8th. Cost is \$125. For tickets or more information, call (828) 526-9060.

Joel portrait unveiled at The Bascom



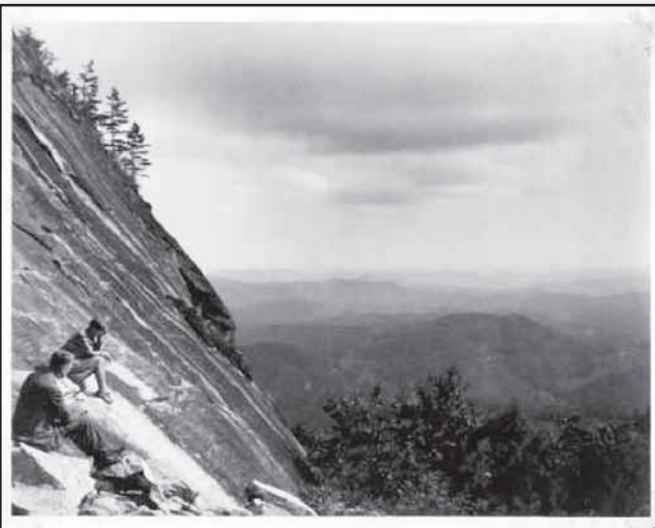
Richard Joel, founder of Bel Canto, whose proceeds partially fund the Highlands School music program, speaks following the unveiling of a portrait within a portrait of himself and his late wife Edith, for whom a Highlands School scholarship is named, at The Bascom this weekend. Proceeds from Bel Canto also fund the permanent collection at The Bascom. The portrait was done by artist Julian Davis.

Native Plant Conference Features "Expeditions" host Patrick McMillan and Historic Satulah Walk

Registration is now open for this year's annual Conference on Landscaping and Gardening with Native Plants, which will take place Thursday and Friday September 10-11 at the Martin-Lipscomb Performing Arts Center. The Conference is a forum for educating the public on the value of growing native with proceeds benefiting the Botanical Garden at the Highlands Biological Station. The Conference includes a field trip, lectures, a luncheon, and a native plant auction.

This year's featured speaker is Patrick McMillan, botanist from Clemson University, but probably best known as the "The Plant Hunter" from SC-ETV's series "Expeditions."

This popular public television series takes visitors to the locations of rare and important plant species in some of the last remaining wild places in the Carolinas where McMillan reveals their unique life histories and distributions. One of the most popular speakers on the conference circuit today, we are pleased to welcome Patrick McMillan as he demonstrates how some of the delicate ecosystems he visits during his expeditions can be recreated in various ways in your own backyard. This not-to-be-missed talk is sure



to get you thinking differently about how the things growing on your property can significantly contribute to protecting the biodiversity of the region. Other informative talks will feature tips on creating a native plant gardens and techniques for conserving water as well as southern Appalachian heirloom plant varieties and environmental history.

A new field trip to the Conference this year will visit the historic Eskrigge property on Satulah Mountain. This tour will feature a walk with Eskrigge's grandson, Mr. R. B.

Haynes, through the property, now in conservation easement, and to the Cliffs on the south side of Satulah Mountain with spectacular views into South Carolina and Georgia. Mr. Haynes will provide a bit of family history and Glenda Zahner will interpret the native plants on site. Other offerings feature other spectacular local private gardens landscaped extensively with native plants, as well as a pilgrimage to view 400+ year old hemlocks near Highlands, a hike the scenic Panthertown Valley or Whiteside Mountain with experienced botanists. Several workshops will also be offered on Monarch butterfly waystation gardens and growing rare southern Appalachian heirloom vegetable and fruit varieties.

In addition to these insightful and inspiring talks and walks, a fun and informative native plant auction, a luncheon and wine reception are also included with registration. To obtain a registration form or to get more information visit www.wcu.edu/hbs or call the Highlands Biological Station at 828-526-2602.

Photo: Satulah (Photo: George Masa)

the Civic Center Rec Park in Highlands at 5 p.m. Well-known artist Barbara St. Denis, signature member of the National Watercolor Society, will present a program demonstrating her creative techniques in watermedia. Guests always welcome. Call Dottie Bruce for info at 864-877-2454.

• The High Mountain Square dance club will host Fall classes on Sunday at the Environmental Resource Center, Lakeside Drive, Franklin, from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. Jim Roper, caller, will conduct the main/stream classes. This class on Sunday will be free, and everyone is welcome. Square dancing is good physical exercise and a lot of fun. Come join us for a great time. For more information call 828-369-0905, 828-369-8344, 706-782-0943.

Monday, Aug. 31 –Thursday, Sept. 3

• The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service is offering a series of water quality workshops for educators on western North Carolina Rivers that are home to the endangered Appalachian elktoe mussel. The workshops are based on the *It's Our Water* curriculum, created by the North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources and will be August 31st on the South Toe River in Yancey County; September 2nd on the Little Tennessee River in Macon County; and September 4th on the Tuckasegee River in Jackson County. Each of these rivers is home to a population of the endangered Appalachian elktoe mussel. All workshops are from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and will cover water chemistry, aquatic life, and hydrology. Participants will receive numerous teaching materials and have the opportunity to get in the river and experience it first hand. Registration is \$10. Contact Gary Peebles at 828-258-3939, ext. 234 or gary_peeples@fws.gov.

• BUSINESS NEWS •

Mountain Findings makes donation to Cashiers-Glenville FD



Mountain Findings volunteers Alyce Mae and Calvin Alexander (left) present a check to Randy Dillard of the Cashiers-Glenville Fire Department as Tom and Rose Hill (also volunteers) look on. Dillard expressed his gratitude to everyone in the community who supports Mountain Findings. The mountain thrift store is open Monday-Saturday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Highlands Emergency Council News

The Emergency Council is very busy with food, programs, the clothes closet and warehouse.

Fuel assistance sign-up dates and times will be announced soon in Highlands' Newspaper.

Sign-ups must be accompanied by Proof of Income. Applicants must sign-up in person. No Phone Calls.

Seasonal Residents...when you close up your mountain home, we can use any unopened food items – boxes or cans, frozen food items and cleaning supplies.

Please leave at the office at 71 Popular Street Monday through Friday 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. or call 526-4357 (HELP) to schedule a pick-up.

Two for one at Mountain Rayz

Mountain Rayz Tanning and Nail Salon has announced the Grand Opening of Baby Me Twice, a new addition, with an impressive collection of mostly name brand children's re-sell clothing. Our line includes Osh Kosh, The Children's Place, Nike, and Baby Gap to name a few. Items have been thoroughly inspected and are in great to excellent condition.

Please visit us at 616 Pierson Dr Highlands NC or feel free to call us at 828-526-8266.

A portion of the proceeds will be given back to those in need in Highlands



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... GARDEN continued from page 1

500 sq. ft. plots that measure 20 ft. by 25 ft., but that could be expanded if there is enough interest, said Beale.

"Soil samples from the area indicate that it is some of the best classic farm soil in the county," said Mike Breedlove, committee member who works for the county's Soil Conservation department.

The plots will be ready for growing January 2010 after the garden has been plowed, tilled and planted with winter clover.

"There is a lot of private land that isn't farmable because it's on hillsides. This will give people the opportunity to get involved with their own food production," said com-

mittee members.

There are rules associated with plot use – namely that it must be kept up and 50% of what is produced must be given to Care-Net which has had an increased demand for food – specifically fresh produce.

"Community gardening is a popular concept that is being done in many communities across the nation," said Alan Durden, committee member who works with the county's Cooperative Extension. "We are applying the guidelines that have worked in other places."

Several churches in the county, including the Highlands United Methodist

Church, have community gardens, but there's always room for more.

The garden area will be organic and green in nature – that is, only two chemicals will be used to fight disease and control the insects that good bacteria, fungicides and insecticide soap can't fight, said Durden.

For irrigation, the committee plans to pipe from an artesian well, and to protect the garden from wildlife, fencing will be erected.

Early on, the commission agreed to consider funding the project if the committee deemed it feasible and Monday night board members unanimously voted to fund up to \$5,000 for irrigation and fencing. Everything else associated with the garden has

been and will be done with donations and volunteers.

Though the plan was to invite 16 nonprofits to garden one of 16 plots, Commissioner Brian McClellan suggested allowing a nonprofit to garden two plots if requested.

"Five hundred sq. ft. may sound like a lot but when it comes to gardening, that's not very big," he said.

He also suggested allowing individuals or groups of individuals – not just nonprofits – to garden a plot.

Groups interested in participating in the Community Garden are encouraged to contact Alan Durden at Cooperative Extension at 349-2049 or Mike Breedlove at Soil Conservation at 524-3311 Ext 109.

