

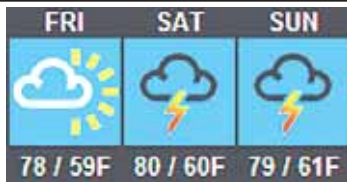
Highlands' Newspaper

FREE

Volume 7, Number 31

PDF Version - www.HighlandsInfo.com

Thursday, Aug. 6, 2009



This Week in Highlands

Through Sun., Aug. 16

• At Highlands Playhouse, *Pump Boys and Dinettes* Tuesday-Sunday at 8 p.m. and 2 p.m. on Sundays. Call 526-2695 for tickets.

Thurs., Aug. 6

• Bingo at the Community Building to benefit The Playhouse, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Fri. & Sat., Aug. 7-8

• HS Volleyball camp, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the school with a break for lunch. Dinner will be provided Saturday night. The cost is \$50. Practicing nightly 5:30 - 7:30. Mandatory practice starts Monday, Aug. 10, 5:30 - 7:30.

Fri., Aug. 7

• Free Mountain Music Concert at Highlands School old gym, dancing at 6:45 p.m.; concerts at 7:30. Country Cloggin' Kids and Mountain Sound of Cashiers.

Saturday, Aug. 8

• Open House, lunch and fire truck rides at the Fire Station on Oak Street from 11-3.

• THE BIG DIG, an apologetics simulcast conference, at Community Bible Church 9:30am-4:30pm. For more info, call 526-4685.

Sun., Aug. 9

• The Audubon Society picnic at the Village Green in Cashiers at 5 pm. Bring \$5 for hamburgers and a covered dish. Drinks and utensils provided. Call 743-3256 for info.

• Highlands-Cashiers Music Festival Final Gala Concert and Dinner Party at PAC at 5 p.m. featuring The Eroica Trio Call 526-9060.

• At First Presbyterian Church, Kirkin' O' The Tartan at the 11 a.m. worship service.

Monday, Aug. 10

• The Highlands Playhouse 2009 Golf Tournament at the Old Edwards Club at Highlands Cove. Call 526-2695

Tuesday, Aug. 11

• Free lecture by Mountain Chiropractic at The Hudson Library at 6 p.m. Topic: pH Balance and Eating Well

Wed., Aug. 12

• Summer Interlude at the Episcopal Church at 2 p.m. Leah Mcraith, soprano. Free.

Thursday, Aug. 13

• The Highlands Nature Center hike with a moderately strenuous ramble down to "The Narrows" on the upper reaches of the Wild and Scenic Chattooga River. Call 828-526-2602 for more information.

Board amends 'boiler plate' ordinance

At its last meeting, the Planning Board adopted the "boiler plate" version of the flood damage prevention ordinance supplied by the state, but Wednesday night the Town Board changed/added four elements of the ordinance.

Commissioners voted 3-2 to change the daily fine for failure to comply with the ordinance from \$50 to \$5,000 a day, which corresponds with Macon County's fine.

They said \$50 a day wouldn't deter violations.

Since Commissioner Dennis DeWolf was absent, Mayor Don Mullen broke the tie. Commissioners Amy Patterson and Hank Ross voted for the change; Commissioners Buz Dotson and Larry Rogers voted against it.

The board voted 3-1, with Commissioner Dotson dissenting, to add a two-foot Free Board stan-

dard to the Base Flood Elevation. Again, this corresponds with Macon County's ordinance as well as the recommendation from FEMA.

Free Board is extra footage or height added to the Base Flood Elevation (BFE) set by the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).

The addition of Freeboard footage accounts for unknown factors that could add to flood heights

• See ORDINANCE page 11

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Free rides & lunch at the Fire Dept. Open House



On Saturday, Aug. 8, the Highlands Fire and Rescue Dept. will hold its annual Open House featuring firetruck rides and a free hot dog lunch from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Donations accepted.

MC Schools make use of stimulus money

Macon County Schools is using federal stimulus money and funding programs to upgrade and reform its curriculum and school facilities.

This summer several presenters were paid at total of \$6,800 to

conduct curriculum reform workshops and teachers attending the workshops received \$100 a day from Title 1 and Title 2 money, as required by law, for a total of \$25,200. The total spent on curriculum reform was \$32,000.

Except for one workshop which was held at the Fun Factory in Franklin, all workshops were held at a school in the county so there were no costs associated with facilities.

• See SCHOOL page 6

Building trends may be on the upswing

According to the Regional Building Trend Report put out by The Market Edge, a company that tracks the issuance of building permits in the country, a positive trend emerged during the first half of 2009 for Western North Carolina.

With the exception of upstate South Carolina, markets had a significant increase in building permits from the first quarter of 2009 (Q1) to the second quarter of 2009 (Q2), reads the report.

"While an increase from Q1 to Q2 each year is not uncommon because of the spring building season, the Q2 totals this year are the first upward trend in many markets since 2006, said Dale Akins of The Market Edge. "While when comparing the first six months of 2008 to the first six months of 2009, the trend numbers are disappointing, the

• See BUILDING page 12

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• THE PLATEAU'S POSITION •

• LETTERS •

The real facts and figures about U.S. health care

Dear Editor,

Good health is a desire of all people. Access to preventive and promotive health care modalities is needed to maintain good health. Health Care in the US seems to be treated as a commodity to be exchanged for profit. The competitive need to make money should not apply to an individual's health. Insurance companies have grown fat by the mechanisms set in place to deny health care dollars to individuals who have illnesses. This should not be happening.

The US spends 15.3 percent of its gross national product on health. That is \$6,719 per capita. Our population is 299 million. The US government spends \$3,076 dollars for health care for each man, woman and child in the US. That is \$919,724,000,000 or just under a trillion dollars. Despite these high expenditures the US ranks poorly in individual health outcomes.

Data from the World Health Organization 2009 statistics compares countries that participate in WHO collection data. The US mortality rate for adults 15 - 60 years (108/1000) is poorer than 26 other countries. I chose to reflect on adult mortality because it readily indicates long term health access and health behaviors. Infant and maternal mortality outcomes also are lower than many developed nations. World Health Organization statistics can be found on-line.

The dollars spent are not improving health in the US. The reason for this is health care access is unequal within the US. Geography, education, socioeconomic status, uninsurable chronic illness, and health insurance coverage affect an individual's ability to access and pay for health care. If the US actually spent \$3,076 on each person to prevent illnesses and promote healthy lifestyles we would have a much healthier nation. But we do not. Some of US have health insurance and are able to carry out the preventative maintenances and be instructed by health care providers on how to maintain good health. Others of US cannot afford to pay for health care individually, or our employer does not provide health insur-

ance for a variety of reasons, and thus we are unable to access the care that we need.

The US needs to assure each individual is able to access health care providers to have health screenings related to their age group and risk factors for disease. Health screenings that detect disease in its early stages enables the disease to be cured or well managed to prevent irreparable damage to an individual's body. Individuals who do have chronic illness, whose disease is well managed, are able to contribute to society within their roles while maintaining healthy body systems.

Several sound bites of late are concerning. "I do not want the experiment of government run health care to occur in this country." Effectiveness of an intervention is best supported by longitudinal studies. Government run health care access is an 'experiment' that has been run in many of the developed nations of the world since the end of WWII. Again refer to the WHO 2009 statistics. The US ranked 27 in countries whose data was listed. San Marino ranked number 1 in adult mortality ratings at 53/1000.

Several sound bites have stated, I don't want health care like France (22), Canada (10) or The United Kingdom (16). OK, maybe the US should ask (1) San Marino, (2 @ 58/1000) Iceland, (3 @61/1000) Malta, (4 @62/1000) Italy, Switzerland, (5@63/1000) Australia, Cy-

prus, Kuwait, Sweden, (6 @ 64/1000) Singapore, (7 @66/1000) Japan, Israel, Ireland, (8 @ 68/1000) Netherlands, (9 @69/1000) Norway, Qatar, and (10 @72/1000) Andorra what it is that they are doing to keep their citizen so much more healthy and alive than we are keeping ours. Would it surprise you that individuals in these countries have access to health care? Eleven are government-run from conception to the grave. The rest have programs that offer both private and public health care access. So this experiment of government participation in health care access for all people seems to actually be good for US, if the evidence of nearly 60 years of the particular intervention health care for all would convince you.

I am asking you to do the right thing. Let your congressmen and women know that the US wants what is best for the country as a whole. You want good health care access for all individual's in the US.

Delia E. Frederick, RN, MSN-ed.
Highlands

How will we be judged?

Dear Editor,

The average American, one person, pays between \$6,000 and \$6,500 each

year for health care. Canada loves its health care. So do England, France, and Germany. I have military friends that can attest to these facts. Average cost for these countries is \$3,000 each year.

How can we in America refuse the poor and disinfranchised health care? What anyone would call Christian charity demands we comfort the down trodden. The Blacks, Hispanics, and the White Poor — those who work and work just to keep the basics of life available for themselves and children.

We will be judged not only by the bad we have done, but also by the good we refused to accomplish in this life. There should be no hunger, and no individual suffering or illness without recourse other than the emergency room. Emergency costs are extreme.

Joseph J. Mathers, Jr.
Otto, N C

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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from the history guy....

On the day in Aug. 6

At Auburn Prison in New York murderer William Kemmler was the first person to be executed by electric chair.
Aug. 6, 1890

William Kemmler offered his gal so his charge was capital. Because of his choice in ending domesticity he got a good dose of electricity. They might have punished him more lax

If he'd use something other than an ax.

He was the first, the technology was current, but a trouble free process it sure weren't

It seems that is problematic to kill some one with charges, moving or static.

If it wasn't for the honor, he might not have been willing to go for this new method of killing

• MILESTONE •

WSJ gives nod to new photography book about Joe Webb cabins in Highlands

A new photography book on historic Joe Webb cabins in Highlands has gotten a favorable review in the *Wall Street Journal*.

The book, "The Work of Joe Webb: Appalachian Master of Rustic Architecture," by New York and Highlands photographer Reuben Cox, showcases log homes built in the 1920s and 30s by the renowned Highlands cabin builder.

During the 1920s and 1930s, builder Joe Webb constructed nearly 36 log homes in Highlands. The cabins were built without the aid of power tools or architectural plans, and all of these structures are located within a five-mile radius.

Wall Street Journal reviewer Stuart Ferguson calls the photographs "rich" and "atmospheric."

"Though Mr. Cox's images in 'The Work of Joe Webb' were made in the 21st century, they resemble the book's historic photos of Webb and of his projects under construction," the review states. "The images' timeless quality stems partly from the older, large-format camera used by Mr. Cox...."

Cox also includes an essay that places the work within a regional and historical context. Less an analytical taxonomy of Webb's cabins than an expansive meditation, Cox employs his own art to understand another man's life work and the extraordinary qualities of the handmade and unique.

Cox's work has appeared in several one-man shows and is represented by Bespoke Gallery. His photographs have also appeared in *Blind Spot*, *Aperture*, *Doubletake*, the *New York Times Magazine*, the *New Yorker*, *Newsweek*, *Rolling Stone* and *House and Garden*, among other publications.

The Bascom, a nonprofit center for the visual arts in Highlands, made possible the publication of Cox's book through its Emerging Artists Grant. Books are available for sale at The Bascom and elsewhere. To order, call (828) 526-4949 or email lgriffith@thebascom.org.

To see the *Wall Street Journal* review, visit <http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052970204271104574290432045279294.html>

Work continues on county's Steep Slope Ordinance

Besides an updated flood hazard map and subsequent ordinance, disasters spurred by back-to-back hurricanes Frances and Ivan have Macon County and other counties in Western North Carolina, considering a Steep Slope building ordinance.

On July 15, the Committee for Slope Development Strategies met at the Macon County Agricultural Resource Center with Al Slagle, Derek Roland, Jack Morgan, Stacy Guffey, John Becker, Reggie Holland, and Josh Pope.

First off, the committee realized that its concept for slope development strategies is different than issues addressed in ordinances in White, Jackson and Haywood counties.

"We should take other counties' concepts and recommendations as well as those from the Macon County Watershed Council into account to see if we need to incorporate any of it in our concept," said Al Slagle.

In addition, the committee discussed the slope stability map which combines slope and soils to produce slope hazard based on a water discharge event.

Josh Pope spoke to the committee about the slope stability map which combines slope and soils. "These maps are based on generalities and one must be very careful

when applying these to specific parcels in the county," he said. "But the maps could be used as a 'trigger' for a site visit prior to building."

NC DENR has produced three maps — the SIN map, (which refers to the angle as it applies to the rise and run of a slope), a down slope hazard map, and a historic slides map which Rick Wooten from the NC Geological Survey department will explain at the committee's next meeting this month.

Initially, the committee discussed making the county liable for slope assessments but County Planner Jack Morgan said given the current economic situation it would be hard to persuade the commissioners to accept liability.

"Building and Environmental Health inspectors have the liability to do their jobs," he said. "That's what they're there for."

The committee agreed to discuss the liability issue with the commissioners, the Planning Board and the county attorney before designating the county with any liability concerning the safety of slopes.

The next meeting of the Committee for Slope Development is on Aug. 12 at 8 a.m. in the Agricultural Service Center in Franklin.

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• LAUGHING AT LIFE •

My stiff joint

If you're a regular reader, you know I like referring back to my days on the cliffs of Highlands when I taught rappelling.

Physically, I was at the top of my game when I retired from police work. I jogged most every day it wasn't raining and was a regular at Highlands Rec. Park basement gym.

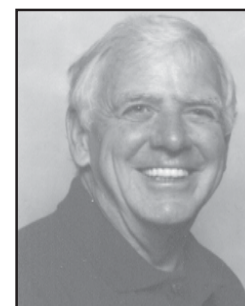
Between hanging out on the cliffs, running and pumping iron, I always had a stiff joint somewhere on my body. I would like to say I didn't mind the pain, but I did. I just figured the agony was worth keeping fit.

After I sold my rappel business six years ago, one of the great pleasures I experienced was waking each morning with no stiff joints or pain. The first morning that happened, I panicked because I thought I had died. Pinching myself, I realized how wonderful it was to wake without the pain of a stiff joint or muscle somewhere on my body. So I allowed myself to get soft. It was fun, fun, fun. My joints and muscles loved it. I had not experienced that wonderful feeling since before I was a rookie cop.

I'm not kidding when I say something was always hurting somewhere on my body. I once slammed my thumb against a rock while rappelling. It got infected, the pain was horrible, and it didn't heal for six months. I didn't realize how important my thumb was until I couldn't use it.

Getting mushy gave me a whole different perspective on life. I used to pride myself on being able to touch my toes. Now I reason if God wanted me to do that he would have placed them on my knees. Repeat after me, "Mushy is good." And don't believe that old cliché "No pain, no gain." My new cliché is "No pain, great gain."

But getting old and mushy is not 100% what it's cracked up to be. After six straight years of waking up with no pain, last week I woke with a stiff joint. The pain in my shoulder was brutal. My mind raced. What had I done to deserve this? Maybe I pulled something when I reached to the top shelf in the kitchen for a box of fudge bars? Or was it when



Fred Wooldridge

Feedback is encouraged!
email:
askfredanything@aol.com

the li'l missus had me carry in a package of 26 rolls of toilet paper and put them high on a shelf in the utility room? (If you're ever out of toilet paper, call me.) By the way, we have both Bush and Obama paper with their pictures on each sheet. At our house, we alternate rolls.

Anyway, I raced to the Internet for research. I typed "stiff joint + geezer + mushy" on my browser. After eliminating several Cialis ads, I found what I

wanted. Are you sitting down? Vodka and raisins are a great cure for a stiff joint. Look it up.

You simply pour a box of raisins into a jug of vodka and let it sit until the raisins are extremely intoxicated. No, no, you don't rub this concoction on your stiff joint; you strain the raisins from the vodka and throw them away....or, for added enjoyment, put them in your next salad. Then pour this medicinal solution into a glass with ice. Yummy for my tummy! After I drank four of those babies, the pain in my stiff joint was gone. It must have been the raisins.

And now I'm on a preventive program to head off further stiff joints. For example, last week my neighbor called to ask if I could help him carry a table from his truck to his porch. He neglected to tell me the dad gum thing weighed nine thousand pounds. Taking baby steps and resting often, we finally managed to get the monster onto his porch.

I immediately raced home for my medicine. After slugging down four joint vodkas, (that's what I call them) I waited. Then I fell asleep. Oh, I should warn you, this medication induces sleep so don't operate heavy machinery, like lawn mowers or garbage cans, after downing this wonderful solution. Anyway, when I woke, I experienced no pain or stiff joint.

Also, it's not necessary to slug down four of Doctor Fred's stiff joint solutions each day if all you did was blob around the house. I have learned that one dose just before dinner each evening will keep you void of a stiff joint until bedtime. Are you writing this down?

• THE VIEW FROM HERE •

How I became 'investment savvy'

I recently learned that a \$10,000 investment, which I declined in 1981, would have a value today slightly in excess of \$17 million. The return may not be comparable to winning the lottery, but it's not exactly chump change, either. I kicked myself around the block several times. And shuddered as I remembered other hair-brained schemes I hadn't turned down.

The 1981 investment opportunity? That money, plus \$10,000 more went to Lanham Lumber and Kiln Dry. The idea was to make a million drying hardwood for the furniture industry. My money, along with that of several other suckers, bought an old whiskey barrel plant. The first big mistake was to break up the oak aging kegs

and use them to fire the furnace used in the drying process. I'd guess we got about a nickel worth of heat from in two sold for \$10 or \$20. After a few years investors were left with nothing but a tax write off.

I don't know why I thought there was money to be made in recycling cooking oil from restaurant deep fryers, but I believed enough to put \$25,000 in that one. The return was an audit and penalty from the Internal Revenue Service. They called it an "abusive tax shelter." I just call it stupidity. I invested some half million in



Dr. Henry Salzarulo

Feedback is encouraged.
email:

hsalzarulo@aol.com

Billy Blues Bar-B-Que, and was actually up over two million dollars at one time. I didn't take the profit, convinced myself that a company with three money losing restaurants, one in San Antonio, one in Houston, and a third in Denver, was really worth \$40 million. By the time I figured it out, the bubble had burst and I unloaded my shares at a penny each. We bought Dominican cigars with the idea of quickly reselling them.

Steve, my partner, converted his basement to a giant humidor. The cigars are still

there, perfectly preserved in case any of my readers wants a stick, a box, or 400,000 fine smokes.

I came close to breaking out of my slump when I bought into a partnership that purchased 100 acres in Northern Virginia. Walt Disney announced plans to build a theme park, "Disney America," right across the street from our property. Everything was in place. The governor and senator approved the plan. The State agreed to tax relief and infrastructure improvement. Then Robert Duvall, the actor, and his horsy neighbors launched a campaign against the park. They claimed that popularizing and commercializing American history would compromise it,

• See SALZARULO page 15

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... MC SCHOOLS continued from page 1

Workshop titles included School Improvement Planning; Unpacking the Standards, and Identifying Essential Standards/ Writing Predictive Assessments for all 6-12 teachers.




“One of the primary outcomes of this

summer’s planning was the district alignment of instructional goals and objectives, including the development of predictive/ benchmark assessments to give teachers and principals access to more accurate, timely data,” said Superintendent Dan Brigman.

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“This approach will help drive instructional decisions rather than waiting until after the academic year is gone and reacting to EOG/EOC results.”

At July’s board of education meeting, Brigman presented, and the board approved, two resolutions which enabled the district to take advantage of interest-free Qualified School Construction Bonds (QSCB) and Qualified Zone Academy Bonds.

QSCB and QZAB bonds are both included in the American Recover and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA).

QSCB funds can be used for new building construction, land acquisition or the renovation and rehabilitation of older buildings.

• See MC SCHOOLS page 15

... SWANSON continued from page 13

over? Insanity. If the most powerful man on Earth has nothing better to do than to refer- ee a neighborhood dispute, he needs to hang up the old teleprompters.

Meanwhile, the lunatic Speaker of the House accused insurance companies of “unethical behavior.” “They are the villains. They have been part of the problem in a major way. They are doing everything in their power to stop a public-option from happening.” Well, since passage of the public-option (government controlled health care) would put the insurance companies out of business, I would imagine they’d fight it. That they are demonizing Nancy is a public service.

Not to be outdone, the lunatic Senate Majority Leader, Harry Reid pronounced that insurance companies are the most profitable of all industries. Morningstar, the authority on such matters, say that he is off the mark by about 300%, which, for Harry, isn’t all that bad. In his delirious continuum, Reid blames the media for setting the deadline for passage of health care legislation. Seems to me that I heard several top members of the liberal contingent, including Harry his own self, publicly announcing that commitment several weeks ago.

If you haven’t had enough lunacy, try this. Allow me to introduce John Holdren, Obama’s “science czar.”

Quoting CNS News: Giving natural objects – like trees – standing to sue in a court of law would have a ‘most salubrious’ effect on the environment, Holdren wrote in the 1970s.

“One change in (legal) notions that would have a most salubrious effect on the quality of the environment has been proposed by law professor Christopher D. Stone in his celebrated monograph “Should Trees have standing?” Holdren said in a 1977 book that he co-wrote with Paul & Anne Ehrlich. He’d give trees, rocks and other inanimate objects the right to sue. And did I mention he is our “science czar?”

And you think I’m crazy.

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• REFLECTIONS FROM TURTLE POND •

Health Care Reform II: Can we afford to do nothing?

It's still too early to tell whether health care reform will happen this year. But I ask: Is doing nothing a preferable or even viable option?

When Social Security reform was being discussed during George W. Bush's second term, we heard a lot about how it was the looming cost of Medicare — not Social Security — that was going to break the federal budget. Medicare had to be reformed.

On the website of the conservative Heritage Foundation (heritage.org) I found an article from 2003 arguing against the Medicare Drug Bill because it was like adding gasoline to the fire of entitlement spending. The author, Daniel Mitchell, gave these figures, "According to government data, the Social Security cash-flow deficit through 2075 is \$25.3 trillion in today's dollars. But this is spare change compared to the Medicare cash-flow deficit, which is a staggering \$66.8 trillion over the same period." He estimated that the Medicare deficit would consume 20 percent of federal income taxes in 2026 and 33 percent in 2042. He went on to warn how much worse it would be with a drug bill added to Medicare.

And it's not just Medicare costs that are threatening our economy. In 2008, total national health expenditures increased at twice the rate of inflation. And health insurance premiums and health care expenses have been rising much faster than wages for many years. That means a greater and greater percentage of every family's income is going out of their bank account straight to the medical-industrial complex.

Many people hang on to jobs they hate because they are afraid to lose their health insurance. They may have a dream of starting their own business or going back to school but if that means their kids would have to go without insurance it's too big a risk to consider. What is the cost both economically and to the dynamics of our society when people are stuck in dead-end jobs?

What is the cost to society when people are bankrupted by health problems? Half of all bankruptcies in this country are caused by medical bills. What is the cost of these people being distracted by worry, their finances drained so they can't spend money on a child's education or a better home?

The cost of doing nothing about health care would be enormous; probably much greater than the \$1 trillion cost for reform



Katie Brugger
k-brugger@hotmail.com

(over the next 10 year period) everyone is so excited about.

Let's put that \$100 billion dollars a year into perspective. The Iraq war has cost about \$100 billion a year for six years now. Bush's tax cuts cost about \$130 billion a year for the 10 years they were in force (\$1.3 trillion total). The increase in the military budget since 2001 has been an average of \$141 billion a year—going from \$307.8 billion in 2001 to \$494.4 billion in 2009 (which doesn't include the cost of two wars).

People against reform claim that we have the best medical system in the world, that "socialization" would destroy the incentive for medical improvements and we would lose our edge.

But is it true? Is our system the best? Then why does the U.S. rank low on many worldwide indicators of health? For example, I found an AP wire story from August 2007 on the FOX News website called "Study: U.S. Slipping Down Life Expectancy Rankings." Using 2004 numbers, a baby born in the U.S. would live an average of 77.9 years. That put our country at number 42 among the nations of the world, down from 11 twenty years before. The researchers' opinion was that one of the major reasons for the slippage was the large number of Americans without health insurance.

The article quoted Dr. Christopher Murray, head of the Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation at the University of Washington, "Something's wrong here when one of the richest countries in the world, the one that spends the most on health care, is not able to keep up with other countries... The starting point [for change] is the recognition that the U.S. does not have the best health care system."

From the website of the National Coalition on Health Care (nchc.org), a group advocating reform: "According to a recent report, the United States has \$480 billion in excess spending each year in comparison to Western European nations that have universal health insurance coverage. The costs are mainly associated with excess administrative costs and poorer quality of care... In 2008, the United States will spend 17 percent of its gross domestic product (GDP) on health care. Although nearly 46 million Americans are uninsured, the United States spends more on health care than other industrialized nations, and those countries provide health insurance to all their citizens. Health care spending ac-

• See BRUGGER page 15

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• COOKING ON THE PLATEAU •

Grilling Steak: Beef 101

There's nothing better than a sizzling steak hot off the grill. If you're the grill master, you may be looking to brush up on the right techniques to make sure you have a great beef meal every time.

The Featured Cut

"Boneless top sirloin steak is perfect for the grill. It's versatile, tender and flavorful," says Chef Dave Zino, executive director of the Culinary Center for the National Cattlemen's Beef Association. "Top sirloin partners well with rubs, marinades and sauces that add complimentary accents – and it's perfect for cutting into pieces for kabobs, a great way to stretch your grilling budget. Although it seems so decadently delicious, top sirloin is one of the 29 cuts of beef that meet the government guidelines for lean, providing 156 calories and 4.6 grams of fat – as well as 10 essential nutrients – per 3-ounce cooked serving."

Three Easy Steps

Hoisin Beef Kabobs with Pineapple Salsa

**Total Recipe Time: 25 to 30 minutes
Makes 4 servings**

1-1/4 pounds boneless beef top sirloin
steak, cut 1 inch thick
1/3 cup ketchup
2 tablespoons hoisin sauce
1/2 teaspoon black pepper

Pineapple Salsa:

1 cup diced fresh pineapple
1/2 cup diced red bell pepper
1/2 cup diced cucumber
2 teaspoons rice vinegar
Combine Pineapple Salsa ingredients in small bowl; set aside. Combine ketchup and hoisin sauce in another small bowl; set aside.

Cut beef steak into 1 inch pieces. Thread beef pieces evenly onto four 10 to 12 inch metal skewers. Season kabobs evenly with pepper.

Place kabobs on grid over medium, ash-covered coals. Brush beef generously with some of reserved sauce mixture. Grill kabobs, covered, 6 to 8 minutes (over medium heat on preheated gas grill, covered, 7 to 9 minutes) for medium rare (145° F) to medium (160° F) doneness, turning occasionally and brushing with remaining sauce mixture. Season beef with salt, as desired. Serve kabobs topped with Pineapple Salsa.

Courtesy of Family Features

Step 1: Prepare gas or charcoal grill according to manufacturer's directions for medium heat.

Step 2: Remove beef from refrigerator and season with a spice blend or marinade as desired. Place on preheated cooking grid.

Step 3: Cook boneless top sirloin steak (1 inch thick) 17 to 21 minutes uncovered (charcoal grill) or 13 to 16 minutes covered (gas grill), turning occasionally. To determine doneness, insert an instant-read thermometer horizontally from the side, penetrating the thickest part or center of the steak. Allow 10 to 15 seconds for the thermometer to register the internal temperature. Steaks should be cooked to 145° F (medium rare) or 160° F (medium). After cooking, season with salt, as desired.

BeefItsWhatsForDinner.com is the one-stop resource for tips and recipes that will help you make the most of your time at the grill.



• HIS & HERS •

Cash for Clunkers, Gatesgate, plus a special treat

By John Armor
Let's begin with the easiest subject to

Understand – economics. Last week two important events happened. The Cash for Clunkers program shut down when it burned through money planned for four months, in four days. And based on a previously passed federal law, the minimum wage went up again.

Now, the two programs are different in size. The minimum wage only increased by 70 cents an hour; whereas, the Clunker program is/was giving away up to \$4,500 per transaction. So, the change was both larger and faster in the latter instance. I was on the road on family business and saw a hand-lettered sign in a Tennessee Tasty-Freeze that said, "Prices have increased due to wage increases."

The bottom line is simple, and every student who was awake during the first day of Economics 101 knows it. When the price of anything goes up, people buy less of it. For sure, assorted studies by economists hired by labor unions have produced "academic" studies showing that raising the minimum wage does not cost anyone their jobs. But no honest studies support that conclusion.

A big jump, rather than a gradual change, is easier to see and impossible to paper over. The experts in D.C. expected that \$1 billion for Clunkers would last four months. How ignorant do professors, Congressmen, Presidents have to be to think when you give away anything for free (try health care for example) that you won't have lines around the block. Then total costs will go through the roof until rationing is imposed.

Another story from the last week was the brouhaha concerning the "distinguished" Harvard professor, Henry Gates. This was not about race. This was about Harvard. Seldom do I recommend other people's columns in full and provide a link. But my friend Iowahawk has written a screamingly funny and spot on analysis of Gatesgate under the title, "Cambridge Police Profiling Still A Grim Reality for Harvard Faculty A**holes."

Here's the link. Don't follow it if you are offended by that last word. <http://iowahawk.typepad.com/iowahawk/2009/07/cambridge-police-profiling-still->



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

a-grim-reality-for-harvard-faculty-assholes.html

By the way, I've seen Ivy arrogance up close and personal at Yale. It is even found at Princeton, though I'm not sure why. (Hold that tiger).

And now for desert. For almost a decade I've been working on a book on Tom Paine. It's researched and finished. I got a

stack of rejection letters, some saying that it was an excellent book, but there was no market for it. My initial reaction was that Glenn Beck's book Common Sense had smothered the market for mine. Now, I offer a thank-you for Glenn and his book.

Mine is much heavier in history, uses much more of Paine's original work, and mostly, demonstrates how the ideas that Paine wrote down two centuries ago remain true concerning American domestic and foreign policies and challenges today. The success of Glenn's book convinced at least one publisher that there is room for the success of mine.

I call Tom Paine the "forgotten" Framer. Without his works, the United States would not have come into existence. Yet very few people are familiar with his writings, and the reasons for their effectiveness.

There is one aspect of Paine's work which no one else has discovered in 227 years of reading and research. The power of Paine's words come from the same style that can be traced in American historical documents, Presidential speeches, but also in popular writing, songs, movies, etc. That chapter is for writers who want to write better than they do now, who want to learn why Paine was so successful.

My book will be published, with original artwork done by Olga Calco, a Russian-born and -trained artist. There is a chance, just a chance, that it will be ready for the Rally on the Mall in Washington, D.C., on 12 September. The title is "These Are the Times that Try Men's Souls."

That is Paine's most memorable sentence. It begins the first chapter of The American Crisis which was read to General Washington's troops, before they crossed the Delaware at night in a snow

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... ORDINANCE continued from page 1

in the floodway greater than the height calculated for a selected size flood. Floodway conditions include wave action, blockage of bridge openings, and the hydrological effect of urbanization of a watershed.

The BFE plus the Freeboard then establishes the Regulatory Flood Protection Elevation which is regulated by the ordinance. This ordinance concerns itself with land use regulations for development beyond the standard building code and regular zoning ordinances in an area.

NFIP and FEMA suggest a two-foot Freeboard for extra safety reasons but also because insurance costs decrease the higher a building is above the BFE. One foot above the BFE reduces insurance by 40%; two feet above BFE reduces it by 68%.

However, even if Freeboard isn't in the ordinance, property owners can still opt to build higher to get reduced insurance.

But Commissioners Ross and Patterson said unless it's in the ordinance, developers aren't likely to increase the foundation of a building to obtain height because it costs extra money.

Mayor Mullen agreed saying that sometimes that extra two feet can make all the difference when in danger of flooding.

Commissioners voted 3-1, with Commissioner Rogers dissenting, to change the encroachment point from 20 feet to 30 feet as suggested by FEMA. This is 20 feet less than the standard set by Macon County which is 50 feet.

That means there can be no encroachment within 30 feet of the top of the stream bank or five times the width of the stream, whichever is greater.

Town Planner Joe Cooley said the 30-foot standard matches what's already in place in the watershed ordinance. "Whichever is greater applies anyway," he said.

Encroachment means the advance or

infringement of uses, fill, excavation, buildings, structures or development into a floodplain, which may impede or alter the flow capacity of the flood plain.

Finally, the board voted unanimously to allow municipal exemptions in the floodway and floodplain for public transportation such as roads; infrastructure — gas, water, electricity and wastewater mains; stream enhancement projects; and parks and greenway work.

Cooley said FEMA already approved such exemptions in the ordinance for the town of Blowing Rock so with precedent set, it's likely it will accept the exemptions for Highlands.

According to the new map, there are three structures in the floodway — one on Laurel Street and two on Spruce Street — and 72 structures in the floodplain. He said there are lots of undeveloped lots that are also affected but didn't have a figure.

In addition to being eligible for FEMA flood insurance with a flood damage prevention ordinance on the books, citizens in Special Flood Hazard areas are also eligible for federally-backed mortgages (FHA, VA and FmHA).

If Highlands doesn't have a flood prevention ordinance, it can be held liable for denying its citizens the ability to purchase FEMA flood insurance, and because it didn't take steps to reduce the exposure of life and property to flood damage in the face of authoritative scientific and technical data that shows permitting unwise development can aggravate flooding.

Without the ordinance, Highlands won't be eligible for state public assistance grants to recover from flood damage following a state-declared disaster nor would federal disaster assistance be allocated for the permanent repair or reconstruction of insurable buildings in SFHAs following a Presidential disaster declaration resulting from flooding.

Following a public hearing, Aug. 12 at 7 p.m. the Town Board will pass some version of the ordinance which will apply to the Town of Highlands and the ETJ areas.



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Golf Contestants may bring guests to the Awards Party by purchasing a ticket at the cost of \$50.00.

Event Agenda

11:00am — Registration & Lunch Buffet in Clubhouse, Practice Range Open, Tee Gift Distribution, Complimentary Beverages on Course
12:30pm — Shotgun Start — Scramble
5:00pm — 7:30pm — Cocktails, Dinner Buffet and Awards Party

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... BUILDING continued from page 1

third and fourth quarters of 2008 and the 1st quarter of 2009 were terrible in most markets, so the Q2 totals are at least a sign of hope."

Macon County went from 27 building permits in the first quarter of 2009 to 43 in the second quarter.

Jackson County — which mirrors Macon County in building trends — went from 32 in the first quarter to 39 in the second quarter.

However, the 70 residential building permits issued in Macon County repre-

sent about half the number issued in the first and second quarters of 2008 which was 151. Jackson County had 153 for the same period in 2008.

The Market Edge company tracks the number of residential building permits issued in each county in the Asheville district of Western NC which includes Buncombe, Haywood, Henderson, Jackson, Macon, Madison, McDowell, Polk, Rutherford and Transylvania, as well as nine counties in the Charlotte-area and six counties in the Hickory-area.

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Transylvania and Madison counties both had 31 building permits issued during the first and second quarters of 2009 – 19 in Q1 and 12 in Q2 and 13 in Q1 and 18 in Q2, respectively. Transylvania had 107 issued the first and second quarter of 2008 and Madison had 56.

Except for Buncombe, Haywood and Henderson – the more populated counties — Jackson and Macon counties beat out the other five counties in the Asheville district with the most building permits issued the first two quarters of 2009.

In fact, for the first two quarters of 2009, Macon and Jackson counties outnumbered Cleveland, Alexander, Burke, Caldwell, and Wilkes counties in the Charlotte-area, and Hickory-area districts.

Since January 2009, the Macon County Planning Department has issued 72 resi-

dential, single-family/multi-family building permits. The Highlands Planning Department has issued three new construction permits.

Dakin's report only reflects single-family, residential permits not multi-family structures.

Residential alterations and addition permits in Macon County outnumber new construction permits. Since January, the county has issued 146 permits for renovations versus 72 for new construction.

In Highlands, 10 permits have been issued for renovations since January — four commercial and six residential.

In addition, Dakin tracks statistics in eastern Kentucky, upstate South Carolina and eastern Tennessee.

The report is produced each calendar quarter.

... HIS & HERS continued from page 9

storm to attack the Hessians at Trenton. Washington gambled the whole fate of the American Revolution on that single battle. His troops marched into that battle with Paine's words fresh in their ears.

The subtitle of my book is, "America – Then and Now, In the Words of Thomas Paine." Here's the initial website for my book, with reduced rates for pre-pub-

lication purchases:

www.TheseAreTheTimes.us (Please note the special suffix, .us.)

• About the Author: John Armor practiced in the US Supreme Court for 33 years. He is semi-retired and now lives in the Blue Ridge.

John_Armor@aya.yale.edu

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• CONSERVATIVE POV •

Health care reform? I don't think so.

Before we get to the really serious stuff, let me mention my weekly climatological observation. According to CBS 2 Chicago, "Chicago sees coldest July in 67 years."

Another scientific building block in the "climate change" argument. Just for grins, I googled in Phoenix' weather and found it was a toasty 112 headed to 115.

Now, if the nuts had stuck with "global warming," they might have had something to talk about, except they'd still have to explain how the "global" stopped somewhere in mid-continent and became "climate change," what with Nashville, Chicago and New York enjoying record cold summers. It's all so confusing.

Very few of you have experienced what I am about to describe for you, so I'll do my best to be graphic. In exiting our property, we drive down a road through the woods. There are a lot of overhanging oaks and chestnut trees, which seasonally produce a lot of nuts (speaking of nuts). These acorns and nuts attract a bunch of squirrels, no, not them, the furry little buggers. These long-tailed rodents scour the roads, collecting next winter's dinner. As you approach them, they get a frantic look on their face, eyes bulging, and hightail it down the road in a schizophrenic panic, zigging and zagging from one side of the road to the other.

Just about the time you expect to feel a slight bump in the road, you see the little dodger fling himself off the road and up a tree.

Somehow, I envision Nancy Pelosi, in trying to get the votes together to send the Health Care reform legislation up the hill to the Senate, scram-



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

bling, eyes bulging, flitting from one side of the aisle to the other like the spastic squirrels on our road. I don't know if she'll get it done by the summer recess or not, but I dread the thought of what the crazies might come up with.

Nancy is catching some heat from her fellow libs. They say she should have put health care on the schedule

before cap and trade. Take our very own ex-quarter-back and current Representative, Heath Schuler, who stuck his neck on the block in supporting the cap and tax bill. I personally think that move may cost him his job. He deserves it for being a deceptive hypocrite.

Meanwhile, in my search of interesting stories to bring you all I ran across this gem in the Carroll, IA Daily Times Herald. "A 78 year-old Carroll woman says she's so tired of seeing President Barack Obama on the airwaves that she's selling her television sets (I wish I'd thought of that before I pitched mine off the deck).

'I just got tired of watching him on every channel,' she said. 'I thought, my gosh, does he ever stay at the White House?' Well said.

My next mistake was to not to chuck all of our TVs over the edge. Had I done so, I would have been spared the agony of the several days of news coverage of the lead up to Obama's happy hour beer party. Have we not sunk to new lows when the president makes stupid inflammatory statements with world watching, then makes stupid, public non-apologetic apologies and then invites the boys in for a beer to talk it

•See SWANSON page 6

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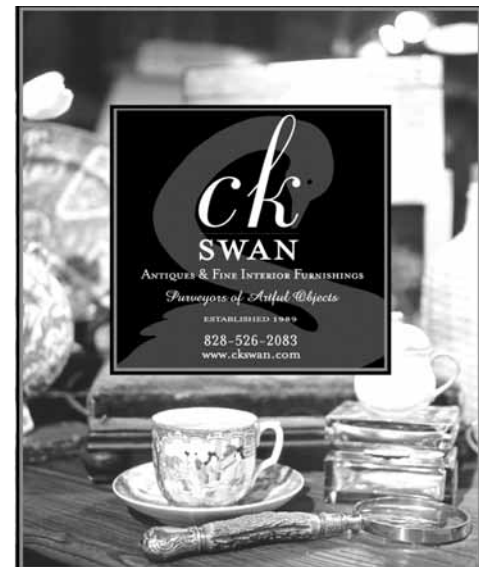


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on
the
rocks*

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the Season*

OUT
ON
A
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... SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING continued from page 28

and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart (Heb. 4:12). Remember the narrative of the hungry Israelites in the desert? They must have had all kinds of needs. In as many as two million people there had to be some food allergies, some diabetics and some sensitive eaters. Yet they all ate something that met their specific need. They all ate bread from the heavens. Jesus said He is the Bread of Life (Jn. 6:48), Christ is the Word that became flesh (Jn. 1:14). When we receive the Scripture we receive exactly

what it is we need. As a community we need to trust in the Lord and pray that the primary source of strength for the families and businesses of this town originates in the Truth of Scripture. We must always check ourselves to make sure that we do not compromise our success and prosperity because we stray away from the Bible. Do not let this Book of the Law depart from your mouth; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful (Joshua 1:8). We also need to be in prayer that our church leaders serve us as God would have us serve.

Pray for our spiritual leaders to be sensitive to people and to the Word. The clergy in Highlands, like any other town, have a God mandated responsibility to preach and teach nothing but the Word of God (Rev 22:18-19). "Not many of you should presume to be teachers, my brothers, because you know that we who teach will be judged more strictly" (James 3:1). As a pastor I have to constantly evaluate my motives concerning the ministry. I, like you, need to ask the question: Are we coming to a deeper experience and understanding of the love of Christ. When we begin to preach or

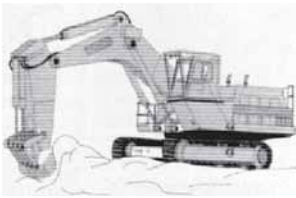
teach away from that truth, we begin to let one another down. The apostle Paul warned his son in the faith, Timothy, about this very issue. "For the time will come when men will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear" (2 Tim. 4:3).

Highlands is hospitable. Highlands honors the church. Highlands is hungry for the Word. I encourage you to eat the Bread of Life that we as a town may become more like what we eat. Christ Himself.

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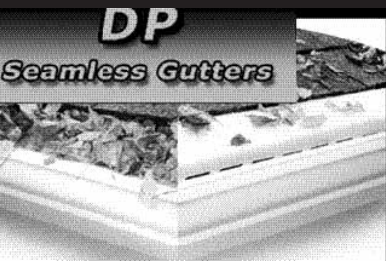
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... BRUGGER continued from page 7

counted for 10.9 percent of the GDP in Switzerland, 10.7 percent in Germany, 9.7 percent in Canada and 9.5 percent in France, according to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development."

I don't hear the people opposed to the Democratic plans offering any solution of their own. All they seem to be doing is trying to manipulate the populace with fear. "Obama wants to kill your Granny" is the latest obscene distortion. All I've heard from the Republicans is "do nothing."

I'm not thrilled about the plans coming out of Congress. I think we should have a single-payer system — that would clear out an enormous amount of inefficiency in the system and reduce total costs. But I believe that something must be done and any of these plans is far better than nothing.

For me the basic question is, what kind of society do we want? I remember

... SALAZRULO continued from page 5

and they were probably right. Disney, fearing a backlash, withdrew and left us holding 100 nearly worthless acres of farmland.

I could go on, but I think you get the point. Bull wants me to add that I lost two million to him playing "Rock, Paper, Scissors," but it doesn't count since I don't intend to pay. The question that sprouts from this exercise in self deprecation, or self mutilation, is how my life might have changed if I'd put my money in XYZ, Inc. instead of Lanham Lumber. I'd probably be retired, but since I enjoy my work, I'm not sure that would be such a good thing. I just wouldn't feel right about working if there were unemployed anesthesiologists who needed the money. I'd feel obligated to fly first class and ski at Vail rather than Steamboat. I'd resent the airline and miss my friends in Steamboat. I'd could hang around rich people, but I don't like most of the rich people I know, so that might not be so great. I do like smart people, unless they mention MENSA.

We wouldn't delay painting the house or repairing the retaining wall. We wouldn't be debating new carpet versus hardwood. We'd install hardwood and cover the floors with Oriental rugs. Lizzie loves her car, but it has 192,000 miles and should be replaced. Last year was tough for XYZ. The value of my shares would have fallen from roughly \$80 million to just over \$17million, and I would have been sick about it. As it is, I'm quite healthy, and I have something to write about this week. I'm delighted for my friend who offered me a share of her company for what seemed like a lot of money at the time. Mine is a pretty funny investment history. I just wonder why I'm not laughing.

doing a TV story on the free Dental Clinic in Cashiers and hearing about poor people who could not afford dental care who had horrible teeth which kept them from being able to get a good job and earn enough money to pay for dental care...

Do we want to be a society that uses its resources to ensure that all of its citizens have access to health care so that they can lead healthy, productive lives that will benefit us all, or do we want a society where only some can be healthy and the rest are condemned to a life of ill-health and poverty?

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

... MC SCHOOLS continued from page 6

The federal government has allocated a minimum of \$1,348,952 to the Macon County Board of Education. The money will be used to construct the new K-4 school and build a new gym at the Nantahala School.

QZAB funds can be used to assist local education agencies and schools to establish qualified zone academies in partnership with local businesses for the repair and renovation of older buildings.

For 2008, the federal government allocated \$12.6 million and for 2009, \$44.09 million.

The "partnership" aspect represents a

10% in-kind match from local partners. That money will be used for a new roof, heating, air-conditioning and electrical components at Franklin High School and to make internal renovations at Nantahala School which will make it more energy efficient. Dropped ceilings will be installed, lightning fixtures will be replaced and the roof will be replaced.

Meanwhile, at Highlands School, the work has begun on the soccer field, and work is nearing finished on the new bathrooms in the elementary wing.

The next board of education meeting is Tuesday, Aug. 11 at 6 pm.

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A believer in the value of knowledge, McKenzie is on the road to success which she attributes to the support she received as a Highlands School graduate.

McKenzie, Highlands School graduate Class of 2005, has a B.A. in Journalism and Mass Communications (BAJM) and French Minor from UNC-Chapel Hill and is working with Duke Medicine Office of Marketing and Creative Services as a designer.

"Knowledge is quite chameleon. There are often efforts to tame, refine or constrain it, but knowledge remains unruly. No, knowledge does not lie dormant on some forgotten shelf; it is vivacious, answering our questions, questioning our answers, and inviting us to admire the concurrence of Life's beautiful simplicity and bustling complexity. Knowledge, compassion and action are the keys to eradicating, and more importantly, preventing the problems that plague the well-being of ourselves, our communities and our environs."

I commend the Town of Highlands for its commitment to further education and pursuit of knowledge through financial aid, and I am grateful for the support I received during my wonderful undergraduate years at UNC. My hope is that Highlands' youth will pursue knowledge passionately, and that the community will continue to help open their

minds and doors of opportunity, and be able to continue to provide them with outstanding support.

The Town of Highlands Scholarship Fund began in 1975 and has grown to \$785,000, with the interest disbursed to graduates of Highlands School both heading for trade schools, colleges and universities and enrolled at higher education institutions.

The new short-term goal of the fund-raising committee is to be able to fund full tuition for at least one year for this year's rising freshman class at Highlands School.

The long-term goal is to be able to fund the entire tuition for all of the school's graduates.

To help, please send a tax deductible donation in with your utility bill or take a donation to Town Hall (temporarily in the Highlands Village Shopping Center on N.C. 106). If you want to help with year's fundraising efforts, call Gloria at 828-342-2302.

Its main fundraiser is the Golf Classic set for Monday, Aug. 17 this year. There is still time to register. Call David Cull at the Cullasaja Country Club for information at 526-3531.

**Register now for the
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Golf Classic Monday, August 17
(See form on page 11).**

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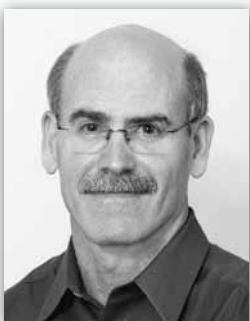
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Episcopal Church offers week of food at discount prices with no strings attached

**Place orders at the church by noon Aug. 17 for
pickup Aug. 22**

The Episcopal Church of the Incarnation, as part of their Outreach Program, will begin Angel Food Ministries this month.

Angel Food is available in quantities that fit into a medium-sized box at \$30 per unit - retail price \$65.

Each month's menu is different than the previous month and consists of both fresh and frozen items.

Generally, one unit of food feeds a family of four for about one week or a single senior citizen for almost a month.

Specialty boxes such as steaks, chicken and pork are also offered. Angel Food is always purchased from top food suppliers. Providing quality, nutritious food at significant discounts on a regular basis is one practical way to give people a "hand up" during difficult times.

Angel Food Ministries participates in the Food Stamp Program. This program is designed to help anyone who needs assistance with good nutrition.

There are no applications to complete or qualifications to which participants must

adhere, and there no restrictions, conditions or forms to fill out to purchase Angel Food. This food relief program is open to one and all. There is no limit to the number of units or bonus foods an individual can receive.

Angel Food orders can be placed and paid for at the office of the Episcopal Church of the Incarnation Monday through Friday, from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Payment is by cash or EBT cards only. No checks.

The deadline for August orders is noon on Monday, Aug. 17. Distribution will be Saturday morning, Aug. 22 at the Episcopal Church from 9-10 a.m.

For further information call 526-9191 or 526-9889. The August menu can be picked up at the church office.

Angel Food Ministries is a non-profit, non-denominational organization dedicated to providing food relief and financial support to communities throughout the United States. This program began in 1994 in Monroe, GA and has grown to serve thousands of families every month across 35 states.

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Wednesday, August 12
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ARCHITECTURE AS ART

Thursday, August 13 1:00 - 4:00
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Call 526-8811 for more information



• COACH'S CORNER •

Tales from the Burkot lounge

About 11 years ago (in sert appropriate age joke here) I was a wide-eyed freshman at Campbell University, ready to "grab the world by the tail" (but still incapable of doing my own laundry) and begin my college career by making new friends.

One of my first experiences at Burkot Dorm in Buies Creek was sitting in the lounge area (\$15,000 a year and we still didn't have cable in our rooms) and watching sports with some of the other new freshmen. There was really no other place to go on campus to hang out, and certainly not anywhere else to watch a ball game. It was here that I met some guys that would become friends for life. Whether they were from New York, Maine, Georgia or Florida -- we developed some pretty long lasting relationships in those first few weeks in the lounge -- partly out of common ground, but mostly out of necessity.

The reason the lounge was so important was not only because it was a central location in which to hang out, but it was also a place for discussion and opinion amongst people from all different areas and backgrounds.

It was in the lounge we argued who was the greatest basketball or baseball player of all time, who was the greatest coach ever, who had the hottest cheerleaders (come on, we were 18-year-old boys, after all) and we decided which moments in history were those that deserved reverence or disdain.

The Burkot lounge was like a local sports bar with plenty of regulars, only without the cigarette smoke or booze and with a terrible girl-to-guy ration. It was PTI or Around the Horn before those shows were even thought of, and with local college kids scoring points rather than overpaid sportswriters and their phony TV personas.

It was here that you had Josh, Kevin and Andy representing the great state of Maine and lamenting the fact that the Red Sox and Patriots were cursed (little did they know that New England would become the sports capital of the world in just a few years).

We had Darren the Yankees fan, a true Yankees fan who did his homework and knew all of the tradition and history (and how not to alienate the locals by being obnoxious).

There were Jamie and Casey, true southerners who loved NASCAR, the Braves and Tar Heel basketball.



Ryan Potts
tryanpotts@hotmail.com

Rob, the quintessential long suffering Cubs fan; Colin the Miami Dolphins trivia buff and Pat the Jets fan, who never failed to respond to a cross campus J-E-T-S Jets Jets Jets battle cry.

These guys kept you on your toes with their knowledge of their teams, their idols and the cities that they loved and with more than a little crassness

when necessary. The personalities, the discussions and the rapid-fire insults were great at sharpening your wit and toughening your skin -- all while building friendships in the process. It was in the lounge that we watched the flop that was the XFL. (Vince McMahon's attempt at creating another football league). We watched Connecticut shock the world by beating what looked to be an invincible Duke team for the 1999 National Championship. (Still the most disappointing loss I have ever went through as a fan...simply devastating)

We critiqued Super Bowl commercials in that lounge, laughed at commentators and developed a collective deep-seeded hatred for Billy Packer.

Perhaps the greatest memory of that particular time-period was watching the home-run chase between Sammy Sosa and Mark McGwire with about 30-35 people in that lounge every night, waiting to see if one of them would break Roger Maris' long-standing home-run record. We were all there when McGwire hit number 62, and I can imagine that the cheer from us could have been heard throughout Buies Creek (and even past the lone stoplight in town). It's a shame to think that those numbers will be tainted due to the use of steroids, but it still doesn't take away from the magic of that night.

Now, 11 years later, I still talk to many of the guys who shared the lounge with me that first year. Some are great friends who have been in weddings and other get-togethers; others are simply Facebook friends who share an occasional comment or two. However, I am still indebted to those guys with whom I shared conversations and memories that first year. They certainly helped get me through my freshman year, but they also helped to build upon the love of sports that continues with me to this day. Ultimately, the love of sports can be a common bond for many people, and I am certainly glad that I was able to be a part of the lounge and what it meant to all of us that first year.

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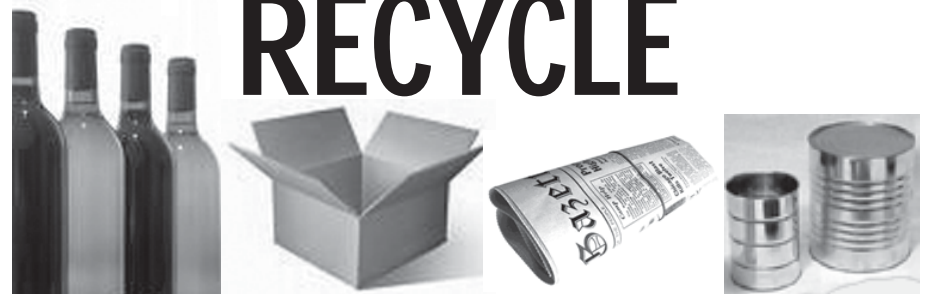
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YARD SALES

SAT. AUG. 8 – Norton Community, 8 a.m. Proceeds to benefit Kathy Crane's cancer treatments. First house on the right, past the Norton Community Building. Call 743-2718 for directions.

WANTED

HARDWORKING COUPLE LOOKING FOR LANDSCAPING AND YARDWORK AND HOUSE-CLEANING 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 or emailstarpony@earthlink.net for pics and more info.

GREAT PYRENNES DOG – Found on U.S. 64 between Highlands and Cashiers. on June 30. About 100 lbs. Call 743-5180.

LOST – A MALE BLACK Cat, Keesa, lost in vicinity of Mt. Lori and N. Cobb. Wearing a hot pink rubber flea collar. Please call Tanya at 828-301-3690, 526-1706 or cell: 828-301-3696.

"STELLA" GIANT BLACK SCHNAUZER nured female. 65 pounds. Lost near home on White-side Mountain. Has red collar. Child's companion. May not come to strangers. "Pound Puppy." Dearly loved. Contact Bill or Dottie Jean Stose. 526-0397.

RESIDENTIAL FOR SALE

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

3.55 WOODED ACRES, USFS ON 2 SIDES. 6 miles from downtown Hwy 28S. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, approx 1780 sq ft, manufactured home, 24x32 workshop, covered parking, storage building. Great

year round living or can be developed. \$242,000. 828-526-8191. 8/6

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.

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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 Home Carport;

• CLASSIFIEDS •

\$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)

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Long-term lease or purchase. 3 BR, 2 1/2 B. Covered front porch, garage, W/D, CH&A, unfurnished; close to town and schools. No smoking, service animals only. \$1,000 first and last month, sec. deposit and references. 1/2 acre, built in 2003: \$198,000. Call 828-524-3065, 828-371-1100 or 828-526-0450.

AVAILABLE IN HIGHLANDS MOUNTAIN CLUB – Next to Highlands Country Club. 2 bdrm, 2 bath, condo at Highlands Mtn. Club. AC, gas logs, hwd 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. \$875 per month. 828 200-0786

LOOKING FOR QUIET, CLEAN, NONSMOKER to rent furnished 1/1. No pets. \$500 a month, plus utilities. Call 526-0079. 7/30

SIX-MONTH OR YEARLY APT. RENTAL – Large, in town, 2 bed/2BA, furnished, AC, W/D, No pets and No smoking. 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

YEAR-ROUND RENTAL HOUSE AVAILABLE ABOUT A MILE FROM MAIN STREET. One bedroom, one and a half baths, furnished or unfurnished. Includes washer and dryer, hardwood floors, vaulted wood ceilings, nice sunny deck with mountain and pond views, private. No smoking or pets. Rate negotiable but first, last and security deposit required. (828) 421-7922. (St. 5/7)

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IN-TOWN HIGHLANDS, MIRROR LAKE AREA, 2Br/2Ba House, W/D, hardwood floors, deck. No smoking, \$750/mo, available immediately. Green Mountain Realty Group 828-526-9523.

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FP, extra sleeping loft, furnished or unfurnished. 6 month lease - \$750 (includes utilities) leave message @ 526-1975

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OFFICE/RETAIL/SPARENTAL 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)

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DELRAY BEACH, SOUTH FLORIDA – 2/b-2/ b beautifully furnished home available in winter for comparable home summer in Highlands area. 2-4 weeks. 561-865-9189 dickschaublin@aol.com. 8/6

VACATION RENTAL

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 wky 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

COTTAGE FOR RENT Daily, Weekly, or Monthly Rentals Available. Please call for details, leave message @ 526-1975

ADORABLE COTTAGE FOR 2 – Four blocks from town at 539 Chestnut Street, next to PAC. \$80 per night. Call 828-526-9375. 7/30

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40-PIECE STONEWARE DINNER SET - \$25 or best offer. Call 526-5367.

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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. \$900. Call 225-337-1435 OR 526-5995. 7/23

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

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

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

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2001 SUBARU LEGACY GT LIMITED - AWD, 5 speed, 122,000 k, 4 cyl., great car. Great on gas! \$5,250. Call 526-4741.

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2004 FORD EXPEDITION XL, olive green, beige leather, 72000 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.

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Aspiring basketball players learn at camp



This summer, Highlands youngsters attended a basketball camp put on by Coach Brett Lamb and his Highlands School varsity girls team. Camp-goers learned the ins and outs of basketball through drills and mock games.

Photo by Stephanie McCall

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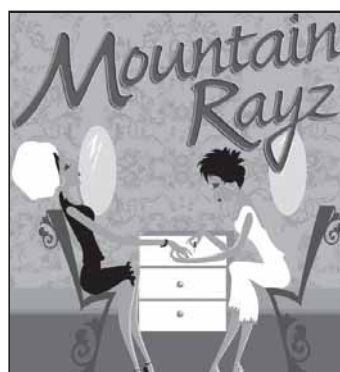
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• UPCOMING EVENTS •

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 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 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.

Waterwheel for 'Accomplice'



Bill Hall stands beside the waterwheel he constructed for the set of the Highlands Cashiers Players' production of "Accomplice." The play runs at the Martin-Lipscomb Performing Arts Center, 507 Chestnut Street, Highlands from August 20 - 23 and August 27 - 30.

"Where in the world am I going to get a waterwheel?"

This was what director Virginia Talbot was wondering as she studied the script for *Accomplice*, the comedy murder mystery thriller that the Highlands Cashiers Players is presenting at PAC in August. The play is set in an old English mill house renovated into a cottage with a water wheel incorporated into the décor.

On that world-wide-web, where all and anything can be found, Virginia discovered plans for constructing different sized wheels, mainly for gardens. Next needed was a carpenter. The name Bill Hall came to mind, a retired gentleman soon to celebrate his eightieth birthday, who has worked for a number of years on HCP sets. Bill agreed, perhaps with some reluctance, to tackle the job and tackle it he did!

In the workshop at his home in Horse Cove, Bill has constructed with spruce and pine lumber an authentic looking water wheel, six feet in diameter, that can be rotated to reveal several bottles of wine stored in the spaces between the blades of the wheel, as called for in the play script. The engineering necessary to balance the

wheel took some thought and additional carpentry, but Bill has managed to create just what the script demanded.

A visit to Bill and Evelyn Hall's charming rustic house revealed that Bill has done most of the remodeling of the home himself, building cupboards, closets and many handsome pieces of furniture. A picture on the wall revealed further that Bill in his former career was a fireman in Miami, Florida, for 29 years. He also worked off-duty managing the carpenter shop of a large display company that built sets and displays for conventions, retiring in 1983 to move permanently to his cabin in Horse Cove. And what a lucky thing for the HC Players, whose sets have benefited through the years from Bill's expertise.

Bill's "masterpiece" will be seen on stage as *Accomplice* begins on Thursday, August 20, at the Martin Lipscomb Performing Arts Center on Chestnut Street in Highlands. The box office at PAC, 828-526-8084, opens on Thursday and Friday, August 13 and 14, for HCP subscribers and for the general public starting Saturday, August 15.

CLE 'Chef Series' continues

The third in the Cooking with the Chefs series offered through the Center for Life Enrichment is Tuesday, Aug. 11, at the lovely and very popular On the Veranda restaurant. Chef Andrew Figel will take us into his kitchen where participants will get their "spoons in the pots" preparing some of Andrew's favorite recipes: Asian style duck salad with sesame noodles; Caribbean grilled fish with papaya and avocado; Lychee panna cotta with dried pineapple. Not only do you help in the preparation but even more tempting is that lunch will be the thrill of eating what you prepare.

Andrew's interest in cooking started when he was eight watching his mother and grandmother cook. Andrew recalled that watching Julia Child was a part of his grandmother's daily routine. Andrew was born in Miami and his first job was with Maryland Fried Chicken. Andrew moved to Highlands in 1988 lured by the cool weather and the charm of Highlands. Andrew is married to Suzanne McDavid and the couple has two children, Remy and Sydney.

Andrew's parents, Alan and Marta, opened On the Veranda in 1981 after moving to Highlands in the late 70s. When asked about the hot pepper sauce

collection, Andrew said that his father started the collection and at one time had 1,500 different varieties. Andrew said his father "just loved" hot food. The collection has been reduced to about 300.

Andrew and his sister, Marlene Alvarez, took over the ownership of the restaurant in 2000 and continues the outstanding reputation and quality started by his parents. Andrew said a trip to Hong Kong in 1996 had a major impact on his style of cooking. He jokingly referred to the open markets where you could literally purchase "fresh meat on the hoof."

The many stalls offering "just picked" fruits and vegetables inspired his use of fresh, local ingredients and when possible, grown in his own garden.

On the Veranda has been awarded the Wine Spectator Award of Excellence each year starting in 1989. The award is based on a restaurant's wine list, menu and customer feedback. The restaurant has for several years received the Wine Enthusiast Magazine Award of Distinction. On the Veranda was recently cited in the Wall Street Journal as being located in

what may be the last Joe Webb house built.

To make a reservation for the class or for additional information, please contact the CLE office at 526-8811 or by e-mail at clehighnads@yahoo.com.



Andrew and his son, Remy - the next generation of the Figel family cooking tradition.

• UPCOMING EVENTS •

• 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

• See EVENTS page 26

Three Generations of Woodturners continues at The Bascom



This Spanish oak woodturning by Matt Moulthrop, of the legendary Moulthrop family, is one of some 45 turned wood bowls on display in *Moulthrops: Three Generations of Woodturners* through Aug. 29 at The Bascom.

This exhibition of lathe-made bowls conveys the widely acclaimed talents of Matt and Philip Moulthrop and their late father Edward, who comprise the esteemed family of Georgia craftsmen.

The Highlands-Cashiers plateau boasts a strong concentration of private Moulthrop collectors, in part because the Wade Hampton Golf Club used to sponsor an annual golf tournament that yielded a prize of a Moulthrop-turned bowl.

The Shop at The Bascom is now carrying the book *Moulthrop: A Legacy in Wood* and will hold a book signing on Aug. 6 from 5-7 p.m.

Exhibitions are free and open to the public Tuesdays through Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The Bascom's new address is 323 Franklin Road, Highlands. For more information, visit www.thebascom.org or call (828) 526-4949.

Chamber music final gala concert is Sun., Aug. 9

The Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival's dazzling 2009 season climaxes with the Final Gala Concert and Dinner Party, 5 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 9, at the Martin-Lipscombe Performing Arts Center in Highlands.

The concert will feature The Eroica Trio performing Cassado's "Trio for Piano, Violin, and Cello in C Major," Lalo's "Piano Trio #1 in C Minor, Op. 7," and Bernstein's "West Side Story Suite."

The most sought-after trio in the world, the Grammy-nominated Eroica Trio has won a global following with its flawless technical virtuosity, irresistible enthusiasm and sensual elegance. The group is on the vanguard of a new generation of artists who are changing the face of classical music. One of the first all-female chamber ensembles to reach the top echelons of the field, the Eroica Trio is helping to break an age-old gender barrier.

But it's their supreme musicianship that's vaulted them to the top ranks. In addition to being a perennial HCCMF favorite, the Eroica Trio performs at music festivals throughout the world, including The Hollywood Bowl, Aspen, Mostly Mozart, Ravinia, and Spoleto, Italy. That's in addition to music education, concerts, master-classes, and special children's shows at schools and colleges throughout the country.

The trio's recognition extends beyond the world of chamber music to features in magazines such as *Elle*, *Glamour*, *Vanity Fair*, *Bon Appetit* and *Detour*. Grand Marnier has created a new cocktail dubbed "The Eroica," unveiled for the release of the group's "Passion" recording. Chateau Sainte Michelle, a vineyard in Seattle, also named one of its vintage Rieslings in honor of the trio.

Sunday's performance will be followed by a reception and dinner at Wildcat Cliffs Country Club in Highlands. It's a celebration of a festival that's earned national recognition.

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

Attracting groups like The Eroica Trio 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 offers the Feasts of the Festival. They're an opportunity to meet interesting people and enjoy wonderful food and drink in setting of some of the area's most beautiful private homes.

"Mountain Fare" is the irresistible theme presented by Jody and Wood Lovell at 6 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 13. The menu features Trout Beurre Blanc paired with Special Appetizers, Greens, and Potatoes. Cost is \$125 per person.

Nancy Rampell and David Blum will offer "Brunch with a View from Sweet Tater Top" at 12:30 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 15. There'll be Mimosas, Bloody Marys, Frittatas, Breakfast Meats and Special Breads. Cost is \$100 per person.

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

"An Umbrian Feast on Satulah" will be staged at 6 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 12, 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, Sept. 13. 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, Sept. 24. 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, Oct. 8. Cost is \$125.

For reservations or more information, call (828) 526-9060.



Upcoming Book Signings
526-5488 • Main Street
e-mail: cyranos@nctv.com

Aug. 8

Charles Martin
(book to be announced)
3 to 5 pm

Aug. 22

Tom Moore Craig
Up Country South Carolina
Goes to War
1 to 3 pm

Sept. 5

Pat Conroy
South of Broad
At noon

Ruby Cinema

Hwy. 441, Franklin, NC
524-2076
Aug. 7-13

G.I. JOE:

THE RISE OF COBRA
rated PG-13

Mon-Fri: 4:20, 7, 9:20
Sat-Sun: 2, 4:20, 7, 9:20

ALIENS IN THE ATTIC
rated PG

Mon-Fri: 4:10, 7:10, 9:10
Sat-Sun: 2:10, 4:10, 7:10, 9:10

G-FORCE

rated PG

Mon-Fri: 4:15, 7:15, 9:15
Sat-Sun: 2:15, 4:15, 7:15, 9:15

THE HANGOVER

rated R

Mon-Fri: 4:30, 7:20, 9:30
Sat-Sun: 2:20, 4:30, 7:20, 9:30

• UPCOMING EVENTS •

• 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.

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. 8/6.

Wednesdays

• Highlands Mountain Top 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

• Friends of Panthertown work days, last Thursday of every month (time and location varies). Volunteers needed to maintain trails. For more information, contact Nina Elliott at 828-526-9938 (ext 258).

• The Zahner Lecture Series at the Nature Center 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 individuals 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

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

Fridays & Saturdays

The Joy of Chickens

Chickens are hot. As more and more people become interested in healthy eating, chicken coops are popping up in the most unexpected places, including Manhattan! City-dwellers are now hearing the unfamiliar sounds of clucking and crowing from their neighbors' yards.

If you've been thinking about trying your hand at raising chickens, the Hudson Library has a program for you. On Friday, August 14 at 2 p.m., Caroline Barber will bring a favorite hen from her flock to the library and give a talk on the pleasures and challenges of poultry farming.

Mrs. Barber began raising chickens when her husband, who grew up on a farm, suggested they get some chicks. Gathering freshly laid eggs for a breakfast omelet is one of the main pleasures of owning your own chickens, Ms. Barber said. "Once you begin raising your own chickens you realize how old the eggs in the supermarket are."

But her message is also a cautionary one, "Chickens are more trouble than I thought. And you need to protect them from predators, and we have lots of them around here: foxes, bobcats, and raccoons. I have friends who live in Houston — right in the city — who have chickens. They have their own challenges, but certainly fewer predators."

Mrs. Barber only has hens, because you only need roosters if you want fertile eggs or to raise your own chicks. Hens lay fine without a rooster present. She orders chicks from catalogs in which you can select from breeds with particular qualities such as "good layer," "good setter," or egg color. Her flock is made up of Golden Comets, Mottled Javas, Partridge Rocks, Black Australorps, and New Hampshire Reds, all of



Caroline Barber, pictured with a basket of her fresh eggs, will give a talk at the Hudson Library on the pleasures and challenges of raising chickens on August 14 at 2 p.m.

which lay eggs of various shades of brown. Other colors of eggs include blue, green, and even red.

This talk is part of the Together We Read program, which this year is featuring "Animal Vegetable Miracle" by Barbara Kingsolver. Ms. Kingsolver and her family decided to try and live outside of the industrial-food system for one year — vowing that they'd only eat food raised by themselves or within 50 miles of their home or learn to live without it. The book is part memoir and part journalistic investigation into the unsafe and unhealthy way Americans eat today.

Together We Read is a reading and discussion program for the Western North Carolina region. The group's website (www.togetherweread.org) asks the simple question: "What if all of WNC read the same book?" The program's primary purpose is to foster a sense of community through the reading and discussion of the region's best writers. The program began in 2002 and is considered to be one of the best community reading programs in the nation.

If you are interested in learning how you can grow more of your own food, the Hudson Library has many books on vegetable gardening and small-scale farming. In the new book section you'll find "The Joy of Keeping Chickens," by Jennifer Megyesi [636.5M], a Vermont organic farmer. The book draws on Ms. Megyesi's own experience as a poultry farmer to provide detailed information about everything from getting started with chickens to recipes for using your eggs and chicken meat.

For more information about Mrs. Barber's talk, call the Hudson Library at 526-3031. The program is free. The Hudson Library is located at 554 Main Street, Highlands.

More fundraisers to come at the Highlands Playhouse

The Highlands Playhouse marches toward the close of its 71st season, but not without a few more fundraisers along the way. The Board of Directors has been working very hard this season to raise money for the Playhouse.

The remainder of the fundraisers includes the 2009 Golf Tournament, a Raffle Benefit hosted by John Collette Fine Art, the Save the Playhouse Campaign and the fifth annual Highlands Playhouse Antique Show. The Playhouse is also continuing to sell the Bryant Art Glass exclusively designed plates with the Highlands Playhouse logo for \$20

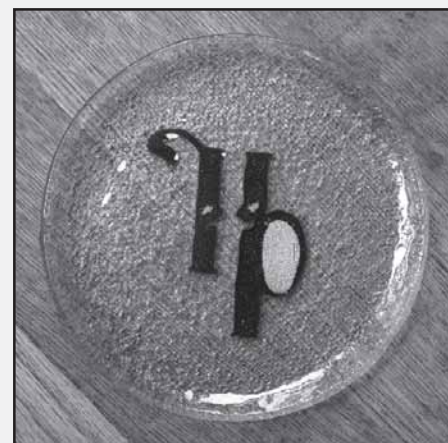
each. The handcrafted plates are on sale at the Playhouse Box Office on 362 Oak Street in downtown Highlands.

The 2009 Golf Tournament will be held August 10 at the newly renovated Old Edwards Club at Highlands Cove. There will be a shotgun start at 1 p.m. The cost to play is \$150, to sponsor a hole is \$200, and to play/sponsor a hole is \$300. The tournament price includes greens fees and cart, hors d'oeuvres, auction, dinner and prizes. Special events include 'Hole in One' (closest to the pin) and a putting contest. You may purchase dinner for a guest at \$30 each. Mulligans will be available at \$5 each before the tournament. For a registration form, please call or visit the Highlands Playhouse Box Office - 828-526-2695.

John Collette Fine Art is holding a benefit for the Highlands Playhouse on

Aug. 15 from 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. at the gallery on Main Street. An original painting will be raffled off and all proceeds go to benefit the Playhouse. Tickets are \$10 each and are available at John Collette Fine Art. Wine and hors d'oeuvres will be served.

The Save the Playhouse Campaign is still going strong. The campaign began in 2008 and was generously matched by Horst and Margaret Winkler. The Playhouse is still raising money for the 2009 season, which will be matched again. The Highlands Playhouse is a 501c3 Organization and your donation is tax deductible. To give a donation, please



contact the Box Office.

The fifth annual Highlands Playhouse Antique Show closes the season. The show will be held at the Highlands Civic Center on Sept. 25 and 26 from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and on Sept. 27 from Noon-5 p.m. Tickets for the Antique Show are \$12 and will be made available at the Highlands Playhouse Box Office soon. There will be a Preview Party on Sept. 24 from 6 - 8 p.m. Tickets for the Preview Party are \$35. Come view some of the finest art and antiques from all over the country. It is an event not to miss.

Don't forget! Sunday, Aug. 9 is the LAST PERFORMANCE of the Shakespeare in the Park Series. *Much Ado About Nothing* begins at 7 p.m. in Pine Street Park. Bring chairs, blankets and a picnic. Admission is FREE!

• UPCOMING EVENTS •

• 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.hcmusicfestival.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.

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.hcmusicfestival.org.

Through Saturday, Aug. 15

• Helen Frankenthaler and the Color Field Painters exhibition at The Bascom. Admission is free. For information, call (828) 526-4949 or visit

www.thebascom.org.

Through Sun., Aug. 16

• At Highlands Playhouse, *Pump Boys and Dinettes*, opening July 23 at 8 p.m. with an Opening Night Reception catered by New Mountain Events. Performances Tuesday-Sunday are at 8 p.m. and 2 p.m. on Sundays. Call the Highlands Playhouse Box Office at 828-526-2695 or visit the 362 Oak Street location.

Thurs., Aug. 6

• Bingo at the Community Building to benefit The Highlands Playhouse, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Fri., Aug. 7

• Free Mountain Music Concerts at Highlands School old gym, dancing begins at 6:45 p.m. and concerts begin at 7:30. Sponsored by Just for You Relay for Life team. Appalachian Bluegrass. Country Cloggin' Kids and Mountain Sound of Cashiers.

• High Mountain Squares will dance at the Macon County Community Building on route 441 South from 7-9 p.m. Marty Northrup from Columbus, NC will be the caller. We dance Western Style Square Dancing, main/stream and plus levels. Everyone is welcome. For information call 828-349-0905, 828-369-8344, 706-782-0943

Sat. & Sun., Aug. 8-9

• Cashiers Quilters Guild Quilt Show August 8th-9th, 10-4 P.M. at the Sapphire Valley Community Center (3 mi. east of Cashiers off Hwy 64) Numerous quilts, Quilts of Valor display, boutique, vendors, quilt raffle. Arts and Crafts Show in same area. Everyone welcome!

• FREE Sapphire Valley Art and Crafts Festival. More than 90 artists and crafters displaying and demonstrating their work. Live music, food, drinks. Rte. 64 3 miles east of Cashiers. For more information, call

828-743-1163.

Saturday, Aug. 8

• At Cyrano's Bookshop, author Charles Martin signing his latest book from 3-5 p.m.

• THE BIG DIG, an apologetics simulcast conference, will be held at Community Bible Church on Saturday, 9:30am-4:30pm. This conference will answer many teens' questions before the school year starts. \$10 suggested donation, includes lunch. There will be about a 2-hour break after the conference and then a worship rally. 828-526-4685 or ryan@cbchighlands.com

• Great Smokies Home School Conference at the Franklin Covenant Church. \$10 per family. Pre-register by July 31. For more information call Anna Henderson at 828-507-4896.

• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a moderate-to-strenuous 6-mile hike on the Chattooga River Trail from Whiteside Cove Road to the Iron Bridge, past river and waterfall views, big trees, rock formations, and maybe wildflowers. Some scrambling over rocks required. Meet at the Cashiers Wachovia Bank (in back) at 10 a.m. Drive 20 miles round trip with a shuttle at the Iron Bridge pre-arranged. Bring water,

lunch; wear sturdy shoes. Call leaders Mike and Sue Kettles, 743-1079, for reservations. Visitors are welcome, but no pets please.

Sun., Aug. 9

• The Highlands Plateau Audubon Society will have its annual picnic at the Village Green in Cashiers at 5 p.m. Please bring \$5 for hamburgers and a covered dish. We will provide drinks and utensils. Call Mary Lou Waas at 743-3256 reservations or email Janice Shure at jshure@bellsouth.net.

• Highlands-Cashiers Music Festival Final Gala Concert and Dinner Party at PAC at 5 p.m. featuring The Eroica Trio playing trios of Cassado Lalo and Bernstein's 'West side Story Suite. For tickets or more information, call (828) 526-9060 or visit www.hcmusicfestival.org.

• At First Presbyterian Church, Kirkin' O' The Tartan at the 11 a.m. worship service.

Monday, Aug. 10

• The Highlands Playhouse 2009 Golf Tournament will be held at the newly renovated Old Edwards Club at Highlands Cove. There will be a shotgun start at 1 p.m. The cost to play is \$150, to sponsor a hole is

• See EVENTS page 30

'Pump Boys and Dinettes' still going strong at The Playhouse

Pump Boys and Dinettes, sponsored by Old Edwards Inn and Spa, has been delighting audiences for three weeks. Audience members can't stop raving about the talent and fun that they are seeing onstage at the Highlands Playhouse, "A true delight. I've seen it elsewhere and this tops them all!"

Pump Boys and Dinettes is filled with energetic songs, lively dance routines, and good-ole fashioned fun! Songs like "Be Good or Be Gone," "Catfish," and "Farmer Tan" will evoke the country gal or guy in you-It's a hootin', hollerin' good time.

The show takes place along Highway 57, split between the Pump Boys Gas Station and the Dinettes Double Cupp Diner. The guys drive the women crazy as they both serve up songs about life, love, and relationships.

It is a must-see. The Chicago-Sun Times says, "This is sweet cherry Coke entertainment. Just right for summertime consumption." *Pump Boys and Dinettes*, sponsored by Old Edwards Inn and Spa, runs through August 16.

Show times are Tuesday-Saturday at 8



p.m. with Sunday matinees at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$30 for adults and \$12 for children. You may visit the Box Office at 362 Oak Street in downtown Highlands or you may call 828-526-2695 and order by phone.

Stacked stone exhibition opens this week at The Bascom

Gravity-defying stone arches and totem shapes will transform The Bascom's campus this week as "Dave Russell: Stacked Stone Sculpture" opens Aug. 6.

In his found-rock sculptures, Russell makes use of Western North Carolina's abundant granite supply removed with permission from farms, dumps and riverbeds. Look for Russell's creations on The Bascom's Nature Trail and elsewhere on-campus.

Russell makes moments in time that would not ordinarily occur. He says that Western North Carolina is blessed with good rocks, and granite is one example of a plentiful material. He is drawn to rocks that have the edges, irregularities and "grippiness" that he needs for making his signature stacked stone sculptures.

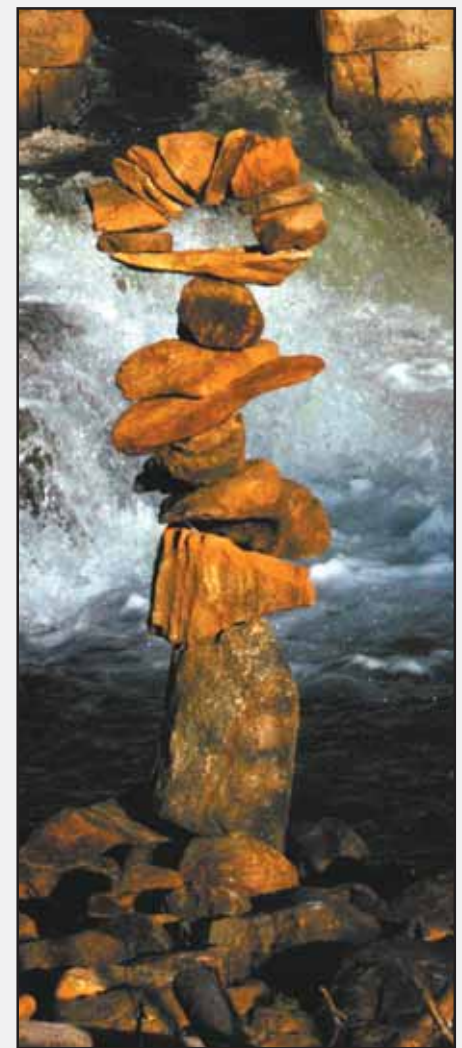
"These stacked stone works of art celebrate the unblemished green spaces that form the landscape west and north of The Bascom's new headquarters building," said Kaye Gorecki, The Bascom's artistic director. "We invite you to come and delight in these unexpected stone creations as you enjoy The Bascom's beautiful new green space. This exhibition helps signal the art center's commitment to ecology and green practices, and celebrate the wealth of regional and national artists who produce works that compliment the landscape."

The Nature Trail was made possible in part by Horst and Margaret Winkler.

Admission to all Bascom exhibitions is free. The exhibition continues through Oct. 30.

The Bascom's new address is 323 Franklin Road, Highlands.

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



Works like this stacked stone creation, by sculptor Dave Russell, will be on display outdoors at The Bascom beginning this week. All are welcome.

• SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING •

A faith-based community



Pastor Gary Hewins
Community Bible Church

Having only been in Highlands since January 25, I would like to offer three humble observations about our town. You've heard the old saying that sometimes you 'can't see the forest for the trees.' As a pastor I understand this. Every week I have to force myself to view the ministry through the eyes of those who may be visiting for the first time or may be very new to the church. This is a good exercise for any church or any business that desires to grow. The following observations from fresh eyes are also a way of saying thank you to the people of Highlands.

Highlands is certainly hospitable: It's not easy moving a wife, a son and a daughter to a new town. Yet here in Highlands it's not all that difficult. A town is only as good as its people. The people here are open, caring, and they look out for one another. The clergy in town really desire cooperation and unity and the citizens of Highlands know the difference between talk and genuine small town affection for one another. This town knows the biblical "One Another's: Pray for one another, love one another, carry one another's burdens, submit to one another, devote yourselves one to another. Thank you Highlands, for being so very hospitable.

Highlands honors the church: It is so refreshing to see and experience a community who understands the centrality of the church in everyday life. It is not everywhere in America where the clergy is shown so much respect. The town and the surrounding area here seem to get it. The town will never go any farther than the strength of the church. As the church goes so goes the town and so goes the nation.

Highlands is very hungry for the Word of God: I have been so surprised by the overwhelmingly obvious desire among the people of Highlands for the preaching of the Word of God. There exists in this town a God-given gift, an appetite and thirst for nothing more or nothing less than Scripture. Things I see in the gospels are happening on our mountain. On the road to Emmaus, Jesus opened the Scripture to two men as they walked. The men later explained that their hearts were burning within them as Christ shared the Word of God (Luke 24:27,32). Families are coming alive to the Word. Students' hearts are burning within them as they are increasingly passionate about the truth in Scripture.

The church has a mandate to offer people what they cannot find in any other venue (Matt. 28:20). The church has the Bible and the church needs to focus on rightly dividing the Word of truth. For the word of God is living

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 for all ages;

10:45am Worship; 6pm High School Group

Tuesdays: 10am Women's Bible Study; 2nd, 4th, &
5th Tuesdays Young Mom's Bible Study

Wed.: 5pm Dinner; 6pm AWANA, Youth Activities

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 REPORTS •

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

July 23

- At 4 p.m., officers responded to a call of a hotel guest who said his daughter was missing. She was found in town OK.
- At 5:35 p.m., a fanny pack found at the Farmers Market was delivered to the police station. Officers worked on locating the owner.

July 27

- At 8:30 p.m., Gerardo Martinez Tiapa, 23, was arrested for driving a stolen car, driving without insurance, without a license and with a false license plate. He was released on a secured \$1,500 bond.

July 28

- At 7:45 a.m., a license plate found on Spring Street was turned in to the police. When tracked they found it belonged to a vehicle with no insurance and there was a "pick up" order on the plate.
- At 3 p.m., the larceny of a patio table and chair set was reported at a residence on Hickory Hill.
- At 3 p.m., the larceny of a canoe valued at \$800 was reported at a residence at Cullasaja Drive and Mirror Lake Road. It has the numbers 414 stenciled on it.

July 29

- A suspicious vehicle was reported parked on S. 4th Street and Arnold Road. It was checked out and determined to be OK.
- At 10:40 a.m., the dept. responded to an accident at Main and Oak streets. There were no injuries.

Aug. 1

- At 11:37 a.m., a larceny of \$125 worth of arts and collectibles was reported stolen from Twigs on N. 4th Street when a woman allegedly picked up the articles and put them in her car without paying for them.

During the week, police officers responded to 1 alarm and issued 15 citations.

The following are the Highlands Fire & Rescue Dept. log entries from July 30:

July 30

- At 11:30 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with a medical call. The victim was taken to the hospital.

Aug. 2

- At 9:38 a.m., the dept. responded to an alarm on Hapholt Drive. It was set off by breakfast burning on the stove.
- At 10:11 p.m., the dept. responded to an alarm at a residence on Walkingstick Road. It was cancelled.

Aug. 3

- At 4:04 p.m., the dept. responded to a call concerning missing hikers. They had hiked down Glen Falls to Blue Valley and instead of taking a left back toward Highlands, they took a right. They were found and taken back to their car.

Aug. 4

- At 8:06 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with a medical call at a residence on Dixon Drive. The victim wasn't taken to the hospital.
- At 1:21 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with a medical call on Main Street concerning an elderly man. He was taken to the hospital.
- The Dept. Dive Team went to the swimming hole at Bust Your Butt Falls to practice their diving skills.

From the Dept:

Robbie Forrester, of the Highlands Fire & Rescue Dept., asks citizens to trim back their driveways, and foliage around their 911 numbers and fire hydrants.

Also, don't miss the department's annual Open House, Saturday, Aug. 8 from 11-3. There will be free hot dog plates and rides on the fire truck.

• 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:

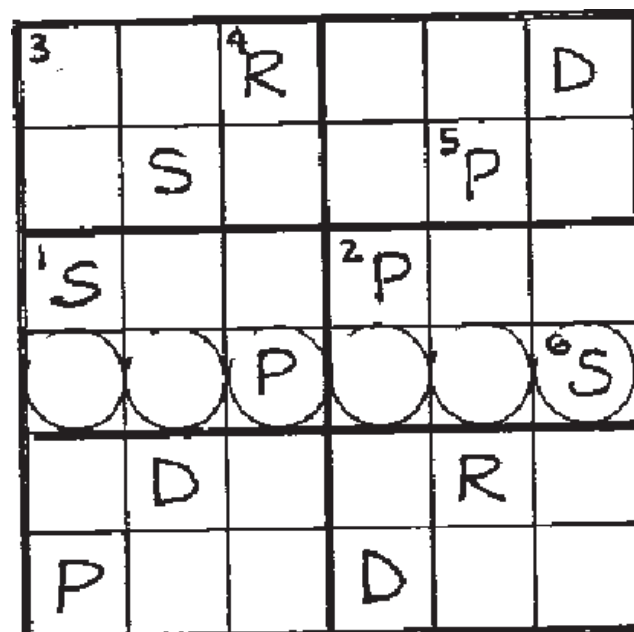
Fast moving water over rocks

Across

1. Man's name (3)
2. golf expert hole strokes (3)

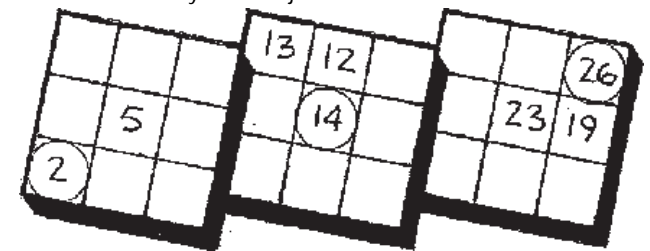
Down

3. Ego (2)
4. Radioactive measure unit (3)
5. Apartment (slang) (3)
6. Mineral spring resort (3)



PseudoCube[©]

by Pete Sarjeant and Don Cook



#BZ3A Level of Difficulty – Moderate

THE SETUP:

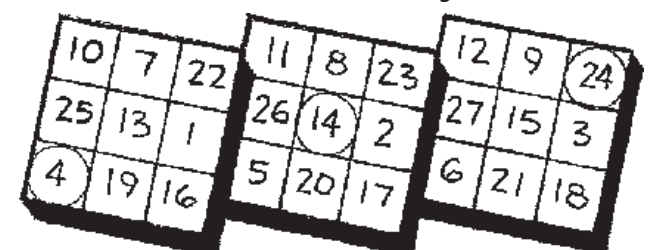
The cube has 27 consecutive numbers in it, arranged in three layers with 9 numbers each. These numbers are arranged in a special pattern: For each layer, the sum of the three numbers in each row, column or diagonal, is 3 times its center number. Eight diagonals connect all 3 layers by running through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

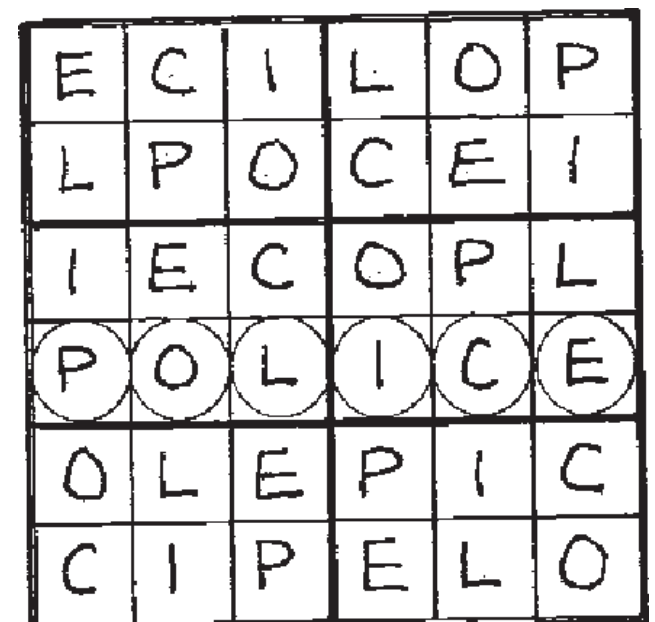
Start with the three center numbers for each layer and the other numbers given. Now pour a cup of coffee, pick up a pencil and eraser and try to figure out where the other numbers belong. Good Luck!

Email: pseudocube8@aol.com.

Solution to #AZ3A in July 30 issue



Solution to July 30 Hex-a-Ku



• UPCOMING EVENTS •

\$200, and to play/sponsor a hole is \$300. The tournament price includes greens fees and cart, hors d'oeuvres, auction, dinner and prizes. For a registration form, visit the Highlands Playhouse Box Office on 362 Oak Street.

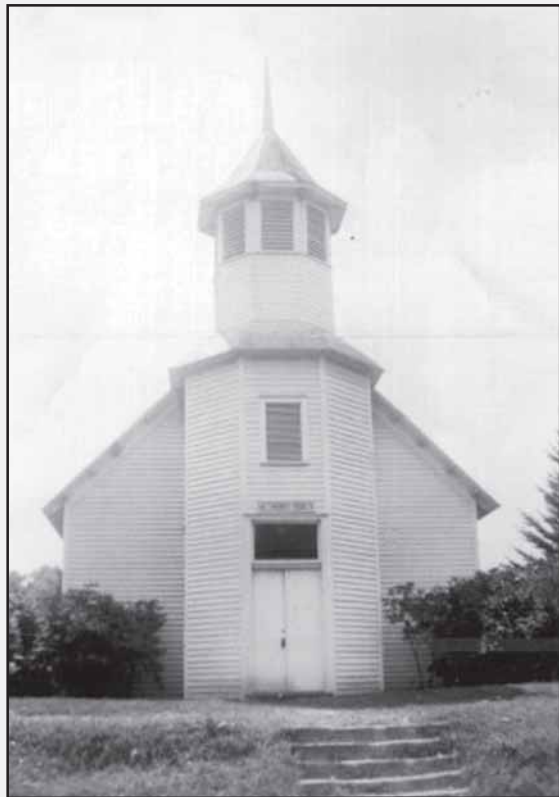
Tuesday, Aug. 11

- Free lecture at Mountain Chiropractic at The Hudson Library in Highlands at 6 p.m. Topic: pH Balance and Eating Well

Wed., Aug. 12

- Summer Interlude at the Episcopal Church at 2 p.m. Leah Mcrath, soprano. Free.

Celebrating 100 years at the Methodist Church



On Sunday, August 16 the congregation at Highlands United Methodist Church will be celebrating 100 years of worship at their location at 315 Main Street. The day will begin at 10 am with a time of song and story in the sanctuary, a worship service at 11 am, and afterward a covered dish lunch.

According to Ran Shaffner's book, "Heart of the Blue Ridge, Highlands, North Carolina", Highlands claimed two Methodist congregations beginning in 1882. It was not until 1904 when the members of the Methodist Episcopal Church South and the members of the Northern Methodist congregation decided to join together in a single congregation.

Buying the lot next to the Masonic Hall from Thomas and Harriet Parker for \$250, the Methodists set out to build their building under the oversight of architect, John Z. Gottwals. "The wind played havoc with the Methodists when on two separate occasions violent gusts blew down the rafters of the new structure. The new building was heated by a large potbellied stove that stood in the center of the sanctuary. There was no basement, no chapel, no Sunday School rooms, and until the mid-20s, oil lamps furnished the only lighting."

The Community is invited to share this special time in the life of the Highlands United Methodist Church.

Thursday, Aug. 13

- The Highlands Nature Center will offer another in its series of free day hikes on Thursday with a moderately strenuous ramble down to "The Narrows" on the upper reaches of the Wild and Scenic Chattooga River. The hike will be about 4.5 miles round trip. Older children (over 10) are welcome. Please no dogs. The hike will be led by veteran area hiker, Joe Gatins. Bring a snack, water, and wear appropriate clothing and footwear (boots recommended), and river shoes or sandals for those who wish to get wet in the river. Leave from Highlands Nature Center, 9:30 a.m. There will be about 8 miles driving each way. Call 828-526-2602 for more information.

- The August meeting of The Western North Carolina Woodturners Club will meet on Thursday at 7 p.m. at the Blue Ridge School, in Glenville. Drive to the back of the school to the woodworking shop. Visitors are always welcomed. The club meets every second Thursday at the Blue Ridge School at 6 p.m. September through March and 7 p.m. April through August. Visit our web site at www.wncwoodturners.com

- The League of Women Voters of Macon County will have a program on national League public policy positions and will discuss members interest and concerns on local issues at Tartan Hall at the First Presbyterian Church in Franklin. This will be an opportunity for prospective members, as well as current members, to understand League positions and achievements, and to help determine how our local League can best have an impact on issues. The annual membership business meeting will start promptly at 11:30, lunch is available at noon by reservation (call 524-5192 or email lwwmacon@wild-dog-mountain.info) and the program will begin at 12:15

Wednesday, Aug. 14

- At Hudson Library at 2 pm: Caroline Barber will give a talk at the Hudson Library on the pleasures and challenges of raising chickens. Free. For more info call 526-3031

Saturday, Aug. 15

- The Nantahala Club Picnic will be held at the Tasse Shelter on the Greenway in Franklin.

Sunday, Aug. 16

- The congregation at Highlands United Methodist Church will be celebrating 100 years of worship at their location at 315 Main Street. The day will begin at 10 am with a time of song and story in the sanctuary, a worship service at 11 am, and afterward a covered dish lunch.

- The Nantahala Hiking Club will take an easy-to-moderate 1.5 mile hike up the Albert Mountain trail, stopping at the fire tower for views of the Nantahala Mountains and another stop at the Appalachian Trail shelter. Meet at Westgate Plaza in Franklin (opposite Burger King) at 2 p.m. Bring water, a snack if you wish; wear sturdy shoes. Drive 35 miles round trip. Call leader Kay Coriell, 369-6820, for reservations. Visitors and children over 10 are welcome, but no pets please.

Monday, Aug. 17

- The Town of Highlands Scholarship Golf Classic at the Cullasaja Club. Call David Cull to register. Shotgun start at noon.

- The Jackson County Republican Organization will hold an Orville Coward Forum on healthcare at 7 p.m. at the group's headquarters, 482 West Main Street in downtown Sylva. The speaker will be Dr. Robert Peterson, Medical Director of Crescent Preferred Provider Organization, Inc., a health care provider organization based in Asheville, NC. He has been instrumental in making Crescent PPO a successful alternative to other similar organizations who provide health care management services for businesses and other organizations in the Western North Carolina area. As major changes to the health care system in the US are about to be made, there are multiple questions to be asked and answered. For additional information call 828 586-3577 or Republican Headquarters @ 828 586-9895.

Tuesday, Aug. 18

- Free lecture at Mountain Chiropractic at Laurel Terrace in Cashiers at 6 p.m. Topic: Men Only

Wed., Aug. 19

- Summer Interlude at the First Presbyterian Church at 2 p.m. Smokey Mountain Brass Quintet. Free.

Saturday, Aug. 22

- At Cyrano's Bookshop, author Tom Moore Craig signing "Up Country Goes to War" from 1-3 p.m.

Sunday is last chance to see 'Much Ado' at Pine Street Park



Much Ado About Nothing, Directed by Jeremy Miller featuring castmembers (first row from left) Dillon Nelson, Danielle Bailey Miller, Gina Hawkins . (Second row from left) Barbara Kukor, Michelle Hott, Shannon Webber, Jeremy Miller, Matt Curtis, Jamey Bailey, Sarah Greene, Michele Gaglio, Stuart Armor

The Highlands Playhouse delivers a stellar retelling of Shakespeare's *Much Ado About Nothing* which follows the love quarrel of the witty Beatrice and clever Benedick, as well as the high jinks of the rest of the townspeople in Messina, Italy. Join the Highlands Playhouse Company for an evening of hilarity, mischief and love.

The last production is Aug. 9 at 7 p.m. in Pine Street Park in Highlands. As always, admission is FREE and picnics are encouraged. Bring blankets, chairs, and a friend and enjoy some of the finer things in life with the company of *Much Ado About Nothing*.

• BUSINESS NEWS •

Mountain Findings dispurses profits to nonprofits

Volunteers from Mountain Findings, the community "Resale Shop" for furniture and household items has worked throughout the past year to raise funds to assist the many non-profit agencies in our area. Pictured below are representatives of Mountain Findings as they present checks to three of the agencies which received funds in 2009.

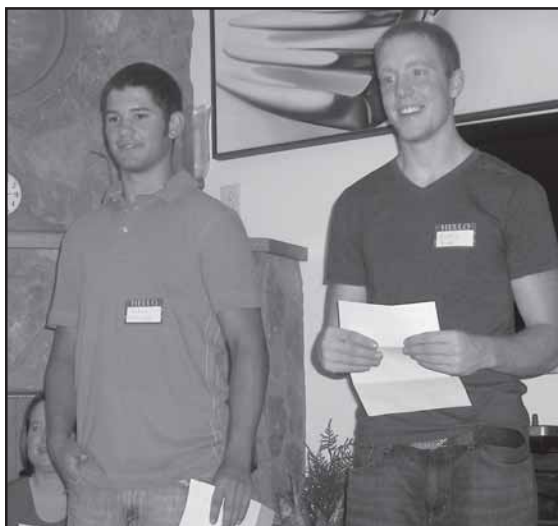


Jack Miller representing Mountain Findings presents a check to Mary Ann Creswell from the Highlands Emergency Council. "The people at the Highlands Emergency Council are so appreciative of the ongoing support that they receive from Mountain Findings", Mrs. Creswell told Jack.



Mountain Findings Volunteer, Bruce Roellke is proud to present funds to Dr. Travis Goodloe of the Community Care Clinic.

Mountain Garden Club scholarship recipients



Pictured are the 2009-2010 recipients of scholarships from Mountain Garden Club. On the left is Andrew Lamar Billingsley, son of Mary Lee and Lamar Billingsley of Scaly Mountain, who will be pursuing studies in business/agriculture at Western Carolina University. On the right is Austin R. Brooks, son of Mary and William Brooks of Highlands, who will be pursuing studies in environmental conservation at Western Carolina University. The awards were presented at the July 13 MGC meeting by Elizabeth Little, co-chairman of the Scholarship Committee.



Evelyn Miller MF Volunteer with Don Paulk of the Martin-Lipsecomb Performing Arts Center.



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To Franklin Hwy 64w & 28n
Cullasaja Falls
Bust Your Butt Falls
Lake Glenville
Whiteside Mtn.
14 Miles From Highlands

Sliding Rock
Iron Bridge
HIGHLANDS
Hwy 28s
Hwy 106
Hwy 107s

DINING

- 1 Cyprus
- 2 Don Leons
- 3 Fressers
- 4 Golden China
- 5 Highlands Deli
- 6 Horacio's
- 7 Log Cabin
- 8 Madison's
- 9 Nick's
- 10 Oak St. Cafe
- 11 Paoletti's
- 12 Pescado's
- 13 Pizza Place
- 14 Rib Shack
- 15 Rooster's
- 16 Ruka's Table
- 17 Skyline
- 18 Smoke House
- 19 SportsPage
- 20 Wild Thyme
- 21 Wolfgang's

LODGING

- 1 Chandler Inn
- 2 Chestnut Cottages
- 3 Fire Mountain
- 4 Hampton Inn
- 5 Highlands Inn
- 6 Highlands Suites
- 7 Main St. Inn
- 8 Michell's Lodge
- 9 Mirror Lake
- 10 Mt High Lodge
- 11 Old Edwards Inn
- 12 The Lodge
- 13 Skyline Lodge
- 14 Chambers

SHOPPING

- 1 Acorns
- 2 AnnaWear
- 3 Bear Mt. Outfitters
- 4 C.K. Swan
- 5 Christmas Shop
- 6 Cyrano's
- 7 Drakes Diamonds
- 8 Dry Sink
- 9 Dutchman's
- 10 Elephants Foot
- 11 Highlands Photo
- 12 House of Wong
- 13 Mill Creek Gallery
- 14 Needle Point
- 15 Peak Experience
- 16 Rarities
- 17 Scudders Antq.
- 18 Shiraz Rugs
- 19 Stone Lantern
- 20 Summit One Gallery
- 21 Summer House

MARKETS

- 1 Bryson's
- 2 Dusty's
- 3 Mtn. Fresh
- 4 Whole Health

BEAUTY

- 1 All Seasons
- 2 Creative Concepts
- 3 Images Unlimited
- 4 Taylor Barnes
- 5 The Salon

REALTY

- 1 Century 21
- 2 Chambers
- 3 Country Club Prop
- 4 Green Mtn.
- 5
- 6

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