

Highlands' Newspaper

FREE

Volume 7, Number 8

PDF Version – www.HighlandsInfo.com

Thursday, Feb. 19, 2009

This Week in Highlands

- The Bascom is offering art classes for preschoolers to pre-teens through the end of the school year. Call 526-4949, ext. 0#.

- Friends of Panthertown work days, last Thursday of every month. Volunteers needed to maintain trails. Call Nina Elliott at 526-9938 (ext 258).

- Collections for men and women overseas at Chestnut Hill Retirement community. Call (828) 787-2114.

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

Mon. & Wed.

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

Mon., Wed., Fri.

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

Mondays

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

2nd & 4th Fridays

- Community Drum Circle at the Highlands Rec Park 6-7:30 p.m. Call 421-0551.

Friday, Feb. 20

- A "Retirement Party" for Richard Betz" Friday, from 5-9 p.m. at the Highlands Community Building near the ballpark.

Saturday, Feb. 21

- Benefit for Red Potts at the Highlands Rec Park from 5-9 p.m. Food, raffle, cakes and entertainment.

- Highlands Greenway group will work outing. Call Hillrie Quin at 526-2385.

- The Annual Chili Cook-Off at the Highlands Community Building 6:30-9:30 p.m. Call 526-5841. Tickets \$20 for adults, \$10 children 12 and under at the door.

- Nantahala Hiking Club will take a 5-6 mile hike to Rock Gorge and Big Bend Falls. Call Virginia Talbot at 526-4904.

- The Macon County Soccer Club final registration from 10 a.m.-12 p.m. at the Highlands Recreation Park.

Sunday, Feb. 22

- Free chamber music concert at Highlands First Presbyterian Church featuring the music department of Western Carolina University at 4 p.m. at the church.

Weekend Weather:

FRI	SAT	SUN
32 / 12F	35 / 19F	34 / 18F

Town to 'model' stormwater controls

The Town of Highlands has been notified that it received a Clean Water Management Trust Fund Grant (CWMTF) for an innovative stormwater project at Kelsey Hutchinson Park, formerly known as Pine Street Park.

"I am extremely pleased that the Town was able to secure grant funds for this vital infrastructure necessary for the development of

Kelsey Hutchinson Park," said Town Commissioner and Public Works Committee Member Hank Ross said McGill Associates, prepared the successful grant application. Town Manager Jim Fatland reported that the total cost of the stormwater project is \$220,000. Source of funds for the project include the CWMTF Grant award of \$180,000, in kind professional services donated by

Crystal Stream Technologies, Haywood Waterways Association and McGill Associates totaling \$25,000 and \$15,000 cash from the Town of Highlands.

According to Town Engineer Lamar Nix "the project includes installation of a hydrodynamic separator and underground detention stormwater conveyance system."

• See MODEL page 14

ABC Store move final

With its previous space to be occupied by the Highlands Police Department, the Highlands ABC Store is moving to Highlands Plaza.

The new site is between State Farm Insurance and Subway, three doors north of Bryson's Food Store.

The current ABC Store building was built in 1977 by the ABC Board on property leased to ABC by the Town of Highlands for 20 years at \$1 per year.

In 1997, the town renewed the lease for another 10 years and in August 2006, the ABC Board asked the town to renew its lease for 10 more years so it could expand.

At that time, the Town Board told the ABC Board that its five-year plan for expansion of Town Hall included the use of the current ABC building and that the ABC Board should begin looking for a new location. At that point, commissioners gave the ABC Board the "verbal" OK to withhold profit proceeds earmarked for the town so it could prepare for its future needs. During fiscal year 2008-'09 a resolution was signed allowing for the continued withholding of funds.

David Wilkes, Chairman of the ABC Board, said the initial search for a new spot focused on town property so the ABC Board could build and then lease the property from the town. When this didn't work out, the ABC Board began looking for a space to lease.

In November 2008, the Town

• See ABC STORE page 10

Firefighters fight blaze on NC 28



Around 11:30 a.m., Monday, Feb. 16, Highlands Fire & Rescue began fighting a brush fire on Satulah Mountain along N.C. 28 south. They were there until 9 p.m. and returned to the scene Tuesday. For more, see page 21.

Photo by Krystal Cutshaw

A new minister is coming to town

On April 5, Palm Sunday, Highlands First Presbyterian Church will welcome its new full time minister, Rev. Doctor Lee Willey Bowman.

Since the election of the nom-

inating committee on Oct. 28, 2007, the church has been searching for a leader who will take the church into the coming decade.

The church was looking for a

• See MINISTER page 5

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TDC Board says OK to Visitor Center budget

The Highlands Tourist Development Commission (TDC) almost finalized the budget allocating all of the estimated Room Tax proceeds Highlands is likely to get FY 2009-'10 – an amount expected to be less than previous years.

With the budget "basically finalized" at the Friday, Feb. 13 meeting, the county's charge concerning the Highlands Visitor Center budget as it applies to the use of Room Tax funds was completed in time for inclusion in the county budget process.

The only item the TDC questioned was the Visitor Center's \$500 per month phone/internet/fax/800-number bill.

Once Visitor Center Director Jan Van Hook verifies the \$500 per month allocation is the lowest bid she could get, the budget will be finalized and submitted to the county.

The allocation of Room Tax is now overseen by the TDC – a board set up by the county in Highlands and Franklin to oversee the allocation of Room Tax Funds.

At Friday's meeting, Bob Kiel-

• See VISITOR page 15

* THE PLATEAU'S POSITION •

• LETTERS •

Not everyone agrees with Hancock

Dear Editor,

I'm writing in response to the letter by Arthur Hancock entitled, "Coulson's letter way off base" in the Feb. 12th issue of Highlands' Newspaper.

I'm not a Zionist, I'm an American and Israel is an important ally of the United States as well as the European Unions.

If Ms. Brugger read her history books along with the daily newspapers such as the New York Times, Wall Street Journal and The Washington Post she would realize that even Saudi Arabia behind the scenes is an ally of Israel.

When Arthur and Ms. Brugger performed in Highlands at Buck's Café it was OK to take contributions from a Jewish person. Now that they no longer perform they don't have to refrain from their vociferous Anti-Semitic remarks.

It seems that the only person that stood up for Katy Brugger is her husband. I guess the rest of the readers of the Highlands' Newspaper don't agree with Katy Brugger or Arthur Hancock.

Leila Shuminer
Miami, FL

U.S. Forest Service seeks comment on 'Forest Botanical Products Policy'

Dear Editor,

The U.S. Forest Service has extended the comment period for public input on the Sale and Disposal of Special Forest Products and Forest Botanical Products Final Rule. The comment period will now end March 2. Detailed information and how to comment may be found on the web at <http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2009/pdf/E9-1960.pdf>

The rule provides consistent national policy for gathering special forest products and forest botanical products on National Forest lands and contains guidelines for setting permit prices. Currently special use permits are required for collection of forest products for commercial or personal use. "We don't expect major changes in prices for permits", stated Dale Remington, Sales Forester for the National Forests in North Carolina. Berry picking and nut gathering for personal use does not require a permit.

The National Forests in North Carolina has one of the largest special forest products programs in the nation. This can be attributed to the great diversity of ecosystems in the Southern Appalachians and a long local tradition of gathering special forest products from these mountains. Revenue from these permits has averaged \$60,000

over the past three years. This money is used to manage the program to ensure that these special forest products are not over-harvested. Prices for forest botanical products are set based on a percentage of current wholesale market values. The most common special products gathered from the National Forests in North Carolina include galax, ginseng, firewood, locust posts, rhododendron and laurel plants and roots, ramps, and medicinal plants.

High demand for forest botanical products can result in high impacts on some species products. The US Forest Service is mandated to manage the forest resources sustainably.

Through the permit system and the support of forest users, healthy populations of these forest botanicals can be sustained into the future. The return is direct and it benefits the same areas some families have enjoyed for generations.

Permits should be acquired at the Ranger District office closest the site in which you intend to harvest. For a copy of the rule, a complete list of all products, and fact sheets for certain species, reference the National Forests in North Carolina website at <http://www.cs.unca.edu/nfsnc/resources/botanicals/botanicals.htm>

An open letter to the mayor and Town Council

Dear Lady and Gentlemen,

Until you have "walked a mile in [their] shoes" you cannot understand what a barrier a curb or a simple high threshold is to a person in a wheel chair. Nor can you appreciate the lack of van accessible handicapped parking.

As you ponder Highlands' parking ordinance, I hope you will give these matters due consideration. Ramps are very scarce in our Town and van accessible parking places are almost non-existent. I cannot find one on Main Street.

Happily or not, Highlands has more than its share of "seniors" who need friendly access to many places in town. A minimum compliance with legal requirements should not be the standard here.

Thank you for your selfless work for the betterment of Highlands and your attention to these concerns.

W. Stell Huie
Highlands

Disagreement doesn't equal anti-Semitism

Dear Editor,

It is becoming tiresome and irksome when anyone has the slightest disagreement with the powerful ADL or anything which it proposes.

Using the term anti-Semitic is the mindless way of discouraging open disagreement. This is supposed to quiet any and all opposition to its views and require humble acceptance of all its opinions and positions.

I am appalled at the brutality exhibited recently by the IDF in its unrestrained attack on the citizens of GAZA — even to the point of bombing UN quarters with children inside. The weapons used against these people were unimaginably cruel.

Wake up America. Our former president Jimmy Carter was absolutely correct in his book, "Peace Not Apartheid." Try reading it and not simply put it out of mind because of its honest and brave title.

He has paid a high price for his honesty. Read it and then point out, fairly, where the anti-Semitism lies.

Gordon Sutton
Atlanta

• CLARIFICATION •

Piermont Inn and Pierson Inn not one in the same

What OEI now owns is not Pierson Inn but Piermont (also known as Hemlock Cottage). Pierson Inn was demolished in 1993, Julie Weaver was renovating Piermont, which apparently is now owned by OEI. There were two cottages associated with Pierson Inn, the other being Lakemont, which is now the beauty shop, Mountain Magic Salon.

There are photographs of both Pierson Inn and Piermont Cottage on page 352 of my history, where more information can be found about the complex.

— Ran Shaffner

LETTERS-TO-THE EDITOR-POLICY

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

Please email letters by Monday at 5 p.m.
There is a 500-word limit without prior approval.

Highlands' Newspaper

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• OBITUARIES •

Bernest 'Boots' Glenn Melton

Bernest "Boots" Glenn Melton, age 85, of Raven Ridge Road, Scaly Mtn., NC passed away Monday, February 09, 2009 at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. He was born in Wadesboro, NC, the son of Roy Boyd and Hattie Meeks Melton. He was a retired US WWII Navy Veteran with 22 1/2 years of service. He also retired from the US Post office with 17 years of service.

He is survived by his wife of 46 years, Ruth Ball Melton; two sons, Stanley Kern Melton & wife, Denise Ann of MacClenny, FL and Glenn Allen Melton & wife Elizabeth Anne of Greenfield, IN; four sisters, Nancy, Betty Jean, Polly and Irene; two brothers, Leroy and Richard Melton. Two grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews also survive. He was preceded in death by two sisters, Peggy and Vonette and one brother, Bill.

Services were held Saturday, Feb. 14 at 11 a.m. in the Chapel of Bryant-Grant Funeral Home in Highlands with the VFW Chaplain Bud Colcord officiating.

Bryant-Grant Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements. Online condolences can be made by visiting www.bryantgrantfuneralhome.com.

Sandra Marlene Henry

Sandra Marlene Henry, age 59, of Moore, and Rondall Moore of Jacksonville, Franklin died Saturday, February 14, 2009 in Asheville. She was born in Webster, WV, March 15, 1949.

Mrs. Henry was the daughter of the late John Phillip and Margie Stout Moore. She was a homemaker and worked as a hotel custodian.

Surviving is her husband of 42 years, Kibby L. Henry Sr., two daughters Cynthia McGaha and her husband Mark and Ronda Henry, both of Franklin; one son, Kibby L. Henry, Jr. and his wife Michele also of Franklin; two sisters, Janice Bohannon of Jacksonville, FL and Pama Sue Barber of Dawsonville, GA; four brothers Phillip Moore, Nathan

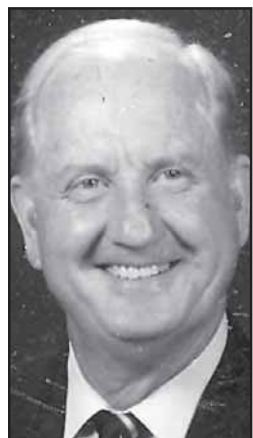


Funeral services were held Wednesday, February 18, at 11 a.m. in the Chapel of Bryant-Grant Funeral Home with the Revs. Oliver Rice and Robert Ramey officiating. Burial was in Blue Valley Baptist Church Cemetery. Terry Henry, Charlie Dillhyon, Gene Ramey, John Moore, J. D. Henry and Robert Bohannon were pallbearers.

Online condolences may be made at www.bryantgrantfuneralhome.com Bryant-Grant Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

McCoy "Mac" Mericus

McCoy "Mac" Mericus, age 85, of Christopher, Casey (Jason), Courtney, Olivia, Alexa and Jackson. We will miss Mac and thank the Lord for blessing us with his presence.



He was a kind, loving and honest man that served the Lord and was loved by those who knew him. Mac leaves behind his wife of 22 years, Barbie; son John (Brenda); daughter, Jill; sister Georgie (Lewis); stepchildren Laurie (David), Leigh (Jack), Mark, seven grandchildren, Lindsay (Jayme),

Donations can be made to: Vitas Hospice Care, 5420 NW 33 Ave., Ft. Lauderdale, FL, 33309; Child Evangelism of Broward County Inc., P.O. Box 735, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33302-0735; or Building fund of Plantation Community Church, 6501 W. Broward Blvd., Plantation, FL 33317.

Cremation arrangements were by T. M. Ralph Funeral Home Plantation, 7001 NW 4 St., Plantation, FL 33317, 954-587-6888, www.tmralf.com

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• LAUGHING AT LIFE •

2009 predictions and rumors

Yes, fellow Highlanders, once again it's that time of year when I use my supernatural powers and look into my crystal ball (No relation to Lucille) to predict the future. Are you getting paper and pencil?

- The terrorist group "Hamas," what's left of it, will sue retired president George

Bush for ruining their planned presidential inauguration celebration in downtown Gaza. They claim Bush, mean spirited to the end, created the Israeli/Gaza war just to spoil their party. They're also blaming him for the recent cold snap in the region. Sounds reasonable to me.

- Retired vice president Al Gore, driv-

ing to a lecture on global warming, will suffer severe frostbite to several appendages (don't ask) after being trapped in a men's room during the most severe Boston blizzard on record in over a 100 years.

- Impeached Governor Rod Blagojevich will open a "how to jog in the snow wearing Spandex" school.

- Almost, but not quite, elected Al Franken will be dubbed "Senate Jester" and receive a standing ovation from Congress after performing his impersonation of Mick Jagger on Roland Burris' senate seat. There's no truth that Franken will ask Leno to be his aide but I think Ophra has a shot.

- Newly appointed Senator Roland, "I ain't got no money," Burris will tell Congress that, in 1953, he was the first black man to dive into an all white Chicago swimming pool. When shocked officials saw the water didn't change color they allowed other blacks to jump in. Kudos to Roland for not drowning.

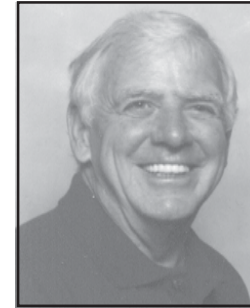
- Sarah Palin will vow to stay in her "mamma grizzly" mood by not shaving any body hair until the media apologizes to her. Hey, Sarah, better throw away your razor.

- Senate dropout candidate Caroline, "ah, you know," Kennedy, hoping to gain support from the media, will join with Katie Couric and Keith Olbermann in criticizing Sarah Palin for her total lack of government experience.

- In a unanimous vote, the 111th Congress will adopt "Entry of the Gladiators" as their theme song.

- Highlands will ask Congress for 40 billion dollars to build a five-story bomb shelter under Whiteside Mountain to protect our president from foreign and domestic attack. The mountain will be renamed "Don't Bomb Obama Mountain" and the construction contract will be awarded to the U.S. Forest Service who will complete the project by 2050, just before our president/king retires from office.

- Our new town manager will form a country/western band and his first concert will be titled, "Waylon with Faylan." Attendance by department heads and employees not wishing to "change activities" must



Fred Wooldridge

Feedback is encouraged!
email:
askfredanything@aol.com

attend.

- So many businesses will not re-open next season, the town will consider placing blowup mannequins resembling customers in the empty stores to make them look occupied.

- On that note, it has been rumored the police department will apply for a federal grant to double its work force by adding additional blowup mannequins to their ranks. One of the mannequins will hold a

sign that says, "Drive slow and see our town. Drive fast and see our jail." Another mannequin will be an exact replica of Dave Jellison who will fill in on Dave's day off except it won't nod off.

- There's no truth to the rumor that the country of Mexico has asked the Olympic Committee to add "wall scaling" as a regular event.

- The U.S. Forest Service will open a "theft of government rock" investigation after recently discovering a large bolder missing from Bridle Veil Falls.

- Highlands will open a public golf course and, hoping to attract big shot politicians, lobbyists and dignitaries, will name the course "Pay to Play Golf."

- During our annual pilgrimage to Dubai, the li'l missus and I will deem Emirates Airlines as having the scariest looking coach passengers on the planet.

- After much discussion and deliberation, the Town Board will write a proclamation declaring our new president as the only honest politician in Illinois.

- In August, the Congress will write their fifth stimulus package of lowering taxes and overspending while continuing to criticize the Republicans for...well, lowering taxes and overspending.

- Mexico will build a wall along its southern border to keep American and Mexican citizens from fleeing into its country.

- Our new president will write a children's book titled, "The Sky is Falling." that will be read by more Republicans than children.

- And finally, demeaned lobbyist Tom Daschle will write a powerful best seller titled, "How to rip off America without going to jail."

• HIGHLANDS FINE DINING •

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• THE VIEW FROM HERE •

Let's check the power of the press. "FOUND; small calico cat in Shelby Place. Wish to return same to owner."

There that should do it. The owner should read this, identify himself and be reunited with his sweet little guy by next weekend — actually, with his sweet little gal. Two people have told me that all calico cats are female. The things you wouldn't know if you didn't read my column. The things I wouldn't know if I didn't write it.

My mom-in-law had been away from her house for a few weeks. We took her home on Saturday and immediately heard a cat crying. Unless Helen's cat, Benji, has been practicing ventriloquism, he wasn't the source of the cries. Lizzie localized the sound to the basement. The basement showed signs of recent habitation, but no cat. The hot water heater insulation

A 'calico' Valentine



Dr. Henry Salzarulo

**Feedback is encouraged.
email:**

hsalzarulo@aol.com

blanket had been shredded. The condensation line from the furnace was broken, perhaps an accident, but a source of drinking water, nonetheless. We searched every corner of the basement, but found no cat. I found the point of entrance, a dislodged vent in the foundation, but no cat. Only then did I look up and discover that a flexible furnace duct had been ripped open. At about the same time, Lizzie, who had gone up stairs, called that the crying was coming from a bathroom

duct. When she removed the register, a tiny calico leapt out and scared the dickens out of her.

We have no idea how long she might have been trapped in Helen's basement, or her motive for hiding in the duct. She is skinny and weak, but is obviously a house

pet and a people lover. Despite my warnings about locating her owner through the power of the press, Bull adopted her immediately and named her "Valentine". We brought her home and set up a cat carrier with a warm blanket, food and water. She follows us around like a puppy. She prefers sleeping against the kitchen door to the area we designated. She cries to get in, but we've barred her until she visits the vet and gets a clean bill of health. Even if she passes with flying colors, Lizzie insists that she will be an outside cat. She may be very ill. She looks terrible, and may die before publication. I prepared to bathe her, but Lizzie feels that a little furnace dirt is the least of her problems, so I've agreed to leave her alone. She has been at our kitchen door constantly since we brought her home. She scratches the door frame and scratches the glass. She would love to be inside with us.

We'll try to get her healthy and keep her happy. We'll get her tested for feline leukemia, before deciding her fate. If she survives the next few days, she will be waiting here for you to reclaim her. We'll even deliver her to you. She's a good cat and deserves to be reunited with her owner. Ask your friends if any of them has lost a precious little piece of their lives. If we can't find her owner, I guess our family will be a little bigger.

... MINISTER continued from page 1

pastor with excellent preaching skills, who could inspire through thoughtful sermons well-grounded in Presbyterian principles, who is friendly, approachable, caring, filled with compassion, strength of character, warmth, grace and who has a sense of humor that reflects the joy of spreading the message of God's love and grace; a person who could serve with energy, intelligence, imagination and love.

Though a high order to fill, Rev. Bowman of the First Presbyterian Church in Lexington, KY, where she has served since 2000, fits the bill.

Associate Pastor Don Mullen said as a second home owner in the area, and sister of Willis Willey, a member of Highlands Falls Country Club and past president of the Highlands Community Fund, Bowman is already known by many Highlanders.

"We are proud to have a woman becoming our minister," said Mullen. "The Presbyterian (USA) churches are inclusive and encourage women to become senior pastors. We hope that her ministry with us brings that impression and encouragement to others in Highlands."

However, Mullen said she was called to be First Presbyterian's minister because she is highly qualified as a minister of the Word and Sacrament not because she is a woman.

Lee and her husband Dave, who is a teacher at the University of Kentucky, have two grown children, Kate and Willis. They own a home in Glenville and will live there until a manse situation is finalized here in

Highlands.

In Lexington, she and her staff "grew" the church in all aspects, and Mullen said it's hoped she can do the same for First Presbyterian of Highlands.

She revitalized the ministry plan enhancing the programs through a workshop rotation model for children and young adults.



Rev. Lee Bowman

A long-range planning program culminated in a successful capital campaign which funded a significant renovation of the worship space, circa 1872. The church's music ministry also grew and became a home for the Central Music Academy, a ministry for low-income children in Lexington who can't afford fine arts training and education. In addition, while at Lexington, mission trips increased as did the budget for those trips.

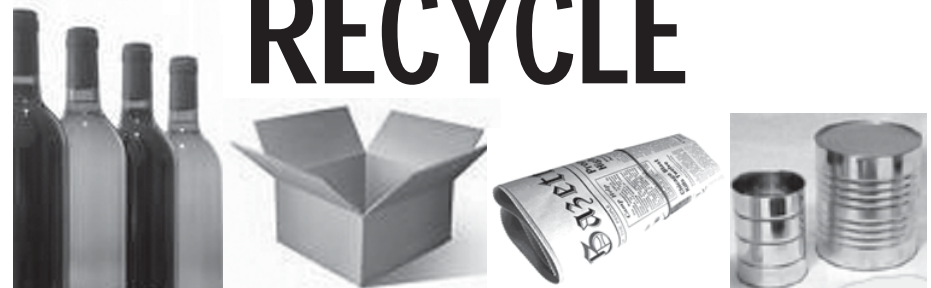
"In broadest terms — whether in worship or education or mission — I try to create an environment in which those with whom I come in contact are reminded that they are beloved children of God," she said. "Most important to me is that the church I serve strives toward becoming the Body of Christ and that it therefore is a welcoming place for all people."

Lee was ordained to the Ministry of Word and Sacrament in November 1988. She received a BA from Mary Baldwin and a MA from the University of Virginia. She earned her master of Divinity degree at Union Theological Seminary in Richmond and her Doctorate in Ministry from Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary.

— Kim Lewicki

**All Friends and
Co-Workers
Are Invited to Attend
a Retirement Party
for
RICHARD P. BETZ
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• REFLECTIONS FROM TURTLE POND •

In the two years I have been writing this column it has been interesting to see what provokes reader response. Whenever I have mentioned socialism or criticized former President George W. Bush I rile some people, but there are two issues that have stimulated people to attack me personally: the military and Israel. In both cases partisans accused me of, in essence, thought crime. Their message was that there is one correct way to think about the issue (theirs) and since I think differently I am pro-terrorist (when I wrote "Soldier Gods," a letter-to-the-editor recommended that I spend some re-education time in a burkha), anti-American (I should leave the country), a hater and anti-semitic (in response to "The WASP State"), and ignorant ("Stop reading information from all these liberal radicals and enlighten yourself to what is reality" — an actual quote from an email).

I've said it before and I'll say it again in this column: One of the things that sets

this nation apart from other countries is the freedom of speech enshrined in our Constitution. Even speech we detest is protected — sometimes a KKK rally has more police than Klansmen.

George Orwell created a frightening totalitarian regime in his novel "1984" which maintained power through the rigid control of the citizens' thoughts. The "Party" had installed "telescreens" everywhere that not only broadcast propaganda but could be used to watch and listen to what people were doing in their homes, at work, in the street, in the toilet. There was no escaping being observed, and what the Party was looking for was any sign of a heretical thought, any look or sound that betrayed an independent idea.

The Party was even developing a new language, called Newspeak, and, as one of the developers described it, "the whole aim of Newspeak is to narrow the range of

Thought crimes

thought. In the end we shall make thought crime literally impossible, because there will be no words in which to describe it... In fact, there will be no thought, as we understand it now. Orthodoxy means not thinking — not needing to think. Orthodoxy is unconsciousness."

The Thought Police arrested people who showed signs of deviant thoughts and took them to be "vaporized" — which included totally eliminating any record that those persons had ever existed.

The essence of totalitarianism: control of thought.

Our most precious freedom, and one too few of us use to its full advantage, is our ability to think for ourselves. This last Monday a woman wrote a letter to the editor of the New York Times in response to a story on banned books. She remembered a time in school when she had been assigned a book her father found objectionable. He asked her to read another book with the opposite point of view. She says she can't remember either book, but "what I do remember is a father who cared deeply that I learn to think for myself, and his lifelong lesson that the best way to combat bad or insidious information is with more information, with careful thought and with exposure to the broadest possible array of ideas."

Thankfully we live in a relatively free society and are mostly allowed to speak freely, but there are Thought Police in our society. I have discovered two areas that bring out the Thought Police, and I'm sure there are more.

Thought Police believe there is one truth and they are in possession of it. This is very dangerous to a democracy.

I was nervous about writing an article about Israel because I knew I would be attacked. Since I have already suffered the vilification for having these views, I thought I'd go ahead and share some more information.

Last week there was a *New York Times* article about the recent Israeli parliamentary elections, "A Hard-Liner Gains Ground in Israel" which made exactly the same point I did in "The WASP State." Where I called the phrase "Jewish democracy" a contradiction in terms, this author described it as a "paradox." Avigdor Lieberman, a candidate for prime minister (whose party came in third), is advocating a loyalty oath which "would require all Israelis to vow allegiance to Israel as a Jewish, democratic state, to accept its symbols, flag and anthem, and to commit to military ser-

vice or some alternative service. Those who declined to sign such a pledge would be

permitted to live here as residents but not as voting citizens. Most of the political establishment, including members of the Likud, Kadima and Labor Parties, are furious... They fear that his focus on a normally submerged paradox of political life here — how a state made up of Jews and Arabs can define itself as both Jewish and democratic — undermines a

delicate coexistence." The same points are made in Fareed Zakaria's column in this week's *Newsweek* and *Washington Post* ("Israel's Existential Dilemma").

Will the Thought Police insist the *New York Times*, *Newsweek*, *Washington Post*, and the two writers are all anti-semitic and guilty of hate speech?

Last fall Middle East expert Sandra Mackey spoke to a large crowd in Highlands. I filmed the speech and this newspaper printed it in serial form (the following quote is in the December 4, 2008 issue). Ms. Mackey was asked "How far will Israel allow Iran to go with its nuclear development?" She responded, "This is a real problem." She predicted if the hardliners won the election, they would be willing to use nuclear weapons to attack Iran's nuclear sites knowing that they could not complete the job and would drag the United States into a war.

She ended by coming out from behind the podium — the only time she did this all evening — and saying emphatically, "People, we have reached a point when we have to accept the fact that Israel is a nation state. It isn't the Holy Land of the Bible. There are times when American national interests and Israeli national interests run parallel. But there are times when they don't. We have one administration after another — Republican, Democrat — saying that Israel is our greatest ally and we are committed to the defense of Israel. This is fine, but we also have to be willing to draw limits around what we are willing to do. The U.S. has never been willing to do that. We have allowed the tail to wag the dog and that's got to change." Quite a number of people in the audience applauded this statement, the only comment of the evening to evoke this response. (Google "The Israel Lobby and US Foreign Policy," by professors John J. Mearsheimer and Stephen M. Walt)

Will the Thought Police insist that Sandra Mackey and all the audience members who applauded were anti-semitic and haters?

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



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By Michelle A. Mead-Armor

When I was a little girl, I thought you actually had to live in a cabin to get cabin fever. Now I know better. As each winter day passes, I gaze out the window, and look for daffodils. The coming of spring is somewhat different in New York. The arrival of spring on East 52nd Street was the first day that Vinnie, the UPS man, would wear his shorts. The UPS truck would pull up in front of our building, and out would hop Vinnie, now minus the long pants and heavy jacket. We middle-aged ladies would sigh and smile. Yes, spring was truly back. Beyond Vinnie the Legs, however, there were the daffodils - sidewalks and parks full of them.

Since 9/11, daffodils have taken on special meaning to me. Once just a lovely sign of spring, they now remind me of the sense of renewal and hope we had in the spring following those tragic September events. Hoping to extend a helping hand to the people of New York, Hans van Waardenburg of B&K Bulbs in the Netherlands contacted Lynden B. Miller, a landscape architect and chairwoman of New Yorkers for Parks.

In a marvelous gesture of international solidarity, he donated half a million daffodils bulbs to the City of New York. But he didn't stop there. Mr. van Waardenburg called around, and another 500,000 daffodils and 90,000 yellow tulips were donated by the City of Rotterdam and the Rotterdam Port Authority. Thousands of out-of-state residents poured into the city to join New Yorkers that fall to plant all those bulbs. A group of 10,000 volunteers planted 250,000 bulbs that first day - October 20th - in an effort which became the Daffodil Project. The color yellow was significant, too, as the color of remembrance and hope.

I moved to Highlands on November 15 several years ago, so the arrival of my first spring at Kettlerock brought unexpected surprises. The yard was a daily delight to discover. At the end of the driveway were two apple trees whose abundant blossoms made it look like a snowstorm had descended on us overnight. The peach trees on the other side of the house were awash in tiny, delicate pink buds.

The carpet of wildflowers was a treat, too, as were the wild strawberries in bloom. Grape hyacinths thrived in only one corner of the yard - why there, and nowhere else? Our forsythia bushes were so huge they completely took over the deck just off the kitchen, and had to be cut back to let in the sunlight. My great delight, above all else, was the daffodils. Planted years ago by Annie Linn Henley Armor, John's mother, they dotted the yard with their colorful blossoms, an unexpected treat for this unsuspecting new tenant.

So, here I am, waiting for spring. Every winter has its list of challenges and disappointments, but this has been a particularly tough winter. Several dear

friends have passed away, including Betty Vigour and Beth Cockrell - neighbors from my old Waynesboro days and a pair of great ladies.

Our house was originally built as a summer house, and in spite of its major 1994 refit, showed us that there can be limits to the best laid plans. Under normal circumstances, we get by well enough without central heating. Our two built-in fireplaces, and a number of iron Franklin stoves, fueled by wood masterfully cut by our friend Jerry Miller and his associate, normally keep our house fairly toasty. We do cheat with a few space heaters, too, which on very cold days have cats attached to them. This year, however, there were times when nothing could keep us warm. The winds howled outside, and it was so cold indoors you could see your own breath in the front hallway. Some mornings, I had to turn on the oven and leave the door open just to make it warm enough to eat breakfast in the kitchen. We watched a lot of TV upstairs in the master bedroom, snuggled up under the duvet with two clingy cats.

I comforted myself by thinking of the summer, when we had lost water, the spring drying up to just a trickle. "At least we have water," I would sigh, until, of course, the pipes froze and we lost water, too. Now, at least, I knew the routine - showers at the Rec Center, hauling 5-gallon containers of water begged from friends, buying drinking water at Bryson's. I was an old hand at this. I began to pray to St. Vincent Ferrer, the patron saint of plumbers, whose representative on earth is our beloved Drew, a saint among men, and plumbers, especially.

In the midst of all this, John became very sick, and after calling 911, he was whisked off to Highlands-Cashiers Hospital by two of the nicest EMS workers you'd ever want to meet. That there are people who choose to spend their Friday nights coming to rescue of people like us just blows me away. The hospital staff was awaiting our arrival, and in no time at all, John was being treated by Dr. Thomas Lindsay, who was on duty that evening, and several other very kind and capable people, including Matt and Sharon (I wish I could remember everyone by name to thank them!). I knew that no matter what was the problem, John could not be in better hands.

We were assigned a room, and I was

• HIS & HERS •

Enough, already



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

shown where I could put all of the things hurriedly put together as we were rushing out of the house. "Why don't you have a nice, hot shower and get some rest?" said Sharon. "But, I should be there with John, in case he needs me," I protested. Then she said the perfect words, the ones I needed to hear. "It's my job to take care of John right now. Your job is to take

care of you." That's exactly what I did. Freshly showered, I tumbled into bed, and barely woke up when they wheeled John in several hours later. At 8:30 a.m., a knock on the door brought me to my senses. "Are you decent?" I heard a cheery voice say, as Father Brian Sullivan, our minister, poked his head through the door. At that point, decent or not, I can't imagine a face I would have rather seen. When you are not making a whole bunch of sense, a calm, reasonable person is just what the doctor ordered. To make a long story short, John was in the

hospital through Sunday early evening, and is now back home, doing marvelously well.

Or rather, well enough until he forgot to get me anything for Valentine's Day. I held out until 2 p.m. at which point I burst into loud wails, and Mr. Forgetful jumped into the Jeep, racing to the Dry Sink in search of an appropriate greeting card. While there, he bumped into several other shamefaced men, who had also forgotten the event, and were there to salvage what they could of the day and their reputations.

• See HIS & HERS page 11

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• CONSERVATIVE POV •

You're not in Nebraska anymore, Barack

We saw a campaign that was described by the adoring media as flawless. It was good enough to get him elected by a significant margin although the opposition didn't put up much of a fight. Obama made hundreds of public appearances while his campaign staff managed a highly successful crusade, raising record amounts in contributions. His on-

the-ground organization was overwhelming.

Here's a riddle? What's the difference between campaigning and governing? Answer - Plenty.

It is more apparent every day that the greatest of our fears is coming true. With all the monumental problems facing the new administration, the simplest task should be

picking a Cabinet and a team of advisors. Not so fast. Here we are more than a month into his administration and two Cabinet positions are unfilled. Shameful.

What happened? Well, let's take the ill-fated appointments, one by one, and see if a pattern can be detected, shall we?

I think the first bombshell that landed in Obama's lap was the withdrawal of Bill Richardson, Governor of New Mexico and the number one candidate for Secretary of Commerce. Strangely, I thought he was a good choice until it was disclosed that Richardson was being investigated by the Feds for business dealings between a California company and the State of New Mexico. Something about a big contributor winning State bond business. Bad Bill.

The name Nancy Killifer is not a household word nor is it likely to become one. Let me introduce her. From MSNBC, "Killifer, an executive with the giant consulting firm McKinsey & Co., had been chosen by Obama to serve in two roles: as the first chief performance officer in a White House and as a deputy director of the Office of Management and Budget.

When Obama announced Killifer to much fanfare in early January, the Associated Press reported that the District of Columbia government had filed a tax lien on her home in 2005 for failure to pay unemployment compensation tax on household help. She resolved the tax error five months after the lien was filed. Since then, administration officials had refused to say whether her tax problems extended beyond that one issue." She withdrew her appointment.

Surely, I don't have to recount the embarrassment Tom Daschle put on the Obama administration, but I will because it pleases me to do so.

InterMedia Partners provided Tom with a limousine and chauffeur for years. He failed to declare it as income as is required. He also failed to pay taxes on an additional \$83,333 that he earned as a consultant to InterMedia Partners in 2007. According to ABC News, Daschle also took tax deductions for \$14,963 in donations to organizations that didn't qualify as legitimate charities. He announced his withdrawal as Secretary of Health and Human Services "so as not to become a distraction to the Obama agenda."

Obama hoped that Daschle would be the man to engineer his intended nationalization of our health-care system. Oh well.

Then there is the interesting case of Judd Gregg, Republican Senator from New



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

Hampshire. In a fascinating piece of strategy, Obama picks him to become the Secretary of Commerce and Gregg accepts. Bear in mind, the balance of complete power in the Senate is hanging in the balance and Gregg giving up his Senate seat to join the cabinet puts the Dems one step closer to having a super majority. A deal is worked out so the Democrat Governor of New Hampshire agrees to name a Republican, Bonnie Newman, to Gregg's vacated seat.

A few days after Gregg accepted the Commerce job (to my utter amazement), Obama announces that he is pulling the 2010 census away from the Commerce Department and put it in the hands of his chief flunky, Rahm Emmanuel. All the better to fudge the numbers, my dear.

This move, along with the realization that he couldn't support Obama's free-wheeling spending agenda, causes Gregg to say "thanks but no thanks," and withdraws from the cabinet position, leaving Obama at the altar looking miffed. You'd think he'd be used to it by now.

Perhaps the greatest irony is the one that didn't get away. Tim Geithner, the tax cheat who Obama could not live without, is named Secretary of the Treasury. If anyone had reasons to withdraw, Tim's the guy. His transgressions are indefensible. Anyway, the other week, it was announced that Geithner was going to make a speech outlining the solution to the banking problem.

By everybody's assessment, it was a horrible speech with no specifics whatsoever. Geithner exhibited his total inadequacy and immediately sent the Dow down 380 points. He's just what we need.

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• SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING •

Ah Lent...



Rev. Brian Sullivan
Episcopal Church of the Incarnation

Every year at this time, I find myself saying the same mantra, "I love Lent!" While the forty days before Easter is not typically a time for celebration, I find myself looking forward to it. While I enjoy the wonderful frenetic, multi-tasking nature of parish ministry, Lent allows me time to focus on one thing. Lent is intended to give us one goal, to improve the primary relationship in all our lives "by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God's holy Word." Book of Common Prayer pg. 264ff.

Unfortunately, improving this primary relationship can resume a yearly pattern of giving up something trivial for forty days. Thus, Lent turns into a stale routine. The truth is, when the time comes to reestablish any relationships, we easily fall back on our routines. For example, reconciling with a spouse can become a pattern of flowers, a nice meal, or a sincere apology. Reconnecting with our child(ren) becomes a long distance phone call, a letter, or a romp on the playground. When we lose touch with a friend, we send a Christmas card, an email or pick up the phone. When we leave our pets for a long time, we go for a walk, throw a stick, or give them a special treat. What does this look like in our primary relationship? Many of us wait until Lent to reconnect with God, which is its primary purpose. However, it can so easily become a stale routine of giving up chocolate, sweets or attending church more regularly.

This year, I want to challenge everyone to try something new when it comes to their relationship with God. If you feel comfortable praying in church, try praying extemporaneously in a natural setting (or vice-versa). If you typically encounter God only when you are alone, try finding God in your neighbor over a cup of tea. If you see God outside yourself, try finding God within. If you are comfortable not eating chocolate, skip lunch and try spending that time with God. If you typically give something up for Lent, attempt taking something on this year. If you are a creative writer, try keeping a prayer journal, or writing poetry to God. If you have difficulty praying, light a scented candle to represent God's saturating presence in the room. The incredible thing about being in relationship with God is that no matter where you look for God, or what you do to find God, as long as you are striving towards that one goal, there is God waiting for you.

This Lent give yourself permission to be spontaneous and creative with your primary relationship. However, don't be surprised if one positive change in your relationship with God doesn't affect an affirmative change in all your relationships.

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Wednesdays: Mid-week prayer meeting - 7 p.m.

BUCK CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

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Pastor's residence: 706-746-5770

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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

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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

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Dr. Daniel D. Robinson, 526-4153

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

Wednesdays: Dinner - 5:30 p.m.; Team Kids - 6 p.m.; Prayer - 6:15 p.m.; Choir - 7:30 p.m.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Dr. Don Mullen, Parish Associate 526-3175
Sun.: Worship - 10:55 a.m.; Sun.School - 9:30 & 9:45.

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

Tuesdays: 10 a.m. - Seekers

Choir - 7

HIGHLANDS ASSEMBLY OF GOD

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Wednesdays: Prayer & Bible Study - 7

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

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Wednesdays: Prayer Mtg. - 7 p.m.

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290 Buck Knob Road; Pastor Alfred Sizemore

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HCP cast features five new faces



From left, Kirk Howard, who is playing Morrow McCarthy, a political pundit and friend of Lyssa's husband in Highlands-Cashiers Players production of "American Daughter." Kirk first discovered Highlands in 1991 as a weekender then moved here full time in 2000 when he decided not to waste time "living for weekends." He now works at Buck's Coffee Café. Stevven William Amari has spent the last 30 years in broadcasting which gives him insight into the character he plays in *Daughter* — that of Timber Tucker, a television news reporter. Marjorie Fielding, co-owner of The Laurel Magazine, is playing Quincy Quince, a new generation feminist, self-absorbed career woman, who has "eyes" for the husband of Lyssa Dent Hughes. Marlene Alvarez has been spending time in Highlands since 1981, becoming a resident and owner of the restaurant, ...on the Veranda, in 1999. Crystal Guill-Marsh, has a small part in *Daughter* as a TV camera operator but also serving backstage and painting a mural for the set. Crystal has been drawing and painting "since she could walk." *An American Daughter*, opens on Thursday, Feb. 26, at the Performing Arts Center on Chestnut Street in Highlands. The Box Office number: 526-8084.

... ABC STORE continued from page 1

Board gave its permission for the ABC Board to begin negotiations to lease the space in Highlands Plaza. The N.C. ABC Commission regulations require that the commission first review the proposed location then, after posting a sign at the location for 30 days, invite public comment.

The review was done in November, the sign posted in November and December and final approval for the new site was completed on Dec. 18. With no negative comment, the commission approved the new location.

The new ABC Store will encompass 4,800 square feet which is 1,800 sq. ft. larger than its current 3,000 sq. ft. space.

"The increased sales space will provide for additional products to be added and allow for storage of items that can be purchased occasionally at special pricing," said Wilkes. "Purchasing 'special priced' items will allow for both better retail pricing on those purchases which will translate to additional profits for distribution to various funds that ABC stores' profits are designated for."

Highlands ABC Board, as all ABC Boards in North Carolina, is a nonprofit organization established, in this case, by the Town of

Highlands for the purpose of operating a retail store to sell alcoholic beverages. All profits are distributed annually to recipients as prescribed by the State of North Carolina, town of Highlands and the Highlands ABC Board.

Wilkes said the ABC Store has a 20-year lease at Highlands Plaza but didn't want to say how much the rent was until the signed lease has been returned to him. However, he did acknowledge that two months rent has been paid.

With the lease secured and rent finalized, Wilkes said the Board is designing the floor plan, getting prices on renovations to include electric upgrades and display construction.

He said the board has put aside a "few hundred thousand dollars" over the past 2-3 years in preparation for the ABC Store move.

However, he wasn't able to give an exact figure reflecting the amount of money the ABC Board "put away" over the last few years, nor was he able to give an estimate as to how far into the future those savings would see

• See ABC STORE page 15

• HS HONOR ROLL – 3RD 6 WEEKS •

4th Grade – Iannacone	AB Johnson, Tucker
A Schmitt, Cecelia	AB Mathis, Emily
AB Barnes, Erica	AB Miller, Benjamin
AB Calloway, Jake	AB Moss, Katlin
AB Garcia, Sandra	AB Murphy, John
AB Gilbert, Abigail	AB Schandolph, Madison
AB Ingate, Eden	AB Vinson, Megan
AB Mathis, Danielle	AB Vroon, Jackson
AB Satterwhite, Seth	AB Walsh, Jamie
4th Grade – West	5th Grade – Archer
A Crowe, Emily	A Henry, Sarah
A Schiffl, Adam	A Kennemore, Ahzah
AB Billingsley, Kelsie	A McClure, Carrie
AB Houser, Ryan	

SUMMIT CHARTER HONOR ROLL

Sixth Grade:	Taylor Williams
High Honors:	Tatiana Schmitt
Audrey Egler	Mary Gillan Renfro
Kalob Payne	Ann Marie Osteen
Bull Salzarulo	Ashley Nichols
Townsend Stewart	Daniel Hickman
Honors:	Craig Ezechel
Katie Chandler	David Benitez
Maddy Franzen	
Kassidy Campbell	Eighth Grade:
Raine Huff	High Honors:
Alex Bronaugh	Samuel Craig
Jacob McElroy	Elizabeth Srawn
Kevin Young	Hayden Bates
Caroline Young	Honors:
Kaylee O'Dwyer	John Collins
	Kevin Dickey
	Shelby Scott
Seventh Grade:	Cameron St. John
High Honors:	Morgan Hensley
Isabella Lupoli	Lindsey Lombard
Sammy Lupas	Lisle Bruns
Jake Gajda	
Honors:	

... HIS & HERS continued from page 7

This led me to ponder the expression “to be in the doghouse.” Hmmm...the doghouse. No heat. No running water. Sort of rings a bell, doesn't it?

• About the Author: Michelle A. Mead-Armor is a writer and translator who grew up in Waynesboro, Virginia, before wasting her youth and good looks in Baltimore, Sydney, Paris, and New York. She and her husband live on top of a mountain on the Continental divide near Highlands. They are members of the Highlands Writers Group. John and Michelle live at Kettlerock, a house which combines elements of *Green Acres*, *Little House on the Prairie*, and *Deliverance*.

A Potts, Carter	A Moss, April
A Gilbert, Chance	A Murphy, Phillip
AB Gabbard, Kyle	A Satterwhite, Ivy
AB Harris, Chase	A Tilson, Jessica
AB Iannacone, John	AB Billingsley, Valarie
AB Walker, Lincoln	AB Bolt, Allison
5th Grade – Hedden	AB Crowe, Ann Marie
A Adrian, Remy	AB Garcia, Veronica
A Billingsley, Whitney	AB Welch, Shannon
A Pair, Carson	AB Wolfrey, Josh
A Weller, Colin	7th Grade
AB Moss, Michael	A Beavers, Ellen
AB Vinson, Dylan	A Gabbard, Emily
6th Grade	A Palmer, Jessie
A Brassard, Grace	AB Dorsey, Emily
A Lewis, Kenan	AB Moss, Paige

AB Parks, Rebekah	9th Grade
AB Shuler, Emily	A Beavers, Isaac
AB Smolarsky, Cali	A Murphy, Emily
AB Vinson, Ryan	A Roman, Cai
8th Grade	A Renfro, Brian
A Johnson, Rebecca	AB Buras, Julianne
A Palmer, Brett	AB Lewis, Kaitlin
Greg	AB Millis, Elizabeth
A Vinson, Austin	AB Munger, Emily
Troy	AB Scott, Sarah
AB Billingsley, Kalya	AB Smart, Stephanie
AB Christy, Caroline	AB Webb, Delania
AB Crumley, Spencer	10th Grade
AB Ruiz-Frias, Laura	A Graham, Avee
Cristell	AB Bates, Tucker
	AB Damian-Clemente, Ana

AB McCall, Marlena	11th Grade
A Jenkins, Brice	A Nix, Michael
A Nix, Beverly	A Sanchez, Velasco
A Parks, Kate Marie	AB Edwards, Will
A Tally, Bobbi Jo	AB Herz, Ezra
AB Cortez-Damian, Carmen A.	AB Jenkins, Casey
AB Johnson, Shelby	AB Parrish, Taylor
AB Rodriguez, LaDonna	AB Ruiz-Frias, Lucitania
12th Grade	
A Brown, Caden	
A Hornsby, Carolyn	
A McClellan, Matthew	

A Nix, Michael
A Sanchez, Velasco
AB Edwards, Will
AB Herz, Ezra
AB Jenkins, Casey
AB Parrish, Taylor
AB Ruiz-Frias, Lucitania

Note:
Rachael Smith was inadvertently omitted from the Perfect Attendance list in 7th Grade for the 3rd six-week grading period.

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• HS SPORTS •



Emily Munger takes determined stance at the Hendersonville game. Photo by Noel Atherton



Michael Baty stands out at the Hendersonville game. Photo by Debbie Hornsby

Girls and Boys finish strong; move into conference with confidence and skill

By Ryan Potts

The Highlanders and Lady Highlanders wrapped up their regular season with a trip to Cashiers to play the Blue Ridge Bobcats.

The Lady Highlanders started out strong against the overmatched Lady Bobcats and never looked back en route to a dominating 59-28 victory.

Emily Munger paced the Lady Highlanders with 16 points and Marlee McCall added 10 as the Lady Highlanders earned the 2 seed in the Little Smoky Mountain Tournament (LSMC).

The Highlanders also began the nightcap against the Bobcats with a fast start, scoring the first 10 points of the game and completing the season sweep with a 99-37 victory. Seven of the 8 Highlander players scored in double figures in the rout, and the Highlander men entered Little Smoky Mountain tournament play as the 3 seed.

The Lady Highlanders played Nantahala on Tuesday night at Nantahala in the first round of the Little Smoky Mountain Conference tournament.

The Lady Highlanders struggled a bit early trying to combat Nantahala's box and 1 defense, but found their range late in the first quarter and continued the offensive onslaught in the second, using a 10-0 run to build an insurmountable lead that resulted in a 46 to 32 victory.

Sarah Power led the Lady Highlanders with 12 points, who will play Hiwassee Dam in the LSMC Championship on Thursday.

The Highlanders drew a rematch with the Hiwassee Dam Eagles in the first round of the LSMC tournament. The Eagles had defeated the Highlanders twice during the regular season, and in both games had jumped out to double-digit leads in the first half.

Tuesday night would prove different, however, as the Highlanders played well early and only trailed by 2 at the half.

The second half was a back and forth affair until the Highlanders used a 9-0 fourth quarter run to take a 9-point lead which they ultimately hung on to for a 62-57 victory.

The Highlanders' three senior captains, Ezra Herz, Michael Baty and Andrew Billingsly, came up big in what was the biggest game of the season scoring 49 of the 62 Highlands points.

With the victory, the Highlanders earned their 10th win of the season, and will face Nantahala Thursday night in the LSMC Championship.

The Highlanders will play three championship games on Thursday night at Nantahala gym with the JV Championship starting at 5 p.m., followed by the women's and men's championships.



Michael Shearl takes flight at the Hendersonville game. Photo by Noel Atherton



Samuel Wheeler stays on the opposition at the Hendersonville game. Photo by Noel Atherton

• COACH'S CORNER •

My first team All-American and All-ACC picks

Here we are toward the end of February, and the race for conference championships and All-America honors is shaping up. Here are my picks for All-American and All-ACC at this point in the season.

First team All-American

G — Ty Lawson, UNC. The most dominant PG in America, UNC is no longer Tyler Hansbrough's team, but Lawson's. Lawson is averaging 16 points and 6 assists per game, and his assist to turnover ratio is a ridiculous 3.4.

G — Stephen Curry, Davidson. The most creative scorer in America, Curry stole the show in March of last year, and continues to carry Davidson while leading the nation in scoring. A sprained ankle threatens his spot on this list if he is unable to return at full strength, but at this point his presence here is justified.

G — James Harden, Arizona State. Harden has been dominant for the Sun Devils this season, scoring 21 points per game and averaging 6 rebounds to go along with 5 assists. He's shooting over 50% for the season and is the main reason why the Sun Devils are in the running for their first Pac-10 championship in school history.

F — Blake Griffin, Oklahoma. Griffin is my pick for Player of the Year, and will likely be the number 1 pick in the NBA draft this summer. Griffin is a human double-double, and cannot be single covered.

F — Dejuan Blair, Pittsburgh. Blair proved his worth Monday night in a dominant performance against Hasheem Thabeet, but he has been consistent for the Panthers all season. Averaging 17 points and 13 rebounds per game, the 6'7 Blair consistently plays bigger in the paint, and has saved his best performances for the biggest games this season.

First Team All-ACC

G — Ty Lawson- see above explanation

G — Jack McClinton, Miami. McClinton is a human scoring machine, lighting up ACC opponents for almost 30 points per game and shooting well over



Ryan Potts
tryanpotts@hotmail.com

40% from behind the three point line.

G — Tyrese Rice, Boston College. Rice has been the senior leader for a surprising BC team that has wins at UNC and at home against Duke. Rice is a superior scorer, and has the quickness to play at the next level.

F — Trevor Booker, Clemson. Booker is a physical freak of nature, and provides the Tigers with an imposing presence on both the offensive and defensive ends of the floor. Booker is averaging a double-double in ACC play, and is also counted on to be the last line of defense in Clemson's full court pressure.

F — Gani Lawal, Georgia Tech. Lawal often goes unnoticed because he is playing for the hapless Yellow Jackets, but he has been tremendous in his sophomore year for Paul Hewitt. Lawal is averaging a double-double for the season, and also provides 2 blocks per game on the defensive end.

• MILESTONES •

Highlands students make the grade

The following students from Highlands were named to the Western Carolina University's Fall Dean's List.

Rachel Earlene Alford
Robert Davidson Edwards
Teodora Ivanova Krasteva
Laura Renee Kremser
Christopher Andrew Mouchet
Matthew Preston Neely
Teresa Rose Pearman
Mark Andrew Salsbury
Allison M Winn
Sarah Genevieve Scott

To qualify for the dean's list, students must achieve at least a 3.5 grade-point average out of a possible 4.0 on a regular semester's work of not less than 12 hours, excluding remedial courses, with no grade of D or F.

Committed to the race



Highlands United Methodist Church pastor Paul Christy and Fred Motz competed in the Hilton Head Island Half Marathon on Feb. 7. Motz won First Place in his age category and Christy placed in his group. Pictured are the two recovering from their run. Christy was joined in the race by his two brothers.

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• FROM MY PERSPECTIVE •

Mayor and Police Chief to attend 'economic stimulus' package seminar

I want to remind everyone that this coming Friday evening from five to eight there will be a recognition party at the Community Center honoring Richard Betz for his 26 years of service to the Town of Highlands. Richard has held many positions since he started with us in 1983. He has been planning and zoning manager, clerk, treasurer, and town administrator, all positions in which he has excelled. At the end of this month Richard retires from the town. It is my hope that everyone who can will come out and honor Richard and be able to say to him, "Well done, good and faithful servant." We will be serving food and will have a recognition ceremony at 6:15. Come and join us and let Richard know how special he is. I know because I have known him for more than 10 years and worked very closely with him for the past three years and there is no one more dedicated to the proper function of this town than Richard Betz.

The congressional stimulus package indeed did pass both the Senate and the House this past Friday and was signed by President Obama on Tuesday.

I can assure everyone that your town officials are in line to obtain some funding for major projects. The Town Manager, Public Works director, Police Chief and I will be going to a meeting with Congressman Heath Shuler on Thursday in an information workshop to get further details of this Federal Economic Stimulus package. Whether you agree with this approach by the federal government or not, it offers us an opportunity to do some things we have needed for a long time, and we intend to take advantage of that opportunity.

I have been in close contact with the offices of both Congressman Shuler and Senator Richard Burr by telephone and we have forwarded to them grant requests for the de-silting of our water supply lake, major sewer projects, particularly around the lakes, a Big Bear Pen water system improvement project and radio meters for our water and electric systems. We will be aggressively pursuing these very important projects for these community improvement projects.

At the recommendation of our new town manager Jim Fatland and GIS and IT director Matt Shuler, the board has approved a major upgrade in the town financial software system. We have had problems with the current software system



Mayor Don Mullen

with things such as the database, inadequate help in problem solving and many lost man hours figuring all this out. We will be going with Computer Software Innovations, a product that offers more than what meets our needs for the upcoming decade. Many towns in North Carolina use this software and service is nearby in Spartanburg, South Carolina. Other programs have been also completely evaluated but this one was chosen for the reasons I stated. It will streamline our town financial system to make it even better than it has been.

The relationship between the county and the towns of Macon county continues to improve. On Jan. 30 our Planning Director, Joe Cooley, and I attended a county planning board work session which was chaired by county board chairman Ronnie Beale. It was a good session in which the town of Franklin also participated, and we all learned more about each other.

In sharing goals and ideas we all benefit and learn to work together in an efficient way. I thank Ronnie Beale for continuing to push ahead with this cooperative effort.

The Town Board also will continue to send town board members to the county board sessions in attempts to stay current on decisions being made.

... MODEL from page 1

"In 2006, the Town of Highlands received stormwater grant funds totaling \$40,000 from the CWMTF to complete a stormwater master plan for the Mill Creek watershed which included these projects so we knew what was needed," said Nix.

J.P. Johns, Engineer with McGill Associates said "the purpose of the project is to monitor stormwater runoff pollutant loadings and the effectiveness of an innovative Best Management Practices (BMP) known as a hydrodynamic separating box.

This technology has not yet been tested in an environment which receives a large amount of rainfall over a short period of time on severe slopes typical in the Town of Highlands.

"These technologies are not designed to retain large volumes of stormwater, but rather to abate pollutants that have been found in the runoff waters," said Johns.

The project goal is to scientifically determine typical stormwater runoff pollutant loadings in the Town of Highlands and sci-

• See MODEL page 19

... ABC STORE continued from page 10

Since 1979, the Highlands ABC Store profits have been distributed to the following:

Town of Highlands General Fund	\$1,454,627
Town of Highlands Recreation Dept.	225,031
Town of Highlands Scholarship Fund	81,717
Highlands-Cashiers Hospital	337,545
Town of Highlands Law Enforcement	103,162
Highlands Community Drug Program	144,443
Macon County Rehab	116,353
Total:	\$2,462,878

Disbursements FY 1998-2008 are as follows:

	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Law Enforcement</u>	<u>Recreation</u>	<u>Scholarship Fund</u>	<u>Total</u>
FY 98-99	\$62,294	3,235	8,774	3,510	77,813
FY 99-00	\$59,691	3,493	9,096	3,638	75,918
FY 00-01	\$60,248	2,587	8,995	3,595	75,425
FY 01-02	\$28,375	500	3,997	3,770	36,642*
FY 02-03	\$40,111	3,607	6,360	2,544	52,622
FY 03-04	88,251	4,736	12,429	4,971	110,387
FY 04-05	40,937	3,719	5,767	2,307	52,730*
FY 05-06	129,196	4,451	18,133	7,253	159,033
FY 06-07	85,979	4,811	12,172	4,869	107,831
FY 07-08	0	5,067	0	0	5,067

*Town officials don't know why ABC Store profits dipped in FY 01-02 or FY 04-05. Starting in FY 07-08 the ABC Store was allowed to withhold proceeds.

the ABC Store for payment of renovations, rent or utilities. Nor did he say when profit distributions to the town would resume.

The last regular disbursement of funds received from the ABC Store to the town was fiscal year 2006-'07 for a total of \$107,831.

In fiscal year 2007-'08 only the Police Department received a disbursement of \$5,067. All other funds were withheld, as permitted by the Highlands Town Board.

Town Manager Jim Fatland said it's his understanding that the ABC Store will move into its new space within the next two-three months.

—Kim Lewicki

... VISITOR continued from page 1

tyka, director of the Highlands Area Chamber of Commerce, who is a nonvoting member of the TDC but who clearly has the most to say concerning allocation of Room Tax proceeds as it applies to the Highlands Visitor Center, said he "figured low" for 2009-'10 room tax proceeds.

"Room bookings have been down 10%-20% the last couple of months so if that trend continues that would represent a significant reduction in room tax," said Kielytyka. "So I estimated we'd probably get less than last year."

The 2008-2009 room tax allocation was about \$260,000. Accommodation facilities in the Highlands area — including hotels, motels, bed & breakfasts, camp grounds and vacation rentals — charge 3% room tax.

Over the last couple of years, the county has kept 15% of that to offset administration costs and the cost for a consultant to do a room tax study. The consultant was hired to see which accommodation facilities were properly collecting and remitting room tax to the county.

Though the county's administrative fee is expected to decrease this year, County Manager Jack Horton has hired a consultant to determine the proper amount the county should withhold to offset room tax allocation administration fees. That figure has not been disclosed but is expected to be discussed at an upcoming county commission meet-

ing.

"Of course our 2009-2010 room tax allocation may be offset by the percentage the county takes for administering the funds," said Kielytyka. He has budgeted \$239,000 for the Visitor Center in 2009-2010 which includes \$235,000 in room tax proceeds and \$4,090 from sponsorships and the sales of sweatshirts.

Helene Siegel, who represents "accommodations 10 rooms or less" on the TDC board and Town Commissioner Hank Ross both requested a more exact accounting of the chamber of commerce budget, particularly where it overlaps the Visitor Center's budget and specifically the chamber's use of room tax proceeds.

All along Kielytyka has said that the Visitor Center management cost split is about 70%-30% with the "30%" applying to the chamber.

However, Kielytyka said he wasn't comfortable disclosing the budget of the chamber of commerce because it was a private organization.

"The split was determined back in 2005 when Bill Aaron was president of the chamber board," he said. "Nothing has changed since then." Consequently, a dollar figure amount as to how much room tax money supports chamber of commerce operations

• See VISITOR page 19

Candy and flowers at Highlands School



Every year the Junior Class fundraiser raises money for the Junior-Senior Prom while spreading goodwill throughout the administration, staff and students at Highlands School. Anyone who wants to send well wishes to another purchased a bag of candy or a flower to be delivered Friday, Feb. 13. This year the effort raised \$900. Pictured is Junior Bobbie Joe Talley and teacher Ms. Burnett.
Photo by Kim Lewicki

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• UPCOMING EVENTS •

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• The Bascom is offering a host of art classes for preschoolers to pre-teens from now through the end of the school year. For more information, call

(828) 526-4949, ext. 0#.

• Friends of Panthertown work days, last Thursday of every month (time and location varies). Volunteers needed to maintain trails. For more information,

One week until opening night



Jim Schulte, Bob Trevathan, and Bill Rethorst work in the construction room at PAC constructing the set for *An American Daughter*, which opens Thursday, February 26. For tickets of more information please call 828.526.8084

Set's going up!" These words are music to the ears of the director and cast of *An American Daughter*, the next play for the Highlands Cashiers Players. For more than a month, the ten-member cast has been rehearsing on a bare stage with blue tape lining the floor to indicate walls, doors, steps, and set pieces. Chairs were temporarily borrowed from audience seating; three made a sofa. But now, voila! There's whole beautiful room on stage with real furniture thanks to the effort of the talented set construction and decorating team, who were hard at work last weekend, assembling the 8x4 wood flats on stage, adding the trim, hanging the doors, positioning the platforms, and painting the set walls.

Two principal members of the set construction crew are set designer Patrick Rose and HCP board member Jim Schulte. Patrick joined the HCP team last fall as lighting designer for *A Thousand Clowns*. With a degree in theater from Gainesville College, he works as a free-lance lighting and set designer for high schools and community theaters. Jim Schulte has helped to construct a number of HCP sets and also constructs props — one of the most recent being the wiring of the Hawaiian doll in *A Thousand Clowns* whose bra had to light up off and on. Every so often Jim is persuaded to accept a role on stage.

Audiences may remember his comic performance as one of the eunuchs in *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*. Bill Rethorst, Bob Trevathan, and the entire cast of *An American Daughter* have pitched in to complete the set.

On the decorating side of things, Chad Lucas, Ashley Harlee, and Carla Gates are contributing their expertise. Chad, interior designer and owner of Lucas Patton Design, has designed houses and businesses from St. Simons Island to Knoxville to Highlands, Cashiers and beyond. In addition to decorating the set, he is also playing a major role in the drama. Ashley Harlee, owner of CK Swan, has contributed time and furnishings for the set. Carla Gates studied interior design in college and has been Lucas' right hand in this venture. She is also playing the lead role of Lyssa Dent Hughes.

The box office for *An American Daughter* opens for season subscribers on Thursday, Feb. 19, and for regular playgoers on Saturday, Feb. 21. The play opens on Thursday, Feb. 26, and continues through Sunday, March 8.

A political satire with adult content and language. Call 526-8084 for reservations and information.

The production is sponsored in part by The Laurel Magazine.

contact Nina Elliott at 828-526-9938 (ext 258).

• Collections for men and women overseas at Chestnut Hill Retirement community. A wide variety of items currently is needed, including books and magazines, CDs and DVDs, and small pocket books, which fit neatly in the BDUs (Battle Dress Uniforms). The drop point for all items will be under the flagpole at the Chestnut Hill Clubhouse on Clubhouse Trail. For any questions, or to schedule a drop-off call (828) 787-2114.

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

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

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

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

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

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

• "The Circle of Life" support group continues at the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital at the Jane Woodruff room 201, 10 a.m. until noon. Call Barbara Buchanan at 526-1402 or Florence Flanagan at 743-2567.

Mon. & Wed.

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

• Middle School students After School Program from 3-5 p.m. at the Rec Park. For more information please call 828.526.3556.

Mon., Wed., Fri.

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

Wed., & Fri.

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

Tues. & Thurs.

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

First Mondays

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

Mondays

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

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

Tuesdays

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

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

Wednesdays

• Highlands 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.

Every Third Wednesday

• Study sessions at the Universal Unitarian Fellowship Hall in Franklin. A \$5 soup-supper will be served at 5:30 p.m. Study sessions will begin at 6:30 p.m. For more information call 828-524-6777 or 706-746-9964.

Thursdays

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

1st & 3rd Thursdays

• The local affiliate of NAMI NC (National Alliance on Mental Illness), NAMI Appalachian South, meets from 7-9 p.m. at the Family Restoration Center, 1095 Wiley Brown Road, Franklin. NAMI offers peer support, education, and advocacy for individuals suffering from serious mental illness and their families and loved ones. Contact Ann Nandrea 369-7385, Carole Light 524-9769 or Mary Ann Widenhouse 524-1355 for more information.

2nd & 4th Fridays

• Community Drum Circle at the Highlands Rec Park, from 6-7:30 p.m. come experience a fun family friendly drum circle. All ages are encouraged to attend this free event. All experience levels welcomed. Celebrate community with facilitated interactive rhythmic dialogue. Bring your own drum or percussion instrument. Some extra drums and percussion will be supplied. For more information call 421-0551.

Thursdays, beginning March 5

• Taize worship is coming to Highlands at 7 p.m. at the Lutheran Chapel of the Holy Family, 2152 Dillard Road. There will be a simple supper of bread and soup at 6 p.m. Dress is casual, and *all* are welcome. Call Chaplain Margaret Howell for more information: 828-526-2905 or email her at Knytengale@aol.com

Thursday, Feb. 19

• "Roxanne," 1987 rated PG, is based on the play, "Cyrano de Bergerac." Steve Martin plays the long-nosed C. D. Bales. The beautiful Roxanne (Daryl Hannah) falls for his personality, but another man's looks. The film is as funny as it is romantic. The movies will be shown in the Cashiers Library Meeting Room at 3 p.m. The movies and popcorn are free, but donations are appreciated. Movies are among the many services provided to the community by the Friends of the Library.

Friday & Saturday, Feb. 20 & 21

• The NC Cooperative Extension will offer a two-day workshop for individuals interested in starting a vineyard for commercial bunch grape production. North Carolina State University specialists and agents will cover issues related to site selection and preparation, ordering the right varieties and rootstocks, planting, trellis selection, vine structure, cover crops, cost of establishing a vineyard, and pest concerns. A pruning demonstration will be offered the 2nd day at the Cellars of Betty Creek Vineyard. The program will be held at the Jackson County Community Services building located at 538 Scotts Creek Rd. Sylva, NC. Cost for the program is \$10 at the door. Pre-registration is required by Wednesday February 18th. For more information contact the Jackson Extension Center at phone # 828-586-4009 or email Christine_Bredenkamp@ncsu.edu. Participants

• UPCOMING EVENTS •

who are serious about starting a vineyard should obtain a copy of the NC Winegrape Grower's Guide which can be ordered for \$20.00 from the Publications Office, Dept. of Communications Services, Campus Box 7603, NCSU, Raleigh NC 27695-7603. Make checks payable to NC State University. You can also download the guide for free at www.ces.ncsu.edu/resources/winegrape/

Friday, Feb. 20

- The community is invited to a "Retirement Party for Richard P. Betz," Friday, from 5-9 p.m. at the Highlands Conference Center.

- High Mountain Squares will dance this Friday night at the Macon County Community Building from 7-9 p.m. Marty Northrup from Columbus N.C. will be the caller. We dance Western Style Square Dancing, main/stream and plus levels. Everyone is welcome. For information call 828-349-0905, 828-349-4187, 706-782-0943, or www.highmountainsquares.org

Saturday, Feb. 21

- Benefit for Red Potts at the Highlands Rec Park Saturday from 5-9 p.m. Food – Raffle – Auction and Cake Auction. Entertainment by the Dendy Family and the Oliver Rice and The Blue Ridge Mountain Band.

- Highlands Plateau Greenway group will learn how to use a high line system and move stones for rock on rock steps to their final location. Work will also continue on the crib and the upper portion of the new loop. If interested in participating please register with Hillrie Quin at 526-2385 or hmquin@verizon.net. Meet at the large parking lot behind the Rec Park at 9 a.m. for a brief orientation session and then walk to the trail sections for construction.

- The Highlands Area Chamber of Commerce and Visitor Center Annual Chili Cook-Off sponsored by the Laurel Magazine, 6:30 - 9:30 p.m. Call 828-526-5841

- NANTAHALA HIKING CLUB will take a moderate 5-6 mile hike to Rock Gorge and Big Bend falls on the Chattooga River with an elevation change of 300 feet. Meet at the Highlands Bank of America at 9:45 a.m. or at the Cashiers Wachovia Bank at 10 a.m. Drive 45 miles round trip. Bring water, lunch; wear sturdy shoes. Call leader: Call Virginia Talbot for reservations, 526-4904. Visitors are welcome, but no pets please.

- The Macon County Soccer Club (<http://www.maconsoccer.net>) will begin accepting registrations for the Spring soccer season on Saturday, from 10 a.m.-12 p.m. at the Macon County Community Building in Franklin and the Highlands Recreation Park. Parents are encouraged to print out the registration form online and bring it with them to the registration. Children age 4 and up are welcome and will be placed on teams according to age. The registration fee is \$45 for players returning from the fall season and \$55 for new registrations. The registration fee covers uniform (jersey, shorts and socks), state registration and referee fees. A \$5 discount is available for siblings. All new players must provide a photocopy of their birth certificate at the time of registration. The deadline for registering for the Spring season is February 21. Registrations received after February 21st will incur a \$10 late fee and players will be placed on a wait list. Every effort will be made to place late registrants on a team. However, we cannot guarantee placement on a team

before the first game. For more information visit <http://www.maconsoccer.net> or call Michelle Thornton at 828-349-4939.

- The Macon County Beekeepers' Assn. Annual Beekeeping School takes place at the Cooperative Extension Office, Thomas Heights Rd., Franklin and it's free. Learn all you need to know about beekeeping, 6:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Contact Janet Hill, 369-9819 to register or for further information. Or just come!

Sunday, Feb. 22

- Free chamber music concert at Highlands First Presbyterian Church featuring the music department of Western Carolina University which will present a faculty showcase. "The Catamount Chamber Players will perform at 4 p.m. at the church.

- The movie "Fireproof" at Coweeta Baptist Church in Otto at 6 p.m. Child care will be provided. For more information, call 524-5242.

- Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Franklin will welcome Dr. Edward Frost of Atlanta as our guest speaker, Sunday. His sermon will be "The Just and Good Life." The Service and Children's Service begin at 11 a.m. Located at 85 Sierra Drive off of Lakeside. 1.2 miles from Hardees. All are welcome. For info: 828-524-6777.

Tuesday, Feb. 24

- The Macon County Beekeepers' Assn. Annual Beekeeping School takes place at the Cooperative Extension Office, Thomas Heights Rd., Franklin and it's free. Learn all you need to know about beekeeping, 6:30-9:30. Contact Janet Hill, 369-9819 to register or for further information. Or just come!

Thursday, Feb. 26

- The Macon County Beekeepers' Assn.

Annual Beekeeping School takes place at the Cooperative Extension Office, Thomas Heights Rd., Franklin and it's free. Learn all you need to know about beekeeping, 6:30-9:30. Contact Janet Hill, 369-9819 to register or for further information. Or just come!

Saturday, Feb. 28

- Benefit for police officer Richard Davis at the Highlands Rec Park from 6-9 p.m. To-go plates start at 5:30 p.m. BBQ plates and desserts for sale. Silent auction and entertainment by the Oliver Rice and Johnny Webb & the JW Band.

- The Macon County Beekeepers' Assn. Annual Beekeeping School takes place at the Cooperative Extension Office, Thomas Heights Rd., Franklin and it's free. Learn all you need to know about beekeeping 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Contact Janet Hill, 369-9819 to register or for further information. Or just come!

- The Highlands Rotary Club will hold its annual Monte Carlo Night on Saturday beginning at 6 pm at the Highlands Community Building next to the Ball Park. Monte Carlo Night is a combination of Monte

• See EVENTS page 22

Tour of Summit One Gallery with Art League of Highlands

Summit One Gallery will host the February meeting of the Art League of Highlands on Monday, February 23rd at noon.

Mary Adair Leslie will give a guided tour of the gallery showcasing Summit One's artists who are included in permanent collections and in museums across the country.

A box lunch, prepared by Holly Roberts (of "Let Holly Do the Cooking") will be available for members of ALH.

Mary Adair's enthusiasm for art and her artists is unparalleled. Her support of education, theater and the food banks in Highlands and in Cashiers is well appreciated by both communities.

Summit One is located at "The Galleries," 154 South Second Street, Highlands. For a complete listing of upcoming shows



Mary Adair Leslie will give Art League of Highlands members exciting tour of Summit One Gallery, showcasing well-known artists who work in numerous media and styles

and events at Summit One go to www.summitonegallery.com or call 526-2673.

The Art League of Highlands is dedicated to serving the community, fostering creativity in adults and children. On Earth Day, April 25, in Cashiers, League members will be working with Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust on a children's art project. In Highlands, ALH is partnering with The Bascom in various art activities. The long-standing "Summer Colors" and "Fall Colors" Art Shows in Highlands are vital in the League's

service to adult and young artists.

To join the Art League of Highlands and participate in the exciting programs, please call ALH President, Caroline Cook at 526-2742.

Ruby Cinema

Hwy. 441, Franklin • 524-2076

Feb. 20-26

SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE

rated R

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

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

Mon – Thurs: (4:20), 7

FRIDAY THE 13TH

rated R

Friday:(4:30), 7:10, 9:30

Sat & Sun: (2:10), (4:30), 7:10, 9:30

Mon – Thurs: (4:30), 7:10

PAUL BLART: MALL COP

rated PG

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

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

Mon – Thurs: (4:15), 7:15

TAKEN

rated PG-13

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

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

Mon – Thurs: (4:10), 7

Benefit for Red Potts

at the Highlands Rec Park
February 21

from

5-9 p.m.

Food – Raffle – Auction
and

Cake Auction

Entertainment by the

Dendy Family

and the

Oliver Rice and The Blue
Ridge Mountain Band

Benefit for

Policeman Richard Davis

at the Highlands Rec Park

February 27

from

6-9 p.m.

To-go plates start at

5:30 p.m.

BBQ Pork Plates

Desserts for sale

Silent Auction & Enter-

tainment by the Oliver Rice

and Johnny Webb & the

JW Band

\$5 for 20 words weekly

• CLASSIFIEDS •

\$2. for each add'l. 10 words

One FREE Classified Ad for ONE item less than \$1,000 (Not animals). ONE AD PER FAMILY otherwise: 20 words for \$5; \$2 for each 10-word increment. Email copy to: highlandseditor@aol.com or FAX to 1-866-212-8913 Send check to: Highlands' Newspaper P.O. Box 2703 Highlands, NC 28741 828-526-0782

HELP WANTED

PART-TIME CLEANERS needed to clean banks in the Cashiers-Highlands area. Call 828-691-6353. 2/12

LPN needed at Fidelia Eckerd Living Center. Part time position available. Hours include two Sundays per month. Pre-employment screening required. Call Human Resources at 828-526-1376 or apply online at www.hchospital.org.

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

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

FOUND

SMALL CALICO CAT in Shelby Place. Email: hsalzarulo@aol.com

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

FOR SALE BY OWNER - 535 N. 4th Street. Zoned Commercial. \$389,000. Currently rented at \$2,500 a month. Call 770-827-0450. (st. 2/19)

NEW LUXURY HOME FOR SALE OR LEASE IN SCALY Mt. 3 BR, 3.5 BA, 2.88 acres. Appraised \$757,000, reduced to \$499,900 or lease \$2750/mth. Additional lots for sale. 404-272-2131 www.thomasknob.com/homes.htm !5/14)

RESIDENTIAL FOR RENT

2 BED ONE BATH COTTAGE, fully furnished. Laurel Falls. two minutes from hospital and few mintues from town. Call 787-2423. 3/19

FOR RENT AND SALE - 2/2 condo, LR, DR, Sun room, W/D. Walk to town. Available year round. Call 828-421-2144

ONE BEDROOM/ONE BATH partially furnished apartment, 6 miles from Highlands. No smoking/no pets. \$450/mo (negotiable) 828-787-1515

2 BED, 1 BATH HOME FOR RENT in Scaly Mountain. Furnished or unfurnished, no pets, no smoking. \$750 per month plus security deposit and utilities. Call Ann @ Cabe Realty 828-526-2475. 2/12

LEASE HOUSE WITH OPTION AVAILABLE. Remodeled. Between Highlands and Cashiers. 3 bed, 3 1/2 bath and bonus room. No smoking. \$900 a month. Call 828-371-1609 or 828-743-1108 2/26

HOUSE FOR RENT, YEAR-ROUND, walk to town. 3/3, oil heat, hardwood floors, small pets ok. \$1,275 includes electric. 526-5558.

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

DOWNTOWN APARTMENT RENTAL - One bedroom (Queen), one bath, vaulted ceiling in great room, heat and air with gas fireplace. Fully furnished with W/D, cozy and comfortable. Reduced to \$650 a month plus utilities. Call 526-4983 or 421-3614.

1 BED, 1 BATH and small room with bunk beds on Lake Sequoyah. Furnished, two boats. \$800 a month including utilities except phone. No pets, no smoking. Call Tony at 828-332-7830.

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

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

FURNISHED 3BD2BATH HOUSE IN MIRROR LAKE area available for 6-12 month lease \$1200+ utilities. Call 770-977-5692.

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

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

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

VACATION RENTAL

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

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

ITEMS FOR SALE

WOODBURNING FIREPLACE INSERT - Strong and sturdy, 30 inches wide, 29 inches deep and 67 inches high. \$175. Call 526-5749.

CAMPER SHELL - from Boondocks in Hendersonville. Fits Toyota short bed. White. \$350. Call 828-743-9254.

HONEY FOR SALE - Blue Valley honey, perfect amber color, 3/4 lb. bears, \$5 each. work in town. Call Bruce at 526-9021.

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

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

125-GALLON ALL-GLASS AQUARIUM - over 6 feet in length, was a salt-water shark-only tank. Comes with Ehiem Pro series-2 external canister filter, and optional mahogany base. Will settle for \$500; base, extras and help moving it are optional but free. Call cell 828-342-2809

DRY, HARDWOOD, FIREWOOD - Priced to Sell! Call 828-526-4946 or 828-200-0268.

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

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

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

SIX CEDAR ADIRONDACK CHAIRS - custom made. \$100 each or all for \$500. Call 526-3824.

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

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

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

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

BEAUTIFUL, KNOTTY PINE WOOD ENTERTAINMENT CENTER WITH POCKET DOORS. Will hold up to a 31" TV. \$100. Call 369-5863.

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

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

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

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

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

MR. HEATER - 75,000 BTU. Forced Air Heat-

er. Like New. \$110. Call 526-3206.

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

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

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

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

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

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

CRAFTSMAN 10" RADIAL ARM SAW WITH STAND. Old but used very little. Excellent working condition. \$150. 828/787-2177.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

• CLASSIFIEDS •

VEHICLES FOR SALE

1998 MITSUBISHI ECLIPSE, black, 4 cyl., 5 speed, great on gas! \$1,500 or best offer. 526-4741
VW NEW BEETLE – 1999 5-speed Turbo. Loaded, Sunroof, multi CD, 38 mpg, great condition. \$4,500 obo 828-526-0454.

SERVICES

DEPENDABLE PET SITTER, HOUSESITTER, AND LICENSED CNA. References available. Located in Otto, NC., Call 443-315-9547. 2/5

CLEAN NOT CLEAN ENOUGH? – Call Details Home Service. 828-342-8853 3/5

START YOUR OWN INTERNET BUSINESS – today! Learn in a step-by-step way from a professional Internet marketer. Test the courses with the FREE VIDEOS. www.websitetrainingfornewbies.com. Email questions to: sales@successfulnewbie.com 2/18

24-HOUR CARE FOR YOUR LOVED ONE. – Companionship, showers, cooking, doctor appts. and shopping. Call Mrs. Myers. 828-349-3479 or 828-342-1603. 3/5

WILL BABY SIT IN YOUR HOME. Have own transportation. Call Carly at 526-3824 or 828-200-9010.

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

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

HOUSEKEEPING – Saturday and Sunday mornings. Call Kim at 828-482-2105.

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

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

CLOCK REPAIR – Antique or modern, complicated antique clocks are my specialty. Experienced and dependable with housecalls available. Call 706.754.9631 or visit my website at www.oldclockrepair.com. Joseph McGahee, Clockmaker.

FIREWOOD "Nature Dried" Call 526-2251.

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

J&J LAWN AND LANDSCAPING SERVICES – total lawn care and landscaping company. 20 years serving Highlands area. 828-526-2251.

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

... VISITOR continued from page 15

and activities is not available.

Brian McClellan, the county commission representative, said the TDC board could always look at last year's budget or since all the members of the TDC board are chamber of commerce members, they could request the line-item budget from the chamber.

For the 2009-2010 Visitor Center budget – whose majority of funding comes from room tax money which must be spent to promote travel and tourism – the total "management" costs are \$105,378.16. Thirty percent of that represents "overlap" from the chamber.

Kieltyka said about 30% of his salary is paid for with room tax money because his job overlaps with Visitor Center functions. There is also a 90%-10% split for use of the building and all that entails with 10% as-

... MODEL from pg 14

entifically determine the effectiveness hydrodynamic separators have on removing these pollutant loadings. The results of this project can then be used as a baseline for western North Carolina.

Nix said the proposed hydrodynamic separator technology is suitable for the Kelsey Hutchinson Park because it can be constructed underground (where water quality treatment can occur) and will be aesthetically pleasing. In addition to the water quality BMP, an underground water quantity device will be installed on the downstream end of the hydrodynamic separator to retain high volume flows and reduce velocities during storm events. Monitoring and sampling will be performed prior to installation and after installation of the BMPs.

In the grant application McGill Associates stated that results from this project will include typical pollutant loading for storm-water runoff, captured particle size distributions of the pollutants collected, and the removal efficiencies of hydrodynamic separators. The hydrodynamic separator will address the primary issue of sediment deposition into the Mill Creek watershed along with high discharge velocities. The hydrodynamic separator will collect and trap sediment preventing it from becoming re-suspended and entering into surface waters. The separator will treat pollutants entering the storm-water conveyance system from the road surface. The hydrodynamic separator also has the ability to collect surface debris (cups, bags, etc.). Upon entering the vault, these items will no longer have the ability to leave the vault until it is maintained, therefore improving water quality.

"Installing these stormwater improvement projects at Kelsey Hutchinson Park provides the Town of Highlands the opportunity to promote public awareness to stormwater runoff quality and the benefits of low-impact design concepts," said Mayor Don Mullen. "If successful, Kelsey Hutchinson Park can be used as a model to help guide other mountain communities toward sustainable urban development through the use of innovative stormwater technologies."

signed to the chamber.

The rest of the room tax money is spent for communications, lease of office equipment, marketing, office operations, professional development and travel, accounting fees, programs and festivals, health insurance, visitor programs, planning retreat, volunteer appreciation and programs and miscellaneous – a total of \$133,711.92.

The Visitor Center budget includes \$6,000-\$7,000 a year set aside for grants for nonprofits promoting travel and tourism. They can apply for those funds anytime during the year 90 days in advance of the event. "but the funds can only be used for marketing and advertising," said Marlene Alvarez on the chamber board of directors.

Furthermore, Kieltyka said the chamber of commerce board determines whether the requests are legitimate or worthy. Once the chamber of commerce makes its determination, a email is sent to the TDC board. If the TDC unanimously approves, the decision is final. If the TDC board doesn't unanimously agree with the chamber's decision, a special meeting is called for a final decision.

Kieltyka said people should remember that the chamber of commerce is the first line of defense concerning Room Tax money. "The chamber of commerce is the administrator of the Room Tax money," he said. "The TDC is just an advisory board which provides oversight for the county."

Does Your "To Do" List Look Like This?

Lose weight ✓
 Quit smoking ✓
 Attend church ✓
 Work hard ✓
 Oil Change ✓
 New Tires ✓

We can help you wrap it up!

- Oil change
- Winterization
- Tune up
- Brakes
- Tires

Manley's Auto & Towing

James
 "Popcorn"
 Manley
 Owner/Operator
 Hwy 28 South
 526-9805

Spenser visits Highlands School



Author Melanie Brooks chronicles the adventures of Spenser, a small, almost human, dog who accompanies his "Mom" Melanie as she travels around the country on her mission to alleviate childhood hunger. "Spenser Goes to Portland," the first book in her series, features Spenser and his visit to Oregon. When they visit a school or community, they encourage citizens to collect food for their local food pantries and buy their book whose sales proceeds are returned to those local food bank programs. On Friday, Feb. 13, Spenser and his Mom visited Highlands School where students got to meet, hold and feed Spenser and see a presentation on the book. Ms. Coppage's third grade class won a pizza party for collecting the most food throughout the week. Highlands School students collected 520 food items which were donated to the Food Pantry. Author Melanie Brooks is the aunt of a Highlands School fourth-grade student, Maddie Schandolph. For more about the passion behind Spenser visit www.spensernation.com.

Photo by Carol Bowen

\$17 weekly

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Anyone interested in working in New Orleans with the Highlands United Methodist Church March 27 to April 2 should call Robbie Forrester at 342-1627 for details.

• POLICE & FIRE •

The following are the Highlands Police Dept. log entries for Feb. 9-16. Only the names of persons arrested, issued a Class-3 misdemeanor, or public officials have been used.

Feb. 9

- At 6:43 p.m., a suspicious person was reported on Worley Road.
- At 7:47 p.m., officers were called to a residence at Old Town Site condominiums on Horse Cove Road concerning an alleged breaking and entering. The claim was unfounded.

Feb. 11

- At 9:30 p.m., officers were called to Chestnut Walk concerning a tenant dispute.

Feb. 13

- At 10:31 a.m., officers were called to a residence on Pinecrest where a back window of a Jeep Liberty was reported broken while the resident was away.

Feb. 14

- At 10:45 p.m., officers were called to Chestnut Walk concerning a tenant dispute. Officers advised the subjects to visit the magistrate.

Feb. 16

- Officers served two criminal summons to a resident on Paul Walden Road.
- During the week, officers issued 18 warning citations and responded to 5 alarm activations.

The following are the Highlands Fire & Rescue Dept. log entries for the week of Feb. 10-17.

Feb. 10

- The dept. responded to an alarm at a residence on Gibson Street which was cancelled en route by the alarm company.

Feb. 11

- The dept. responded to an alarm at a residence on Cullasja Drive. It was set off by workers changing batteries in the alarm system.

Feb. 16

- The dept. fought a brush fire on Satulah Mountain along N.C. 28 south.
- The dept. responded to an accident on Upper Clear Creek Road. There were no injuries.

Feb. 17

- The dept. was called back to the brush fire site on Satulah Mountain along N.C. 28 to extinguish hot snags hanging over the road.

Note:

Anyone interested in learning more about the Highlands Fire & Rescue Department is encouraged to call 526-3645.

Satulah Mountain blaze continued Tuesday



Highlands Fire & Rescue was joined by the NC and US Forest Servies and the Satolah and Cashiers fire departments to extinguish the blaze which consumed upwards of 35 acres and whose hotspots continued to burn Tuesday. All day Monday, Forest Service helicopters flew back and forth to Wilson Lakes in Blue Valley for water which was dumped on the blaze. No structures were touched by the blaze but they were watched.

Night shot by Krystal Cutshaw

• 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.

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 or column.

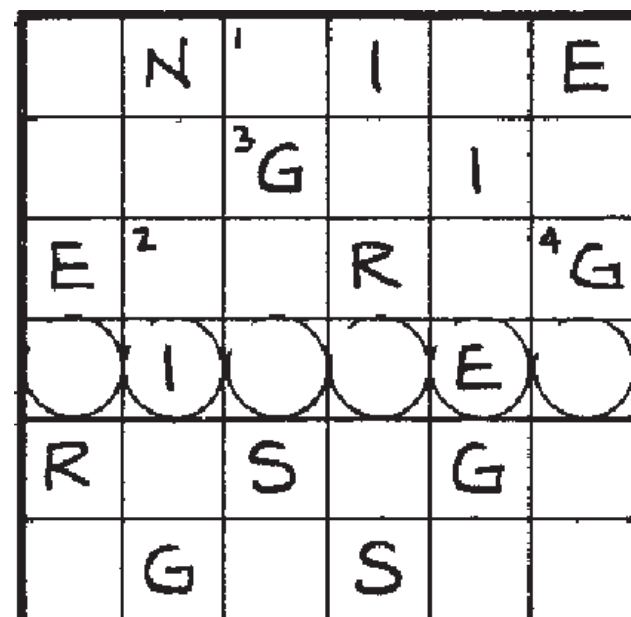
Mystery Word Vocalist (8)

Across

1. To get up (4)
2. Knight's title (3)

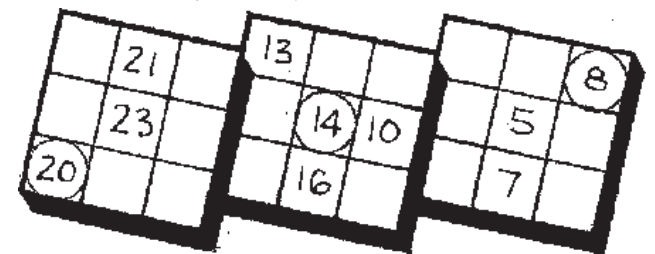
Down

3. Queen's liquor (3)
4. To smile (4)



PseudoCube[©]

by Pete Sarjeant and Don Cook



#BZ3F Level of Difficulty - Easy

THE SETUP:

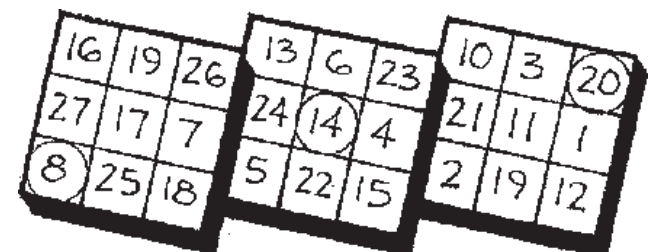
The cube has 27 consecutive numbers in it, arranged in three layers with 9 numbers each. These numbers are arranged in a special pattern: For each layer, the sum of the three numbers in each row, column or diagonal, is 3 times its center number. Eight diagonals connect all 3 layers by running through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

THE CHALLENGE:

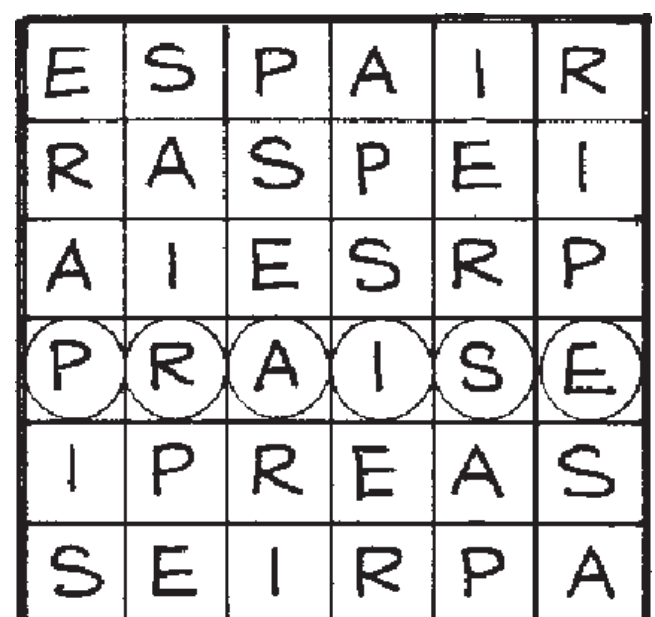
Start with the three center numbers for each layer and the other numbers given. Now pour a cup of coffee, pick up a pencil and eraser and try to figure out where the other numbers belong. Good Luck!

Email: pseudocube8@aol.com.

Solution to #DZ3F in Feb. 12 issue



Solution to Feb. 12 Hex-a-Ku



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Library and Movie Stop*



Northland Cable Television

• UPCOMING EVENTS •

Lady Luck - The Queen of Hearts

Monte Carlo Night comes to Highlands on Saturday, Feb. 28, 6 p.m. at the Highlands Community Building and Lady Luck will be flirting with anyone carrying casino chips. Highlands Rotary Club's Monte Carlo Night turns Sweet Sixteen this year – and it's time to celebrate!

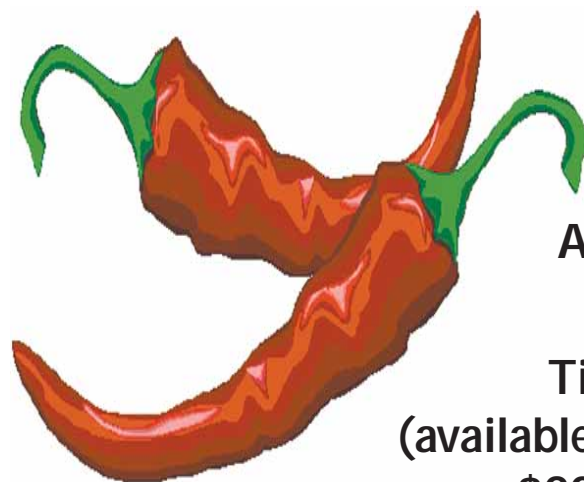
Las Vegas gaming combined with a Silent Auction and Live Auction conducted by Doc Wilson will raise your temperature to Monte Carlo hot. Auctions will have golf packages for those who dare to challenge area courses; stuff that glitters and sparkles for ladies who like being talked about and tame but intriguing objects of value. Cash, checks and credit cards work.

Forty bucks will get you casino chips,

refreshments and hors d'oeuvres until Feb. 24 when the game goes to \$50. Gaming consists of every one's favorite Black Jack with Roulette, Craps and Texas Hold'em also drawing crowds.

This fun evening is casual dress or that tuxedo if it still fits. Socializing, Lady Luck and having a great time are not optional. Funds raised by Highlands Rotary go to Highlands School teachers and student scholarships, Shop With a Cop, Highlands Community Child Development Center, Literacy and other non-profit organizations.

Monte Carlo Night is not a night to miss. Tickets are available at: The Macon Bank; Highlands Recreation Park, Highlands Chamber of Commerce, Basketcase and Highlands Decorating Center.



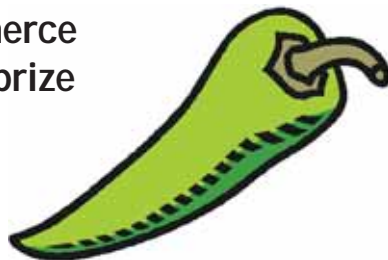
The Annual Chili Cookoff, Salsa and Cornbread Competition Saturday, Feb. 21 6:30-9:30

At the Highlands Community Building (next to the ballfield)

Tickets
(available at the door)
\$20 adults
\$10 children 12 & under

No fee to enter contest
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• BUSINESS NEWS •

Planning underway for Relay for Life's 25th year

Planning for this year's American Cancer Society Relay For Life of Mountain Top officially kicked off last week by announcing the event's leadership team and the 2009 theme: "Spectacular."

"This year marks the 25th year of Relay For Life. With that in mind, we don't want just any Relay For Life in Mountain Top; we want to put on a 'spectacular' Relay," said Bud Smith of Cashiers, the event's leadership chair.

Joining Smith as leaders on this year's planning committee are Highlands business owner and cancer survivor Paula Jones, as well as WHLC-FM on-air personality Will Amari. This year's event will be held on August 28 at the Highlands Recreation Center. A community goal of 35 teams, 400+ participants and \$110,000 has been established.

In 2008, the Relay For Life of Mountain Top raised just over \$82,000 for the American Cancer Society. The event, which was held in Cashiers, hosted 14 teams and some 200 participants.

High Country Cafe hosts breakfast



Over the holidays, High Country Cafe treated a number of residents at the Fidelia Eckerd Living Center to a special breakfast. The residents were part of a group at the center who makes all-occasion cards, which are sold at the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital Gift Shop, High Country Café and at several locations. June Webb, owner of the restaurant, periodically hosts Eckerd residents for special outings. On this occasion, each resident also received a Christmas gift, compliments of High Country Café. In front from left are Fredda Martin, Therese Finnerty, Florene Jennings, Connie Thompson, Randy Lombard, Flora Warren, Joan Fallot, and Estelle Crane; In back from left: June Webb, hospital volunteer coordinator Earlene Rich, High Country staff member Tracy Hensley, Eckerd Center Activities coordinator Martha Wood, and volunteer Chris Wood. Eckerd Center volunteer Sheraldean Norris also attended the event, and took the photo.

In Cashiers



*U.S. 64 east
(past the crossroads on the left)*

Call 526-0782
about placement on
this page
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2009 HIGHLANDS MAP

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Hwy 64w & 28n

Cullasaja Falls

Bust Your Butt Falls

Cullasaja Falls

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Fire Mtn

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Burlingame

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Cashiers

Whiteside

Trail

Sliding Rock

Whitewater Falls

Chattanooga Iron Bridge

Cashiers Hwy. 64e
10 Miles

Chandler Inn

Community Center & Chili Cook-Off Feb. 21

Whole Health Market

Rec. Park Pool & Tennis Greenway Trail

DINING

- 1 Bucks
- 2 Cafe 460
- 3 Don Leons
- 4 Fressers
- 5 Horacio's
- 6 Log Cabin
- 7 Madison's
- 8 Oak St. Cafe
- 9 Paoletti's
- 10 Pescado's
- 11 Pizza Place
- 12 Rib Shack
- 13 Rooster's
- 14 SportsPage
- 15 SweetTreats
- 16 Wild Thyme
- 17 Wolfgang's
- 18 Bryson's
- 19 Dusty's
- 20 Mtn. Fresh

LODGING

- 1 Chandler Inn
- 2 Fire Mountain
- 3 Half Mile Farm
- 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
- 15 Cashiers Resort
- 16 Chambers
- 17
- 18
- 19
- 20

RENTALS

- 15 Cashiers Resort
- 16 Chambers
- 17
- 18
- 19
- 20

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 Guritz Antiques
- 12 Highlands Photo
- 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

SHOPPING

- 22 T.A.Anderson
- 23 Tin Roof Gallery
- 24 Twigs
- 25 Village Kids
- 26 Whole Health
- 27 Wholesale Down
- 28 Wine & Cheese
- 29 Wits End
- 30
- 31
- 32
- 33
- 34
- 35

REALTY

- 1 Blackrock
- 2 Blair Realty
- 3 Buyer's Realty
- 4 Cabe Realty
- 5 Century 21
- 6 Chambers
- 7 Country Club Prop
- 8 Cullasaja
- 9 Futural
- 10 Green Mtn.
- 11 John Schiffli
- 12 Marty Jones
- 13 McKee Prop.
- 14 Meadows Mtn.
- 15 Parks Realty
- 16 Preferred Prop
- 17

BEAUTY

- 1 All Seasons
- 2 Creative Concepts
- 3 Images Unlimited
- 4 Taylor Barnes
- 5 The Salon
- 6

Linked Businesses
Highlands Map PDF
HighlandsInfo.com

The Bascom Visual Arts Center
Enter Via W. Main St.
Covered Bridge

Log Cabin

Dusty's Market

ACE Hardware Doors & Windows
3'd & Main Street

Madison's

Country Club Prop.
Cimarron Builders

Bryson's Foods Gourmet
Wines & Cheeses
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To Go Orders

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Vacation Rentals

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