

Highlands' Newspaper

FREE

Volume 7, Number 21

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Thursday, May 21, 2009

FRI	SAT	SUN
68 / 48F	72 / 49F	73 / 50F

This Week in Highlands

- Thurs.-Tues., May 21-26
 - At Acorn's on Main Street, Coralia Leets Jewelry Trunk Show.
- Fri.-Mon., May 22-25
 - At Acorn's on Main Street, Nina Mclemore Trunk Show.
- Sat. & Sun., May 23-24
 - Village Square Art & Craft Show in Highlands' Kelsey-Hutchinson Park (Pine Street Park) from 10 to 5.
- Sat., May 23
 - Pancake Breakfast at the Scaly Mountain Community Center from 7:30-10:30 a.m.
 - At Cyrano's a book signing 'The Fireman's Wife' from 2-4 p.m. with author Jack Riggs.
 - The Bascom's Will Henry Stevens Bridge, opening. Call 526-4949 or visit www.thebascom.org.
 - At PAC story tellers Gary Carden and Sheila Kay Adams at 7:30 p.m. Tickets: \$15 each. Call 828-526-9047
 - New Artists Reception at Summit One Gallery on 2nd Street from 5-7pm.
 - Mountain Garden Club annual plant sale at the Baseball Park on Hwy 64 east, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
 - The Highlands Plateau Audubon Society field trip to the Lonesome Valley Development. Call Brock Hutchins at 787-1387.
 - Macon County Rabies Vaccination Clinic at Highlands Community Building from 1-2:30 p.m., with Dr. Amy Patterson and 3-4 p.m. at the Scaly Mountain Post Office. \$5 per pet - cash only!
 - Community Garden meeting 11 a.m. at the Holy Family Lutheran Church, 2152 Dillard Road. Call Chaplain Margaret Howell, Cell 704-516-7893.
 - Wolfgang's Restaurant & Cyrano's Book Shop at Wolfgang's 4-6 pm Low Country Boil with Author Jack Riggs, the Fireman's Wife. \$25 plus tax and gratuity.
- Mon.-Fri., May 25-30
 - Town's white goods clean up, no construction or yard debris. Call 526-2118 to be put on list.

Consensus reached about park

The final word hasn't been uttered concerning the design of the Kelsey-Hutchinson Park, but commissioners did vote to go after two different funding sources to alleviate flooding and to improve water quality in that area.

At the Wednesday, May 20 meeting, the board discussed the park again - this time agreeing not to close Pine Street - but to consider grass pavers where asphalt now sits

as "brownie points" for funding and to give the area a more "park-like" feel, even though cars will be able to drive and park on Pine Street.

"We could do what we're doing at the Performing Art Center," said Commissioner Amy Patterson. "That is working very well and people can drive on them and park on them."

Right now, funding the storm-water improvements has taken pre-

cedence which will likely come in the form of two grants - one for water quality from either the Clean Water Trust Fund or from the federal stimulus package - with a design deadline set for June 3.

The other arm of funding will come from FEMA and will be used to address the flooding aspect. It requires a separate design with a due

• See PARK page 7

A Memorial Day Reflection

Memorial Day is a United States federal holiday observed on the last Monday of May. Formerly known as Decoration Day, it commemorates U.S. men and women who died while in the military service. First enacted to honor Union soldiers of the American Civil War, it was expanded after World War I to include American casualties of any war or military action.

In honor of those who serve and those who died serving, we offer the following piece about Colonel Luther Turner, III. His career spans the recent wars and so we commend him and those who have fought with him.

...

Colonel Luther S. (Trey) Turner III, son of Luther and Ann Turner of Highlands, recently returned from Afghanistan having been deployed there for one year as Commander, 451st Air Expeditionary Group, Kandahar Airfield.

During his deployment, Colonel Turner teamed with various coalition forces to integrate un-

• See MEMORIAL DAY page 6

Park dedication



On Friday, May 15, Mayor Don Mullen officially opened Harris Lake Park which developer Bill Nellis dedicated to the Edwards Family - the previous owners of the park property.

Photos by Guy Fielding and Jim Lewicki

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Trimming fat on County's mind

Monday night started what commissioners hope will not be a protracted affair - that of hashing over the 2009-2010 budget, literally line by line.

With federal and state funds drying up at an alarming rate, commissioners are wary about the proposed budget, but County Manager Jack Horton and Finance Director Evelyn Southard are confident about it.

"My recommendation is the same as it was last week," said Horton. He also said that he was against a request for an increase of 10.27% in current expenses budget from the schools that had just come in.

With little growth this past year, and less taxes collected, Southard said the county collected the same percentage as last year. "Which means we have no cushion," she said.

Interest on investments are down as expected, but proceeds from Timber Sales are up not because

• See COUNTY page 7



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• THE PLATEAU'S POSITION •

• LETTERS •

It's time the elected listen to the electorate

Dear Editor,

My husband and I were among the early contributors to the Pine Street Park (sorry, "Kelsey-Hutchinson" just doesn't work). We would not have done so had we thought it would mean the elimination of Pine Street. Among the many interesting and salient comments made at the Town Board meeting on May 13, one made by John Cleaveland, was particularly interesting to me. He suggested, in effect, that closing Pine Street could possibly be illegal, and that, just because the Board wanted to do it didn't mean that they could. That makes sense to me.

I know that often I sound like a Cassandra, or maybe I've just been hallucinating for the past five or 10 years, but our country's Democracy seems to be morphing into an oligarchy, i.e., government by the few. Since I was first eligible to vote, I've been a staunch defender and vocal advocate of the privilege and responsibility. Cynicism is creeping in, and I'm beginning to doubt the value and efficacy of it.

It would be a good thing if the elected really listened to the electorate. It might also be an anomaly.

Alice Nelson
Highlands

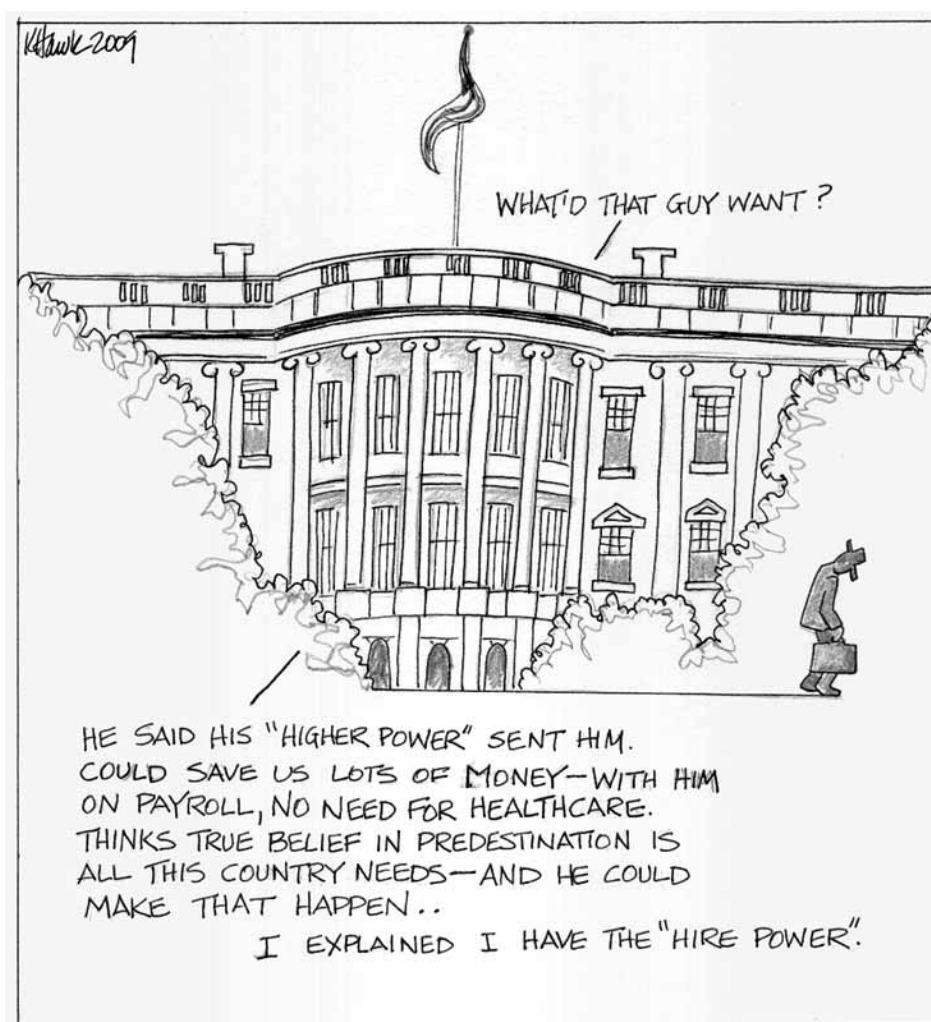
Diminished Treasures

Dear Editor,

Back in the early 1990s when we moved into the pristine and well-equipped, new hospital, we couldn't believe how wonderful it was to have such a lovely facility in our little community. Before this hospital opened most of the seasonal residents "went home" if they became ill. Suddenly that wasn't necessary! What a relief to have excellent care right here for acute care, outpatient services, emergencies and even surgery!

I was working in the hospital then, and as Director of Community Relations, my job was to convince people to use the new facility. I also worked in the development office raising funds to fund the ongoing capital campaign and operations. Nothing has changed since those days. We still have pressing capital equipment needs. We still have to convince people to use the facilities here rather than go home, and the hospital still needs our support.

• HAWK'S EYE VIEW •



Now I am a part-time resident who is very thankful that we have this facility and relieved to come home and take care of all my medical problems while I am here!

In 1991, Foundation Board Chair George Boone, Trustee Bud Greene and I worked hard to craft the MasterKey Club. This donor club was designed to provide annual support for the operations budget, which is always hit hard by the huge percentage of Medicare write-offs (called contractual adjustments). Last year, the hospital lost slightly more \$5.1 million in potential revenue because of contractual adjustments by Medicare and other insurance providers.

MasterKey members donate \$1,000 a year for five years. However, membership has fallen in recent years, and is now below 500 members. H-CH really needs 1,000 MasterKey members. Please consider a membership! Drop by the hospital or call the foundation office at (828) 526-1435.

This year has been devastating for the hospital with increased bad debt due to the financial crisis, a huge drop in the value of the endowment, and decreased donations. We all need to do our best to help.

Someday we will be living here full-time again, and I want this wonderful hospital here when we do. I am sure that you do too. Don't take H-CH for granted. If we want a good hospital in this small community we have to all support it with our time, talents and treasure. Our treasures may be diminished this year, but we can all find a way to give something. I hope you will!

Robin King Austin
Highlands

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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Million Dollar Postage Stamp Park on Pine Street... A Big Mistake

Dear Editor,

I was not enthusiastic about the small Pine Street Park from the beginning. It seemed to me that a better place to have a real park for Highlands was on some of the 30 acres, just a brief walk up the sidewalk to the Highlands Rec Park and Civic Center.

I would have liked to have seen a real playground with recycled rubber flooring, safety fencing, and protected for our children and grandchildren to run and play till their hearts content. I would like to see a very large pavilion added near the existing one that could handle a large gathering. We could have had a wonderful fenced dog park which is greatly needed. I would like to see more hiking trails on this property which already adjoins the Greenway in Highlands, and

• See LETTERS page 3

... **LETTERS from page 2**
is being improved almost each weekend. We could eventually have a large amphitheater on some of the steep property that would be well suited for such a purpose. We could have a large covered stage and bandstand. These needed facilities could be phased in and done over a period of time.

For the huge amount of money already spent on the very small park on Pine Street, many of these things for all our community to enjoy could already be in place! And the good news at the Rec Park is parking is already in place! We are only currently using about four acres of the 30 acres located there.

When we saw the folks so determined to have a small park on Pine Street after expressing our concern we switched and supported the Pine Street Park, now called the Kelsey Hutchinson Park. We fully supported it, and in fact, promoted it on our Radio Station, WHLC FM 104.5 and helped raise funds for the Pine Street Project. I now regret supporting this project and wished we had stayed with the idea of a real park on the thirty acres at the Rec Park.

Highlands now has some nice very small "parks" but most have no parking or only a couple of spaces like the ones on Harris Lake. I am especially sorry we supported the Pine Street Park, now that the Town Board seems determined to close Pine Street altogether.

The Town Board wisely voted to give no consideration to the permanent closing of Pine Street at a Town Board meeting on July 11, 2007.

Now the majority of our Town Board and our mayor are trying to go down the same road once again and permanently close Pine Street. This street is the widest street in town, just a block from Main Street and is available for employees to park away from the Downtown District, overflow for folks to park going to our shopping district. It is completely full on Sundays with church goers from the east end of town.

The churches spoke against closing this street at the past special Town Board meeting on May 13, as they said they did not know what they would do if it was closed.

Father Dean Cesa of Our Lady of the Mountain Catholic Church said the church does not have enough parking now, even with Pine Street open.

We are totally against closing Pine Street, and opposed to losing any of the parking there. I personally checked Pine Street twice after the almost 2 1/2 inches of rain Friday night, and I checked it three times Saturday night after almost 2 3/4 inches of rain. It was not flooded either time.

The mayor has said, "imagine some have said we need Pine Street open for trucks to unload and make deliveries?"

Mr. Mayor and Town Board wake up and smell the coffee or tea you had this morning — it, and EVERYTHING ELSE we need and use, comes up to the mountain on a truck!

Charles B. Cooper
WHLC FM 104.5

• See LETTERS page 5

• OBITUARY •

Isaac Newton Keener

Isaac Newton Keener, age 88, of Highlands, NC died Wednesday, May 13, 2009 at his residence. He was a native of Macon County, the son of the late Isaac N. and Martha Calloway Keener. He was married to Emma Louise Henry Keener who passed away in 1993. He was a US Army Veteran of WWII. He was a carpenter and was of the Baptist faith.

He is survived by two daughters, Carolyn Munger of Highlands, NC and Peggy Lee Reese of Herndon, VA; two sons, Tony Keener of Enterprise, AL and Michael N. Keener of Highlands, NC; two sisters, Myrtle Macky of Franklin, NC and Maggie Gaynor of New Port Richey, FL. Eleven grandchildren and



sixteen great-grandchildren also survive.

Funeral services were held Saturday, May 16 at 2 p.m. in the Chapel of Bryant-Grant Funeral Home in Highlands with Rev. Walter Wilson and Rev. Everett Brewer officiating. Christopher Reese, Jason Reese, David Reese, Joseph Keener, Justin Odom, and Jeff Munger were pallbearers. Burial was at Highlands Memorial Park.

The American Legion Post #108 and Franklin VFW Post #7339 conducted complete military graveside rites. Bryant-Grant Funeral

Home was in charge of arrangements.

Online condolences can be made by visiting www.bryantgrantfuneralhome.com.

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• LAUGHING AT LIFE •

I'm a child of the 40s

I have vivid memories of my second grade teacher. She was a scary looking nun with no hands who appeared to be nine feet tall. An oak triangular ruler was always hidden somewhere on her person. Standing before my class, she showed us a picture of Hitler, Tojo and Mussolini. Then, in a flash, she whipped out her ruler from a secret place under her garments, using it as a pointer to identify each leader while spewing anger and condemnation about each enemy. This twelve inch ruler was used for many things, but never for measurement.

Hold it, Highlands' fish eaters, don't get your shorts in a wad. This really happened and it was acceptable behavior back then, even for a nun. Remember not to attack the messenger, especially if you're a fellow fish eater.

I was raised a war child and hating Hitler, Tojo, and Mussolini was acceptable. I also remember the ice man. He was also nine feet tall. Actually, everyone appeared to be nine feet tall during this segment of my life. He would march into our kitchen with a huge block of ice on his shoulder and plop it in our ice box. Then he would give us the latest news about the war. Walking out, he would announce, "See ya in the morning."

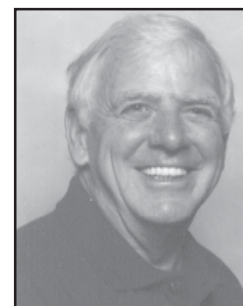
The Second World War brought hard times for my family. Food was not plentiful and women worked in factories building war machines. Only the 4F guys and ice men walked the streets without a uniform. It was an era of "do without."

Flash ahead to 2009 and the news gets grimmer each day. I'm sitting in my office writing this article right in the middle of a full blown deep recession. Unless our president performs a miracle, he admits we're heading for a depression.

My country is involved in two wars. All the while my neighborhood is flooded with happy-go-lucky Mexican lawn workers wearing cell phones attached to their ears. Don't they know we're in hard times and they shouldn't own cell phones when they're at the bottom of the food chain?

Our pool guy drives a brand new "Highlander" Toyota and complains if business continues to drop, he'll have to sell his six bedroom, 5 bath home with a gigantic tropical pool on an acre of prime South Florida property. I'm not making this up. He's a pool guy, for cryin' out loud and we're in a recession!

Yesterday, the li'l missus and I hit the grocery for supplies and found the shelves stocked full of food and the store busy with



Fred Wooldridge

Feedback is encouraged!
email:
askfredanything@aol.com

customers, proving we're not yet in a depression. The Sushi bar was crowded with customers deciding which delicacy they preferred and the wine section was crammed with ladies selecting their vino. Hello...does anyone care there's probably a depression on the way and maybe they should be saving some money? Will someone please act like we're in a recession? Jeez!

I raced to the candy section of the store in search of Hershey bars. Wow, there they were, hundreds of them along with a huge variety of other sweet delights. I was relieved.

"As long as there are Hershey bars, the depression has not yet arrived and the wars must almost be over," I thought.

Does anyone know that during my time as a child, Hershey bars couldn't be found along with a myriad of other goods? What kind of wartime era is this and where's the deep recession?

In my mind, a deep recession means life, in general, should be hard. Lawn and pool guys shouldn't be able to afford cell phones and live in huge, expensive houses. And why are all the cruise ships leaving port full of travelers. Where's the recession?

Recently, I was speaking with a friend (yes, I have two.) about the recession and he was explaining how bad things were.

I asked, "In comparison to what?"

He was speechless and wasn't sure how to answer. Then he said, "I lost everything in the stock market."

I hesitated before speaking, hoping not to offend him, "Shame on you for putting all your money in the stock market. They've only been predicting this crash was coming for the last three years. DUH!"

Hmm, it seems I now have only one friend. As he walked away, I shouted, "They still have Hershey bars at the grocery stores."

Could I be on the wrong page about this recession? Does being in a recession only mean people have to give up their weekly trip to the spa for a massage and manicure but little else? Does it mean they can't afford to play golf twice a week at the club anymore? Does it mean the three quarters of a million dollars they earned last year dwindled to a meager half million?

Because I am a child of the forties, I won't be able to get a handle on this recession until Hershey bars are missing from the shelves. Or when so many people are out of work, they stand in bread lines. Or when I go for food and there's little offered, or when gas is rationed or when people steal coal to keep their children warm. Then I'll know we're there.

• THE VIEW FROM HERE •

Watch out...the rules could change

Afghanistani doctors who care for the war's wounded recently noticed unusual burns on victims of the ongoing struggle and suggested that someone is using white phosphorous, an illegal weapon.. The Taliban pointed a finger at us. We pointed right back. Centcom, that's US Central Command for those out of the loop, responded, "We didn't do it, but if we did, it's because they did it first. " I, for one, have never understood banning certain weapons while accepting other, even more terrifying engines of death.. It would be like banning aspirin but permitting heroin in the NFL. I wonder who decides these things and how they decide. Mustard gas was banned after the first world war, but not machine guns. I wish I'd thought of it but Kurt Vonnegut said that machine guns spray death like garden hoses spray water.

And how about cluster bombs? There's an interesting weapon. They're bad enough when all the little bomblets explode on impact. When they fail to detonate, they leave attractive little metal souvenirs for kids to pick up and play with. When I was a kid, I would have proudly carried one home. I hope Mom would have said, "Don't bring that muddy thing in here."

Kids pick the things up and try to open them with a hammer. Even the most insensitive bomb will surrender and explode under those conditions. The last thing a kid might say is, "Hey, Yasser. Look what I found." Countries without much of an air force, the one's we and the Israelis usually drop cluster bombs on, would probably like to see them banned. I'm not quite sure why they're preferable to a single big bomb. Maybe it's because they are more likely to kill people and leaving structures intact, though slightly pock marked, which reduces the cost of the reconstruction.

If a reporter asked the president's press secretary about banning cluster bombs, he might say, "Why should we? The bad guys don't have them." If pressed he would say that the president is studying the issue in his customary deliberate style. If Malia and Sasha found a cluster bomblet on the east lawn while they were looking for Easter eggs, you can bet the president would make up his mind pretty quickly.

Water boarding is a banned activity, but cluster bombs are legal. Water boarding sounds pretty unpleasant, but I'd rather have water dropped on my face than a bomb. We hate IED's but they're just stuffed with ball bearings. Bad as they are, ball bearings and nails just get one shot at you.



Dr. Henry Salzarulo

**Feedback is encouraged.
email:**

hsalzarulo@aol.com

Cluster bombs give the gift that keeps on killing. We call IED's terrorist weapons which is synonymous with home made. Hellfire missiles are factory made and thus are not terrorist weapons. I'd be terrorized, but just for a second, if one came flying through my living room window.

I don't want to sound like a pacifist, but I still wonder who decides these things. It's probably adults. The kids who picked them can't vote. Even if they could they wouldn't

have a hand to raise in opposition. "Hey kid. Put down your stump"

Cluster bombs aren't nearly as bad as nukes, except that we're not reluctant to use them. Our nukes are just a deterrent, safely stored and kept in reserve. It was unlikely that we would have been forced to use them as long as we faced sensible dictators. Terrorists are considerably less sensible and display much less self restraint than either we or our old adversaries. If they get hold of Pakistan's arsenal of nuclear weapons, they will use them and make our little cluster bombs look like toy balloons. Then all the rules would change.

... LETTERS from page 3 Owens' needs to check his facts

Dear Editor,

The letter from Johnny Owens "Pay Attention People" is full of falsehoods. Mainly President Obama didn't pass an executive order to fund Hamas Immigrants. If he and you would only check these ridiculous statements on Snopes.com you'll read the truth. Check this out <http://www.snopes.com/politics/obama/palestinians.asp>

Get used to it, Obama is going to be our President for the next eight years.

Jack MacLean
Franklin

People do come for the shops!

Dear Editor,

My wife and I moved here from Birmingham, AL 10 years ago to enjoy the "good life" in Highlands. We had visited the area for 17 years before making the commitment to be full time residents. When we move here we purchased The Bird Barn and opened The Hen House/The

•See LETTERS page 16

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... MEMORIAL DAY continued from page 1



Colonel Turner with the Reaper

manned aerial system (drone) residual capacity within the Kandahar battle space. This resulted in more than 300 confirmed enemy kills with zero collateral damage, a 73 percent reduction in Improvised Explosive Devices in the Kandahar area, and three counter narcotics interdictions that netted over 286 tons of illegal substances.

He received The Bronze Star Medal from the U.S. which reads in part: "The exemplary leadership, personal endeavor, and devotion to duty displayed by Colonel Turner in this responsible position reflect great credit upon himself and the United States Air Force".

He also received The Meritorious Service Medal from Canada which reads in part: "Colonel Turner's dynamic leadership and innovation greatly assisted ground forces resulting in reducing the enemy's capability, which saved Canadian lives."

Trey has had an interesting military career that began in 1987 as a U.S. Navy pilot. He was a carrier fighter pilot in the F-14A Tomcat and an advanced jet flight instructor in the TA-4J Skyhawk. In 1992, he graduated from the Navy Fighter Weapons School (TOP-GUN). He transitioned to the F/A-18 Hornet in 1997 and served as an adversary (Topgun) instructor.

He has over 4000 hours of flight time and flew over 134 combat missions in Iraq and Kosovo.

During his deployment aboard the carrier USS John F. Kennedy, he was selected to the carrier air wing's "Top Ten Tail Hookers" for superior carrier landing performance. He has 376 carrier arrested landings.

In 2003, Trey accepted an interservice transfer to the U.S. Air Force and qualified in the MQ-1 Predator unmanned aerial vehicle. One of his first assignments after training was Operations Officer for the 15th Reconnaissance Squadron. While serving in this position, he deployed to Iraq where he

flew missions in support of Operation Iraq Freedom.

In 2005, Trey was selected as Commanding Officer of the 17th Reconnaissance Squadron, Creech Air Force Base, Nevada. During this tour, Trey upgraded to instructor and evaluator in the MQ-1 Predator and MQ-9 Reaper unmanned aerial vehicles which flew missions in Iraq and Afghanistan and were controlled from Creech Air Force Base in Nevada. His current position with the Air Force is Director, Operational Training in the Pentagon.

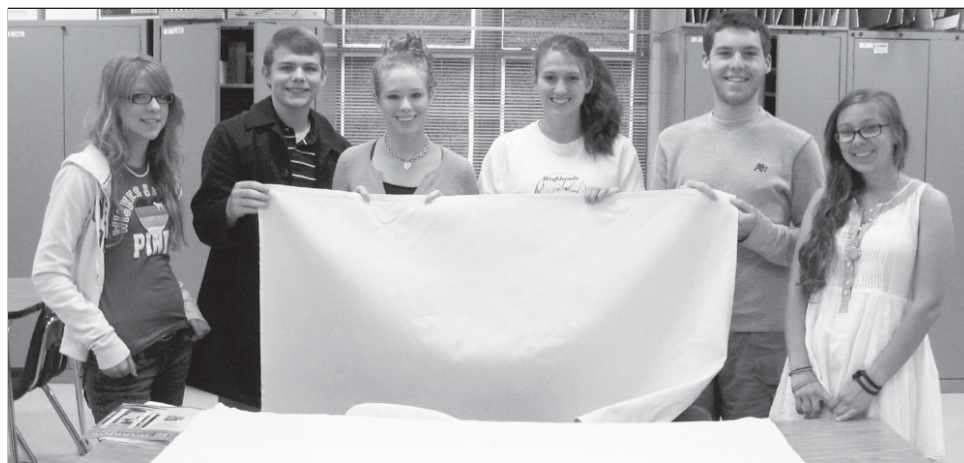
Trey graduated from the University of Alabama with a Bachelor of Science and later a Masters in Business Administration. He is married to the former Kimberly Roper. They have one daughter, Sarah Frost named for her great, great, great grandmother, Sarah Frost Hill, who lived in Highlands from 1888 until her death in 1945.

HS students work on eight flags for eight tours project

The Special Operations Warrior Foundation (SOAR) is dedicated to providing scholarships and educational counseling to the children of Special Operations personnel killed in training or operational missions.

The guest of honor at this year's event June 8-13, is a scholarship recipient whose step-father served eight tours – the eighth tour being his last as he was killed.

Students in Highlands School art teacher, Sally Taylor's class are creating eight flags for the eight tours commemorating Jonathan Goerling, SOAR guest of honor this year as students helping students.



Highlands High School art teacher, Sallie Taylor's AP Art History class will create the Eight Flags for Eight Tours in honor of the fallen Special Operations members. Students helping students. Haley Chalker, Danielle Reese, Brice Jenkins, Kate Marie Parks, Matt McClellan, and Ashley Dickey.

Photo by Mary Adair Leslie

Special Operations Warrior Foundation week in Highlands is set for June 8-13

When Jonathan Goerling speaks up on behalf of the local fundraising events of behalf of the Special Operations Warrior Foundation, he'll be completing a circle that began many years ago.

Jonathan's father was a Special Operations soldier who was killed in the line of duty. The Special Operation Warriors Foundation stepped in to ensure that this fallen warrior's son would be able to attend the college of his choice.

For 28 years, the Special Operations Warrior Foundation has strived to have a positive impact on the children of the fallen heroes of the Special Operations Forces. The foundation gives all children of these young men who lost their life a college education (grant, not a loan).

"I couldn't have received my education or lived the life that I've enjoyed if it hadn't been for SOWF's generous help to myself or my mother," says Jonathan. "They made all the difference in my life and so I'm more than happy."

SOAR of Western North Carolina, a 501c3 nonprofit, is a group of local volunteers dedicated to staging events to support the Special Operations Warrior Foundation.

The Adventure Race is part of that series of fundraisers that support children all across America.

On June 8, SOAR will host a Golf Tournament at Burlingame Country Club in Sapphire. The cost is \$100 per person, including lunch, golf, and dinner after the tournament, with door prizes, and prizes for the 1st, 2nd,

and 3rd place winners.

On June 11th, SOAR will stage a Silent/Live Auction at Highlands Community Building. Tickets at the door are \$30, and early reservations are \$25. For reservations, call (828) 526-0224. This event, which starts at 5:30 p.m., will include an international tasting bar (featuring Mediterranean, American, Japanese and Asian dishes) by Chef Nicholas Figel of Cyprus Restaurant, wine, beer, soda, and music.

On June 13, it's the Special Operations Adventure Race. There are two different segments: the 7 a.m. Elite Race is running, biking, canoeing, rappelling, all in 7-8 hours through approximately 40 miles of our beautiful mountain trails; and the 8:00 a.m. Sprint Race, more of the same done in 5-7 hours in approximately 25 miles. For more information, go to www.soarhighlands.org. If you'd like to volunteer, call Marianne Vines (828) 743-2052.

In addition to all the events, you can buy raffle tickets at two different Highlands locations, Shiraz Rugs on Main Street and Bryson's Grocery Store. Tickets will be sold the last three weekends of May and the first weekend of June. Items to be raffled are two Chinese rugs donated by Shiraz Rugs, three American Flag Jackets donated by Jolie's of Highlands and a 47-inch Vizio LCD Flat Screen TV donated by the Gary Van Flocke Family. Tickets are \$2 or six for \$10.

For more information on SOAR and its many activities and the children that it serves, call Buck Trott at (828) 526-4645.

... PARK continued from page 1

date of June 19 and if granted will ensure 100% funding of that aspect.

"Yesterday, Macon County Emergency Management Director Warren Cabe notified the Town of Highlands that we would be eligible for stormwater improvements under the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program," said Town Manager Jim Fatland.

Fatland said given the need for stormwater improvements in the area, the fact that McGill Engineering can adapt its plans, and the fact that there is new money available for funding, town staff recommends moving forward with the project in some form.

He said the new plan has been reviewed by last week's McGill presenter JP Johns, Cabe, and Town Engineer Lamar Nix.

"According to Cabe, the Town of Highlands can submit a letter of intent to apply for funding under the Macon County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan which was approved on August 4, 2004," said Fatland. "Furthermore, Cabe has agreed to prepare the grant application."

Though the board didn't OK a specific park design, commissioners agreed unanimously not to close Pine Street; to address stormwater problems and water quality issues by writing a letter of intent to apply for FEMA funds under the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program for the stormwater bypass project, and to approve a \$5,000 increase from \$28,000 to \$33,000 to McGill Associates to help Town Engineer Lamar Nix design a larger stormwater detention area at the park.

Nix also reported that core samples at the current grassed park area reveal the ability to stack two mitigation crates under ground rather than just one as earlier reported, which means the park as it now stands has double the water retention ability. In addition, the flooding aspect of the project will be alleviated with 36-inch pipes under the park to U.S. 64 where 48-inch pipes will be laid.

"With this scenario, we will be able to shave peaks off the 25-year, six-hour storm which we didn't think would be possible," he said.

Commissioners voted 3 to 2 to apply for Federal Stimulus Funds for stormwater detention at the park with Commissioners Buz Dotson and Larry Rogers voting against the motion.

"I am ethically opposed to federal stimulus funding for this project," said Dotson. "I think it's wrong for us to sell our grandchildren's souls by taking federal stimulus money."

Whether Clean Water Management Trust Funds are used – funds which were awarded, withdrawn and may be offered back at a later time – or federal stimulus funds, it's likely the town will be able to have the stormwater mitigation work at the park done at little or no cost.

The Recreation Committee, Pine Street Park Committee and the Public Works Committee will begin meeting to finalize park design as soon as possible.

Stormwater Ordinance

The board was presented with the final draft of the Stormwater Ordinance which was prepared in response to the stormwater master plan completed by McGill Associates last year which identified about 30 capital stormwater mitigation projects. The ordinance is meant for new development and the planning department said it will not deter development only alleviate stormwater runoff.

The ordinance was submitted for introduction and review with adoption to be considered in about 90 days. The board sent it on to the Planning Board for review.

Town Hall Renovations

Before renovations could begin at Town Hall, an asbestos study had to be done. It was discovered that asbestos must be removed from the entire second floor. To keep from disrupting day-to-day work during removal and subsequent renovations, the board voted unanimously to move to a temporary location for about four months.

After looking at several locations, including Wright Square and the old Macon Bank, staff decided on 2,800 sq. ft. at Highlands Creek Village on N.C. 106 for \$3,100 per month with a lease period a minimum of four months. The board voted unanimously to make the temporary move with a date to be forthcoming. Town employees will do the moving and funds if needed will come from the money that had been set aside to build the new Town Hall.

Upcoming Elections

The filing period for the upcoming 2009 Municipal Election for the Town of Highlands begins 8 a.m., Monday, July 6 through noon, July 17.

The mayor's seat and two commissioner seats are open. It costs \$10 for mayor and \$5 for commissioner. Filing is done at the Macon County Board of Elections.

Planning

At Monday's May 18 Planning Board meeting, the final plat for the Rainwater Development on VZ-Top was approved contingent upon Town Engineer Nix's letter verifying electricity compliance, but the Town Board voted to table the final plat until it looked again at the preliminary plat to see if they OK'd an old barn straddling the property line of two new lots. The concern was a setback violation.

... COUNTY from pg 1

more timber is being harvested but because the federal government is giving the county more money back.

By law, money from Timber Sales must go to fund schools. Last year \$122,000 was allocated, this year proceeds are projected to be \$350,000.

The board is keeping the fund balance at about 25% but beginning last year began spending more of the fund balance than in previous years. However, Southard reiterated the importance of keeping it at 25% using Haywood County as an example.

Its fund balance dipped below 8% and consequently Haywood County was denied

See COUNTY page 32

Wit's End

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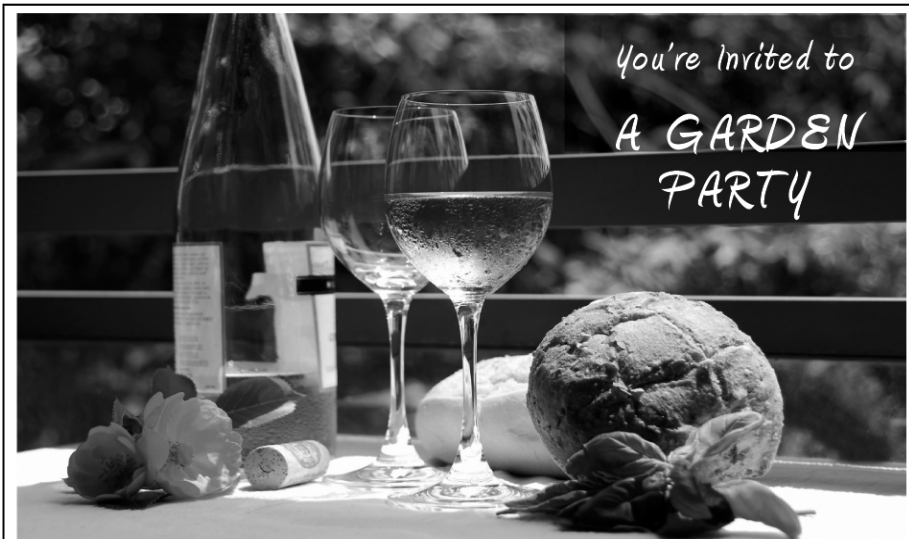
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• COOKING ON THE PLATEAU •

This Memorial Day stoke up the grill

Grilling is a great all-American tradition. For generations, family and friends have gathered around the grill to celebrate summer in the good ol' USA.

This year, treat your taste buds to a little road trip of flavor without ever having to leave your backyard. Just fire up the grill and serve a big, juicy steak that salutes one of America's regional food favorites. Whether it's a spicy Southwestern-style Rib Eye steak, a Heart of Dixie Whiskey-Barbeque Top Sirloin, or a Buffalo New York Strip, you can enjoy the steaks that make America great right at home.

Southwestern Rib Eye Steak with Chile Butter

Serves 4

4 tablespoons salted butter, softened at room temperature
1 tablespoon Worcestershire sauce
1 tablespoon canned chipotle in adobo sauce, pureed
1 tablespoon garlic, chopped
1/2 teaspoon chile powder
4 Rib Eye Steaks, thawed
1 tablespoon olive oil
Kosher salt and black pepper, to taste
Place butter in a mixer or mixing bowl and whip until smooth and creamy.
Add Worcestershire sauce, chipotle in adobo sauce, garlic and chile powder. Mix well and reserve chile butter.
Preheat grill on high.
Rub steaks with olive oil on each side and generously season with salt and pepper.
Grill steaks to the desired doneness, while searing the outside.
Place a dollop of chile butter on steaks just prior to taking off the grill.

Heart of Dixie Southern Whiskey Barbeque Marinated Top Sirloin

Serves 4

1 1/2 cups barbeque sauce
1 1/2 cups whiskey
1/4 cup Worcestershire sauce
1/4 cup honey
2 teaspoons black pepper
2 teaspoons kosher salt
4 Top Sirloin Steaks, thawed
Combine all ingredients, except steaks, in a bowl and mix well.
Reserve 1 cup of marinade and set aside.
Place steaks in a gallon resealable bag. Pour marinade over steaks and place in refrigerator to marinate for 24 to 48 hours.
Preheat grill. Place steaks on grill, discarding marinade. Grill steaks to desired doneness while basting with reserved marinade.

Midwest Rubbed Filet Mignons

Serves 4

1 tablespoon coarse sea salt
1 teaspoon coarse ground black pepper
1/4 teaspoon coarse dehydrated onion
1/4 teaspoon coarse dehydrated garlic
1/4 teaspoon crushed red pepper
1/4 teaspoon whole dill seed
1/4 teaspoon dried whole thyme
1/4 teaspoon paprika
4 Filet Mignons, thawed
2 tablespoons olive oil
Combine spices, starting with salt, in a mixing bowl to make rub.
Brush each side of steak with oil, then season with rub.
Preheat grill on high.
Grill steaks to desired doneness while searing the outside.
• Courtesy of Family Features



• HIS & HERS •

Journalism for dummies

By Michelle A. Mead-Armor

“Quellehorreur!” said Maman, and I had to agree with her. It was, after all, an ugly title for a book, even one that was trying to be cute. She was speaking about my copy of “Weight Training for Dummies,” but she could have been commenting about “The Complete Idiot’s Guide to Tai Chi & QiGong,” not to mention “The Pocket Idiot’s Guide to The Portable Office” (presumably for small idiots). All of these books grace my library, although I must admit I do find their titles offensive.

Do you remember when it wasn’t cool to be a dummy? Or an idiot? I remember the Good Old Days before the first “For Dummies” book in 1991. The series, published by IDG Books, began with “DOS for Dummies,” written by Dan Gookin. The concept was launched by Michael “Mac” McCarthy, following a discussion with his uncle, who’d suggested a book “for us Dummies.” Ostensibly, this was to fill an untapped market in beginner-friendly texts for this computer program. At first, the “Dummies” books focused on computer and technology topics, but later branched out into more general subjects. In a “which came first, the chicken or the egg” debate, we also have the “Complete Idiot’s” series. So who came first? The Dummies or the Idiots? Well, it seems the Idiots might actually have beaten out the Dummies. The “Complete Idiot’s Guides,” a line of products from Alpha Books, parallels the “For Dummies” publications. As with the “Dummy” books, the term “idiot” is supposed to be a clever use of exaggeration to get our attention. While “The Complete Idiot’s Guide to DOS” launched the whole series, it seems that the concept may be a nod to the 1969 guide, “How to Keep Your Volkswagen Alive, A Guide for the Compleat Idiot.” This popular book by John Muir took a lighthearted approach to car maintenance in the days when it seems everyone owed a Volkswagen.

Jump forward to the present day, when faced with my mother’s piano, I decided some refreshing of my piano knowledge was in order. As I usually do in such circumstances, I went to the local library, and appealed to their wisdom. The nice lady gazed into her computer screen. “Well, for starters, there’s “Piano for Dummies,” she said cheerily. “Hmmm, let’s see. We could also order two books from the Franklin library. They have <I “The Complete Idiot’s Guide to Playing Piano” and “An Easy Guide to Piano.” (Easy?



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

What? No dummies or idiots?) I was expecting “Music for Morons,” at least.

OK, I know I’m getting all worked up over nothing. They don’t really expect us to be that stupid, or we wouldn’t even be able to read the darned things, for Pete’s sake. Still, I long for the days when it was neat to be smart – not that I was always. Let me give you a few examples.

When I was a little girl, I thought that cats and dogs had magic zippers hidden in their fur. If the weather got particularly hot, they would go away where humans could not see, and take their fur off. I spent hours looking for the zippers, to the amusement of many animals who must have thought that the term “dumb animals” should be reserved for those creatures walking around on two legs, not them.

I must have had a problem with vanilla, as well. I thought manila envelopes were vanilla envelopes, so-called because they were plain and boring. I thought that vanilla ice cream was not a flavor; it was what you got before you added wonderful things like chocolate to it.

After 19 years of living abroad, I returned to live in the States, New York City, to be exact. There I was greeted with another conundrum. “Paper or plastic?” said the check-out lady, chomping on her gum. “Excuse me?” I stuttered. What the heck did she mean, paper or plastic? And then it came to me. She wanted to know if I was going to pay with cash or by credit card. “Plastic!” I replied enthusiastically, relieved that this lady would see me now for the potential Rhodes Scholar that I was (in my dreams!). I handed over my credit card, safe in the knowledge that at least this bit of Americana now held no mystery to me. It took me a while to figure out that she just wanted to know if I wanted my groceries in paper or plastic bags. Oh, for dumb.

Jump forward to my arrival in Highlands. I had a few things to learn here, too. John and I would drive down the road, and see signs for yard sales and garage sales. Only the thought of my own junk at home stopped me from asking John to pull over. After all, I was a veteran, having worked the rummage sales of both my churches in Paris and New York. Until you’ve seen to old ladies in fur coats fighting over a rusty tea strainer, you haven’t really lived, that’s all I can say.

One sign kept coming up, over and over. Finally, my curiosity got the better of me. “I

• See HIS & HERS page 15

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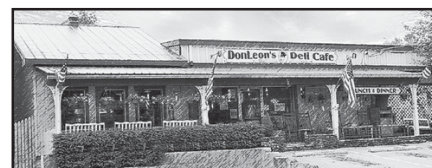
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Hospital first free health screening in 2009 is filling up fast

Although there is still more than a month and a half to go before the first of the hospital's free community health screenings of the season, space is already at a premium.

This season's Highlands area screening, sponsored by Highlands-Cashiers Hospital, will be held Saturday, June 27, on level 1 of the Jane Woodruff Clinic on the hospital campus. It will be the only such event held this year for residents in Highlands, Scaly Mountain and Sky Valley zip codes, but the number of slots for participants was expanded to 150 people. Even so, organizers say more than two thirds of the available slots have already been filled.

"The screening is filling up fast," says Skip Taylor, director of Community Relations for the hospital. "as of last week only about 40 slots are still available. So if folks want to take advantage of this great opportunity, they need to act soon."

The hospital's Foundation office schedules participants by time slot to help reduce waiting times, and Taylor said that many of the most popular time slots, such as those early in the morning, are already filled. The screening gets under way at 7:15 a.m.

Organizers have also received many calls from folks who would prefer other time slots or who reside in communities other than the greater Highlands/Scaly/Sky Valley area that would prefer to attend this screening. The hospital has started a waiting list for those people. If slots open up or go unfilled, those on the waiting list will be contacted in the week before the screening, Taylor said.

Part of the funding for this year's Highlands area screening is being provided by the Cullasaja Women's Outreach Program.

"With the budget cuts we've had at the hospital this year, we very much appreciate the support of civic groups in the community in helping us defer at least a portion of the cost of providing these screenings," said hospital President and CEO Ken Shull. "Because we offer fairly extensive lab tests at our screening without any charge to the participants, these screenings are expensive to do. However, the hospital is committed to improving the health of the communities we serve and we appreciate various civic clubs helping in this important effort."

In addition to being screened for height and weight, BMI (body mass index), and blood pressure, screening participants will also be tested for blood oxygen saturation level, cholesterol and triglyceride levels, glucose (blood sugar) levels, and white and red blood cell counts (to detect anemia and infection). Men over the age of 45 will also receive a blood test to detect prostate cancer (PSA). Due to the nature of the tests being offered, those participating in screenings are asked not to eat or drink anything but water after midnight the night before.

In addition to the various tests, a dietitian/nutritionist will be on hand to

discuss healthy eating and exercise habits, and a physical therapist will be available to evaluate balance and strength. Hearing tests and ear examinations will also be conducted at most of the screenings, and several area physicians are often in attendance. All of that is in addition to a complimentary continental breakfast.

A wealth of health information is also available. There is no age limit, but minors require parental consent.

Confidential results of screening tests will be reviewed by the participant's own family physician (or another hospital physician if no family doctor is specified) before being mailed out.

A second community health screening for residents with zip codes for Cashiers, Glenville, Sapphire, and Yellow/Cullowhee Mountain area will be held July 11 at Blue Ridge School. Registration is already open for that screening as well.

Those wishing to take advantage of either free screenings can register by calling the hospital at (828) 526-1435, or sign up on the hospital's website at www.highlandscashiershospital.org (click on the screening menu and complete the registration form). Those registering on line will receive a confirmation email.

Nature Center ready for summer season

The Highlands Nature Center is about to start its summer season. Regular hours of Monday – Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. will begin on May 23. The Botanical Garden is open every day until sunset. Admission for both is free.

Highlands Nature Center features many interactive exhibits that interpret the native flora and fauna of the southern Appalachians, including a recently upgraded live animal display. Additional exhibits include ones on the biodiversity of the region, the Highlands Plateau as an important bird area, invasive species, a working honeybee hive, and examples of local wildlife. The 11-acre Botanical Garden features more than 500 species of native plants with labels, interpretive gardens including the Cherokee Garden, and numerous trails to various habitats including old-growth hemlock forest, streams, a mountain bog, and Lindenwood Lake.

The Nature Center offers many fun and educational programs for children and adults every day throughout the summer including Botanical Garden tours, animal

See NATURE CENTER page 32

• FROM MY PERSPECTIVE •

The idea behind the park

Last week we had a special meeting of the Board of Commissioners to discuss the stormwater flooding situation on 5th and Pine streets which has been a problem for many years.

This is the place where the new Kelsey-Hutchinson Park will eventually be created. Too property take care of the flood situation, the McGill Engineering firm had recommended closing Pine Street and utilizing underground catch basins to eventually outflow into Mill Creek to prevent flooding. This was an option which would more completely solve the flooding situation although not closing the street was also an option which was far less effective in taking care of this serious problem.

The plan had been reviewed by the Public Works Committee and the Recreation Committee the planning director and town engineer. The closing of Pine Street would have caused the loss of some 40 parking places in creating a green park with a pavilion, appropriate landscaping and rest room facilities.

The plan was presented to the board by J.P. John of McGill Engineering and after the commissioners had a chance to ask questions to understand the proposal, the floor was opened up for public comment. The business community and the radio station were out in force to oppose the plan because of the loss of the street, parking places and a place for trucks to unload and bypass other streets.

Almost 20 people spoke against the plan, mostly business people in that area and other areas of town and only two spoke for the plan, both members of the committee which had worked hard to raise funds for more green space and a park in that location. It was an exercise in what democracy is all about – a town meeting of sorts in which feeling and



Mayor Don Mullen

ideas were expressed. The board always welcomes such comments and input from the community.

Thus the board tabled the recommendations of the engineers to look for alternative plans which did not result in closure of Pine Street. In effect, we lost the ability to seek stimulus money funding for this project because time runs out June 3 for applications. We had heard from prima-

rily the business community but I do not think we hard from the community as a whole regarding this matter.

One of the questions we have to ask ourselves is: "Why do people come to Highlands to live and why to visitors flock to this area for both brief and long vacations, some staying six months of the year? Why do people love to come here? We certainly do have great shops, stores and restaurants. As much as I love these wonderful shopping facilities which are very good, whose quality we are all proud of, but I don't believe they are the primary reasons why people come to Highlands.

I believe it is the tranquility and beauty of the place that draws people to us. It is the open spaces, the trails and hiking, the incredible vistas, the peace and quiet and the wonderful weather we have that brings people to Highlands. They come to us to get away from the hustle and bustle of city life, to get away from the crowds and the work they do on a daily basis. Sure they visit the wonderful shops we have while they happen to be here, but that is not the reason they come. They primarily look for peace and tranquility in a society which allows little of that. Some look to meet old friends, some play golf on our wonderful golf courses and many enjoy the scenery. They come to hike, to picnic, to just relax and get away from it all.

•See MULLEN page 14



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• CONSERVATIVE POV •

The power grab continues

Some of us remember well Mrs. Clinton's aborted attempt to commandeer the US healthcare system. Handed the potato by hubby Bill, Hillary chaired the Task Force on National Health Care Reform. Bill had made fuzzy references to his vision for health care reform during the 1992 campaign but voters had no idea what he had in mind and could care less. There was little public interest in the matter but Bill put the "impending crisis" on the front burner and his grab for a huge chunk of the US economy was on. Don't let a crisis go to waste, even if the crisis is the figment of a greedy politician's imagination. While Hillary was cutting her teeth on formulating public policy, and making every mistake in the book, Bill was ducking and dodging the spears and arrows of outrageous fortune. The Whitewater land development scandal not only would not go away but the cacophony built on itself and became a major distraction. At the same time, Clinton's history of sexual exploits was catching up with him and his political power was dwindling by the day.

While Congress was busy turning the spit that Bill was impaled upon, Hilly and her sidekick, Ira Magaziner, were at work making enemies of the captains of the medical industry and the very congressional leaders she would need to push through her ambitious legislation. Big Pharma and health insurance companies waged a broad-based ad campaign against the plan, which included the successful "Harry and Louise" ads. Pat Moynihan, Democrat senator from NY, effectively put a stake through Hillary's health care reform effort by stating on "Meet the Press", "there is no health care crisis". Whoops. Curiously, Hillary succeeded Moynihan in the senate in 2000 when he chose not to run.

So why all this regurgitation of history? Because we are supposed to learn from it. What did Hillary take away from her abortive experience? "Now I'm from the school of smaller steps...." So has el presidente learned from history? "I want health reform legislation before you bozos go off on summer vacation. The need is urgent that I control of a sixth of the nation's economy in addition to banking, automotive and whatever. Of course the plan will be fully fleshed out and you'll have loads of time to read it and understand it and bounce it off your constituents but it has to be done NOW. The health care crisis is burying us." Where is Pat Moynihan when you need him?

Obama isn't carrying the baggage Bill brought with him to the Presidency, nor is he burdened by an ambitious wife who has



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

her fingers in the pie (at least not yet). He has Congress eating out of his hand and an incredibly supportive media. Looks like all systems are a go. But here's the thing. The government is already committed, through Medicare, to fund \$56 trillion in expenses for us old fogies who qualify now. In a few years, the boomers will be participating and the government's unfunded liability will reach \$100 trillion, which is seven times our current gross national product;

it's a no-can-do.

The stories are legend about the sordid healthcare where the government runs it.

The cry is that health care is too expensive and that the government can run it cheaper than the professionals can. Oh really?? When's the last time that happened?? UPS is profitable and very efficient; the US Postal Service, not so much. Prices going up, service going down; operating at a big loss. So healthcare is going to be cheaper even though Uncle is going to give or largely subsidize coverage for 50 million new insureds, whether they want it or not.

The cost of drugs will have to come down. This will cause big pharma to lose the cash flow necessary to continue critical research and development of new drugs needed to heal the sick and extend the lives of us oldies. Maybe that's the idea. The income of doctors will have to come down. Fewer of our best and brightest will spend the decade or so and the hundreds of thousands of dollars that it takes to become qualified to practice. Fewer doctors means rationing care. If you are old and aren't contributing to the government's giant ponzi scheme, you'll go to the end of the line. Maybe that's the idea. (Am I sounding paranoid?).

Because of Medicare's restrictions, hospital stays are becoming shorter and shorter. For those of us who are blessed with rapid healing powers, it's not so important; for those who aren't, it's critical, but I don't think the bureaucrats who

make the rules are considering the difference. I can see the day when childbirth will be an outpatient procedure and open-heart will be same-day surgery.

Even the Obomerator admits that the \$1.2 trillion it would cost, on top of all the other spending going on, will produce unsustainable debt levels. He's paid to come up with answers, not create the questions. I don't know what the answer is, but the free-market will figure it out if the government will get out of the way.

One thing is for sure; it isn't socialized medicine or nationalized healthcare or whatever they choose to call it.

A historical view from a historical figure

Ben Franklin, a.k.a., John Armor, began making the Rotary rounds this week, discussing elements of the Constitution of the United States and Ben Franklin's take on things.

Photo by Kim Lewicki



Betz surprises No. 1 Carolina Fan



Katy Betz, a recent graduate of UNC-Chapel Hill, surprised her former grade school teacher Mozelle Edwards (and #1 Carolina fan) with a coveted copy of *The Daily Tar Heel* newspaper, depicting the Tar Heels win of the 2009 NCAA Men's Basketball National Championship.



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• COACH'S CORNER •

Vick's release from prison will bring tough questions

Yesterday, Michael Vick was released from prison after serving almost two years in a federal penitentiary for dogfighting and illegal gambling. Vick is 28 years old, and will exit prison in the hopes that he will one day play professional football again. However, Vick also exits Leavenworth Federal Penitentiary as a convicted felon, and there is no doubt that his career path has been changed forever.

I took an interest in Michael Vick when I was a freshman in college, as I watched him single-handedly erase a 21 point deficit in the Sugar Bowl against Florida State in what was an incredible individual effort. I was in awe of the incredible athleticism and poise displayed by a kid almost exactly my age (Vick is 2 days older than me). It was obvious that Vick was destined for big things, and that night against the Seminoles was more than enough evidence.

As a pro, Vick was drafted by the Falcons and made into their franchise player, and while he was inconsistent as a passer, he delivered with his athleticism and marketability. Vick set single season records for rushing yards by a quarterback, most rushing yards per game by a quarterback, and highest yards per carry for a season. He also led the Falcons to the second round of the playoffs in his first season as starting quarterback, and was a leading MVP candidate in the 2002 season as well. Vick was the toast of Atlanta, and a thorn in the sides of opposing teams (such as my Saints) due to his ability as a dual threat out of the backfield.

Things went wrong for Vick in 2007, as reports of alleged dogfighting arose and were ultimately confirmed. Once considered to be a model athlete, Vick's image had already been tarnished somewhat by some on field and off field incidents. The dogfighting case ultimately turned public opinion against Vick, and he became a poster child for the perceived lawlessness of the NFL and its' players. Vick received the longest sentence of all connected with Bad Newz Kennels, and has become a pariah due to his involvement in cruelty to animals. Having spent the last 20 months in prison, Vick will now have to prove to the NFL, the media and society in general that he is truly a rehabilitated man...the question is, will society accept proof if it indeed comes?

America has always been an interesting society. We love the stories of rehabilitation and second chances...provided that it fits a certain storyline. We forgive crimes such as



Ryan Potts

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adultery, drugs or theft, because we see those as simply cases of people being weak in the face of temptation. These are "human" crimes, explained away by our own guilt and our own hopes for redemption. After all, many of us have lusted after a neighbor, or a neighbor's possessions. However, electrocuting a dog is simply not in the average

person's modus operandi, and therefore is being portrayed by many as an unforgivable atrocity. While it is certainly an atrocity, a hideous act indeed-it should not be unforgivable...provided that the impetus for forgiveness is there. My greatest fear is that the PETA's of the world will not allow Vick to ever have a true opportunity at redemption, and in doing so will deprive Vick (and in turn other young males who have fallen by the wayside) the same second chance that our society has given to so many throughout the years. I am hopeful that Mike Vick is a changed man...he's going to have to prove it...but I will most certainly support him if he does.

... MULLEN continued from page 11

So we have to ask ourselves again and again, "Why do people come here, both permanently and temporarily?" It is the place, my friends, it is the place. It is the natural beauty of the place. And we must keep it that way. We must always look for ways to improve it in a progressive and unique way.

I have never heard a visitor say he or she was upset because they couldn't find a parking place in town. They call to ask "Is Dry Falls open yet?" "Where are the places I can go for peace and quiet?" And when they come they will get that. And, yes, when they come they will visit our great shops and restaurants. But, my friends, that is not the primary reason they come.

The commissioners are always striving to keep it that way and we will do everything we can to do so. We have a responsibility to do that...to keep Highlands green and beautiful and maintain the village character that attracts others here. To create space for people to relax and walk and enjoy with their families, both our permanent residents and those who visit temporarily.

And creating great parks along with new trails and greenways is a way to do that.

• HS SPORTS •

Soccer Wrap-Up

By Ryan Potts

The Highlands Women's Varsity Soccer team finished their season last Wednesday with a loss to Hendersonville in the first round of the state 1A playoffs.

Zachary Field was filled with a large contingent of fans from both Highlands and Hendersonville, and they were not disappointed after a tremendous first half from both the Lady Highlanders and the Lady Bearcats.

Hendersonville came out strong early, but both sides seemed to be battling playoff jitters as there was sloppy play from both sides. After the first 20 minutes, both sides settled down nicely into what was a back and forth affair. Unfortunately for fans of the Lady Highlanders, the second half did not see that kind of action, as the Lady Bearcats came out and scored within the first minute of the second half and never looked back.

Two more goals by the Lady Bearcats in the next nine minutes ended any hopes of a Lady Highlander comeback, and at that point the rout was on, with a final score of 6-0.

The Lady Highlanders had an improved season from 2007-08, finishing 5-8 on the year and winning another SMC title. While seniors Carolyn Hornsby and Marisol Ruiz will be missed greatly, the Lady Highlanders will return 9 starters from this year and will look to finish with a winning record and a trip to the second round for the first time.

The Lady Highlanders appreciate all of the support from the community this season, and we look forward to seeing everyone next spring.

... HIS & HERS from 9

wonder what they're selling" I mused. "Who? What?" replied John, thankfully paying attention to the road. "All these people," I continued. "I keep seeing that they have lots to sell. But lots of what?" "Lots!" laughed John. "They're selling lots! Lots of land. You know, to build on. Lots!" "Oh," I said, sliding down in my seat.

I suppose I should be thankful. Life is one big learning experience, and I am, after all, just a work in progress. This column is part of that experience. Gee, I was just thinking. Hmmm. "Journalism for Dummies." It has a certain ring to it, don't you think?

About the Author: Michelle A. Mead-Armor is a writer and translator who grew up in Waynesboro, Virginia, before wasting her youth and good looks in Baltimore, Sydney, Paris, and New York. She and her husband live on top of a mountain on the Continental divide near Highlands. They are members of the Highlands Writers Group. She would like to thank the kind lady whose comment gave her the idea for this column.

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... LETTERS continued from page 5

Speckled Hen the following year.

We have a vested interest in Highlands as a community, its citizens and its many visitors – WE DEPEND ON THEM for OUR LIVLIHOOD, but at the same time we have tried to give back to the community through donations and service on boards. Have our efforts been wasted?

It sickens me to hear an elected official (our mayor) say on public radio that he DOES NOT believe that people come to Highlands to shop in our stores and eat in our restaurants. He states the reasons they come are for peace and tranquility, hiking, golf and relaxation.

Every day during the season we hear customer's comments about the QUALITY of the shops in Highlands. Shops that are unique and so different from shops found elsewhere. Many visitors and residents ARE here TO SHOP, EAT and relax while they are in Highlands.

Often they will express the difficulty experienced in finding a parking space nearby. PLEASE, Mr. Mayor, don't be so naive, as to have us believe there isn't a seasonal parking problem in Highlands. This problem existed when we started visiting years ago and still does to this day.

You jeopardize the very tax base that supports town projects, indeed helps pay town salaries and allows Highlands to survive. The SALES TAX raised by the Shop Owners you discount as, NOT the reason people come to Highlands!

You heard an outcry from merchants on Wednesday, May 13 at the town meeting concerning the closing of PINE Street to further the proposed Kelsey Hutchinson Park. What do you mean the silent majority was not heard? The merchants voiced concerns about the project, on public record, 20 opposed, to 2 in favor, of the project as planned and there were many other people that did not speak that will be effected if you proceed with the plan to close the street. You were urged to find another approach, even if it cost a bit more, so as to protect the merchants and citizens of Highlands from the loss of a street. My grandfather always said "If you can't find time to do it right the first time, how are you going to find time to do it again."

Plan your Kelsey Hutchinson Park, it will be used and enjoyed by many. But, first look at every viable option to provide green space, new public restrooms and flood control through the area, without closing PINE Street and crippling local traffic and town merchants. PINE Street is vital for traffic flow, employee parking and business deliveries. It is used for church parking, weddings, charity events, art shows, car shows and many other events. Don't forget to mention that the plan, as now written, will NOT ALLOW the weight of emergency vehicles on the green space. Close a street and remove the ability to provide life saving services to the public? I hope not!


PLEASE, go back and do it again, before it alters our peaceful, quiet village and forces merchants to close their doors.

Lloyd Wagner
Hen House

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It's official! The season has begun



For years now, David Young has announced the opening of the "season" in Highlands with the hanging of flowering baskets from lamp posts along Main Street. He does this at his own expense simply to beautify the town. He and his wife Susan own Wits End and other properties on Main Street.

Photo by
Jim Lewicki

• SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING •

Rev. James T. Murphy to visit Christ Anglican Church



The Reverend James T. Murphy, and his wife, Sharon, and daughter, Charisa, will be visiting Christ Anglican Church over the Memorial Day weekend. Fr. Murphy will preach and celebrate at Christ Anglican's 11 a.m. Service on Sunday (May 24) and will also lead its 10 a.m. Adult Education Class. Following the Worship Service the church will host a reception for the Murphy family.

Christ Anglican Church services are held in the Highlands Community Center on Highway 64 next to the baseball field.

The Murphys presently live in New Bern, NC, where Father Murphy has served as Rector of Emmanuel Church (Anglican Mission in the Americas) over the past four years. In 2004 and 2005 he was Rector of Christ Anglican Church in Sarasota, Florida, and from 1995 until 2004 Rector of Church of the Nativity. Prior to 1995 he served as Assistant Rector of St. David's Episcopal Church in Englewood, Florida.

A native of Cleveland, Ohio, Father Murphy received his Master of Divinity Degree from the University of the South in Sewanee, Tennessee, and his Bachelor of Science Degree from the University of South Florida in Tampa. Before then he attended Ohio State University. He was involved in business before being called to the ministry.

Christ Anglican Church is indeed blessed to have Fr. Murphy visit over this special holiday weekend, and residents of Highlands and Cashiers particularly look forward to his preaching and teaching. In describing his personal walk with the Lord he says that, "Beyond a doubt, I am most passionate about sharing my faith in Jesus - in what His birth, life, ministry, death, resurrection, ascension, and Pentecostal outpouring means for us and for those He came to save."

Visitors are welcome at both the Adult Education Class and Worship Service that follows.

Bookworm has new hours

Are you looking for a good book to read? The Bookworm, the used bookstore affiliated with the Hudson Library, is overflowing with great books. Starting June 2, the Bookworm is making it even easier for booklovers by opening on Tuesdays. The new hours will be Tuesday through Saturday, 10 am - 4 pm. As an added gift to the community, the Bookworm is having a half-price sale on all books for the entire month of June!

The Bookworm sells hardcover and paperback books across all genres: bestsellers, classics, mysteries, nonfiction, biographies, cookbooks, poetry, etc. Children's books have their own section. Most books are less than \$4, and there is a wide variety of paperbacks that cost 50 cents. Also available are CDs, DVDs, and books on CD.

The Bookworm is run entirely by volunteers, and new volunteers are always needed and welcome, particularly in the summer. If you are interested, stop by anytime the Bookworm is open and pick up an application. Also, the Bookworm currently needs good used pre-school books. Many of Highlands' grandparents prepare for their grandkids' summer visit by stocking up on reading material.

The Bookworm is located on the lower level of the Peggy Crosby Center on 5th Street. For more information call (828) 526-9938 x300.

• PLACES OF WORSHIP •

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

BUCK CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

Sundays: School - 10 a.m.; Worship - 11
CHAPEL OF SKY VALLEY
Sky Valley, Georgia

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

Pastor's residence: 706-746-5770

Sundays: 10 a.m. - Worship

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

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Rai Cammack, Branch President, (828) 369-1627

CHRIST ANGLICAN CHURCH

Office - 526-2320

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

Monday: Evening Bible Study at 6 p.m.

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

Pot Luck Lunch last Sunday of each month.

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

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

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Wed: dinner 5 p.m. followed by childrens

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

Adult Bible Study & Prayer Meeting 7 p.m.

Small groups available throughout the week.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Dr. Daniel D. Robinson, 526-4153

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

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

Prayer - 6:15 p.m., Choir - 7:30 p.m.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Dr. Lee Bowman, Pastor

Dr. Don Mullen, Parish Associate 526-3175

Sun.: Worship - 10:55 a.m.; Sun. School - 9:30 & 9:45.

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

Tuesdays: 10 a.m. - Seekers

Wednesdays - Choir - 7

HIGHLANDS ASSEMBLY OF GOD

Sixth Street

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

Wednesdays: Prayer & Bible Study - 7

HIGHLANDS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Pastor Paul Christy

526-3376

Sun.: school 9:45 a.m.; Worship 8:45 a.m., 11 a.m.;

5 p.m. Youth Group

Wed: Supper; 6; 7:15 - children, youth, & adults
studies; 6:15 - Adult choir

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

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

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SCALY MOUNTAIN BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. Clifford Willis

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

Wednesdays: Prayer Mtg. - 7 p.m.

SCALY MOUNTAIN CHURCH OF GOD

290 Buck Knob Road; Pastor Alfred Sizemore

Sundays: School - 10 a.m.; Worship - 10:45 a.m.;

Evening Worship - 6 p.m.

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

For more information call 526-3212.

SHORTOFF BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Rev. Andy Cloer.

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

Wednesdays: Prayer & Bible Study - 7

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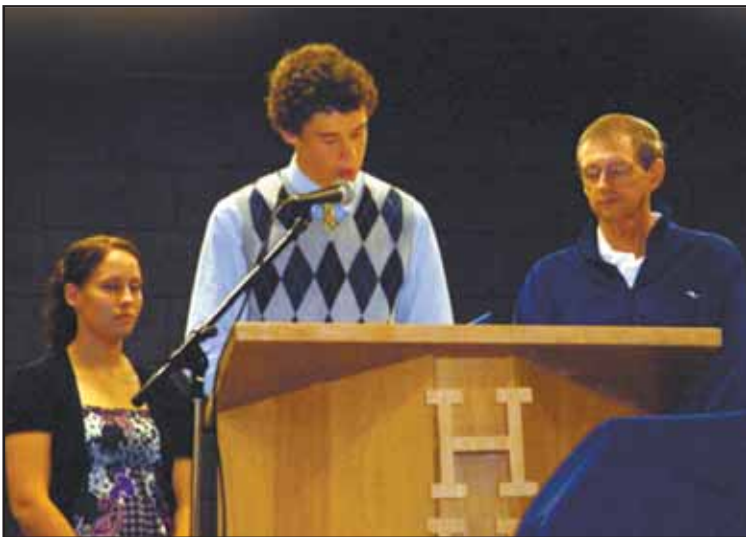
Cashiers, Rev. Sam Forrester, 743-2122

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

HS Yearbook Assembly moments

The Highlands School Yearbook Assembly was held Friday, May 15. Senior Matthew McClellan was the editor, high school English teacher Ms. Cathy-McIntyre Ross was the sponsor and senior Ezra Herz presented the dedication to Coach Butch Smart. This is the first full-color cover for a Highlands School yearbook. Mascots, Taj and Sayla Roman were also acknowledged.

Right, Ezra Herz presenting dedication to Coach Butch Smart; upper right, Matt McClellan speaks at assembly and below are mascots Taj and Sayla Roman



Photos by Carol Bowen



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Above, Luke McClellan and Ezra Herz prepare for a relay during May Day which followed the Yearbook Assembly, Friday, May 15. Left, students sign year-books.

Photos by Elizabeth Gordon

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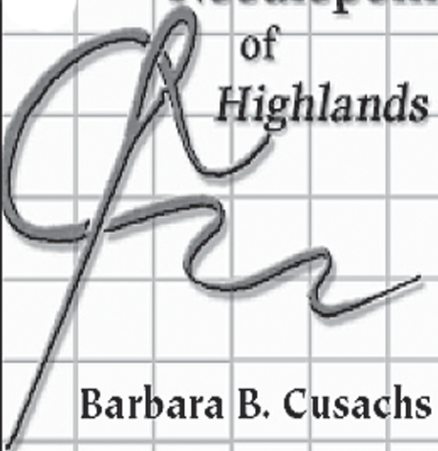
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• REFLECTIONS FROM TURTLE POND •

Empathy



Katie Brugger
k-brugger@hotmail.com

When I was growing up the phrase "walk a mile in another's shoes" seemed as sacred a text as "do unto others as you would have them do unto you." Understanding another person's point-of-view, being able to see life from another per-

son's perspective, is crucial to learning how to get along in life. This is what it means to have empathy. All of a sudden we're hearing a lot about empathy, because President Obama said that his Supreme Court nominees would be people who had the capacity to feel empathy for other people. On May 1 he said, "I will seek someone who understands that justice isn't about some abstract legal theory or footnote in a case book; it is also about how our laws affect the daily realities of people's lives—whether they can make a living and care for their families; whether they feel safe in their homes and welcome in their own nation. I view that quality of empathy, of understanding and identifying with people's hopes and struggles, as an essential ingredient for arriving at just decisions and outcomes."

One of my fellow columnists wrote about this last week, and advised people to read columns by Thomas Sowell, in particular one entitled "'Empathy' versus Law." So I did (the article is easy to find by googling his name and "empathy," I read it as it appeared on National Review Online). It's a brief article, read it and judge for yourself whether I am correct in saying that Mr. Sowell's argument boils down to this statement: "Would you want to go into court to appear before a judge with 'empathy' for groups A, B and C, if you were a member of groups X, Y or Z?... Appoint enough Supreme Court justices with 'empathy' for particular groups and you would have, for all practical purposes, repealed the 14th Amendment, which guarantees 'equal protection of the laws' for all Americans."

Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.) reacted the same way. He said that Obama's empathy remark showed a determination to pick judges on their 'perceived sympathy for certain groups or individuals.' He said such an approach would undermine public faith in the judiciary.

It appears to me these men are misinterpreting the meaning of the word. I don't think they are ignorant of its meaning, so I can only believe that they are willfully attempting to confuse people.

Just to be clear, I looked up the word "empathy": 1. the intellectual identification with or vicarious experiencing of the feelings, thoughts, or attitudes of another. (Random House)

2. Identification with and understanding of another's situation, feelings, and motives. (American Heritage) 3. the action of understanding, being aware of, being sensitive to, and vicariously experiencing the feelings, thoughts, and experience of another ... (Merriam-Webster's Medical Dictionary)

Having empathy for another person

does not mean you are prejudiced in their favor. It means you understand their feelings and thoughts; their motivations.

As an example of empathy in a judge, I can't think of anything better than the Biblical story of King Solomon, (from 1 Kings 3:16-28) in which two women come before the King asking him to decide who was the rightful mother of a baby boy. After some thought, he realized that by threatening to kill the infant the true mother would be revealed because her maternal feelings would be aroused at the thought of the child's death. Indeed, when he declared his decision to split the baby in two, the real mother asked Solomon to give the baby to the other woman, while the non-mother cried, "fine, better it should die than I lose." Solomon used empathy to discern the best resolution to a difficult problem.

When the "three-strikes" laws were imposed in many states (upon conviction of a third felony a person was sentenced to a long prison term) judges were opposed to the legislation because it took away their discretion to fit sentences to the particular circumstances of an individual's history. And the laws produced some extremely unjust sentences; in California for example, a man got 25 years to life (the only sentence possible after the "third strike") for shoplifting two packs of cigarettes; another for stealing a slice of pizza.

It only took two years for a court case to reach the California Supreme Court challenging this law. The Court unanimously decided that it would be unconstitutional for the law to limit a trial judge's discretion to reduce a three-strike sentence 'in furtherance of justice.' In other words, in order for there to be justice, the judge must consider the *person* involved—their past, their circumstances, their humanity. In other words, utilize empathy.

In December of 2007 the United States Supreme Court cleared the way for judges to use their discretion in imposing sentences that deviate from federal sentencing guidelines, ruling that lenient sentences were appropriate in a case involving crack cocaine and another involving Ecstasy. The ruling was 7-2, with only Justices Alito and Thomas dissenting.

Bringing humanity into the courtroom is what produces justice; strict legalism leads to injustice.

I think what the conservatives are really afraid of is something else President Obama has said (remember, he taught constitutional law at the University of Chicago). Here's a comment he made in 2007: "It's important

• See BRUGGER page 21

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... BRUGGER continued from page 20

to understand that there is nothing wrong in voting against [judicial] nominees who don't appear to share a broader vision of what the Constitution is about. I think the Constitution can be interpreted in so many ways. And one way is a cramped and narrow way in which the Constitution and the

courts essentially become the rubber stamps of the powerful in society. And then there's another vision of the court that says that the courts are the refuge of the powerless, because oftentimes they may lose in the democratic back-and-forth. They may be locked out and prevented from fully participating in the dem-

ocratic process....You read the statute. You look at the case law, and most of the time the law is pretty clear—95% of the time....But it's those 5% of the cases that really count. And in those 5% of the cases what you've got to look at it is: What is in the justice's heart? What's their broader vision of what

America should be?"

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

• HIGHLANDS ART GALLERIES •



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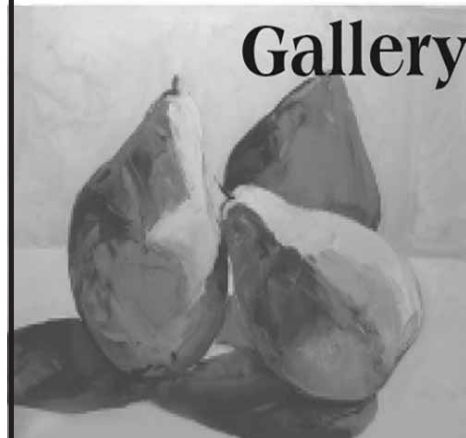
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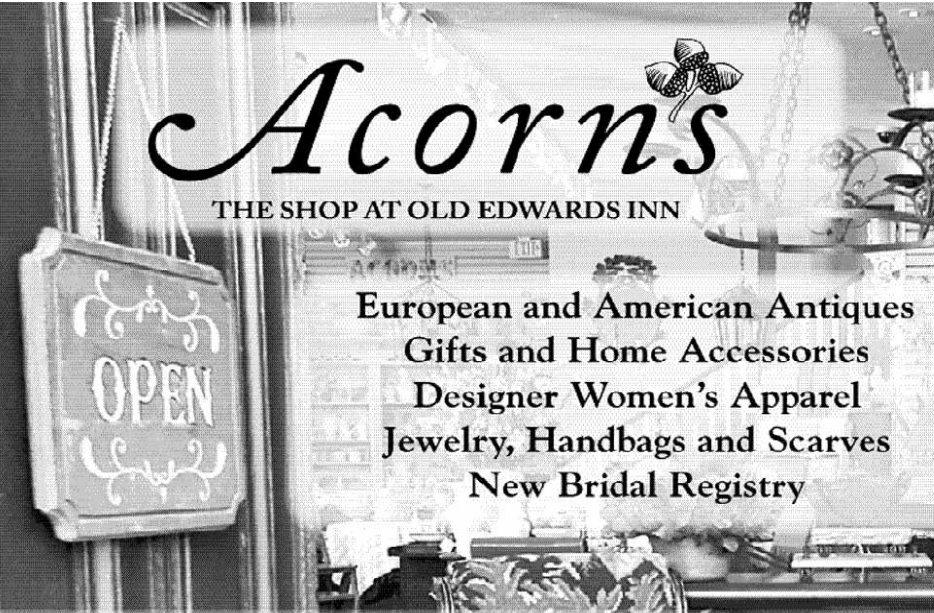
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• BIZ NEWS •

Plant sale supports two scholars

By Dr. Becky Schilling

Austin Brooks and Andrew Billingsley will each receive a \$4,000 Dorothy Wertzler Memorial Scholarship from the Mountain Garden Club for 2009-2010.

"We're proud of these outstanding young men and their career goals," said Elizabeth Motz, past Chairman of the Mountain Garden Club Scholarship Committee. "Come to our plant sale this Saturday and you'll see why. Austin and Andrew will be working with us at the sale."

Scholarship funds come from the once-a-year Mountain Garden Club plant sale. This year's sale will be Saturday, May 23, 9:00 am to 1:00 pm, at the baseball park on Highway 64 East in Highlands.

"The scholarship means a lot to me," said Austin Brooks, who is receiving a Dorothy Wertzler Memorial Scholarship for the second year in a row. Brooks is pursuing a degree in environmental conservation at Western Carolina University.

"The most important thing I've learned this year is that every action has a strong reaction. Even if you believe you are only affecting one thing, the truth is there is a whole system you are affecting," said Brooks. "I am very excited about taking a natural resource management class and an upper level biology course [this coming year]."

Brooks, the son of Mary and Bill Brooks of Highlands, is working this summer for Carl Zoellner of Zoellner Landscaping. When Zoellner was in college he too received scholarships from the Mountain Garden Club.

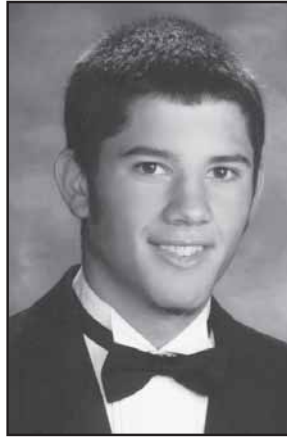
Last Wednesday Brooks and the Zoellner Landscaping crew started work at 7 am and finished at 8 pm.

There's a pattern here. Long days and hard work lead to success.

It's a pattern Andrew Billingsley, whose

family owns a farm and tree nursery in Scaly Mountain, knows well.

"We raise a wide variety of vegetables including corn, cabbage, peppers, eggplant, and potatoes. We also raise trees and shrubs such as maples, dogwoods, boxwoods, and hollies," said Billingsley.



Andrew Billingsley

"The \$4,000 scholarship from the Mountain Garden Club means a lot to me and my family," said Billingsley, who will graduate from Highlands School on June 13. "It will allow me to get a college education."

Billingsley, the son of Mary Lee and Lamar Billingsley, will attend Western Carolina University and major in business and agriculture.

"I believe my college education will prepare me to ei-

ther take over our family's farm or start my own farm in the future," Billingsley said. "I also believe my college education will increase my awareness of my surroundings and allow me to protect them."

Dorothy Wertzler would be pleased.

Dorothy moved to Highlands with her husband Dick in 1980. Dorothy believed in the importance of a college education. Although Dorothy died in 2003 her legacy lives on each year when the Mountain Garden Club plant sale raises funds for scholarships.

Since 1996 the Mountain Garden Club has awarded more than \$44,000 of scholarships to students who want to study horticulture, environmental studies, forestry, landscape architecture, marine biology or related fields.

So come to the plant sale this Saturday. Buy a plant and help send two hardworking kids to college.

The 27th Annual Mountain Garden Club plant sale will be Saturday, May 23, from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm, at the baseball park on Highway 64 East in Highlands. Rain date is Sunday, May 24, from 1-4pm.



Austin Brooks

Where am I?...From Dry Crawl Space

It's pitch black in the middle of the day. The humidity level exceeds 95%. It is a breeding ground for MOLD. All sorts of bugs and critters come and go as they please. The smell in the air makes my eyes water and causes me to sneeze. It's the least used room in your house and it's less than 1 1/2 inches from your living space. Can you guess where I am? It's your

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these tight homes above an unsealed, wet crawlspace that breathes straight up. If you don't believe me open a tube of model glue and put it in your crawlspace. How long will it take to fill your house with the smell of glue? This example demonstrates that the air in your crawlspace is in fact, rising and you are breathing it. Over 80% of the air you are breathing right now, if you are in doors, came from your DIRT Crawl space.

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"The musty smell was gone the day they installed it" – Homeowner, Cashiers NC

"Thanks Dry Crawlspace We sold our house. When the buyer's came in, they said it was the first house they had looked at that did not stink." – Homeowners, Highlands, NC.

"It's like I gained an extra 1,000 sq ft. I can now store anything even valuable in my crawlspace and I can stop renting that storage unit." – Homeowner, Big Bear Pen. Highlands, NC.

"You have the thickest most durable liner and your price was still the best quote I received." – Homeowner, Lake Glenville, NC.

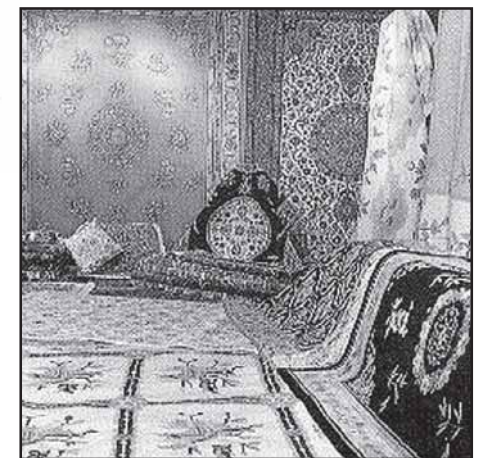
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• UPCOMING EVENTS •

On-going Events

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

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

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

- 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.

- 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.

Sundays

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

Mon. & Wed.

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

Mon., Wed., Fri.

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

First Mondays

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

Mondays

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

- 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.

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

Wednesdays

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

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

Wednesdays & Fridays

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

Every 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

Gardening Smarter

By Emily Compost

By now you know the 27th Annual Mountain Garden Club Plant Sale will be Saturday, May 23, 9 am to 1 pm, at the baseball park on Highway 64E in Highlands.

You plan to be there and browse the aisles of herbs, succulents, and other mountain-hardy perennials.

But which plants will do best in your garden? How many do you need? Is your garden ready for new additions?

Here are 5 tips to help you decide what to buy and how to prep your garden. Tips geared to help you spend more time enjoying your plants and less time taking care of them.

Tip No. 1. On a bright sunny day, walk through your garden in the morning, mid morning, noon, mid afternoon, and late afternoon. Are the places where you'd like to add plants sunny all day long or only part of the day? Gardens change over the years as trees and shrubs grow. What used to be sunny or partially sunny may be shady now. By observing your current lighting conditions, you'll be ready to select the right plants: sun loving plants for sunny or partially sunny areas, shade tolerant plants for shady areas.

Tip No. 2. Amend the soil with good compost and planting mix. I like Daddy Pete's cow manure and planting mix. For perennial flowers, use a spade or shovel to

dig the soil to a depth of 10 or 12 inches and mix in the compost and planting mix.

Tip No. 3. Mix in a granular, timed-release plant food. For shrubs and hostas, I use Sta-Green Nursery Special, which is higher in nitrogen than phosphorous and potassium (12-6-6). For flowering perennials I use Sta-Green Bloom Start, which has a higher phosphorous level (11-40-6) that encourages big, beautiful blooms.

Tip No. 4. Buy mulch now so you can use it immediately after planting. Place 2 to 3 inches of mulch on the soil around your new plantings.

Mulch helps control weeds, conserves soil moisture, and improves the soil. Keep mulch slightly away from plant stalks; you don't like to wear turtlenecks in the summer and neither do they.

Tip No. 5. Decide how many plants you need. Perennials and shrubs look best when planted in odd numbers, like 3, 5 or 7. Spacing depends on mature plant size. Many perennial flowers should be spaced 12 to 18 inches apart. Many shrubs should be spaced 3 to 5 feet apart.

Follow these tips and come to the 27th Annual Mountain Garden Club Plant Sale on Saturday, May 23, 9 am to 1 pm. Come early for the best selection. Head home and have fun planting!



Scaly Mountain Pancake Breakfast is Saturday May 23 and every 4th Saturday through Oct.



Mel Bellwood and Nell Oliver keep the coffee perking at the monthly Scaly Mountain Women's Club Pancake Breakfasts. Held the fourth Saturday of the month from May through October, the events benefit local scholarships and non-profits that serve the Scaly Mountain community. The first in the series of benefits is Saturday from 7:30-10:30 a.m. at the Scaly Mountain Community Center.

• UPCOMING EVENTS •

• The Zahner Lecture Series at the Nature Center at 7 p.m. Subjects vary.

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

• New Yoga Class 4:30 to 6 pm, Advanced Beginner, All Levels Welcome. Moonrise Yoga Center

464 Carolina Way. For more info call Diane Levine, 526-8579

2nd & 4th Fridays

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

Fridays & Saturdays

• See EVENTS page 26

Ribbon cutting for The Bascom's covered bridge entrance set for Saturday



The Bascom will celebrate the completion of the Will Henry Stevens Bridge, above, with a ribbon cutting this Saturday, May 23, at 11 a.m.

The Bascom's new campus and art center buildings are not quite ready for receiving the public, but its magnificent covered bridge on Franklin Road in Highlands will be open and the subject of a community celebration this Saturday, May 23, beginning at 11 a.m.

The public is invited to join in during the bridge inauguration, ribbon cutting and antique car drive-over. The Will Henry Stevens Bridge (formerly the Bagley Bridge) is a massive rough-hewn 87-foot-5-inch-long wooden structure; it forms the one-way entrance into The Bascom's six-acre campus. The bridge commemorates the visionary southern artist Will Henry Stevens, who lived from 1881 to 1949 and painted and taught in Highlands and in the surrounding plateau, as well as in New Orleans, his hometown.

On May 23, at 11 a.m., Bascom chairman Bob Fisher and public officials including Town Mayor Don Mullen will remark on the bridge reconstruction. This will be a red-letter day not only for The Bascom, but also for the Coleman and Winindger families whose generous donations to the art center supported the reconstruction of the early 1800s bridge. It had been languishing in storage for 40 years in New Hampshire. The bridge is now most likely the largest recycled object in all of Western North Carolina.

Dorothy and Jimmy Coleman and Dian and Tom Winingder supported the bridge reconstruction in honor of Will

Henry Stevens, the painter, and the New Orleans Academy of Fine Arts, where Dorothy participates as a Board member and patron. Dorothy Coleman studied with Will Henry Stevens at Sophie Newcomb College in New Orleans. Her daughter Dian and family have a home in Highlands. Many New Orleans natives summer in Highlands, and there is an enduring connection between the two towns.

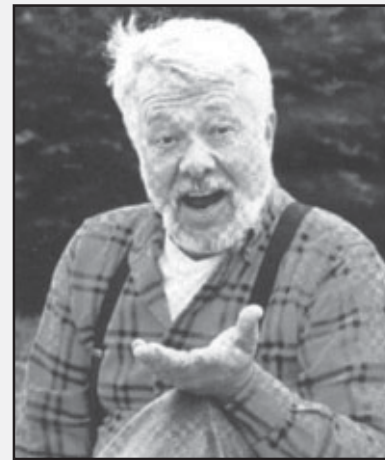
The Bascom purchased the bridge from the Graton family and hired bridgwright Arnold Graton to reconstruct it in Highlands, using handcraft techniques and trunnel or tree nail joinery.

"The ribbon cutting and adaptive reuse of the Will Henry Stevens Bridge is a historic moment for Highlands and The Bascom," said Bob Fisher, board chairman. "This is one of the oldest covered bridges in the nation, and we are exceedingly proud to feature it as the entrance to our stunning new center for the visual arts."

After the ribbon cutting and antique car drive over on May 23 at 11 a.m., the bridge will be closed due to continuing landscape grading and parking lot construction at The Bascom's campus. The bridge will be in use again for *Collective Spirits*, The Bascom's wine festival, May 29-30. The Bascom's Will Henry Stevens Bridge will be open for regular use in June 2009.

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

Storytellers coming to PAC Saturday



Gary Carden

The Martin-Lipscomb Performing Arts Center announces a series of storytelling programs, starting with humorous folklorist Gary Carden. Carden will share the stage with Sheila Kay Adams on May 23.

On June 11, Elizabeth Westall will be featured in a one-woman show, "Nance Dude," which was written by Gary Carden. June 20 Marilyn McMinn McCreddie and Lloyd Arneach will present "Traditional Appalachian and Cherokee Legends."

On July 2 naturalist and humorist Doug Elliott will be featured in a program titled "Woodlore and Wildwoods Wisdom." And finally on September 17, Marvin Cole who looks enough like Mark Twain to be his brother will present "River Dinner with Mark Twain."

All the storytelling events will begin at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are available now at \$15 each for any of the programs. Tickets may be charged by phone at 526-9047, or may be bought online at www.highlandsp PerformingArtsCenter.org. Hearing assistance is available at each event on a first-come, first-served basis.



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NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM 2

rated PG

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

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

TERMINATOR: SALVATION

rated PG-13

Mon-Fri: 4:30 7 9:30

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

ANGELS AND DEMONS

rated PG-13

Mon-Fri: 4:30 7:10 9:30

Sat-Sun: 2:10 4:30 7:10 9:30

STAR TREK

rated PG-13

Mon-Fri: 4:20 7 9:20

Sat-Sun: 2 4:20 7 9:20



Upcoming Book Signings

526-5488 • Main Street

e-mail: cyranos@nctv.com

May 23

2 to 4 pm

Jack Riggs

The Fireman's Wife

June 9

1-3 p.m.

Matthew Eberz

Honor for Sale

June 24

1-3 p.m.

Mary Kay Andrews

The Fixer Upper

TBA

Cassandra King

(untitled - Set in Highlands)

• UPCOMING EVENTS •

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

Saturdays

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

Thursdays, May 21

• The Zahner Lecture Series at the Nature Center at 7 p.m. features producer of the PBS Series *Appalachia: A History of Mountains and People*.

• The movie, "Flash of Genius," is based on the true story of a California professor and part-time inventor's long battle with the US automobile industry which he believed stole his idea for the intermittent windshield wiper. The film stars Greg Kinnear and Lauren Graham at 3 p.m. in the Cashiers library. The movies and popcorn are free, but donations are appreciated.

• Macon County Democratic Women will have a bake sale in front of the Macon County Courthouse beginning at 9 a.m. Anyone wishing to donate a baked item, please have it there by 8 a.m. or as early as possible.

Saturday & Sunday, May 23-24

• Village Square Art & Craft Show in Highlands' Kelsey-Hutchinson Park (Pine Street Park) Memorial Day weekend, from 10 to 5.

Saturday, May 23

• Pancake Breakfast at the Scaly Mountain Com-

munity Center from 7:30-10:30 a.m.

• At Cyrano's a book signing 'The Fireman's Wife' from 2-4 p.m. with author Jack Riggs.

• The Bascom's Will Henry Stevens Bridge, the signature covered bridge entrance to The Bascom's new six-acre art destination, will be dedicated and ribbon cut at 11 a.m. Remarks will be made by Bob Fisher, chairman of The Bascom's board of directors; Town Mayor Don Mullen; and a representative of the Winingder-Coleman family, whose donation made the bridge possible. Various Bascom staff members, board members and media members will be present, along with the general public. For information, call (828) 526-4949 or visit www.thebascom.org.

• Story Tellers Gary Carden and Sheila Kay Adams at 7:30 p.m. Tickets: \$15 each. Call 828-526-9047 for credit card purchase. At the Performing Arts Center on Chestnut Street.

• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a 7-mile moderate-to-strenuous hike along Panther Creek in GA to a waterfall. Call leader Gail Lehman, 524-5298, for reservations. Visitors are welcome but no pets please.

• An Introduction of New Artists at Summit One Gallery on 2nd. Street. Artists are: Shellie Lewis Dambax, Chery Cratty, Bobbie Doyle-Maher, Ken Wallin and Pat Calderone. The Artists Reception is Saturday, from 5-7pm.

• Mountain Garden Club annual plant sale at the

Baseball Park on Hwy 64 east, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Hundreds of hardy perennials.

• The Highlands Plateau Audubon Society will have a field trip to the Lonesome Valley Development near Cashiers to look for breeding birds beginning at 8 a.m. Those wishing to carpool from Highlands meet at the public parking area next to the town hall at 7:30 a.m. For additional information call Brock Hutchins at 787-1387.

• Macon County Rabies Vaccination Clinic at Highlands Community Building from 1-2:30 p.m., with Dr. Amy Patterson and 3-4 p.m. at the Scaly Mountain Post Office. \$5 per pet - cash Only! No checks! Please remember to keep pets in vehicles, on leashes or in carriers.

• Community Garden meeting 11 a.m. at the Holy Family Lutheran Church, 2152 Dillard Road. The church has a large meadow and would love to see it used as a community garden. A community garden does take a lot of planning and teamwork, so let's get together, look at the site and start planning! For More Information, Contact: Chaplain Margaret Howell, Cell

704-516-7893.

Monday-Friday, May 25-30

• The last week of May will be white goods clean up, no construction or yard debris. Call 526-2118 to be put on list.

Wednesday, May 27

• The Plateau Fly Fishing Club kicks off its first meeting of the 2009 season on Wednesday at the Albert-Carlton Cashiers library and begin at 7 p.m. The May speaker is Robert Blankenship, Program Manager of the Cherokee Fisheries Program. Robert will discuss fishing the stocked waters on the Cherokee Reservation including the new 2.5 mile trophy section. Prior to joining the Cherokee program, Robert spent 19 years raising salmon in Alaska. The Club meets monthly through September. Please call 743-2078 for additional information.

Friday & Saturday, May 29-30

• The Bascom annual wine festival, Collective Spirits is on the new campus and will raise money for the nonprofit art center. Tickets are \$100 for the Friday Evening Wine Tasting, \$225 for the Saturday Evening

Land Trust and Village Green kick off 2009 with 'Snakes & Ice Cream'

On May 27th Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust and The Village Green will kick-off their 2009 season of the popular

summer program, Village Nature Series, with a special children's event called "Snakes & Ice Cream" beginning at 6 pm. Patrick Brannon, Director of the Highlands Nature Center, will bring his salamanders, toads, turtles and snakes to the Village Green Pavilion for this educational and

entertaining program which will be followed by a complimentary ice cream social.

Brannon has been conducting research on a variety of amphibians and small animals for years and has been educating children about them since 1990.

"Snakes are one of the most misunderstood creatures. Of the dozen or so species that occur in our region, only two are venomous," says Brannon. It was once said that *in the end we will conserve only what we love, love only what we understand, and understand only what we are taught*. It is this philosophy that has driven Brannon to educate our youth about their natural world. "When children come



Black Rat Snake

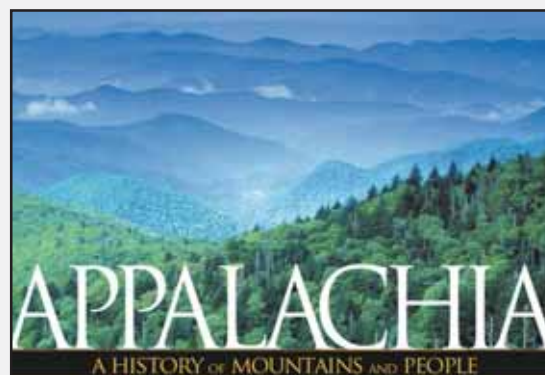
away with a better understand of these misunderstood creatures, they will have a newfound respect for them."

Now in its third year, the lecture series was created as collaboration between HCLT and the Village Green in an effort to educate the community about various environmental topics. This is the first year they have dedicated one of their lectures specifically for children. "Our land

trust is working hard every day to conserve local lands for ours and future generations. Planting the right seeds now will help today's children become better stewards of our land tomorrow," says HCLT Development Director, Julie Schott. She adds that, "we are proud of our line-up this summer and are looking forward to a great turn-out." The next VNS lecture, "100 Years of Land Conservation" tells the story of the state's oldest land trust, Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust, and will be on June 24th at 6:30 pm in Jennings Barn at Lonesome Valley, Cashiers. All VNS lectures are free to the public and refreshments are included. For more information contact HCLT at 526-1111 or Julie.hitrust@earthlink.net.

Zahner Conservation Lecture Series Begins Thursday May 21st with Producer of the PBS Series 'Appalachia: A History of Mountains and People'

In exploring the history of the Appalachian region, Jamie Ross and Ross Spears of Agee Films became convinced that it was time for a new vision of our human story, one that included not



just human beings, but rocks and trees and all living creatures. The result is the first environmental history series of any region ever on film, APPALACHIA: A History of Mountains and People, which was released on April 9, 2009. Producer Jamie Ross will discuss the complexity in both the landscape and its peoples using excerpts and outtakes from this landmark, 4-part PBS series, which features numerous interviews with beloved and venerable Highlands native Bob Zahner and well-known artists, writers and scientists such as Barbara Kingsolver, Sissy Spacek, and E. O. Wilson. Jamie Ross has worked on documentary films for over twenty-five years as a writer, editor and producer and has traveled through the mountains exploring archives and scouting locations for the series to bring the rich and grand story of the Appalachian region to the public.

The Zahner Conservation Lecture Se-

ries continues on Thursday May 28 with Clemson Professor Rob Baldwin on Conserving Amphibians in a World of Roads and Houses. Amphibians in North America face many threats, but

none so pressing as habitat loss and degradation due to new roads and houses. Wetland habitats are being lost and degraded, and wetland landscapes are being "fragmented" into smaller and smaller shreds due to road building and urbanization. During this breathing space we have while the economy turns around, perhaps now is a good time to reflect and consider how we want the next decades to be. Baldwin concludes that a future that is good for amphibians is also good for humans.

The Zahner Conservation Lecture Series is held each Thursday during the summer months at 7pm at the Highlands Nature Center, 930 Horse Cove Rd. and is sponsored by the Highlands Biological Foundation, Inc. in conjunction with numerous supporting organizations and individuals. For a complete schedule, visit www.wcu.edu/hbs.

• UPCOMING EVENTS •

Wine Gala and \$295 for a combination Friday-Saturday ticket. The presenting sponsor of the event is Bank of New York-Mellon. Other sponsors are First Citizens Bank, Harry Norman Realtors/Pat Allen and Bert Mobley, brokers; Highlands Wine & Cheese Shop; and The Laurel magazine. Highlands Wine & Cheese is the official wine retailer of the event. For more information, visit www.collectivespirits.com or call (828) 526-4949.

Friday-Sunday, May 29-31

• The Cashiers Historical Society's Annual Symposium is bringing to our community a stellar lineup of musicians and authorities on Traditional Appalachian Music alive today to the Albert C. Carlton Library in

Cashiers and the Summer Cahpel and Lombard's Lodge, both in Whiteside Cove. In addition there will be an "Instruments of Appalachian Music" exhibit at The Bascom in Highlands. Performing will be David Holt, Sheila Kay Adams, Lee Knight, The Queen Family, and Jacob Jones. Presenting will be Dr. William Ferris of UNC-Chapel Hill, Dr. Doug Orr, President Emeritus of Warren Wilson College, Art Rosenbaum of the University of Georgia, and local historians Jane Gibson Nardy and Gary Carden. All seating is reserved and space is limited. For more information or to reserve your tickets email zacharytolbert@aol.com or phone 828-743-7710

• See EVENTS page 28

Bevy of live and silent auction items at Collective Spirits May 29-30

The Collective Spirits wine festival will feature an array of silent and live auction items in addition to the liquid art celebrated that weekend.

Held Friday and Saturday, May 29 and 30, Collective Spirits is the first event at The Bascom's stunning new six-acre campus, and all proceeds raise money for the nonprofit visual arts center.

Friday night features a grand wine tasting, grazing dinner by 12 local chefs, silent auction, live instrumental music and wine raffle, and Saturday night features a gala seated dinner, followed by a live auction.

Atlanta's Jim Landon will conduct Saturday's live auction, featuring exceptional wines and special wine-related items, such as a seven-day Seabourn Spirit cruise from Venice to Rome; a wooden box with three 750ml bottles of Harlan Estate The Maiden Proprietary Blend; a two-bottle wooden box with one bottle of Bond's 1999 Melbury Proprietary Red Wind and one bottle of 1999 Vecina; a three-bottle box of 2002 Melbury, 2002 Vecina and 2002 St. Eden; a night at Fiddlehead Cottage at Persimmon Creek Vineyards, including dinner, breakfast, and a full tour with proprietor Mary Ann Hardman; a 750ml bottle of 1998 Screaming Eagle Cabernet Sauvignon; a Helena Meeks painting; a 1,000CL etched and signed limited edition bottle of 1996 Grace Family Vineyard, Napa Valley Cabernet; and more.

The silent auction on Friday will feature, in addition to many hard-to-get and large-format wines, a 3L Fisher

Vineyard 2006 Unity Cabernet Sauvignon and VIP tasting and lunch for six with the

Fisher family; a vertical of Silver Oak Cellars, Alexander Valley Cabernet Sauvignon; a wine class and training for 12 conducted by Dean Michaels, certified sommelier; a vineyard dinner for eight at Kettle Rock Vineyards, Highlands; dinner and wine for four at Lakeside Restaurant, Highlands; dinner and wine for four at Five and Ten in Athens, Ga.; hors d'oeuvres for 20 delivered to your door along with two hours of entertainment by guitarist Cy Timmons; a vintage Lake Sequoyah cocktail cruise for six (circa

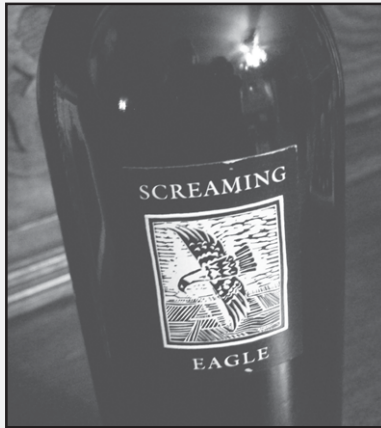
1928); and more.

For a full list of live and silent auction items, visit www.collectivespirits.com.

"These magnificent auction items are a great way to add to your collection, plus the whole event is a terrific way to entertain friends who might be visiting over the weekend," said Donna Woods, The Bascom's events director. "Come and celebrate the love of good food and great wine at Collective Spirits."

Tickets for the wine festival are on sale now at www.collectivespirits.com or (828) 526-4949.

Bank of New York-Mellon is the presenting sponsor. Old Edwards Inn & Spa is the premier hospitality sponsor. Other corporate sponsors are First Citizens Bank, Harry Norman Realtors/Pat Allen and Bert Mobley, brokers; Highlands Wine & Cheese Shop; The Laurel magazine; and WNC magazine. Highlands Wine & Cheese Shop is the official wine retailer of the event.



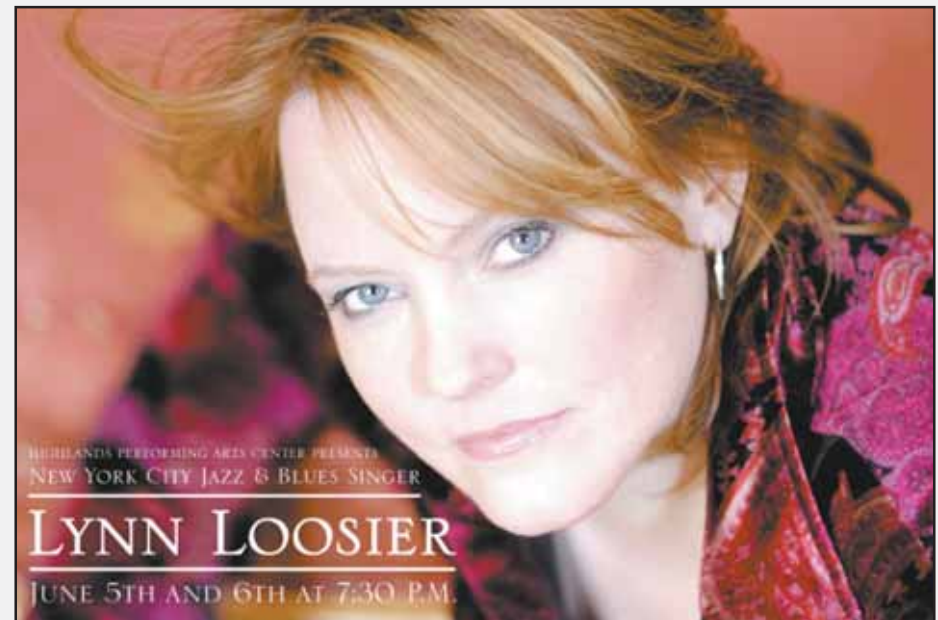
This 750ml bottle of 1998 Screaming Eagle Cabernet Sauvignon will be auctioned off during the Collective Spirits live auction Saturday, May 30. For tickets, visit www.collectivespirits.com.

Annual 'Walk in the Park' set for June 26 & 27



Shortly after founding the Town of Highlands in 1875 Samuel Kelsey drew a map of the Town, which is now housed in the Highlands Historical Society's Historical Museum on North Fourth Street. Dean Zuch examines that map in preparation for his portrayal of Kelsey in this year's Walk in the Park, which will take place June 26 and 27 beginning at 6 p.m. at Memorial Park, and June 28 at the Performing Arts Center on Chestnut Street. Six other actors will round out the cast. Tickets will be \$15 each for adults; students are admitted free. For more information visit www.highlandshistory.com.

Singer Loosier to perform at PAC June 5 & 6



Songstress Lynn Loosier will lead off a series of musical events at the Performing Arts Center on Chestnut Street with appearances on June 5 and 6. Ms. Loosier's concert will include a mixture of blues, jazz and even soul. She will be followed on June 27 by Highlands' favorite bluegrass group, The Dappled Grays, and a whole month of the Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival starting July 5. Folkmoot returns to the stage at PAC, on July 15. On July 23rd Judy Collins will sing for Highlands. September 4 - 6 perennially popular Robert Ray will perform. Bel Canto is scheduled September 13; the Male Chorus on September 25, and on December 19 the Chamber Music Festival will provide a Christmas Concert. For times and ticket information visit www.highlandsp Performing Arts Center.org.

• UPCOMING EVENTS •

Friday, May 29–Saturday, June 6

• Cheers! Handcrafted Glass Stemware exhibition at The Bascom in conjunction with the Collective Spirits wine festival. Public viewing for non-ticket holders will begin June 2. Admission is free. For information, call (828) 526-4949 or visit www.thebascom.org.

Friday, May 29–Thursday, June 25

• Instruments of Appalachian Music exhibition at The Bascom in conjunction with the Collective Spirits wine festival. Public viewing for non-ticket holders will begin June 2. Admission is free. For information, call (828) 526-4949 or visit www.thebascom.org.

Friday, May 29

• The Bascom's Evening Wine Tasting The wine tasting will be conducted by wine specialists and will also feature food stations by local chefs for a grazing dinner, live instrumental music, a wine raffle and a silent auction. This will be the first official function at The Bascom's new facility. The wine tasting and grazing dinner will be on the terrace and in the atrium lobby, but guests will be encouraged to browse the gallery spaces, as well. 6:30 p.m.

• CLE Lecture by two locally renowned professors and authors. Western Carolina Professors and authors, Dr. James Costa (also director of Highlands Biological Station) and Dr. Brian Railsback (Dean of the Honors College at WCU) are sure to challenge and excite your intellectual curiosity about the connection between naturalist Charles Darwin and author John Steinbeck. Costa's annotated edition of Charles Darwin's famous book "On the Origin of Species" was recently published by Harvard. He and Railsback co-authored Charles Darwin and the Art of John Steinbeck. (Friday, May 29, 3:00-5:30, Highlands Biological Station, \$25 for members, \$35 for non-members of CLE)

Saturday, May 30

• The Lady Highlanders basketball team will be having a car wash on Saturday, May 30th and from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the First Citizens bank park-

ing lot. Donations will be going to help the team go to Orlando, Florida for a holiday tournament. Other donations can be made to the team. Make checks payable to "Highlands School Booster Club".

• Highlands School will be having a softball tournament. If you are interested in entering a team, please contact Brett Lamb at the school at 526-2147 as soon as possible.

• The Bascom's Morning Wine Symposium Beginning at 11 a.m., several interesting and entertaining speakers will address wine and the difference in terrior in their growing regions: Big John Caudill of Sheridan Vineyards, Washington State; Allison Steltzner of Steltzner Vineyards, Stag's Leap District; and Mat Garretson of Garretson Wine Company, Paso Robles. Each has a very different approach to winemaking based on his or her location, soil and grape varieties. The three of them together will delight and entertain you as you learn more about "farming grapes" and how different and delicious they can be in the bottle.

• The Bascom's Afternoon Wine Symposium Beginning at 12:30, Karen Matoian, Gulf States Regional Manager of Opus One Winery, will present a lively Power Point presentation of "The History of Opus One" as taught at Harvard Business School, Cornell University and others. This wine and winery is a great tribute to the late Robert Mondavi and Baron Philippe de Rothschild. Come to learn more. A surprise tasting will also be conducted.

• The Bascom's Evening Wine Gala Wine, cocktails, music and hors d'oeuvres will begin at 6:30 p.m. in the Atrium Lobby. Guests will be seated on The Bascom's spacious terrace for a lively wine auction and dinner. Come be part of the competitive spirit as paddles rise high to bid on an array of fine wines and wine-related items. Limited seating for this event will add to the excitement, so book your reservations early. This is sure to be a sold-out evening.

• 6th Annual "Salamander Meander" at the High-

lands Nature Center. 9 pm, ages 7 – adult. Join herpetologists on a night search to observe some of the area's magnificent salamanders in the wild. Bring rain gear and a flashlight. \$5 per person, advanced registration required due to limited space. Call 526-2623 or visit www.wcu.edu/hbs/Naturecenter.htm for more information.

• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a 3 mile,

easy to moderate hike, with an elevation change of 400 feet, on the new Ranger Falls Trail that includes a 40-foot waterfall and is designed to teach children and adults about nature. Meet at the Highlands Bank of America at 9:30 or at Cliffs Lake Recreation Area on US64 (4 miles west of Highlands at the parking lot for the picnic area) at 9:45s. Call Leader Jim Whitehurst at 526-8134 for reservations.

2009 Green Living Fair set for July 24-25

Planning is in full swing for the Jackson-Macon Conservation Alliance's (J-MCA) 2009 Green Living Fair being held in Highlands the weekend of July 24 & 25. The 2008 event, a first of its kind for the area, was a huge success with an attendance of over 300 people and host to 30+ participants. Unsure of what the first year would bring, J-MCA was conservative with booth space and speaker/discussion sessions. Since then the response has been overwhelmingly positive and reason for the expansion of the number of eco-conscious participants and speakers able to take part in the 2009 event.

Join J-MCA for wine and nibbles at their pre-event gathering Friday, July 24th at 7 - 9:30 pm at the Episcopal Church in Highlands. Enjoy an evening with presentations from regional nature photographer Bill Lea and award-winning author and naturalist Janisse Ray. The Green Living Fair will be held on Saturday, July 25th at the Highlands Civic Center, doors opening at 9:30 am until 4 pm, rain or shine, and will be host to more than 40 regional commercial vendors, conservation groups, local

grower, artisans, speakers and more. The event will offer eco-friendly options and provide information on a wide range of green products and techniques. Additionally, J-MCA will be holding an outdoor Green Market at 9 am – 1 pm offering a variety of local produce, honey, eggs, breads, flowers, soaps and other artisan items.

The Green Living Fair is committed to providing a forum that provides information and education at a level that is both inspiring and beneficial. By bringing together like-minded business and organizations, the event will provide the necessary tools and resources to advance towards a "greener" way of living, allowing individuals and families to discover different opportunities that will lessen their impact on the planet while still balancing the comforts and necessities of modern-day life.

If you are interested in participating in the 2009 Green Living Fair or would like more information on the event, visit www.j-mca.org or contact J-MCA by phone at (828) 526-9938, ext 320. Tickets can also be purchased on their website.

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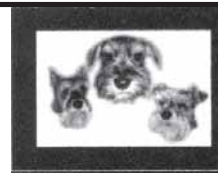
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Highlands Little League Teams



Twins - 9/10 Baseball Team

Back Row from left: John Lupoli, Eric Schmitt, Paul Iannacone. Middle Row from left: Wesley Hedden, Jake Calloway, John Iannacone, Johnny Lupoli, Zack DelaCruze, Front Row from left: Demetrius Schmitt, Ben Avery, Payton Robinson, Evan Williams.

Twins - 11/12 Baseball Team

Back Row from left: Paul Schmitt, Luke Rodgers, Brent Amundrud, Alex Bronaugh, Philip Murphy, Davis Moore, Daniel Moore, Chase Harris, Tay Bronaugh. Front Row from left: Quinn Rodgers, John Murphy, Robbie Calloway, Jacob Watson, Taylor Schmitt.



The As 9/10 Baseball Team

Back Row from left: Jerry Moore, Blakely Moore, Jordan McGillivray, Harrison Shomaker, Jake Hutson, Christian Trevathan, Juan Perez. Front Row from left: Joey Harris, Austin Forrester, Jose Jimenez, Ethan Crisp, Johnny Perez.



Twins - 7/8 Baseball Team

Back Row from left: John Underwood, John Brassard, Paul Iannacone. Middle Row from left: Cole Satterwhite, Joshua Kennedy, Caden Smolarsky, Mattson Gates, Drew Chalker. Front Row from left: Luke Nix, John Brassard, Charlie Underwood, Michael Iannacone, Bert Zachar, not pictured, Matthew Campbell

Highlands Little League Baseball Schedule

May 28 6pm 7/8 Twins vs Marlins
May 29 6pm 9/10 A's vs Dodgers
May 30 10am 7/8 Twins vs Dodgers
12pm 9/10 Twins vs Indians
2pm 11/12 Twins vs Brewers
May 31 2pm 9/10 Twins vs Red Sox

June 4 6pm 9/10 A's vs Twins
June 6 10am 9/10 A's vs Cardinals

All games are at the Zachary Park on Buck Creek Road and are subject to change due to weather.



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NAIL TECH NEEDED – part-time or full time, for a very busy upscale salon in Highlands, NC. References needed. Please call Tracy at 828-787-2343. 5/21

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the option to opt out of benefits for an increase in pay, available after 60 days of full-time employment. We are now offering part-time employees, working at least 24 hours a week, medical insurance. Pre-employment screening required. Call Human Resources at 828-526-1376 or apply online at www.hchospital.org.

UNIT CLERK/C.N.A II needed in the Acute Department at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. Current licensure, knowledge of medical terminology and computer experience required. Part time/24 hours per week. We are now offering part-time employees, working at least 24 hours a week, medical insurance. Pre-employment screening required. Call Human Resources at 828-526-1376 or apply online at www.hchospital.org.

CLINICAL COORDINATOR needed at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. Full Time, night position available. Current NC RN license, along with BLS and ACLS certifications required. Outstanding opportunity for a sound clinician who adores mentoring others. ER/Critical Care experience is a must. Full benefits, or the option to opt out of benefits for an increase in pay, available after 60 days of full-time employment. We are now offering part-time employees, working at least 24 hours a week, medical insurance. Pre-employment screening required. Call Human Resources at 828-526-1376 or apply online at www.hchospital.org.

RN needed in the Emergency Room at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. Full Time position available. ER experience required. Full benefits, or the option to opt out of benefits for an increase in pay, available after 60 days of full-time employment. We are now offering part-time employees, working at least 24 hours a week, medical insurance. Pre-employment screening required. Call Human Resources at 828-526-1376 or apply online at www.hchospital.org.

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

\$17 weekly

• SERVICE DIRECTORY •

\$17 weekly

Deluxe, Indoor
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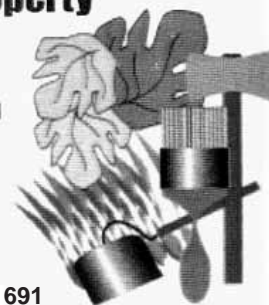
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Prime Retail Space
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6/4

\$11.00 to \$14.40 per hour, and you also receive shift and weekend differentials. Pre-employment substance screening. Call Human Resources, 828-526-1301 or apply online at www.hchospital.org.

YARD SALE

FRIDAY & SATURDAY, MAY 22 & 23 – Scaly Mountain General Store, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Big variety of yard and household items, collectibles, leather and more.

LOST & FOUND

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

FOUND: POOL CUE. Call 404/237-4333

RESIDENTIAL FOR SALE

4.28 FLAT LOT IN PINE FOREST. Sapphire. Private community, paved roads, underground utilities, approved septic permit. 828-743-2800 / 371-0645 st. 5/21

ADORABLE HIGHLANDS COTTAGE — 2/2, totally remodeled, one car garage, community lake, and lots of outdoor living space! Call now for more details: 1-800-526-1648 ext. 1218, Green Mountain Realty Group. 5/28

SPACIOUS 3/2 ON .83+/- ACRE, stone fireplace, impeccably kept, new granite counter tops! \$339,000 Call now for more details: 1-800-526-1648 ext. 1398, Green Mountain Realty Group. 5/28

CUSTOM HOME WITH LAKE — 3/2 on 1.34+/- acres, master suite on main level, covered front and back porches, lake with dock on property! \$549,000 Call now for more details: 1-800-526-1648 ext. 1208, Green Mountain Realty Group. 5/28

LOT #2 RIVER RIDGE DEVELOPMENT –

water & house site already in. Fish Trout Creek or Tuck. \$14,900. Call Carolina Realty at 828-586-0293. 5/7

3-BEDROOM, 2 1/2 BATH. New paint inside and out. New carpet. Below Appraisal. \$199,000. Cashiers Area. Call 743-1107 or 371-1609. 4/30

44.76+/- ACRES \$189,000 BANK FORE-CLOSURE Tuckaseegee Riverfront Ridge Top Views MLS #67408 Marty Jones Realty BRIAN RENFRO, REALTOR 828-226-0118.

TRILLIUM BEST BUY BIG VIEW HOME SITE Great Building Site \$189,000 MLS #67480 Marty Jones Realty BRIAN RENFRO, REALTOR 828-226-0118

GOOD HOUSE FOR \$139,500 – 3 bed, 2 bath, high elevation, pond. Call Ann at Cabe Realty 828-526-2475.

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)

RESIDENTIAL FOR RENT

GREAT 2 BEDROOM/1BATH APARTMENT

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

TWO-BEDROOM, 1 BATH HOME. Close to Hospital. Please Call for more Info. 526-9348.

GARAGE APT. FULLY FURNISHED IN LAUREL FALLS – close to hospital and downtown. \$475 a month plus utilities. Call 828-767-2423. Available June 15. (st. 5/7)

HOUSE FOR RENT – Scaly Mountain, 2-bed, 2bath cabin rent is \$800. Call 423-715-7757. (6/4)

APT. FOR RENT – 1 bed, 1 bath, furnished. 1 1/2 miles from town. \$750 per month, includes utilities, satellite TV, W/D, Available June 1. Call 526-4598 or 526-3612. (st. 5/7)

ONE BEDROOM GARAGE APARTMENT – Walk to Town. sparsely furnished, year round for responsible singe or couple. \$550 plus untillities. 526-5558.

APARTMENT FOR RENT partly furnished, 1BR/ba, 6 mi. from Highlands NO dogs, NO smoking, \$425/mo includes power/water, negotiable rent 828-787-1515.

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

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

IN-TOWN HIGHLANDS, MIRROR LAKE

Office Furniture Liquidation!



Top Quality solid Cherry, House of Denmark Brand
7 desks, 3 computer desks, 9 file cabinets, assorted desk and side chairs. Conference Table.
Priced to Sell!
Call Doug at 828-226-2999. St.5/21

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

TWO-STORY APARTMENT FOR RENT — (3 minutes from Highlands/Cashiers Hospital). Recent Renovation. Fully Furnished. 2 bedrooms/2 baths.3 extra-large closets. kitchen with dishwasher and new JennAire cook stove, dining area, living room, native stone fireplace, washer/dryer, cable and telephone connection. \$875 monthly. Includes water, sewer, electricity, heat. Single family.References required. No pets. No smoking, Call Jim at 1-770-789-2489

APARTMENT FOR RENT – 1 bed, 1 bath,living area, kitchen and utility room. \$650/month. \$300 security deposit. First and last month rent. Rent includes utilities, (electric, water, heat, local phone) One year lease. Prefer non-smoker. No pets. Unfurnished. Good for 1-2 people. Call 526-9494.

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

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

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, Yr round views, 2 decks, remodeled, Furnished, 2 car garage. Available yearly or seasonal. 561-626-9556

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. \$1,250 per month. Very clean. 770-977-5692.

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

plus utilities. Call 770-435-0678.

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

COMMERCIAL FOR RENT

NEWLY REMODELED RETAIL, OFFICE – \$1,400 a month, 1,000 sq. ft. 535 N. 4th Street. Call 770-827-0450. 7/9

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

2,300+/-SQ. FT. OF OFFICE/RETAIL AVAIL-ABLE for lease or rent to own. Excellent visibility! Location is 2271 Dillard Road. Asking \$1,250 per month. 526-8953.

VACATION RENTAL

ADORABLE CABIN FOR TWO – Four blocks from town on Chestnut Street. \$80 per night. Available beginning June 5. Call 828-526-9375. 5/28

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

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

36-INCH BATHROOM VANITY – Brand New. Never Installed. White Cultured Marble Top, Bottom Black/Brown, Cabinet with 2 drawers. Paid \$325. Asking \$150. Call 526-0782. St. 5/21

APPLIANCES: white Whirlpool electric stove, like new, \$200.00, white Frigidaire dishwasher \$100 very good condition. 349-6402

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

COMPUTER DESK, Oak-tone, slide out keyboard ledge, gently used \$40 5/21

DINING ROOM TABLE, 45x60, dark walnut wood, 6 chairs; \$650.. 828 526 9589 5/21

KENMORE REFRIGERATOR WITH ICE MAKER, 17.7 cu. ft., almond;\$100.00;828-342-9440

BEDS – Remodeling projects makes top-of-the-line Sealy Posturpedic mattresses and box springs available. 1 king, 2 queen sets. Best deal of the decade. \$250 and \$350. 5/28

ALANA WATERFORD – 12 hi-balls. \$550. Call 526-5211.

• See CLASSIFIEDS page 32

• CLASSIFIEDS •

RECLAIMED, ECO-FRIENDLY BUILDING MATERIALS AND FLOORING: Hand hewn beams, siding, and flooring. All from dismantled early American buildings; beautiful, high quality and recycled! Available in truckloads or smaller quantities. www.jcwoodworking.info or 267-404-2214. 5/28

BEAUTIFUL, ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY OAK FLOORING. Character grade wormy white oak cut from dead stands. Widths from 5-12", lengths 8-14 ft. Incredible character. 267-404-2214 or www.jcwoodworking.info. 5/28

HUSQUARNA RANCHER 55 CHAIN SAW. Excellent Condition. \$230. Call 787-2124 or 200-1250.

TWO PIECE CHINA DISPLAY CABINET/ BUFFET — bottom and top scrolled, inset lighting, glass shelves, ornate brass handles, beveled glass door. Must see. \$800 OBO. Call 828-369-9212, or 828-349-2409.

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

6X12 ENCLOSED TRAILER - Haulmark Transport DLX . White, 3 doors, transport package, never on highway, like new. \$2000. 828-526-0974. 5/21.

ANTIQUE 8 AIR CYLINDER MUSIC BOX — ca 1880s mahogany & rosewood marquetry - good condition - PLAYS. Serious buyers/collectors only call 828-787-1515

ORVIS FLYFISHING COMBO - Battenkill bbs III 5/7 reel and Clearwater mid 5 wt 7'9" rod. One year old but NEVER used. Orvis Padded reel case and rod tube/bag included. \$200. 828-399-9427.

BRAND-NEW, NEVER WORN, WEDDING DRESS AND VEIL. Beautiful; ivory with beading at waist and scoop neck. Size 6. Price tags: dress \$640 and veil \$265. Make offer. Please call 828-526-5733 or 601-316 3147.

NORDICTRACK SUMMIT 4500 TREADMILL. Excellent condition. Has incline and preset workouts. \$550. Instruction Manual Included. 526-9107.

16" FISHING BOAT NEW with Trolling motor, Charger, New Bat. JUntippable , \$1000 OBO Call 828-200-0701

BOAT, ENGINE, TRAILER — Great for fishing. Needs some work. \$600. Call 828-200-0701

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

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 Eheim 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. 828-631-2675 after 5 p.m. Sylva area.

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

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.

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.

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).

4 SOLID OAK, LADDERBACK dining room chairs with woven seats. \$400 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 highlandnative@yahoo.com

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

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.

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.

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.

VEHICLES FOR SALE

2003 HONDA MOTORCYCLE WITH EXTRAS — Low Mileage, excellent condition. Priced below Kellys Blue Book. email: kd4uk@verizon.net. 5/21

1994 PORSCHE 911 CAB — 57-K. White on Tan. Excellent condition. \$21K. Call 770-827-0450. 7/9

SERVICES

Clock Repair — ANTIQUE OR MODERN, COMPLICATED ANTIQUE CLOCKS ARE MY SPECIALTY. EXPERIENCED, DEPENDABLE AND COURTEOUS WITH HOUSE CALLS AVAILABLE IN THE HIGHLANDS AREA. CALL 706-754-9631. JO-

SEPH MCGAHEE. CLOCKMAKER. WWW.OLDCLOCKREPAIR.COM. 9/1\

GRAPHIC DESIGNER — Identity, branding, print, packaging, advertising and environmental design. Coroflot.com/mackeydj. mackeydj@gmail.com 513-256-4975.

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

RON'S HYDRO-SEEDING — Small Job Specialist. Call 828-524-3976. 4/23

MILT'S LAWN SERVICE — lawn mowing & weed eating, yard cleaning & light hauling. Call Milton at 828-421-7919 or Bill at 828-524-8659. 5/21

24-HOUR CARE FOR YOUR LOVED ONE — 16 years experience. Will travel to accommodate. \$2,800 monthly, negotiable. Call Clare Myers 828-349-3479 or 828-342-1603. 5/28

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, referemces and Early Childhood credentials. \$5 per hour for first child, \$10 a day for second sibling. Call 743-2672.

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

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.

... NATURE CENTER continued from pg 10

programs, family nature activities, story-book science programs, and the Thursday evening Zahner Conservation Lecture series. Five different nature day camps are also being offered each year and feature fun, hands-on learning experiences in natural outdoor settings. Sessions rotate throughout the summer and are available for children ages 4 to 15, depending on the camp week.

In addition, there will be several special evening events such as the "Salamander Meander" program, scheduled for Saturday, May 30 at 9 pm. Bring a flashlight and walk along the Garden trails to observe a variety of salamanders in the wild. Cost for this program is \$5 per participant, and advanced registration is requested due to limited space.

For more information about this summer's daily programs, special events, and children's camps, visit the "Programs" section of the Nature Center webpage at www.wcu.edu/hbs/Naturecenter.htm, or call 828-526-2623.

- Patrick Brannon, Highlands Nature Center

... COUNTY from pg 7

a loan for \$5 million from the Local Government Commission.

There was some talk about trimming the county's employee roll but Horton advised against it.

"We are in a slump now, but it will come back and when it does we don't want to have to rehire and retrain people," said Horton.

Commissioner Davis said that the public sector is no different than the private sector and it shouldn't be immune to what is happening all over the country.

"Citizens in the private sector are losing their jobs and can't pay their bills, why should the public sector be any different?" he asked. "We have an obligation to them and it's they who pay the salaries of the public employees."

But others said by firing people the tax rolls will ultimately be affected which just makes the problem worse.

Sales tax proceeds are down 10% in Macon County versus 15% statewide as are all permitting fees, except gun permit fees which netted \$40,000 this year versus last year's \$20,000.

"That's happening all over the country," said Sheriff Robert Holland.

Superintendent Dan Brigman explained the schools' revised budget which reflects a 10.27% increase from the county's 2008-09 appropriation.

He said the General Assembly, and increases in hospitalization and retirement costs have all contributed to the predicted shortfall.

He said the district is doing it's part to keep costs down including eliminating several positions that would have been paid for out of local current expense funds.

He said he needs about \$700,000 more and doesn't want to raid the fund balance for current operating expenses. He said he has about \$500,000 in the undesignated unappropriated fund balance of which he can take \$100,000-\$200,000, but doesn't want to get much lower than that. "I need a two-month cushion," he said.

Commissioners informed him of the Timber Sales windfall of \$200,000 and they discussed using the teacher supplement — \$430,025 — to make up the difference, but most were opposed to the idea.

Commissioner Koppers said the county wasn't at that point yet. "Our manager has presented a budget that works, I just don't think the wolf's at the door yet. He's out there howling, but we're not there yet."

He also said that he was certain that if the choice was letting teachers go or going without the supplement, teachers in Macon County would opt to go without the supplement if absolutely necessary.

Chairman Beale said teachers already had to take the .5% furlough-cut in pay and didn't think the county should take the supplement, too.

The next scheduled budget worksessions are Wednesday, May 27 at 6 p.m., and Saturday, May 30 at 2 p.m. with a public hearing set for June 8 at 6 p.m.

No decisions were made Monday night.

• POLICE & FIRE •

The following are the Highlands Police Dept. log entries from May 6. Only the names of persons arrested, issued a Class-3 misdemeanor, or public officials have been used.

May 6

• At 3 p.m., officers conducted a welfare check at an apartment on Horse Cove Road.

May 11

• At 4:15 p.m., officers conducted a drug check with canine Ruby at a vehicle parked in the Sweetreals parking lot.

May 12

• At 9:55 a.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident on 4th and Maple streets. There were no injuries.

• At 2:09 p.m., officers were called concerning a mental patient who had a firearm and was threatening to use it. The firearm was taken away and the Meridian Behavior Services was called to help.

May 13

• At 10:30 a.m., officers were called concerning a suspicious person at a home on Dillard Road that was supposed to be unoccupied. Police found no one.

May 14

• At 8:25, officers were called concerning a suspicious vehicle on U.S. 64 that was weaving on the road. Officers stopped the car and a friend took the driver home.

May 15

• At 2:20 p.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident at Church and S. 4th streets. No one was hurt.

May 16

• At 3:29 a.m., officers responded to an animal complaint concerning a bear on Webbmont Road. The bear was gone when the police arrived.

• At 5 p.m., officers responded to a call of a larceny of \$21 from the vicinity of the new ABC Store in Highlands Plaza.

• At 9:51 p.m., officers conducted a welfare check at a residence on Wyanoak Drive where the resident said he heard strange noises. Nothing was found.

May 17

• At 9:30 p.m., officers responded to a call of a suspicious vehicle parked at PAC overnight.

• During the week the officers issued 23 citations and responded to 10 alarms.

The following are the Highlands Fire & Rescue Dept. log entries from May 13-20:

May 13

• The dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with a medical call at a residence on Clubhouse Trail Road. There was no transport.

• The dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with a medical call at a residence on Clubhouse Trail Road. The person was transported to the hospital.

May 15

• The dept. responded to the call of a lightning strike at a house on Paul Walden Way. Everything was OK.

May 17

• The dept. responded to an accident on Buck Creek Road where a car was in the creek. There were no injuries.

May 18

• The dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with a medical call at a residence on Dillard Road. The person was transported to the hospital.

• The dept. responded to an alarm at the hospital but it was cancelled by the alarm company.

May 19

• The dept. responded to a rescue call at Whiteside Mountain parking lot where a man was locked in the bathroom. They removed the door.

• FUN & GAMES •

Hex-a-Ku[©] 2009 by Pete Sarjeant and Don Cook

OBJECT:

A mystery word or phrase using all different letters is designated by circled squares (other short words will appear when solving, for which a list of meanings is provided). Every puzzle has a different mystery word or phrase (no spaces). Assign different letters to each square of each column and row. In addition, 3x2 cells in the puzzle layout have the same different letters. (This is similar to Sudoku but uses letters instead of numbers.)

How to Solve:

Determine the different letters among those given. Write in the mystery word using the clue and these letters. Other small words will appear in the puzzle. As in conventional crossword puzzles, a list of meanings for these Across/Down words is given and number positions shown. Doing them will speed up your solution to the puzzle. Using your powers of induction, inference and insight, place missing letters in blank squares according to the rules noted above. Focus your attention where the least number of letters are needed to complete a row, column or cell.

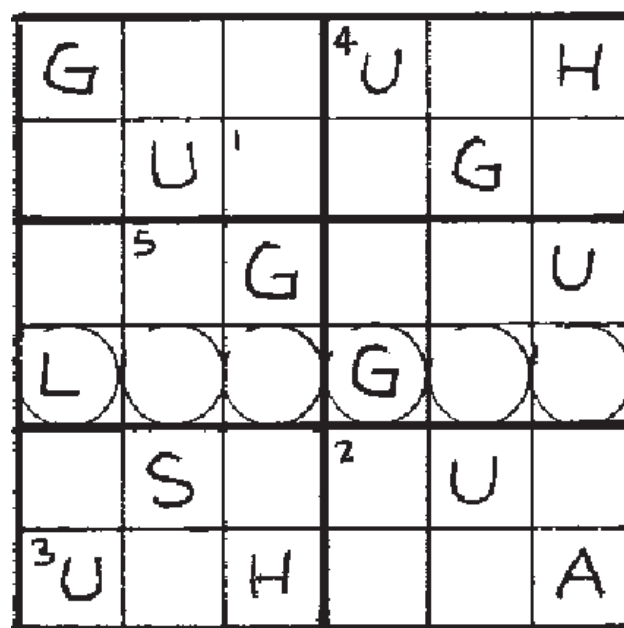
Mystery Word: Charities (6)

Across

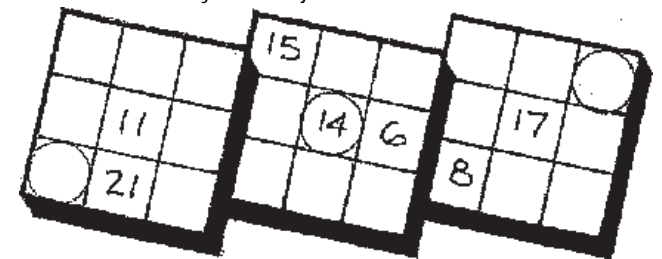
1. Droop (3)
2. Embrace (3)
3. Express disgust (3)

Down

4. United Airlines (Abbr.) (3)
5. Owns (3)



PseudoCube[©] by Pete Sarjeant and Don Cook



#DN3A Level of Difficulty - Hard

THE SETUP:

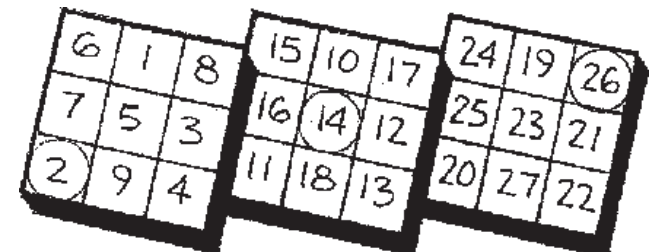
The cube has 27 consecutive numbers in it, arranged in three layers with 9 numbers each. These numbers are arranged in a special pattern: For each layer, the sum of the three numbers in each row, column or diagonal, is 3 times its center number. Eight diagonals connect all 3 layers by running through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

THE CHALLENGE:

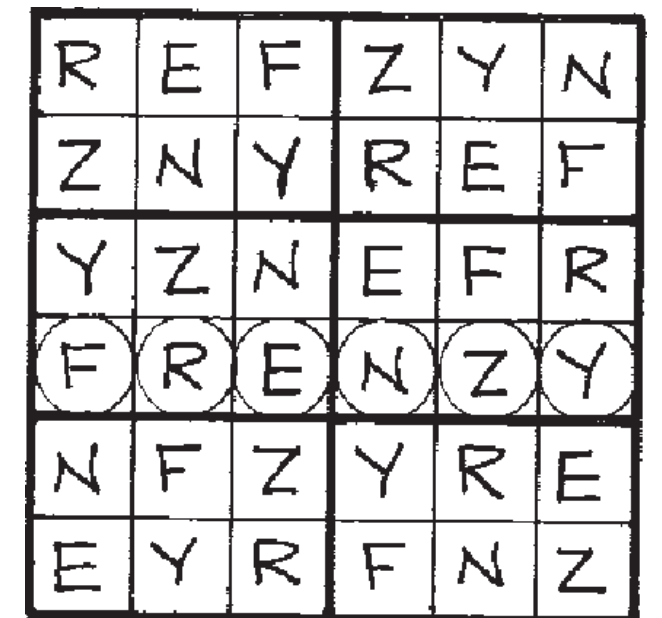
Start with the three center numbers for each layer and the other numbers given. Now pour a cup of coffee, pick up a pencil and eraser and try to figure out where the other numbers belong. Good Luck!

Email: pseudocube8@aol.com.

Solution to #BN3A in May 14 issue



Solution to May 14 Hex-a-Ku



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COUNTRY CLUB PROPERTIES

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SAGEE MOUNTAIN. New renovation on this contemporary 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath plus a den or office. Soaring living room with stone fireplace, wood floors and a wall of glass to take in the spectacular view of Horse Cove and 50 miles of as far as the eye can see. Custom kitchen with granite and stainless steel. One of a kind hand hammered sinks. Huge deck and 2 car garage. Offered with some furnishings at \$1,475,000. MLS #67565



Old Highlands Charm with this charming cottage that sits overlooking the headwaters of the Cullasaja River with lake access to Mirror Lake. Recently renovated, this home is in excellent condition and is an exceptional opportunity. Launch you canoe or boat after closing and enjoy the benefits of living on the water! Offered at \$575,000.00. MLS #67443



Charm exudes from this professionally decorated 3 bedroom, 4 bath home located on Mountain Laurel lane near Highlands Country Club and Mountain Laurel Tennis Club. 3 bedrooms and 4 baths, Lofty ceilings and a wonderful outdoor living room with fireplace. Furnishings are negotiable and a great opportunity for \$895,000. MLS #67295



A great way to get to the Mountains on a budget! Located on Buck Creek Road, this two bedroom, two bath plus loft has spacious rooms and has been renovated with a new kitchen and bathrooms. Enjoy cool evenings sitting in a rocking chair by the fireplace. Great yard and garage with good storage space. Offered at \$299,000. MLS#66631



Satulah Ridge 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, large greatroom with stone fireplace that expands onto large screened porch. Partial slab basement with great workshop. Some furnishings are negotiable and it is in move-in condition! Offered at \$335,000. MLS# 67111



Satulah Ridge 3 bedrooms, 3 baths plus 2 one car garages and an extra Lot. Great family home or getaway. Excellent condition and owned by the same family for over 25 years. Lower level has additional family room with kitchenette. Offered at \$ 595,000.00 MLS# 66952



CULLASAJA CLUB LOT #149. Brand new with an excellent location convenient to the clubhouse, private location with a wonderful stone cliff in the back yard. The dwelling features four bedrooms, four and one half bath, great room with custom kitchen that features Stainless kitchen aid appliances and granite countertops, custom stone fireplaces and stone pillars. Landscape package with stone terraces and spring that feeds a custom waterfall. Two car garage. Covered porch takes in the awesome mountain views. Offered at \$1,295,000 MLS#60810



This close to town cottage has it all! New wood floors, granite countertops, new appliances, new paint, new roof and is furnished to the T. The stone fireplace is great for winter nights and the deck has a mountain view. It has three large bedrooms each with their own bath. Upstairs has a sitting room or library with a great mountain view. Go see this home, owner wants offer!! MLS # 67580, Offered at \$ 499,000.



Privacy and solitude with this 10 acres that back to US Forest Service lands 3 Bedrooms, 2 baths plus a full basement and 2 car garage. Bright sun room and in excellent condition. Additional room for grandkids in the attic area, and a full unfinished basement for a workshop. Offered at \$535,000. MLS #67183



Lake Sequoyah Located on the Big Creek arm of the Lake, this 3 bedroom, 2 bath has a wonderful setting and is very usable for your outdoor living. Level lake access and a private setting. Huge downstairs level for hobbies and an office. In excellent condition! Offered at \$629,000. MLS #67260

• BIZ NEWS •

New Artists at Summit One Gallery

The first exhibition of the season introduces the new artists at Summit One Gallery, opening Saturday, May 23rd, Memorial Day Weekend with a reception for the artists from 5-7pm. Joining Summit One Gallery are Ken Wallin, Pat Calderone, Bobbie Doyle-Maher, Dawn Dambax, and Chery Cratty.

Ken Wallin's oil paintings have been described as powerful and magnetic with a profound use of color to convey his passion for particular regions of the world's landscape. He's influenced by the Impressionists and the places he travels to: France, Italy, Mexico and the coastal areas of the US.

Pat Calderone works in several mediums, including charcoal on wood. Although she has a reputation as a realist, she does love to experiment with the effects of suggestion and her own particular interpretation of reality.

Bobbie Doyle-Maher is a self-taught artist and proficient in several mediums. She moves between traditional painting and digital imaging with ease and finds in doing so she

sees with new perspectives. Her landscape paintings come from her imagination and strong kinship with nature.

Dawn Dambax has been painting since college, where she received a BFA with a concentration in painting from the College of Charleston.

The emotion and intensity of places she has visited are captured in the starkness and whimsical oil paintings she creates. For her, painting is the therapy to life and a sacred time to be true to whom she is suppose to be.

Chery Cratty is an inventor as well as an artist. Her technique is more sculptural than flat. She places pigmented bits of plant fiber onto a black fiber background with a porcupine quill, bringing light from darkness. The paint, which she invented, is plant fiber pulp mixed with the same pigments used in fine art paints.

Sunday, June 14th in the Courtyard at Summit One, bring your lawn chairs and blankets for an afternoon Poetry Reading of *Painted Leaves*, by poet Joyce Foster and art by Jane Smithers.



Shady Fields with Poppies



Red Barn



Vision of Things to Come

Summit One Gallery is located in "The Galleries", South Second Street, Highlands.

828.526.2673

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www.summitonegallery.com

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