

# Highlands' Newspaper

**FREE**

Volume 7, Number 42

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Thursday, Oct. 22, 2009

FRI	SAT	SUN
55 / 47F	52 / 33F	50 / 35F

## This Week in Highlands

Thursday-Sunday, Oct. 22-25

• Highlands-Cashiers Players performing The Dining Room at PAC, 7:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. on Sundays. Call 526-8084.

Friday, Oct. 23

• At the Hudson Library, from 2-4 p.m. Dr. Jim Costa of the Highlands Biological Station discussing Charles Darwin's "Origin of Species." Free. 526-3031.

• Evening Under the Stars with WCU Astronomy professor Dr. Paul Heckert. To reserve your spot, call HCLT at 828-526-1111.

Saturday, Oct. 24

• At Mountain Fresh, pumpkin carving from 10:30-12:30 with artists to help.

• At Cyprus Restaurant, DJ Johnny-O, celebrating the end of the 2009 season at 9:30.

• At Greenleaf Gallery, noon – 4 pm, artist Robert A. Tino, 177 Main St. in Wright Square. Light refreshments.

• Painter Jerome Grimmer will give an acrylic painting demonstration at The Bascom from 1:30-3:30 p.m. Call 526-4949.

• Join the Friends of Panthertown at 9:30 am at the Salt Rock trailhead. Call 526-9938.

• At the Hen House, a costume party, drawing for prizes and bursting of balloons with coupons – 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

• Highlands Wine & Cheese benefit Riedel Wine Tasting for The Bosnian Community Farm Initiative from 1-2:30 p.m. and again from 2:30-4 p.m. Call 526-5210 for details.

• The Scaly Mountain Women's Club Pancake Breakfast from 7:30-10:30 a.m. Call (828) 787-1860.

Sunday, Oct. 25

• At First Presbyterian Church, a WCU Faculty Showcase at 4 p.m. It's free.

Monday, Oct. 26

• The Art League will meet at 5 p.m. at the Civic Center Rec Park in Highlands featuring Clark House Pottery.

Tues. & Thurs., Oct. 27 & 29

• Lady Highlands After-school Hoops Clinic for grades K-6 from 3-5 p.m. \$25 per student or \$40 for family of two.

Tuesday, Oct. 27

• HIARPT's Winter Dialogue 10-11:30 a.m. All are welcome.

## Town financially sound, say auditors

Despite the economic downturn of 2008-2009, the assets of the Town of Highlands exceeded liabilities at the close of the fiscal year – June 30, 2009.

That was the word from town auditors Martin Starnes & Associates at Wednesday night's Town Board meeting. They said the town's positive financial standing is due to

its diligence in collecting property taxes, utility charges and the increase in grant revenue relating to water and sewer projects.

Highlands' net assets exceeded its liabilities by \$31,579,399 with an increase in total net assets of \$274,579.

The largest portion of net assets – 68% — reflects the town's

investment in capital assets including land, buildings and equipment less any debt still outstanding. The remaining balance of \$5,755,524 is unrestricted.

Likewise, the town's combined fund balances increased \$231,178 compared to last year. Approximately 79% of that total, or

• See AUDITORS page 15

## Snow and color on the plateau



With color still on the trees, this shot down U.S. 64 east shows the first snowfall of the 2009 winter season. It was taken Sunday, Oct. 18 at 7:45 a.m. Snow fell a full week sooner than last year.

Photo by Jim Lewicki

## Health Care workers receive H1N1 vaccination first

The Macon County Public Health Center staff and other health care workers are among the first to receive H1N1 vaccine. The Centers for Disease Control has

placed health care workers as one of the high risk priority groups for H1N1 vaccination so they will stay healthy enough to care for the sick and be available to vaccinate

others.

Other high risk groups include pregnant women, care givers of infants under 6 months of age,

• See VACCINATION page 8

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## Part of Main Street to close after parade

Holiday activities set to congregate on the north side of Main Street between Fourth and Fifth streets, Saturday, Dec. 5, got the unanimous "go ahead" by the Town Board Wednesday night.

The travelway and all parking spots on that part of Main Street will be closed and used as a staging area immediately following the annual Christmas parade — noon until 5 p.m.

The flatbed trailer used to tow Santa at the end of the parade will be used as a stage for singing and clogging, and hot chocolate, gift-wrapping and other seasonal activities are planned on that part of the street.

Director of the Chamber, Bob Kietlyka said he polled all the businesses on Main Street from 4<sup>th</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> streets and down to the Falls on Main and everyone was "all for the idea."

He didn't say if any of the other businesses in town – off Main Street or on Main Street from 4<sup>th</sup> to 1<sup>st</sup> streets were polled.

Pine Street Park might be used,

• See CLOSE page 9

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# • THE PLATEAU'S POSITION •

## • LETTERS •

### Brugger does her homework

Dear Editor

I am writing to tell you how much I enjoy Katie Brugger's columns. Week after week she provides thoughtful and insightful commentary on the events of the world around us. She doesn't just state her point of view, but like any good columnist she supports it with data and background information. She clearly does her homework before writing each column.

Work hard to keep her, because it won't be long before she is scooped up by a major newspaper.

Richard S. Ellin MD  
Highlands

### Friends of the Upper Chattooga reacts to AW's latest lawsuit

American Whitewater's October 14, 2009 lawsuit was filed in South Carolina.

Dear Editor,

The Friends of the Upper Chattooga (FOTUC) is an alliance of citizen organizations from Georgia and the Carolinas working collectively to protect the Chattooga's wild and scenic values and to educate the public about threats to these values.

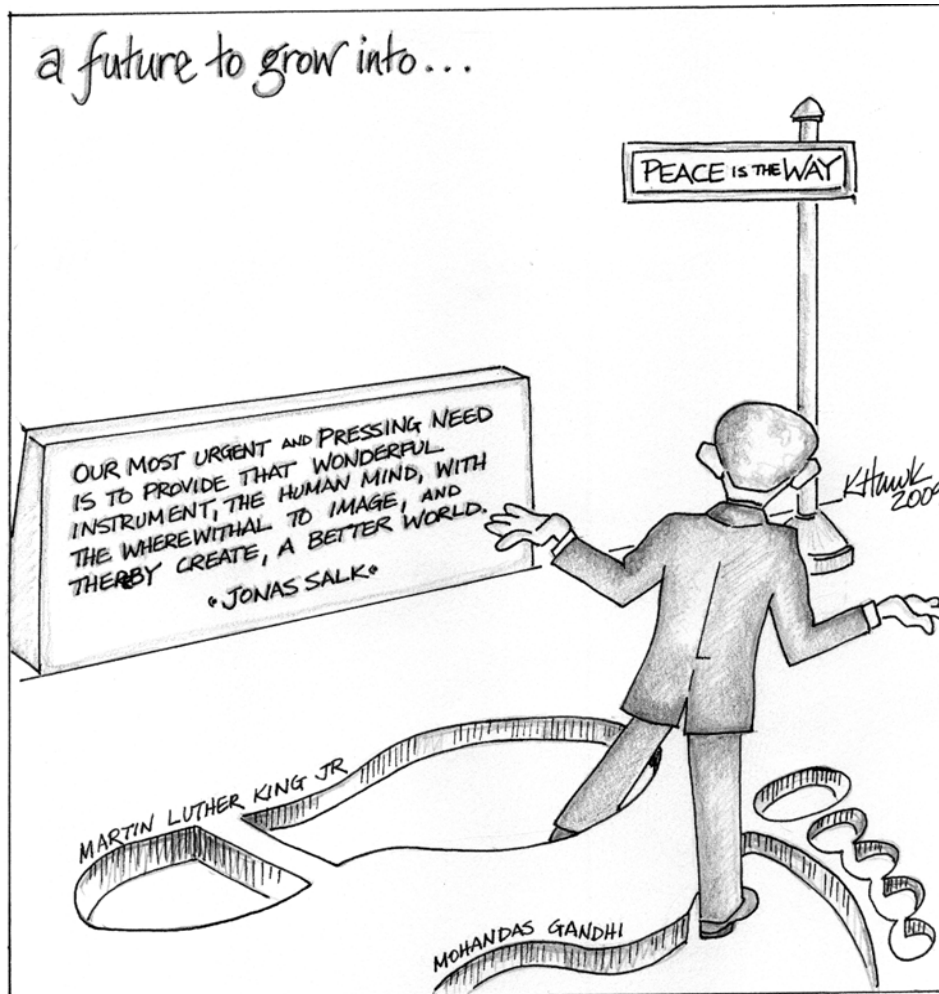
For some thirty years, as river boating has grown by leaps and bounds on the Lower Chattooga and on the West Fork, the limits that encouraged foot-travel only along the Upper Chattooga have made that remote river reach a haven for those seeking solitude, wilderness and uninterrupted angling.

The kayak lobby's new 2009 lawsuit appears premature since the Forest Service's administrative appeal process remains incomplete.

The lawsuit continues to ignore that many other Chattooga visitors are affected by a policy change; river planning is not all about "paddlers wants" as the kayak lobby would like the judiciary to believe.

The kayaker's lawsuit, first argues that the USFS published Assessment was incomplete, but then cherry-picks statements within the published assessment to argue that unlimited boating should be allowed. If the USFS assessment is deficient, no valid conclusions (including

## • HAWK'S EYE VIEW •



### LETTERS-TO-THE EDITOR-POLICY

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

## Highlands' Newspaper

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kayaker's) can possibly be verifiable ... the lawsuit is a bit confusing

Not all claims from the kayak lobby 2009 Appeal are disagreeable; in fact some claims will definitely be cited for future judicial filing on behalf of FOTUC.

FOTUC believes the lawsuit is not "ripe" for judicial review and will likely be tossed out of court. However, the group will likely either enjoin the lawsuit with the USFS or file an amicus brief depending upon how the USFS responds to the lawsuit.

David Bates, JMCA  
Highlands, NC

### Thanks for supporting the Scaly Mountain Pancake Breakfasts

Dear Editor,

The Scaly Mountain Women's Club started the successful Pancake Breakfast fundraiser in May 2004 and on **Saturday, October 24, 2009**, they will complete their sixth season of having a Pancake Breakfast on the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday May through October.

The proceeds from the breakfast are used for scholarships for local young people. Because of the generosity of local businesses, who pay the expenses for the breakfasts, every penny of the proceeds goes to the Scholarship Fund.

A great big thank you goes to the businesses who have sponsored a breakfast during the summer of 2009: **Blalock Meat Processing**, (Rabun Gap), **Middle Creek Barn** (Scaly Mountain), **Pizza Place** (Highlands), **Poss Realty** (Scaly Mountain), **Scaly Mountain General Store**, and **Tin Roof** (Highlands).

We would be remiss if we did not also thank the generous sponsors from years past: Caba Realty, J. B. Coram, F & F Excavating & Paving, Freeman Gas, Futral Enterprises, and Nix Flooring, who have sponsored one or more of the thirty-six breakfasts given during the past six years.

We so appreciate all the people from Highlands and surrounding areas who attend the breakfast and support our effort to raise money for scholarships. We are grateful both to our sponsors and patrons for their financial help and attendance and look forward to seeing everyone at the Scaly Mountain Women's Club Pancake Breakfasts during the 2010 season.

The Scaly Mountain Women's Club



## • IN MEMORY •

### Honoring Collin Wilcox Paxton; with a special thanks to HC-Hospice

Collin Wilcox Paxton died (she disliked the term passed on) October 14 at 4 p.m., in her bed surrounded by roses, lilies, scented candles listening to the ocean waves looking out on a beautiful rainy colorful Fall day.

The windows were open so her last breaths could be of the moist cool mountain air she cherished so much. Small sounds from her son and adopted sister and me being next to her let her feel love and comfort in her last moment before her final goodnight (her term).

Her final exit was beautiful, comfortable and pain free. The only way this was made possible was by the local hospice here in Highlands.

On August 11, one day after our 30th anniversary, Collin learned she had and was shown images of three brain tumors. She was told any one of them could burst at any time. It was suggested she go immediately to Mission Hospital in Asheville for tests and surgeries.

We talked. She said she wanted to go home, so that's what we did.

I called a doctor friend to ask, what I was to do now? His immediate response was, "Call the local hospice."

Highlands-Cashiers Hospice came in like her guardian angels, offering support I had no idea I even needed. Within hours, home treatment was started and she became pain free. Collin really wanted to see autumn in Highlands, and because of the knowledge and experiences of the HC Hospice nurse in charge she achieved that.

Anything we needed from oxygen to medications they took care of so we didn't have to. They sent wonderful women to supply any emotional support our family might need. Volunteers were offered to sit or watch anytime I might need help.

The day of her death was handled with such efficiency and caring leaving the family free to grieve as we needed. Our nurse remained with us for as long as she felt she could be of comfort. H-C Hospice also will continue to lend emotional support until such time as they are no longer needed. I personally feel I have gained some new caring friendships from this experience.

To be perfectly clear, if Highlands did not have access to this particular hospice group, Collin's dying experience could have been a nightmare. Only because of Highlands-Cashiers Hospice, was it glorious as it could be.



Collin Wilcox Paxton dressed for Halloween at her beloved Instant Theater, Oct. 31, 2008.

I personally gave the HC Hospice \$5,000 donation, because we need them to be around the way they are and they need our communities' financial help. Death comes to us all sometime, and my son and I agree, we want them around for us and our loved ones.

If Collin's contributions to entertainment and arts education in this community meant anything to anybody, she wanted the people of Highlands to help H-C Hospice continue. This family will continue to support that desire.

port that desire.

Collin was really a very private person and truly did not want an obituary or any hoopla. She acted, directed, produced and taught because she loved it, not for the praise or applause. She would just love any space

•See PAXTON page 7



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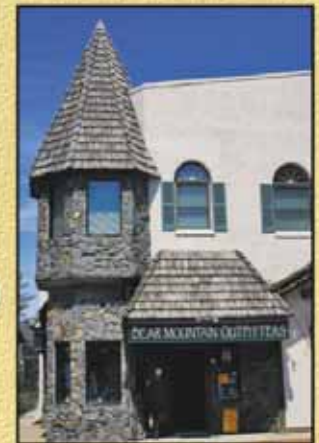
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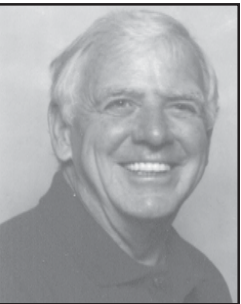
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• LAUGHING AT LIFE •

Mi Dung



Fred Wooldridge

*I'm not making this up!  
I've changed one policeman's  
name to protect his family  
from embarrassment.*

Miami Beach – December, 1961. I had been a policeman for, well....a whole month. This would be my first experience at working the graveyard shift. Probationary officers were transferred often during their first six months of duty to give them experience at working every environment.

Roll call was typical. Everyone stood with their backs to the squad room lockers as the duty sergeant called roll, read bulletins and gave out assignments. I was nervous. I listened carefully for my name. Finally, he blurted, “Harkin, Wooldridge, north accident, zone three.” I looked around the room, scanning name plates, looking for Harkin.

“That’s it. Hit the street. Watch your back,” the sergeant growled as he walked from the squad room. I waited for Harkin to approach me. The room emptied and I was left standing alone. Not sure what to do, I went looking for the duty sergeant. “Sir, where will I find Harkin,” I asked.

“Don’t call me sir. Do you see any bars on my lapel? Harkin is hiding from you. Follow me,” the sergeant ordered, flinging his clipboard to a nearby desk. I followed him to the motor pool. It was a typical warm, balmy, December evening. We approached a heavysset policeman loading equipment into his squad car. “What’s wrong with you, John? You leave your partner standing in the squad room?” the sergeant asked.

“I don’t ride with probies, stick him somewhere else,” the officer responded, not looking at either of us. The sergeant pulled Harkin aside to where I couldn’t hear. The conversation was heated, but brief. Finally Harkin walked back to his squad car and announced, “Get in the car, probie. Keep your mouth shut and look straight ahead. You understand?” I nodded.

We drove straight from the motor pool to the Fu Manchu restaurant in South Beach. We pulled into the alley behind the restaurant. It was almost midnight and the place was closing but the back door to the kitchen was open. A voice with a heavy Asian accent called out, “Ahhhh, John Harkin, you SOB. You come to eat my dung?”

“Follow me, kid,” John ordered as he opened his car door. Inside, I met Mi

Dung, owner of the restaurant, a tiny man, sporting a Fu Manchu mustache that hung below his chin.

“Very skinny cop; we fatten him up,” the Chinaman said as he scanned my appearance and grabbed two plates from a shelf. Mi had, long ago, learned he could use his unusual name to freak people out. His favorite line to his most loyal customers was, “You like Mi Dung?”

After a huge helping of pork and bean sprouts, John

and I headed for the bagel factory, also in South Beach. The first batch was just coming out of the oven. The baker called out, “Hey, big John, where’d ya get the skinny partner?” Opening a large paper grocery bag, he filled it with warm bagels and handed it to John. No money exchanged hands. “See you tomorrow,” John said, as we left the store. He shoved a bagel into his mouth as we climbed into our squad car.

Our next stop was the Place Pigalle, a strip joint on 23<sup>rd</sup> St. After parking in front of the place, John stuck his index finger in my face and warned, “See that traffic light straight ahead? Don’t take you eyes off that light. Do you understand me, kid?” I nodded.

Ten minutes later John walked out the front door, accompanied by a stripper carrying a case of whiskey. I snuck a peak. She threw the box into the trunk of our car and off we went. Then we drove a block away to a gay nightclub where the procedure repeated itself. I learned later this was a common event around Christmastime.

It was almost 2 AM and we still hadn’t reported in to the dispatcher as ready for calls. Our next stop was Wolfie’s Restaurant. Harkin’s job was to escort the manager to the night deposit at a nearby bank with the day’s receipts. For that, John got another full meal. I sat in amazement and watched him eat it, including dessert.

Finally, at 3 AM John picked up his mic and radioed we were available for calls. The dispatcher blurted, “Disturbance, Parham’s Restaurant.”

Parham was an all night restaurant at 73<sup>rd</sup> and Collins Av. that featured Boston cream pies. The pies were in full view on long tilted display shelves that ran the length of the restaurant. Through the restaurant’s plate-glass windows, we could see a drunk standing on the pie counter throwing cream pies at anyone close to him. Many customers, covered with cream pie, had fled the restaurant except for a small group



## • THE VIEW FROM HERE •

### Unsavory restaurant experiences

A custom widely practiced at many fancy restaurants has bothered me for years, but nobody else seems to mind. It's not the often rumored practice of depositing bodily fluids, usually but not exclusively, sputum, in my soup. It's not the affectation of announcing, "Good evening. I'm Kevin. I'll be your server this evening." It's not even the rapid-fire recitation of the night's specials, complete with a detailed description of various exotic ingredients, a practice that sets my brain spinning and leaves me lamely and meekly ordering a burger and fries.

Lizzie once ordered eggs Benedict at a pricey brunch place. With a word of caution and a furtive glance, the waiter warned that she might want to reconsider. In re-



**Dr. Henry Salzarulo**

**Feedback is encouraged.  
email:**

**hsalzarulo@aol.com**

sponse to our inquisitive stares, he explained that the chef made a Hollandaise that was intolerably sour. Most customers complained. I wondered at the arrogance of a chef who created a dish that required a warning label. I was astounded that an owner would tolerate such an attitude. A few months after its grand opening the restaurant closed for "extensive renovations." The restaurant never reopened. The problem was not the décor but the Hollandaise.

I've never liked French restaurants. The waiters invariably assume an air of superiority which makes me feel both uncomfortable and inferior. I've never understood why a guy whose income depends on a gratuity would think it's a good idea to insult

• See SALZARULO page 16

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Northland Cable Television

## • REFLECTIONS FROM TURTLE POND •

### Theft by another name

If you're a regular reader of this column you have probably figured out by now that I am not interested in the goings on of celebrities. I know that David Letterman has been accused of having sex with some of his employees but I don't know any details. But I do know Letterman's situation prompted an interesting short article in a recent *New Yorker* ("You've Got Mail," Oct 19) that raised the question, "Why is blackmail considered a crime?"

The author, Lizzie Widdicombe, writes that in philosophical and legal circles blackmail is a puzzle. James Lindgren, a professor of law at Northwestern University, is the author of a paper called "Unraveling the Paradox of Blackmail." He used Letterman's case to explain the problem: CBS producer Robert Joel Halderman is accused of threatening to blackmail Letterman. But it would be perfectly legal for Halderman to write a letter or screenplay or book exposing the fact that David Letterman had flings with "Late Show" employees. It's also legal for Halderman to ask Letterman for money as part of a business transaction. So why are the two things illegal when you put them together?

Widdicombe also quotes Saul Smilansky, the author of "Ten Moral Paradoxes," saying that blackmail was "standard capitalist practice. The Marxists used to say that capitalism is like blackmail — everyone tries to buy people off. Many social transactions look like blackmail when you examine them." As an example: "couples in divorce proceedings basically blackmailing each other to get a better deal."

So why is blackmail wrong? The only conclusion I could come to was that the goal of the blackmailer was personal profit; to extract money from another person. If instead of blackmailing Letterman, Halderman produced a screenplay based on the information he had, or alerted the media with the goal of preventing any more mischief by Letterman, he would be giving something to society in return for his personal profit.

I think you could generalize that what is morally wrong with all crime is that it is destructive, not productive. The basic definition of "work" from a social standpoint is: individuals creating value, producing goods or services, in exchange for money. A definition of theft would be: individuals obtaining money without producing anything of value in return.

In another recent article in *The New Yorker* about using cycles or patterns to pre-



Katie Brugger  
k-brugger@hotmail.com

dict the ups and downs of the stock market, one trader recommended their use if you really wanted to "extract" money from the market. For many people this is what the financial industry exists for: extract money for me without consideration of whether my actions produce value.

The stock market, banks, and other financial institutions exist to provide financial services, to capitalize business through investment and loans. There are still a few investors who follow the old-fashioned strategy of "fundamental analysis" in which you research a company, that is look at the profits, price-to-earnings ratio, quality of management, etc. before buying the stock. Warren Buffet is a famous and wealthy example of an investor who follows this strategy. When an investor of this type finds a good company, he buys their stock as a way of promoting this company's growth. The investor becomes a shareholder in the production of value by that company.

However, many investors today care nothing at all about creating value or providing services for others; all they are interested in is maximizing their personal profits.

A couple of months ago there was a flurry of articles about something called high-speed trading. Some institutions, including Goldman Sachs, are using superfast computers to buy or sell stocks a fraction of a second before anyone else can react. High-frequency trading is one reason Goldman is earning record profits this year.

Paul Krugman's comment on this form of trading, from his column "Rewarding Bad Actors," was, "Even before the crisis and the bailouts, many financial-industry high-fliers made fortunes through activities that were worthless if not destructive from a social point of view. Just to be clear: financial speculation can serve a useful purpose. It's good, for example, that futures markets provide an incentive to stockpile heating oil before the weather gets cold. But speculation based on information not available to the public at large is a very different matter. As the U.C.L.A. economist Jack Hirshleifer showed back in 1971, such speculation often combines 'private profitability' with 'social uselessness.' It's hard to imagine a better illustration than high-frequency trading. The stock market is supposed to allocate capital to its most productive uses, for example by helping companies with good ideas raise money. But it's hard to see how

• See BRUGGER page 17



## • COACH'S CORNER •

### And then there were four

After six weeks of NFL regular season, we are left with only four unbeaten teams left standing and they have separated themselves (along with the Falcons) as the best teams in the league. Here are my rankings of the unbeaten, along with some comments from Positive Pierre and Negative Nellie.



**Ryan Potts**  
tryanpotts@hotmail.com

his 70's neck beard in the playoffs? Really?

#### 4. Minnesota Vikings

Squeaked one out at home against the Ravens when K Steven Hauck missed a makeable FG. That Favre guy continues to play well, and Adrian Peterson is the best RB in

the league.

Positive Pierre says "Favre gives them leadership and AP runs it down people's throats. Plus, their young WR's Sidney Rice and Percy Harvin are explosive."

Negative Nellie says "Their defense is suspect against the pass, and the 40 year old man playing QB for them is going to get worn down at some point this year. Sunday was the second game that they SHOULD have lost this year-the magic will run out at some point."

### ... PAXTON continued from page 3

dedicated to her in the newspaper to be used in support of Highlands-Cashiers Hospice. Scott Paxton

Note:

Collin Wilcox, born February 4, 1935, in Highlands, NC, was an American actress, variably credited as Collin Wilcox-Horne or Collin Wilcox-Paxton. She made her professional debut in Chicago as part of the improvisational group, The Compass Players, which included Mike Nichols, Elaine May, and Shelley Berman. In 1958 Wilcox won the Clarence Derwent Award for her performance in *The Day Money Stopped on Broadway*. She is perhaps best known for her role in the film *To Kill a Mockingbird*, in which she played Mayella Violet Ewell, who accuses Tom Robinson (Brock Peters) of raping her. She always said she drew from her Highlands' roots for that part.

But her stage, TV and film career spanned decades having appeared in close to a hundred movie and TV productions. She also wrote the book and "Papa's Angel's" which was made into a TV mini-series. Most recently in Highlands she owned and operated The Instant Theatre Company which was a popular venue for music, readings, cutting-edge plays and dancing. Highlands has lost a life-long advocate.

• To read more about the life of Collin Wilcox Paxton, see page 27.

#### 1. Indianapolis Colts

I know what you are thinking...and yes, you are correct. The New Orleans Saints should be in this spot, and I will get to them in a minute. However, the Colts feature a Hall of Fame quarterback, a pro bowl WR and TE in Reggie Wayne and Dallas Clark and a speedy secondary led by S Bob Sanders.

Positive Pierre says "Manning's at MVP level and they got healthy over the bye week"

Negative Nellie says "Their linebacking corps is suspect, and they got run over by Miami despite squeaking out a victory. Can they stop the run?"

#### 2. New Orleans Saints

Dismantled the New York Giants this weekend and have not trailed this season. Revamped defense leads the league in takeaways and has harassed QB's all year.

Positive Pierre says "Their schedule only gets weaker, with only Atlanta, New England, Dallas and San Francisco having winning records."

Negative Nellie says "This is the team that followed a miracle Hail Mary with a missed extra point. Do you really trust them with a one game lead over the Falcons?"

#### 3. Denver Broncos

Won another close one against San Diego on Monday night. Josh McDaniels has Kyle Orton looking like a poor man's Tom Brady and the defense has been tremendous.

Positive Pierre says "This team is just oozing confidence right now, and it starts with their head coach. Brandon Marshall gives them a homerun threat on offense and their special teams have been terrific."

Negative Nellie says "Kyle Orton....really? You trust Kyle Orton and

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## • CONSERVATIVE POV •

### Well shiver me timbers

Indulge me, please. Let me have a little fun before I get down to business. Recently, from Montana's News Station.com, "If you've spent any time outdoors the past four days in Western Montana, you could probably guess that we've hit record low temperatures. We haven't just set new records, we've blown them out of the water. The lows have been 10, 11 and

8 the last three mornings in Missoula, and we've gone at least nine degrees lower than the old record each morning."

So, who cares about Western Montana anyway? The people across the border in Idaho do. The Missoulian reports, "Record-low temperatures in southwestern Idaho are threatening to destroy at least a portion of this season's crop of seed potatoes. Spuds

still in the ground could be saved by a layer of snow." Potato farmer Larry Van Dyke says when it's this cold for too long, the frost penetrates and the taters are toast.

OK, OK, what's the big deal about a cold spell in the wastelands of the Northern Plains? That doesn't prove anything. The Austrian Times would like you to know that "Austria's provincial capitals are expected to see their earliest snowfalls in history as Arctic air sweeps the country. Josef Haselhofer from Vienna's Central Agency for Meteorology and Geodynamics said Arctic air would probably result in the first snow cover before 20 October in history. Haselhofer warned of possible impassable snow drifts in some places and the danger of avalanches."

Be patient, I'm getting to it.

BBC News, hardly a conservative news source, headlines "What happened to global warming?" Moving on, Madison.com reports that Al Gore spoke at the Society of Environmental Journalists annual conference there. Typically, it was 15 degrees colder than normal at the time of the meeting. When an Irish filmmaker took the microphone to challenge Gore's facts in 'the unbelievable truth' or whatever, he was shut down by Gore's goons.

Here's the thing. Gore was enjoying serious momentum in his drive to remake the world through the "imminent threat of worldwide devastation if we do nothing" story. Suddenly, his science was challenged from many sources, including several hundred of the world's foremost scientists. So did Gore abandon his drive for wealth and power? Oh no. He just changed the name from 'global warming' to 'climate change.' Shouldn't that tip someone off that his original story was bogus? Shouldn't we forget all the hullabaloo about carbon footprints, carbon credits, related taxes, fees, etc. that would ruin our economy and go on with our lives? Not at all. The morons in charge are sold out to the green thing and to ultimately drive us back to the stone age.

Gore originally got traction for his scheme though his sales job on the immediate destruction of the world due to 'global warming.' The public acceptance of his doomsday theory is the basis for my discussion. Gullibility seems to be a broadening characteristic of our culture.

Take the Madoff ponzi scam, exceeded in scope only by Social Security. For decades, this guy told people a story that, to any thinking person, was bupkis.

Yet supposedly intelligent, really



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

wealthy people chose to put their financial assets in his hands, earning unsustainable returns, yet continuing to do so because of greed, for sure, and gullibility. Bernie, at one time, was a credible person. I used to do business with the brokerage side of his firm. At one point, he was Chairman of NASDAQ. Still, one should give what they hear the smell test no matter who says it.

The last campaign was a graphic example of the gullibility of present-day Americans.

Promises, promises, promises; seems like an integral part of present-day politics, doesn't it? And now, Congress is painfully trying to pound a square peg into a round hole and telling us it's going to be good for the country. No wonder trying to win the votes of the medically uninsured is causing them problems, not to mention the angst, of the 85%-90% who are entirely satisfied with the medical coverage they have now.

Does something need be done? Probably, but not the whole thing at once. How about addressing tort reform (even though it would torque the trial lawyers that are big Obama supporters) first. How about setting about to eliminate waste and fraud now? No new legislation is needed to do that.

Prepare yourself for next year's election. The lies will be coming fast and furious. Use your head. Think for yourself. Educate yourself. Filter the noise. Look at voting records. Take your vote seriously. The future of America depends on it.

### ... VACCINATION continued from page 1

children ages 6 months to 4 years old, and children ages 5 - 18 with chronic medical conditions.

Also this week, the Macon County Public Health Center's School Health Program, is immunizing public school staff and students with seasonal influenza vaccine. This seasonal flu vaccination campaign is part of a statewide school vaccination program. According to Jennifer Garrett, Lead School Nurse, this program is going smoothly and she anticipates vaccinating approximately 2,000 school staff and students. When an adequate supply of 2009 H1N1 influenza vaccine becomes available, a similar campaign will also take place in the public schools. For more information on influenza, call the Macon County Public Health Center at 349-2081 or visit [www.maconnc.org](http://www.maconnc.org) or [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov).

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## ... CLOSE continued from page 1

if the Winter Activities Business Group can convince the owner of the old Ski Scaly that it will be worth his while to bring a portable 50-ft by 70-ft. ice-skating rink to the park.

"It's all very tentative," said Chamber board member Jerry Moore. "A lot of details still have to be worked out for that and we will come to the Town Board before it's finalized."

The group is hoping the ice-skating rink can be set up in Pine Street Park November through January or until the stormwater work begins there.

Kieltyka and Matt Eberz, a member of the committee, said all the churches in town were also polled about closing the street and they didn't seem to mind. Although, the Highlands United Methodist Church voiced con-

cern about activities at the other end of town decreasing participation in it's "Tis the Season" program, which will include a lunch and alternative gift-giving event to benefit the nonprofits in town.

Mayor Don Mullen said he's been to all the Winter Activity meetings and thinks closing the north side of Main Street from 4<sup>th</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> streets for the all-day, Dec. 5 lineup of events is a great idea and will be good for the town.

Town Manager Jim Fatland said it's a good way of promoting "the Main Street concept."

In other news, the town auditor reported that despite hard times in the rest of the country, sales tax proceeds in Highlands stayed constant with those of 2008.

## ... POLICE continued from page 37

• At 8:57 p.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm set off by smoke at a residence on Hickory Hill Road. The fireplace damper was closed.

Oct. 18

• At 12:02 a.m., the dept. responded to a possible structure fire at N. 5th St.. The oil furnace was malfunctioning.

• At 3:43 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with a medical call at a residence on Maplewood Lane. Subject had fallen and was unresponsive. He was taken to the hospital and pronounced DOA. Police are investigating.

• At 5:08 a.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm

on Main Street. It was false.

• At 5:38 a.m., the dept. responded to a one-vehicle accident on Buck Creek Road. There were no injuries.

• At 7:21 a.m., the dept. responded to a mutual aid call for the Glenville-Cashiers FD. Highlands stood by while they fought a structure fire.

• At 1:19 p.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at a residence on Hickory Hill Road. It was cancelled.

Oct. 20

• At 9:18 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with a medical call at a residence on Upper Brushy Face. The victim was taken to the hospital.

"That is phenomenal. The local merchants were able to bring the money in and tourists have made the decision to spend their money here in Highlands," he said.

Returns of the Recreation Survey have surpassed expectations having hit the 20% mark with 600 already returned. Recreation Director, Selwyn Chalker said experts have said to expect no more than 8% so he's pleased with the results and hopes people keep turning them in.

Town Manager Jim Fatland reported that a FEMA grant for \$666,000 for stormwater remediation at Spruce, Laurel and Fifth streets is pending word from the town that it would be able to handle the 75%-25% split.

He said the cost to the town would be about \$160,000 and that the money is available. He needed permission to pursue that grant and a grant for curbside recycling that is now available. The board OK'd both requests.

At the request of 10 property owners on

Cullasaja, Bruner, Wingina and Forman roads, the town will be posting 20 mph signs along those Mirror Lake roads owned by the town and will petition DOT to erect signage on the others to curtail speeding.

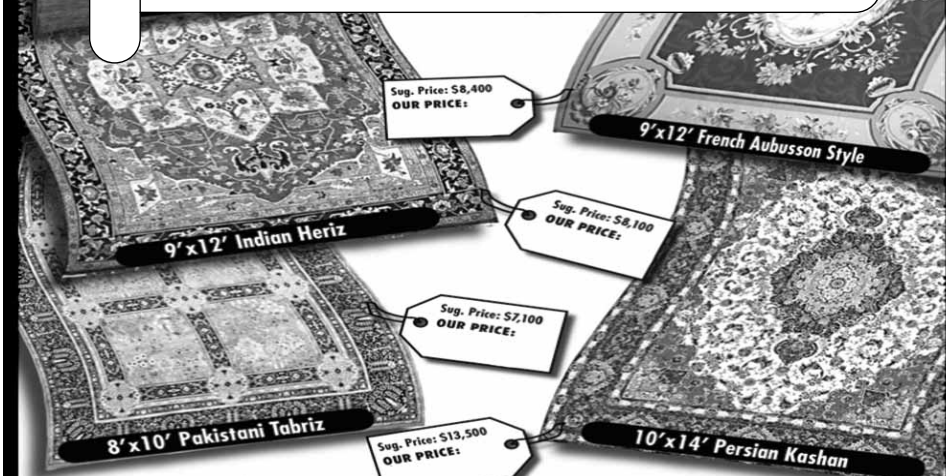
Ran Shaffner of the Highlands Historical Society asked the board to back the society's petition to have a historical marker erected at the corner of Foreman and U.S. 64 east to commemorate Andre Michaud, a botanist who first came to America and through Highlands in 1787. It was OK'd unanimously.

To recover about \$25,000 in delinquent debt – money that rolls over each year – the board agreed to participate in a NC Local Government Debt Setoff Program and Clearinghouse. The program costs nothing to the town. The clearinghouse gets the money for the town from NC state tax refunds and NC Education Lottery winnings and the debtor pays all fees.

— Kim Lewicki

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## • COOKING ON THE PLATEAU •

### Pick up pork: The all-American value

With bargains in the meat case due to large supplies, there's never been a better time for families across the country to celebrate comforting regional flavors with meal ideas from America's hard-working pork producers. Many may not know that pork is the most consumed meat in the world (according to the USDA Foreign Agriculture Service) and the country's pork producers take pride in producing delicious and nutritious pork to feed their own family, as well as families worldwide.

In fact, shoppers looking for ways to stretch their dollars, will find that pound for pound, pork continues to be one of the most economical buys in the meat case, with average retail prices down slightly from a year ago, according to the USDA. From pork shoulder to chops to ribs, there are numerous, affordable options to choose from. And with the versatility in cuts

available, the meal options are endless.

In celebration of the producers who help put delicious and affordable pork on America's plates, The National Pork Board asked three producers to share their own favorite, budget-friendly meals. Greg Kaffenbarger (Clark County, OH), Henry Moore (Clinton, NC) and Loren Keppy (Durant, IA) are all proud to be pork producers and come from families that have been involved in pork production and farming for generations.

Kaffenbarger's family recipe for Heartland Honey-Mustard Pork Medallions offers a true taste of the heartland, with a honey-mustard marinade and corn flakes for a deliciously tasty crunch adults and kids love. You can find the Moores' Comfort Country-Style Ribs and Keppys' American Pride Pork Chop at [TheOtherWhiteMeat.com](http://TheOtherWhiteMeat.com).

#### Heartland Honey-Mustard Pork Medallions

Makes 4 servings

1 pound pork tenderloin  
2 tablespoons honey  
2 tablespoons country-style Dijon mustard  
2 tablespoons olive oil, divided  
1 teaspoon lemon juice  
1 cup cornflake or dried bread crumbs  
Lemon slices  
Slice tenderloin crosswise into 8 pieces. Flatten slightly.

Combine honey, mustard, a tablespoon of olive oil, lemon juice, 1/4 teaspoon salt and 1/4 teaspoon coarsely cracked pepper in a resealable food storage bag. Add pork medallions and turn to coat.

Let stand 30 minutes.

Remove pork from marinade and dip both sides into cornflake crumbs to coat.

Heat remaining oil in a large nonstick skillet over medium-high heat. Add pork and cook for about 3 minutes on each side until internal temperature reaches 160° F on a meat thermometer.

Garnish with lemon slices, if desired.

Serve with ranch potatoes, green beans and biscuits.

• Visit [TheOtherWhiteMeat.com](http://TheOtherWhiteMeat.com) for more recipes, videos and a free downloadable "Pick Up Pork" brochure.

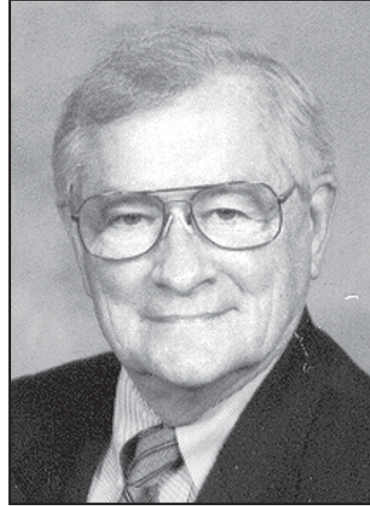


Courtesy of Family Features





**Gary Drake**



**Don Mullen**



**Amy Patterson**



**Hank Ross**



**David Wilkes**

## Candidates Weekly Forum

There are three seats open on the Town Board – two commissioners and the mayor's seat. All three sitting representatives are running again for office and two citizens are vying for those seats.

Running for Mayor of Highlands is incumbent Don Mullen and David Wilkes. Running for commissioner are incumbents Amy Patterson and Hank Ross and Gary Drake.

Each week now through Oct. 29, the candidates will answer a question.

### Question #4:

• Economic development is a hot issue in the county. Specifically, how do you see a cooperative relationship between the county, the Town of Franklin and the Town of Highlands as it pertains to this issue being good for Highlands?

### **Gary Drake**

I have always been in strong favor of a working relationship between the Town of Highlands, Macon County, and the Town of Franklin. Ultimately this relationship will afford the Town of Highlands a voice to be heard when businesses contemplate relocation in our area. First and foremost, the thrust of our efforts should definitely be the continued support of our existing businesses in Highlands.

### **Don Mullen**

The encouragement of economic development in both Highlands and throughout Macon County must be carried out continuously, particularly during these down economic times and I have supported the efforts to do so.

What is good economically for Macon County is also good for Highlands. Almost two years ago I went before the County Board of Commissioners and requested that there be a closer relationship between our governing boards so that we could join together in cooperation on county-wide issues such as economic development. They agreed to my proposal, and we have met together since then on a quarterly basis informally and socially to share ideas and goals. This has brought all of the boards closer together.

I have been fully involved in

the efforts to enhance our own business community by speaking out not only on the radio but also in my weekly columns in the newspapers.

The Town of Highlands Board of Commissioners has both vocally and financially supported the efforts of the County Board in their desire to bring businesses to our area. In fact, I appointed one of our Commissioners, with the approval of our full board, to the county Economic Development Committee which involves not only the County administration and Highlands but also the town of Franklin. It is the purpose of this committee to investigate all the possibilities of attracting not only manufacturing businesses but other organizations such as retail stores to our mountains. The county has sought outside consultation on this issue and hired full time employees for this purpose to work with the appointed Economic Development Committee.

Growth in our business community is important not only for our local full time residents but also for those summer people who join us along with the tourist who may join us temporarily. To have a truly vibrant community we need to encourage business growth and development.

### **Amy Patterson**

Economic development means different things depending

on your perspective. It is a multi-level concept that needs cooperation and coordination to be effective. Working relationships between governments and many other local organizations including news media, schools, health-care providers, utilities, and higher education institutions are essential to achieve the goal of a stable economic environment. Each entity has a part to play.

The goal of economic development is to have high employment, employment opportunities and a sustainable, stable economy. The strategies to meet those objectives may include government policies, provision of infrastructure and services, and job retention and creation through specific programs. Local governments like Macon County and the towns of Highlands and Franklin need to work together to create the policies, necessary infrastructure, resource management, and overcome any barriers to allow and encourage economic opportunities. Once a favorable climate has been established, specific programs can be instituted to recruit desirable businesses. It is mutually beneficial for the municipalities to have an economically healthy county and the county to have healthy municipalities.

Highlands does not exist on an island or in a vacuum. Specific efforts on a municipal level to sustain or build a good economic

base will be ineffective if policies or infrastructure at the next higher (i.e. county) government level are counterproductive or inadequate. For example, the town can manage its own resources and build infrastructure but without schools and roads (County and State responsibilities) any economic recruitment efforts may be a waste of time.

Whether Highlands wants to broaden our economic base by recruiting specific businesses is our decision and responsibility. Creating the environment where those efforts could be successful relies on more than just the town. That is why cooperation with the county on economic development is important. As an added bonus, economic development in other areas of the county may shift the county tax burden from the Highlands area and more evenly distribute the load.

### **Hank Ross**

The Town of Highlands recently partnered with Macon County and Franklin to hire a business development expert to transform the county Economic Development Commission (EDC) into a more useful organization. As a commission member on the EDC representing Highlands' interests, I have been a strong advocate of this cooperative effort.

The new organization is now

in high gear and this is a good thing for Highlands and the rest of the county.

Previously the EDC concentrated on industrial development; however the new emphasis has made the EDC much more valuable to Highlands. Focus is now on retail, technology, small industrial development, developing a technical labor force, downtown and cultural identity, and the ability to recruit and retain professional talent.

The retail development committee, in which I serve, is looking at marketing strategies to identify new small and large retail businesses that fit within our respective towns. Strategies to grow and retain our existing retail businesses are also being studied.

This emphasis on retail development is especially important to Highlands as we emerge from the recession. There is an alarmingly high percentage of empty retail space and we need a plan to help fill the shops. Also, an inviting and vibrant downtown will greatly help attract retail and other development.

As town commissioner, I have been working hard to make our downtown more attractive to retail shopping by introducing solutions for streetscape, access to parking and outdoor space for desired events. Also, I am an advocate of outdoor display of mer-

•See CANDIDATES page 16



Main Street

# COUNTRY CLUB PROPERTIES

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Awesome view and Waterfall! Own a great estate site or have up to 3 separate building lots on this wonderful and unique parcel of land. This property features a panoramic view and stunning waterfall. Community water tap at lot line and septic approval. Offered at \$2,200,000 and listed exclusively with this office. MLS #59248



Highlands Country Club - 4 bedroom, 4 1/2 bath sits on over an acre with nice grounds and a small stream in the back. House has been renovated with updated appliances and baths but still has the older home charm with wood paneling, real stone fireplaces and cathedral ceiling. The living room opens onto a covered screened porch that is inviting all summer long. Lower level has a family room with bar and 3rd fireplace. Easy access with 2 car garage. Offered at \$1,595,000. MLS#69011 Club Membership is available with satisfaction of membership requirements



Lovely and privat. Great mountain living with this 2 bedroom, 2 bath that is only about 2 miles from downtown. The dwelling features a ridgeline view and is perched on the side of a small knoll. Only about 5 years old and in good condition with a full basement for additional storage or possible expansion. Lovely covered outdoor spaces and ready to move in. Offered at \$ 369,000.00



NEW HOME AT WILDCAT CLIFFS COUNTRY CLUB. A great value, 4 bedrooms, 4-1/2 baths. Custom finishes with large cathedral great room that opens onto a large screened porch with a view of Shortoff Mountain. Master is on the main level, with 3 guest suites upstairs. Two laundry rooms, large two car garage. Membership is available with membership requirements. This is a great home in Wildcat! Offered at \$699,900 MLS#69172



Come and see this lovely Estate that features an eye for design, a great private lot in an exceptional area, and a stunning stream with roaring Whitewater. The home boasts a massive great room, that has a wood burning fireplace and cathedral ceilings, and a powder room, it opens onto a large screened porch with fireplace and TV area with pass through access from the kitchen. The kitchen is user friendly, with granite tops and stainless appliances. From the other side of the great room is a master suite, with a large, comfortable bath and adequate closets. Upstairs is two additional guest suites with full baths and a reading loft. Terrace level has a large family room with gas fireplace, TV area, storage, and an additional guest suite that has a large deck directly above a waterfall. This home is smart wired by a techie and can be monitored via computer from any Internet location. Large boulder walls and native landscaping round out this fantastic package. Offered at \$1,800,000 MLS#68976



HFCC - This lovely home was built in 1999 and has been meticulously maintained and upgraded by the current owners. It features one level living with an open contemporary plan that has lots of Glass and still affords great privacy with 2 HFCC lots. 3 bedrooms, 3 baths. Master bath has gas fireplace to be toasty warm on those chilly mornings. Great room is open and airy, and leads to a large screened porch that overlooks Rock Creek falls which traverses the property and a lovely arched bridge which leads to a playhouse for grand kids or adults looking for a place of solitude. This house has it all including a large 2 car garage, great landscaping, Air cleaning system, Dry crawlspace in basement, and a whole house automatic generator. It is a great home in a great location and is offered at \$775,000.



Commercial – Perfect for builder or tradesman that wants storage and an office space. This is a homerun. Condo commercial office space with storage is located in the Freeman Building off 106 in a highly visible area with good parking and access. Shown by appointment and priced at a very reasonable \$139,000.



A Cozy Mountain Cottage on a large lot with terrific winter mountain view; spacious great room with fireplace and gas logs; double access to deck; recent interior paint; beautifully decorated; only 5 minutes from town in a quiet residential neighborhood. Offered at \$280,000. mls #67720



Wildwood Forest. Nearly new mountain cottage is fully furnished. Charming property with lots of trees. Three bedrooms with large master upstairs for added privacy. Wonderful screened porch overlooks small stream. Wooded area with little yard maintenance. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths. Offered at \$499,000. mls #68894



IDEAL FOR ENTERTAINING GUEST OR ACTIVE FAMILY this four bedroom, four bath and two one-half bath home awaits its new owners. Custom built in 2004 by Coppage and Coppage Construction, this home is ideally situated on 2.0+/- acres in beautiful Horse Cove just minutes from Main Street. Total living space is just under 6000 sq. ft. The main level offers a grand master suite, family room with stacked stone fireplace, study, large open kitchen with professional grade stainless steel appliances, granite countertops, a walk-in , temperature controlled wine room with custom wood racking, dining room, laundry, bedroom #2 and a large outside covered porch and deck area. The upper level has two large outside covered porch and deck areas. The upper level has two large bonus rooms currently used as a hobby and children's playroom. The lower level exudes comfort with a large den/media room and adjacent bar and billiard area, another master suite, bedroom #4, covered porch and large bonus room. Additional custom features include wood flooring, zoned heating, 11,000 kw automatic generator, closet organizer systems and much more. Listed unfurnished, this gorgeous home is priced to sell at \$799,000. mls #66071



## • A REVIEW – THE DINING ROOM •

Wow, what a first-time production Kathryn Cochran and Kirk Howard picked to debut their directing!

An innovative set reminiscent of HCP's dinner theater days, a series of telling vignettes in two acts and a total of 18 scenes.

Now that they've pulled The Dining Room off, it's likely those two can do anything.

With the help of production manager Ronnie Spilton, who is an old hand at every-

thing Highlands-Cashiers Players, the cast of 25 children and adults represented true community theatre.

The story told through vignettes using the "dining room" illustrates the shift in a segment of America culture from leisurely and pampered to busy and driven.

Though some scenes and actors were more riveting than others, all in all, the show is a "must see."

The homeschooled students and those

from Highlands School and Summit Charter, show real potential and the tutelage of Spilton and Jim Gordon in their PAC Youth Theatre Program.

One of my favorite skits showcased Donna Cochran and Rachel Hedden in "Aunt & Niece," — you'll see, this was the perfect part for Cochran.

Also great were three skits, "Father and Daughter" and "Father & Son" and "Grand-

father, Grandson" showcasing real talent in Rich Harris. He draws you in and keeps you there.

Anchoring the entire production were the HCP regulars like Stuart Armor who is acting everywhere these days.

The show runs Thursday-Saturday at 7:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. on Sunday. Call 526-8084 for tickets.

– Kim Lewicki

## • HIGHLANDS SCHOOL VOLLEY BALL •



Above, Highlands Volleyball Varsity team beat Nantahala with a quick 3- game match at home last week. Seniors Brie Schmitt, Jessica Gagne and Shelby Johnson, pictured with their parents, were honored at Senior Night.

Left, Senoir Jessica Gagne goes up for a block against Nantahala Thursday night. Monday night, Highlands won against Blue Ridge but lost Tuesday night against Hiawasse Dam.

The team plays state against Swain this Saturday here in Highlands.

Photos by Stephanie McCall

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## • HIS & HERS •

### Ti amo, George Clooney – (Vacation, Part II)

By Michelle A. Mead-Armor

As our bus pulled out of Milan's Malpensa International Airport, I thought "Italy is going to be just like France, only the signs will be in Italian." Not so. As we drove to our hotel in Baveno, in Italy's Piedmont region, our

tour manager, Heather, gently gave us an overview of Italy – its language and culture, as well as an idea of where we would be staying.

Thankfully, she took into account the fact that most of us were AARP members, and we'd just flown across the Atlantic.

One bright soul asked about the weather forecast. This is an issue when you're on vacation, since walking around in sunny conditions is always more pleasant than shivering under an umbrella. Still, it's ironic how tourists expect brilliant sunshine and medieval castles with elevators to suddenly materialize on their tours.

We are told that the weather has been rainy for the last several days, but a change in the weather has miraculously appeared. Suddenly, we become aware of the sound of rain pounding on our bus, and we drive the rest of the way to Lago Maggiore in a downpour.

Exhausted, we pull into the lovely town of Baveno, and the driveway of one of the most beautiful hotels I'd ever seen – the Grand Hotel Dino. As our flight has been early, we have to wait for our rooms to be ready, a small inconvenience which just means hanging around the lounge, and being dazzled by the magnificent view. It also reminds me of something I'd forgotten about Europe – how many people still smoke, and smoke a lot. When you're from the States, you forget how much smoking is a sad, but integral, part of many cultures.

Not wanting to miss a second of exploring, I trot off to find the local grocery store we'd passed on the way into town. I'd omitted to pack any blush in my make-up kit, and unless someone pinches my cheeks, I'm going to have to do it myself. Also, John, alias Ben Franklin, has forgotten his hairspray. It's galling when your husband spends more time with his hair than you do. I am almost beginning to miss Brenda, the grey wig he's worn before growing his flowing locks, in an attempt to become the Sampson of Highlands. Cold and damp, I finally locate the grocery store, only to find out that I don't know the words for "hair spray" in Italian. I decide on a small spray can which cost almost \$8 – "Boy, this had better be it!" I mumble.

Back at the Hotel Dino, we get our room key and claim our charming, if diminutive, room. Joy of joys, we have a balcony, and marvel at the view. In the bathroom, we discover another surprise – a bidet – something our Highlands abode lacks, along with central heating and a reliable water source. We tidy ourselves



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

up a bit, and wander down to our first dinner with the group. The dining room is huge, and looks out over Lago Maggiore, with its charming villas and little islands. In spite of the large number of us to feed, the service is flawless, the food delicious. Some folks have obviously forgotten the "one glass for water, one glass for wine" rule, and fill both of

their glasses with wine. When the wine runs out for those unlucky souls at the far end of the table, I muse, "Oh, boy, will we still be friends at the end of this trip?" Still, how can you not succumb to the charms of bean soup, pasta, roast pork, trout, fresh seasonal vegetables, and lo and behold, that food of the gods, Italian gelato – in praline, coconut and cantaloupe flavors?

Replete with food and wine, we go up to bed, and find, to our relief, that John's new CPAP machine works with the transformer and plugs we have packed. (Readers may remember how Beloved Husband plugged his old CPAP machine into the wall in Scotland last year, frying it on the spot. They may also remember how this meant two weeks of loud snoring on the part of Beloved Husband, and sleepless nights on the part of Long-Suffering Spouse.)

After a restful night, and glorious buffet breakfast, we board the bus for a trip into Como. We decide to spend our limited time taking a boat tour around Lake Como, leaving just a few minutes to duck into a silk shop for a quick bit of shopping. There's enough time for a gelato – now a major passion – before boarding our lake cruise. When a crew member overhears us mentioning George Clooney, who has two villas on Lake Como, he kindly points out the location on our map. The scenery is beyond breathtaking, from the waterfront properties (including the Villa D'Este), to the lush foliage and charming houses perched on the hillsides. Beloved Husband decides to create some excitement by shouting, "Oh, look, there's George Clooney sunbathing in the nude!" Immediately, our boat lurches to starboard as all the women rush to that side, ready to rip open their bodices, and cry out "Ti amo, George Clooney!"

Later on that afternoon, many of our

## RE-ELECT DON MULLEN MAYOR OF HIGHLANDS

- Led the change to a more effective Manager-Council form of government
- Supports responsible growth while Honoring our Heritage
- Listens and responds to all sides of controversial issues
- Supports a healthier town by improving water quality
  - ~ Paved roads reducing silt in our lakes
  - ~ Seeking funding for dredging our lakes
  - ~ Completed sewer projects without raising taxes
  - ~ Improving storm water runoff control
- Strongly supports Greenway improvements including sidewalk and curbing additions along with additional parks
- Improved relations with Macon County Board of Commissioners and administration with quarterly meetings and open communication
- Actively supporting the business community
  - ~ Radio and newspaper promotion of events supporting businesses
  - ~ Added parking spaces and eliminated 2-hour limits.
- Actively supporting charitable organizations and churches while serving and leading on many boards
- Led financially responsible government
  - ~ Reserve fund largest in history
  - ~ Received State and Federal grants totaling over 4 million dollars



## EXPERIENCE, INTEGRITY, OPENNESS HONORING OUR HERITAGE

Paid for by the Committee to Re-elect Don Mullen for Mayor

• See HIS & HERS page 15



## ... AUDITORS continued from page 1

\$2,316,558, is available for spending at the government's discretion as an unreserved fund balance.

The fund balance serves as a measure of the town's financial resources and is derived by deducting liabilities from assets. That amount is then divided into three categories – reserved, unreserved designated and unreserved undesignated.

Since 2007, the General Fund increased from \$2,293,995 to \$2,916,124.

In 2008 the unreserved fund balance percentage of expenditures in the General Fund was 43.8% and it is 42.40% in 2009.

Ad Valorem taxes increased slightly in 2009 to \$2,474,050 from \$2,463,643 in 2008.

Other taxes and licenses increased slightly, too – to \$888,996 in 2009 from \$883,336 in 2008.

In 2007 the General Government budget was \$1,283,909; in 2008 it was \$1,195,666 and in 2009 it was \$1,604,110.

The public safety budget increased to \$1,722,439 in 2009 from \$1,413,303 in 2008. But the Transportation expenditures decreased from \$921,418 in 2008 to \$886,939 in 2009.

Cash flow from operations in the 2009 enterprise funds was \$339,737; total assets were \$23,789,256 with a change in net assets over 2008 up \$131,500.

New for 2009-2010 is the separation of certain funds from the General Fund – namely recreation, electric stabilization, stormwater, sanitation, and major capital projects.

This move segregates operating revenues and expenditures and allows for better tracking.

The electric stabilization account was created in anticipation of the increase in the Duke Energy's supply to the town. Duke's wholesale cost to the town will increase roughly 16% by March 2010. The town increased rates 10% recently to build up a reserve by March 2010.

Auditors said this year's \$4 per month water rate increase will address the problem of operating expenses exceeding revenues in the water fund, which has plagued the town for years.

Though fiscally sound, as in the past, Martin Starnes noted deficiencies in the town's internal control over financial reporting which they consider significant.

A control deficiency exists when the operation of the control doesn't allow management or employees to prevent or detect misstatements on a timely basis.

A significant deficiency is a control deficiency or combination of deficiencies that adversely affect the town's ability to take care of financial data to prevent a "more than inconsequential misstatement" to slip by internal control.

In three of the four findings, the reason for the deficiency is the limited number of personnel for certain functions. The fourth finding involves the Fire & Rescue Dept. Auditors contend that the town's fire department is performing duties typically done by the finance department without adequate

safeguards in place to ensure statutory compliance.

Martin Starnes suggests the fire department's receipts and disbursements be treated as any other department's transactions with recurring receipts received and recorded by finance and checks for expenditures written and recorded by finance.

"At a minimum, to ensure compliance with NC General Statutes, the town's finance officer must approve and sign all checks prepared by the fire department bookkeeper, should the town wish the department to have its own bookkeeper," reads the report.

To correct the problem, Town Manager Jim Fatland said the fire department bookkeeper will be appointed as a Deputy Finance Officer for the town without check signing authority.

The other three areas where deficiencies occur are due to a lack of personnel.

Fatland said he will examine the controls in place to see if they can be strengthened, given available resources. In the areas where the cost/benefit doesn't justify improving the control system, management will exercise due caution in performing oversight

## ... HIS & HERS continued from page 14

group attends a wine and olive oil tasting in the town of Stresa, but John and I decide to walk around on our own, people-watching on a park bench. How demonstrative the Italians are, cuddling and kissing their children. Even older couples walk arm in arm, leaning into each other with looks of tenderness and complicity.

That evening, we are supposed to meet in the lobby for a boat trip to Fisherman's Island. We arrive in plenty of time, but John decides to wander off. When our group is scheduled to leave to walk two blocks to the dock, all are presented and accounted for – except for Beloved Husband, who is nowhere to be found. I overhear one lady, who leans against her husband, whispering, "Oh, that poor woman!" pointing to me. Frantic searching proves fruitless. Finally, I run outside to where our bus is parked,

only to discover John sitting on a bench nearby. "Where the hell have you been?" I shriek. "Everyone is waiting for you!" John looks puzzled. Everyone else is lost. He is not. I explain that we are not taking the bus, and storm off to join the group. All tour members finally accounted for; we take our places in the boat. Long-Suffering Spouse, along with many group members, wishes that John had to follow behind on water skis.

• About the Author: Michelle A. Mead-Armor is a writer and translator who grew up in Waynesboro, Virginia, before wasting her youth and good looks in Baltimore, Sydney, Paris, and New York. She and her husband live on top of a mountain on the Continental divide near Highlands. They are members of the Highlands Writers Group. Michelle spent 19 years living in Australia and Europe, and is a recovering gelato addict.

## • HIGHLANDS ART GALLERIES •

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- *Dave Russell: Stacked Stone Sculpture* (through Oct. 30)

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## ... CANDIDATES continued from page 11

chandise and worked hard to change the town's policy to a practical result.

In my President's address to Chamber of Commerce members in year 2000, I encouraged the development of better and convenient high speed communications as a new business goal. Recently, as an EDC member, I introduced this idea as a possible project for town study. Now, the town is investigating wireless internet as a potential utility. My hope is that the EDC may also partner with Highlands on this potential undertaking.

### **David Wilkes**

James McCoy, the economic development consultant the county's EDC board hired, says that economic development is important because "this ultimately increases the tax base by creating jobs and creating wealth in the community without raising taxes".

For this reason I believe we should continue to help the county and the Town of Franklin in the pursuit of sound environmentally conscious businesses. Highlands currently has three representatives on the EDC board working toward this goal.

I believe Highlands has a strong and viable industry now and that industry is Hospitality.

Hospitality in Highlands is a multi-million dollar industry that employs hundreds of people and includes retail, restaurants, construction, services, accommodations, and much more, all related to attracting visitors, second home and permanent year-round residents.

This industry draws thousands of people annually and provides the Town of Highlands with a significant tax base.

We should recognize this resource for what it is: the economic engine of Highlands.

## ... SALZARULO continued from page 5

his customers. Several years ago we ate at Antoine's in New Orleans. I ordered coffee, the most bitter stuff I'd ever tried to swallow. Its taste and consistency convinced me that it had been resting on a back burner for days. It wasn't my first experience with French coffee, and I genuinely enjoy its robust taste. This was something else altogether. I asked the waiter for a fresh cup. After

all, I was paying for it. What happened to the notion that the customer is always right, especially when he's paying your salary? The waiter answered indignantly, "Sir. There is nothing wrong with the coffee. It is very dark, very rich, and very French." He might just as well have said, "Dumb ass, the coffee is very dark, very rich, and very French."

Some people must enjoy being belittled. It just never appealed to me. There is a restaurant chain with outlets in several cities which serves up steaks, ribs, and insults. Dick's Last Resort doesn't sound like much fun to me, but I'm not eager to pay to be humiliated. If the concept appeals to you, stop by the next time your travel plans take you to Myrtle Beach, Boston, Chicago, San Antonio, Dallas, San Diego, or Las Vegas.

The thing that bugs me most is not arrogance or insolence. It is not a behavioral issue so much as it is a hygienic one. I hate it when my waiter writes my order and then jams his order book into the back of his or her pants. Haven't you ever noticed? Does it really seem OK? Who decided proximity to underwear was a reasonable, or sanitary, place to store my dinner order? How did such a disgusting habit ever take hold, and how has it persisted in an age of health department inspections? What's next, the sommelier keeping his spare cork screw in his nostril, or the bus boy keeping extra napkins in his armpit?

My Dad hated it when a waiter delivered his coffee on a saucer and before serving it, poured the spilled coffee back into the cup. I think the practice ended along with memory of the Great Depression. I haven't seen it since I was a boy, but if I had to choose between a waiter who tried to give me all the coffee I'd paid for and one who thought his butt was a good place to store my order, I'd take the former without a moment's hesitation.



David Wilkes

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## ... BRUGGER continued from page 6

traders who place their orders one-thirtieth of a second faster than anyone else do anything to improve that social function."

Another example of financiers thinking only of their personal gain is corporate takeovers. *The New York Times* compared some of these takeovers to the "flipping" of houses in the housing boom, using the sad tale of the Simmons Bedding Company as an example ("Profits for Buyout Firms as Company Debt Soared," by Julie Creswell, Oct. 5). Simmons has been making mattresses for 133 years but it is about to file for bankruptcy, destroyed by a succession of private equity firms. Seven different investment groups have bought and sold Simmons over the last 20 years, each time sinking the company deeper into debt. The company owes \$1.3 billion, compared with just \$164 million in 1991 because the various private equity owners have extracted \$750 million in (non-existent) "prof-

## ... WOOLDRIDGE continued from page 4

trapped in a far corner, fearful of being plastered with the tasty dessert.

I reached for my car door handle and started to exit. John grabbed my arm. "Where ya goin', probie? You wanna get covered with pie? It looks like there's only four left so sit tight." Just then the drunk spotted the customers, several wearing tuxedos and evening gowns, huddled in the corner of the restaurant, and grabbed two pies. In seconds they were covered.

Only two left. Then two unsuspecting customers, not paying attention to what was occurring, walked in the front door and, well, you know the rest.

"Now we go in, probie. Do what I tell you." Still standing on the countertop, the drunk had his back to us and never saw us walk in. John pulled his nightstick and slammed it across the back of the drunk's legs. Down he went....hard. He hit the pie counter and rolled off onto the floor. Unable to walk he moaned in agony and tried to crawl away. "Pull the car around back and don't wreck it," John growled. Then John had two pie-covered busboys drag the drunk out the back door into the alley.

Outside, the busboys hosed pie off the drunk. John removed the bagels and two cases of whiskey from the car trunk and put them in the back seat. Still unable to walk, John and I lifted our soaking wet prisoner into our trunk and slammed the lid. John hated arresting people so we drove to the next jurisdiction and dumped our prisoner on a bus bench when no one was looking. My head was swimming. This procedure was not in the manual.

The following evening, I was assigned to ride with another officer. When I bumped into Harkin in the motor pool, he said, "It cost me a bundle to get rid of you. Stay away from me, kid."

Now I ask. Could I make this up?

its."

This month's issue of *National Geographic* has another version of this same story set in the Pacific Northwest. Pacific Lumber was harvesting their redwood forests in a sustainable way until a hostile takeover by an investor named Charles Hurwitz, who began clear-cutting like there was no tomorrow. In his first meeting with the company's employees, Hurwitz said he believed in the Golden Rule: "He who has the gold, rules."

These perfectly legal financial industry practices are just a form of theft by another name. Unfortunately regulation will never put an end to this larceny, just as laws can't stop crime. The only hope is that we evolve a culture that no longer worships money above all other things.

- All of Katie Brugger's columns are available on her website: [www.kathleenbrugger.com](http://www.kathleenbrugger.com)

## from the history guy ...

### Oct ober 22, 1797

From 1,000 meters over Paris, Andre Garnerin makes the first recorded parachute jump.

Personally I am stumped to explain why this guy jumped from so high above Patee, cause what goes up comes down, oui? Ca va sans dire, this man took a flyer.

Did he understand the gravity of the situation, this intrepid member of the French nation? I guess so, because he carefully amended the manner in which he descended, and came down rather slowly from very high to pretty lowly. I think we must salute the inventor of the parachute

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## • HEATH MATTERS •

### Ear Infections

by **Angela Wiggins-Munoz**

**R**egardless of the specific type, ear infections can cause a family havoc! There are three common kinds of ear infections: Otitis Externa which is often referred to as Swimmer's Ear, Acute Otitis Media, and more chronic Otitis Media, usually with an effusion. Ear infections can sometimes be extremely painful and may require antibiotic treatment from your physician.

Otitis Externa/Swimmer's ear is an infection of the outer ear canal. This type of infection can cause one's ear canal to be red, swollen, and tender to touch. Itching and drainage are common symptoms as well. A prescription from your physician is typically needed to treat Otitis Externa.

Acute Otitis Media is a painful infection of the middle ear. Individuals with this type of ear infection may have signs such as pus in the ear, redness of the eardrum, and fever. Acute Otitis Media may be caused by a virus or a bacteria. Viruses that cause Otitis Media are: influenza viruses, adenoviruses, rhinoviruses, or respiratory syncytial virus. The most common bacterial causes are from moraxella catarrhalis, haemophilus influenzae, and streptococcus pneumoniae. The most common signs and symptoms of Acute Otitis Media are: fever, irritability, pulling at ears, fluid drainage from ear, difficulty balancing, problems hearing, excessive crying (most often seen in children), headaches, and/or sleep disturbances.

Chronic Otitis Media with effusion is usually caused by a viral upper respiratory infection, exposure to external irritants like cigarette smoke, and/or allergies. These

conditions cause the build up of fluid in the middle ear. The fluid buildup will normally resolve on its own; therefore, an antibiotic is not required to treat this type of ear problem. Sometimes, the fluid does not drain well; and thus, the fluid can become acutely infected (Acute Otitis Media) requiring antibiotic therapy. Generally speaking the most common symptom of Otitis Media with effusion is problems with hearing.

If you have been diagnosed with a ear infection and your condition does not improve, or if you have a bloody or purulent discharge, seek attention immediately from your Physician.

Remember that if an ear infection is caused by a virus, antibiotic therapy will not get you better. Antibiotic treatment is closely monitored by your Physician because when you take an antibiotic, the bacteria that typically live in your mouth, nose, skin, and body are more likely to become resistant to antibiotics. Thus, it is very important to let your Physician examine you and prescribe the appropriate treatment regime for your condition.

As always preventative care is important. Breastfeeding your baby 12 months or more helps prevent ear infections, as well as up to date immunizations. All individuals should avoid air pollution, smoking, and second hand smoke. Rest and age appropriate over the counter medications can help sooth your symptoms.

• Angela Wiggins Munoz has a B.S.; B.S. Ed in Community Health and Human Resources and works at the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital.

### EXCEPTIONAL VALUE WITH VIEW AND LARGE LOT



Contact: MELANIE NIX @ 828-200-0146.



This large 3 bedroom, 2 bath home is on 1.80 acres and conveniently located to downtown Highlands. Well-maintained home has 2 large stone fireplaces, partially finished basement with outside/inside entry, spring-fed pond and view of Satulah Mountain.

**PRICED BELOW  
APPRAISAL  
@ \$399,000.**



PULL OUT

# On-going and Upcoming Events

## Week Long

• The 2010 Highlands Historical Society calendars are available for \$10 each, and if you buy 4 you get a free cookbook. The calendars feature scenes of Highlands from the 1800s to the early 1900s. Calendars are available at Cyrano's, The Highlander Newspaper, Country Club Properties (Wright Square location), and The Chambers Agency. All proceeds benefit the Highlands Historical Society.

• YOGA - all levels all week, schedule posted Moonrise Yoga 464 Carolina Way. 828.526.8880 [www.yogahighlands.com](http://www.yogahighlands.com) 10/15

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

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

## Sundays

• Refuge Youth meets every Sun. night at 6:30 p.m. downstairs at Cullasaja Assembly of God. Call youth ministers Matt and Candace Woodroof at 828-369-7540 ext 203.

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

## Mon., Wed., & Thurs.

• Yoga On The Mat. New location. The Episco-

pal Church of Incarnation on Main Street. Enter through single door facing Mountain Fresh. MWW @ 7:30 a.m.; Thurs. @10:45 a.m. Bring your mat. 828-482-2128 10/29.

## Mon., Wed., Fri.

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

## First Mondays

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

## Mondays

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

## Tuesdays

• Clogging Lessons at the Rec Park. 5 p.m. Leather shoes recommended and tap shoes can be ordered. For more information, call Joyce Doerter at 877-6618. \$30/mth.

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

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

## Tuesdays & Thursdays

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

## Wednesdays

• The Highlands Mountaintop Rotary meets at Ruka's Table at 163 Main Street in Wright Square in Highlands at 7:30 a.m. Visitors are welcome. If you are new to the Highlands area we invite you to join us for breakfast and our meeting.

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

## Wednesdays & Fridays

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

## Every 3rd Wednesday

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

## Thursdays

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

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

## 1st & 3rd Thursdays

• NAMI Appalachian South (National Alliance on Mental Illness) will have a support group meeting the first and third Thursday of each month. It is for people coping with serious mental illnesses (bi-polar disorder, depression, schizophrenia, panic disorder, etc) and/or their family members. We also do advocacy and educational programs. 486 W. Palmer St., Franklin, NC, 7-8 p.m., with snacks afterwards. For information contact Carole Light, Ph.D. at 828-526-9769 or Ann Nandea at 828-369-7385

## 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

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

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

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

## Fridays & Sundays

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

Every Third Saturday

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

• See EVENTS page 20

## 'Astronomy on the Mountain' event October 23

Join Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust for an evening under the stars. On Friday, October 23<sup>rd</sup> WCU Professor of Astronomy, Dr. Paul Heckert will bring his telescope and lifetime of experience to Highlands, and you're invited. Dr. Heckert has taught at WCU for almost 20 years. Prior to coming to the area, he taught at California State University at San Bernardino and at Doane College in Nebraska. Heckert earned his PhD in physics from the University of New Mexico and his BA in physics and math from Frostburg College in Maryland. He does observational astronomy in the area



Astronomer  
Dr. Paul Heckert

of variable stars and regularly travels to Mount Laguna Observatory of San Diego for his research.

Don't miss this rare opportunity to study the cosmos right here in the heart of Highlands.

For details and to reserve your spot, call HCLT at 828.526.1111 or email [julie.hitrust@earthlink.net](mailto:julie.hitrust@earthlink.net).

This is a free event for HCLT members and just \$25 for new friends. Your \$25 donation grants you admission to this event and a HCLT membership! Refreshments will be served.

## Ruby Cinema

Hwy. 441, Franklin, NC  
524-2076

### CIRQUE DU FREAK: THE VAMPIRE ASSISTANT

rated PG-13

Fri: 4:20, 7:10, 9:20

Sat: 2:10, 4:20, 7:10, 9:20

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

Mon + Wed: 4:20, 7:10

Tues + Thurs: 2:10, 4:20, 7:10

### WHERE THE WILD THINGS ARE

rated PG

Fri: 4:10, 7:15, 9:10

Sat: 2:15, 4:10, 7:15, 9:10

Sun: 2:15, 4:10, 7:15

Mon + Wed: 4:10, 7:15

Tues + Thurs: 2:15, 4:10, 7:15

### LAW ABIDING CITIZEN

rated R

Fri: 4:15, 7:00, 9:15

Sat: 2, 4:15, 7, 9:15

Sun: 2, 4:15, 7

Mon + Wed: 4:15, 7

Tues + Thurs: 2, 4:15, 7

### COUPLES RETREAT

rated PG-13

Fri: 4:20, 7:05, 9:20

Sat: 2:05, 4:20, 7:05, 9:20

Sun: 2:05, 4:20, 7:05

Mon + Wed: 4:20, 7:05

Tues + Thurs: 2:05, 4:20, 7:05

## 'Open Studio for Ceramics' begins next month at The Bascom



The Bascom will hold an "open studio" for ceramicists next month, and registration is going on now. Ceramics open studio is offered for anyone with rudimentary ceramics knowledge who would like to work independently on projects. Master potter Patrick Taylor will advise and assist as needed. This four week session, at The Bascom's Studio Barn, will run Nov. 2-19 and Nov. 30-Dec. 4, Mondays through Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Cost is \$120 to complete up to 12 pots or \$200 for unlimited production (basic materials and firing included). To sign up, call (828) 526-4949 ext. 100 or visit [www.thebascom.org](http://www.thebascom.org). Above, students in a previous ceramics class at The Bascom work on their projects.



**PULL OUT**

# On-going and Upcoming Events

## Every Fourth Saturday

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

## Saturdays

• At Cyprus International Restaurant, live music

## Potters to be featured at Art League meeting



Bill and Pamela Clark create original, hand-thrown and decorated art pottery like the sink pictured here. They will present the program for the Art League of Highlands on October 26 at 5 p.m. at the Civic Center Rec Park in Highlands. ALH has had a season filled with exciting programs. Bill and Pam Clark of the famous Clark House Pottery will present the program. The couple met and married in Florence, Italy in 2000 and returned to South Carolina to dream, create, and design original pottery influenced by the Mission Style, Arts and Crafts movement of the early 1900s. They work in their spacious studio under tall trees in their backyard. You can meet the artists at the Civic Center Rec Park during the "Social Half Hour" which begins at 5p.m. and then stay for an interesting session with the artists explaining how they work and showing examples of their pieces, each of which is one of a kind. Next time you enter the Civic Center Rec Park in Highlands, look up and see the mural created by the kids who participated in the Bascom's Young Artist Program Summer Camp. Susan Nastasic, Susan Bauknight and many Art League and Bascom members were instrumental in making that and additional projects happen.

beginning at 9 p.m. No cover.

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

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

## Thursdays

• ZUMBA classes at the Highlands Rec Park. Tuesdays, 12:30 p.m. and Thursdays 8 a.m. Classes are one hour long and cost \$5 per class. Also at the Cashiers Community Center at 1 p.m. on Thursdays. Call 342-2498 for more information.

## Through Oct. 30

• *Dave Russell: Stacked Stone Sculpture*, an outdoor exhibition, on display at The Bascom. Admission is free. For information, call (828) 526.4949 or visit [www.thebascom.org](http://www.thebascom.org)

## Through Sun. Nov. 8

• First Presbyterian Church of Highlands is accepting donations for the troops for it's "Christmas for the Troops" campaign. Care packages will be put together containing microwaveable meals and soups, snap-topped cans of tuna, chicken or soup, ramen noodles, cereal bars, cookies, hot cocoa, tea and coffee, spices, salt and paper, hard candy, nuts, canned snacks like Pringles, pudding snacks, etc. Also travel-size board games, dominoes, air activated heat wraps, hand warmers, word puzzles, DVDs and CDs, icy/hot patches and winter gloves. Please no chocolates, aerosol or perishable items. Please drop off donations at the church or mail a monetary donation to First Presbyterian Church, Christmas Care Packages, P.O. Box 548, Highlands, NC 28741.

## Through Friday, Oct. 23

• Art workshop "Classical Still Life and Floral Painting," by James Sulkowski, will be held at The Bascom from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. for beginning to advanced students. Cost is \$375/\$350 Bascom members. To register, call (828) 526-4949 or visit [www.thebascom.org](http://www.thebascom.org).

## Saturday, Oct. 24-Friday, Dec. 18

• *American Art Today: Juried Works* exhibition will open at The Bascom and run through Dec. 18. Admission is free. A public opening reception will be Oct. 24 from 5-7 p.m. The juror, Dr. Annette Blaugrund, will speak at 6 p.m. For more information, call (828) 526-4949 or visit [www.thebascom.org](http://www.thebascom.org).

## Thursday-Sunday, Oct. 22-25

• Highlands-Cashiers Players to perform The Dining Room at PAC, 7:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. on Sundays. Call 526-8084 for tickets.

## Thursday, Oct. 22

• The Macon County Democratic Party will be hosting a chili supper from 5-7 p.m. at the Big Bear Shelter on the Greenway. The chili supper will feature homemade chili, cornbread, slaw, apple crisp and a drink. Tickets are \$ 10 and can be purchased in advance thru the Democratic Executive Committee members, the Womens' Club or can be purchased at the door. Please bring a non-perishable item for donation to CARE-NET.

## Fri.-Sun, Oct. 23-25

• Walhalla Civic Players present "Dracula in Dixie" at the Walhalla Civic Auditorium. Regular performances at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m. Tickets for all shows are \$12 for adults, \$8 for all students. Children three and under are admitted free. "Dracula in Dixie" tickets can be purchased at the Walhalla Civic Auditorium Box Office, the Walhalla Chamber of Commerce,

Wine Emporium in Salem, or Toussaint Law Firm on 123 Bypass in Seneca. For more information call the Walhalla Civic Players hotline at (864) 280-3538.

## Friday, Oct. 23

• At the Hudson Library, from 2-4 p.m. Dr. Jim Costa of the Highlands Biological Station will give a presentation on Charles Darwin's "Origin of Species," with an emphasis on the religious issues raised by Darwin's theories. Free. 526-3031.

• Evening Under the Stars with WCU Astronomy professor Dr. Paul Heckert. Using his telescope you can study the cosmos here in Highlands. For details and to reserve your spot, call HCLT at 828.526.1111 or email [julie.hitrust@earthlink.net](mailto:julie.hitrust@earthlink.net). This is a free event for HCLT members and just \$25 for new friends. Your \$25 donation grants you admission to this event and a HCLT membership! Refreshments will be served.

## Saturday, Oct. 24

• At Mountain Fresh, pumpkin carving from 10:30-12:30 with artists to help and hot cider, too.

• At Cyprus Restaurant DJ Johnny-O, celebrating the end of the 2009 season with specialty drinks by Clinton O'Brien featured in WNC Magazine, and the best, latest dance music with L.E.D. and Laser Lights show in full display.

• Saturday Art School at The Bascom begins for kindergartners through eighth graders. Fun, hands-on, age-appropriate art classes are held every Saturday from 10 a.m. to noon. Classes are held for two different age groups: grades K-3 and grades 4-8. Cost is \$64 for an eight-week session, with all materials included. Pre-registration is required and now open. For more information or to register, visit

## 'American Art Today: Juried Works' opens Saturday at The Bascom



Fun," by Carol Scott, is one of more than 40 works in The Bascom's annual juried exhibition "American Art Today: Juried Works," which opens Saturday, Oct. 24, with a reception from 5-7 p.m.

One of America's distinguished art historians, curators and authors, Dr. Annette Blaugrund, will be in Highlands this weekend to judge The Bascom's annual juried exhibition "American Art Today: Juried Works."

This exhibition features work by more than 40 American contemporary artists selected by Dr. Blaugrund through a competitive application process. Five thousand dollars in cash prizes will be awarded.

The exhibition opens with a free public reception on Saturday, Oct. 24, from 5-7 p.m. and continues at The Bascom through Dec. 18, Tuesdays through Saturdays, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Exhibition admission is always free.

Dr. Blaugrund is the former director of the National Academy of Design Museum and Fine Art School in New York, holds a

Ph.D. in art history and is the author of multiple books, among them "John James Audubon: The Watercolors for The Birds of America." Her selections of the exhibition's top winners will be announced Saturday evening at 6 p.m., along with her gallery talk about the exhibition.

"Annette Blaugrund is an ideal guest curator for our annual juried competition, and we feel honored to have someone of her caliber participate in The Bascom's exhibition," said Kaye Gorecki, Bascom artistic director. "We hope the community will attend Saturday's opening and make a point to visit through the run of the exhibition to see the work that contemporary American artists are creating."

For more information about the exhibition or other Bascom happenings, visit [www.thebascom.org](http://www.thebascom.org).



# On-going and Upcoming Events



www.thebascom.org or call (828) 526-4949 ext. 100.

- At Coweeta Baptist Church in Otto, an October Fest with music by The Victory Echoes.

- At Greenleaf Gallery, noon – 4 pm — Artist Robert A. Tino 177 Main St. in Wrights Square. Light refreshments.

- The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a moderate six-mile hike on Bear Pen Trail along a creek to Albert Mountain for a beautiful view of fall leaves from the summit. Meet at Westgate Plaza in Franklin (opposite Burger King) at 9 a.m. Drive 24 miles round trip. Bring water, lunch, wear sturdy shoes. Call leader Gail Lehman, 524-5298, for reservations. Visitors are welcome, but no pets please.

- Painter Jerome Grimmer will give an acrylic painting demonstration and studio talk at The Bascom from 1:30-3:30 p.m. Cost is \$15 for the general public and \$10 for Bascom members. For more information, call (828) 526-4949 or visit www.thebascom.org.

- Join the Friends of Panthertown at 9:30 am at the Salt Rock trailhead. Anyone interested in volunteering is welcome to attend - no previous experience is necessary. Participants should be in good physical condition, able to hike 6 miles and lift 20+ lbs. Volunteers should bring a day pack with lunch, plenty of water, work gloves, and rain gear. Questions contact Nina Elliott at 828-526-9938 (ext 258).

- At the Hen House near Main and Fifth streets, a costume party, drawing for prizes, bursting of balloons with coupons and refreshments as part of the Park Design promotion. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

- Highlands Wine & Cheese will host two benefit wine tasting events on Saturday from 1-2:30 p.m. with proceeds supporting The Bosnian Community Farm Initiative, Inc. Scott Roddy and his staff will have a representative from Riedel, USA to offer a guided

tasting featuring Riedel stemware. Wine enthusiasts will enjoy a guided comparison between wines sampled from four distinct Riedel glasses and traditional stemware. Admission is limited to 45 participants and requires the purchase of a Riedel Vinum 4-piece tasting set (includes Bordeaux, Montrachet, Burgundy and Sauvignon Blanc glasses). This tasting set is specially priced for this event at \$99 and can be reserved in advance by calling the shop at 526-5210. A more traditional and informal wine tasting will follow from 2:30-4 p.m. with the Riedel representative available for more informal discussion. Admission is \$30 and includes a Riedel Bordeaux stem. All wines for both events will be poured by Tryon Distributing, and will be available for purchase from Highlands Wine & Cheese.

- The Scaly Mountain Women's Club will have its monthly Pancake Breakfast on Saturday from 7:30-10:30 a.m. Enjoy a full hot meal of homemade pancakes (with blueberries if you wish), local patty sausage, orange juice and bottomless cups of coffee in the quaint atmosphere of the Scaly Mountain Community Center. Located at the corner of NC Highway 106 and Buck Knob Road, the more than 100-year old building now serves the area's center for social, service and historical activities. This month you can also browse and buy from a large selection of vintage costume jewelry as well as original local art. Money from the events that are held from May through October are used by the club for scholarships and contributions to social service agencies that serve Scaly Mountain. For more details call (828) 787-1860.

**Sunday, Oct. 25**

- At First Presbyterian Church, a WCU Faculty Showcase at 4 p.m. Featured will be the WCU Trumpet Ensemble directed by P. Bradley Ulrich and Larry

Black. Also featured will be Bradley Martin on the piano.

**Monday, Oct. 26**

- The Art League will meet at 5 p.m. at the Civic Center Rec Park in Highlands. Pam and Bill Clark of Clark house Pottery will present the program for the Art League of Highlands. For details call Dottie Bruce 743-7673.

**Tues. & Thurs., Oct. 27 & 29**

- Lady Highlanders After-school Hoops Clinic for grades K-6 from 3-5 p.m. at the Highlands School new gym. Learn the fundamentals of basketball. \$25 per student or \$40 for family of two. Make checks payable to Highlands School.

**Tuesday, Oct. 27**

- At Mountain Air Wellness Center at 6 pm at our Cashiers office Topic: Shoulder, Elbow and Hand Health. For more information call us at 828-743-9070 or 828-526-3709.

- HIARPT's Winter Dialogue. All are welcome. Please read the material in advance. "Close To Slavery - Guest Worker Programs in the United States".

Coordinator: Carole Light. Reading for Nov. 10 to be distributed. Civic Center: 10-11:30 a.m.

**Thursday, Oct 29**

- UCWA, the Upper Watershed Association will hold an Annual Meeting at 11:30 a.m. in the Peggy Crosby Center.

- Literacy Council will host Halloween Spooktacular its first annual Halloween Spooktacular, a Halloween-themed event from 3 to 4:30 p.m. at the Peggy Crosby Center. Children who attend will participate in an arts-and-crafts activity, as well as listen to a read aloud of a Halloween themed book. "As an educator, my goal is not only to promote good literacy in my students, but also a love of language as a creative tool. Halloween is a great opportunity for the kids to have a little fun and to celebrate the world of imagination and creativity," said Laura Miller, the council's programs coordinator. Everyone who attends the event is invited and encouraged to dress in their Halloween costume. The event is free and open to the public. Snacks

• See EVENTS page 22

## Trick or Treat the Highlands way set for Sat., Oct. 31 on Main Street



Downtown Trick or Treat. Halloween Highlands style. 6 – 8 p.m. Featuring merchants On the Hill, Main Street, Town Square, Wright Square, and Oak Square. Main Street will be open for foot traffic only from 5:45 – 8 p.m.



## Historical Highlands calendar now on sale

The 2010 Highlands Historical Society calendars are available for \$10 each, and if you buy 4 you get a free cookbook. The calendars feature scenes of Highlands from the 1800s to the early 1900s. Calendars are available at Cyrano's, The Highlander Newspaper, Country Club Properties (Wright Square location), and The Chambers Agency. All proceeds benefit the Highlands Historical Society.





# On-going and Upcoming Events

will be provided. For more information about the event, contact Bessie Dietrich Goggins, executive director, by telephone at (828) 526-9938 extension 240 or by email at [highlandsliteracy@juno.com](mailto:highlandsliteracy@juno.com).

## Fri.-Sun, Oct. 30-Nov. 1

• Walhalla Civic Players present "Dracula in Dixie" at the Walhalla Civic Auditorium. Regular performances at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m. As a bonus, there will be a special performance at midnight on Halloween night. Tickets for all shows are \$12 for adults, \$8 for all students. Children three and under

are admitted free. For more information call the Walhalla Civic Players hotline at (864) 280-3538.

## Fri.-Sat., Oct. 30-31

• This Halloween the Highlands Prominent Committee is hosting a Halloween Haunted House on Friday and Saturday from 7-10 p.m. Numerous volunteers will convert a dark warehouse into a hall of horrors at 2851 Cashiers Road in Highlands, located next to the Mountain Hardscapes parking lot. Tickets are \$5 and can be purchased at the door. Not for the faint of heart, the haunted house is open to all adults and brave children.

## Rotary Bingo and Highlands Girl Scouts

The Rotary Club of Highlands and Highlands Girl Scout Troop 30219 will offer Girl Scout Bingo on Thursday, November 5<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 to 8:30 in the Highlands Community Building – next to the ball park.

Proceeds will benefit the activities and programs of Highlands Girl Scouts and Brownies.

Girl Scout Rotary Bingo is an evening of fun, a lot of laughs and the chance to yell, "Bingo!" The cost to play is \$1 per card per game and there will be 15 games. While each game's prize depends upon the number of players, most Bingo games pay \$40-



\$70 with game 15 being some serious money. Half of all Bingo money goes to Bingo players and the other half goes to Highlands Girls Scouts.

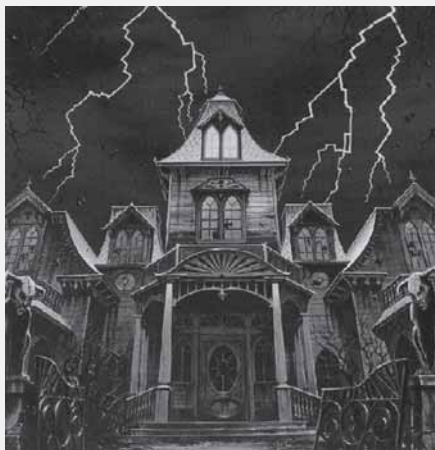
Play as many cards as you like and enjoy a light-hearted evening. If you like Girl Scout cookies – you'll love Girl Scout Bingo.

Bring friends, children, grand children and enjoy the free refreshments served by Highlands Girl Scouts.

The Rotary Club of Highlands is licensed to operate Bingo by the State of NC.

## Haunted House in Highlands Halloween weekend

It's Halloween weekend and somethin' scary's lurkin' in the dark. This Halloween the Highlands Prominent Committee is excited to host a Halloween Haunted House on Friday, October 30<sup>th</sup> and Saturday October 31<sup>st</sup>, from 7-10 p.m. Numerous volunteers will convert a dark warehouse into a hall of horrors at 2851 Cashiers Road in Highlands, located next to the Mountain Hardscapes parking lot. Tickets are \$5 and can be purchased at the door. Not for the faint of heart, the haunted house is open to all adults and brave children.



HPC is organized exclusively for social and charitable causes, (including the making of contributions to charitable organizations and causes), and participation in, promotion and support of social, community and civic activities. Their primary purpose is to provide social opportunities for young adults in the Highlands/Cashiers community. They are a membership organization and their application as a 501(c)(7) Social Club is pending. For more information about HPC, or to volunteer for the Halloween Haunted House, please e-mail us at [PromCmte@gmail.com](mailto:PromCmte@gmail.com)

## Friday, Oct. 30

• Macon County Library Blood Drive (149 Siler Farm Road, Franklin) 11 am to 3 pm Please call 524-3600 for more information or to schedule an appointment. All presenting donors will automatically be entered into a drawing for one of three pairs of Delta Air Lines domestic tickets!

## Saturday, Oct. 31

• At Greenleaf Gallery 12 noon – 5 pm – The "Leafware" Potter – Rusty Schrum-Owens at 177 Main St. in Wrights Square. Light refreshments.

• Downtown Trick or Treat. Halloween Highlands style. 6 – 8 p.m. Featuring merchants On the Hill, Main Street, Town Square, Wright Square, and Oak Square. Main Street will be open for foot traffic only from 5:45 – 8 p.m.

• Spooky Raku, a Halloween Pottery Firing, a free community gathering and demonstration, will be held at sundown on Halloween. The Bascom's resident ceramist and former college professor, Taylor welcomes all for a spectacular nighttime firing. Glowing red pots set in counterpoint to the black night sky will create a magnificent mood and an unforgettable All Hallows Eve. For information, call (828) 526-4949.

• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a 4.4 mile, easy-to-moderate hike from Sloan Bridge to Upper Whitewater Falls with great autumn views from the ridge above Whitewater Falls. Meet at Cashiers Wachovia Bank at 10 a.m. Drive 14 miles round trip. Bring water, lunch; wear sturdy shoes. Call Leaders Mike and Susan Kettles, 743-1079, for reservations. Visitors are welcome but no pets please.

## Sunday, Nov. 1

• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a two-mile easy-to-moderate hike with a short steep climb before the lookout in Black Rock Mountain State Park in Clayton GA. Meet at the Smoky Mtn. Visitor's Center in Otto at 2 p.m.; drive 26 miles round trip. Bring water, a snack if you wish, and wear sturdy comfortable shoes. Call leader Kay Coriell, 369-6820, for reservations. Visitors are welcome but no pets please.

## Mon., Nov. 2-Thurs., Nov. 19

• Pottery workshop "Open Studio for Ceramics," by Patrick Taylor, will be held at The Bascom for intermediate to advanced students. Two sessions: Mondays and Wednesdays, 6 to 8 p.m.; or Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 12 pm. Cost is \$375/\$350 Bascom members (basic materials and firing included). To register, call (828) 526-4949 or visit [www.thebascom.org](http://www.thebascom.org).

## Thursday, Nov. 5

• Taize service at the Holy Family Lutheran Church at 5:30 p.m.

• Rotary Bingo with Highlands Girl Scouts from 6:30-8:30 at the Highlands Community Building.

## Monday, Nov. 9

• Art class "Figure Study Sessions with a Live Model," by Laurence Holden, will be held at The Bascom from 5 to 7 p.m. for beginning to advanced students. Cost is \$20/\$15 Bascom members. To register, call (828) 526-4949 or visit [www.thebascom.org](http://www.thebascom.org).

## Tuesday, Nov 10

• HIARPT's Winter Dialogue. All are welcome. Only requirement is to read the material in advance. "Why Do We Rape, Kill And Sleep Around," Newsweek, 6-29-09 Robert Wright's "A Grand Bargain Over Evolution." Coordinator: Peter Gorday. Civic Center: 10-11:30 a.m.

## Thursday, Nov. 12

• The Public Input Committee, composed of mem-

bers of the Macon County Planning Board and Planning Department staff, is visiting communities and civic groups to give citizens the opportunity to participate in developing a Comprehensive Plan for Macon County. The League of Women Voters of Macon County will host a public input session with committee members. After a brief presentation on growth and demographic projections, participants will be able to tell committee members what issues are important to them and how they would like to see Macon County develop in the future. Surveys about growth issues will be distributed and can be completed at the meeting, returned to the Planning Department, or filled in on-line. Areas that will be addressed in the comprehensive plan include land use, environment, housing, transportation, public services, education, recreation, economic development, health care, child care, and senior citizens needs. The meeting will be held at Tartan Hall. Lunch will be served at noon by reservation. Call 524-5192 or email [lwvmacon@wild-dog-mountain.info](mailto:lwvmacon@wild-dog-mountain.info) The program will begin at 12:15.

## Free concert at First Presbyterian, Sunday, Oct. 25



The music committee of the First Presbyterian Church and the music department of Western Carolina University will co-sponsor a free faculty showcase concert at 4 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 25. Featured will be the WCU Trumpet Ensemble directed by Bradley Ulrich and Larry Black. Also featured will be Bradley Martin on the piano.



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# A star in the making

**By Morris Williams**

Have you seen an old man riding a bike along beside a young boy running around Highlands? Let me tell you what is going on.

One day about two years ago a two young fellows showed up at Town Hall to run with our running group the Highlands Road Runners. We run most afternoons during the week at 4:30 and on Saturday mornings at 9 a.m. The boys were Corbin Hawkins and Parker Sims. Most of the people who run with our group are over 50 years old so it was a bit strange for these two 7<sup>th</sup> graders to join us.

They ran with us a couple of days that week and then we didn't see them again for two or three weeks. Then maybe three or four weeks later they would come out again. They could usually only make part of our three mile loop but they seemed to enjoy running with the old folks. Various people in our group would give them hints about their running form but they didn't seem to pay much attention. They would take short cuts and run down in the ditches and their form was atrocious. Parker seemed to listen more and we could tell that he was a hard worker, but Corbin's running talent far exceeded his willingness to follow guidance from anyone.

Last year the boys again joined us on some of our runs. They continued to show up on an unpredictable schedule. They would run a couple of times one week and then we didn't see them again for two or three weeks.

Corbin ran like a wild man. He could not run in a straight line, his arms were swinging all over the place and he had absolutely no sense of pace. Just about everybody in our group tried to explain that if he would run in a straight line it would be shorter and faster. Corbin signed up to go to two running camps that summer with only a week off between them. The second camp is one that I have been co-directing with my friend, Lee Fidler, for about twenty years. During Camp that year Corbin ran the first ten mile run of his life. I thought Corbin was hooked on running, but he and Parker continued to only show up on an unpredictable basis. They actually ran in some cross country races representing the Highlands Middle School. Corbin ran a 21:20 for a 5K race at Western Carolina which we all thought was good

considering his lack of training. Parker got injured playing baseball and Corbin's running dropped off even more.

Corbin is 14 now and a freshman in Highlands High School. In the spring Corbin came out a few times and I started talking with him about getting serious about his running. This would require him to run much more frequently and to

actually do some hard workouts that would lead to faster running. He decided that he would do the work that was required.

The first order of business for Corbin was to get some base mileage under his belt. He slowly increased his mileage so that he could easily run 6 miles with our group. Building up his mileage before running camp was a major goal. During camp he completed a run of 12.5 miles over mountain trails and that was the longest run of his life. He then had the base required to start working on getting faster.

Corbin now runs three hard runs a week

including a race on Wednesday. His workouts are designed to increase his speed by having him run at a pace that is faster than he can maintain in a 5K race, then rest briefly before running fast again. Interval work is usually only a quarter of a mile or a half mile, then a short rest period and then repeat the fast quarter or half another 6 or 8 times.

For a workout to improve his strength on hilly courses, I recently had him do a warm up of about 2 miles then he started at the bottom of Big Bear Pen and ran up until the road splits to go around the top. That is a mile and Corbin ran it in 9:17. I drove him back down to the bottom and which gave him about 3.5 minutes of recovery before he ran to the top again. The second time he ran it in 9:11. That was followed by about two miles to cool down.

Sometimes I ride my bike along with Corbin so I can monitor his form and his breathing. The other runners and I can not keep up with Corbin on his hard days, but we do get to run with him on easy days. He never runs two hard days in a row so we do get to run with him two or three times a week. Everyone has been amazed at Corbin's development and dedication.

The region cross country meet, which will be held on October 31<sup>st</sup>, will decide who gets to go to the State Cross Country



**Corbin Hawkins**



... STAR continued  
from page 24

Meet held on November 7<sup>th</sup> in Cary. The four best teams will qualify and also the 5 fastest individuals who are not on one of those teams will qualify. Corbin is the only runner representing Highlands School so his only hope to go to the State Meet is as an individual. Running in the Smoky Mountain Conference races this fall Corbin started the season with about 6 individuals who were faster than him.

On September 30<sup>th</sup> Corbin ran his best 5K race ever in a time of 19:29. Not counting the team runners, he was the 4<sup>th</sup> individual runner in that race. In the region meet Corbin will have to compete against not only the individuals in the Smoky Mountain Conference but runners from the Southern Piedmont and the Western Highlands Conferences as well. Based on what little information we can get there will be about 7 or 8 individuals including Corbin with a chance to qualify for the State Meet.

It is unusual for a 9<sup>th</sup> grader to qualify, but with Corbin's continued improvement he will hopefully get a chance to run against the best in the state.

Corbin has a very competitive spirit to go along with his talent and when he learns the mental aspects of running his development will be virtually unlimited. Seasoned runners from both Highlands and Atlanta are closely following Corbin's progress. They all believe that he has a very bright future and is headed for stardom.

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At Friday's match against Rabun Gap photographer Noel Atherton caught this shot of Tyler Converse in the heat of battle.

## Highlanders drop only game of week

By Ryan Potts

The Highlander soccer team had a bit of a rest this past week, traveling to Rabun Gap for their lone game on the schedule (last Wednesday's game with Murphy was re-scheduled due to weather). The Highlanders were looking for revenge after being beaten 5-1 at Zachary Field earlier in the year.

Highlanders came out strong, but seemed unable to put away scoring chances, which has been a recurring problem all year according to coach Chris Green. Unable to score effectively, the Highlanders found themselves on the wrong end of a 1-0 score.

While the loss was a tough pill to swallow,

low, the Highlanders players feel that they gave a great effort. Sophomore defenders Isaac Beavers, Andrew Renfro and Keeper Cody St. Germaine all echoed that sentiment when asked about the game. "We played tough," said Renfro, "but we just didn't finish." St. Germaine agreed, and also noted that "we still have work to do, but we have improved a lot since the beginning of the season."

The Highlanders will finish the regular season in the upcoming week, with senior night being Monday against Swain. If Highlanders wins out they will take home the Smoky Mountain Conference championship.

## School theatre program going strong



At the Oct. 14 Highlands School faculty meeting, PAC Youth Theater Program directors, Ronnie Spilton and Jim Gordon and several of the Highlands School students involved in the program, presented Principal Brian Jetter with a framed piece featuring the posters from the two plays produced by the group so far, "Get Bill Shakespeare Off the Stage" and "The Inner Willy." Thanks to a substantial grant, the program is being expanded to include ages 6 and up in Highlands, Cashiers and to homeschoolers. New is a theater workshop "Act Up at PAC" beginning Saturdays in May for ages 8 and up. Call 526-9047 for details.

Photo by Kim Lewicki



This is a reprint of a story we ran in the August 5, 2005 issue of Highlands' Newspaper. We run it again in honor of Collin.

# The story behind Collin Paxton

By Erin Brown

To many, Collin Wilcox Paxton is an enigma, a puzzle of stage, screen and script, who in 1962, portrayed May Ella Violet Ewell in the film adaptation of "To Kill A Mockingbird;" to others, those few whom she keeps close, she is much more than the sum of her parts.

"In the old days of Highlands, there were locals, and a local was at least some-

one whose grandfather was born here – but if you lived here a long, long time then the locals considered you a Highlander. None of that made any difference to me because this is my home," she said. "This is the only home I've ever known." Some would beg to differ, because Paxton has made it quite clear that her "home away from home" is the stage.

Paxton's father, a Canadian, was a

professor of socio-economics and was the town clerk for Highlands back in the 40s. Her mother, who was originally from Atlanta, was president of the PTA in the late 30s and helped work to create the first school hot lunch program.

She and her friend Bess Hines started the first daycare center where Nick's Restaurant is now. Paxton's parents started The Highlands Community Theater in

1940 and today it is Highlands Playhouse. In fact, Paxton's father built the Highlands Playhouse stage. "The unique thing about the Highlands Community Theater was that they always had professional directors, although mainly they used community actors. They would bring in a sprinkling of professional actors,"

Paxton said. "The good thing about

• See COLLIN page 28

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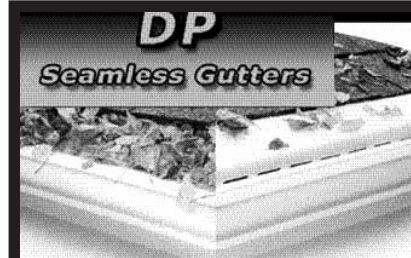
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... COLLIN continued from page 27

bringing in occasional professional actors is that you are raising the bar for the amateur actors.”

In the 1940s Highlands had very little to choose from in the form of live entertainment; there was Helen’s Barn and the Galax Theater, but Highlands Community Theater offered local people the chance to experience the thrill of the stage.

“It was a community theater in the best sense of the word,” she said. “Everybody was just so excited about creating this new thing.” With her first role as a dead woman in “Our Town” at the age of nine, the dye was cast and Paxton wanted to maintain the thrill.

“It was so exciting because it was a free performing arts education,” Paxton said. “We just parked ourselves at that theater all summer long.”

Her father, Jack Wilcox, believed an actor should know all aspects of theater and above all taught his daughter the importance of community. Paxton obtained her theater education from the ground

up, building sets, helping with costumes and lighting and even cleaning the bathrooms.

When her mother, Virginia Randall Wilcox, played the role of a housekeeper in “The Late Christopher Bean,” Paxton was so captivated by her performance she had to be carried from the theater screaming when her mother left the stage. “My mother was leaving – she picked up her suitcase and was leaving,” she said laughing. “It was that real to me.”

She said seeing her mother portray her other many roles in plays such as “The Corn is Green,” “The Doctor in Spite of Himself” and “The Beautiful People,” made her realize just how inventive their theater was because they were on such a limited budget. They made it work creating wigs out of dyed mops and buttons made of gold painted clothes pins.

“My mother was an astounding actress, and my father was very gifted,” she said. Paxton shared one story about the cast dying a number of bed sheets blue to

create the backdrop of a production “Escape Me Never” with Edie Summer Soderberg. Soderberg wrote “Room Full of Roses” which starred Patricia Neil on Broadway and later with her husband co-wrote the popular soap opera “As The World Turns.” Soderberg was crying because there were little white spots all through the backdrop, but Paxton, who was five at the time, said, ‘Oh Edie, but they’re clouds. It was wonderful,” she said. “It was making do.”

Paxton said once she was up there, on stage, she couldn’t ever conceive of doing anything else, “Why would anyone want to?” she said.

Around 1948 her father persuaded the town to allow the Highlands Community Theater to rent the building for a \$1 a year. They were only responsible for upkeep and that charter still remains to this day. Paxton worked with the Carousel Theater in Knoxville, Tenn., but her father insisted she take two years of college and she obliged him, but not without a fight. “I think he just wanted me around for two more years,” she said. “Southern girls can be awfully young.”

She ventured to the Goodman Memorial School of Drama in Chicago and realized she had a lot more experience than the other students. She learned the history of theater, make-up and speech. “That was my jumping off point to Broadway,” she said. “I had this idea that to be on the Broadway stage they literally wouldn’t let you across the bridge if you weren’t a good actor; that New York was full of nothing but good actors.”

But with 1950 a sinister cloud spread across the nation and even into The Highlands Community Theater. It was closed because of a fear of Communist ideals. The McCarthy trials terrified people into questioning and labeling those intellectuals they suspected of communism and forcing them literally underground. “It was fearsome then,” she said. “I just knew people were terrified.”

The theater suffered because of the rumors and didn’t reopen its doors to the community until 1957 when Jack Wilcox was asked to reopen the theater because of the growing tourist population. Paxton returned to the Highlands stage that summer.

• See COLLIN page 30



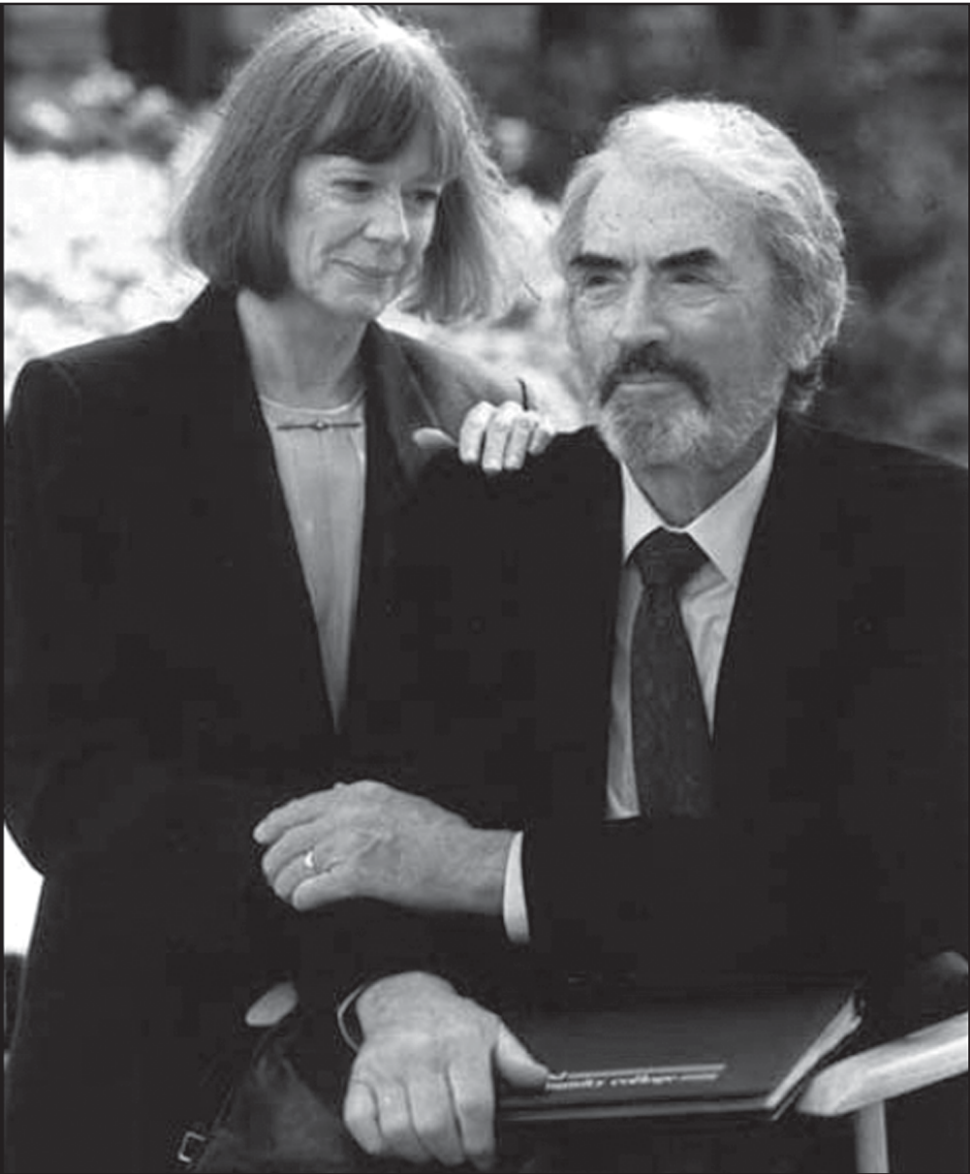
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Collin and co-star, the late Gregory Peck in a televisionfilm, “Painting Churches.”



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Collin with Judy Collins on the set of "Christy." Judy was a guest star in four episodes of "Christy," as a character named Hattie McCabe. Judy and Collin spent time together on the set, and the photo taken of Judy and her was during the filming of a 1994 Thanksgiving special which aired November 24th. The episode was entitled "Sweetest Gift." Judy sang "Amazing Grace" in this episode and had all in tears. Collin played the role of Swanee O'Teale, a back-woods, mountain herbalist. Judy's 1969, "The Judy Collins Song Book," had been a treasured song book in Collin's family for 25 years. Her children grew up on her music.

... COLLIN continued from page 28

mer in "The Four Poster." The following winter she made her Broadway debut in "The Day the Money Stopped," but she seldom missed a summer to return to Highlands and act on her father's stage.

Paxton said she was fortunate enough to have as a mentor "the late and great" Geraldine Page, who told her she must study with Lee Strasberg at The Actors Studio in New York City. Paxton went through the three grueling auditions and was judged not only by Lee Strasberg, but also by Elia Kazan and Cheryl Crawford and Arthur Penn.

"If they thought you were any good you were a member for life," she said. "I was in a covey of good actors, Kim Stanley, Geraldine Page, Paul Newman, Joanne Woodward – just everybody that was anybody on the New York stage."

Paxton said she had an advantage which she didn't know at the time, but it was her stage technique and her maneuvering around the stage which let the audition panel know she had stage presence and also, knew how to project her voice. "Lee Strasberg gave me the voice of my own intuition," she said. "It was a time when literally it seemed as if everybody who was on Broadway knew each other.

It was my breakfast at Tiffany's time."

On Broadway, Paxton played in "Strange Interlude," "The Family Way," "Crazy October," "The Day the Money

Stopped," "La Bonne Soup," "Period of Adjustment" and "Look We've Come Through" including many other off Broadway plays. During her first Broadway show Paxton made \$150 a week, which she thought was a "princely salary." Not knowing the cost of rooms, she decided to stay at the Waldorf-Astoria and when the bill came she was forced to telegraph her father. He sent her a check, writing on the bottom – for bail.

"The letter said, 'When you do better, I'll do better,'" she said with a smile.

Paxton said her father was responsible for not letting her ego get in the way of her work and was also responsible for teaching her how to think. "To really learn the difference between thinking and an emotional response to something," she said. Paxton's father died in 1968, and she said the theater wasn't as strong without his influence.

After Broadway Paxton made her way to the London stage after Tennessee Williams saw Paxton as Isabel in his play "Period of Adjustment" where she played opposite William Wyndam. The Royal Court in London wanted to produce the play but Tennessee said they could only do it if they cast me as "Isabel," she said almost unbelievably.

The play was a huge success. It moved from The Royal Court to Wyndams The-

•See COLLIN page 31

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Bear's Den in Whiteside Cove is a large rustic home on 8.6 acres with 7 bedrooms, 7 baths, a tennis court, mountain views, a new roof and lots more! Offered at \$1.1 million.



## ... COLLIN continued from page 30

atre on the West End.

"That was the first time I saw my name in lights above the marquee," she said. "I was always the last out of the theater, and I remember walking out just as the marquee started to flick off each letter, C-o-l-l-i-n-W-I-l-c-o-x and I said, 'that's what being a star is.'"

Paxton shared a joke about the life span of an actor – Who is Collin Wilcox? Get me Collin Wilcox. Get me a Collin Wilcox type. Get me a young Collin Wilcox. Who is Collin Wilcox?

Paxton said her biggest challenge as an actor was overcoming a lateral lisp which prevented her from enunciating the *t-h* sound properly. "I had a devil of a time with Shakespeare, but I mastered it," she said. After London she traveled to Italy and Spain before returning to New York and finally Hollywood.

Unbeknownst to Paxton her most memorable role was about to land right in her lap. A role which would define more than the actors themselves, but would unleash a torrent of prejudicial rain upon its participants.

Robert Mulligan cast Paxton as Mayella Violet Ewell in "To Kill A Mockingbird" for two reasons; the first because he knew her work having cast her before in "Member of the Wedding" and the second because she looked like hell in the audition.

"The other three or four young actresses who auditioned all put on lipstick and mascara and their hair was all done, and I knew what I had to look like. I had cold cream in my hair, no make-up on. I had some little old ragged dress on, and I wore pumps with socks. I copied her after someone I'd seen on Main Street in Highlands," she said.

Paxton said none of the members of the cast had any idea what a success the film would become. She recounted her scene in the trial where she is accusing a black man, Tom Robinson, played by Brock Peters, of rape. Atticus Finch, played by Gregory Peck, cross-examines her.

"It was a wonderful time and there were so many good actors in it," she said. It was volatile time because of what was happening with integration in America. Paxton and Peters were delegates to the NAACP in Santa Monica and had a responsibility to maintain racial equality. During the shooting of the courtroom scene, the assistant director called for "black atmosphere upstairs" and "white atmosphere downstairs." Paxton and Peters came flying from opposite sides of the sound stage flanking him saying, "We need to change that verbiage." Paxton admired Peck for his superb acting skills.

"We called Gregory, the *impeccable* Mr. Peck because he was flawless," she said. "He came into that courtroom scene



Becky Schilling, Scott Paxton and Collin in a "Little Entertainments" at the Instant Theater.

and nailed it the first time. I don't know how many times he did that summation scene, but he never flubbed or faltered."

Thirty years after "To Kill A Mockingbird," Peck and Paxton shot a television production of "Painting Churches." Peck played Professor Gardner Church and Paxton played the Chancellor of Harvard. What tickled Peck was that Miss Mayella Violet Ewell had now become a Harvard Chancellor.

After more than 20 movies and working with stars like Carlo Carlei, Susan Clark, Joan Blondell, Mia Farrow, Beau Bridges, Morgan Freeman, Vivian Pickle, Irene Worth, Diane Keaton, John Cusack, Kevin Spacey, Jude Law, Reese Witherspoon and Patricia Arquette, Paxton returned home and she and her husband Scott Paxton started Highlands Studio of the Arts. The Studio taught all forms of performing arts free to the children of Highlands and the lessons are still going on today at the Instant Theatre Company's studio space on Main Street.

Having written half a dozen of her own plays, she said if she wasn't an actress she would definitely be a playwright. Her first play, "Papa's Angels" was picked up by CBS Television in 2000 starring Scott Bacula and Cynthia Nixon. After the play was published by Samuel French, she also wrote a book based on the play.

"Plays are easy for me to write; I'm not a novelist," Paxton said. "Snapshots," a collection of ten-minute plays, have been performed this year during The ITC's "Little Entertainments."

There is no doubt that Paxton has had many grand roles

"You play so many lives and portray

so many different people. It's a great chance to drop your own ego and be someone else" she said. "I guess that's why I've never gotten bored – because I've taken so many vacations away from myself." Good thing for all who have gotten to enjoy those vacations with her.



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**ART CENTER SEEKS YEAR-ROUND ADJUNCT FACULTY FOR YOUTH AND ADULT ART CLASSES.** Ideal candidates have undergraduate or advanced degrees in studio art or art education, teaching experience and a track record of curriculum development. Send letter, resume, three references, CD with 10-15 examples of personal artwork and 10-15 examples of student work by October 16 to Norma Hendrix, The Bascom, P.O. Box 766, Highlands, NC 28741. No phone calls, please.

**RN** needed at Fidelia Eckerd Living Center at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. Full time position, requiring every other weekend shift. 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](http://www.hchospital.org).

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

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### YARD SALE

**MULTI-FAMILY YARD SALE, SATURDAY, OCT. 24** from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tools, collectibles, local artwork, Misc. 8106 Hwy 106, Scaly Mountain.

**SATURDAY, OCT. 24** – A "5 Women Yard Sale" – in the yard of the white house directly behind Wild Thyme on 5th St. 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. From fine crystal to children's items and everything in between.

**MOVING SALE — BY APPOINTMENT.** Houseful of Furniture Living Room, Dining Room, Bedroom, Bakers Rack, Office Furniture, Corner TV Cabinet, Console Tables, Accessories, too many to list. Highlands, close to Wild Cat Country Club. Call for appointment to see. 526-9577 (st. 9/24)

**DAILY** – Basement of OLD Highlands Pharmacy at 238 Helen's Barn Ave. 9 a.m. until. Tools, lumber and household items. EVERYTHING MUST GO!

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**MUST SELL THIS WEEKEND.** Please join me for hot chocolate Saturday or Sunday from 1 to 5 p.m. Call 828-524-9142. Brand New Home 3/2 with Long Range Mountain Views.

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See CLASSIFIEDS page 35

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## • CLASSIFIEDS •

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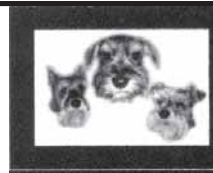
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## • SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING •

### The Holiness of doing nothing

**Rev. Brian Sullivan**  
Episcopal Church of the  
Incarnation



Since my sabbatical was announced six months ago, the one thing I have heard most is, "I wish /got a sabbatical" or my other favorite, "I wish I could take off for two months and do whatever I want." These statements made me wonder why more professions don't insist on sabbaticals. It is not like I work any harder than my friends who are builders, gardeners, architects, or plumbers. So I turned to our modern day research engine, and got a brief definition of sabbatical, which is "rest." I also got several biblical references.

The book of Leviticus in chapter 25 describes a law requiring farmers to rest from their crops in the seventh year. Even God took a sabbatical on the seventh day of creation. We are also commanded to keep the Sabbath holy by the Ten Commandments. However, I also learned sabbaticals are not only given to clergy, but academic professions take them, and in the United Kingdom 20% of companies offer employees a sabbatical.

The reality is that our culture has lost respect for "doing nothing." It is apparent by how much there is to do on Sabbath from shopping to sports to running errands. Unfortunately, there is no one to blame but ourselves, because we are the ones who make the choices that make it profitable to be "open for business" on Sabbath. And by making these choices we erode our time to be with the One who made it all possible - God.

Sabbath is our time to reconnect to God. It is a time to create space between the world we live in and the Kingdom we are promised. Space-making is really what Sabbath is all about. Space is where the Holy Spirit moves and lives and has its being. It is this Spirit that comes alive in each of us when we are not anxious or worried. Sabbath is also a time when we can do what we love.

"So what are you going to do?" is another common question I have received about my sabbatical. I will be traveling to Jerusalem (a very common sabbatical destination) to reconnect with my Kids4Peace families ([www.kids4peaceusa.org](http://www.kids4peaceusa.org)). While this trip will only last for two weeks, the rest of my time will be spent painting. "Painting what?" is another frequent question. It turns out most people don't know that I am an artist. And after 12 years of ordination, I can count on one hand the number of paintings, drawings or prints I have started. Of the ones I started, I have completed zero.

So I am going to reintroduce myself to a part of me that has been dormant since my undergraduate studies in printmaking at the University of Georgia. I will also be taking my children to and from school and spending time with them in the afternoon. In other words, I am going to do what I love most - being with my family, making peace, making art, and making space.

The fact is everyone has a choice to use their time however they see fit. Typically, we listen to the world around us for queues on how to use our time. This is the same world that asks us what we do for a living, as if our productivity is who we are. By creating space for God, we can begin to take our queues from a different source. Resting allows the Holy Spirit to live and move and have its being in our life. Sabbath is where we can glimpse the Kingdom of God, which allows our spiritual being time to use its full range of talents (many of which won't make us a living).

You do have a choice... and the choice is to continue being utilitarian or becoming whole. If your choice is to become whole, then try "doing nothing" with the intention of being with the one who makes you holy. And don't be surprised that after you are finished "doing nothing" - you are not twice as productive as you were without any rest at all.

## • PLACES OF WORSHIP •

### BLUE VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

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

### BUCK CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

Sundays: School - 10 a.m.; Worship - 11  
**Chapel of Sky Valley**  
Sky Valley, GA  
Church: 706-746-2999  
Pastor's residence: 706-746-5770  
Sundays: 10 a.m. - Worship  
Holy Communion 1st Sunday of the month  
Wednesdays: 9 a.m. Healing and Prayer with Holy  
Communion each service

### CHRISTIAN SCIENCE CHURCH

Third and Spring Streets, Highlands  
Sunday Service - 11 a.m.; Sunday School - 11 a.m.  
Wednesday Testimony Meeting - 11 a.m.  
3rd Wednesday of the Month

### CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS

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

### CHRIST ANGLICAN CHURCH

Father Jim Murphy: Office - 526-2320  
Sunday: Holy Communion - 11 a.m.  
Highlands Community Center  
Monday: Evening Bible Study at 6 p.m.  
Wednesday: Men's Bible study at 8 a.m.  
at First Baptist Church

Pot Luck Lunch last Sunday of each month.

### CLEAR CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Everett Brewer  
Sundays: School - 10 a.m.; Worship - 11  
Prayer - 6:30 p.m.  
Evening Service - 1st & 3rd Sunday - 7 p.m.

### COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH

[www.cbchighlands.com](http://www.cbchighlands.com) • 526-4685  
Pastor Gary Hewins  
3645 U.S. 64 east, Highlands  
Sundays: 9:30am Sunday School; 10:45am  
Childrens/Family Program; 10:45 Worship  
Tuesdays: 9:30am Women's Bible Study  
Wednesdays: 5pm Dinner; 6pm Pastor's Bible Study  
Fridays: 6:30pm Re:Act Middle & High School  
Gathering

### EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE INCARNATION

The Rev. Brian Sullivan - Rector: 526-2968  
Sunday: Breakfast; 9 A.M. - Sunday School  
10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist (Rite II)  
Sunday Service on Channel 14 at 10:30 A.M.  
Monday: 4 p.m. Women's Cursillo Group  
Tuesday: 8 a.m. Men's Cursillo Group  
4:30 P.M. Education for Ministry  
Wednesday: 6:30 P.M. Choir Practice  
Thursday: 10 a.m. Holy Eucharist (Chapel)  
10:30 a.m. Daughters of the King  
• Sunday Service on Channel 14 Sun. at 10:30 a.m.  
**FIRST ALLIANCE CHURCH OF FRANKLIN**  
Rev. Mitch Schultz, Pastor • 828-369-7977  
Sun. Worship 8:30 & 10:45 a.m.; 6: p.m.  
(nursery provided)  
Sun. school for all ages 9:45 a.m.  
Wed: dinner 5 p.m. followed by children's  
Pioneer Club 6 p.m.; Jr & Sr Youth Group 6:30 p.m.;  
Adult Bible Study & Prayer Meeting 7 p.m.  
Small groups available throughout the week.  
**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Dr. Daniel D. Robinson, 526-4153

Sun.: Worship 10:45 a.m., 6:30 p.m.; School - 9:30  
a.m.; Youth - 6:30 p.m.; Choir - 7:15  
Wednesdays: Dinner - 5:30 p.m.; Team Kids - 6  
p.m.; Prayer - 6:15 p.m., Choir - 7:30 p.m.

### FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Dr. Lee Bowman, Pastor  
Dr. Don Mullen, Parish Associate 526-3175  
Sun.: Worship - 8:30 & 11 a.m.; Sun. School - 9:30  
& 9:45.

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

Tuesdays: 10 a.m. - Seekers

Wednesdays - Choir - 7

### HIGHLANDS ASSEMBLY OF GOD

Sixth Street  
Sundays: School - 10 a.m.; Worship - 11  
Wednesdays: Prayer & Bible Study - 7  
**HIGHLANDS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
Pastor Paul Christy  
526-3376

Sun.: school 9:45 a.m.; Worship 8:45 a.m., 11 a.m.;  
5 p.m. Youth Group

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

(nursery provided for Wed. p.m. activities)

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

### HOLY FAMILY LUTHERAN CHURCH - ELCA

Chaplain Margaret Howell  
2152 Dillard Road - 526-9741  
Sundays: Sunday School and Adult discussion group  
9:30 a.m.; Worship/Communion - 10:30  
HEALING SERVICE on the 5th Sunday of the month.

### MACEDONIA BAPTIST CHURCH

8 miles south of Highlands on N.C. 28 S in Satolah  
Pastor Matt Shuler, (828) 526-8425  
Sundays: School - 10 a.m.; Worship - 11  
Choir - 6 p.m.

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

### MOUNTAIN SYNAGOGUE

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Parish office, 526-2418

Sundays: Mass - 11 a.m.

### SCALY MOUNTAIN BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. Clifford Willis  
Sundays: School - 10 a.m.; Worship - 11 a.m. & 7  
Wednesdays: Prayer Mtg. - 7 p.m.

### SCALY MOUNTAIN CHURCH OF GOD

290 Buck Knob Road; Pastor Alfred Sizemore  
Sundays: School - 10 a.m.; Worship - 10:45 a.m.;  
Evening Worship - 6 p.m.

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

For more information call 526-3212.

### SHORTOFF BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Rev. Andy Cloer.  
Sundays: School - 10 a.m.; Worship - 11  
Wednesdays: Prayer & Bible Study - 7  
**UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP**  
85 Sierra Drive • 828-524-6777  
Sunday Worship - 11 a.m.

Child Care - 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.  
Religious Education - 11 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.  
Youth from 8th - 12th grades meet the second  
Sunday of each month from 5 - 7:30 p.m.

### WHITESIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Cashiers, Rev. Sam Forrester, 743-2122  
Sundays: School - 10 a.m.; Worship - 11



## POLICE, FIRE DEPT. LOGS



Though illegal, big rigs continue to travel the Gorge Road, blocking oncoming traffic and causing havoc. This shot was snapped by Billie Hedden at 2:45 pm. on Tuesday, Oct. 13.

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

Oct. 9

• At 4:30 p.m., three youths were trespassing at The Bascom on Oak Street.

Oct. 10

• At 9 p.m., officers assisted another agency who made an the arrest of a subject at a DWI stop for DWI, and possession of 1/2 oz. of marijuana and drug paraphernalia.

Oct. 11

• At 3 p.m. officers responded to an two-vehicle accident on Foreman Road.

• At 3:07 p.m., officers responded to a call of "shots fired" in the vicinity of Biscuit Rock Road. Officers were unable to locate source.

Oct. 12

• At 3 p.m., officers responded to an accident at S. 3rd. and Spring streets.

Oct. 14

• At 10:20 p.m., Michael Cullen Brancati, 39, of Highlands, was arrested for DWI at Highlands Plaza.

Oct. 16

• At 4:30 p.m., officers responded to an accident at NC 106 and Woodcrest Way.

• At 5:30 p.m. officers responded to a call of bear hunters trespassing on Brushy Face Road. They were tracking a bear that was wounded and shot in blue Valley.

Oct. 17

• At 5:33 p.m., officers helped EMS with a man possibly suffering a heart attack at a residence on Split Rail Row.

• At 10 p.m., officers responded to a noise complaint at The Bascom where a wedding party was taking place.

Oct. 18

• At 3:54 a.m., officers were called to a residence on Maplewood where a man had apparently fallen down some steps and was unresponsive. He was taken to the hospital and pronounced DOA. An autopsy has been ordered.

• During the week, police officers responded to 5 alarms and issued 35 citations.

The following are the Highlands Fire & Rescue Dept. log entries from Oct. 14:

Oct. 14

• At 7:09 p.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at a residence on Hutchinson Court. It was false.

Oct. 16

• At 4:27 p.m., the dept. responded to an one-vehicle accident on NC 106. There were no injuries.

• At 8:03 p.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at a residence at VZ-Top. It was false.

Oct. 17

• At 7:33 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with a medical call at a residence on Split Rail Road. The victim was taken to the hospital.

• See POLICE page 9

## • THE PUZZLERS •

### Hex-a-Ku<sup>©</sup> 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.

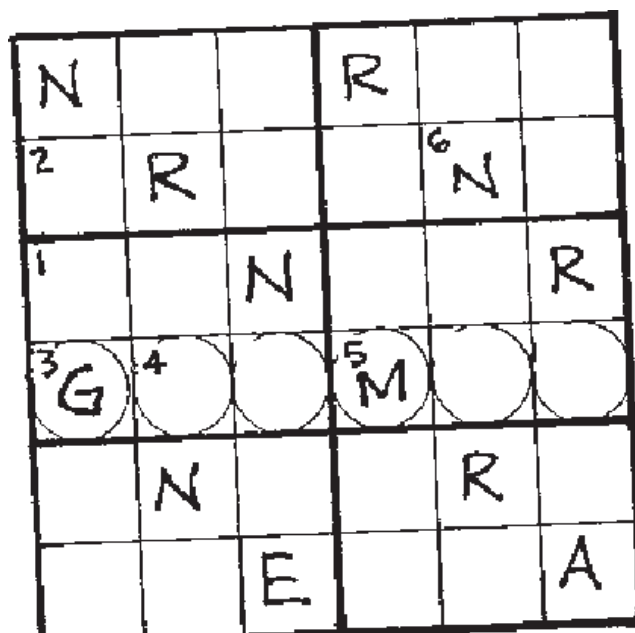
#### Mystery Word:

#### Citizen of Germany

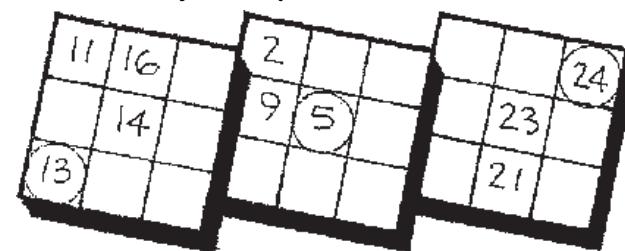
1. Jesus's birthplace (6)
2. Metric unit of energy (3)

#### Down

3. Type of pike fish (3)
4. Siamese twin (3)
5. Myself (2)
6. Beside (4)



### PseudoCube<sup>©</sup> by Pete Sarjeant and Don Cook



#### # BN2B Level of Difficulty - Easy

#### THE SETUP:

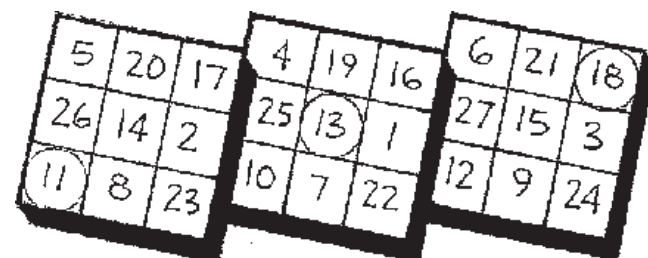
The cube has 27 consecutive numbers in it, arranged in three layers with 9 numbers each. These numbers are arranged in a special pattern: For each layer, the sum of the three numbers in each row, column or diagonal, is 3 times its center number. Eight diagonals connect all 3 layers by running through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

#### THE CHALLENGE:

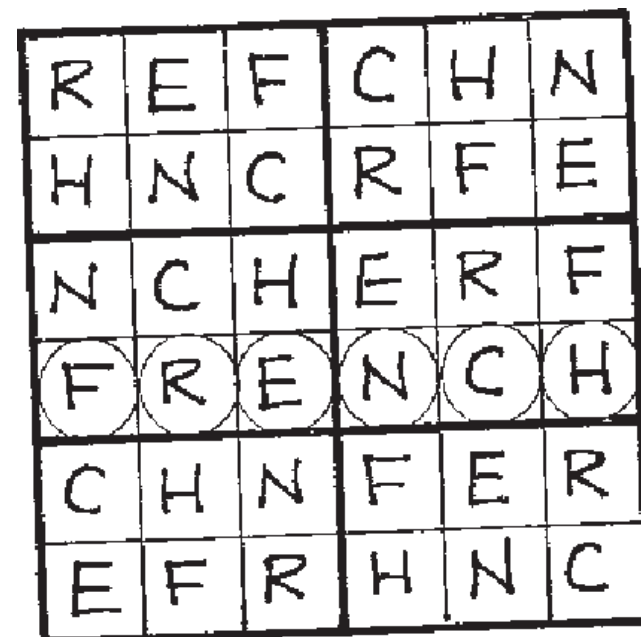
Start with the three center numbers for each layer and the other numbers given. Now pour a cup of coffee, pick up a pencil and eraser and try to figure out where the other numbers belong. Good Luck!

Email: [thepuzzlers@yahoo.com](mailto:thepuzzlers@yahoo.com).

#### Solution to #AN2B in Oct. 15 issue



#### Solution to Oct. 15 Hex-a-Ku





## • BUSINESS NEWS •

### Highlands School Interact Club starts new school year with first project



The officers this year are from left to right Tom Jessup, faculty liaison, Jamie Bolt, vice president, Sarah Hedden, treasurer, Avey Graham, president, Rachel Hedden, secretary, Brice Jenkins, past president, and Cynthia Dendy, Rotary liaison.

### Local P.E.O. Chapter BJ, Cashiers and Highlands NC bestows a grant



Shown presenting the grant money are from left are Carol Mathews, President, Elizabeth Bryant, Committee Chair, Breta Stroud, Recipient and Mary Heffington, Program for Continuing Education Committee

The Local P.E.O. Chapter of Cashiers-Highlands gave Breta Stroud a grant to enable her to continue her education in Massage Therapy.

P.E.O. Program for Continuing Education was established in 1973 to provide need-based grants to women in the United States and Canada whose education has been interrupted and who find it necessary to return to school to support themselves and/or their families. Since its inception, more than \$30 million in small grants has been awarded to more than 30,000 women. Applicants are recommended and sponsored by local P.E.O. chapters.

True to the mission of promoting educational opportunities for women, education continues to be the primary philanthropy of the P.E.O. Sisterhood. In fact, the P.E.O. Sisterhood proudly sponsors no less than five international philanthropies, or projects, designed to assist wom-

en with their educational goals.

As a result, P.E.O. is clearly making a difference in the lives of women all over the world. Nearly 77,800 women have benefited from our organization's educational grants, loans, awards, special projects and stewardship of Cottey College. To date, P.E.O. has awarded Educational Loan Fund dollars totaling \$117 million, International Peace Scholarships are \$22 million, Program for Continuing Education grants are \$30 million and Scholar Awards are \$10 million. In addition, approximately 8,000 women have graduated from Cottey College.

Grant, loan, and award recipients – as well as Cottey College students – need not be members of P.E.O. With the exception of international students who receive International Peace Scholarships, each recipient is sponsored by a P.E.O. chapter. This allows the chapter members to be a meaningful part of "their" student's life.

Interact is a Rotary sponsored club that is involved in community service projects through out the year. Membership is open to all high school students at Highlands School. Cynthia Dendy is the Rotary liaison and Tom Jessup is the Faculty liaison for the Club. "I am very proud of our Interact Club," he said. "We have continued to grow over the past several years in membership and service projects. The club continues to come up with new ideas that provide service to our community."

The first project this year was the semi-annual Gorge Cleanup on October 3. Interact had 16 participants that helped out with the cleanup at Bridal Veil Falls, Dry Falls, and Cliffside Park. They also helped set up breakfast and lunch for the volunteers and helped clean the Visitors Center after lunch. A couple of projects coming up are helping with Halloween preparations for All Hallows Eve on Oct 31st and the Christmas Tree Lighting.

### Highlands-Cashiers Hospital announces new board members



Griffin Bell, Charles Sheehan and Frances Oakley

The Highlands-Cashiers Hospital Board of Directors has a new chairman, a new slate of officers, and two new board members, as it enters a new year.

Board members made the new leadership official at their September board meeting, naming former GE executive Charles V. Sheehan as chairman. He takes over the leadership reins from Cashiers businessman Bud Smith, who served three and a half terms as chairman before declining to accept the post again.

Other new officers elected for the 2009-2010 year include vice chairman Griffin B. Bell, Jr., and secretary Frances S. Oakley. Under the hospital bylaws, the board chooses new officers every September. Board officers serve one-year terms.

The board also named two new members: Highlands summer resident Edward M. Copeland III, MD, and R. Dallis Copeland of Cashiers. They will replace outgoing members Brenda Stewart and retired physician Dr. Bruce Berryhill, both from Cashiers, whose terms expired.

Sheehan, who spent 36 years with General Electric, eventually becoming corporate

executive office vice president, has served on the hospital board since 2007 including serving as chairman of the board's Finance Committee for the past two years.

"I consider it a great honor to be elected Chairman of the Board of Directors of Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. Thanks to the extraordinary generosity of Jane Woodruff and to the support of so many other area residents, we are blessed with an absolute jewel of a small hospital," said Sheehan. "My objective in the coming year is to work with Ken Shull and his team to maintain the high quality of medical care we provide here while strengthening the hospital financially so that it can continue to provide the essential health-care services we need in our communities."

A graduate of Georgetown University in Washington, DC, Sheehan began his career in the financial department of GE after serving two years as an officer in the US Navy. He served as chief financial officer of GE's subsidiaries in Japan, Australia, and Brazil during the 1960s, before becoming CFO of GE's International Sector and later its Power Systems Sector. He later became a corporate external



## ... BIZ NEws continued from page 38

ecutive office vice president, working directly with Chairman Jack Welch and Vice Chairman Ed Hood, where he oversaw approximately half of the company's many diversified businesses. He left that post in 1987, at the urging of Welch, to become COO of GE's Wall Street investment bank, Kidder Peabody and Co. He later became managing director of Kidder & Peabody's brokerage business.

After retiring in 1991, Sheehan was named to the board of Indian River Medical Center in Vero Beach, FL, later serving as chairman of the board from 2004-2006. In addition to serving on the Finance Committee at HCH, he has also served on the hospital's Foundation Board of Directors. He currently divides his time between Highlands and Vero Beach, FL. He is active in churches in both of his communities, serving as a lector (and also as chairman of the Finance Council) at Our Lady of the Mountains Catholic Church in Highlands and as a lector at Holy Cross Catholic Church in Vero Beach. He is a past president of Wildcat Cliffs Country Club.

In the post of vice chairman of the board, Griffin Bell replaces Highlands Mayor Donald C. Mullen, MD. Bell, who has served on the hospital board since 2007, moved to Highlands full time in 2000. He continues to practice law with the Atlanta firm of Fisher and Phillips, the largest labor law firm in the country. While living in Atlanta, he was very active in Boy Scouts of America, and since moving to Highlands he has served on the boards of a number of local organizations, including serving as the chairman of the Town of Highlands Planning Board, and as president of the Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust. He is a member of the board of the

Community Care Clinic and is also active in the Highlands United Methodist Church, serving as an usher, and a Sunday school teacher. He earned his law degree from Emory University in Atlanta.

Replacing outgoing board secretary Brenda Stewart is Frances S. Oakley, who divides her time between Highlands and Charlotte. Mrs. Oakley was named to the hospital board last year. A former stock broker with Dean Witter, she and her husband Obie operate a commercial printing brokerage business in Charlotte. She is currently president of the Highlands Community Child Development Center, and a past member of the executive committee of the Highlands Biological Station Foundation. In the past she has served as chairperson of the HCCDC Building Campaign and as a board member of Highlands Country Club. She earned her Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Joining the board for the first time as members are Dr. Ted Copeland and Dallas Copeland (who are not related).

Dr. Copeland is a Distinguished Professor of Surgery at the University of Florida College of Medicine, where he has also served as chairman of the Department of Surgery, interim dean of the Medical School, and as the first director of the University of Florida-Shands Cancer Center. He received the Life Time Achievement Award in 2008, and has received numerous honors and awards from various professional and academic institutions. He is a past chairman of the American Board of Surgery, the Board of Governors of the American College of Surgeons and the Board of Regents of the American College of Surgeons.

## Mountain Laurel Club celebrates 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary



Kneeling from left are John Baumrucker, Darren McGillivray (General Manager), and Sonny Parrish. Standing Joanna Baumrucker, George Schmitt, Marie Schmitt, John Bauknight, Susan Bauknight, and June Lee Parrish founding members of Mountain Laurel Tennis Club at the 25th Anniversary Celebration. Information on MLTC at 828-526-4770.

A graduate of Duke University, Dr. Copeland earned his medical degree from Cornell University Medical College and performed his residency in general surgery at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania. He completed his fellowship in cancer surgery at M.D. Anderson Hospital and Tumor Institute.

Georgia banker Dallis Copeland was president and CEO and later chairman of the board at First National Bank of Barnesville in Barnesville, GA. A graduate of Georgia Tech in his native Atlanta, he also attended Stonier Graduate School of Banking at Rutgers University before entering the banking field in Columbus, GA in 1965.

In addition serving in a number of capacities in various professional organizations, including as a member of the Financial Institutions Advisory Committee of the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta, he is also a past mayor of the Town of Aldora, GA. He also served as chairman of the Gordon College Foundation, the Barnesville-Lamar Industrial Development Authority and as president of the Barnesville Rotary Club.

Other board members for the coming year are Bud Smith, Donald C. Mullen, MD, Julian Franklin, James T. Rothermel, MD, David M. Wheeler, MD, Earle Mauldin, Ronald P. Hogan, George T. Maloney, William "Bill" Nellis, Lynn Dillard, PhD, and Ken Shull.



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To Franklin Hwy 64w & 28n  
**Cullasaja Falls**  
\*Gem Mine  
Bust Your Butt Falls

Lake Glenville  
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Cashiers  
Visitors Ctr.

Sapphire Valley  
Sliding Rock  
White-water Falls  
411 Feet High

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Hwy 106  
Glen Falls  
Iron Bridge  
Chattooga Iron Bridge

DINING	LODGING	SHOPPING	MARKETS	BEAUTY
1 Cyprus	1 Chandler Inn	1 Ann Jacob	1 Bryson's	1 All Seasons
2 Don Leons	2 Chestnut Cottages	2 AnnaWear	2 Dusty's	2 Creative Concepts
3 Fressers	3 Fire Mountain	3 Bear Mt. Outfitters	3 Gifted Hands	3 Images Unlimited
4 Golden China	4 Hampton Inn	4 C.K. Swan	4 Mtn. Fresh	4 Taylor Barnes
5 Highlands Deli	5 Highlands Inn	5 Christmas Shop	5 Whole Health	
6 Horacio's	6 Highlands Suites	6 Cyranos		
7 Kelsey	7 Main St. Inn	7 Drakes Diamonds		
8 Log Cabin	8 Mt High Lodge	8 Dry Sink		
9 Main St. Inn	9 Skyline Lodge	9 Elephants Foot		
10 Nick's		10 Green Leaf Gallery		
11 Oak St. Cafe		11 Highlands Photo		
12 Paoletti's		12 House of Wong		
13 Pescado's		13 John Collette Gallery		
14 Pizza Place		14 Needle Point		
15 Rooster's		15 Peak Experience		
16 Ruka's Table		16 Rarities		
17 Skyline		17 Radio Shack		
18 Smoke House		18 Shiraz Rugs		
19 SportsPage		19 Stone Lantern		
20 Wild Thyme		20 Summer House		
21 Wolfgang's				

Fall & Winter Updates @ HighlandsInfo.com

Main Street Inn & Bistro  
Open All Year

Paoletti's

Log Cabin

Country Club Prop.  
Greenleaf Gallery  
Ruka's Table Restaurant  
Cimarron Builders

Bryson's Foods Gourmet  
Wines & Cheeses  
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Highlands Newspaper

Weather & WebCam

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Town Hall

ATM BofA Macon Bank ATM

CK Swan Antiques Mill Creek Gallery

Paoletti's Wolfgang's

Hen House

Mtn. Fresh Grocery GOURMET  
Coffee, Bakery Wines & Cheeses To Go & Eat In

Durchman's Casual Living Main Street

Northland Cable TV

Highlands School K-12

Highlands' Newspaper FALL & WINTER Events & Locations Updated Weekly Performing Arts Ctr. Oct. 22 - 25 "The Dining Room"

CYPURUS Oct. 24 End of Fall Party D.J. Johnny - O Culinary Weekend Nov. 13, 14 & 15 Go To Dining & Events

Highlands' Newspaper Published Circulation #s According To FTC Regs

2 Cottages

I eat at the Bird Barn

Highlands Bird Sanctuary

BIRDBARN Radio Shack Wine & Cheese Creative Concepts

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