

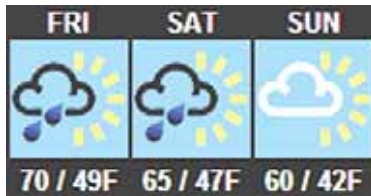
Highlands' Newspaper

FREE

Volume 7, Number 40

PDF Version – www.HighlandsInfo.com

Thursday, Oct. 8, 2009



This Week in Highlands

Friday, Oct. 9

• "An Evening With John Muir" 7 p.m. at the Highlands Playhouse. Tickets \$30 (\$25 for JMCA members). Call 526-9938 ext. 320.

• Open House of the MC Animal Control facility on 1377 Lakeside Drive from 2-4 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 10

• HC Land Trust Pumpkin Fest at the David Farm on U.S. 64 east across from the Community Bible Church from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Pumpkin carving contest, hayrides and more. \$20 per family or carload.

• At Greenleaf Gallery, at 177 Main St. in Wrights Square, 12 noon – 4pm, Artist Sally Robbe will be demonstrating. Light refreshments.

• Highlands Arts & Crafts Show from 9-5 at the Highlands Civic Center. Breakfast and Lunch available. Free Admission and free parking.

• At Whole Life Market at 10 a.m. there will be A Garden of Life's million-dollar giveaway to "Take the Grow Bone Challenge." The purpose is to help consumers increase bone density, increase bone strength and reduce osteoporosis risk.

• The Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival Fall Concert at the Episcopal Church at 5 p.m. Call 526-9060.

Sunday, Oct. 11

• Hymn Sing at the First Presbyterian Church at 4 p.m.

Monday, Oct. 12

• Art class "Figure Study Sessions with a Live Model" at The Bascom from 5 to 7 p.m. for beginning to advanced students. Cost is \$20/\$15 Bascom members. Call (828) 526-4949.

Tuesday, Oct. 13

• At the Hudson Library Mountain Air Wellness will discuss 3 Ways to Prevent/Combat the Flu. Free.

Thursdays, Oct. 15

• Highlands-Cashiers Players' The Dining Room at PAC, 8 p.m.

MC Schools budget finalized at meeting

With the state budget finalized, the Macon County School Board accepted the 2009-2010 budget as presented at the Sept. BOE meeting in Highlands.

The budget is separated into several categories with a dollar sign assigned to each section for expenditures and revenue explaining how much is paid for by each entity –

local, state, or federal.

**Small amount
of 2009 H1N1
vaccine
available**

• See story on page 21

The total local current expense appropriation for the operation of the school administrative unit is \$9,140,110 for instructional programs, support services, community services programs, and non-programmed charges like payments to other governmental units.

• See BUDGET page 19

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Renovated Greenway officially opened Tuesday



Dedicated Greenway volunteers, Greenway committee members and town employees officially opened the renovated bridge over Mill Creek and much improved Greenway trail that originates at the Rec Park, Tuesday, Oct. 6. The dedication culminated months of physical labor by all.

Photo by Jim Lewicki

Information on stolen fish could net \$100

Owners of SweetTreats Bob and Sandy Carlton, stock fish in the portion of Mill Creek that runs along their shop every year. Last year and this year the fish have been fished out on numerous occasions.

Most recently, 12 golden trout

and 12 rainbow trout that survived the weekend torrential rains Sept. 19-20 were fished out again. Their customers, visitors and residents of Highlands enjoy feeding the fish and watching them swim in the creek. They are offering a \$100 re-

ward for information leading to the arrest of the person who has stolen the fish.

If you know anything please email the Carlton's at sweettreats@verizon.net or call 526-9822.

U.S. and Iran link explained

In August, veteran journalist and award winning author of multiple books on the Middle East, spoke at the Center of Life Enrichment and gave an update on America's linkage to the current political situations in Iran and Afghanistan.

This is the final segment of a multi-part series made possible by Time Capsule Video.

Part 4

To recap: Identity, social justice and nationalism were the original reasons for the revolution.

The reformers want to affirm Iran's identity as containing Persian and Islamic heritage which carries a lot of real life meaning for the Iranians. The Persians were known as Internationalists. They were highly respected for their culture, so people who want to regain this Persian identity are the people who want to engage again in the world and become part of the International community. That

• See MACKEY page 18

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• THE PLATEAU'S POSITION •

• LETTERS •

Right of Conscience

Dear Editor,

Of greatest concern to all Americans in the current Healthcare debate should be the outright or implicit denial to Right of Conscience to Healthcare Providers — doctors, nurses, institutions — in the guise of expediency and ease of delivery.

The denial of right of conscience in effect demands that Healthcare Providers must provide any and all mandated services despite their own ethical and moral beliefs. This attempted intrusion is currently most applicable to female reproductive care, but might easily be deemed applicable to denial of care to the elderly, the mentally incompetent, the chronically ill; or the mandated provision of assisted suicide; or, ultimately, the mandated rationing of care.

The Right of Conscience is implied in all that we consider to be the fiber of America.

Tom H. West, MD
Highlands

U.S. government departments not as inept as you think

Dear Editor,

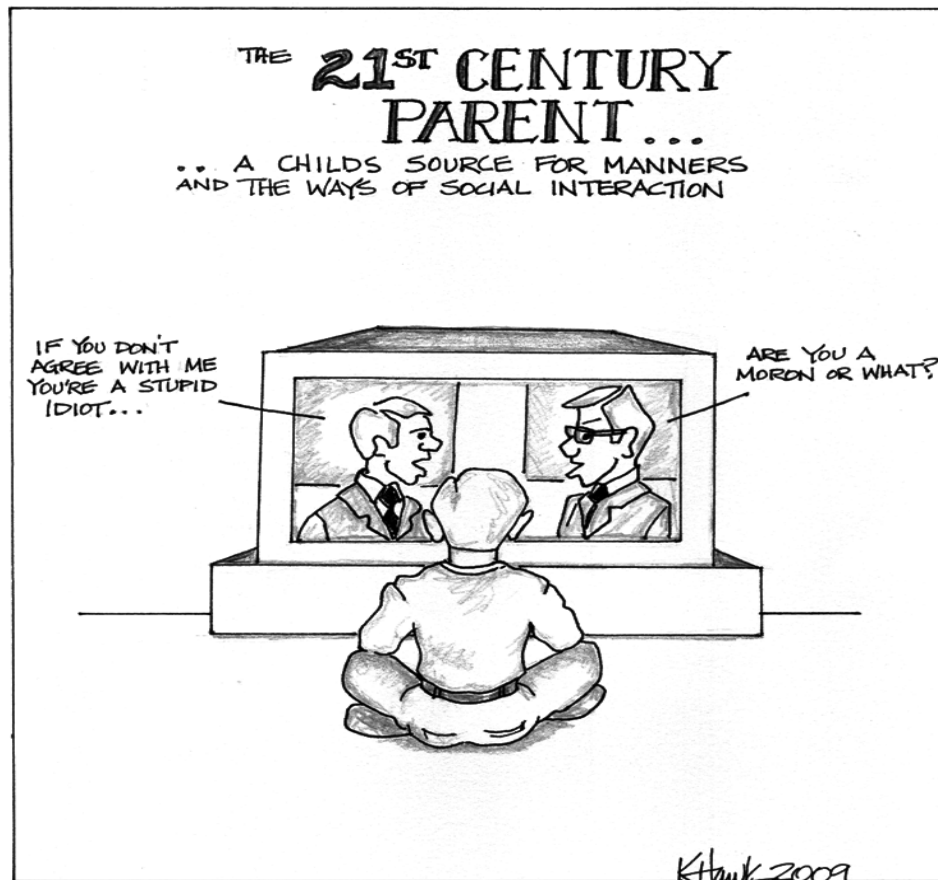
This past week all three free papers in our beautiful location of North Carolina had the same letter from a lady named Carol Adams from Glenville, N.C. And I just couldn't help myself; I had to send this little consideration to you.

Everyone always wants to talk how the U.S. Post Office is inefficient and undoubtedly always mentions UPS, or Federal Express as typical examples of success and profit. However, no one ever really thinks these comments through.

When was the last time you went to either UPS or Fed Ex and did not have to pay not only for the mailing, but also, the packing and the box, et al. Sure these businesses offer an excellent service, but for a really good price, perhaps a fair price, but at significant costs far and above what the USPS would charge.

I would like to see what the overall costs would be if either UPS, Fed Ex, or any other mail service would charge, and how they would perform if they had the same responsibility as the U.S. Post Office. The USPO has the responsibility to deliver to every address...every address in the United States, everyday except Sunday and holidays

• HAWK'S EYE VIEW •



To whomever submitted the "letter-cartoon" in response to Karen Hawk's cartoon in the Sept. 24 issue, please identify yourself so we can run your piece. We'd like to publish it but we don't run anonymous submissions. — Kim Lewicki

LETTERS-TO-THE EDITOR-POLICY

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

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— residences, businesses, postal boxes, both city and rural.

I have never worked for the Post Office and I have no friends at the Post Office, but the department needs to be recognized for the outstanding service it provides even the poorest of our citizens, and in the most rural in our country. Does it make a profit? Maybe not? Does Social Security, or Medicare, or Medicaid make a profit? Likewise, Maybe not! But ask when was the last time anyone failed to receive their government check on time each month? The Postal Service has performed exceedingly effectively.

Secondly, as for Iran, our country just cannot fight and be at war with everyone we disagree with or feel is not acting in the best interest of our world community. All of us have to deal with whoever is in charge. Maybe the person should not be in charge, or is unworthy of trust or power, but they for better or worse are the individual ruling that particular country. It is contrary to good judgment to just start fighting or threatening someone without doing our level best to reason and figure out some way we can live in relative peace with them. Don't we do this very thing with our own family members and neighbors?

American lives need to stop being lost, and maimed, and children doing without one or two parents, just because The US would rather fight. Will American blood need to soak the soil of every country before we stop using force as the only answer?

Joe Mathers
Otto, NC

Fisher passes the baton

Dear Editor:

As I now pass the baton as chair of The Bascom, I would like to express my personal appreciation to the Highlands and Cashiers communities for all the support and encouragement given me during my term in office. This has been an amazing person-

• See LETTERS page 13

• CORRECTION •

Last week we received all positive letters concerning the Forum in the Sept. 24 paper and printed some of them. However, most writers requested that their letters not be published. The letter written by Mary Myers was one of those, but it was put in the Production folder and mistakenly made it to the Editorial page. We regret the error and are happy to set the record straight.

• OBITUARY •

William B. Speed

William B. Speed, age 83, of Highlands, NC, died Thursday, October 1, 2009 at his residence. He was a native of Macon County, the son of the late Fate and Helen Beal Speed. He was married to Genevieve Houston Speed, who died in 2004. He was a US Army Veteran of World War II, and a member of the American Legion and VFW. He was retired from Department of Transportation, where he was a motor-grader operator. He attended Shortoff Baptist Church.

He is survived by three daughters, Anna Mae Ramos and husband Mario of Highlands, NC, Mary Sue Byruth and husband William Joseph of Ft. Lauderdale, FL, and Shirley Henry and husband Frank of Sparta, GA; two sons, Berkley Speed and Benny



William Speed

Speed both of Highlands, NC; 14 grandchildren and 19 great-grandchildren also survive.

Funeral services were held Sunday, October 4 at 2 pm in the Chapel of Bryant-Grant Funeral Home in Highlands, with the VFW Chaplain officiating. Burial was at Miller Cemetery. The American Legion Post #108 and Frankin VFW Post #7339 conducted military graveside rites. Pallbearers were Michael Houston, Tommy Houston, Larry Houston, William Ramos, Daniel Houston and David Speed.

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

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• LAUGHING AT LIFE •

Oh, Oh ... dead again

Ponder this: Is being dead like holding your breath forever? Exhale and read.

I woke with a start and jumped from my bed. *Oh, oh....it's happened again*, I thought as I tried to control my emotions. This time there was no warning. It must've happened while I slept. Everyone says that's the best way for it to happen, but I know it really doesn't matter. I'm trying to remember who I was, but, like all the other times, I couldn't. I don't understand why I'm not allowed know who I was and how I did. Oh well, I'll find out soon enough.

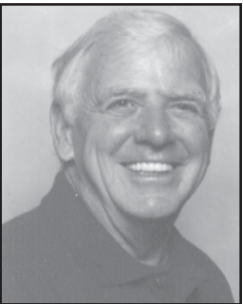
Watching in anticipation of His arrival, I wondered what He would look like this time. Why does He look different each time this happens? No more did that thought cross my consciousness, when, there He was, standing before me, smiling, hands in both pockets of His baggy pants. This time He was my height and looked a little scruffy, sporting a two-day growth of beard, messy gray hair and a ruddy complexion. I didn't care for His shirt. *Where did He get that stupid shirt, I thought?*

As always, I felt the love for me, the intense love emanating from Him. He had designed me, created what I would become and sent me out on my mission. He loved me as a parent should love a child. I cleared my throat, "Well, sir, how did I do this time?" I asked.

I waited in anticipation as His smile broadened. He took his hands from his pockets and hugged me. He whispered into my ear. "OK....you did....well, OK. Your name was Fred and you did the best you could considering your intelligence level and the many temptations I heaved on you."

He released me and stepped back. "I sent you out with fewer abilities than last time. Your challenge was not easy. As you say when you're alive, 'You played the cards you were dealt the best you could' so I gave you a passing grade."

Hearing this, I was overwhelmed with joy. I wanted to hug Him back, but resisted the urge. He smiled again, "You can if you want." I reached out and pulled Him toward me. It was good to have another mission completed and I



Fred Wooldridge

Feedback is encouraged!
email:
askfredanything@aol.com

anticipated, as always, what was about to occur.

He pushed himself from me and frowned. I had seen that frown before. "You got off course several times, once so bad, I almost took you early. But you refocused and got back on track. You also tried to shoot several people but fortunately you missed. I wouldn't have liked that. Overall, you made improvement based on what I gave you to work with." He put his hands

back in his pockets before speaking again. "There were many temptations and you resisted most of them, but some you didn't. But you passed and you'll advance."

Then His frown deepened. "Let me warn you that next time will be harder. I'll give you many tools and many talents to work with and you'll be challenged to use them all. You'll be extremely intelligent. Fail to use those gifts and you'll not complete your mission. You know what that means, for you have failed me before."

I couldn't look at Him. He allowed me to remember my failures. I knew the consequences. Not advancing was the worse thing that could happen and my rest period would be long and troubled.

He reached out to touch my shoulder. "Go and rest now, you have earned it. When you're ready, I'll call you for your next mission. And, oh, by the way, you gave me this shirt." He smiled and disappeared. I was now at peace, unable to recall any of what had just occurred. Complete and total peace prevailed.

I sat up in bed and felt my heart racing. I looked at the li'l missus sleeping next to me to confirm it was just a dream. *Darn*, I thought, *I should have never read that book, Many Lives, Many Masters*. It goes against every religious belief I have.

The book had been given to me years ago by a good friend, a member of the Sikh religion. The story, supposedly true, is about an atheist hypnotist doctor and his patient. It takes place in his office in Miami and it's not an easy read. It's the spookiest, most troubling book I've ever read. It must have had an enormous impact on my psyche as this was the third time I've had a similar dream. Warning: Do not read that book.

• THE VIEW FROM HERE •

Is too much being made of Olympic 'loss?'

I don't care who hosts the 2016 Summer Olympic Games. I didn't even watch the opening ceremonies from Peking. Last week, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil was awarded the games. The other finalists were Chicago, Madrid, and Tokyo. Chicago finished fourth. Fourth place doesn't sound that bad. There have been plenty of times in my life that I would have welcomed a fourth place finish.

Of course, I might have expected more if the President of the United States had petitioned on my behalf. President Obama made a pitch for his adopted home town in Copenhagen, where the Olympic hierarchy had gathered to select the host city for the 2016 Games.

Despite his appeal, or perhaps because

of it, Chicago finished dead last. I feel sorry for the President. Governing has proved more difficult than campaigning.

Despite a massive stimulus program, unemployment has approached 10%. Guantanamo Bay still houses detainees because it has proved difficult to find any place willing to house them. The public, or at least a well funded, vocal minority, has President Obama's health care reform on the ropes. "Obamacare" has become a derisive term, spoken with a sneer. The war in Afghanistan is going poorly and military commanders have asked for greater troop



Dr. Henry Salzarulo

Feedback is encouraged.
email:

hsalzarulo@aol.com

commitments to achieve the goal. To those of us old enough to remember, it's eerily reminiscent of the Viet Nam strategy.

It seems inconceivable that a President who came to power with an overwhelming mandate could have been so stymied in the early months of his first term. Maybe his advisers miscalculated and assured the President that the Olympic bid was a chip shot, that all he need do was show up to guarantee a victory for

Chicago and the USA. A victory, any victory, must have sounded appealing to the belea-

guered President. The Olympic Committee's action may or may not represent to our President and our country that there's plenty of anti-American sentiment out there. Delivering an embarrassing defeat to the President may have been a manifestation of those feelings. As I said, I feel sorry for the President. This was a defeat he didn't have to suffer, an embarrassment he could have avoided.

I don't believe the trip to Copenhagen distracted the President from important affairs of State, although I'm sure there are many who believe exactly that. Mothers and spouses of servicemen in Afghanistan might question the importance of the 2016

• See SALZARULO page 9

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• REFLECTIONS FROM TURTLE POND •

Socialism in Highlands?

Sound the alarms; socialism is coming to Highlands! Not only are some of our town officials excited at the prospect, but the Highlands Rotary Club, full of the town's businessmen, is cheering its advent.

I'm referring to the plan for a municipal wireless internet system in Highlands. A front-page article in last week's *Highlands' Newspaper* discussed the proposal made to the Town Board by a company called Double Radius. In his column, Mayor Don Mullen wrote about "a problem" in Highlands, the "inadequacy of current internet coverage and the inefficient and expensive services which we now have from various sources." So the Town Board is considering supplying the entire Town of Highlands and maybe some of the surrounding area with "internet service as a town utility." Dr. Mullen went on to predict that after setup, the monthly cost per household would be about \$25 per month.

The cost to the town to set up a pilot program to test the service is estimated to be about \$50,000.

There are already businesses providing internet service in Highlands: Verizon and Northland Cable. These businesses have invested in the infrastructure necessary to provide internet service to their customers. There are also businesses, for example Sweet Treats and Buck's, which have invested in equipment to provide wireless internet as an incentive to draw customers.

The price being charged in Highlands today for internet service can't be excessive as the mayor claims: the market place always sets the correct price for a product or service — that is free-market economic gospel. And the private business world is vastly more efficient than government; a government-run utility could not possibly be more efficient than the private businesses as the mayor claims.

A subsidized public option would be an unfair competitor with private business.

Do these arguments sound familiar? They are of course the conservative arguments against the "socialist" public option in the national health care reform proposals.

I would imagine that some of those who have enthusiastically greeted town-provided internet service are opposed to the public option in the health-care debate. Why would there be an inconsistency in their views between government at a national and a local level?

Certainly money has something to do with it. For many people it's difficult to see



Katie Brugger
k-brugger@hotmail.com

any advantage to the public option in health care; it's much more likely, they believe, that they will end up paying more through higher taxes.

It's easy however to see how a public option in wireless internet would benefit Highlands' residents and businesses; it's a draw for tourists and it will make internet service cheaper at

businesses and homes.

One of the biggest problems in the health-care reform debate has been that most people with health insurance don't really know how much they're paying (See "You Have No Idea What Health Costs: If You Did, You Might Just Want Real Reform" by Ezra Klein, *Washington Post*, September 20, 2009). About 160 million Americans receive health coverage through their employers. In general, the employer picks up 73 percent of the cost. That money is not being "given" by the employer; it comes out of the employee's wages.

Health-care premiums have risen by 300 percent over the past 30 years (and that's after adjusting for inflation). Hourly earnings for workers, adjusted for inflation, have fallen during that period, partly because wage increases have been consumed by health-care costs. The average health-care coverage for the average family now costs \$13,375, but most workers don't really see this as a cost to them: they do not write a check for that amount to their insurance company. And they don't see an itemized amount on their pay stub for health insurance, increasing every year and decreasing their net pay.

Another 80 million Americans have government insurance: Medicare, Medicaid, and the Veterans Administration programs. Those costs are paid by taxpayers.

This year *The New England Journal of Medicine* did its own study of individual physicians to assess the opinion of doctors about the differing health care proposals, as opposed to what physician organizations such as the AMA support. The study found that "Overall, a majority of physicians (62.9%) supported public and private options. Primary care providers were the most likely to support a public option (65.2%). Finally, there was also majority support for a public option among AMA members (62%)."

There has been a lot of misinformation swirling around the health-care reform debate clouding the truth about our current health-care system. Another *Washington*

• See BRUGGER page 7

• COACH'S CORNER •

Random thoughts from a busy sports weekend

We have a lot to address this week, but there is not a better place to start than everyone's favorite "F" word. Favre... Brett Favre silenced the haters (including myself) with a terrific Monday night performance against his old team the Green Bay Packers. Despite being darn near 40 years old, he's still got some magic bullets in that right arm of his, and it showed Monday. The difference in the game though? Aaron Rodgers got sacked 8 times, Favre none.

Bonehead officiating of the week: Georgia fans, for once, I sympathize with you. Simply ludicrous penalty on A.J. Green (best WR in the country BTW) that cost the Dawgs field position and ultimately contributed to a loss against LSU. At some point common sense has to be applied to the officials interpretation of the rules-too bad common sense was nowhere to be found Saturday.

Bonehead officiating part deux: I am agreeing with Rodney Harrison-Tom Brady needs to take the skirt off and play like a man. People hate on Duke basketball for trying to "sell the call" to officials-why should Brady be absolved when he turns to an official, pleads for the call, gets said call and then pumps his fist? It's not roughing the passer when you graze their uniform, and Ron Winter and his crew should be ashamed of themselves. (and avoid Ray Lewis in a back alley at all costs)

Tebow Watch: The will he or won't he play against LSU question will likely not be answered until kickoff, but it will not matter. LSU struggled to move the ball consistently against Georgia's terrible defense and unless they have marked improvement in that department they are going to have a hard time putting points up against a Florida D that has only allowed 2 touchdowns the entire season.

Play-in thriller: Tuesday showcased what a one game playoff should look like in Major League Baseball. An absolute thriller of a game that saw the Twins guarantee at least one more game in the Metrodome before it shuts down. No way the Twins shock the Yankees this time around, but at least we will have the memory of the AL Central division championship which provides a perfect Metrodome ending. (I'll miss the giant hefty bags in the outfield the most).

Not Jinxing It: Several teams in the NFL made it to a



Ryan Potts
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perfect 4-0 this weekend, including the Minnesota Vikings, Denver Broncos, Indianapolis Colts, New York Giants and...oh yeah, one other team that I refuse to mention in this space for fear of the jinx.

On Tap: This weekend we have the MLB playoffs, Florida at LSU (night game!) NFL week 5, the start of the NHL season and NBA training camps. Whew-no wonder we all love the fall so much!

... BRUGGER continued from page 6

Post article exposed "5 Myths About Health Care Around the World (T.R. Reid, August 23, 2009), which I highly recommend to everyone.

One of the myths is, "Foreign health-care systems are inefficient, bloated bureaucracies." Mr. Reid says, "It may seem to Americans that U.S.-style free enterprise — private-sector, for-profit health insurance — is naturally the most cost-effective way to pay for health care. But in fact, all the other payment systems are more efficient than ours.

"U.S. health insurance companies have the highest administrative costs in the world; they spend roughly 20 cents of every dollar for nonmedical costs, such as paperwork, reviewing claims and marketing. France's health insurance industry, in contrast, covers everybody and spends about 4 percent on administration. The world champion at controlling medical costs is Japan, even though its aging population is a profligate consumer of medical care. On average, the Japanese go to the doctor 15 times a year, three times the U.S. rate. They have twice as many MRI scans and X-rays. Quality is high; life expectancy and recovery rates for major diseases are better than in the United States. And yet Japan spends about \$3,400 per person annually on health care; the United States spends more than \$7,000."

I personally think the public option — both in municipal internet service and national health care — is a good idea and if implemented will benefit everyone. Even those who stick with private plans will benefit from the greater productivity and health of people who formerly couldn't afford internet service or health care.

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

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Pumpkinfest coming to Highlands Saturday, October 10

The Highlands-Cashiers Plateau is rich in natural and cultural history. Among the area's many special properties is one that folks often drive by and may not notice. Located on Highway 64 E between Highlands and Cashiers, The David Farm, will be the site of the Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust's first ever family fall Pumpkinfest on Saturday, October 10 from 10 a.m.-2 pm.

• CONSERVATIVE POV •

Those were the 'Good Old Days'

Some of our longer-time readers will remember the halcyon days when we could discuss mythology, the genesis of higher education in the US, etiology in all its various forms, and other philosophical matters. It seems lately we have been bogged down in non-stop political skirmishing, pointing fingers here and there, just cat fighting of the worst sort. I think it's time to interject humor into the equation, don't you?

"Outside the killings, Washington has one of the lowest crime rates in the country," Marion Berry, former mayor of Washington, DC.

Last week, Obama went to Copenhagen to lobby for bringing the Olympic Games to Chicago in 2016. Michelle preceded him by a day and made the following comments as reported in the Washington Examiner. "In her speech in Copenhagen today, First Lady Michelle Obama said her trip to Denmark, along with the travel of her 'dear friend' and 'chit-chat buddy' Oprah Winfrey, as well as the visit by President Obama, is a 'sacrifice' on behalf of the Children of Chicago and the United States." WHAT??

After more bilious bilge, "Mrs. Obama said bringing the Olympics to Chicago is especially important right now (actually, Michelle, 2016 is not right now, nor is now 2016 the last I looked) because "athletics is becoming more of a fleeting opportunity. Funds dry up so it becomes harder for kids to engage in sports, to learn how to swim, to even ride a bike." I don't know about you, but when my dad tossed me off the dock into the lake, it didn't cost anybody a nickel. And bike lessons, no matter how costly, weren't around then. Get on and ride. Fall off. Get on and ride again, and so on.

But forget the trivia – the real reason for the high-level full court press, or sacrifice if you prefer, is the gigantic profits land developers Tony Rezco, Valarie Jarrett (oh yes, she is) and the rest stand to gain when the remaking of Chicago takes place. And, oh yes, it's for the children.

"The enemy isn't conservatism. The enemy isn't liberalism. The enemy is BS." Lars-Erik Nelson, political columnist. (He put it more colorfully.)

From CNSNews.com, "Documentary film maker, Michael Moore, who has become a millionaire thanks to the profits from his movies, told CNSNews.com that 'capitalism did nothing' for him. CNSNews



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

spoke with Moore on the red carpet at the Uptown Theater in Washington, DC before the premiere of his documentary, 'Capitalism: A Love Story.' 'You know, I had to pretty much beg, borrow and steal,' he said. 'The system is not set up to help somebody from the working class make a movie like this and get the truth out there.'" Gag.

"Vote: the instrument and symbol of a freeman's power to make a fool of himself and a

wreck of his country." Ambrose Pierce, *The Devil's Dictionary*.

Reuters reports: "Tokyo governor Shintaro Ishihara warned the 2016 Olympics could be the last Games, with global warming an immediate threat to mankind. Tokyo bid to host the 2016 Olympic Games with Chicago, Rio de Janeiro and Madrid. 'It could be that the 2016 Games are the last Olympics in the history of mankind,' Ishihara told reporters at a Tokyo 2016 press event ahead of the vote. 'Global Warming is getting worse. We have to come up with measures without which Olympic Games could not last long.'"

"The Democrats are the party of government activism, the party that says government can make you richer, smarter, taller, and get the chickweed out of your lawn. Republicans are the party that says government doesn't work, and then get elected and prove it." P. J. O'Rourke, *Parliament of Whores*.

Any more funnies today? Yes, indeedly.

New York Times columnist David Brooks opines that the listeners/viewers of Limbaugh, O'Reilly, Hannity and Beck are largely imaginary. He equates L.O.H&B to the Wizard of Oz and makes some reference to small people behind curtains. Since I haven't read or seen the WofO, I don't know what that means. He cites the ineffectiveness of conservative talk radio/TV during the last election campaign, which, to some degree, is accurate. To the extent that they didn't accomplish what they set out to do, they didn't.

It showed that the combined efforts of ABC, CBS, NBC, CNN, MSNBC, SEIU, ACORN, NEA, etc., combined with the basic greed of a large segment of the voters was too great a force to overcome.

Now that we have seen the carnage being wrought upon our country as a result of the election, I have a strong feeling 2010 will show a different outcome. We'll see.

• HEALTH MATTERS •

The sore throat

When we have a sore throat, it can feel dry and scratchy, making it often painful to swallow. The common cold and respiratory tract infections are often accompanied by sore throats. Virus's are the main cause of sore throats, such as influenza; however, some sore throats are caused by bacterial infections. For example, strep throat is caused by Group A streptococcus. As always there are additional reasons why individuals can have a sore throat; such as: allergies, dry air, chemical or irritant pollution, and smoking or exposure to second hand smoke.

Signs and symptoms of a viral infection accompanied by a sore throat are sneezing, cough, watery eyes, headache, body aches, runny nose, fever less than 102 degrees.

You should definitely see your Physician if you have the following symptoms: difficulty swallowing or breathing, temperature higher than 100.4 degrees, rash, pus on the tonsils or throat, blood in the phlegm or saliva, sore throat longer than 1 week, excessive drooling especially in young children, hoarseness, or symptoms of dehydration: dryness, sticky mouth, fatigue, thirst, decreased urination, muscle weakness, headache,

and dizziness.

If you are diagnosed with a bacterial infection such as strep throat, your physician will treat you with an antibiotic. Antibiotics are used to treat strep throat infections and for preventing rheumatic fever. To do this, the full course of antibiotic prescribed should be taken. Strep throat is diagnosed by a lab test and if an individual is infected the patient should stay home from work, school, or other facilities until 24 hours after starting antibiotic therapy. Your physician may also prescribe other medicine to treat associated symptoms.

Remember, antibiotic therapy will only help if the sore throat is caused by a bacterial infection. If a sore throat is caused by a viral infection, rest, time and using symptom relief products will help to lessen and hopefully alleviate your pain.

As always, practicing good preventive habits helps; such as: excellent hand hygiene, avoid smoking and second-hand smoke, and avoid individuals who have upper respiratory infections and colds.

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

Flu shots for children through Friday

The Macon County Public Health Center is currently providing seasonal influenza vaccine for children ages 6 months through 18 years of age. Vaccinations for these children will be given through Oct. 9 from 1 pm to 4 pm at the public health center on Lakeside Drive. There is no charge to the patient, but please bring any insurance information.

In addition, this year all children enrolled in Macon County public schools will have the option to be vaccinated against

seasonal and H1N1 influenza at their school. Information about this option will be sent home to parents

Additional vaccination clinics for seasonal influenza targeting adults and the novel H1N1 influenza targeting high risk groups will be scheduled as additional supplies of vaccine arrive.

Please call the health center at 349-2081 for the latest updates on the availability of seasonal influenza and novel H1N1 vaccine.

... SALZARULO continued from page 5

Olympic Games. They may believe that it is more important to have defeated the Taliban and secured a stable Afghanistan by 2016.

The millions of uninsured Americans who are depending on the President to deliver on his promise of health care reform may think that his time would have been better spent twisting arms in Washington than twisting arms in Copenhagen.

The 9.8% of Americans who find themselves unemployed may be more concerned with paying their rent, and feeding their families than which city hosts an extravagant celebration of athletic excellence. A few Americans are still concerned with

the disposition of Islamic detainees and are more interested where they are held than where Olympic athletes are housed.

Olympic competition has a way of taking our minds off our problems for a few weeks, particularly when the Yanks are piling up medals. The same was true of games in ancient Rome. I don't think people with real problems will be distracted for long.

I wish the President hadn't gone to Copenhagen, but not for any of the important reasons I've already mentioned. It makes him seem less like the leader of America and the free world, and more like a Chicago politician, and that's not how I want to think of my President.



David Wilkes

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• COOKING ON THE PLATEAU •

Potatoes take center stage

There are so many ways to prepare potatoes that it's no surprise spuds remain a family favorite. People most often think of potatoes as the ultimate side dish; however, it's time to move potatoes to the center of the plate! Prepared mashed potatoes, such as Idahoan mashed potatoes, can help add a little extra flavor, crunch or creaminess to a variety of recipes.

Try crusting ordinary halibut with potato flakes for savory Roasted Garlic Halibut, an easy weeknight meal that can be ready in just 20 minutes. Skip the mayonnaise on these Savory Potato Wraps, a delicious departure from traditional sandwich wraps. And, for a more upscale meal, try Crab-Stuffed Roasted Chicken Breast, which features a rich filling of Four Cheese Mashed Potatoes, crabmeat, fresh basil and shredded Parmesan.

Visit www.idahoan.com for more unique recipes and meal ideas.

Roasted Garlic Halibut

Prep Time: 5 minutes

Cook Time: 15 minutes

Servings: 4

2 pounds halibut
1 4-ounce package Idahoan Roasted Garlic Mashed Potatoes, dry
Canola oil
Salt and pepper
1 lemon
Cut halibut filet into 4 pieces (8-ounce portions). Lightly salt and pepper.

Empty contents of mashed potatoes package on large plate. Coat filets liberally, gently pushing potatoes into filets. In large sauté pan, preheat a generous amount of canola oil, on medium heat.

When oil is hot, gently place the halibut in pan, being careful not to splash. Sauté fish until golden brown (approximately 2 to 4 minutes). Turn filets and reduce heat to medium-low. Cover pan and let sauté until done (until flaky, or approximately 8 to 12 minutes). Remove from heat. Add lemon juice to taste and serve.

Savory Potato Wraps

Prep Time: 5 minutes

Cook Time: 5 minutes

Servings: 4 wraps

1 cup prepared Idahoan Original Mashed Potatoes
4 (9-inch) red pepper or flour tortillas
1/2 pound cooked turkey breast or ham, thinly sliced (approximately 8 slices), or diced into small chunks
1 cup shredded lettuce
1 cup diced red bell pepper or tomato
Prepare potatoes as package directs for 2 servings. Cool potatoes to room temperature.

Warm tortillas individually in microwave for 8 to 10 seconds.

Spread each tortilla with 1/4 cup mashed potatoes. Top with 2 slices of turkey or ham, 1/4 cup shredded lettuce and red pepper or tomato. Roll up and place seam-side down.

Crab-Stuffed Roasted Chicken Breast

Prep Time: 5 minutes

Cook Time: 1 hour

Servings: 8

8 boneless chicken breasts, uncooked
1 10 to 12-ounce bottle prepared Italian salad dressing
1 4-ounce pouch Idahoan Four Cheese Mashed Potatoes
1/2 pound crab meat
6 ounces shredded Parmesan cheese
Salt and pepper
2 tablespoons fresh basil, finely chopped

Preheat oven to 350° F.

Place chicken breasts in 9 x 13-inch glass baking dish.

Pour dressing over chicken and bake for 25 to 30 minutes. Remove from oven and cool.

Cut a slit in middle of chicken breast with sharp knife. Do not cut all the way through.

Cut a little pocket on either side of slit, again, making sure not to cut all the way through.

Prepare potatoes according to package directions. Mix in crab. Salt and pepper to taste.

Distribute potato mixture evenly among chicken pockets. Sprinkle with cheese. Place in a non-greased baking dish. Bake for 10 to 15 minutes, or until cheese has completely melted. Remove from oven and garnish with basil. Serve immediately.



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.

This is the second question:

In the recent past, the Town Board has discussed taking over the Visitor Center and using room tax money to operate it under the town's umbrella rather keeping it as an arm of the Chamber of Commerce which is a private organization. What do you think of that idea?

Gary Drake

I feel that it would be a grave mistake to separate the Visitor's Center from the Chamber of Commerce. The two groups have the same goal in mind, to inspire others to come to our lovely town and while here generate the funds needed to support our businesses. This is abundantly clear to me because I serve on the Highlands Tourism Development Commission, an oversight commission of the Visitor's Center, appointed by the Macon County Board of Commissioners. The members of this group include Highlands' owners of accommodations, dining, retail businesses, one town Board Commissioner, and also one Macon County Board Commissioner. We approve all room tax money expenditures.

If the Visitor's Center becomes separated, there will be at least a 30% increase in expenses for the Center which would include rent, salaries, utilities, etc. This INCREASE would certainly DECREASE the amount of funds available to promote Highlands. Room tax collections for the past year were lower than years past and have decreased even further this fiscal year. By keeping the Visitor's Center and the Chamber together, we are able to utilize every room tax dollar during this slowed economy.

At this time, the fine job of successfully promoting Highlands is due to the combined efforts of the Visitor's Center, the

Chamber, and the hard working volunteers. Visitors have many choices of areas in which to spend their money traveling, and with the combined efforts of the Visitor's Center and the Chamber we will continue to promote Highlands. Remember, if it isn't broken, don't fix it!

Don Mullen

Currently the Chamber of Commerce is an independent private organization with the promise to promote and perpetuate the tourism, business, commercial, civic interests, general welfare and prosperity of the Town of Highlands and to do this by representing the town prominently in other areas of the state and country.

The function of the Visitor's Center falls into these categories in many different ways. As long as the Chamber, which operates the Visitor's Center, is doing its duty well, there would be no reason to change its current status. To this end I would favor the room tax money continue to go to the Chamber as long as it is used to the full benefit of the town.

As a Town Board we must work cooperatively and closely with them in their duties to promote Highlands. As the Mayor I will continue to promote business interests of Highlands in cooperation with the Chamber of Commerce and the individual businesses as they deem necessary and I think important. I can promise continued search for economic development in cooperation with

the Macon County Economic Development Program of which the Board of Commissioners of Highlands has been a part.

It is important that the Visitor's Center and the Board of Commissioners help develop a uniform public spirit, as we all put forth maximum efforts in the aid of our community to make it more prosperous, enhance the beauty of the downtown area and make Highlands not only good for business but good for all of our visitors and inhabitants.

Amy Patterson

When you decide questions of this type you must first answer some basic, underlying questions. Do you believe that government is always more effective and efficient than private organizations? Do you believe that private organizations should not have access to public (tax) money? Do you believe that individuals that run private organizations can not be trusted to do the right thing? And specifically, do you believe that the Highlands Chamber of Commerce has done a poor job of managing the Visitor Center and the Town government would do a better job?

I do not believe that government is always more effective or efficient. Many private organizations do excellent work in specific niches by focusing on a defined need or project. Collaboration and cooperation with those groups can be very effective by pooling resources, eliminating redundan-

cy and alleviating government from being expected to provide those services. The bottom line for public money is that it is used to serve the public. With adequate oversight, private organizations can use tax money to provide services effectively. Most individuals that run these private, public service organizations are dedicated, responsible citizens.

The real question is whether the Chamber is misusing the room tax money to further its own agenda and not for the Visitor's Center. The county collects, distributes and administers the room tax money. They have auditing and accountability mechanisms in place to insure the money is used for its stated purpose. The Town of Highlands has no responsibility or authority over the money. In the past, I may have disagreed with some things the Chamber has done. But that doesn't make them wrong, only that I would have done some things differently.

Hank Ross

It has always been clear to me that the Visitor's Center and promotions using room occupancy tax proceeds should be run by local businesspersons. The Chamber of Commerce is the most inclusive and the best organization to do this task.

In 2007 and early 2008, I was asked to serve on Macon County's Occupancy Tax Task Force. This group was formed because

some in Macon County Government felt that there should be a central authority to make decisions on how to use the occupancy tax. I successfully argued that the occupancy tax dollars should be controlled by the areas that generated the tax.

Also, Highlands' businesses know how best to promote our community and run our Visitor's Center. Ultimately, the Highlands and Franklin Tourism Development Commissions (TDC) were formed to oversee the distribution of room taxes to their respective Chambers of Commerce. I serve on the Highlands TDC board.

As a past president of the Chamber of Commerce and a local businessperson, I feel that it's better to have the private sector run the Visitor's Center and promote our local economy.

David Wilkes

I am not in favor of the town operating the visitor center with room tax money. Currently, the Chamber of Commerce is the best channel for directing the funds for the promotion of tourism. The Chamber is accountable to a wide cross section of Highlands businesses and communicates regularly with its members. The town has no network available nor has it sought to establish one to communicate regularly with the business community. Establishing a committee to oversee the Visitor Center would be much less effective than the current system.



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... LETTERS continued from page 2

al journey for both myself and my wife, Cathy. We are generally private people but somehow felt inspired to reach beyond ourselves for what we felt was an important opportunity to create something special at The Bascom.

I have never been involved with anything that was so rewarding. The community embraced the concept from the beginning, and one good thing led to another. The end result is something far more significant than any of us could have imagined.

I would like to express particular thanks to the very dedicated and capable staff of The Bascom, to our board members and volunteers (past and present), and to our incredibly generous donors, all of whom have given tremendously of themselves and their resources. Each of you know what you have given and sacrificed and should take great satisfaction. This has

truly been a community project with well over 1,400 donors.

This past Saturday night, The Bascom hosted a gathering for approximately 500 members of the Highlands and Cashiers communities. Beer, barbecue, bluegrass and baby sitting is a powerful combination, and the beautiful weather didn't hurt, either. The reality was of a genuine community gathering where people of all ages and walks of life came together and friendships were renewed and created.

Then Sunday afternoon, Patrick Taylor (the fantastic head of The Bascom's pottery program) oversaw our first big kiln opening. It was such a joy to watch the excitement experienced by residents of both Highlands and Cashiers, who comprised The Bascom's first class of potters, as their works were removed from the depths of our large, new gas kiln. And some true works of art did indeed emerge from the

kiln! Our first class should be proud of what they have accomplished.

By far my greatest satisfaction is in turning over the helm of The Bascom to someone who is extremely well equipped to take the institution into the future. Willis Willey (and his wonderful wife, Vance) will take the baton and run the race with great skill and energy. Willis is the former chair of the Dixon Museum in Memphis (not to mention being a very successful businessman and a graduate of both Princeton and Harvard Business School). Willis has the

skills to oversee The Bascom as it moves beyond a vision into a thriving community asset.

Willis has asked me to stay involved, and I will of course be delighted to do so. I have another couple of years left on the Board, and will do whatever is required to assure the continued success of The Bascom.

Thank you, Highlands and Cashiers!

Bob Fisher

Chair Emeritus of The Bascom
Highlands

An open letter to my senators

Dear Senators

I'm sure most would agree this country needs both healthCare and insurance reform but, before rushing through and enacting such legislation I suggest that you do not support any plan that is a Government plan but give consideration to formulating a simple well written plan, as opposed to the unintelligible 1000 page H.R. 3200 Bill. The Bill should contain provisions that consider providing insurance to those that currently can't get coverage for pre-existing conditions, those that don't currently have or can't get insurance and include Tort reform. All other issues should be considered at a later date. And why does Congress have to have a new bill to eliminate the fraud in Medicare? Why isn't that being done now?

Some of the many healthcare coverage concerns for not approving plans such as H.R. 3200 are: rationing of coverage and services, Government Committees, less coverage at a higher cost, illegals being included and the deficit this bill will cause just to name a few. No one can convince me that by cutting about \$500 billion in projected Medicare payments to providers and adding another 40 million people to the Healthcare plan that my coverage will be improved and that it will not increase our Federal deficit. And, you surely know that we can't afford to do either of these.

On the legal and privacy act side of this issue I as well as attorney John C. Saunders, Jr have concerns:

* The bill is so poorly written I'm not certain whether it does or does not include paying for abortions but it should specifically state that it either does or does not.

* H.R. 3200 would create an incredible panoply of new federal bureaucracies and bureaucrats/apparatchiks.. There should be a hue and cry by Congressmen, such as

yourself, and citizens protesting this extraordinary delegation of power and authority.

* There are provisions throughout the bill which state clearly that "There shall be no administrative or judicial review..." of decisions/rulings/findings/etc., on a number of topics, made by the Secretary, the Commissioner, or "others," in these newly created octopus-like federal agencies. This denial of review at either the administrative (agency) level or the judicial (courts, including the Supreme Court) level is an unconstitutional denial of the basic right of access. I do not know how you or any other member of Congress can vote for a bill which so openly repudiates the fundamentals of our foundation. These provisions in my opinion are completely unacceptable.


* Under H.R. 3200, the definition (and limitation) on a "grandfathered" plan make it clear that the instant there is any change within an existing individual plan, that plan *must* then comply with the requisite "essential benefits package" also mandated by the bill. Similarly, all work-based plans must also include no less than the "essential benefits package" after 5 years. The package requires that every plan include no less than certain listed benefits. For older people, clear of child-bearing years, and with all their children grown, I do not understand why *their plan*, individual or work-based, must include pregnancy/maternity benefits, plus well baby/well child coverage. I also cannot fathom why I (or anyone else who does not want or need them) *must* have coverage for dental, as well as vision and aural (hearing). These are all traditionally optional coverages, the exclusion of which has heretofore meant a

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• HIS & HERS •

Getting there is half the fun – Part 1

By Michelle A. Mead-Armor

I promised to do three things before going on vacation this year, so, of course, I didn't do any of them. Since we were going to a part of the world I'd never been to, I thought it would be a great idea to read up on the history and culture of the places, maybe even learning a few basic foreign words and expressions. As a lot of walking was going to be involved, it would be a good idea to practice walking, getting out of our Highlands habit of going everywhere by car. Lastly, we were going to a part of the world known for exceptional cuisine, so losing a bit of weight seemed in order before confronting the mountains of pasta and baklava which loomed before us.

Having always loved to travel, I am increasingly troubled by my total mental block when it comes to packing. Packing is awful! Like most people, I tend to over pack, despite of the pain of lugging around too much stuff myself, and the guilt over giving hernias to unsuspecting porters. This time, going online for packing lists was a viable and helpful alternative. So was the

ironic comment, "If, by chance, you receive a last minute invitation to the Queen's garden party, you can always go out and buy a hat."

My normal wardrobe is a strange and wonderful mixture of comfortable clothing with forgiving waistbands. We were going to Europe, however, a place known for chic women in stylish outfits. At the last minute, I jumped on the Travelsmith website, and ordered a few things to make me feel better about the image I was presenting to the world. Armed with these, comfortable walking shoes, and my miniscule vocabulary of pizza restaurant Italian, we pulled out of the driveway. I held back my tears, heartbroken about leaving our two cats for almost three weeks. Days earlier, we had sat them down, and broken the news to them. "Mama and Papa are going far, far away. We are taking a big metal bird, and going bye-bye. Auntie Sue will be coming to take care of the catsoos. You like Auntie Sue." John turns away, and winces when I talk like this. Ha! You should hear him. . . .

We drove up to Waynesboro, where we

would be joining our group. The vacation was organized by our family friend, Chris Edwards, with whom we'd gone to Scotland and Ireland last year. Many of our fellow travelers were also on last year's trip, which made it especially nice.

Unfortunately, Maman would have to stay at home this time, still recuperating from her fall in July, which resulted in a broken hip and elbow. She was a good sport, and insisted we go on without her, and come back full of stories, photos, and souvenirs. We promised not to let her down. Bleary-eyed, we met at dawn the next day in the parking lot of the local Wal-Mart, to board the bus to Dulles. The early hour meant a lot of snoozing along the way. Our lady driver got us to DC in record time, and armed with our suitcases and our courage, we prepared for the whole boarding process.

When did checking-in and security become so awful? Please don't give me the song and dance about 9/11. I was in New York at the time, and watched the towers go down from only a few blocks away. What this has to do with remembering to pack your tweezers in the carry-on luggage I do not know. With my knee replacement, it's the usual song and dance with someone yelling out "female assist," and some poor, bored woman apologizing while she waves her magic wand over your body parts and gets up close and personal with your under wiring. Good-bye, Dulles, hello, JFK, for more waiting and formalities. In what seems like hours of traveling and waiting, we wind up on our plane to Milan. Finally, we can heave a sigh of relief, and feel like we're really on our way. The plane is filled with an odd combination of Italians returning home with cowboy hats and obscure t-shirts in English, and American tourists.

John is the lucky one. He can sleep anywhere, and proceeds to snooze while we are still on the ground. I find it hard to sleep on planes, just as my mother does. I asked her once why this was so, and she replied in all honesty: "What if something goes wrong during the flight, and they need someone to fly the plane?" My Dad used to work in aircraft electrical systems for General Electric, and I always feel a bit safer when I see we are flying on a plane with GE engines. At last the plane takes off, and



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

we look at the TV screen in front of us, showing a map and the flight plan. I'm used to trips going to France, but this time we're going to flying over France to get to Italy, our first stop. I find that John is nervous flying over the Atlantic, a trait strangely endearing in a man who projects such confidence and certitude.

Our flight takes almost nine hours, and

we finally land in Milan. There, we begin the whole process in reverse – passports, baggage claims, trying to stay together as a group. At the end of this, we should find our bus, to take us to Bari, on Lake Como, for our first two nights of the tour. As we get our bags early, John wants to go outside to get some fresh air. I am afraid of getting separated from the group, who are waiting for the luggage of the one lady who flew first class – supreme irony. We go outside, and wait. And wait. And wait. First, John goes to the buses lined up with the name of our tour. Then I go. We don't speak Italian. They don't speak English. Or French. They shrug. We shrug. Total frustration.

Finally, on one last trip to the buses, I find our entire group, sitting in the bus, with their luggage safely stored away in the hold. They are patiently waiting for two missing people, about to have them paged over the Milan airport PA system. I realize, to my shame and embarrassment, that we are those two people. We have now become Those Two Awful People We Had to Wait for at the Airport. We are Those Two People Who Wouldn't Stay with the Group. Lowering my head, I slink all the way to the back of the bus, murmuring apologies along the way, face burning with shame. We will have the rest of the trip to make it up to everyone, but we are now officially on probation.

Next week: Part 2,

• 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 will be boring you for the next several weeks with tales from her trip. Just be grateful you're not getting the photos.

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... LETTERS continued from page 13

lower premium. So, if one's existing plan does not include such coverages – by their choice – why should the government be allowed to force them to change to a more expensive coverage they do not want, just because a single element of an existing individual plan is modified after Y1 commences, or after 5 years of their work-based coverage?

- Those who state that we can keep our existing plans, and the government will not get in the way, are either disingenuous or they have not “competently” reviewed and digested H.R. 3200. I respectfully suggest you take all possible steps to (a) revise the “grandfathered” policy language to make each existing plan truly grandfathered as long as it remains in force, regardless of any changes, without any need to comply with any other provisions, and (b) trim the “essential benefits package” to make it truly essential, eliminating coverages which should be optional, based on the need or desire of the covered insured.

- It is stated the bill will offer “more affordable choices.” The bill allows 4 plans, and *only* 4 plans: the “basic, the enhanced, the premium and the premium plus.” If the government, pursuant to this bill, places *any limits* on the types and contents of the coverages offered, beyond a redefined “essential benefits package” which covers a *true* list of only basic essentials, then the choices are being reduced, not expanded.

- There is also the problem of an individual who purchases, or an employer who provides, health coverage which does not meet the criteria described in the bill. It's easy to say an individual or an employer may remain with an existing plan even if it doesn't meet that criteria, or purchase one that isn't offered through the exchange, but the truth is that *only* those plans “certified” by the Health Choices Administration (catchy name for one of the new, exploding bureaucracies) will be deemed to satisfy the mandate of universal coverage.

- If you like your existing plan and keep it, but it doesn't meet the criteria because of some internal change (such as co-pay level) or after 5 years, as the case may be, then you will be deemed not to have a qualified plan and – if an individual – will be hit with a 2.5% surtax on your income every year, *in addition to the premiums you are paying for your existing coverage*. Same thing for the employer who is currently providing coverage to his employees, but who – after 5 years – does not modify that coverage to meet the criteria for certification – that employer gets tagged with a bill for 8% of payroll, despite providing full coverage.

- There are Privacy Laws that protect us yet the Government will disregard these laws since within the H.R. 3200 Bill it states the Government will have access to our bank accounts. I and I'm sure most

Americans strongly object to allowing this infringement on our privacy rights.

Please keep the government out of health care while you can. We already have Medicare/Medicaid/VA/etc., and they are horribly troubled, to say the least.

These new boondoggle bureaucracies will fare no better. The federal government does not need to inject itself further into the issue; it needs to create reasonable, responsible guidelines and a frame work for reformation of the private sector, and let that private sector modify itself. Keep legislative oversight, by all means. Create deadlines and provide for stiff fines for non-compliance, too. Mandate coverage for the true basics.

Acknowledge those individuals and employers who already have coverage by leaving them alone. Don't take the H.R. 3200 approach and make it difficult to correct the few problems we *do* have, by creating a largely unintelligible 1000 page set of counter-intuitive provisions with a whole

new host of problems, regulatory and practical.

Additionally: putting a gag order on an insurer seems unconstitutional; what is happening to our rights and liberties? While Congress has turned a blind eye to the many Czars that have a tremendous amount of budget authority and power and yet they don't even have to have their backgrounds checked.

The creation of a massive Federal Healthcare program that contains proposed charges such as, surtax, fees and penalties is just another form of excise taxes and will end up having to be paid by the taxpayer or by those with insurance.

Unleash the power of the market by allowing all health insurers to offer any/all policies nationally, without regard to state lines. Instead of creating this massive new federal system for selling insurance through the “exchange.”

Paul S. Horvath
Highlands

Blood drive turnout will help save lives

Thank you to all who came out and gave blood at Otto Community o Oct. 4. This blood drive was held in memory of Carrie Ann Sellers. Without your help, we would not have been a success. We were able to get 27 usable unites, 28 people presented to donate. Look for the next drive. Thanks to all the businesses and churches that put up the announcements.

Phyllis S. Castle
Otto Secretary and Red Cross
Volunteer

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• HIGHLANDS SCHOOL SPORTS •



Team Captain Will Mathowdis stops the ball at the Hayesville game. Highlands won.
Photo by Noel Atherton

By Ryan Potts

The Highlands men's soccer team completed their best week of the season, dominating its way to three wins and outscoring those opponents 17-2.

Last Wednesday, the Highlanders blasted the Swain Maroon Devils by a score of 9-0. Eight different Highlanders burned the nets, and the defense, led by sophomore goalie Cody St. Germaine held firm for the shutout. Andrew Renfro scored two goals for the Highlanders, while Felipe Ruiz, Clayton Creighton, Clayton Dunn, Michael Shearl, Sammy Wheeler, Robbie Vanderbilt and Will Mathowdis all notched a goal apiece.

Thursday, Highlands hosted the Madison Patriots looking to avenge a narrow defeat in Marshall earlier this season.

Highlands took an early lead on a header from Sammy Wheeler and never looked back, getting two goals from Michael Shearl and another from Clayton Creighton to coast to a 4-1 victory.

Monday, the Highlanders made quite a road trip to Rutherfordton, NC to face Thomas Jefferson Academy. Again the Highlanders received a strong effort from junior Sammy Wheeler, who scored three goals to power Highlands to a 4-1 victory. Will Mathowdis rounded out the scoring for Highlands, who moved to 9-3 on the season and are ranked 14th in the AP poll for the state of North Carolina.

Highlands hosted conference rival Hayesville Wednesday, but results were not available at press time.

from the history guy....

On the day Oct. 8, 2005

Martha Stewart begins her prison sentence for securities fraud in ImClone insider stock trading case

Red or orange, or perhaps mauve or melon,
what's the most becoming for a felon?
No reason elegance should be restricted,
what about those who've been convicted?
So, grab a paint brush, saw and hammer,
today we'll redecorate the slammer.
And a gourmet meal we should cook
for each and every single crook.
Sage and pumpkin soup with a fresh baked French roll
for all those who await parole.
Now, let's not forget some crafts to give,
what about this adorable handmade shiv?
And I also have to give hypes
to the sharp and slimming effect of wearing stripes.

Friends of the Upper Chattooga resign to compromise with USFS

Like the old saying says "You can't fight City Hall" so the The Friends of the Upper Chattooga (FOTUC) has decided to help rather than fight concerning the USFS's decision to allow boating on the Chattooga River North Fork.

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.

FOTUC formed in 2006 when whitewater access lobbyists challenged Forest Service (USFS) management policies that have been in place since Congress designated the Chattooga Wild and Scenic in 1974. The policies assailed by boaters were zoning regulations designed to protect wilderness and wilderness experiences available on the North Fork of the Chattooga.

For some 30 years, as river boating has grown by leaps and bounds on the Chattooga's lower reaches and on the West Fork, zoning rules allowing foot travel only along the North Fork have made that remote river reach a haven for those seeking solitude and wilderness.

However, in a change of policy — after a taxpayer-funded federal study spanning four years and costing 1.5 million dollars, prepared at the behest of powerful lobbying interests pursuing boating access to the entire river — the USFS recently issued a "Decision Notice" that now grants boating access to the Chattooga North Fork. Effective immediately, boaters using canoes and kayaks will be allowed to float the North Fork above Burrell's Ford annually, December 1 through March 1, during higher flows.

Because the USFS decision to expand boating will bring new levels of human impact to the North Fork wilderness, FOTUC now seeks to assist the USFS in managing its decision in a way that protects, preserves, and enhances solitude and wilderness on the North Fork for present and future generations. With proper monitoring and enforcement promised by the USFS, the potential erosion of the North Fork wilderness experience can hopefully at least be controlled.

FOTUC has filed an administrative appeal with the USFS, not to contest to the agency's decision but rather to support and strengthen it:

Due to threats to the North Fork wilderness backcountry inherent in the USFS Decision, the appeal seeks to ensure that ongoing USFS management matches the

spirit and the letter of the new rules, and that the new, less restrictive rules governing boating access are legally binding.

The new regulations are only as good as the language in them. FOTUC therefore seeks redress of language loopholes in the regulations that might be torpedoed via aggressive litigation by boating lobbyists wanting unrestricted access beyond what this unprecedented management change already allows.

In addition, the appeal highlights the need for the USFS to objectively monitor the effects boating has on the whole wild and scenic river environment, including the need for the USFS to consider recreational opportunities and effects along the lower Chattooga and West Fork in all fu-

ture assessments. American Whitewater effectively challenged the original recreational zoning based in part on the inadequacy of historical documentation on the numerous anglers and hikers that were displaced by boaters below highway 28. Without collecting the proper baseline data, the USFS could again repeat these past mistakes and further erode the balance between various types of activities. Doug Adams of GA Trout Unlimited: "I believe that proper enforcement for the revised policy will be required to protect the Outstanding and Remarkable Values found on the Chattooga."

Mike Bamford, Cashiers, NC: "If the USFS objectively monitors the effects kayaking will impose on current visitors, kay-

aking will be moved back below highway 28 within a few years."

Butch Clay, Mountain Rest, SC: "The 1974 restrictions against whitewater boating in the headwaters had an unintended effect perhaps not entirely appreciated in those earlier, simpler times. Rules limiting human access to foot travel only created a public recreation resource quite unlike any other in this region: a mountain wilderness with a wild and scenic river flowing through its heart. This new rule change could diminish that wilderness forever. Thus we will closely monitor the agency's enforcement of these new rules, accepting with this decision the price of the compromise we make here, which is unfailing vigilance."

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... MACKEY continued from page 1

means a lot.

Then you have the issue of society justice which carries with it the concept of democracy.

This is the third attempt by Iranians to achieve democracy.

In 1905-1911 there was the Constitution Revolution which was foiled by the British; in 1954 there was the coup against the shah lead by Prime Minister Mohammed Mosad-deq. We got all hysterical that he was a communist and we were able to turn that over and we're still paying the price for that; and then there was the 1979 revolution in which

the shah was overturned — a revolution for democracy — and even after 1981 and the Islamic Republic it was accepted as being a quasi-democracy. But in 2009, that quasi-democracy was over turned.

Thirdly, we talked about nationalism with the status of Iranians as a proud independent nation because the reformers aren't afraid of engagement with the west and the hardliners are. That's the simple truth of it.

So these ideas of culture, justice, nationalism are internal matters that can have huge consequences for the United States. The prime U.S. national interest to the current

situation is to see people in charge of Iran who regard Iran's national interest in engagement with U.S. and have disavowed producing weapons in weapons from Iran's nuclear program.

We don't need the whole structure of the Islamic Republic upset. If anything, it would probably make things worse and further destabilize the country and make it even more difficult to deal with.

We need the reformers who verbally detested the U.S. in 1979 so now why are they are interested in engaging us now? Because they see Iran's national interest there. They want the economic sanctions imposed by the UN due to Iran's nuclear program lifted to relieve their economic problems. And psychologically, national pride demands that Iran take its historic place at the Table of Nations.

And finally, they no longer see the U.S. as a threat to the regime. We have taken regime change off the table. We have announced we will deal with an entity called the Islamic Republic.

So what did the U.S. do in June during the election? We carefully and emphatically stayed out of Iranian politics so the hardliners couldn't use us as a bludgeon against their opponents through the incitement of nationalism and paranoia of foreign conspiracy.

The Iranians thrive on conspiracy theories. There are always those foreigners who are trying to do them in. Nothing happens in Iran that is the Iranians' fault; it is always the hidden hand of the foreigners. This is very real psychological tool and we have to be careful how we use it

This past June, we also gave vocal support to the concept of free expression but made no suggestion about ending the Islamic Republic. In fact, that process has begun and will come by evolution. We refuse to meet the demands of Israel supporters in the U.S. to militarily attack Iran or to give Israel the green light and the assistance to do so.

In fact, to the credit of GW Bush, in the last months of his administration the Israelis came to him and said they wanted to bomb Iran's nuclear facilities, which is the same thing in the eyes of the Iranians as Washington doing it. But they said they needed our permission to go over Iraq and needed to use American refueling techniques so their planes could get back and Bush said no

Israel is still making threats to bomb Iran which we have to stop. We also not been stampeded by Iranian Americans — particularly the ones in Los Angeles — who want to see something like restoring the Shah's son to the nonexistent throne of Iran. This is a total non starter.

I've interviewed that guy and he's an idiot. He's on the level of Ahmadinejad as smarts are concerned. Plus, the idea of monarchy in the 21st century coming back and the U.S. being the one to bring the shah's son back like we did the shah back in 1954 is just not a good plan.

The whole situation was going pretty well, we were doing everything right when you had this seemingly two-sided battle of

those who supported the election results and those who didn't.

Actually, in July the Revolutionary Guard and the police had succeeded in clearing the streets and things started to come down somewhat. So what do we do now? We're finding out that this is only the first round. And the Islamic Republic has been shaken to its very core. Instead of ending the turmoil the crack-down on dissent has widened the risk within the Regime and created several new contending poser centers.

The point is, the regime is just losing more and more power and the contending power centers are coming within its own supporters. And the whole thing is just wobbling and as far as the hardliners are concerned, they're very scared and they should be. To being with Ahmadinejad and the Revolutionary Guard have broken with Khamenei, the spiritual leader, and what they are attempting to do is to consolidate what is actually a military coup against the establishment which includes Khamenei. Forget thinking this is a theological coup, this is an socio-economic coup of the lower classes against the establishment; whether they are religious or secular.

Most of the leadership of the guard as well as the rank and file aren't motivated by religion but by rather their own economic interests. The clerics who are sticking with Ahmadinejad either have their own economic interest or see their personal status protected only if Ahmadinejad wins this coup. These are clerics who don't have the formal religious credentials that give a cleric power is Shiite Islam. The result is that if nothing else happens, if Ahmadinejad and Revolutionary Guards put the lid on things sufficiently to keep control on the streets, he is going to have a very difficult time governing. It's just up for grabs what happens. Is he going to be toppled or is he going to stay there? If he stays there, is he going to be the voice and the policy of Iran?

Khamenei is struggling to preserve his own power and he is being held responsible for the "Show Trials" and the reason this is such a terrible charge against Khamenei is he is supposed to be the Just Jurist. He is supposed to protect the people against the excesses of government while he is the one who is perpetrating them.

He has been defied by the president on appointments to the cabinet, he is just losing support and his main interest now is how to protect his sunken status and hold the support of the clerics who have stayed with the hardliners. But he's been so discredited it brings to mind whether the Assembly of Experts could remove him.

Now, guess who is the head of the Assembly of Experts and the Expediency Council Hashemi Rafsanjani. The former president who came out against the election results.

Rafsanjani doesn't have a lot of respect he is a real operator and he's made a ton of money during the time of the Islamic Re-

• See MACKEY page 22

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... BUDGET continued from page 1

In that grouping, \$8,059,739 is funded by Macon County; \$422,324 is funded with federal funds, \$158,047 is from state funds and the rest — \$500,000 — comes from fund balance money.

The next appropriation is from the State Public School Fund for \$22,925,529 also for used for instructional programs, support services, community service programs and non-programmed charges. All of that is paid for by the state.

The next section is for the Child Nutrition Fund for \$2,714,334 with \$1,279,534 coming from local funds, \$1,323,000 from the federal government and \$111,800 from

the state.

The Capital Outlay section totals \$1,136,224 and is funded locally and with fund balance funds — \$1,116,224 is local and \$20,000 is from fund balance.

All appropriations are first paid from revenue restricted as to use and then from general unrestricted revenues.

"This was one of the most difficult budgets I have ever experienced and we tried to preserve local funds as much as possible," said Superintendent Dan Brigman.

In other school board news, several Highlands School personnel matters were accepted in the Consent Agenda including coaches

Kevin Vinson, as a volunteer middle school assistant soccer coach; Michelle Munger, middle school girls' basketball head coach; George Schmitt, assistant varsity girls basketball coach; and Jesse Munger as volunteer assistant middle school boys basketball coach.

Four new substitutes were accepted for Highlands School — Brenda Elliott, non-certified, Stacy Essary, certified, Catherine Mackey, non-certified, and Christy Shelton, non-certified.

The board OK'd two trips for Highlands School high school students: Chris Green will accompany 28 students to Philadelphia,

PA, January 17-20, 2010, to tour Independence Hall, Constitution Center, Valley Forge, and other areas; and Sallie Taylor will accompany eight students to the Botanical Gardens in Atlanta, GA, October 27 to see outdoor sculptures by Henry Moore.

One more student from Franklin — ninth-grader Cody Roti — was admitted to Highlands School as an Out-of-District Discretionary Student In Good Standing.

Once again, tuition for Discretionary Admission was discussed as it applies to out-of-state students, particularly as it applies to

• See BUDGET page 24

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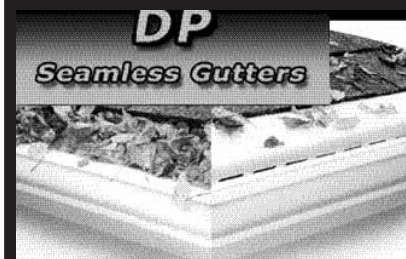
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Small amount of 2009 H1N1 vaccine available in Macon County

The Macon County Public Health Center has received a small initial shipment of 100 doses of 2009 H1N1 Influenza vaccine. This is the beginning of a nationwide vaccination campaign which will eventually total 195 million doses. All of the vaccine received at the public health center is the intranasal type which can only be taken by individuals 2-49 years of age who are not pregnant and do not have any chronic medical conditions.

Since the shipment was so small, these initial doses will be distributed based on the Centers for Disease Control's priority group recommendations. Health care workers who have contact with pregnant women and young children will receive these first vaccinations so they will stay healthy enough to care for the sick and be available to vaccinate others. The public health center is coordinating this distribu-

tion with local health care providers in the community.

Jim Bruckner, Macon County's Health Director, asks the public to be patient over the coming weeks as more 2009 H1N1 influenza vaccine (intranasal and injectable) becomes available. As more vaccine arrives, the public health center will continue to distribute the vaccine based on the Centers for Disease Control priority group recommendations. Those most at risk for getting H1N1 are: pregnant women, caregivers of infants who are 6 months old and younger, health care workers, children ages 6 months to 4 years old, and children 5 - 18 years old with chronic medical conditions.

For more information on influenza, call the Macon County Public Health Center at 349-2081 or visit www.maconnc.org or www.cdc.gov.

FACTS:

What are the symptoms of swine flu in humans? The symptoms of swine flu in people are expected to be similar to the symptoms of regular human seasonal influenza and include fever, lethargy, lack of appetite and coughing. Some people with swine flu also have reported runny nose, sore throat, nausea, vomiting and diarrhea.

Can people catch swine flu from eating pork?

No. Swine influenza viruses are not transmitted by food. You can not get swine influenza from eating pork or pork products. Eating properly handled and cooked pork and pork products is safe. Cooking pork to an internal temperature of 160° F kills the swine flu virus as it does other bacteria and viruses.

AngelFood plus Thanksgiving

The October menu is available and orders may be placed and paid for at The Episcopal Church of the Incarnation, Main & 5th until Monday, Oct. 12.

Cash or EBT cards only. Distribution day is Saturday, October 17 from 9-10am at the church.

NEW THIS MONTH!

Online ordering is now available by going to www.angelfoodministries.com. Click on "find a local site", type in your zip code, and select Episcopal Church of the Incarnation. You may pay by credit card via this website.

Don't forget to pre-order your Thanksgiving Holiday Box (\$36) which includes Roaster Chicken, Ham, Sweet Potatoes, Corn, Green Beans, Cranberries, Corn Bread Dressing, Dinner roll, Gravy and Dessert. The last day to order this special box is Oct. 28.

Distribution for the holiday boxes will be Saturday, Nov. 14. ANGELFOOD Ministries is a non-profit, non-denominational organization. This food relief program is open to everyone. Call 526-9191 or 526-9889 for more information.

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... MACKEY continued from 18

public and he is pretty corrupt, but he knows how to operate the levers, he is a good political in-fighter. So that's another power center.

Then you have the other president Mohammad Khatami who is the most popular of any of the reformers and the most enlightened leader, but he's not an inside operator and beyond his religious credentials and his personal appeal to the educated young, he doesn't have much to work with but he's out there, he's a symbol of everything Khamenei and Ahmadinejad are not.

Then one of the interesting people who was another of the presidential candidates has really come forward. His name Mehdi Karroubi. He has very high religious credentials he is not considered to be corrupt he was at one time part of the Revolutionary Guards. He is considered quite conservative.

But Hashemi Rafsanjani has been somewhat silenced because his son is in jail and Mir Hossein Mousavi is under constant threat of arrest and so he's been quiet so here is Karroubi out there just fighting tooth and nail and he is the one holding the Revolutionary Guard responsible for not only putting the protestors in prison but torturing them several have died and now he has evidence there have been rapes of both male and female prisoners and I mean he is screaming this to high heaven and he just seems fearless in the face of arrest.

Then there is a family of five brothers by the last name Larijani, one is the speaker of the parliament, one is the head of judicial, in fact Ali Larijani was the main nuclear nego-

tiator before he had a falling out with Khamenei and Ahmadinejad about negotiating. So he resigned. But both of these brothers were educated in the US, they are both personally ambitious but they are also realists. And they said "We should regard our relations with America realistically and without extremism and weigh them with the criteria of our national interests."

Then finally you get to the Shiite seminary. Guess who has come out in public Ayatollah Ali Montazeri the one who was supposed to be the spiritual leader when Ayatollah Khomeini died. And he is really raising cane about what has happened in Iran and what has happened to the Islamic Republic.

If we continue to play our cards right, we have a great opportunity to improve our strategic interests in the Middle East and it's not going to be easy, but the interesting thing is, at the end of the day the US and Iran do have some very important compatible interests.

One is that neither one of us wants chaos in Iraq. The second is we both are threatened by the Taliban in Afghanistan; and the reason Iran is threatened is the Taliban are Sunnis the Iranians are Shiites.

And the third concern is about Pakistan's nuclear program. So engaging Iran will not be easy and probably can't be done at this point if the radicals hold sway in Iran.

But whether or not we succeed in benefiting following these really historically events in Iran depends on acting with our heads and not our hearts.

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Cherokee fans with Otis this past week. Pictured are Peanut, Otis, Sean and Tagan.

Former Brave hosts free clinic for local fans in Cherokee and Franklin

By Ryan Potts

Mention the name Otis Nixon to any Braves fan, and you will likely bring up one of the defining moments of Atlanta's run of greatness that began in the early 1990s.

Known to Braves' fans as simply, "The Catch," Nixon's robbery of Pittsburgh Pirate slugger Andy Van Slyke endeared him to Braves fans throughout the South. (We won't mention the effect it had on this young Pirate fan).

Nixon was known for his ability to get on base and the speed he displayed when on the basepaths (16th all time on the MLB list for most stolen bases), both traits that he discussed with youngsters at the free clinic held in Franklin last weekend.

In addition to being a consistent threat to steal, Nixon also batted .270 for his career as a switch hitter, and holds the MLB record for stolen bases in a single game (6).

Nixon spent three hours at the baseball complex in Franklin teaching youth baseball fundamentals and the value of teamwork.

Additionally, Nixon hosted an autograph session at the Wendy's in Franklin last Saturday afternoon. The clinic is sponsored by Macon County Little League and was scheduled as part of a three-week program.

Since retiring from the majors in 1999, Nixon has developed a growing ministry and has formed a friendship and partnership with local restaurant owner Chris Gilbert. Gilbert co-owns and operates Cyprus Restaurant here in Highlands, where Nixon made an appearance last Friday night.

Nixon's *On-Track Ministries* allows the former Brave to share the story of how his Christian faith has helped him to navigate the stormy periods of his life and conquer the addiction issues that plagued him during his playing career.

Nixon keeps himself moving in his post-field career with motivational and religious speaking engagements as well as an assortment of baseball clinics. He has also spent the last few years working on his Masters degree at Divinity School, and has been working on a book project. The book, appropriately titled *The Catch*, is due to release next month, and chronicles Nixon's major league career and private struggles.

In addition to *On-Track Ministries*, Nixon and Gilbert have also combined to form *On-Track Promotions*, which will be working throughout the southeast to promote mixed-martial arts events.

Students graduate from English as a Second Language program at Highlands School



Sitting from left: Ana Cortez-Damian, Luis Felipe Ruiz-Frias, Ana Damian-Clemente. Standing from left: Jose Jimenez-Estrada, Mr. Tom Jessup, counselor, Cristell Ruiz-Frias, Betsey Grau, ESL teacher

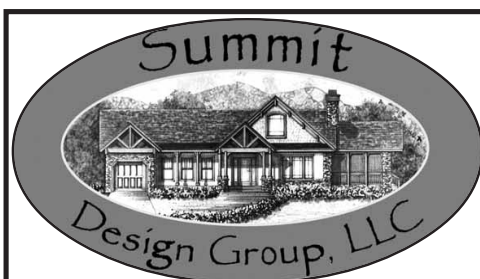
These students have been learning English at Highlands School and in community for 4-7 years. The usual time needed to achieve adequate English proficiency and no longer need ESL (English as a Second Language) support is 7-10 years. In the time as they were learning, certainly there have been many periods of self-doubt, confusion with what was said to them and around them and what and how they were to complete their assignments in school as well as on the athletic teams. In the previous two years, only one student had achieved this goal. So it is a time to extend thanks and congratulations to parents, teachers, and administrators at Highlands School for their coaching and help during this critical learning time for these students.

Local Democrats call White House and demand a serious global climate treaty



On Sept. 21. Highlands Dems joined in the Global Wake Up call with 130 participating countries, calling leaders during the UN and G20 summits held in Pitt., PA, at 1 p.m. The group called the White House and Secretary of State offices to tell them they wanted a serious global climate treaty out of the talks in Copenhagen. From left are Debbie Lassiter, Faviola Olvera, Kelly Smith, Pat Boyd, Karen Hawk, and Lee Hodges. All calls were successfully noted by officials.

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Leila Chapman recipient of Harbison Award

Leila Chapman, recipient of the Gertrude and Dolly Harbison Award and Bob Trevathan, vice-president of the Hudson Library Board of Trustees, hold the Harbison plaque. The Harbison Award is given for exemplary service and dedication to the Hudson Library.

Ms. Chapman received the award at the Hudson Library 125th birthday party in September, and she told the guests, "I was a mem-

ber of the Board of Trustees when the Harbison Award was created so I know what an honor this is. The Bookworm is my first love and these last eight years volunteering have been the best years of my life."

Ms. Chapman is the fourth person to receive the award, which is only given when a deserving recipient is identified by the Board of Trustees. The plaque hangs in the foyer of the library.

... BUDGET continued from page 19

Town of Highlands employees who live in Georgia but send their children to Highlands School.

The discussion was tabled until the Oct. 26 meeting so the school board attorney could verify the board's policy on the matter.

The board also OK'd Varsity Girls Basketball Team fundraisers involving a raffle of pottery and a diamond-sapphire bracelet and OK'd a Basketball Fundamental Clinic for grades K-8 at the cost of \$20 per person. This clinic was offered during the summer as a fund-raiser for the team and was very successful.

Whether or not bus drivers' hourly pay would be decreased due to a \$15,000 cut in state transportation funding was discussed at length.

Superintendent Brigman said he was doing everything he could to ensure the bus drivers are not penalized due to state budget cuts. The issue was discussed in closed session but the outcome was not decided.

During the public comment session, several teachers from Franklin High School (FHS) discussed the school's problem with attendance as it applies to performance and graduation.

They said the current absence policy of no cap on the maximum days missed at FHS combined with lowering the bar for gradua-

tion with the Diploma 21 program combined with the intense focus on 100% cohort graduation rate may be hurting rather than helping the schools end-product, which is its students.

The board agreed it was a problem and certainly not one that could be fixed easily or quickly but said it's a social problem that starts early.

"Parents must comply with the attendance law and make sure their children attend school," said Brigman. "Academic achievement and attendance are issues that require a parental partnership with the schools and it's a continuing saga."

The teachers said the high school is seeing the result of years of conditioning and a pattern of behavior that starts in the elementary grades where parents don't make their children go to school.

"We have to ask, 'What are we doing in Macon County to encourage our students to come to class,'" said Brigman.

Highlands School Principal Brian Jetter said Highlands isn't experiencing the problem Franklin High School is experiencing.

On any given day 5% of the school population is absent – or less than 20 students – and most of them are in the elementary grades.

What 'Good Health' means for Americans

By Delia E Frederick, RN, MSN-ed

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

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

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

President Obama's Health Care Reform plan includes for those that have insurance an end to discrimination against people with pre-existing conditions, limits on premium

discrimination based on gender or age, prevents insurance companies from dropping coverage when people get sick and need insurance the most, caps on out-of-pocket expenses so people don't go broke when they get sick. It eliminates extra charges for preventative care. It protects Medicare for seniors and eliminates the gaps in prescription drug coverage.

President Obama's Health Care Reform plan creates for individuals who don't have insurance a new insurance marketplace that provides affordable insurance at competitive prices. It provides a tax credit for small business to help with the purchase of health insurance for themselves and their employees. It offers a public health insurance option for the uninsured who are not able to find insurance that is affordable to them with a real choice of coverage options.

President Obama's Health Care Reform plan reins in the costs of health care for all Americans by implementing delivery system

reforms that rein in health care costs while promoting incentives for hospitals, physicians and other health care providers improve quality of health care. It creates an independent commission of doctors and medical experts to identify waste, fraud and abuse within the health care system. The plan orders immediate medical malpractice reform projects that could help doctors focus on putting their patients first instead of practicing defensive medicine. The plan requires large employers to cover their employees so everyone shares in the responsibility of reform.

The plan promotes physicians and patients talking about the care the patient would like to receive, especially senior who may need to consider long term care solutions to their co-morbidities and chronic diseases. The plan also supports people keeping the physician that they have worked with in attaining or gaining health over the years of their care. Seniors will keep the benefits they

currently enjoy, but with the assurance that care is delivered in efficient cost controlled manner. No abortions will be covered with federal monies and no undocumented immigrants will receive federal dollars for health care access.

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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

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

• Refuge Youth meets every Sun. night at 6:30 p.m. downstairs at Cullasaga Assembly of God. If you are in grades

6th-12th then this is the place to be! The church is located at 6201 Highlands Rd. next to Exxon. For more info call youth ministers Matt and Candace Woodroof at 828-369-7540 ext 203.

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

Mon., Wed., & Thurs.

• Yoga On The Mat. New location. The Episcopal Church of Incarnation on Main Street. Enter through single door facing Mountain Fresh. M/W @ 7:30 a.m.; Thurs. @10:45 a.m. Bring your mat. 828-482-2128 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. 9/26

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

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

Tuesdays & Thursdays

• Zumba Classes at the Rec Park. Aerobic/dance/toning. No dance experience necessary. One-hour. \$5/class. Tuesdays, 12:30-1:30, Thursdays, 8-9 am. and 1 p.m. Thursdays at Cashiers Rec Park. Call Mary K. Barbour at 828-342-2498. 9/26

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 (bipolar 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.

Every Third Saturday

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

Every Fourth Saturday

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

Saturdays

Ruby Cinema

Hwy. 441, Franklin, NC
524-2076

Oct. 9-15

COUPLES RETREAT

rated PG-13

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

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

Sun: 2:05, 4:15, 7:05

Mon + Wed: 4:15, 7:05

Tues + Thurs: 2:05, 4:15, 7:05

ZOMBIELAND

rated R

Fri: 4:30, 7:20, 9:30

Sat: 2:20, 4:30, 7:20, 9:30

Sun: 2:20, 4:30, 7:20

Mon + Wed: 4:30, 7:20

Tues + Thurs: 2:20, 4:30, 7:20

SURROGATES

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

CLOUDY WITH A CHANCE OF MEATBALLS

in 3-D rated PG

Fri: 4, 7, 9

Sat: 2, 4, 7, 9

Sun: 2, 4, 7

Mon + Wed: 4, 7

Tues + Thurs: 2, 4, 7

Tickets still available for hospital auxiliary Wildflower Quilt Raffle

Winner to be
announced at the
Highlands Own Craft
Show Saturday, Oct. 10



Tickets are still available for this year's edition of Highlands-Cashiers Hospital Auxiliary Wildflower Quilt, which will be raffled off at the upcoming Highlands Own Craft Festival on Oct. 10.

In fact, members of the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital Auxiliary will be selling chances on the quilt from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. in front of Bryson's Food Store in Highlands for the next two Saturdays (Sept. 26 & Oct. 1).

This year's edition of quilt, which has become a Highlands tradition sponsored by the Auxiliary, is already on display in the lobby at Bank of America in Highlands. As in the past, the quilt is the combined handiwork of local quilter Hazel Miller and a number of local embroiders who actually stitch the wildflowers onto each

of the 36 panels. And as in the past, the drawing for the much sought after heirloom will take place at the Highlands Own Craft Show, scheduled for on Saturday, Oct. 10 at the Highlands Recreation Park.

Raffle tickets are \$1 each or six for \$5. In addition to special booths at Bryson's, tickets can also be purchased from auxiliary members in Highlands, Cashiers, Scaly Mountain, and Sky Valley, at Bank of America, or the hospital gift shop Monday through Friday.

Once again at this year's craft show, auxiliary members will be selling jars of their much-prized herb rice mixture. The product comes in two special mixes, one for beef and one for chicken, and is accompanied by a recipe with cooking instructions.

• UPCOMING EVENTS •

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

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

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

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. 10

• Exhibition *Cat Chow: Beyond Fiber Art* in the Loft Gallery at The Bascom. Admission is free. The Bascom is open Tuesdays through Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. For information, call (828) 526.4949 or visit www.thebascom.org.

Through Oct. 17

• Exhibition *Southern Landscapes by Lamar Dodd and Will Henry Stevens* in the Main Gallery at The Bascom. Admission is free. The Bascom is open Tuesdays through Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. For information, call (828) 526.4949 or visit www.thebascom.org.

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

Thurs., Oct. 8

• The October meeting of The Western North Carolina Woodturners Club is at 6 PM at the Blue Ridge School, in Glenville. Drive to the back of the school to the woodworking shop. Visitors are always welcomed. The club meets every second

Thursday at the Blue Ridge School. Listen to WHLC (104.5 FM) at 5 PM for cancellation due to weather. Visit our web site at www.wncwoodturners.com

• The League of Women Voters of Macon County will sponsor a forum for all Town of Franklin candidates for the 2009 municipal elections. Mayor Joe Collins faces challenger Bob Scott, and incumbents Jerry Evans, Billy Mashburn, and Sissy Pattillo, plus Angela Moore and Ron Winecoff, are competing for three town alderman positions. The election will be held on November 3. Candidates will talk about what they see as key issues, what they hope to accomplish, and why they want to serve the town. Noon at Tartan Hall at the First Presbyterian Church of Franklin. For information, call 524-5192.

Fri. & Sat., Oct. 9-10

• The Glenville Community will feature a variety of activities during the The Leaf Festival of Cashiers Valley Boat tours of Lake Glenville sponsored by Signal Ridge Marina with tour guides provided by Friends of Lake Glenville will launch at 2 PM from the Signal Ridge Marina on Friday and 10AM and 2 PM on Saturday. An Art Fair featuring local artists opens on Friday under the tent at the Glenville Community Development Club (GCDC) grounds on Highway 107 across from the Glenville Post Office. Woodcarvers, oil painters, watercolorists, stained glass artisans and rustic furniture designers are among the arts and crafters planning to show their wares. Quilting, lacemaking and other handiwork booths will be housed inside the GCDC Clubhouse. On Friday the Glenville VFW, a GCDC neighbor, will open their well supplied Pumpkin Patch with all sizes of pumpkins for purchase. Woodturner demonstrations will also be featured on the VFW site. The festivities on Saturday, October 10 kick-off with a early morning Pancake Breakfast sponsored

by Tom Sawyer's Tree Farm on Lakeside Circle. On Saturday the GCDC and VFW add food and music to their offerings with hot dogs, cider, homemade goods and apples for sale. From 10 AM to 2 PM on Saturday car buffs should travel further down Highway 107 near the intersection of Pine Creek Road to JJ's BP Station and Canteen where a wide variety of cars and trucks from Glenville and Cash-

iers owners will be on display. For more details contact Mary Shuey, Glenville Leaf Festival Co-ordinator at 743-2143.

Friday, Oct. 9

• "An Evening With John Muir" presented by the Jackson-Macon Conservation Alliance. Actor Lee Stetson's stirring portrayal of the adventures, passion and humor of the legendary conservationist.7

• See EVENTS page 28



Pumpkinfest coming to Highlands Saturday, October 10

The Highlands-Cashiers Plateau is rich in natural and cultural history. Among the area's many special properties is one that folks often drive by and may not notice. Located on Highway 64 E between Highlands and Cashiers, The David Farm, will be the site of the Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust's first ever family fall Pumpkinfest on Saturday, October 10 from 10 a.m.-2 pm.

In 1865, just before the end of the Civil War James Wright of Sweet Water, TN, moved to Whiteside Cove with his wife, Jemima Norton Wright (the daughter of the first white settler in the area) and two of their four children: their youngest son, Barak, and their only daughter, Mary. Their two other sons, Marion and William, were away fighting in the Civil War at the time.

After living in the area for a couple years, the Wright family bought 56 acres in Highlands where James built a log cabin for his family and a barn for his cows, mules and horses. On October 10, the public will have an opportunity to enjoy this great piece of land as Linda David, the great granddaughter of the Barak Wright, and her husband, Kent welcome the public to enjoy their historic property as the site of HCLT's final centennial event of 2009, a fall Pumpkinfest.

Everyone is welcome to this family-friendly event. Guests will each choose a pumpkin from the patch which they can carve on-site at the pumpkin carving stations and then enter in the pumpkin carving contest. Three grand prize ribbons will be awarded for "Scariest," "Most Original" and "Best Overall."

Free hayrides through the 56 acres will be running throughout the day for all to enjoy. Appalachian Storyteller, Lara Chew, will delight young and old with her tales of days gone by. Hominy and apple cider press demonstrations, cloggers, goats, face painting a giant pumpkin demo (lition) and more will provide fun for all. You may even expand your family after a visit to the Humane Society's Adopt-a-pet station!

Tickets will be \$20 per family or carload at the door. To get to the David Farm from Highlands, take Highway 64 East for 3.5 miles and the entrance will be on your left across from Community Bible Church. The farm is located 7 miles from the Crossroads in Cashiers, on your right. Look for the HCLT Pumpkinfest banner.

Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust has been preserving local lands for 100 years. To learn more visit them on the web at www.hicashlt.org.

Highlands Emergency Council News

Fuel Application Dates are:

Oct. 8 – 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Applicants must sign up in person at the Highlands Emergency Council office located at 71 Poplar Street in Highlands.

No phone sign-up is allowed.

Must meet low-income guidelines and have proof of income.

Fuel funds will be dispersed when they become available.

Applicaton will be accepted and reviewed; there is no guarantee of assistance.

**Highlands
Arts & Crafts
Show**

27th Annual
**HIGHLANDS
ARTS & CRAFT SHOW**

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10th, 2009
9:00 AM - 5:00 PM
at the
Highlands Civic Center & Rec. Park
Highway 64 East - Highlands, NC

Sponsored by:
Highlands Woman's Club
Highlands Recreation Department

Breakfast & Lunch will be available

FREE Admission FREE Parking

• UPCOMING EVENTS •

'Evening with John Muir' at The Playhouse Friday, Oct. 9 at 7 p.m.

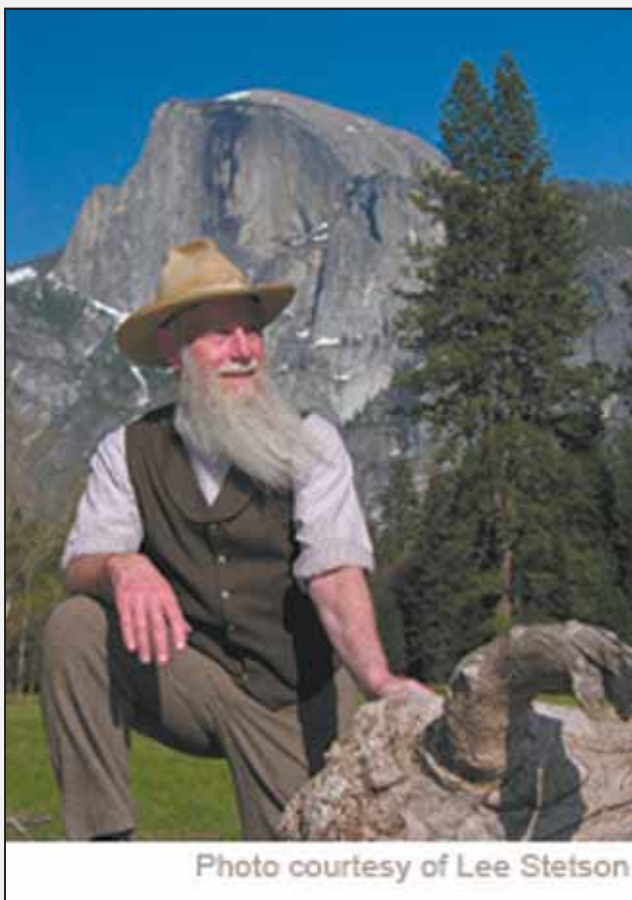


Photo courtesy of Lee Stetson

The Jackson-Macon Conservation Alliance is hosting the exciting one-man show, "John Muir; Conversation With a Tramp" on Friday October 9th at 7 p.m. at the Highlands Playhouse. Muir is portrayed by California actor Lee Stetson.

John Muir (1838 – 1914) was probably America's most famous and influential conservationist. As a wilderness explorer he is renowned for his exciting adventures. A prolific writer, he taught people the importance of experiencing and protecting wilderness. In 1892 Muir helped form the Sierra Club and was the club's president until his death. Muir is also credited by many Americans as the architect of our National Park system. John Muir and his legacy have influenced the preservation of our country's natural environment far beyond what most of us can imagine.

Film-maker Kern Burns knew little about John Muir before he started working on his new series "The National Parks: America's Best Idea," which premiered on PBS recently. Burns said, "I don't think I was prepared for what a great writer he was. Mark Twain said the difference between the right word and almost the right word is the difference between lightning and a lightning bug. John Muir was light-

ning. My eyes, at times, would fill with tears in the editing room as we worked on telling Muir's story."

The man who portrays Muir in the series is Lee Stetson, the same man who will share Muir's amazing adventure stories to the audience at Highlands Playhouse. Listen to him describe his "interview with a bear" and his "ride on an avalanche." This remarkable show has entertained and inspired audiences for over 25 years and J-MCA is proud to bring Stetson to Highlands for their annual fund raiser.

Tickets for the program are \$30 (\$25 for J-MCA members). Folk musicians Thea and the Green Man will perform as well. You can rub elbows with Lee at the Patron's Party at 5:30. The \$80 tickets (\$75 for members) include wine and heavy hors d'oeuvres, music by Jody Zahner plus preferred show seating. There will also be a silent auction. Contact J-MCA at 828-526-9938 ext. 320 or www.j-mca.org.

Stetson will be making an appearance Friday at Summit Charter School and Leaf Fest in Cashiers. Stetson will also be performing in Asheville for the Western North Carolina Alliance on October 8th. Contact WNCA at www.wnca.org or (828) 258-8737.

p.m. at the Highlands Playhouse. Tickets \$30 (\$25 for JMCA members). Join us at 5:30 to rub shoulders with John Muir at the Patron's Party; wine, heavy hors d'oeuvres and reserved seating included, \$80 for the entire evening, \$75 for members. Contact J-MCA at 828-526-9938 ext. 320 or www.J-MCA.org.

• Open House and Tour at the MC Animal Control facility on 1377 Lakeside Drive from 2-4 p.m.

Sat. & Sun., Oct. 10-11

• Ikebana International of Asheville will host a special exhibit as a part of the Carolina Bonsai Expo to take place at The North Carolina Arboretum in the upstairs library and lobby in the Education Center. The exhibitions are free with the parking fee of \$6 per personal vehicle at the Arboretum; For members, there is no parking charge. Contact TNCA (828-665-2492 or www.ncarboretum.org) for registration info and fees for the Sunday workshop. For info about Ikebana classes and exhibitions, contact Patti Quinn Hill at 828-645-6633.

Saturday, Oct. 10

• HC Land Trust Pumpkin Fest at the David Farm on U.S. 64 east across from the Community Bible Church from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Pumpkin carving contest, hayrides and more. Tickets are \$20 per family or carload.

• At Greenleaf Gallery, 177 Main St. in Wrights Square, 12 noon – 4pm – Artist Sally Robbe will be demonstrating. Light refreshments.

• Highlands Arts & Crafts Show from 9-5 at the Highlands Civic Center and Rec Park. Breakfast and Lunch available. Free Admission and free parking.

• At Whole Life Market at 10 a.m. there will be A Garden of Life's million dollar give-away to "Take the Grow Bone Challenge." The purpose is to help consumers increase bone density, increase bone strength and reduce osteoporosis risk.

• The Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival will start a Fall Concert at the Episcopal Church at 5 p.m. For information, call 526-9060.

Sunday, Oct. 11

• Hymn Sing at the First Presbyterian Church at 4 p.m. Those attending may choose a hymn from the 1938 Cokesbury Hymnal. Song leader will be Stell Huie and Angie Jenkins will play the piano.

Monday, Oct. 12

• 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.

Tuesday, Oct. 13

• At Mountain Air Wellness Center at

6 pm at The Hudson Library in Highlands Topic: 3 Ways to Prevent/Combat the Flu. For more information call us at 828-743-9070 or 828-526-3709.

Thursdays-Sundays, Oct. 15-25

• Highlands-Cashiers Players to perform The Dining Room at PAC, 8 p.m. and 2 p.m. on Sundays. Season subscriptions are on sale now at the price of \$50 for the three plays, a savings of \$10 over the price of individual tickets. Among other perks, subscribers get to make early reservations for preferred seating. Those wishing to subscribe may pick up a subscription brochure at the counter in the Performing Arts Center on Chestnut Street and fill out the enclosed form to mail or send a check directly to the Players' Post Office Box, 1416, Highlands NC, 28741.

Thursday, Oct. 15

• Grand-Rounds Highlands-Cashiers Hospital Tour. Open to the public, the morning sessions begin at 7:30 a.m. and include a complimentary breakfast. In addition to getting a in-depth look at hospital faculties, the events provide participants with a chance to meet and chat with some of the hospital's many physicians before touring the facility. For more information about the Grand Rounds Tour series please call 526 1434.

• A "Pin Up and Potluck" reception will be held from 5-7 p.m. in the ground-floor Education Gallery at The Bascom in Highlands. All students who have taken a Bascom class in 2009 are invited to bring one work they have completed during their class (labeled with name, media, class, price and whether it is for sale) and pin it up on the wall. They should also bring one appetizer to share with the group. The exhibition will continue through Oct. 29. Students may retrieve their work Oct. 29-30 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information, call (828) 526-4949 or visit www.thebascom.org.

Friday, Oct. 16

• Highlands Writers Group will read excerpts from works in progress at Shakespeare & Company in Village Square at 7 p.m. Refreshments offered,

• Local author to discuss, sign new Atlanta history *We Were Dancing on a Volcano: Bloodlines and Fault Lines of a Star-Crossed Atlanta Family, 1849-1989*, at The Hudson Library, 3-5 p.m. Books available at the door.

Friday, Oct. 16-Saturday, Nov. 7

• *Members Invitational* exhibition will open at The Bascom in Highlands and run through Nov. 7. Admission is free. A public opening reception will be Oct. 16 from 5-7 p.m. For information, call (828) 526-4949 or visit www.thebascom.org.

Fri. & Sat., Oct. 16-17

• Jewelry workshop "Introduction to Precious Metal Clay (PMC)," by Sara Sloan Stine, will be held at The Bascom

• UPCOMING EVENTS •

from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. for beginning to advanced students. Cost is \$195/\$175 Bascom members (basic materials and firing included). To register, call (828) 526-4949 or visit www.thebascom.org.

Sat. & Sun., Oct 17-19

• The Art League of Highlands Fall Colors show. Painting, photography, gallery tours, even poetry have filled the monthly program calendar for the Art League of Highlands. The "Summer Colors Fine Art Show" filled the Rec Park gymnasium with high quality, all original work which inspired all who saw it.

Saturday, Oct. 17

• At Greenleaf Gallery, 12 noon – 4pm – Artist and Faux painter Kimberly Lilley will be demonstrating at 177 Main St. in Wrights Square. Light refreshments.

• Highlands School Fall Festival 5-9 p.m. at Highlands School old gym.

• The 4th Annual Songwriters' Round, at High Hampton Inn in Cashiers. The evening will start with a Social at 6 p.m. serving heavy hors d'oeuvres and beverages. The concert begins at 7:30 p.m. The evening will benefit and is hosted by the Blue Ridge School Education Foundation. Tickets are \$60 and are available

at the Cashiers Area Chamber of Commerce at 743 -5191 or High Hampton at 743 -2411. Corporate Sponsors are \$250, including advertising and 2 tickets. Major Sponsors are \$1,000 and up, including advertising and 6 tickets. Tickets and Sponsors may also be purchased from any board member: Annette Herstick, Will Madden, Lesley Madden, Cindy Fowler, Andy Shaw, Mark Jones, Chad Boswell, or Susan Waller. Come enjoy a wonderful evening starring Nashville's finest, plus help purchase technology to enhance our childrens' education and future.

• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a strenuous 12 mile hike with an elevation change of 2750 up Mt. Le Conte via the Alum Cave Trail with a possible side trip to Myrtle Point. The climb takes 6 hours or more. Meet at the Huddle House in Dillsboro at 8 a.m. Drive 116 miles round trip. Bring plenty of water, lunch and a snack. Wear hiking boots. Call leader Don O'Neal, 586-5723, for reservations. Visitors capable of this strenuous climb are welcome but no pets please.

Sunday, Oct. 18

• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a double hike from Wayah Bald with a

• See EVENTS page 30

Local artist Noel Atherton will again be exhibiting at this year's Highlands Own Craft Fair with more of her original and highly sought after creations of functional art and collectibles - at the Civic Center this Saturday from 9-5.



Condiment Shop favorites available at craft show, Oct. 10

By Becky Schilling

Merchants in town often hear the same question: "What happened to The Condiment Shop?"

If you've been craving the homemade goodies that used to be available at The Condiment Shop in Highlands, you're in luck. The 'First family of All Things Preserved' is about to be back after a 10-year hiatus.

But only for a day.

Beth and Mike Crisp will have a booth at Highlands Own Craft Show at the Highlands Civic Center on Saturday, October 10.

Beth, the granddaughter of Elizabeth Edwards who owned The Condiment Shop, worked side by side with her grandmother in The Condiment Shop kitchen for years.

This summer Beth has been busy making many of the condiments her grandmother and she used to make.

Beth's mother, Mozelle Edwards, who used to work in the retail part of The Condiment Shop, has been helping.

"We have been making lots of the pickles, relishes, jams and jellies we used to make," Beth said.

Production begins with home-grown vegetables from Mike's garden or with fresh home-grown fruit, including wild strawberries or blackberries, picked by Mozelle and Beth.

"We grow currants, gooseberries, blueberries, raspberries, grapes and apples," Beth said. "But the wild berries are hard to come by. You have to fight off critters, bugs, snakes and such, as well as getting all scratched up



while trying to get the wild fruits. It's not easy work. It is lots of fun though."

For homemade condiments of exceptional quality, look for Beth's Berry Basket at this year's Craft Show.

"We don't make these things on a commercial level like we did in the old days," Beth said. "We make these condiments in my kitchen. We won't have all the condiments we used to make, but there will be a large variety. I have tried to make things I know people really liked. We hope to see all the people who have been missing The Condiment Shop since we closed."

HCCMF Concert at the Episcopal Church to feature Vega String Quartet Oct 10



To cap its successful 28th season, The Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival will stage a Fall Concert at the Episcopal Church of the Incarnation in Highlands, at 5: p.m. Saturday, October 10.

To commemorate the Bicentennial of Joseph Haydn's death, The Vega String Quartet will perform his great work, the "Seven Last Words of Christ," with local religious leaders adding their comments on each of the seven statements between each movement.

Participating religious leaders are: Reverend Brian Sullivan, Episcopal

Church of the Incarnation; Pastor Lee Willey Bowman, First Presbyterian Church; Pastor Paul Christy, Highlands United Methodist Church; Pastor Gary Hewins, Community Bible Church; Chaplain Margaret Howell, Holy Family Lutheran Church; Reverend Virginia Monroe, Church of the Good Shepherd-Cashiers; and Shelley Denham, The Mountain.

The concert is underwritten by Earle Mauldin and Debbie Davidoff.

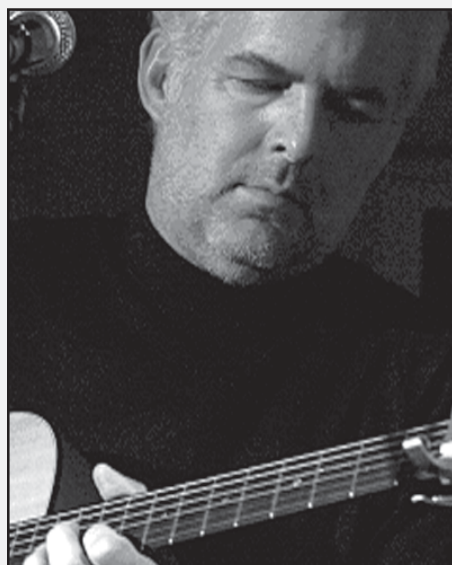
For more information, call (828) 526-9060 or visit hc-musicfestival.org.

• UPCOMING EVENTS •

car shuttle to Wayah Crest. The longer 4.5 mile moderate hike will start from the lookout tower, while the shorter hike group will drive down the road to historic Wilson Lick Ranger Station to begin an easy hike of 1.5 miles. Both hikes will wind up at Wayah Crest. Drive 35 miles round trip.

Bring water, a snack if you wish, and wear sturdy comfortable shoes. Meet at Westgate Plaza in Franklin, opposite Burger King, at 2 p.m. Call leader Kay Coriell, 369-6820, for reservations. Visitors and children over ten are welcome, but no pets please.

Nashville Songwriters descend on Cashiers, for the 4th Year



Rivers Rutherford, George Teren, and Dave Turnbull are returning for the 4th Annual Songwriters' Round, on Oct. 17 at High Hampton Inn.

The evening will start with a Social at 6 p.m. serving heavy hors d'oeuvres and beverages, Concert beginning at 7:30 p.m.

The evening will benefit and is hosted by the Blue Ridge School Education Foundation. Tickets are \$60 and are available at the Cashiers Area Chamber of Commerce at 743-5191 or High Hampton at 743-2411. Corporate Sponsors are \$250, including advertising and 2 tickets. Major Sponsors are \$1,000 and up, including advertising and 6 tickets. Tickets and Sponsors may also be purchased from any board member: Annette Herstick, Will Madden, Lesley Madden, Cindy Fowler, Andy Shaw, Mark Jones, Chad Boswell, or Susan Waller. Come enjoy a wonderful evening starring Nashville's finest, plus help purchase technology to enhance our children's education and future.

About Rivers Rutherford

After moving to Nashville in 1993, Rivers Quickly found his place in the world as an entertainer, studio guitar player, and songwriter. In 1996, Rivers signed with Universal Music Publishing and remains with the company today. Artists, including Gretchen Wilson, Gary Allan, Faith Hill, Tim McGraw, Carrie Underwood, Brooks and Dunn, Kenny Chesney, Brad Paisley, LeAnn Rimes, Keith Urban, Trick Pony, Blake Shelton, Deana Carter, Montgomery Gentry, Clay Davidson, Jamey Johnson, Darius Rucker, Jamie O'Neal and Andy Griggs have since recorded Rutherford's

songs.

Rutherford claimed his first number-one hit, "Aint Nothin' 'Bout You", in 2001. The song spent six weeks at number one and is to date the most successful single ever recorded by Brooks and Dunn. Rutherford was honored by ASCAP and received their Song of the Year Award in 2002.

Since the smash hit with Brooks and Dunn, Rivers has accomplished six more number-one singles: Tim McGraw's "Real Good Man"; Montgomery Gentry's first number one, "If You Ever Stop Loving Me", which he also produced; Gretchen Wilson's "Homewrecker"; Brad Paisley's duet with Dolly Parton, "When I Get Where I'm oing" (which has received both the ACM and CMA nomination for Song of the Year), Kenny Chesney's "Livin' In Fast Forward" and Trace Adkins number one single "Ladies Love Country Boys". Other hits have been: Rodney Atkins' "These Are My People" and Carrie Underwood's "Jesus Take the Wheel".

Rutherford has also claimed ASCAP's Songwriter of the Year trophy for 2006. "I'm trying not to look back, Rutherford said. I try to look forward. I'm happy when I know I've written something I am proud of."

While Rivers continues to enjoy songwriting with entertainers such as John Bon Jovi, Darius Rucker, Montgomery Gentry, James Otto, Jamey Johnson, and Lady Antebellum, he plans to expand his performing, record a second album, all while producing material for artists such as Montgomery Gentry and Cole Deggs.

Mon., Oct. 19-Sat., Oct. 24 & Sat., Oct. 31

- Pottery workshop "Spooky Raku: A Halloween Pottery Firing," by Patrick Taylor, will be held at The Bascom from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Oct. 19-24 and Oct. 31 at sundown for intermediate to advanced students. Cost is \$275/\$250 Bascom members. To register, call (828) 526-4949 or visit www.thebascom.org.

Sunday, Oct. 18

- First Baptist Church invites you to an evening of worship and Gospel Music by Calvin Newton at 6:30 PM.

Monday, Oct. 19-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.

Monday, Oct. 19

- The Jackson County GOP and the Western Carolina University Republicans will hold a joint meeting on **October 19th** at 7:00 PM in the WCU University Center. The invited speakers are Republican primary candidates who are considering or have announced their candidacy to oppose Congressional District 11 Representative Heath Shuler in 2010. For additional information call Dodie Allen, Jackson County GOP Chair at Republican Headquarters, 828 586-9895 or visit the website www.jacksoncountygop.com.

Tuesday, Oct. 20

- Art class "Simple, Elegant Glass Painting," by Margie Shambaugh, will be held at The Bascom in Highlands from 1 to 3 p.m. for beginning to advanced students. Create your own simple-yet-elegant hand-painted glasses and stemware. Cost is \$25 for the general public and \$20 for Bascom members. To register, call (828) 526-4949 ext. 100 or visit www.thebascom.org.

- Macon County Democratic Women will meet at the Motor Grill Restaurant in Franklin at 1 p.m. for a luncheon meeting. Democratic Franklin Town Candidates will be present. All Democratic Men and Women are invited to hear our candidates.

- Public Forum prior to the upcoming election for Mayor and Town Commissioners at the Highlands Community Center, 6-7:30 pm. Refreshments will be available.

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.

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

Saturday, Oct. 24

- At Greenleaf Gallery, 11am – 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.

Fri.-Sun, Oct. 23-25

- Walhalla Civic Players present "Dracula in Dixie" at the Walhalla Civic Auditorium. This hilarious spoof brings the infamous Count Dracula to an insane asylum somewhere in the deep south. Don't be surprised if you find some of the surroundings familiar. 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. Feel free to come in costume and enter the midnight show costume contest. 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.

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.

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

- Walhalla Civic Players present "Dracula in Dixie" at the Walhalla Civic Auditorium. This hilarious spoof brings the infamous Count Dracula to an insane asylum somewhere in the deep south. Don't be surprised if you find some of the surroundings familiar. 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. Feel free to come in costume and enter the midnight show costume contest. Tickets for all shows are \$12 for adults, \$8 for all

• UPCOMING EVENTS •

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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. Hallow-

een 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.

The Leaf Festival of Cashiers Valley set for Oct. 8-10



The "family" of scarecrows can be viewed in front of the Glenville Community Development Club (GCDC) in the center of Glenville Village. The creation is the work of Alice and Bob Stafford talented members of the GCDC.

The Glenville Community will feature a variety of activities during the The Leaf Festival of Cashiers Valley, a Greater Cashiers Valley Merchants Association event scheduled for Friday, and Saturday October 9-10.

Boat tours of Lake Glenville sponsored by Signal Ridge Marina with tour guides provided by Friends of Lake Glenville will launch at 2 PM from the Signal Ridge Marina on Friday and 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. on Saturday.

An Art Fair featuring local artists opens on Friday under the tent at the Glenville Community Development Club (GCDC) grounds on Highway 107 across from the Glenville Post Office. Woodcarvers, oil painters, watercolorists, stained glass artisans and rustic furniture designers are among the arts and crafters planning to show their wares. Quilting, lacemaking and other handiwork booths will be housed inside the GCDC Clubhouse.

On Friday the Glenville VFW, a GCDC neighbor, will open their well supplied Pumpkin Patch with all sizes of pumpkins for purchase. Woodturner demonstrations will also be featured on the VFW site.

The festivities on Saturday, October 10 kick-off with an early morning Pancake Breakfast sponsored by Tom Sawyer's Tree Farm on Lakeside Circle.

On Saturday the GCDC and VFW add food and music to their offerings with hot dogs, cider, homemade goods, apples, jams and jellies for sale. From 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday car buffs should travel further down Highway 107 near the intersection of Pine Creek Road to JJ's BP Station and Canteen where a variety of old and specialty cars and trucks from Glenville and Cashiers owners will be on display.

For more details contact Mary Shuey, Glenville Leaf Festival Co-ordinator at 743-2143.

The Bascom adds 12 more classes, demonstrations to its 2009 lineup



The Bascom has added a dozen more classes and demonstrations to its 2009 lineup due to the popularity of its other programs this year, such as this class, above, taught by Gail Russakov.

As a way to get into the holiday spirit, The Bascom has added a dozen more low-cost or free community classes and demonstrations to its lineup — many of them with a holiday theme.

Offerings include:

- Oct. 20 — Art class "Simple, Elegant Glass Painting," 1-3 p.m. by Margie Shambaugh. Cost is \$25 for the general public and \$20 for Bascom members.

- Oct. 24 — Demonstration and studio talk from 1:30-3:30 p.m. by artist Jerome Grimmer on acrylic painting. \$15 public, \$10 members.

- Nov. 27-28 — Art class "Gingerbread Building," drop-in-style class 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. by Fayne Ansley (family activity; students under age 12 must be accompanied by an adult). \$45 public, \$40 members (materials included). Creations will be placed in a "popular vote" contest Dec. 1-11, with winners announced Dec. 12 at 4 p.m.

- Dec. 3 — Free demonstration, "The Ancient Art of Spinning," 2-4 p.m. by fiber artist Carol Singletary

- Dec. 4-5 — Art class "Knit a Christmas Stocking," 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. by Carol Singletary. \$135 public, \$125 members (materials included).

- Dec. 5 — Free demonstration, "Split Oak Basket Weaving," 1-4 p.m. by basket artist Alice Mason.

- Dec. 5 — Art class "Holiday Cards," 2-4 p.m. by Fayne Ansley (family activity; students under age 12 must be accompanied by an adult). \$25 public, \$20 members.

- Dec. 9 — Art class "Create a Holiday Centerpiece," 1:30-3:30 p.m. by Margie Shambaugh. \$25 public, \$20 members (materials included).

- Dec. 12 — Art class "Ceramic Ornament," 10 a.m. to noon by Norma Hendrix family activity; students under age 12 must be accompanied by an adult). \$25 public, \$20 members.

- Dec. 12 — Free demonstration, "Holiday Botanical Painting by Fayne Ansley," 1-1:45 p.m.

- Dec. 12 — Art class "Botanical Watercolor: American Holly," 2-4 p.m. by Fayne Ansley. For teens and adults. \$25 public, \$20 members (materials included).

- Dec. 16 — Free demonstration, "Holiday Floral Arrangement," 1:30-2:30 p.m. by Margie Shambaugh.

For more information or to register, visit www.thebascom.org or call (828) 526-4949, ext. 100.

• CLASSIFIEDS •

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HELP WANTED

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.

C.N.A.II needed at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital in the Acute Department. Full-time and PRN positions available, night shift. Med/Surg experience preferred. Excellent wage scale, with shift and weekend differentials. Full benefits, or the option to opt out of benefits for an increase in pay, available after 60 days of full-time employment. We are now offering part-time employees, working at least 24 hours a week, medical insurance. Pre-employment screening required. Call Human Resources at 828-526-1376 or apply online at www.hchospital.org.

COOK – needed in the Nutritional Services Department at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. Full Time position available. Must be able to work weekends and be able to read and speak English. Experience required. Full benefits, or the option to opt out of benefits for an increase in pay, available after 60 days of full-time employment. Pre-employment screening required. Call Human Resources at 828-526-1376 or apply online at www.hchospital.org.

C.N.A.I needed at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital in the Acute Department. Full-time and PRN positions available, night shift. Excellent wage scale, with shift and weekend differentials. Full benefits, or the option to opt out of benefits for an increase in pay, available after 60 days of full-time

employment. We are now offering part-time employees, working at least 24 hours a week, medical insurance. Pre-employment screening required. Call Human Resources at 828-526-1376 or apply online at www.hchospital.org.

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

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

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

REWARD OFFERED

FOR INFORMATION leading to the arrest and conviction of person or persons who stole items from the apartment of Tom Merchant at Chestnut Hill. Call S. Johnson, 526-0248

WORK WANTED

HOME HEALTH AIDE/SITTER – seeking part/full-time position. Patient, trustworthy, reliable. Trained as hospice volunteer. Good references. Susan. 828-369-2862. 10/22

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

ABOUT PETS

GOLDEN RETRIEVER PUPPY – AKC Champion sired. 3 months old. Gorgeous and smart. All shots. Crate trained. \$1,200. Call 743-2930. St. 9/24

LOVING PART SIAMESE CAT – Needs a good home, loves People, loves Attention, very Sweet. Only two years old. Interested? Call (828) 526-1536.

BEAUTIFUL FEMALE MALAMUTE MIX. FREE TO A GOOD HOME WITH REFERENCES. 12 years old, bred to be the head of a sled dog team and in excellent

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health. Must sacrifice. Owner's granddaughter has life threatening asthma. This is a very special animal and deserves a forever home. 828-526-3961 oremailstarpony@earthlink.net for pics and more info.

YARD SALE

SATURDAY, OCT. 10 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 75 Hickory Drive in Highlands Springs & Falls off Shortoff Road. Microwave, bar stools, bistro table and chairs, grill, clothes, misc.

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!

MOVING SALE: Oct. 16 & 17, 9-4, Quality furniture, oriental rugs, vintage wicker, Indian artifacts, elk horn chandelier, accessories, pictures/paintings & more. Sapphire area, Holly Forrest I. Details next week.

RESIDENTIAL FOR SALE

REDUCED – 3.55 wooded acres, USFS on two sides, 6 miles from downtown Highlands off NC 28 south. 3 bed., 2 bath, approx. 1,780 sq. ft. manufactured home in excellent condition. 24x32 workshop, storage building, covered parking landscaped yard. Great year-round living or could be developed. No restrictions. \$222,000. 828-526-8191. 10/15

LOT WITH A VIEW OF SATULAH MOUNTAIN, Hidden Springs Road, Highlands. Approximately 1/3 acre. Excellent neighborhood. Lynda Hamilton (912) 481-0174.

BUY PRE-FORECLOSURE NOW! Under Value and Over Improved! Long Range Mountain and Sunset Views. 4 Bedroom,

2.5 Baths. Market Value \$389,000. Foreclosure @ \$289,000. Call 305-458-0033 10/29

FIVE BEDROOM, 4 1/2 BATH HOUSE FOR SALE/LEASE WITH OPTION. Owner financing possible. Handicap accessible, separate office below. Close to town. See at vrbo.com/208433 Call for details 808-443-7353 st. 8/27

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

RESIDENTIAL FOR RENT

HIGHLANDS IN-TOWN 1 BR/1BA Apt with high ceilings, hardwood, tile & carpeted floors, granite countertops in kitchen, 2 decks, light & bright, spacious & open floor plan, laundry room w/ WD & parking for 2. Non-smokers only. Call (828) 226-9818. 10/8

RUSTIC FARMHOUSE, 3br/2b, central heat/air, backup wood heater; w/d, hardwood floors. Large living/dining rooms. Utilities not included; \$700. monthly, first/last/security \$400. Some furnishings. 3459 Buck Creek Rd. 828-524-6038. St. 10/8

HOLLY FOREST II SAPPHIRE NC YEAR ROUND Mountain View easy Access Furnished 3 Bedroom/3 Bath with 2 Car Garage \$1,850. month. 561-626-7467 11/5
AVAILABLE NOVEMBER 1ST: Year-round rental, 3/3, older home, walk to town, furnished, oil heat. Electric/water included, \$1,225. 526-5558. 10/8

ARCHITECTS PRIVATE HOME WITH STUNNING FEATURES. Three bedrooms, plus den, three full baths, and an open living area. Two Stone fireplaces and three decks overlooking stream and private stocked trout pond. Full Privacy. Designer furnished. Walking distance to town. Rate dependant on term. Non smokers only; no pets. Deposit required. Weekly, monthly or yearly rental. Call 678-358-9675 or 404-639-2682.

2 BED, 1 BATH HOUSE FOR RENT IN LAUREL FALLS. Few minutes from downtown Highlands and the hospital. fully furnished included w/d. Call 787-2423. St. 9/24

• CLASSIFIEDS •

\$325/MONTH, one bedroom in 5-bedroom house. Utilities divided equally. Walk to hospital. Call: 828-200-1064. St. 11/12

ONE BED, 1 BATH, plus den with trundle beds – fully furnished, new construction, including utilities, cable TV, W/D, wireless Internet access. Smoke-free environment. 1,200 sq. ft. plus 2 outside decks. Walk to Main Street. Near new Bascom. \$950/month. Call 813-428-2359.

PATIO APARTMENT – 1 queen-sized bedroom, 1 bath, all utilities included except phone. \$650 a month. Call 526-2561. (st. 9/3)

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

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

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

HOUSE FOR RENT – Near Post Office. 2 bed/1 bath, central H/AC, hardwood floors, fireplace, deck, basement, W/D, nice yard. No smoking. \$700/month plus utilities. Call 526-4073. 9/24

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

SEVERAL HOUSES AVAILABLE – 4

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

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

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

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

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

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

FURNISHED 3BD 2BATH HOUSE IN MIRROR LAKE area available for 6-12 month lease \$1200+ utilities. Call 770-977-5692.

3BR, 2BA COTTAGE NEAR MIRROR LAKE – In town. \$1,250 per month. Very

clean. 770-977-5692.

ON MIRROR LAKE – 3 bed, 2 bath, fireplace, hardwood floors, W/D, dock, canoe, furnished, 3-sided lake views. pets OK. Available Nov.-May. \$1,200 a month plus utilities. Call 770-435-0678. 10/29

SMALL FURNISHED COTTAGE suitable for (1) occupant conveniently located @ 674 Chestnut Street. Queen bed, Living area and kitchen combined. Nice screen porch with sleeping loft. Quiet and private. No pets and no smoking. \$800. monthly plus \$300. security deposit with 6 months lease and references. Includes all utilities & satellite TV. Available 9/18/09. Contact Charlie @ (828)526-8645.

COMMERCIAL FOR RENT/SALE

TIRED OF PAYING MAIN STREET RENT? Join new center, less than 2 miles from downtown as an owner, tenant, or rent to own. Two spaces, 1,575 square feet each, \$299,900. Can be combined. Inquire for rental rates. Contact Betty Holt, Signature Properties, 526-4218 or Chris Gilbert, Carolina Mountain Brokers, 421-3161. 10/29

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

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

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ARCHITECTS PRIVATE HOME WITH

STUNNING FEATURES. Three bedrooms, plus den, three full baths, and an open living area. Two Stone fireplaces and three decks overlooking stream and private stocked trout pond. Full Privacy. Designer furnished. Walking distance to town. Rate dependant on term. Non smokers only; no pets. Deposit required. Weekly, monthly or yearly rental. Call 678-358-9675 or 404-639-2682.

3BR, 2BA CABIN – Spectacular valley views available for rent in September and October. Near Glen Falls. \$1,000 per week. Call 404-234-2830. 10/28

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

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

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

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

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

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See CLASSIFIEDS page 34

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ENCLOSED TRAILER, 10'X6' Good condition \$1,150 Call 828-526-8079. 10/22

TWO STAIRSTEPPERS. -- \$100 each. Call 526-9083.

PET DOOR -- Almost New. White. fits into sliding glass doors. \$150 oBO. Call 828-526-3397.

TVS FOR SALE -- Remodeling makes these slightly used bargains possible. 25" -- \$140, 27" \$160, 32" \$260. Call 526-5992.

FURNITURE -- 1 cream tweed sofa (89" long) \$500; 1 sofa/loveseat combo in cream stria-suede \$500 set; 2 brown fabric w/ color stripe custom swivel chairs \$300 each; 2 small green fabric swivel chairs \$150 each; 1 vintage wood vanity w/ beveled mirror and 6 drawers \$300; 2 matching nightstands \$100 for both. Will e-mail photos if interested! 828-743-3071 or 828-787-1900, st. 9/3

TWO MATCHING QUEEN ANNE CHAIRS. Cranberry Red. Walnut legs. Excellent condition. \$300 for both. 828-226-2027.

HOLLAND GAS GRILL -- Tradition model. Very Good Condition with cover. \$250. Call 526-3313.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

MARY KAY with L -- offering state-of-the-art skin care, new mineral makeup and other great products, as well as self-employment opportunities. Call Laurel at 349-6402 for more information. 10/29

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

VEHICLES FOR SALE

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

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

CADILLAC DEVILLE 2002 -- Silver, 85,300 miles. One

owner, garaged. \$8,950. See at 150 Shelby Circle, Highlands. 787-2310. (St. 7/9)

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See CLASSIFIEDS page 35

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• CLASSIFIEDS •

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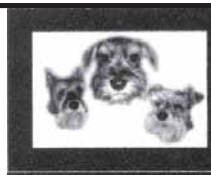
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• SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING •

Learn from the past but look to the future

Paul Christy
Highlands United Methodist
Church



I have been thinking a lot about how some of us try to live in the past. Now what does that really mean? I mean that some of us can't look to the present or the future because we remember and can't let go of the past. Maybe someone has wronged us and we can't get that out of our hearts or our minds to function in the present. Maybe we were overlooked for a promotion or some recognition and we can't let go that someone else got the promotion or the recognition we feel we deserve, that we fall in a dark abyss.

How many of us know people who are 50-years-old and still live the glory of their high school days? Or how many of us know people who still act like they are in college even though they have family responsibilities? Now before you get too depressed by reading this article this week, let me say a simple but yet profound statement: "Stop living in the past and look toward the future!"

I wish I had come up with that statement but I did not, in fact a fellow by the name of Paul wrote those words centuries ago. He was writing to a church in Philippi, and that was a church that was suffering persecution and they were dwelling in the past and Paul wrote and he said these words: "But this one thing I do, forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead."

I love those words because there have been times in my life when I have needed to be reminded of that. We can learn from our past, but we can't dwell in the past. I don't know about you but I have a mistake or two before in my life, and I could dwell on them and kick myself each day I get up, or I can forget and look to what lies ahead.

I leaned early on in my life that I needed to look ahead and not behind. You see I was in Kindergarten and my friend Tommy Jones and I decided that we could skip and go play with our GI Joe's, but when Mrs. Worth (our teacher) saw us trying to leave, she came after us. I was running and sticking my tongue out looking back at Mrs. Worth and laughing because I was faster than she was and when I turned around to run even faster, I hit a tennis pole. You can't run forward by looking back. Six stitches later I learned that lesson.

But very often that is what we do with our mistakes that we have all made. We keep looking back instead of forward. STOP! Look to the future, the present, not the past. The past is the past and there is nothing we can do about the past now, but we can learn from our mistakes and live in the present.

Paul, the Apostle who wrote the letter to the church at Philippi made a lot of mistakes, but he didn't dwell on them, instead he wanted to make a difference for his Lord, and he did. If you have wronged someone, ask for forgiveness and then move on don't stay stuck in the past, but move forward. And you know, if you try that, you may find peace in your life. Don't believe me? Try it!

• 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 • 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.

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SCALY MOUNTAIN BAPTIST CHURCH

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

SCALY MOUNTAIN CHURCH OF GOD

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

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

For more information call 526-3212.

SHORTOFF BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Rev. Andy Cloer.
Sundays: School - 10 a.m.; Worship - 11
Wednesdays: Prayer & Bible Study - 7
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

The following are the Highlands Police Dept. log entries from Sept. 30. Only the names of persons arrested, issued a Class-3 misdemeanor, or public officials have been used.

Sept. 30

• At 3:35 p.m., officers responded to a bear call at Mitchell's Lodge & Cottages where a bear was in the garbage cans. Officers shot it with a bean bag as it went into the woods.

• At 4:25 p.m., officers responded to a noise complaint at a residence on the Franklin Road where construction workers had the radio in their truck on too loudly.

• At 11:30 a.m., the innkeeper at Mountain High called the police concerning patrons who were they allegedly trying to leave without paying. The patrons said their credit card was declined and were trying to rectify the problem.

Oct. 2

• Officers conducted a "resident check" at a residence on Fourth Street. Everything was OK.

Oct. 3

• At 8:08 p.m., officers were called to a residence on Laurel Street concerning a domestic disturbance. There was no assault or arrest.

• At 8:34 p.m., officers were called about some intoxicated people on a person's porch on Lower Lake Road.

Oct. 4

• At 10:50 a.m., Mary Kay Moore, 62, of Highlands was arrested for passing a bad check. She was released on a \$500 unsecured bond.

During the week, police officers responded to 11 alarms and issued 28 citations.

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

Sept. 30

• At 10:40 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with a medical cl at a residence on Hickory Knut Gap Road where a limb fell on a man's head when he was cutting wood. He was transported to the hospital.

• At 3:27 p.m., passers-by called the dept. when they saw a woman lying on her driveway near Hudson Road. She had fallen and was taken by private vehicle to the hospital.

Oct. 2

• At 12:19 p.m., officers responded to a fire alarm at the Episcopal Church. It was false.

• At 4:08 p.m., the dept. responded to a lifeline alarm at a residence on Flat Mountain Road. It was cancelled by the alarm company.

• At 6:56 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with a medical call at a residence on Cullasaja Drive where an 80-year-old woman gad fallen. She was transported to the hospital.

Oct. 4

• At 2:22 a.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at the Rib Shack. The cooker door was open so the smoke set off the fire alarm.

• THE PUZZLERS •

Hex-a-Ku©

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.

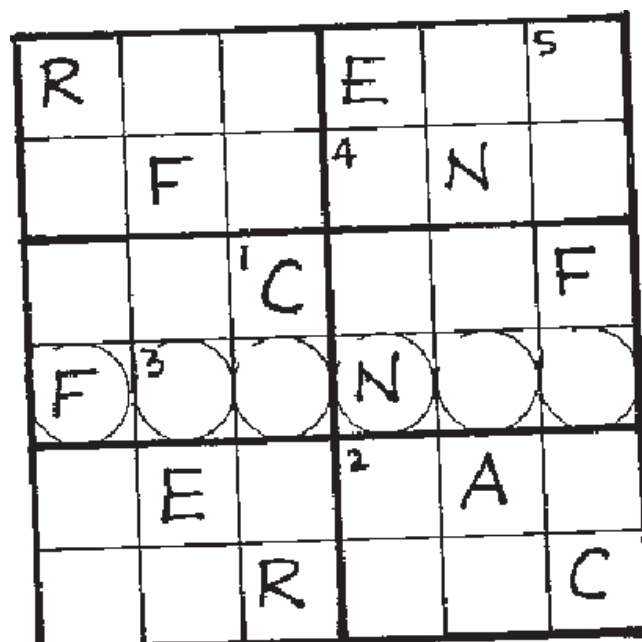
Mystery Word: European Country

Across

1. Auto (4)
2. Fast trot (3)

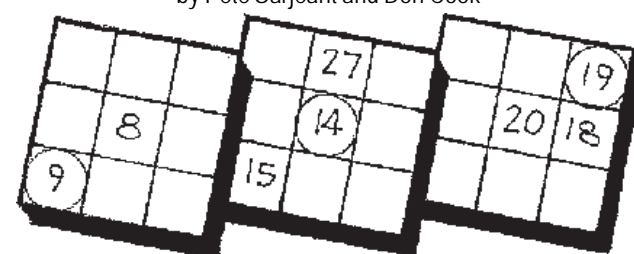
Down

3. 2nd musical note (2)
4. Metallic container (3)
5. Dog sound (3)



PseudoCube©

by Pete Sarjeant and Don Cook



#CZ2A Level of Difficulty – Moderate

THE SETUP:

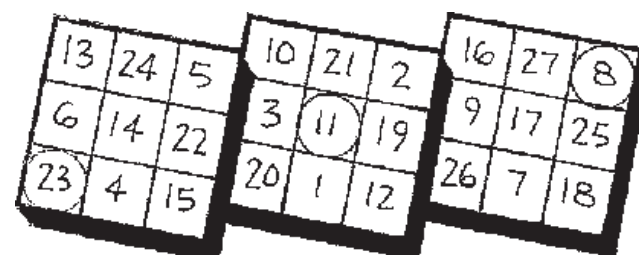
The cube has 27 consecutive numbers in it, arranged in three layers with 9 numbers each. These numbers are arranged in a special pattern: For each layer, the sum of the three numbers in each row, column or diagonal, is 3 times its center number. Eight diagonals connect all 3 layers by running through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

THE CHALLENGE:

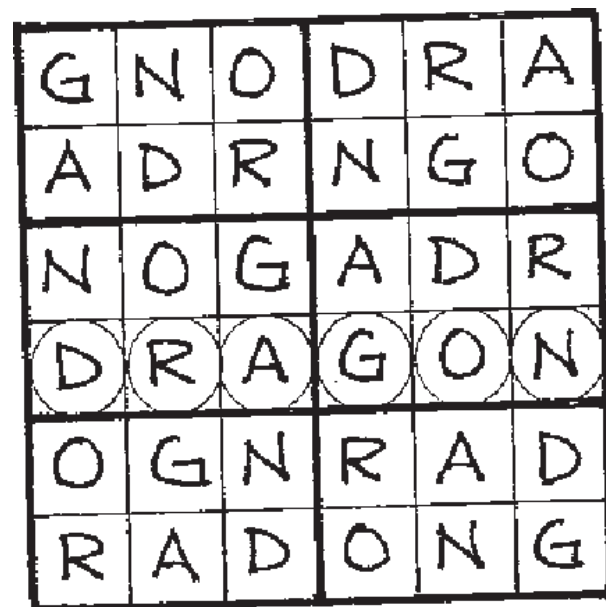
Start with the three center numbers for each layer and the other numbers given. Now pour a cup of coffee, pick up a pencil and eraser and try to figure out where the other numbers belong. Good Luck!

Email: thepuzzlers@yahoo.com.

Solution to #DN1B in Oct. 1 issue



Solution to Oct. 1 Hex-a-Ku



• BUSINESS NEWS •



Vivace owner Linda Hall with jeweler Louise Abrom at the trunk show this past weekend.



Lloyd and Debra Wagner and staff of the Hen House on Saturday during its "Fine Whines" giveaway and trunk show.



Owner Rose Greenleaf, artists Bev Rambo and Sally Ross and customers at the "Artist Series" at Greenleaf Gallery on Saturday.
Photos by Jim Lewicki

MtnTop Rotary

Rotary District 7670 Governor Carol King recently visited the Highlands Mountaintop Rotary Club. As a member of the Rotary Club of Asheville, Governor King served as President in 2001-02 and was awarded RI's Distinguished Club President Citation.

She has served the District as Assistant Governor, Membership Chair, program Chair for the District Conference, and Trainer. In 2008, Carol travelled as a Rotary Volunteer to India where she had the honor of participating in a Polio National Immunization Day.

She is a Paul Harris Fellow, a member of the Paul Harris Society, and a Major Donor.

During her visit Governor King explained the Rotary theme for the year which is "The Future of Rotary Is in Your Hands". This theme stresses that it is every Rotarian in every Rotary club that is responsible for keeping Rotary strong.

Governor King once again stressed the importance of Rotary in helping provide clean water, reducing hunger and improving literacy as each of these components combine to help create better communities both locally and worldwide.

The Highlands Mountaintop Rotary truly believes this message and is working to serve both locally in Highlands and worldwide on such projects as the VinaCapital Foundation and Heartbeat Vietnam which provides heart surgery to underprivileged children who otherwise could not afford these life saving surgeries.

Locally, The Mountaintop Club has worked to raise funds which it then distributes to such important community non-profits as the Food Pantry, The Literacy Council, The Community Care Clinic and more. Highlands Mountaintop Rotary President Al Bolt said. "The Highlands Mountaintop Rotary is excited to have such a dynamic leader as Governor King. She is bringing a vitality to the district and renewing the spirits of many Rotarians. Our club is taking the future seriously and we look forward to doing our part."

The Highlands Mountaintop Rotary club was chartered in April 2002 as an early morning club to satisfy the needs of members that are busy and on the go during the business day. If you are a past member of Rotary or a member visiting our area we encourage you to join us. Meetings are every Wednesday at 7:30 am at Ruka's Table and end promptly in one hour.

Fall-tastic festival benefits The Bascom

The Bascom's Autumn Leaves festival was a grand affair, raising thousands of dollars for the nonprofit visual art center while giving two major parties for the community. Friday's Auction Gala at The Farm at Old Edwards Inn drew more than 200 bidders on an array of live and silent auction items amid delectable food and a first-class facility. Saturday's bluegrass-and-barbecue Autumn Leaves Party at The Bascom had more than 450 people dancing, mingling, eating and bidding on the grounds of the art center. Art demos and a pumpkin sale rounded out the fun. Here are scenes from the event:



Committee Member Nancy Jamison, left, and Bascom Events Director Donna Woods hold up one of the items up for live auction Friday night: a painting by Steve Penley.



Fay Gold greets a friend at the Friday Gala.



This young dancer tries to figure out how to "buck dance."



Saturday attendees watch as artist Carol Singletary gives a loom demonstration outside The Bascom's Studio Barn.

Photos by AWH PHOTO & DESIGN and Guy Fielding

• BUSINESS NEWS •

Wildcat Cliffs Country Club raises money for employee scholarship fund with talent show



August 29 was a special night for the members at Wildcat Cliffs Country Club. Over 40 Wildcat Members and others participated in a USO Talent Show to help raise money for the Employee Scholarship Fund. The Employee Scholarship Fund is intended to help full time Wildcat employees further their college education. Over \$2,700 was raised. Left are The Wildcatty Cloggers who were made up of 17 Wildcat members: Gigi Cockes, Martha Copeland, Carol Crowe, Linda Edwards, Linda Firkins, Patty Gassner, Kay Gerspacher, Diane Ginn, Ginger Grimes, Betty Ingrish, Deedee Jordan, J.R. Kirby, Vivienne Lambrecht, Pennie Mase, Marla Sverdlow, Kathy Watkins and Gordie White. They were instructed and joined by Joyce Doerter and performed two clogging routines. Natasha Walker, the Fitness Center Director, lead the Fabulous Fitness Follies, a group of members (Gigi Cockes, Mary Ann Bond, Marsha Kuhlman, Harry Deffebach, Suzy Mosely, Kirk Domingos and Chris Hinck) who dressed in top hats and gloves and performed an exercise-dance routine.



October Rotary Bingo winner



The Rotary Club of Highlands and local Cub Scouts partnered to sponsor "Cub Scout Bingo". Net proceeds of over \$1100 were donated to Highlands Cub Scout pack # 207. Cecelia Schmitt (left) and Ivy Satterwhite won \$100 in the final Super Bingo game. They are shown here with Rotary member Bill Nellis.



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