

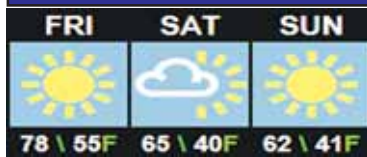
Highlands' Newspaper

FREE

Volume 8, Number 18

PDF Version - www.HighlandsInfo.com

Thursday, May 6, 2010



This Week in Highlands

- Mayor Wilkes asks business owners and employees not to park on Main Street. Parking restrictions went into effect April 15.
- Town Hall on NC 106 will be closed through May 10. It will reopen at 210 Fourth Street on Tuesday, May 11 at 8 a.m. Staff will be taking phone calls.

Thursday, May 6

- Rotary Bingo for 6:30-8:30 at the Community Building. Portion of proceeds to benefit the Cashiers-Highlands Humane Society.
- Taize in Highlands is Thursday at 5:30 PM. at the Holy Family Lutheran Church.
- The Mountain High Republican Women's Club May luncheon is Thursday at the Trillium Links and Lake Club. Registration is at 11:30 am; the lunch with speaker and the meeting begin at noon. Call 828-200-0437.

Friday and Saturday, May 7-8

- Relay for Life fundraising @ Byrson's Food from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. Heather Mangum is selling Sun Stars & Feet Cards, Scratch & Donate Cards, Purple Bows, Luminaria & Tiki Torches.

- Live music at the Downhill Grill in Scaly 7-9 p.m.

Friday, May 7

- The Zahner Conservation Lecture Series begins with Dr. Shepard Krech's lecture "Spirits of the Air," at 7 p.m. at the Highlands Nature Center.

- The American Cancer Society will Paint the Town Purple. Order a purple bow to place on their property. Suggested donation is \$10. Call Lisa Duff at 828-994-0431.

Saturday, May 8

- Zorki playing live music at Cyprus Restaurant at 9 p.m.

- The Highlands School 2010 Fun Run Saturday at 9 a.m. Contact Michelle Munger at (828) 342-3551.

- The H-C Land Trust's first Eco-Tour will search for the rare Pink Shell Azalea. in Panthertown Valley. Lunch will be provided on the trail. Tours are \$5 for HCLT members and \$35 for new friends. Call Julie at 526.1111.

Thurs., Sun., May 13-23

- Highlands-Cashiers Players to perform Rebecca at PAC, 8 p.m. and 2 p.m. on Sundays. For tickets, call 526-4084.

Ex-police officer files EEOC complaint

An Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) charge of discrimination citing race, sex, and national origin was filed against the Town of Highlands by previous Highlands Police Officer Erika Olvera on April 14, 2010.

Olvera resigned from the Highlands Police Department on February 10, 2010. She was hired June

24, 2006.

"She resigned under extraordinary pressure," said Ed Buckley, partner of Buckley & Klein, LLP of Atlanta, GA, a law firm that focuses exclusively on representing employees in labor and employment law. "We feel she was constructively discharged. "The situation had become so intolerable she could

not stay."

Buckley said Olvera's is a Title 7 claim where only the employing entity is held responsible not individuals, though individuals' conduct is considered an issue in such cases. Individuals identified in the EEOC complaint are Town Manager Jim Fatland and High-

• See COMPLAINT page 21

PAC lease finalized

Following an hour-long discussion at a Special Town Board meeting Monday, May 3 – a meeting that came full circle – conciliatory to contentious back to conciliatory — both sides left happy with the outcome.

The town agreed to enter into a 10-year lease with PAC and the PAC board, represented by President Stewart Manning and member Ron Leslie, agreed to the insertion of a statement into the lease and on a new application form saying in effect: "The PAC board acknowledges receipt of public funds and as such shall be open to the public in a non-exclusionary manner."

Submitted at the meeting was a three-point Resolutions and Response document depicting new procedures pertaining to policy which had been previously OK'd by the PAC board.

"The PAC board of directors will welcome and encourage a town councilman as a voting member of the PAC board," reads point one on the document.

In addition, the document states that PAC will develop and

• See PAC LEASE page 23

Local May 4 Primary Winners



Allan (Ricky) Bryson



Brian McClellan



Ronnie Beale



Bob Simpson



George Lynch



Jim Davis

County Commissioner District 1 contenders incumbent Commissioner Brian McClellan (Rep) and previous County Commissioner Allan Bryson (Dem) will face off in November just as they did four years ago.

In the Democrat Primary, Bryson beat newcomer to politics Michael Rogers with 57.28% of the vote to Rogers' 42.72% — 1,047 votes to 781 votes, respectively.

In Highlands, Bryson got 93

votes and Rogers got 55. In Scaly Mountain, Bryson got 11 votes and Rogers got 17.

Similarly, in the Republican Primary, McClellan beat newcomer Jim Tate 56.39% to Tate's 43.61%, 997 votes to 771, respectively.

In Highlands, McClellan got 91; Tate got 121. In Scaly Mountain, McClellan got 26; Tate got 20.

Democrat County Commis-

• See PRIMARY page 25

Rezoning case continued

Folks turned out to discuss the rezoning of the Shearl property on NC 28 – in what was supposed to be the final step in a process that began in October 2009 – but a decision will likely be made at the second Town Board meeting in June.

After hearing testimony from property owner John Shearl who is requesting his .95 acre, split-zoned B3/R1 parcel be rezoned B3 commercial and adjacent property owners Gerald and Tracy Hedden and others who contend the back R1 portion of the parcel is a valuable buffer to his commercial enterprise, a decision was postponed.

At Commissioner Gary Drake's suggestion, the board decided to continue the public hearing until Zoning Administrator Joe Cooley could be present to discuss the issue thoroughly. He will not be available until the second week in June.

The board unanimously approved application into the NC Small Town Main Street Program which will help the town facilitate rejuvenation of downtown Highlands and to hopefully attract businesses to fill the 18-plus empty storefronts.

However, Commissioner Buz

• See REZONING page 25



Hiking
Waterfalls
Camping



Rafting
Fly Fishing
Touring



Nature's
Website
HighlandsInfo.com

• THE PLATEAU'S POSITION •

• LETTERS •

Referenced room rates were wrong

Dear Editor,

In your article last week entitled "What Room Tax Figures Likely Mean," you printed incorrect rates and information about Old Edwards Inn and Spa. Please allow me to offer the following corrections to your assertions about Old Edwards (a) taking business away from other local inns, (b) "cheapening Highlands" with discounted rates, and (c) having a larger marketing budget than other local inns:

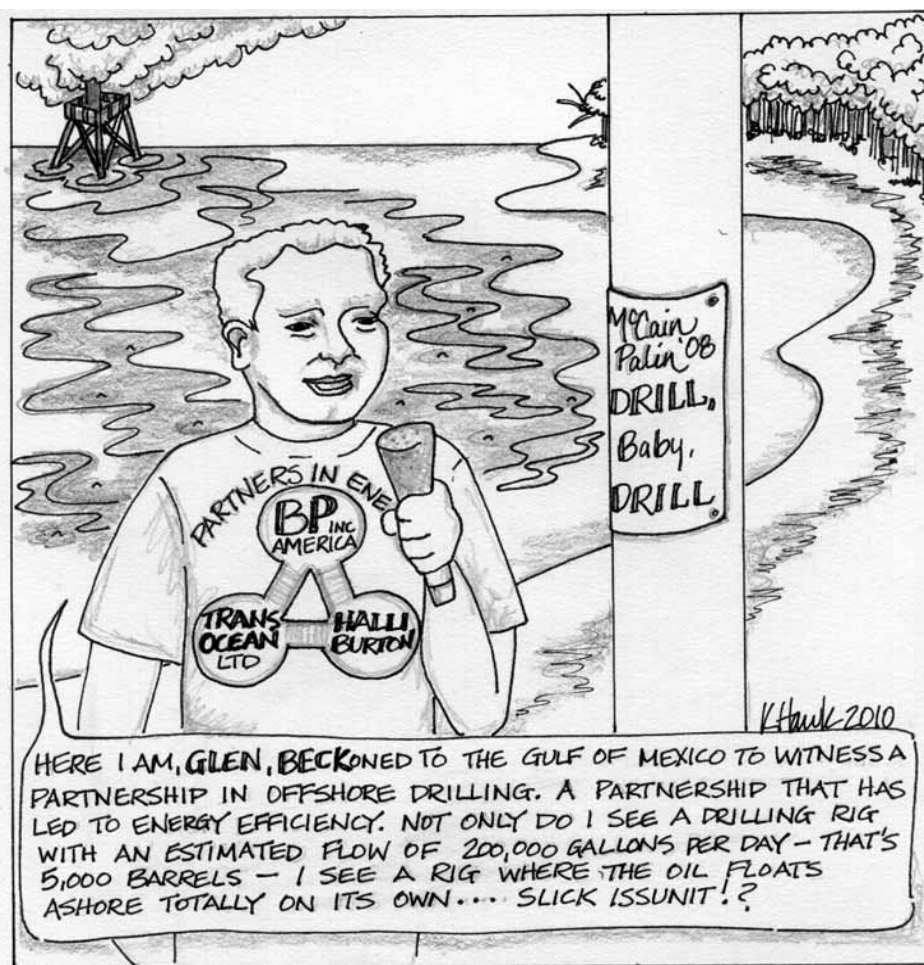
In 2008, when our team accepted the responsibility of managing Old Edwards, occupancy had been plummeting under the strain of unrealistic rates in a faltering economy, which would have eventually rendered the business not viable. We examined all areas of the business—taking into account location, economy and occupancy—and then gradually brought our rates to a more realistic level. But we did not discount our rates.

- Our least expensive all-inclusive winter package with a spa treatment add-on was \$379 per night, or \$416.10 including tax—and not \$190 as you reported. Our least expensive winter rack was \$195, not including breakfast—and rates went up to over \$500 depending on the room.

- Old Edwards' Average Daily Rate (ADR) for 2009 and 2010 are \$298 and \$300 respectively, which I don't believe is "dirt cheap." The United States Luxury Hotel ADR in 2009 was \$253, and ADR for North Carolina hotels was \$79.65.

- Old Edwards does have a marketing budget that is higher than other accommodations in Highlands. And we use that budget to elevate awareness of the *entire* Highlands area. As part of our brand strategy, we market Old Edwards as being in a "charming mountain town that has evolved around the arts, nature, culture, boutiques, innovative restaurants and a healthy lifestyle." This marketing helps increase the number of visitors to inns, restaurants and shops, and attracts first or second home owners. So, ironically, you are correct in your assertion that we believe that Old Edwards is somewhat synonymous with Highlands—as, we believe, are all of the other inns, restaurants, shops, galleries and businesses that collectively make up the character and appeal of our town.

• HAWK'S EYE VIEW •



Regarding winter weekend visitors, Old Edwards' marketing campaign last January through March was "Winter Weekends at Old Edwards." I'm certainly not going to apologize for the fact that it worked, and we (along with the efforts of The Chamber and other businesses) attracted first-time visitors during a time when the town has normally been perceived as closed. If we are all as successful in this campaign next year, we hope to generate even more business for other inns and businesses during a time when none of us has historically enjoyed much, if any, business.

One of the most common quotes in meetings within Old Edwards, when we hear of the success of another Highlands business including inns, is: "Good for them; a rising tide lifts all ships." We believe we are all in this together, and we want nothing less than the utmost success for our fellow innkeepers, business owners and overall health of the Highlands lifestyle and economy. Old Edwards refers prospective guests to other inns based on vacancy and needs of the guest. Last week alone, we sent 58 room nights to another Highlands inn, and we have booked another 25-30 at another inn in June.

I finish by inviting you to speak with me the next time you wish to obtain information about Old Edwards, and by respectfully asking that you print this letter to clear up the erroneous information about Old Edwards Inn and Spa.

Richard M Delany
President and Managing Director

Drake writes in defense of OEI

Dear Editor,

This letter is being written after reading an article in Highlands' Newspaper "What room tax figures likely mean" in the April 29 edition.

My husband (Highlands Commissioner Gary Drake) and I recently had a major flood in our home in October of 2009. Due to extensive construction, we were to be displaced approximately six weeks and our insurance company turned the housing portion over to a hotel assistance solution company. The company chose Old Edwards Inn & Spa as our temporary home and we lived there from mid-December to the end of January.

During our period of inconvenience, we were given daily food expense allowances as well as our lodging. As we all know, insurance companies are careful to pay only what is necessary and I'm sure that ev-

• See LETTERS page 3

Highlands' Newspaper

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• CORRECTION •

January discounts at the Old Edwards Inn & Spa reported in the article "What Room Tax Figures Likely Mean" in the April 29 issue of Highlands Newspaper were wrong. (Please see the accompanying letter by President and Managing Director of Old Edwards Hospitality Group Richard Delany in this issue.) OEI's least expensive rack room available during the winter season of January - March of 2010 was \$195, not including breakfast. Packages including 3 meals a day were for deluxe rooms. We regret the error and are happy to set the record straight.

• OBITUARY •

Ted Lincoln Alford

Ted Lincoln Alford, 87, of Columbus, GA, Panama City Beach, FL and Highlands, N.C., died Sunday, April 25, 2010 at his home in Bay Point. Funeral services were held Friday, April 30, 2010 at St. Paul United Methodist Church with Dr. Buddy Cooper officiating.

Mr. Alford was born October 3, 1922 in Columbus, GA the son of the late Seals Myrick Alford and the late Lena Simmerly Alford. He was instrumental in development of home building in the 1950s and developing large subdivisions, then the outskirts of Columbus, now the center of Columbus. He also developed the Beachcomer By the Sea and Driftwood Motels

in Panama City Beach.

Mr. Alford was a friend and mentor to many and will be missed. He was a member of St Paul United Methodist Church, Columbus Country Club, Green Island Country Club, and Cullasaja Club in Highlands, N.C. He was a 1942 graduate of Columbus High and attended Gordon Military Academy in Barnesville, GA.

Mr. Alford was an entrepreneur with great vision of the real estate market in Georgia, Alabama and Florida. Since his early 20s, continuing through out his life he never retired always planning new projects. Among many of his successful ventures included single home and commercial development,

most recently the Lincoln Center in Panama City, FL. He was preceded in death by two brothers and two sisters, Bill Alford, Laurie Alford Psalmonds, Dorothy Alford Eisiminger, and Bob Alford.

Survivors include wife, Lynda Merritt Alford; three daughters, Dianne Alford Estes and her husband, Gordon of Columbus, Lou Alford Pickle and her husband, Lindsey of Marietta, GA and Sally Alford Andrews and her husband, Bob of Columbus; grandchildren, Thad Estes and his wife, Allison, Lyndee Daffin and her husband, Alan, Jennifer Dykes and her husband, Tra, Lindsey M. Pickle, Jr and wife, Melanie, Laura Pickle Strovinskaskas and her husband, Chad, Leslie

Ann Pickle Bates and her husband, Mark, Bonnie Zisholtz and her husband, Todd, and Sara Jewell and her husband, Chance; great-grandchildren, Mobley Estes, Sanders Estes, Hayes Dykes, Grayson Dykes, Chapman Dykes, Lindsey M. Pickle, III, William Carson Strovinskaskas, Collin Alford Strovinskaskas, Cayden Grace Strovinskaskas, Morgan Light, Madison Light, Willie Andrews, and Sadie Jewell.

Memorials may be made to St. Paul United Methodist Church, 2301 Wildwood Avenue, Columbus, GA 31906 or John B. Amos Cancer Center, 1831 5th Avenue, Columbus, GA 31904

... LETTERS continued from page 2

ery avenue of housing was discussed with the Old Edwards Inn & Spa firm. If there had been a discounted rate available during that time which included meals, I'm sure that our insurance company would have taken advantage of it.

In closing, we attended an Economic Development Committee function on Thursday night and during the program there were key companies in Macon County that were singled out for excellence. The Old Edwards Inn & Spa had the distinction of being one of those companies because of its 200 plus workforce and also the 12,000 plus customers a year among various other

things. The revenues of the town as a whole generated by these two factors alone make me think... "What's good for Old Edwards Inn & Spa IS good for Highlands"

Wanda Drake

No church is perfect

Dear Editor,

It seems the distain for organized Christian religions in general and the Catholic Church in particular by much of the national news media has hit home here in Highlands' Newspaper over the past few weeks. How sad!

As we all are painfully aware, there have been serious breaches of trust on the part of some priests and ministers. If these breaches rise to the level of criminal activity, prosecutions in our courts should take place. It is most unfortunate, however, that the actions of a few have tainted so many good, loyal and holy members of the clergy.

As a lifelong professing Catholic, I have known many priests and ministers. None of them have even been accused of a serious breach of conduct. As a member of Our Lady of the Mountain Catholic Church I am proud of our priest and the fine work he does. I have become familiar with most of the ministers

in Highlands and I know them to be good and faithful leaders as well.

It is important to realize that the church is not the priest or minister. To me the church is the people of faith coming together to worship and know God. I have met people who have abandoned their faith or their church because they are angry at a member or members of the clergy.

No doubt, organized religion is one of the most vital institutions to the stability of our society. I am convinced that people coming together to worship throughout our history and the ideals they espouse has shaped

• See LETTERS page 4



Women on the Highlands Cashiers Plateau Have a New Reason to Stay in Town.

The Hologic Selenia Digital Mammography Machine is helping women in our area take the steps they need to practice better breast cancer awareness. This new discovery in breast cancer detection will enable area women, even those with dense breast tissue, to assure they are in good health. Now is the time to make an appointment to protect you and your loved ones by calling (828) 526-1450.



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• LAUGHING AT LIFE •

Drunken cops, Mexican food and other fun stuff

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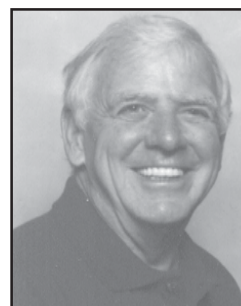
526-3865
399 Main Street

I can't wait to arrive in Highlands and eat at the new Mexican restaurant, El Azteca. The li'l missus and I love Mexican food so we'll be in soon after we hit town. We can walk there from our home.

I looked up the meaning of El Azteca and, loosely translated, it means “cum onna my house, a my house, I'ma gonna feed you everything.” As I've said before, “feeding you everything” means they have six caldrons of food in the kitchen. What you order depends on how they arrange the cauldrons of food on your plate. For the daily special, the refried beans are always on the left. For a regular evening dinner, the fajitas are on the left and the refried beans on the right. You can freak out your waiter by turning your plate when he's not looking.

The folks who own this restaurant are actually... well, Mexican. How unique is that? The Mexican restaurant where we eat in Palm Beach is owned by our friend, Marty Goldberg. Oy! He has Mexican latkes on his menu and his refried beans are loaded with garlic and chickpeas.

Maybe when our president comes to Highlands and bows to our mayor, I'll ask him to swing by El Azteca and bow to the owners. I don't think he's bowed to any Mexicans yet. Maybe I'll tell him they're big shots



Fred Wooldridge

Feedback is encouraged!

email:

askfredanything@aol.com

down in Mexico.... wait, are they big shots down in Mexico?

Moving on, since my column on drunk driving was published a few months ago, portable breathalyzer gadgets that can be inexpensively purchased on-line are selling as fast as... well, Jim Beam whiskey.

Here's how it works. Go to your favorite Highlands' restaurant and hoop it up with food and drink. When you're ready to leave, whip out your personal breathalyzer and take the test. If you pass the test twice, you're on your way but if you flunk even once, go to the manager and show him the results, then politely demand he take you home. Unlike the old days when you brown-bagged your whiskey, restaurant owners are now liable since they sold you the booze that got you smashed. If they resist, point out the liability of you killing someone on your way home. That should do it unless the restaurant owner is also plastered. Warning: If you're offered a ride home and you turn them down, you're on your own.

Anyway, everyone wins with this scheme. Booze sales go up, the breathalyzer gadget company's sales go up, the citizens

are safer, the cops are happier and customers will surely want to return to any restaurant or bar that takes them home after getting them smashed. Best of all, Highlands rids itself of the reputation of being tough on drunk drivers.

If I told you how many drunken off-duty police officers I've taken home in my 28 years on the job, you'd call me a liar... but you'd be wrong. At one point, my supervisor was an alcoholic. I've even had to wrestle cops to the ground and forcefully take their car keys away while they're kicking and screaming obscenities at me. Thinking back, there were a couple of them I wanted to put in jail... but I couldn't. “The code” didn't permit it. The next morning, the sobered-up cops always apologized for their poor conduct.

Are you sitting down? I once got a call of “shots fired” and arrived to find two drunken policemen shooting at each other. It happened right in front of the Bee Gee's home on North Bay Road in Miami Beach. Could I make this up? The less drunk off-duty officer was demanding he drive his friend home. It led to an argument, then a fist fight and, last, shots fired. I handed them over to my Sergeant and fled like a coward.

Finally, after being married for a long, long time, my li'l missus has found a cure for my snoring. She's sleeping with a Taser gun nearby. She hasn't used it yet but the threat is keeping me awake. I don't snore under the threat of electric shock. Ta da.... end of problem.

Finally, finally, here's an inconvenient truth you may not like. Global cooling has begun and the ice caps are expanding again. Al Gore's pool heater bill just topped out at \$3,000 a month. Can you imagine what the bill is for his mansion? And if you think for one minute I'm making fun of Al or global warming, call me at 1-800-who-cares.

... LETTERS continued from page 3

us into a better people. Unfortunately, with the decline in church attendance in our more recent past, we have seen a decline in the morals and values of society. For our own good we need to turn that around and not cause the decline to accelerate through doubt and despair.

No church will ever be perfect. Of course, that is not the fault of God, but the fault of us as imperfect human beings. It is my hope that people of God will keep the faith, pray together, and support each other in our quest for eternal salvation.

Ed Boos

Do it for the less fortunate

Dear Editor,

I appreciate when someone writes a meaningful and thought provoking column, such as Dr. Henry Salzarulo's entitled, “Do it for our fellow man” February 11, 2010.

How can any of us feel good about ourselves if we don't share what we are blessed with to help those less fortunate? God's

Word tells us, “The love of money is the root of all evil.” (1 Timothy 6:10 KJV) Money isn't evil, but loving money more than people sure is. Helping the people in Haiti with medical care and food and shelter should be a priority for all of us.

Many people think that President Jim-

• See LETTERS page 5

HEALTHline

Herbert Plauché, MD, Orthopedic Surgeon

Highlands-Cashiers Hospital is unique compared to other area hospitals in that all physicians are Certified by The American Board of Medical Specialties, or have committed to Certification within two years of joining the hospital.

Board Certification means that the physician at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital has voluntarily completed ongoing, rigorous testing and evaluation. Additionally it signifies the physician's commitment and expertise in consistently achieving superior clinical outcomes in a responsive, patient-focused setting.

Orthopedic surgeon Herbert Plauché is one such physician. With over 40 years of surgical experience, Dr. Plauché is quick to praise his colleagues and the facilities at HCH. “The staff at HCH is dedicated, professional and friendly, and the patient's welfare always comes first,” said Plauché. “Add to that some of the finest and most up to date medical equipment available and you have a community hospital second to none.”

For the patient, the benefit of the Certification program means that when choosing a HCH physician, they may be confident that they have chosen one with an established record of experience, knowledge and skill.

Highlands-Cashiers
 HOSPITAL
www.highlandscashiershospital.org

• THE VIEW FROM HERE •

Let's get the bad guys without ruining nations

As terrorist attacks go, Saturday night's failed car bomb was amateurish at best. Who in his right mind would try to blow up Manhattan with three propane tanks, two gas cans, and a handful of fireworks? Two alarm clocks were found wired to the makeshift bomb, maybe a snooze alarm, perhaps a realization that the thing was unlikely to explode with only one, or maybe he just wasn't sure where the wires connected.

A Pakistani Taliban group quickly claimed responsibility. Responsibility for what? Inability to make a bomb? That's what these terrorists are supposed to be good at, terrorizing. All these guys did was draw a curious crowd and delay the curtain for a couple of Broadway shows.

Whoever concocted the crude weapon should hide in shame or go back to bomb school. Anyone who traveled to a training camp in Pakistan or Afghanistan to learn the bomb maker's art should demand a tuition refund. Really, how could one possibility proudly trumpet responsibility? It's like a Little Leaguer proudly proclaiming, "I'm the kid who struck out to end the game!"

Despite the claim of responsibility New York police deny there is evidence to identify the person or group responsible. It shouldn't be hard to gather evidence because the bomb didn't go off. It smoked up the interior of the car but failed to explode, despite double alarm clocks. It's relatively easy to accumulate evidence when investi-



Feedback is encouraged.
email: hsalzarulo@aol.com

gators don't have to sift through ashes and rubble. An un-detonated bomb in a Madrid subway allowed Spanish police to identify terrorists responsible, simply by tracing the ownership of the cell phone which was the intended detonator.

We've been lucky since September 11, 2001. Incompetent terrorists have helped. Richard Reid tried to ignite his shoe to blow up a passenger jet. Last Christmas Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab tried to ignite a bomb concealed in his underwear on a flight from Amsterdam to Detroit. Neither aspirant martyr did well in Bomb Building 101. Maybe they scored higher on diving through flaming hoops, negotiating jungle gyms, or firing AK-47's into the sand. Both must be disappointments to their instructors.

None of us hopes for better instructors or more talented pupils, and we all pray

that our good fortune will continue. Unfortunately, it is likely that our luck will not hold, and that some future attempt will succeed in killing American citizens. If and when this tragedy occurs, it will be our job to measure our response and avoid further fanning the flames of hatred.

We should, indeed we must, exhaust every means to identify, apprehend and punish the culprits and their sponsors. We must do so without inviting further retaliation, without waging war on Iran or Somali, or wherever the assassins were based. We felt good when President Bush said he wasn't going to fire a million-dollar missile at a ten-dollar tent just to hit a camel in the butt. We reveled in images of US Forces racing unopposed across the desert. We cheered as Hussein's statue was toppled, and swelled with pride as the President declared the end of major combat operations.

It is now clear that Iraq was not involved in the 9/11/01 attacks. The result of our war on Afghanistan, which was involved, is even worse. If we are attacked in the future, it is important to get the bad guys without wrecking nations, even ones we don't like. We don't want to look to the world like inept bomb builders.

ANNAPWEAR

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... LETTERS continued from page 4

my Carter started Habitat for Humanity. While he was very much involved there, it was Millard Fuller who started that ministry. Millard was very successful in college and quickly became a very successful and wealthy young man. He and his young wife Linda did not find real joy in their worldly possessions. They left it all to go on a mis-

sion trip as you did, then started the ministry called Habitat for Humanity.

Millard and Linda Fuller stuck to their original mission of loving and serving God by loving and serving people in need, but when their organization grew and the board of executives became more interested

• See LETTERS page 10

Surprise, Mom!

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• HIS & HERS •

Since you didn't ask, Part 4

By Michelle A. Mead-Armor

"Drop your pants," said the nun. This was not just any nun, however; this was Attila the Nun, from the Order of the Holy Terrors. As my then-husband, Colin, and I found out, not all medical procedures require a doctor. Europe was entering a very bad flu season, and the French government highly recommended flu shots for everyone. Our pharmacist suggested we call on the local nurse practitioner.

In our neighborhood, that was Sœur Marie de la Trinité. A no-nonsense nun of indeterminate age, she wore plain habits and a kerchief pinned to her steel-gray hair. We always went to her tiny office, but she also zipped around the neighborhood in a beat-up yellow Volkswagen, bringing comfort and medical help to the needy. The police were terrified of her, and left her to break the speed limit and just about every traffic rule with total abandon. "God is on her side," the local cops would sigh, shaking their heads.

On first contact, Sœur Marie de la Trinité appeared gruff, but she was simply plain-spoken and practical. She reserved her sympathy for people who really needed it. Her first comment to us caught us off guard. "Do you have any stuff around the house you don't need? Curtains, sheets, blankets?" She was collecting these items for needy people in Eastern Europe. Once she had a car full, she would load up her VW, and drive there. God only knows how she managed those trips!

It was from this very plain-spoken woman that we learned yet another of the mysteries of French medicine – why get a shot in the arm when God has given you a much bigger target area? Smallpox vaccinations – with their often ugly scarring – are frequently given in places other than the arm (the thigh, generally), an idea which makes a lot of sense, when you think about it.

So, there we were, waiting for our flu shots. "Who wants to go first?" said Sœur Marie de la Trinité. Colin grinned weakly,

and stepped forward. "Are you Catholic?" the nun inquired. "Well, no, I was raised Anglican," was his reply. He dropped the article of clothing, as requested, and leaned over the examination table. Sœur Marie advanced, brandishing her needle, and stabbing it into the waiting target. "Here's what I think of the Protestant Reformation!" she cried.

Shots were just the tip of the French medical iceberg. You know those silly paper sheets (the ones that make you feel like you've been to a picnic that went horribly wrong) which you get in America to "cover the naughty bits?" Those don't exist in France. It is assumed that if you are at the doctor's office, you are there for a reason. This means your modesty is left at the office door. I questioned a female doctor about this once, and she explained that many medical problems are easier to spot if you see the entire person, and not just bits and pieces in a kind of medical peek-a-boo. I tried to explain this to a lady in Highlands – how most medical procedures in France are done with the patient completely naked. "Even the dentist?" she whispered, horrified.

Another typically French quirk is the obsession with the liver. Are you feeling out of sorts, down, depressed, lacking in energy? It's your liver! This leads to another Gallic habit; that of taking lots of medicine in suppository form, a process which avoids the liver altogether. My mother, having lived much of her adult life in the States, had forgotten this, one day in Paris when a nasty bug had kept her in bed. She phoned the symptoms to my grandmother's pharmacy, and sent my father to collect the remedy. Horrified, she stared at the pills in question. "I am not taking suppositories for this!" she stated, outraged. You can see her point. She had a sore throat.

In an odd coincidence of events, I fell off a step ladder, and broke my foot. The next day, Colin slipped and broke two toes. We limped out of a taxi, and into the emergency room of a local hospital. The attending physician took a few notes, and then quickly separated us, which we found odd. The reason became clear as the medical exams went on. They were convinced that we had had some sort of domestic dispute, and come to blows, resulting in our injuries. The kindly doctor smiled broadly at me, and said, in confidence, "Ah, Madame, I am a doctor. You can have complete confidence in me. You and your husband, you have a little fight, eh? It gets a little out of hand.



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

You kick. He retaliates. This is not uncommon, even among "les Anglo-Saxons." He gives his shoulders the typical Gallic shrug. "And now, it is all over. You feel a bit silly, non? You kiss and make up. C'est la vie." Try as we might, neither my doctor nor Colin's would believe that our injuries were the result of bad luck and klutziness.

All in all, I was impressed with medical care in France. It was not perfect. Medicine is not a perfect science. Most of the time, though, it was good and affordable. The doctors, nurses, and pharmacists were knowledgeable and caring. Sure, there were deficiencies. Eye care and dental procedures were badly reimbursed, even though few of us wear glasses or go to the dentist for fun. My parents retired to France, and lived there for 10 years. Unfortunately, since neither one of them had ever worked in France and paid into the Social Security System, their medical expenses were not covered. They were at the mercy of my father's GE retirement health care insurance, which took on average 2 ½ years to reimburse them, after my folks had paid up front.

Still, on the whole, I can't complain. I had eye surgery, gum surgery, broken toes, and any number of small ailments, which were treated with great care and attention. My grandmother, the scourge of her nursing home, died at the ripe old age of 96, "of too many birthdays." Sorry about that, those of you who are convinced that socialized medicine means death panels for the elderly.

But most of all, I remember that particularly French way of looking at things. When my usual doctor was away on vacation, I had come down with a nasty case of bronchitis. A dear old doctor had come out of the retirement to cover for him. I stood before him, topless, and feeling a bit sheepish. He checked out the x-rays and beamed at me. "Have you ever smoked?" he inquired. "Never," I replied. "Why do you ask?" "Ah, Madame! You have such a magnificent pair of lungs!"

• 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. To date, **Playboy** magazine has not yet asked to photograph her lungs.

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• COACH'S CORNER •

A foul is a foul... or is it?

When former NBA official Tim Donaghy was arrested for betting on and influencing the outcome of NBA games, it came as no surprise to many fans of the NBA. For years now, fans and commentators alike have wondered aloud about some of the bizarre officiating that has occurred throughout the years. I can remember vividly from college the Lakers-Portland series from 2000 and the Lakers-Kings series from 2002. The particularly glaring one was that Lakers-Kings game 6 in which the Lakers were down double figures going into the fourth quarter but managed to pull it out after shooting a bazillion free throws. (true, bazillion is not a real number, but it may have to become one if our national debt gets any higher) When Donaghy was arrested and questioned, I was almost relieved to read that the Lakers-Kings series was one that Donaghy claimed was fixed.

After the Donaghy scandal and subsequent fallout, one would think that the NBA would attempt to seriously crack down on officiating, but that has not been the case. This years playoffs has been a perfect example of the "star system" that has permeated the NBA. One of the reasons



Ryan Potts
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that the NBA has turned the average viewer off is because they cannot stand to see LeBron drive down the lane, take three steps and draw a foul by bulling into his defender. They hate watching Derek Fisher grab the off arm of Russell Westbrook and cause a turnover (this actually happened) with no foul called or Tim Duncan allowed to swat the ball off of the rim without being called for goaltending.

The officiating in the NBA is set up in a tiered system. You have the immortals-hall of fame level players like Kobe and LeBron, followed by the first estate (Great players on bad teams, second level superstars), followed by the second estate (veteran players

and rookie stars) and then the third estate (rookies and/or career backups). Referees then base their foul calls on the tier of the player. For example, Kobe goes down like he is shot when being guarded by Thabo Sefolosha. Obviously, since Kobe is the better player, he wouldn't have fallen down if he had not been fouled, therefore it is a foul. However, if Sefolosha takes Kobe to the rack and falls down, it's because Kobe is such a good player that Sefolosha just couldn't finish. In other words, a foul is a foul...depending upon who is doing the fouling and who is being fouled. A travel is not a travel, depending on who is doing the traveling.

Some of this can be explained away by human nature. Great high school players get calls, and it certainly is not because the referees are betting on games or they are trying to get a 7 game series. However, the NBA is supposed to be the highest level of basketball in the world, and you would think that they would have the highest standards of officiating in the world as well. The bias shown in some of these games is questionable though, particularly when TNT is flashing stats like "Dallas is 3-17 when Joey Crawford officiates their games."

So what's the solution? It's not feasible for the NBA to instruct their officials to call every foul and every violation-because the outrage by the fans will be great. Imagine a playoff game being bogged down by 80 fouls called and/or violations. Those games could last for 4 hours and the complaints would be all over the mainstream media. My proposal is a little convoluted, but it might work. At the end of the season, the NBA should analyze their own officials, and the ones who demonstrate a quantifiable bias towards a certain player or team should not be assigned to that team during the playoffs. In other words, Joey Crawford should not be officiating Dallas games in the playoffs. Surely the NBA could afford to pay a guy to computerize fouls and violations and then extrapolate the data into something useful. While I doubt that this would solve all of the NBA's problems-I think it could go a long way towards the negative perception that exists towards NBA officiating.

• HS SPORTS •

Senior Night a success for Lady Highlanders

By Ryan Potts

Tuesday night before their game with Cherokee, the Lady Highlanders honored eight seniors who have been a huge part of a successful Highlands women's program. Jessica Gagne, Kate-Marie Parks, Madison Taylor, Shelby Johnson, Susan Johnson, Paige Strahan, Carmen Damien and Katie Durham presented flowers to their parents before getting down to business and beating the Lady Braves 3-0.

While it was senior Paige Strahan that provided the first goal for Highlands early in the first half, it was the Lady Highlander youngsters that showed the future for Highlands would be bright.

First, sophomore Stephanie Smart

scored off of a beautiful left footed goal late in the second half to extend the lead to 2-0.

Then, in the second half, freshman Caroline Christy scored just off the near post to complete the final margin of 3-0. The Lady Highlanders dominated the game in a way that the score does not reflect, as they outshot the Lady Braves 40-3 but could not finish around the goal.

The Highlanders will compete in the North Carolina 1A state playoffs next week when they will host a yet to be determined opponent on Wednesday May 12. State law requires that there will be an admission charge, but we hope to have a great crowd to support the hometown Lady Highlanders.

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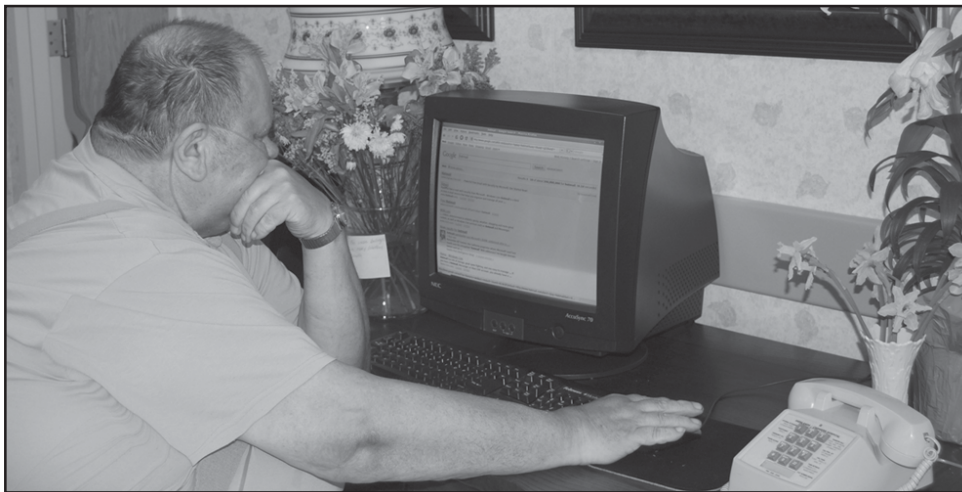


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• HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HOSPITAL NEWS •



Fidelia Eckerd Living Center (FELC) resident, Danny Welch, surfs the web at the new computer station that was funded by a donation from Joanna Baumrucker and the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital (HCH) Gift Shop.

Baumrucker funds technology at Fidelia-Eckerd

Long time supporter of HCH, Joanna Baumrucker, recently presented a check to the Living Center in honor of Louise Clark and in memory of the dedicated Gift Shop volunteers.

The donation was given to assist the FELC's effort to maintain the "home like" feel that makes the Living Center so special to its residents. A computer desk and four arm chairs were purchased to enhance the ambience of the main lobby. "Many of us may take for granted having access to a computer, but for our residents this

wonderful gift enables them to enjoy searching the Internet and allows them to remain connected to family and friends," said Shawna Mellott, FELC Administrator.

Joanna and the Gift Shop volunteers share a sense of pride — both in the hospital, and in knowing they are giving back to their communities. "The gift shop is the product of tireless energy and determination from Joanna Baumrucker. She and the volunteers give back to the hospital and community each and every day. For that, we are extremely grateful," said Frank Leslie, Interim CEO.

Board Certified Physicians

Choosing the best physician for your particular need is one of the most important decisions a person can make. Finding the right combination of knowledge, skill and experience can be a daunting task. Helping with a significant part of that decision-making process are The American Board of Medical Specialties and Highlands-Cashiers Hospital where, unique compared to other area hospitals, *all* its physicians are Board Certified, or have committed to Certification within two years of joining the hospital. By choosing a Board Certified Physician at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital, you will have selected one with experience and outstanding expertise in their particular specialty.

While medical licensure sets the minimum competency requirements to diagnose and treat patients, it is not specialty specific. Board Certification means that a physician has voluntarily gone beyond these requirements and completed rigorous testing and evaluation, in their particular specialty. Additionally, Certification signifies a physician's commitment and expertise in consistently achieving superior clinical outcomes in a responsive, patient-focused setting. Healthcare providers, insurers and quality organizations look for Certification

as the best measure of a physician's knowledge, experience and skills within their specialty.

Once certified, the physician's commitment to excellence continues with the Maintenance of Certification (MOC) program. With MOC, physicians commit to an ongoing process of education, in order to stay at the forefront of advances in medical science, technology and patient care. To keep his or her Board Certification current, the physician's learning and competency within their specialty, are again measured by Member Boards, using a four part process. This process ensures that the physician: (a). Holds a valid and unrestricted medical license. (b). Makes a lifelong commitment to self assessment and educational programs formulated by the Board. (c). Demonstrates specialty-specific skills and knowledge in his or her field. (d). Utilizes the use of best evidence and practices, compared to his or her peers and national benchmarks.

As a result, Board Certified physicians always use the most current evidence-based guidelines and standards within their specialty. With a Board Certified physician, the patient can expect the best medical

• See CERTIFIED page 20



Thanks to the Cannon Foundation and the generosity of community donors, digital mammography is now available at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. Pictured (L-R) Radiology staff member, Meg Cannon and Rodney Stinnett, MD. To make an appointment, please call (828) 526-1450.

Cannon Foundation makes \$100,000 grant to Hospital

The Cannon Foundation, Inc, of Concord, NC, has awarded a \$100,000 grant to the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital Foundation to go toward the cost of the hospital's \$250,000 digital mammography project that included the equipment and remodeling of the accompanying suite.

"This grant from The Cannon Foundation is a major step forward in the Foundation's efforts to help the hospital pay for this vital new state-of-the art diagnostic equipment," said Robin Taylor, Executive Director of the hospital Foundation. "We are very pleased that the board of The Cannon Foundation recognized the importance of the role of this new equipment in meeting a real medical need in our community."

Digital Mammography has become an important tool for improving the early detection of a number of breast cancers and, in many cases potentially life-threatening breast cancers. "That's because the Digital mammography machine uses sensors much like a digital camera to record the image. With the new technology, I can utilize computer software to increase the image brightness and contrast, which makes it easier to see slight changes that might otherwise be hard to see in denser tissue," said Radiologist Rodney Stinnett, MD.

According to a recent study by The American Cancer Society, researchers found that digital mammograms were more accurate in finding small cancers in women younger than 50 and in women with especially dense breast tis-

sue. Very small calcifications show up better with digital mammography in denser tissue. The microcalcifications are tiny specks of calcium in the breast, that may appear alone or in clusters. While they do not necessarily mean early cancer is present, the shape and layout of microcalcifications help radiologists like Stinnett judge whether a biopsy or other imaging tests ought to be performed.

The new equipment began serving patients at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital about a month ago.

"This equipment is already proving its worth by helping to diagnose disease and potentially save lives, and now we extend our gratitude to the Cannon Foundation and those community supporters who helped provide for this kind of state-of-the-art technology," said Taylor.

"Our Foundation strives to assure that HCH has the latest in diagnostic equipment to provide the highest possible standard of care to our communities. We are deeply grateful to the Cannon Foundation, as well as our generous community donors who come together to help us keep pace with state-of-the art technology for our patients. We are also fortunate to have our medical staff of board certified physicians and registered technologists who are vital to the quality of care provided here," she added.

The Cannon Foundation, Inc. began in 1943 as a corporate foundation focused on giv-

• See GRANT page 20

What could possibly go wrong?

I present the following for those of you who are not fortunate enough to be on the rabid, militant, extreme right-wing email circuit.

"Let me get this straight...the house has passed a health care plan written by a committee whose chairman says he doesn't understand it, passed by a Congress that hasn't read it but exempts themselves from it, signed by a president that also hasn't read it and who smokes, with funding administered by a treasury chief who didn't pay his taxes, overseen by a Surgeon General who is obese, and financed by a country that's broke."

I refuse to concern myself with the myriad catastrophes that swirl around us. Wifey and I took a quicky road trip to Tallahassee and it cleared my mind of all the garbage that continually goes across my radar, at least for a couple of days.

The pastoral scenery of rural panhandle Florida and southern Georgia was therapeutic and I intend to see the therapy continue.

Therefore, I will deal with insignificant matters and the most insignificant matter I can imagine is our dear wasted soul, Lindsay Lohan. Lindsay has been a busy little lass lately, among other things being accused of steal-

ing a friend's \$35,000 watch. You may remember the little darling was implicated last year in the disappearance of a huge amount of jewelry after a photo shoot. In a totally unrelated incident, she got thrown out of an LA bar the other night after a six-week party binge. Her daddy Mike, who had her committed last year, is trying to get control of his daughter and her sister Ali, who's crashing at LiLo's pad; oh yes, he's trying to get control of her money as well.

Now, wasn't that interesting?

Would you rather hear about Sen. Carl Levin droning on opening the Goldman Sachs hearing? Let's keep it light, shall we?

"Sometimes we are encouraged about our country's future when you see something like this. Specifically, there is an annual contest at Texas A&M University calling for the most appropriate definition of a contemporary term. This year's term was 'Political Correctness.' The winner wrote: 'Political correctness is a doctrine, fostered by a delusional, illogical minority, and rabidly promoted by an unscrupulous mainstream media, which holds forth the proposition that is entirely possible to pick up a turd by the clean end.'"

This is curious. Spell Check doesn't recognize "turd." It still doesn't recognize "Obama" either. Anyway, how about a little discussion on the Greek debt crisis, or the impending collapse of the Portuguese financial structure? OK? I thought not.

"The teacher gave her fifth-grade class an assignment: Get their parents to tell them a story with a moral at the end of it. The next day, the kids came back and, one by one, began to tell their stories. There were all the regular types of stuff: spilled milk and pen-



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

nies saved, etc. The stories were all told except for Janie, and she was called on. 'My daddy told me a story about my Mommy. She was a Marine pilot in Desert Storm, and her plane got hit. She had to bail out over enemy territory, and all she had was a flask of whiskey, a pistol and a survival knife.

She drank the whiskey on the way down and her parachute landed her in the middle of 20 Iraqi troops. She shot 15 of them with the pistol, un-

til she ran out of ammo, killed four more with the knife, till the blade broke, so she killed the last Iraqi with her bare hands. 'Good Heavens,' said the horrified teacher, 'what did your Daddy tell you was the moral to this horrible story?' 'Stay away from Mommy when she's been drinking.'"

Are we having fun yet? I feel the urge (not) to delve into the debate NY Mayor Bloomberg and the State of Arizona are having over immigration. I see a number of thumbs down.

"Survivor- Montana style. The contestants will start in Billings, travel over to Bozeman and on to Butte. Then they will head north to Helena, Great Falls, Conrad and Shelby, then proceed east to Have and Malta, then south to Grassrange and Roundup, and finally back to Billings. Each will be driving a pink Volvo with California plates and a large bumper sticker that reads: 'I'm gay, I'm a vegetarian. Beer is harmful to your health. Deer hunting is murder, and I'm here to confiscate your guns.' The first one that makes it back to Billings alive wins."

Next week we'll return to the slings and arrows of outrageous fortune running rampant in our world.

... LETTERS continued from page 5

in the business than a selfless and Godly mission, disagreements with their founder concerning money led to turmoil and lies, and eventually the Fullers were cast out. People should have been outraged at what was done to Millard and Linda and sought to know the truth, but little was said in the media for Millard and Linda's defense. The Fullers followed Christ's example, turned the other cheek, and went on with their mission building homes for needy people, establishing a new housing ministry. Millard died and his wife Linda and the others who joined them continue the mission through the Fuller Center for Housing.

I put your column together with what I read in their newsletter, "Building Materials," and wanted to share with you another

opportunity to make a difference in Haiti. The Fuller Center is building homes there for only \$3,000 each. They are 16' x 16' core houses made of plastic foam block, concrete and rebar, designed to be earthquake, fire, and hurricane - resistant and easily built by volunteers. People here in Highlands spend that much or more on a carport or a shed for their riding mower!

Their website: www.FullerCenter.org has the information. I thought you and others you know might be interested in this opportunity to make a big difference for the people of Haiti. A group of 300 people, each giving only ten dollars would pay for a house. If each church in Highlands sponsored a house, an entire block of houses could be built there!

Lolly Malik

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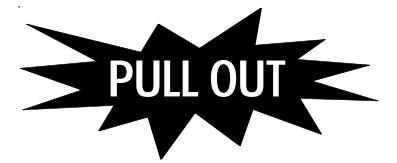
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Ongoing and Upcoming Events



Costa to discuss (R) evolution: the life and Times of Charles Darwin



On Thursday May 13, the Highlands Biological Station's own Dr. Jim Costa, back from his year-long, worldwide book tour, will discuss his most recent book, *The Annotated Origin, an annotated edition of Darwin's On the Origin of Species*, published by Harvard University Press. We are all aware of Darwin's earth shattering theories on evolution, but Dr. Costa's passion for the subject and his years of teaching experience bring Darwin's more elusive concepts into a relevant context for modern readers. Costa shows how elegant the theory of evolution truly is.

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Ongoing

• Registration is now open for the 2010 summer nature day camps at the Highlands Nature Center. Five different camps are offered: "WOW! – a World of Wonder" (ages 4-6), "Amazing Animals" (ages 7-10), "NatureWorks" (ages 8-11), "Mountain Explorers" (ages 10-13), and "Junior Ecologists" (ages 11-14). Some camps are offered more than once during the summer. Sessions run from Tuesday to Friday each week. For complete schedules, costs, and other information, please call 828-526-2623 or visit www.wcu.edu/hbs.

• At Health Tracks at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital, various exercise classes all week long. Call 828-

526-1FIT.

All Week

• YOGA – at Moonrise Yoga Studio, 464 Carolina Way. Mon., 10 a.m. & 5 p.m.; Tues., 8 a.m.; Wed., 8 a.m. & 10 a.m.; Sat., 9:30 a.m. All Levels. Mats provided. 526-8880. More info at www.yogahighlands.com (5/20)

Through May 7

• RBC Bank is collecting nonperishable food products for donation to The Food Pantry of Highlands Emergency Council. Donated items can be dropped off at our branch location at 225 Franklin Rd in Highlands during normal banking hours.

Through Aug. 13

• Mountain Fresh Foods has Relay for Life Star

• See EVENTS page 12

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May 7-13

IRON MAN 2

rated PG-13

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Saturday: 2, 4:30, 7, 9:30

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THE LOSERS

rated PG-13

Friday: 4:15, 7:15

Saturday: 4:15, 7:15

Sunday: 4:15, 7:15

Mon + Wed: 4:15, 7:15

Tues + Thurs: 4:15, 7:15

CLASH OF THE TITANS in 3D

rated R

Friday: 9:15

Saturday: 2:15, 9:15

Sunday: 2:15, 9:15

Mon + Wed: 9:15

Tues + Thurs: 2:15, 9:15

A NIGHTMARE ON ELM STREET

rated R

Friday: 4:20, 7:10, 9:20

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

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

Mon + Wed: 4:20, 7:10, 9:20

Tues + Thurs: 2:10, 4:20, 7:10, 9:20

THE LAST SONG rated PG

Friday: 4:10, 7

Saturday: 4:10, 7

Sunday: 4:10, 7

Mon + Wed 4:10, 7

Tues + Thurs: 4:10, 7

THE BACK-UP PLAN

rated PG-13

Friday: 9:10

Saturday: 2, 9:10

Sunday: 2, 9:10

Mon + Wed: 9:10

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Saturday, May 15

**Tae Kwon DOS: The Gentle Art of
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Saturday, May 22

Buddy Dean:

**Growing Dahlias in
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Ongoing and Upcoming Events

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Sundays

• Aftershock Youth meets every Sunday Night at 6:30 p.m. downstairs at Cullasaja Assembly of God at 6201 Highlands Road, Franklin, NC. Contact youth ministers Seth & Sarha Henegar at 828 369-7540 ext 203.

Mon. & Wed.

• Pilates Classes at the Jane Woodruff Clinic, 1st floor, at H-C Hospital taught by Sandie Trevathan at 4 p.m. Amat class for all levels. For info call 526-5852. (4/15)

Mon., Wed., & Thurs.

• On the Mat Yoga at the Episcopal Church of the Incarnation on Main Street. Enter through single door

facing Mountain Fresh. Upper Level Jones Hall. Monday & Wednesday at 7:30 a.m. and Thursday at 10:4. Bring your mat. 828-482-2128. \$10/hour. (4/29)

Mon., Wed., Fri.

• Heart Healthy Exercise Class at the Rec Park. 8:30-9:30 a.m. \$20/month.

• 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, 5:30 p.m. at the Episcopal

Church at Fifth and Main streets.

Tuesdays

• Tuesday After School Classes for grades K-6 are held weekly at The Bascom in Highlands. To register or for more information, visit www.thebascom.org or call (828) 526-4949 ext. 100.

• 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.

Wednesdays

• Wednesday Preschool Creativity Classes for Parent and Child (ages 2 1/2-5) are held weekly at The Bascom in Highlands. To register or for more information, visit www.thebascom.org or call (828) 526-4949 ext. 100.

• A FREE After School Program at Highlands United Methodist Church. Children are picked up at school, taken to the church, have a snack, helped with homework time and supervised playing on the playground and participate in a music program. Children are dismissed at 5:30 pm in time for dinner in the fellowship hall. For information, call 526-3376.

• The Highlands Mountaintop Rotary meets at 7:30 a.m. The new meeting place will be in the dining room at the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. Enter the hospital in the main or emergency entrance and follow the signs downstairs. Visitors are welcome. Come learn about Rotary and enjoy fellowship while listening to an interesting speaker. Meetings end at 8:30 am.

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

• The Homegrown Buds, a homeschool 4-H club, meets at noon at the Macon County Library on Siler Road in Franklin at 1 p.m.

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

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

• Zahner Conservation Lecture Series every Thursday at 7 pm at the Highlands Nature Center May 13 through Aug. 5 It's free.

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. For information contact Carole Light, Ph.D. at 828-526-9769 or Ann Nandea at 828-369-7385

Friday & Saturdays

• Live Music at The Downhill Grill at Scaly Mountain Outdoor Center 7-9 p.m.. BYOB.

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

• Saturday Art School for grades K-8 is held weekly at The Bascom in Highlands. To register or for more information, visit www.thebascom.org or call (828) 526-4949 ext. 100.

• 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.

Monday-Thursday, through May 15

• The Macon County Senior Games hosted by

Cats & Dogs Rotary Bingo II

"Be Kind to Animals Week" is the first week in May. Cats & Dogs Bingo II – The Sequel is Thursday, May 6th and benefits the Cashiers-Highlands Humane Society. The Rotary Club of Highlands and CHHS have partnered again to raise money through Cats & Dogs Bingo for our little friends.

Let your pet know you're going to Cats & Dogs Bingo II – you'll be amazed at how thankful they'll be. Half of all money paid to play Bingo will be paid as prizes to game winners and the other half goes to the Cashiers-Highlands Humane Society.

Cats & Dogs Bingo II will happen on Thursday, May 6th, 6:30 – 8:30 at the Highlands Community Building – next to the ballpark at Hwy 64 and Poplar Street. The cost to play is \$1 per card per game and there will be 15 games with Game 15 being an extra money game. Play as many cards as you like.



Cats and Dogs Bingo is a family-style event that offers fun, a lot of humor, free refreshments served by Highlands Boy Scout Troop 207 and the chance to win Bingo money.

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

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Ongoing and Upcoming Events



the MC Recreation Department. Events are scheduled over a 4-week period. For more information, call 828-369-0832 or 838-349-2090. Registration deadline is April 20. Forms are available at the Highlands Rec Park.

Wednesday-Friday, May 5-7

• The North Carolina Lake Management Society (NCLMS) will host the 19th Annual Southeastern Lakes Conference, "Managing Extremes: Watershed and Climate Disruption" in Winston Salem, NC at the Hawthorne Inn. In addition to the main conference all day pre-conference workshops on "Algae Identification" and "Man vs. Stats" will be featured. Main conference sessions cover Technical Training, Watershed Management, Reservoir Management, Water Quality and an Open Forum for lake and home owner associations that includes a presentation on grant writing. Conference registration continues until the Conference opening on May 5th. Information on the Conference and the Hawthorne Inn can be found on the group's website www.nclakemanagementsociety.org. Interested parties may also email nclakemanagementsociety@yahoo.com.

Thursday, May 6

• Rotary Bingo for 6:30-8:30 at the Community Building. Portion of proceeds to benefit the Cashiers-Highlands Humane Society.

• Taize in Highlands is Thursday at 5:30 PM. at the Holy Family Lutheran Church. Taize is a non-denominational service of prayer, meditation, scripture and simple, beautiful music. No offerings are taken—these services are a free gift to the community.

• A movie at the Cashiers Library at 3 p.m. "Up in the Air" depicts the high-flying life of businessman Ryan Bingham, (George Clooney). After meeting Alex (Vera Farmiga), he realizes that life isn't just the journey, but the connections along the way. Rated R. Movies are free, but donations are appreciated.

• The Mountain High Republican Women's Club May luncheon will be held on Thursday May 6th at the Trillium Links and Lake Club. Registration is at

11:30 AM; the lunch with speaker and the meeting begin at noon. The group has moved the May luncheon from the usual 1st Tuesday to May 6th to avoid a conflict with the Primary Election Day on May 4th. The June luncheon and meeting will be on the 1st Tuesday, June 1st. For additional information, a membership application and luncheon reservations, please call 828 200-0437 or email mtnrepublicanwomen@yahoo.com. Inquiries may also be mailed to MHRWA, P.O. Box 126, Cashiers, NC 28717.

Friday and Saturday, May 7-8

• Relay for Life fundraising. Heather Mangum will be fundraising @ Bryson's Market from 11am-2pm selling Sun Stars & Feet Cards, Scratch & Donate Cards, Purple Bows, Luminaria & Tiki Torches.

... from the history guy

May 6, 1856

**Birth of Sigmund Freud
(AKA "Kid Id") founder of the field
of psychoanalysis.**

Tell me something about your mother,
Was she neglectful, or inclined to hover?

Take a look at this ink blot,

does it make you think of sex a lot?

We can now analyze exactly what's
the thing that is that makes you nuts.

It's not all black and white, sometimes it's
grey, see,

could be you're troubled, but not
exactly crazy.

The cause of your social paralysis
can be determined by psychoanalysis.

It's true, on occasion, our thoughts are
bizarre,

but sometimes a cigar is just a cigar.

Friday, May 7

• The Zahner Conservation Lecture Series begins with Dr. Shepard Krech's lecture "Spirits of the Air," at 7 p.m. at the Highlands Nature Center.

• The American Cancer Society will Paint the Town Purple. Business and residents can show their support in the fight against cancer by ordering a purple bow to place on their property. The bows are

available for a suggested donation of \$10 and all proceeds will benefit the American Cancer Society's research, education, advocacy and patient service programs. This year's Relay for Life of Highlands will be held at the Highlands Recreation Park on Friday, Aug. 13 at 6 p.m. through Aug. 14 at 7 a.m. The Relay for Life is the society's signature fundraising event. Teams

• See **EVENTS** page 14



CLE offers Saturday classes and hosts membership drive

The Center for Life Enrichment begins the 2010 season with Tae Kwon DOS – The Gentle Art of Computer Self-Defense on Saturday, May 15 from 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. at the Performing Arts Center on Chestnut Street. In today's world bad things can happen if your computer is not protected. There are viruses and worms, and dangers lurking in social networking sites. Learn how to protect yourself and your computer as instructor and computer "geekette" Lizz Russell introduces you some free and reasonably priced programs and little steps that can make all the difference. Bring a laptop if you have one, but it is not necessary. The class is \$20 for CLE members and \$30 for non-members.

The following Saturday, May 22, Buddy Dean of Hilltop Gardens in Cashiers, will be presenting Growing Dahlias in Highlands and Cashiers, just in time for

this year's growing season. The class is from 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. at Highlands Civic Center (Rec Park). Cost is \$25 for members and \$35 for non-members.

In addition a membership drive is now in progress and there will be a special ice cream social at SweetTreats on May 28 and 29 with free ice cream offered when you become a member of CLE. Knowledgeable board members will be on hand to answer questions about classes on those two days. If you've always had good intentions of joining CLE but have let the season get away from you, why not stop in for a chat and a cone.

To sign up for either of these classes or for membership information, contact CLE at 526-8811. To see a full listing of classes you may request a brochure or go to the website www.clehighlands.org.

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Ongoing and Upcoming Events

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Rebecca

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of people camp out for 24 hours, walking laps on a track, socializing and participating in planned activities. Teams can be made up of family, friends, co-workers or community groups. For more information or to order your purple bow, contact Lisa Duff at 828-994-0431 or Lisa.Duff@cancer.org

Saturday, May 8

- The 2010 Fun Run, slated for Saturday, at 9 a.m. It is one of the major fundraisers for the Highlands School Boosters Club. The event, open to all ages, begins in front of Highlands School, travels the road around Harris Lake and then ends back in front of the school. For more information, please contact Michelle Munger at (828) 342-3551.

- The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a 5-mile moderate hike, with an elevation change of 1200 feet overall, to Blackrock Mtn. and Sassafras Gap in Panthertown Valley to see three waterfalls, pink shell azaleas, and perhaps some flame azalea and painted Trillium. Meet at the Cashiers Wachovia Bank (in back) at 9:30 a.m. Drive 16 miles round trip. Bring water, lunch, wear sturdy shoes. Call leader Carl Blozan, 743-1765, for reservations. Visitors are welcome but no pets please.

Monday, May 10

- The H-C Land Trust's first Eco-Tour will search for the rare Pink Shell Azalea. This moderate 5-mile hike to Panthertown Valley will be led by local hiker, Carl Blozan and botanist, Dr. Gary Wein. Lunch will be provided on the trail. Tours are only \$5 for HCLT members and \$35 for new friends. The price includes a membership to HCLT and lunch on the trail. For more information or to reserve your

Bascom to host free season kickoff party May 15

Popcorn, lemonade, five new exhibitions

Photo by Jonathan Hillyer. The Bascom, above, will host a free, drop-in-style season kickoff party on Saturday, May 15, from 1-5 p.m. All are welcome.



Art lovers from around the region are invited to open The Bascom's 2010 season in style when the nonprofit art center hosts its Season Kickoff Party on Saturday, May 15, from 1 to 5 p.m.

The free drop-in event will feature an open house, popcorn and lemonade, a meet-the-artist reception with Patrick Taylor, and the chance to view several new exhibitions: An Artist in Construction: Patrick Taylor, Mud to Music: Ceramic Instruments, Ceramic Wine Goblets, Recent Works: Chad Awalt, and Regional High School Showcase.

The Bascom and its shop are open May 15-December 18, Tuesdays through Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday afternoons beginning May 30 from 12-5 p.m. The cafe is open May 28-October 10 Tuesdays through Sundays. Exhibition admission is always free.

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

spot today, contact Julie at 526.1111 or julie.hitrust@earthlink.net

Wednesday, May 12

- The High Mountain Squares will dance this Wednesday night, May 12th at the Macon County Community Building on Route 441 South from 7-9 p.m. Marty Northrup from Columbus, NC will be the caller. We dance Western Style Square Dancing, main/stream and plus levels. Everyone is welcome. For information call 828-349-0905, 828-369-8344, 706-0943.

Thurs., Sun., May 13-23

- Highlands-Cashiers Players to perform Rebecca at PAC, 8 p.m. and 2 p.m. on Sundays. For tickets, call 526-4084.

Thursday, May 13

- Taize in Highlands is Thursday at 5:30 PM. at the Highlands United Methodist Church. Taize is a nondenominational service of prayer, meditation, scripture and simple, beautiful music. No offerings are taken—these services are a free gift to the community.

- The May meeting of The Western North Carolina Woodturners Club will meet on Thursday at 7 p.m. at the Blue Ridge School, in Glensville. Drive to the back of the school to the woodworking shop. Visi-

tors are always welcomed. The club meets every second Thursday.

- A reception to honor all cancer caregivers at Fressers Eatery at 7 p.m. For more information about this year's Relay for Life of Highlands and for upcoming events go to www.relayforlife.org/highlands.

Fri. & Sat., May 14-15

- Barbara Zaretsky will teach a fiber art workshop, "Creating Pattern on Fab-

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Ongoing and Upcoming Events



ric: Block Printing," at The Bascom for all levels. Cost is \$175 Bascom members, \$195 nonmembers. Registration is going on now. To register, call (828) 526-4949 ext. 100 or visit www.thebascom.org.

Saturday, May 15

• CLE presents Tae Kwon DOS: The Gentle Art of Computer Self-Defense from 10 a.m. to noon at PAC. Cost is \$20 for members and \$30 for nonmembers. Call the CLE office at 526-8811 for ticket information.

• Highlands Playhouse will hold auditions by appointment only on Saturday from 10 a.m. To schedule an appointment, please call Loretta Newton at 828-526-2695. The following parts are available for Lettice and Lovage: The Surly Man, Bardoff, Ms. Farmer, Lettice. Applicants should be in the age range of 30-60 and must be available for a 10 day rehearsal period and a 10 day run of the performance from Aug. 2-Aug. 22.. Applicants should bring resume, headshot and read for part and must have the ability to do an upper class British accent.

Sunday, May 16

• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take an easy 3-mile hike on the Park Creek Trail along the Nantahala River in the Standing Indian area. Meet at Westgate Plaza in Franklin (opposite Burger King) at 2 p.m. Drive 30 miles round trip. Bring water, a snack if you wish; wear sturdy shoes. Call leader Kay Coriell, 369-6820, for reservations. Visitors and children ten and over are welcome but no pets please.

Wednesday, May 19

• The Rotary Club of Highlands 21st annual Golf Tournament will be held Wednesday at Trillium Links and Lake Club, with a shotgun start at noon. Get together a foursome and sign up for an afternoon of golf and good fun. 100% of the money raised by this annual event is used to fund local Rotary projects and community needs. Registration for individual players is \$125, which includes golf, followed

by an awards ceremony and a buffet supper. Call Rotary member Brian Stiehler at (828) 787-2778 to sign up.

Thurs.-Sun., May 20-23

• Elder G. Jones will teach a sculpture workshop, "Wet Carved Concrete - Planters for the Garden," at The Bascom for all levels. Cost is \$295 Bascom members, \$320 nonmember. Registration is going on now. To register, call (828) 526-4949 ext. 100 or visit www.thebascom.org.

Thurs.-Sat., May 20-22

• Marc Chatov will teach an oil painting workshop, "Facial Features Workshop," at The Bascom for non-beginner to advanced students. Cost is \$450 Bascom members, \$475 nonmembers. Registration is going on now. To register, call (828) 526-4949 ext. 100 or visit www.thebascom.org.

• Collective Spirits wine festival at The Bascom. Proceeds benefit art education and exhibition programs. Events include private wine dinners, grand wine tastings with both value wines and rare bottles, a gala dinner, live and silent auctions, a culinary sampling by local chefs, and symposiums conducted by leading wine specialists. Tickets are on sale now at www.collectivespirits.com or by calling (828) 526-4949.

Thursday May 20

• At the Nature Center, Dr. Stephen Tilley will explain what makes Highlands Salamander Central Station. The Highlands Plateau has a wonderful diversity of salamander species. Learn why and what the salamanders can teach us about our environment. Lectures will be held at 7 PM each Thursday evening through Aug. 5 at the Highlands Nature Center, 930 Horse Cove Road in Highlands. For a full schedule of lectures, as well as information on other programs and resources available at the Highlands Biological Station, please visit www.wcu.edu/hbs.

Saturday, May 22

• CLE presents Buddy Dean: Growing Dahlias in Highlands and Cashiers from 10 a.m. to noon. \$25 for members and \$35 for nonmembers. Call the CLE office at 526-8811 for ticket information.

Thursday, May 20

• Taize in Highlands is Thursday at 5:30 PM. at Our Lady of the Mountains Catholic Church.. Taize is a nondenominational service of prayer, meditation, scripture and simple, beautiful music. No offerings are taken—these services are a free

gift to the community.

• At Cyrano's Bookshop, author Susan Rebecca White will sign copies of her latest book, "A Soft Place to Land" at 5:30 p.m. Wine and hors d'oeuvres will be served.

• See **EVENTS** page 16

HCP veteran Talbot to star in 'Rebecca'

The Highlands-Cashiers Players are fortunate to showcase the talent of Virginia Talbot in the upcoming production of Daphne du Maurier's classic "Rebecca."

Talbot is set to wow audiences with her "frighteningly, creepy" portrayal of Mrs. Danvers, the contemptuous housekeeper and one of literature's most infamous female villains. From a very early age, Virginia's parents had her "on-stage" acting out fairy tale scenes with her sister in their living room. Later, her mother built the girls a small marionette stage where they performed plays for family members and their elementary school.

During her childhood, Talbot's creative family made elaborate home movies. These were full-fledged, scripted dramas using family members in the parts, complete with authentic costumes, horses, antique cars and exotic locations when needed!

Talbot attended high school in Macon, GA, where she gained valuable experience in directing, as each class, 10th grade through 12th, produced a skit for the annual stunt night.

After high school, she earned an A.B. Degree in Journalism from the

University of Georgia with a Major in Radio/Television. She

went on to a year of graduate work in UGA's Theater Department where she performed in several campus productions.

Next, Talbot earned a second degree in Education at Pacific Lutheran University in Tacoma, Washington. While there, she continued to pursue her love for the theater, acting in several plays, including "The Heiress," in which she played opposite guest artist, John Carra-dine.

When Talbot was ready to begin her career, she applied for a job as an English teacher in Tacoma. The Tacoma School District had just been given a Ford Foundation Grant to teach high school students via television so with her unique qualifications she was the perfect person for the job. She became the on-air literature teacher and later taught science via television to primary students as well.

She went on to write, produce and direct a number of television programs and series. She won West Coast "Emmy's" for two of her programs for children.

Talbot's husband, Dean Zuch, is also appearing in "Rebecca." Zuch plays Manderley's butler, Frith. They moved to Highlands full-time in 1988. Virginia became involved with HCP when she was cast as M'Lynn, the mother, in "Steel Magnolias. Since then, she and Zuch



have been critical to the success of many, many HCP productions. Talbot has directed 10 plays for HCP, with "Proof" and "Accomplice" being for her, the most challenging and rewarding. Of the 10 plays she has performed in, her favorite to date, has been "Moon Over Buffalo," a wild farce in which she played opposite her husband.

Join the cast and crew for an opening-night reception after the performance on Thursday, May 13.

"Rebecca" will run May 13-16 and May 20-23 at the Martin-Lipscomb Performing Arts Center on Chestnut Street in Highlands. The box office is open for ticket sales. To reserve tickets, call (828) 526-8084.

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PULL OUT

Ongoing and Upcoming Events

May Dahlia workshop and Mountain Garden sale events

Did you know that our Highlands plateau has the ideal climate for growing Dahlias?

Our weather is very similar to that of Oregon and Washington State which is where most of the nationally known dahlias suppliers have their gardens. The Cashiers Village Green Park features The Great Smoky Mountain Trail Garden which is officially sanctioned by the American Dahlia Society.

Years ago almost every Cashiers and Highlands home garden had dahlias on display. Fortunately the popularity of growing dahlias is returning. People are amazed by the lovely color variations, sizes, and forms. There is always some new variety people just, "have to have." People are anxious to learn as much as possible about the best growing practices in our area. The most important requirement for growing dahlias is having a garden area which receives at least 6 hours of sun a day. Your dahlias will bloom from mid June

until frost! Dahlias do need to be dug up each fall and stored in a moderately cool and dry area.

Interested gardeners, especially "Dahlia 101" beginners, are encouraged to attend a seminar on Saturday, May 22 from 10 until Noon at the Highlands Rec. Park.

The Center for Life Enrichment, CLE, is offering this class taught by nationally known dahlia grower and hybridizer, Buddy Dean. CLE members pay \$25; CLE non-members pay \$3.. Call (828) 526 8811 for more information. This is being held at the beginning of the dahlia growing season, so you can begin your own dahlia adventure immediately after the program.

The Mountain Garden Club, Inc. will feature dahlia tubers for sale again this year. The Plant Sale will be Saturday, May 29th from 9 until 1 at the Highlands Ball Park on 64 East at Hickory Street. Dahlia gardeners who left their tubers in the ground this past harsh winter will need to replace them. Be there early for the best selection of tubers.



Bernice Talley and her husband, Ed, have been growing dahlias in the same location in Highlands for 58 years.

Later in the season you may want to attend a regional or national dahlia show. The Carolinas Dahlia Society Show will be held September 10-13 at the NC Arboretum in Asheville. The 44th American Dahlia Society Show, entitled, "Dahlia Time Down South" will be September 23-26 in Chattanooga, TN.

• A movie at the Cashiers Library at 3 p.m. "Bright Star" is set in 18th century England and stars Abbie Cornish and Ben Whishaw. This film tells the true story of the love between the poet John Keats and his spirited muse, Fanny Graves. Rated PG. Movies are free, but donations are appreciated.

Fri.-Sat., May 21-22

• Relay for Life fundraising. Heather Mangum will be fundraising @ Bryson's Market from 11am-2pm selling Sun Stars & Feet Cards, Scratch & Donate Cards, Purple Bows, Luminaria & Tiki Torches.

Mon.-Fri., May 24-28

• Town of Highlands Spring Cleanup. The street and sanitation departments will pick up items you would like taken to the dump. Simply deposit them outside your home for pickup.

Monday, May 24

• The Plateau Fly Fishing Club will hold its initial 2010 meeting at 7 p.m. on Monday at the Albert Carlton-Cashiers Library. Speakers will be Walker Parrott and Landon Lipke of Davidson River Outfitters. Following the presentation, a raffle will be held featuring a full day, two person float trip on the French Broad River fishing for smallmouth, provided by Davidson River Outfitters. Everyone is welcome! Call 828-885-7130 for more information.

• Mirror Lake Association meeting at the Civic Center at 6 p.m.

Tues.-Fri., May 25-28

• Karen Weihs will teach an oil painting workshop, "Still Life: Out of the Garden," at The Bascom for all levels. Cost is \$400 Bascom members, \$425 non-member. Registration is going on now. To register, call (828) 526-4949 ext. 100 or visit www.thebascom.org.

• Joe Frank McKee will teach a ceramics workshop, "Advanced Throwing Techniques," at The Bascom for non-beginner to advanced students. Cost is \$375 Bascom members, \$400 nonmembers. Registration is going on now. To register, call (828) 526-4949 ext. 100.

Thursday, May 27

• Taize in Highlands is every Thursdays at 5:30 PM. at Episcopal Church of the Incarnation.. Taize is a nondenominational service of prayer, meditation, scripture and simple, beautiful music. No offerings are taken—these services are a free gift to the community.

Sat. & Sun., May 29 & 30

• Village Square Art & Craft Show at Highlands Rec Park, 10 - 5. Regional artisans, food, face painting, music, fun for the whole family. Free. (828) 787-2021 for info.

Saturday, May 29

• 7th Annual "Salamander Meander" at the Highlands Nature Center. 9 pm, ages 7 – adult. Join herpetologists on a night search to observe some of the area's magnificent salamanders in the wild. Bring rain gear and a flashlight. Call 526-2623 or visit www.wcu.edu/hbs for more information.

Tues. - Sat., June 1-5

• Patchwork Folk & Fabric Festival *Traditional Folk Demonstrating Traditional Skills* in Cullowhee, NC at the Jackson County Recreation Center at 88 Cullowhee Mountain Road. Classes and festival. For more information, call 828-293-3053.

Thursday, June 3

• Taize in Highlands is every Thursday at 5:30 PM. at Holy Family Lutheran Church. Taize is a non-

• Highlands Eateries & Specialty Foods •

SportsPage



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Ongoing and Upcoming Events



denominational service of prayer, meditation, scripture and simple, beautiful music. No offerings are taken—these services are a free gift to the community.
Monday, June 7

• Special Operations Warrior Foundation's Annual Golf tournament at Burlingame CC, Sapphire
June 17-July 3
• At Highlands Playhouse, "Smokey Joe's Cafe,"

Benefactors treated to special private wine dinners at exclusive Highlands homes

Imagine yourself sipping a glass of Burgundy from Pignatiello as you gander at the stars from the LeCraw home, or enjoy gloriously prepared food and fine wine as you experience the best of the Fisher estate, the Jones' Frog Pond Farm or the Butler home.

These are just some of the very special perks this year that can be enjoyed only by benefactors of the Collective Spirits wine festival.

Benefactors will have the opportunity to attend one of four private wine dinners on Thursday, May 20, at 6 p.m., when select Highlands will open their homes and private wine cellars for a variety of wine dinners. Local and regional chefs will prepare cuisine paired with wines from some of the leading vineyards.

"This will be an evening to remember for all lovers of good food and fine wine," said Dick Boger, event chair. "The vintners will be there personally to interact with the guests, educating, entertaining and creating a beautiful environment."

Venues are as follows:

- The Fisher home: Enjoy this private wine dinner at Cathy and Bob Fisher's mountain manor. Wine by Viader, and cuisine by Chef Hugh Acheson of Five & Ten. Weather-permitting, guests can enjoy the patio with fireplace, or the indoor hunting lodge dining room.

- Jones Frog Pond Farm: This beautiful home owned by Paula and Barry Jones, of The Summer House, features a magnificent organic garden that was showcased as the site of the 2009 Mountains in Bloom Patrons Party. Wine by Anderson Conn Valley, and cuisine by Chef Anthony Gray, High Cotton.

- The LeCraw home: This mountain-top home in Highlands Country Club includes a telescope and planetarium that guests can enjoy weather-permitting. Burgundy wines from Pignatiello, Asheville, and cuisine by Chef Louis Osteen, Lake Rabun Hotel & Restaurant.

- The Butler home: Guests will love this beautiful Highlands home owned by Harry and Beckie Butler, Georgetown, S.C. Wines by Silver Oak and cuisine by Chef Todd Ginsberg of Bocado.

The private wine dinners are graciously sponsored by Bank of New York-Mellon.

Benefactors select from the following venues, with priority given to upper-level benefactor and sponsors. Limited seating is available at each venue; first-come, first-



Chef Louis Osteen of Lake Rabun Hotel & Restaurant, is one of the four chefs who will wine and dine benefactors of the Collective Spirits wine festival in May.

served

All of this in addition to the many other perks benefactors receive at the multiple-day wine festival. Other benefits include tickets to the Friday night "Stock Your Cellars" Wine Tasting and the Saturday night "Chateau Bascom" Gala Wine Dinner and Auction featuring Dick Grace and auctioneer Greg Quiroga; wine medallions; free Saturday daytime wine symposiums; free wine; acknowledgment; and more.

To become a benefactor and attend the private wine dinners and other signature Collective Spirits events, visit www.collectivespirits.com or call (828) 526-4949. Benefactor tickets start at \$1,500/couple. All proceeds benefit exhibition and education programs of The Bascom, nonprofit center for the visual arts.

Wilmington Trust is the presenting sponsor of Collective Spirits. Silver sponsors are AirTran, Bank of New York-Mellon, Chubb Group of Insurance Companies/Lanigan Insurance Group and Hennessey Automotive Companies. Bronze sponsors include Franklin Ford, Harry Norman Realtors-Pat Allen and Bert Mobley, Highlands' Newspaper, The Laurel magazine, Moss Robertson Cadillac, Wines Down South and WNC magazine.

The 2010 Fun Run is Saturday, May 8, at 9 a.m., at Highlands School

The event, open to all ages, is one of the major fundraisers for the Highlands School Boosters Club. The run begins in front of Highlands School, travels the road around Harris Lake and then ends back in front of the school.

A bike will be awarded to the first male and first female to cross the finish line in the K-5 age group. A \$30 cash prize will be awarded the first male and first female to cross the finish line in the 6-8 middle school grade division. Running is not required of the participants – many choose to enjoy the walk.

Sign up sheets are being sent home with all elementary and middle school students and participants may also sign up on the day of the run. The participation fee is \$10.

"The Highlands School Booster club is in the process of raising funds to build a concession stand at our new soccer field. We are going to be fully furnishing this as well," said Tina Rogers, Booster Club president.

"Our own students from the construc-

tion class will be building this for us which will cut down greatly on our costs. Also we are continuing to add improvements to our softball field as needed to help re-grow this sport for our students," said Rogers. "This Fun Run will be a great fundraiser to help offset any of the present projects we are working on."

The Highlands School Boosters Club would like to thank the following sponsors: August Produce, Billingsley Lawn Service, Bryson Grading, CK Swan/Harlee Gallery, Community Bible Church, Downhill Grill in Scaly, Edwards Electrical, Farmer's Market, High Country Photo, Highlands Construction, Highlands Newspaper, Highlands Doors & Windows, Inc., J&J Lawn and Landscaping Services, Inc., Larry Rogers Construction, Laurel Magazine, Lupoli Construction, Mickey Henry Masonry, Regions Bank, The Car Spa of Highlands, The Highlander Newspaper and Wholesale Down Comforters.

For more information, please contact Michelle Munger at (828) 342-3551.

HCCDC Gala set for August 8

The Up, Up and Away Gala, benefiting the Highlands Community Child Development Center will take place August 8th at the Highlands Country Club. The fun-filled evening features cocktails, dinner, and dancing to the "Class Act" band. A silent auction will feature a hot air balloon ride for four, a Herbert Creecy oil painting, a Rob Stern glass vessel, a Robin Piscitelli wooden bowl, a Cherry Brewer painting, and a gourmet dinner party in a fabulous Highlands home to name a few items.

All gala proceeds go to the licensed, nonprofit center which provides a safe haven and excellent foundation for the children of working parents. The center is a 501(c)(3) charity and provides the only state-licensed, full-year, 5 days per week program to the entire community. Its mission emphasizes support of the working families that provide the services which, in turn, provide the wonderful quality of life known to Highlands residents and visitors.

Serving approximately 60 children from two months to five years of age, the center provides age appropriate curriculum

that prepares children to enter the public school system. The Center has a library that also encourages these children to take books home to foster reading with their families thereby giving them a better start for first grade.

Parent-paid tuition and qualified tuition subsidies provide only 51% of the Center's support. The balance comes from grants and private donations. The Up, Up and Away Gala is the sole fundraising opportunity to provide scholarships for the children.

Carolyn and Rhett Tanner will be the honorary co-chairs this year with an event committee of Judy Thomas, Chairman, and Mary Guy Gunn, Co-Chairman, along with Janet Amos, Cheryl Andrews, Bunny Clarke, Gayle Cummings, Chris Hardin, Ann Martin, Frances Oakley, Carole Simmons, Sarah Morgan Wingfield and Janice Woodruff.

Tickets are \$125 and can be reserved by calling 828-526-1505 or emailing HCCDCres@aol.com. If you are unable to attend the Gala, donations are gratefully appreciated and can be mailed to HCCDC, P.O. Box 648, Highlands, NC 28741.



• SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING •

'The Day of the Lord'



Pastor Sam Forrester
Whiteside Presbyterian Church

In my last article, I wrote about the great day of Judgment. I would like to continue that discussion. The day of judgment is also referred to as "the day of the Lord." It is so called because it will be the day the Lord Jesus returns appearing in all of his glory, displaying the wonders of his mediation, along with the perfection of his government. On this great day he will be owned by all and crowned the Lord of lords and King of kings. This will be the day all disputes of his divinity will end. This will be his day... "For the Father judges no one, but has committed all judgment to the Son" (John 5:22). That day will be the Day of the Lord Jesus.

This great day is to be a great assembly of the created beings of God. The angels of heaven and the fallen ones shall all be present with the men of every age. There shall be missing not one rational creature. The courts of the universe shall come into session and the Trials will begin. The number present shall be without number. II Corinthians 5:10 "For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ..." In this day we will see the first and the last gathering of all people of the universe.

I think one of the most amazing things of this day will be the surprise that is found. Matthew 25:37-39 "Then the righteous will answer him saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed You, or thirsty and give You drink? When did we see you a stranger and take you in, or naked and clothe You? Or when did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?'" The wicked will also show surprise. Matthew 25:44 "Then they will also answer Him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or in prison, and did not minister to You?'" It might be less surprise if these judgments were turned around. Jesus makes this statement in Matthew 7:22-23 "Many will say to me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?' And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you, depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!'" The judgments made by men will not stand on this day. The opinions of men about themselves will all fall on this great day. The secrets of the hearts of all men will be exposed, nothing shall remain hidden. Those who in their wickedness are exalted will be laid low and cast into hell. Those who have held to righteousness and been persecuted and tormented will shine as the light and their judgment as the sun. The innocent will see all the accusation against them removed. The guilty will have forever attached to them the wickedness of their hearts. On that day every misdeed will be corrected and every good deed rewarded. The mess we know as this world

•See SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING page 19

• 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

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

Rector: Jim Murphy, 252-671-4011
Worshipping at the facilities of
Whiteside Presbyterian Church, Cashiers
Sunday: Holy Communion - 9:00 a.m.
Sunday: Adult Forum - 10:30, Bucks Coffee Cafe,
Cashiers

Monday: Evening Bible Study and Supper - 6:00
p.m., members' homes

Wednesday: Men's Bible Study - 8:30 a.m., First
Baptist Church, Highlands

Thursday: Women's Prayer Group - 10:30 a.m.,
members; homes

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
Sun.: 9:30 am: Adult Sunday School, Prayer
Group. 10:30am: Children's Program (Pre-K - 5th
Grade), Merge for 6th Graders. 10:45am: Worship
Service. 5 pm Student Arts Group, The River
Middle & High School Student Ministries.
Tues.: 9:30 am: Women's Bible Study.
Wed.: 5 pm: Dinner. 6:00pm: Children's Program,
Adult Teaching.

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 - 11 a.m.; Sun. School - 9:30 & 9:45.
Mondays: 8 a.m. - Men's Bible Discussion &
Breakfast

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 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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Saturday Mass - Mem Day through Oct. - 6 pm

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

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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

• INVESTING AT 4,118 FT. •

Bullish housing market expected for 2010

Many consumers comment that some Realtors as well as some economists seem confused about the future of housing sales. They point out that sometimes we seem bullish and sometimes we seem bearish. Let's set the record straight about this.

Whether the Highlands housing market is likely to be up or down in the future is based on how many people decide to buy homes. Their decisions are based on a myriad of personal factors such as health concerns, whether they are close to retirement, whether they need or want a second home, whether they can afford to buy and so on. Their views are also affected by tax credits, home prices, mortgage rates and a host of other factors out of their control. In short there are more than a few variables.

What do we think?

Going back over 30 years shows that one consistent barometer is the "5%" rule. That is, over 30 years of data shows that roughly 5% of all households tend to buy a new or existing home each year. (Note: in 2005 the percentage had reached 7.2% or 44% ABOVE the sustainable long term rate.) On that basis, and given approximately 120 million households in the U.S., then "normal" housing sales should be around six million for this year. Given where we are at the start of May, that seems to be where we will finish.

In short, we are bullish about a solid if not spectacular year for housing sales.

There's also been some confusion about how the new health care bill may affect real estate. First, there is no 4% "sales tax" or "transfer tax" on the sale of a home included in the health care bill. Additionally, there is nothing in the bill that impacts the mortgage interest deduction.

What was included in the health bill is a provision that imposes a new 3.8% Medicare tax for some high income households that have "net investment income." Any revenue collected by the tax is dedicated to the Medicare hospital insurance program.

This new tax would only apply to households with Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) of more than \$200,000 for individuals or more than \$250,000 for married couples. Since capital gains are included in the definition of net investment income, an additional tax obligation might result from the sale of real property.

The calculations of how much tax is owed are complex. However, even when the AGI limits are met, the new tax would



Judy Michaud
Meadows Mountain Realty

not be applied to all capital gains that result from the sale of a home since the existing home sale capital gains exclusion rule still applies.

So if the gain from the sale of the primary residence is below \$250,000 (individual)/\$500,000 (couple) then no Medicare tax will have to be paid on the gain. The new Medicare tax would only apply to any home sale gain realized in excess of the \$250K/\$500K existing primary home exclusion that pushes the fil-

er's AGI over the \$200K/\$250K income limits.

The new Medicare tax will take effect January 1, 2013.

Of course, you need to check with your own tax professional to see how the new health care reform bill can affect your bottom line.

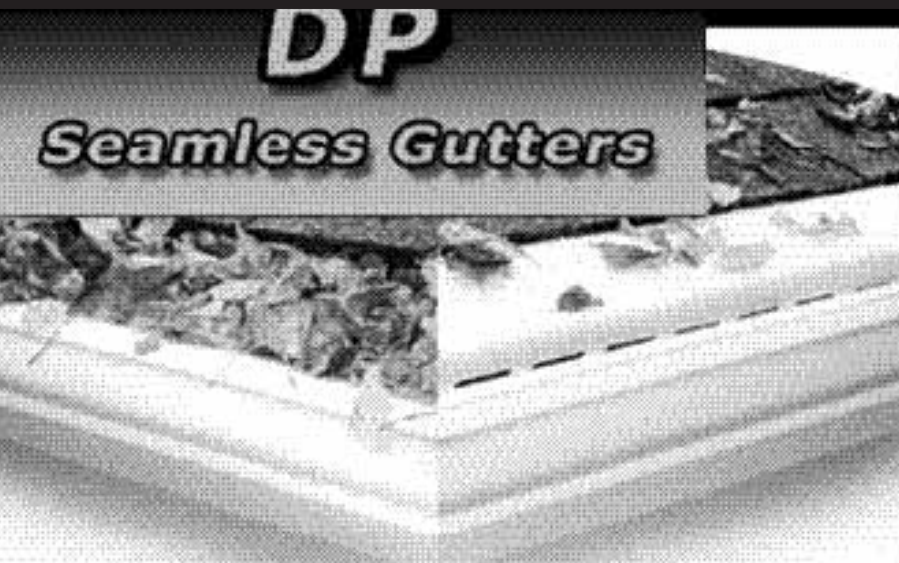
• For more information on real estate in Highlands, contact Judy Michaud at Meadows Mountain Realty 828-526-1717 or toll free 866-526-3558. Please feel free to stop by our office across the street from "Sweet Treats" at 450 N. 4th Street in Highlands or at 94-1 Highway 64 West in Cashiers. Or visit us online at www.meadowsmtntrealty.com. Judy can also be reached by email at info@meadowsmtntrealty.com.

... SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING from pg 18

will be corrected.

This day will be a day of exposure. I Timothy 5:24 "Some men's sins are clearly evident, preceding them to judgment, but those of some men follow later." All the sins of the wicked will be shown in all of their vile and reprehensible nature. Every wicked plot imagined and carried out will be exposed. They shall all be held up to the light and the reprobation of God.

What hope do you have as you approach this great day of the Lord Jesus? Absolutely none if you remain in your sins and convinced of your own worth. But, if you acknowledge yourself for the sinner you are and call out to God for mercy, he will hear and he will save your soul and provide for you an Advocate on that Great Day. That Advocate is Jesus Christ. If you have placed your faith and hope in him, he will speak to the Father on your behalf and call you his brother and make your place with him in heaven.



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... GRANT continued from page 9

ing to projects based largely in communities where Cannon Mills plants were located. Following the 1971 death of its founder, Charles A. Cannon, and the subsequent sale of the Cannon Mills Company, the Foundation evolved into an independent foundation. Virtually all of its giving is in North Carolina, and over the past few years has expanded from just the local area (Cabarrus County) to reach community organizations from Manteo to Murphy.

Historically, the principal grant fields have been health care and education, especially independent liberal arts colleges in the Piedmont and western regions of the state.

... CERTIFIED continued from page 9

knowledge, professionalism and patient focused skills. Simply stated, they will experience the highest standard of quality patient care available.

"Being unique in insisting on Board Certified physicians at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital, is just part of our total team endeavor for excellence," said VP of Operations, Frank Leslie. "The benefit of the certification program means that we are giving people confidence when choosing one of our physicians; confidence that they have chosen the most competent physician for their needs."

For more information on The

American Board of Medical Specialties, visit www.abms.org

About Highlands-Cashiers Hospital

"HCH is a community hospital that provides diagnostic, surgical and acute patient care to the public through on-site professional services, or as a referral to regional support providers. Our emergency care facility is Physician staffed 24/7 and treats patients promptly, monitoring their visit with personal care and attention. We make the extra effort to assure that you get "best of class care", and feel "special" every time you pass through our doors. HCH also provides Physician Clinics, a skilled Nursing Facility,

Hospice Care, Skilled Rehabilitation, and Medically-Based Wellness Programs allowing individuals and families nearby access to professional care in these critical areas. The hospital continues to expand its programs to provide the public the broadest possible range of quality healthcare. Our *Board-Certified Physician Staff* continues to grow to better serve you, as do our medical specialties now covering 14 areas of healthcare, specialties usually only found in much larger facilities. We continually update our range of diagnostic procedures by adding new state-of-the-art equipment."

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• BUSINESS NEWS •

Blue Ridge Free Dental Clinic founders receive prestigious award

The North Carolina Association of Free Clinics (NCADC) is proud to announce Susan Posey and Dr. Tom Smith as recipients of the 2010 Don Lucey Award. Susan and Tom were selected for this prestigious award for their efforts in establishing the Blue Ridge Free Dental Clinic in 2005 and for their continuing contributions.

Susan was truly the founding mother of the Free Dental Clinic. It all started in 2003 with an outreach project of the Church of the Good Shepherd to meet the needs of individuals who could not afford medical or dental care in the Cashiers area. During a three-day clinic, Susan witnessed the overwhelming need for dental care, and along with a core group of individuals, began working to address this desperate need. The project consumed the next four years of her life.

Dr. Tom Smith was also instrumental from the beginning. He scoured dental offices throughout the South to obtain donated equipment and committed to working regular volunteer hours, ensuring the Clinic's continuing operation. Although officially retired, Dr. Smith has volunteered countless hours to the Clinic since it opened its doors.

"It is an honor to recognize Ms. Posey and Dr. Tom as 2010 Don Lucey Award recipients," said Jason Baisden, Executive Director of NCAFC. "Free Dental Clinics can be challenging projects, but both had a vi-



Susan Posey and Dr. Tom Smith as recipients of the 2010 Don Lucey Award.

sion to improve dental access in their community and because of their remarkable work and passion for helping the medically uninsured, their vision became a reality."

The Blue Ridge Free Dental Clinic is unique in the state of North Carolina in the quantity and scope of its free services. Clinic patients

are uninsured, and the majority have incomes below the federal poverty level. In its first five years of operation, the Clinic has provided dental treatment to over 1,700 patients. Their dental needs have required over 18,000 procedures. The value of these services exceeds \$2,300,000.

Dr. Don Lucey established one of North Carolina's first free clinics in 1985, Raleigh's Open Door Clinic. He later helped to establish the North Carolina Association of Free Clinics and was elected its first president. He has continued to devote his life to assisting free clinics. To honor him, the Don Lucey Award was established to recognize individuals who characterize the mission of quality health care for all.

The awards ceremony took place April 8th in Greenville, NC. This is the first time the award has been shared by two individuals. The Blue Ridge Free Dental Clinic is also the first dental clinic to receive the award.

• BUSINESS NEWS •

Bob Zahner scholar named



Western Carolina University senior and Franklin resident Erik Ahl (right) accepts congratulations from Jim Costa, WCU professor of biology and executive director of the Highlands Biological Station, after being named the first recipient of the Bob Zahner Scholarship in Environmental Sciences. Funded by the Barstow Foundation in 2009 to honor the memory of the late Highlands conservationist Bob Zahner, the scholarship will be used to support Ahl's participation in the fall 2010 semester-in-residence program at the Highlands Biological Station. The program is offered in cooperation with the UNC-Chapel Hill Institute for the Environment. Ahl, an environmental science major at WCU, is the son of Roger and Eileen Ahl of Franklin and is employed at Cyprus Restaurant in Highlands.

Mayor kicks off 'Paint Highlands Purple'

Highlands Mayor David Wilkes signs the Proclamation from The American Cancer Society declaring the "Paint Highlands Purple" campaign. In celebration of Relay For Life of Highlands, businesses and residents can show their support in the fight against cancer by ordering a purple bow to place on their property. Suggested donations for the bows are \$10 each. All proceeds will benefit the American Cancer Society's research, education, advocacy and patient service programs in Macon County. For more information about ordering your purple bow please contact Lisa Duff at: Lisa.Duff@cancer.org



WCU recognizes Literacy Council

Bessie Dietrich Goggins, executive director of the Literacy Council of Highlands, receives an award of appreciation from Glenn Bowen, director of Western Carolina University's Center for Service Learning, for the Literacy Council's service as a community partner to the university and for her time as a board member for WCU's Service-Learning Advisory Board.



... COMPLAINT continued from page 1

lands Police Captain Forrester.

Buckley said for almost two years Olvera was subjected to rumors about an alleged affair with Highlands Police Chief Bill Harrell and a subsequent pregnancy and abortion.

On the EEOC charge, Olvera claims false rumors began circulating about a romantic affair between herself and Chief Harrell after a "short period of work with the department." She states that the false rumors were circulated by city employees as well as a member on the police force, who was not named in the complaint. She states that the Town Administrator advised her to ignore the comments, however the rumors and harassment continued.

In November 2009, she claims the allegations and rumors resurfaced and she was falsely accused of having an extramarital affair with Chief Harrell as well as having an abortion paid for by him.

On January 14, 2010, Olvera states that she was called into a meeting with Town Manager Jim Fatland and Town Attorney Bill Coward where she was questioned repeatedly about the alleged affair and abortion procedures.

"She has dealt with this ordeal almost two years," said Buckley. "It was humiliating to have people asking her the question, 'Did the Chief get you pregnant and did you have an abortion? This was all fiction and pretty demeaning stuff,'" he said.

On January 25, 2010, Buckley said Olvera submitted to a polygraph at Town Manager Jim Fatland's request. Results were positive; verifying her denial of an affair with Chief Harrell, a subsequent pregnancy and abortion.

"The polygraph, though not evidence in any real sense, cleared her of any wrong doing," he said. "Polygraphs are used to ferret out wrong doing. However, the positive outcome of the polygraph didn't help her."

Soon thereafter, Buckley said Olvera received a call from a fellow officer Captain Forrester who asked if she had transported a male officer home in her car. She said she did because of inclement weather and because she had a 4-wheel drive vehicle.

According to Olvera's complaint statement, Captain Forrester then relayed a message to her from Town Manager Jim Fatland, saying she was no longer allowed to be in a car with a male officer.

"This rendered her unable to perform her job like other male officers," said Buckley.

"Imagine being a police officer and being called to a crime scene and you are alone as opposed to having a partner because you can't ride in a car with another male officer.

"We believe she was mistreated. The fact that her sex and race have come into play is a

violation of law. She should have been treated like any other member of the Highlands Police force," said Buckley.

"If two male officers are seen riding in a car together no one leaps to the conclusion that two men are sleeping together.

"The town was patently unfair to give such credence to rumors that a female, Hispanic officer was engaging in anything other than professional behavior in a car with another male officer.

"In fact, the town gave the rumors such credence that Ms. Olvera's job description was changed so that she wasn't allowed to be in a vehicle with a male officer which means she couldn't perform her job to the same extent as another male officer.

"The change in her status impaired her ability to perform her duties because if she needed back up she wouldn't have it," he said.

"We don't know

who started the rumors, but we have a pretty good idea," Buckley said. "The rumors were false and calculated to injure her in her job and they had the desired affect."

EEOC representatives said the town should have received the EEOC complaint within 10 days of the April 14 filing.

Buckley said several things could happen next: the EEOC will instruct the town to reply to the allegation of the charge; the EEOC may investigate the charge and may enter into a finding of its own; and it may issue Olvera a "right to sue" letter. She then has 90 days to file in court.

"Or, this could be resolved in advance of court with a monetary settlement," said Buckley.

Buckley said he's never let an EEOC finding or investigation determine one way or another what he does in a case. "An EEOC investigation is only as good as the investigator," he said.

Buckley said he hopes Olvera can have a career at a more enlightened law enforcement agency elsewhere which would be willing to hire her.

The Olvera family has lived in Highlands for over 20 years. Erika was born in Mexico; is a 1999 graduate of Highlands School; is a citizen of the United States and is Basic Law Enforcement Training (BLET) certified.

On Wednesday, Highlands' Newspaper contacted Town Attorney Bill Coward, Mayor David Wilkes and Town Manager Jim Fatland by email and phone about the issue.

Attorney Coward said the case is being handled by an attorney hired by the town's insurance company. Fatland said a law firm from Charlotte was selected by Traveler's Insurance. The attorney is preparing a response to the claim "at not cost to the town," said Fatland.

— Kim Lewicki



Erika Olvera when she was on the Highlands Police Dept.

• BUSINESS NEWS •

AA Champions



The Franklin Panthers 10 & Under Travel Baseball Team competed in the USSSA Canton Spring Classic, April 24 & 25, 2010, in Canton, NC. Out of 7 teams, the Panthers earned the title of AA Champions and were awarded with a team trophy along with Mizuno batting jackets for each player. Pictured are : Front Row L-R: Cameron Gibson, Dylan Burt, Parker Vaughn, Turner Swafford. Middle Row: Evan Pritikin, Grant Stiles, Bryson Burt, Harrison Shomaker, Andrew Terrell, Justin Penland. Back Row: Coaches Bryan Burt, Chris Schofield, Jamie Stiles, Brian Terrell.

April Rotary students of the month



The Rotary Club of Highlands honored the April Highlands School Students of the Month at its April 27 meeting. Shown with Rotary President, Paul Schmitt, and Highlands School Counselor, Thomas Jessup, are high school winner, Jamie Bolt, grammar school winners, Alley and Tiffany Preda and middle school winner, Valarie Billingsley.

• CLASSIFIEDS •

HELP WANTED

MARKETING, COMMUNICATIONS AND MEMBERSHIP MANAGER — Full-time, reporting to the Chief Development Officer, Manager will be part of The Bascom's outreach, fundraising, and advancement team. S/he will create and follow detailed marketing plan and devise, track, execute, report on, and evaluate promotion of education programs, exhibitions, events and special initiatives. S/he is coordinator of outreach / promotion and all print, electronic, signage and website communications. Manager designs messaging and strategic action to build audiences, membership, attendance, enrollment, corporate sponsorships, foundation support, shop retail sales, and event ticketing, and strengthen donor recognition and relationships with external constituencies. Requirements: bachelor's degree in English or related; and minimum of 5 years demonstrated success with organizational branding, media and volunteer relations, production of printed materials and websites, juggling seasonal workload, multiple projects, and competing deadlines. Must have proven written and oral communication, budgeting and Microsoft Office computer skills; and track record in Moves Management. Knowledge of 20th-21st century American arts and crafts a plus. The Bascom is a registered charity with educational mission. By May 14, submit cover letter and resume to: Darlene Maret, Executive Assistant, The Bascom, dmaret@thebascom.org. No phone calls please. (5/13)

FULL TIME OR PART TIME JOB OPPORTUNITIES AT HIGH-END CLOTHING STORE. Retail sales experience necessary. Call 828-482-2118. (St. 3/4)

LOG CABIN RESTAURANT is under new management. Re-opening May 17. Looking for front and back of the house staff. Call 526-3380. (St. 4/29)

WAITSTAFF AT DOWNHILL GRILL at Scaly Mountain. Must be energetic and speak English. Call Cindy at See 526-1663. (St. 4/22)

MOUNTAIN FRESH GROCERY HAS IT'S COFFEE ROASTER UP AND RUNNING IS NOW READY TO LAUNCH THE COFFEE/ESPRESSO BAR. We want to meet experienced baristas and we will train coffee enthusiast who desire to work for an energetic company with coffee passion and excellence. (St. 4/29)

MOUNTAIN FRESH GROCERY has an experienced butcher position available. Call Kevin at 526-2400. (st. 4/1)

MOUNTAIN FRESH GROCERY is looking for a smiling face to join our team as a cashier. Apply in person corner of 5th and Main Highlands. (St. 4/1)

FRESSERS EATERY now taking applications for experienced waitstaff and line cooks. Call Debbie at 526-8847. (St. 3/18)

(1) POLICE OFFICER, HIGHLANDS, NC. SALARY GRADE: (12) \$28,457.00- \$45,492. Full Family Medical REQUIREMENTS: Successful candidate must be 21 years of age; BLET-certified; and submit to an extensive background investigation, drug screening, and psychological evaluation. Applicant must possess a valid North Carolina, South Carolina, or Georgia driver's license, for the state which they reside in as a permanent resident. Applicant must successfully complete the Highlands Police Department application process. CLOSING DATE: Until Filled

CONTACT: Highlands Police Department, Capt. R.L. Forrester, 310 Oak Street. Highlands, NC 28741. (828) 526-8734. (st. Feb. 28)

REGISTERED DIETICIAN AT HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HOSPITAL. PRN position requiring 4 to 8 hours per week. Bachelor's degree and current registration with the ADA and NC required. Preferably a minimum of one year experience in clinical nutrition. Pre-employment screening required. Call Human Resources at 828-526-1376 or apply online at www.hchospital.org

PRN-RN'S AT HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HOSPITAL. Experienced Med-Surg and ER Nurses needed. Strong leadership skills is a must. Pre-employment screening required. Call Human Resources at 828-526-1376 or apply online at www.hchospital.org

CNA AT HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HOSPITAL. Our wage scale is \$11.00 to \$14.40 per hour with shift and weekend differentials. Pre-employment substance screening. Call Human Resources, 828-526-1376 or apply online at www.hchospital.org

RESPIRATORY THERAPIST AT HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HOSPITAL. PRN position working 12 hour shifts. Must be on call at night and be within 20 minutes of the hospital. Intubation experience a must. Pre-employment screening required. Call Human Resources at 828-526-1376 or apply online at www.hchospital.org

PATIENT ACCT REP/INS. BILLER AT HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HOSPITAL. Experience in processing medical and hospital claims preferred. Pre-employment screening required. Call Human Resources at 828-526-1376 or apply online at www.hchospital.org

LOST CAT

ORANGE & WHITE MALE TABBY. Lost in the Webbmont Lake Sequoyah area. Clear flea collar. Please call 828-524-5350 or 828-634-4072.

WORK WANTED

LOOKING FOR CARPENTRY WORK. Have tools. Please call Alferdo: 524-9304 or 371-2976.

LOOKING FOR LANDSCAPING, yardwork and housecleaning. Call 828-200-1038 or 5261025.

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

3BD/3BA IN TOWN OF HIGHLANDS. (Less than 5 minutes from main street) in beautiful, quiet neighbourhood. Includes SAPPHIRE, NC HOME SITE AND RESORT MEMBERSHIP. \$582,800 FSBO.com/22280435 Call 828-200-9067. (st. 5/6)

FOR SALE — 3br,2bath 1600 sqft. w/finished basement shed work area. handicapped access. w/ elevator. new metal roof, hardwood floors, Pela windows. Gas furnace, native stone fire place w/gas logs, native stone landscaping, large yard with garden space. Also forested mtn. acreage. Bordered by Buck Creek and Forest Service. 524-6038 dbolick@dnnet.net

REDUCED 3 bedroom, 2 bath home. workshop and storage building 3.55 acres, 6 miles from downtown \$198,000. 828-526-8191 (5/20)

ADORABLE 2/2 JOE WEBB LOG CABIN only

• CLASSIFIEDS •

a stone's throw from Mirror Lake. Completely furnished for only \$499K. Call 800-335-9215 and view pictures at www.HighlandsRentals.net/StonesThrowPics (5/27)

TWO LOTS IN BLUE VALLEY – Dead-end Road. Water & Septic included. Subfloor and foundation on one, 70-ft. single-wide on the other. .55 acre and .65 acre. Borders USFS and great view of Satulah Mountain. Call 828-482-2052. (St. 11/24)

\$205,000 FOR BOTH. BY OWNER NO AC NEEDED. CLASSIC COUNTRY HOME, 4.2 acres. Perennial landscaping. 4 bed 3 bath, garage and shed 2900 sq. ft living space. 1,523 sq. ft deck. \$338,500, 743-5788 (st. 10/15)

RESIDENTIAL FOR RENT

1 BED, 1 BATH – 2 miles from Highlands. \$650/mth. Call 526-2561. (5/6)

FOR LEASE LARGE 2 STORY 5 BEDROOM HOME with decks. Available for immediate occupancy Near downtown Highlands. 914-761-8880 x 19 Sandy. (st. 4/29)

STUNNING MOUNTAIN VIEWS SECLUDED AND ONLY MINUTES FROM THE TOWN OF HIGHLANDS. Fully furnished, large 1 bed, 1 bath apt. with large walkin closet, porch and yard. Updated with new carpet. Available seasonal through November. All utilities included AC and Heat. \$1,200 month. Call 526-3608 (Spoiled Rotten) or evening, 526-2694, (st.4/29)

SMALL PRIVATE ONE BR FURNISHED COTTAGE ON CHESTNUT STREET with screen porch. Additional sleeping loft. Three blocks to Main Street. Available immediately. \$650. monthly plus utilities for six months lease. e-mail: chestnutcottages@yahoo.com or, contact Charlie @ (828)526-8645 (st. 4/22)

SPACIOUS MAIN ST. APT, full kitchen, fully furnished, covered balcony, small pets OK. \$700/mo. 526-3363. (St. 3/25)

1 BEDROOM, 1 BATH, FURNISHED 1 1/2 FROM DOWNTOWN. \$600 per month, incl. utilities, satellite TV, access to washer/dryer. Call 526-4598 or 526-3612. (4/29)

LOCATION, LOCATION! 2BR, 1 BA upstairs

apt. Quiet area 1/2 block from Main St. (828) 787-2021 or 526-9227. (st. 2/25)

REALLY NEAT DUPLEX – Two bed, one bath. Screened porch, garage, etc. 122 Dog Mountain Road. \$750/mth plus utilities and \$200 deposit. Call 828-508-0664. (St. 1/14)

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. Non smokers only; no pets. Deposit required. Monthly or yearly rental \$2,500 per month. Call 770-639-2682 or 678-358-9675 (4/1)

ONE-BEDROOM APARTMENT IN TOWN – 535 N. 4th Street. \$600 a month. Call 770-827-0450. (St. 11/5)

CUTE HIGHLANDS COTTAGE. 2BR/1BA. Remodeled kitchen and bath. Close to town, private, quiet. Deck, W/D, DW, wood stove. No smoking. Pets negotiable. \$900/month + utilities. 770-845-1577. (st. 10/22)

FULLY FURNISHED 4-ROOM CABIN SUITE off Glen Falls Road atop Loma Linda Farm. New queen bed, kitchenette, large tiled shower, deck and view. Good for 1 person. \$700/mo. includes electric, heat, satellite TV and wifi. Visit <http://highlandscashiersrealestate.blogspot.com/> for virtual tour. Phone (828) 421-7922. (st. 11/12)

ROOM FOR RENT - furnished. Non-smoker, must love dogs. Whiteside Cove [6 miles to town] \$50/wk. No utilities. Call 828-787-1515 (5/27)

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)

GREAT 2/1BATH 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)

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT/SALE

3 BED, 2 BATH IN APPLE MOUNTAIN. – \$525,000 or Rent Unfurnished for \$1,200/month. Call 526-5056. (st. 5/6)

RETAIL SPACE FOR LEASE MAIN ST HIGHLANDS NC (former Kilwins Ice Cream) Prime Middle of the Block Location First Time Available suitable for retail, clothing, art, and others. 914-761-8880 x 19 Sandy. (st. 4/29)

FOR SALE – BEST 'COMMERCIAL' BUY IN HIGHLANDS – 535 4th Street. Zoned mixed-use, commercial and residential. Recent Remodel. Great retail/office and separate one-bedroom basement apartment. \$389,000. Call 770-827-0450. (St. 11/5)

RESTAURANT FOR LEASE ON THE CASHIERS ROAD. – Currently occupied by High Country Cafe. 6,300 sq. ft. Call Buddy or Sherry Kremser at 706-782-6252. (St. 11/5)

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

ITEMS FOR SALE

QUALITY HANDCRAFTED RUSTIC LOG & ADIRONDACK FURNITURE & ACCESSORIES www.highlandsrustic.com.

PIANO — Gorgeous Fully restored. Late 1800s upright owned by the Vanderbelts and was in the Biltmore Estates Plays Beautifully \$7,000 invested, worth way more. Must sell. Will sacrifice for \$2,800. OBO. 828-524-7233 or 828-371-2129 (st. 10/22)

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

VEHICLES FOR SALE

1996 JEEP COUNTRY CHEROKEE – Loaded with all options. Good Rubber. Must see. MUST SELL. \$2,300. Call 526-2694. (st. 4/15)

CADILLAC DEVILLE 2002 – Silver, 85,300 miles. One owner, garaged. \$8,950. See at 150 Shelby Circle, Highlands. 787-2310. (St. 7/9)

SERVICES

LAWN MAINTENANCE, GENERAL PAINTING, HOUSE CLEANING. Free Estimates. Call randy at 828-526-5901 or 828-371-3554. (5/13)

QUALITY PAINTING, PRESSURE WASHING, LANDSCAPING, CARPENTRY. Steaming, shampooing, drycleaning floors any surface. Upholstering, rugs, curtains, whole houses. References 828-526-2536 or 828-332-7303. 6/24

TINTING – 3M Energy Film for fading damage and energy savings. 828-526-8468. (5/20)

MILT'S LAWN SERVICE – Lawn mowing & weed eating. Yard Cleaning & Light hauling. Call Milton at 828-421-7919 or Bill at 828-524-8659. (5/20)

GOT DUST? — Letson Cleaning Service provides Residential, Deep Cleans, Rentals, Offices and Property Management. Call us today! Office: 828-369-9127. Cell: 828-421-4239 (5/27)

HANDYMAN SPECIAL – Repairs and remodeling, electrical and plumbing, carpentry and more. Low prices. Free estimate. Call 828-342-7864. (5/6)

DEBRIS AND TREE REMOVAL CLEAN UP. Roof and gutter repair expert. Call 371-1103. (st. 2/25)

THE HIGHLANDS HANDYMAN – Anything and Everything. Local References. Call a neighbor. Call Mark at 526-0031. (5/27)

24-HOUR CARE FOR YOUR LOVED ONE – 16 years experience. Will travel to accommodate. \$2,800 monthly, negotiable. Call Clare Myers 828-349-3479 or 828-342-1603. (4/29)

TREE SERVICE – Complete Tree Removal, Trimming, Stump Grinding, Lot Clearing, Under Brushing, and Hemlock treatment and fertilization for "Woolly Adelgid." 828-526-2251 (4/29)

J&J LAWN AND LANDSCAPING SERVICES – Complete Landscaping Company, Design, Installation and Maintenance. Also featuring Plants, Trees, Hardscapes, Water Features, Rockwork, Fencing, Drainage, Erosion Control and RR-Tie work. 20 years serving Highlands area. 828-526-2251. (5/27)

... PAC LEASE continued from page 1

make known to the community an application form to be used by persons wishing to use the PAC building. The PAC administrative director will give out the applications.

The third item on the document says PAC will use the newspapers and other media to get its message out concerning its mission, scheduling, and responsibilities as manager of the PAC building.

After a closed session at the April 21 Town Board meeting, Town Attorney Bill Coward was instructed to massage verbiage presented for the amended PAC lease. However, Monday night, Mayor David Wilkes encouraged the group to handle the lease themselves.

"We are going to get back from Bill (Coward) whatever an attorney can defend in court," he said. "The people on the PAC board are a dedicated group of volunteers who have done a great job for years and built a reputa-

tion at PAC. I suggest we leave the lease as written so the PAC board has a significant degree of latitude to schedule events. The more you limit them the less you get out of a volunteer board."

Commissioner Amy Patterson, who initiated the changes to the PAC lease so the practice of not being exclusionary will be guaranteed, said "Coward told the board 'the purpose of the lease is to have legal recourse so if the board changes the new board can't start doing things differently.'"

"The public needs to be protected by policy and practice," she said. "A lease is a legal document which will be signed for 10 years so it's binding for 10 years. The PAC volunteers are dedicated but they have agendas as individuals."

She also said that with rules spelled out in a lease, if someone makes application to

PAC, and can't get in, they have a court of appeals in the Town Board which has standing, if it is stated in the lease.

However Leslie and Manning were adamantly against inclusion of verbiage suggested at the April Town Board meeting basically saying by policy and practice "... the public is entitled to seek and request use of the building and its assets within the reasonable policies and procedures which might include scheduling, content, and any other aspect of a performance, program or activity."

They contend that the inclusion of that verbiage insinuated that the PAC board has been doing something wrong.

"If that's your intent and you say you do it anyway, why not just put it in the lease?" asked Patterson. "Why is this such a big deal? Why are you so adamantly opposed to putting the fact that PAC gets public money and

therefore the public should have access to the building in the lease?"

Commissioner Larry Rogers said the point was to make the lease bullet proof so no one has to go through this process again. "The lease has to protect everyone," he said.

When pushed by Leslie to name a time a group was excluded Patterson spoke of a meeting held at PAC, at which Manning was present, when she said "A member of a group that uses PAC extensively said their group was uncomfortable with another theater group coming into PAC to put on plays."

Manning said he told that person such sentiment wasn't appropriate.

Finally, once everyone had said their piece, Monday night the group settled on the above mentioned verbiage which was suggested by Commissioner John Dotson. It will be incorporated into the lease.

– Kim Lewicki



CHEF NICOLAS FIGEL
KING OF THE MOUNTAIN!
WINNER OF THE 2010
HIGHLANDS CHEF'S CHALLENGE

GREAT STEAKS!



SUNDAY
FRENCH



MONDAY
ITALIAN



TUESDAY
THAI



WEDNESDAY
CARIBBEAN



THURSDAY
PAN-ASIAN



FRIDAY
MEDITERRANEAN



SATURDAY
SOUTH
AMERICAN



**WORLD
CHOPHOUSE
MENU**
STEAKS AND CHOPS
INSPIRED BY THE GREAT
CHOPHOUSES OF THE WORLD,
PERFECTLY PREPARED!

Cyprus introduces our World Chophouse Menu, six great cuts, perfectly seasoned, and cooked over smoldering hardwood. This menu reflects an absolute dedication to excellence: We have selected the best cuts, from the best cattlemen. If you settle for nothing less than superior quality, you will love our new Steaks and Chops. World-Class Chops in Highlands! Try One Tonight!



Open
5pm-9pm
Until April 30
5pm-10pm
Starting May 1



Cyprus International Cuisine
470 Dillard Rd., Highlands
(828)526-4429
cyprushighlands.com

Live music every
Saturday night,
9:00pm
STARTING ON SATURDAY, MAY 8



POLICE & FIRE

The following are the Highlands Police Dept. log entries from April 29. Only the names of persons arrested, issued a Class-3 misdemeanor, or public officials have been used.

April 29

• At 7:40 p.m., officers assist another agency at a residence on Center Drive.

• At 10:22 p.m., officers were called to a residence on Raoul Drive to mediate in a verbal dispute.

April 30

• At 7:45 p.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident on NC 28.

• At 2:16 p.m., officers assisted another agency concerning a carbon monoxide alarm.

May 2

• At 8:36 a.m., officers were called to N. 5th Street concerning a 50-gallon fuel spill in the creek. Heating oil leaked out when a line broke at a nearby home.

May 3

• At 1:33 p.m., officers were called to Main Street Pharmacy when a man who wanted a prescription filled became agitated when the pharmacist wouldn't fill it.

May 4

• At 8:05 p.m., officers were called to a residence on Sassy Lane in search of a person who had moved to Greensboro, NC.

• At 11:30 p.m., officers received a call from a woman who said a girlfriend of hers was in an abusive relationship with some in Highlands. She was referred to REACH.

May 5

• At 6:45 p.m., officers were called to the Highlands

Ball Field when a verbal dispute broke out between fans.

• During the week, police officers responded to 7 alarm and issued 8 citations.

The following are the Highlands Fire & Rescue Dept. log entries from April 29:

April 29

• At 9:21 a.m., the dept. was first-responders at a residence on Clubhouse Trail. The victim was taken to the hospital.

• At 7:41 p.m., the dept. was first-responders at a residence on NC 106. The victim was taken to the hospital.

April 30

• At 1:49 a.m., the dept. responded to a carbon monoxide alarm at a residence on Center Drive. It was false.

• At 7:45 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with a medical call on Buck Creek Road where a driver was slumped over the steering wheel. He had run out of gas and was sleeping.

• At 4:51 p.m., the dept. was first-responders on Clubhouse Trail. The victim was taken to the hospital.

May 3

• At 12:42 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with a medical call on Galax Court. The victim was taken to the hospital.

• At 6:32 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with a medical call on Clubhouse Trail. The victim was taken to the hospital.

May 4

• At 8:14 p.m., the dept. responded to an accident on NC 28 south where a vehicle was over the embankment. No one was injured.

... PRIMARY continued from page 1

sion District II incumbents Ronnie Beale and Bob Simpson beat newcomer Carroll Poindexter. Beale won 38.93% of the vote with 1,252 votes, Simpson won 31.75% with 1,021 votes and Poindexter gleaned 29.32% with 943 votes.

In November, Democrats Beale and Simpson will run against Republican candidates for the two District II seats, Charlie Leatherman and Ron Haven.

In November, Sheriff Robert Holland (Rep) will run against George Lynch who beat Richard Davis and Ricky DeHart in the Democrat primary. Lynch got 52.02% with 965 votes; Davis got 41.83% with 776 votes and DeHart got 6.15% with 114 votes.

Current County Commissioner Jim Davis (Rep) beat Jimmy Goodman (Rep) in the NC State Senate District 50 race. Davis got 53.22% with 983; Goodman got 46.78% with 864 votes.

Of the 24,280 registered voters in the county, 4,002 people voted – 16.48%.

An official at the Macon County Board of Elections said turnout was low, even for a primary.

In the 2006 primary 5,026 voters turned out. In the 2008 presidential primary, 7,814 voters turned out.

For a complete breakdown of the races and voter turnout and results specific to districts, go to <http://results.enr.clarityelections.com/NC/Macon/15762/24010/en/reports.html>

— Kim Lewicki

... REZONING from pg 1

Dotson abstained because the application says that the town "will" pay for the economic data report and reimburse the state for staff mileage and meals — \$3,000 to \$5,000 annually. He also said the town didn't really need the program because "we know why storefronts are empty; the rents are too high," he said.

Next, Trevor Dalton, Macon County Economic Development director, explained the county's plan to bring new business to the county; recruit and retain professional talent; entice a young, professional workforce; and to encourage software development companies to move here.

The board agreed to pave Holt Circle for \$160,000 and pay for it with unused Powell funds in the current budget.

Finally, the board OK'd a resolution adopting a policy for mutual assistance with other law enforcement agencies in WNC.

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(Continued on page 26)



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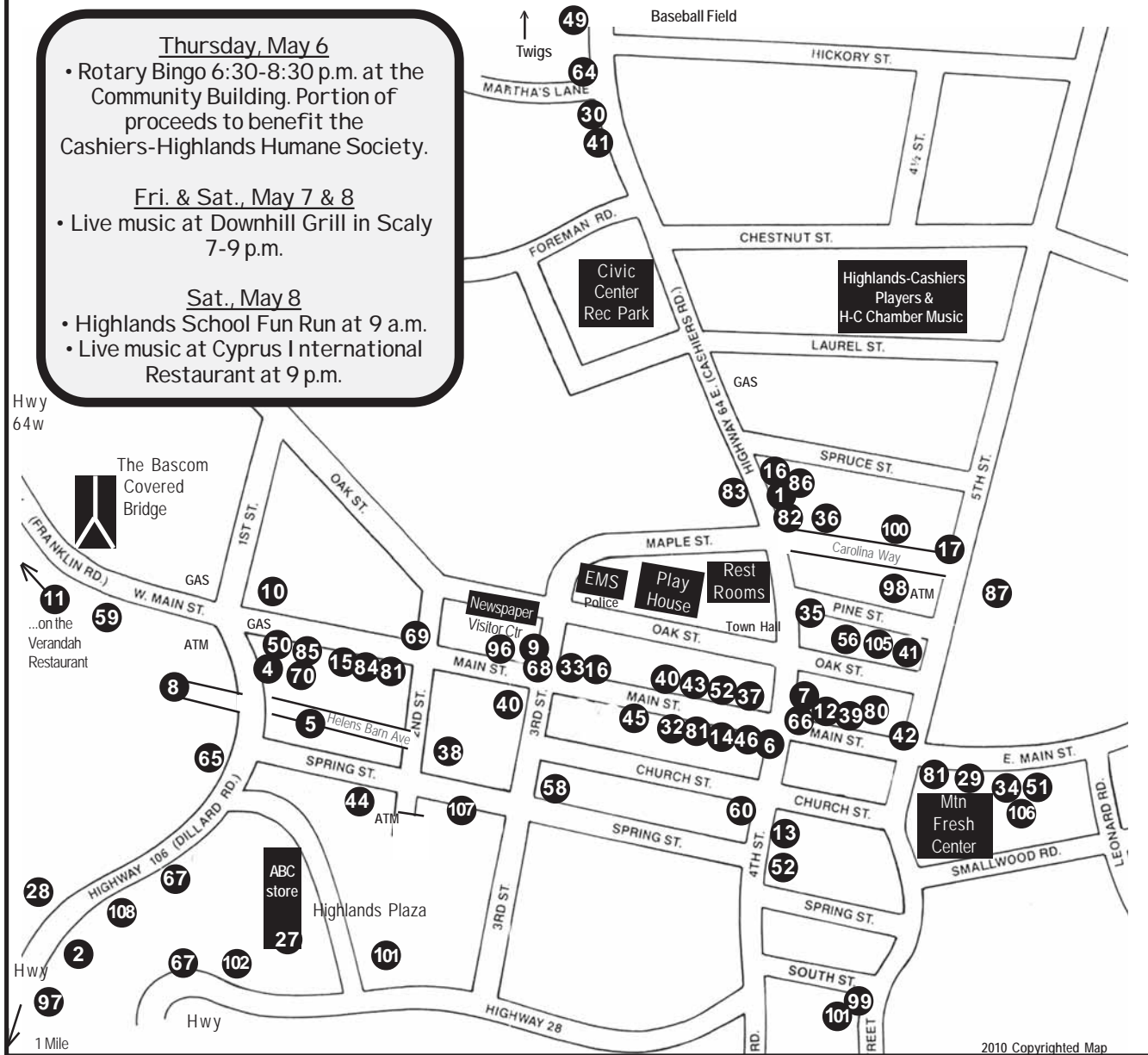
- Rotary Bingo 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the Community Building. Portion of proceeds to benefit the Cashiers-Highlands Humane Society.

Fri. & Sat., May 7 & 8

- Live music at Downhill Grill in Scaly 7-9 p.m.

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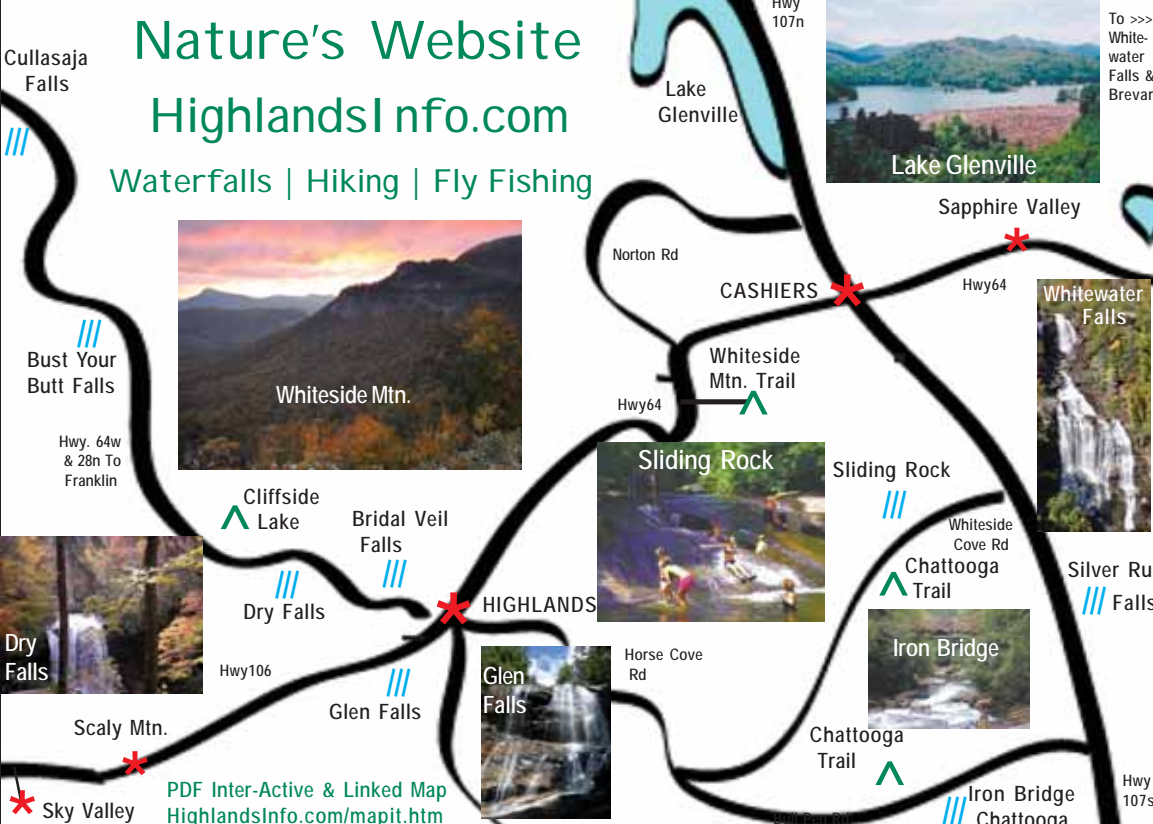


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Landmarks: Cullasaja Falls, Lake Glenville, Whiteside Mtn., Sliding Rock, Iron Bridge, Silver Run Falls, Chattooga Trail, Horse Cove Rd, Glen Falls, Dry Falls, Sky Valley, Scaly Mtn., Norton Rd, CASHIERS, Hwy 64, Hwy 106, Hwy 107n, Hwy 107s.

Trails: Whiteside Mtn. Trail, Chattooga Trail, Iron Bridge Chattooga.

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PDF Inter-Active & Linked Map
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