

Highlands' Newspaper

FREE every Wednesday

Volume 10, Number 7

Internet PDF Version at www.HighlandsNewspaperPDF.com

Wednesday, Feb. 15, 2012

Town Board discusses right-turn-only lanes and more

By Kim Lewicki

Though the change of government to the boiler-plate version of the Council-Manager form and the utility credit citizens will receive in their February

bill were the two big news items last week, the board did discuss other pertinent issues.

There's a chance the right-turn-only lanes at 3rd and Main might go away – that is if the Town

Board heeds citizens' concerns.

During the public comment session of the Feb. 7 Town Board meeting, Bill Rethorst spoke against the right-turn-only lanes by asking several questions: Why

do they exist, Do they work to solve some sort of problem or Do they create another problem?

Citizen Alice Nelson echoed Rethorst's concerns as did citizen

• See TOWN BOARD page 15

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Fences and lighting issues now ready for Planning Board recommendation

By Luke Osteen

The Highlands Appearance Commission took up the challenges of fencing and lighting last week by looking at the regulations that govern a pair of North Carolina towns.

Last month the town Planning Board sent the contentious issues to the Appearance Commission with the idea that aesthetic guidelines governing fences and outdoor lighting be drawn up for adoption by the town. The Planning Board is attempting to develop guidelines that will govern fences on all public roads in Highlands and regulate outdoor lights.

To that end, the commission examined the regulations of Davidson and Monroe, NC., to determine what's feasible in Highlands.

Commissioners recommended the Planning Board consider ordinances that would limit fence height to six feet. Fences bordering front yards and street-

facing side yards would be limited to four feet. Front yard fences made of chain link, chicken wire, sheet metal, concrete block, or barbed wire would be prohibited. The commission also suggested that fences should be screened with vegetation to improve their aesthetics and that fences be erected with a minimum 12-foot buffer from the edge of the pavement.

The appearance commission also considered the problem of commercial outdoor lighting that bleeds upward into the night sky, damaging the nighttime aesthetics of the town. It recommended that shielded lights (whose light is aimed down rather than upward) be on poles no higher than 27 feet, while unshielded ones be limited to 12 foot poles.

Prior to making its recommendation on fencing and lighting to the Town Board, the Planning Board requested the Appearance Commission get involved. It will now review its recommenda-

• See FENCES page 2

HS teams win Conference Championships



Emily Munger and Emily Murphy playing against Blue Ridge at home in Highlands Friday night.

Photo by Noel Atherton

Lady Highlanders ride thrilling finish to second straight Conference Championship

By Ryan Potts

Emily Munger looked up at the clock as it ticked down, her team trailing by three with just seconds remaining. When asked what was going through her mind at that point, Munger

laughed and said "all I could think was, we need three, we need three...set your feet and take it."

The Lady Highlanders had been in this situation before, but

• See CHAMPIONSHIPS page 9

Zoning Board approves Ugly Dog expansion

By Ryan Potts

Last Wednesday the Town of Highlands Zoning board unanimously approved plans submitted by Thomas and Kay Craig, owners of the Ugly Dog Public house, for combining the existing Ugly Dog Pub with the former June's Place property adjacent to the Ugly Dog.

Having recently purchased the property on the corner of Spring Street and 4th Street that was formerly known as June's Place, the Craig's submitted a plan that would allow them to combine their Ugly Dog Pub with the previously occupied restaurant.

The plan calls for a combination of the two properties into one establishment, with the kitchen at the former June's Place to be used as the operating kitchen for both sides of the property and the current Ugly Dog kitchen being converted to storage space. The new kitchen will service both the pub and the diner which will be called The Dog House.

• See UGLY DOG page 16

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• THE PLATEAU'S POSITION •

• LETTERS •

Was it an apparition on NC 106?

Dear Editor,

My husband and I came up to Highlands Friday and while we were driving NC 106 above Dillard on a sharp left-hand curve, I spotted what I believed to be a young man with light gray sweat-shirt with a hoodie up on his head. He was on the outside part of the guardrail walking from right to left and back again and was looking down as if he was searching.

When we got up closer to the curve, he disappeared and as I looked for him, I noticed there was nothing for this person to walk on! It was a sheer dropoff right after the guard rail!

Has anyone else seen this vanishing person on a curve of one of the many curves along NC 106?

Paula Fulcher,
White Springs, FL

• THANKS •

Community support made Otto blood drive a success

Thank you to all who came out and gave blood at the Otto Community Center on Feb. 11. Without your help, we would not have been a success. We were able to get 25 usable units; 27 people presented to donate. Look for the next drive.

Thanks to all the businesses and churches that put up the announcements and thank you to Emily Stephens for making phone calls.

Phyllis S. Castle
Otto President & Red Cross volunteer

• THANKS •

From the family of Kelly Talley Munger

I would like to thank everyone in the surrounding communities for all the prayers, food, donations and thoughts through this difficult time.

We tried to start writing Thank You cards but found out that was impossible to do without leaving someone out or not giving someone the proper thanks.

We could not have made it through this tough time without all the support from friends and family. It is a very good feeling to live in such a great area and a comfort to know that Kelly had so many friends as well as the friends that we have.

Thanks again for all of the love and support. God bless each and everyone that has helped us during this time.

Joe, Spencer and Chelsea Munger
and all of Kelly's family

From the children of Mary Elizabeth Houston

The family of Mary Elizabeth Houston would like to thank you for your love and support which exemplified how much our wonderful mother was truly loved by all.

Your prayers, cards, flowers, food and visits meant a lot to us and we can never thank you enough.

A special Thank You to Dr. Patti Wheeler, the ministers Pastor Dan Lyons and Jamie Passmore. Also thanks to Helen Talley for the music and the Buck Creek Baptist Church for flowers and the food following the service.

Also, thanks to Bryant-Grant Funeral Home for the help it gave us and to the EMS crew, too.

Her children

LETTERS-TO-THE EDITOR-POLICY

We reserve the right to reject or edit submissions.
NO ANONYMOUS LETTERS WILL BE ACCEPTED.

Views expressed are not necessarily those of Highlands' Newspaper.
Please EMAIL letters by Sunday at 5 p.m. There is a 500-word limit without prior approval.

Highlands' Newspaper

"Our Community Service - A Free Local Newspaper"

FREE every Wednesday on the street and on the web;
Circulation 10,000
Toll Free FAX: 866-212-8913 • (828) 526-3228
Email: HighlandsEditor@aol.com
Publisher/Editor – Kim Lewicki; Copy Editor– Tom Merchant
Cartoonist – Karen Hawk; Digital Media - Jim Lewicki
Locally owned and operated Kim & Jim Lewicki
Adobe PDF version at www.HighlandsInfo.com
265 Oak St.; P.O. Box 2703, Highlands, N.C. , 28741
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... FENCES continued from page 1

tions and then forward an opinion to the Town Board.

In other business, Ugly Dog Public House owner Kay Craig outlined plans to expand her business this summer. She said that a lunch counter called The Dog House will be opened adjacent to her pub in the space that housed the former June's Place.

Craig said that her restaurant would retain June's Place distinctive red roof but would add a Spring Street entrance and expansive windows. It'll be painted dark brown while the windows will be trimmed in a lighter brown. The Dog House will offer lunch through a counter where patrons can place their orders. There will be outdoor seating with tables and planters breaking up the stark asphalt that now governs the corner of Spring and Fourth streets.

The Appearance Commission unanimously approved the new look for Craig's restaurant. Her husband, Commission chairman Thomas Craig, recused himself from the matter.

Next, the commission drew upon the talents of member Sallie Taylor for the final issue on the agenda.

Taylor, who retired last year after serving as Highlands School's art teacher for many years, presented the commission with a new town color chart that she developed.

"These are low intensity colors, almost pastels," she said. "Colors in nature tend to be muted, low intensity. There's nothing garish in nature. That's what I worked with here."

Taylor's color chart utilized the muted colors of nature. Rather than the board with limited acceptable color choices that the town has used previously, her chart is based upon swatches of color on a ring in a wider palette of colors. The board unanimously approved Taylor's chart.

E-book workshop at Library

On Friday, Feb. 17 the Hudson Library will host a drop in e-reader and e-book workshop from 1-4 p.m.

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Fall 2011 Dean's List

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James Michael Hunter
Olena Kalchenko Northrup
Teresa Rose Pearman
Katherine Virginia Pierce
Maggie Nicole Rogers
Leslie Diane Wilson

UNC-Charlotte

Marlena Deidre McCall
Stephanie Puchacz

Southwestern Community College

Kayla Baty
David Parrish
Margie Potts
Justyne Reese
Eva Romero

Appalachian State University

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Primary Election Day is May 8

The Filing Period for the 2012 Primary Election is noon Mon., Feb. 13 through noon Wed., Feb. 29. This applies to Democratic, Republican and non-partisan primaries, if applicable and Presidential Preference, US House of Representatives, Governor, Lt. Governor, Council of State, NC Senate, NC House of Representatives, Board of County Commissioners, and State and District Judicial Seats.

There are filing deadlines and fees for the Macon County Board of Commission and the School Board races.

The Board of County Commissioners filing fee is \$97. In District 1 there is one seat open – the unexpired term previously held by Brian McClellan in which James Tate now sits.

There is also one seat open in District 2 which is held by Kevin Corbin, previously held by Senator Jim Davis.

There is also one seat open in District 3 currently held by Bobby Kupperts.

For the Macon County Board of Education, whose filing fee is \$5, there are three seats open – one in District 1, currently held by Stephanie McCall, one in District 3 and one in District 4. The filing period is June 11-July 6.

There is one seat open in Soil & Water Conservation whose filing fee is also \$5 and whose filing period is also June 11-July 6.

Important dates concerning the 2012 election:

- Absentee by Mail Voting Begins: March 19, 2012
- Voter Registration Deadline: April 13, 2012
- One-Stop Early Voting Begins: April 19, 2012
- Deadline for Absentee by Mail Requests: May 1, 2012
- One-Stop Early Voting Ends: May 5, 2012
- Primary Election Day: May 8, 2012

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• LAUGHING AT LIFE •

Life's journey



Fred Wooldridge

OK, so it's the dead of winter and you're reading this newspaper in Highlands. You haven't seen the sun too much and the drizzle rain seems endless. Maybe tomorrow will be better.maybe not. If you're still in Highlands in the dead of winter, you probably fall into one of several categories. Pick the one that best fits your life's journey.

You either love being in Highlands and can't visualize yourself living anyplace else oryou have kids in school and can't get outor you can't get out because of your economical situation oryou actually are among the few people who still have a job or business you need to keep oryou're just one of those people who will live forever wherever they're bornlike my sister, who loves freezing in Louisville.

Just after the big war, my life's journey dramatically changed when my parents closed their restaurant in Louisville, KY. for the Christmas holidays and loaded us on a train bound for Miami. Two days later I was standing on the porch of the Breakwater Hotel staring out at the Atlantic Ocean. Who knew such a place existed? Swimming in the ocean on Christmas day was something I couldn't have envisioned. Was I in heaven?

Later, as I packed my stuff to return to Louisville's horrible weather, I stared out the front window of my room at the beautiful blue ocean, watched the bathers and a few surfers. I promised myself. "Someday I will live here." At the time I didn't realize this short trip would have such meaning in my life.

As promised, I returned to Miami Beach as an adult, eventually met my li'l missus out on the sandy beach not too far from the Breakwater Hotel. We fell in love, got married and parented three wonderful, healthy children; I became a career cop and getting shot at occasionally suited me just fine. In 1968 I discovered a small village called Highlands and used it as my escape back to sanity from all the ugliness of police work.

Feedback is encouraged!
askfredanything@aol.com

But it was the trip to Miami Beach with my parents in the mid forties that set my life's journey; otherwise I would probably still be living in Louisville, dog tired each night from working the restaurant. (I'm getting chills.) My parents later offered the business to me and turning them down was easy once I had sand in my shoes.

Do you have an event in your life that changed your course forever? Have you ever wondered where you would be if the life changing event had not occurred ...or you chose another path? Looking back on everything that has happened to me, I wouldn't change much. Of course, there were a few colossal boneheaded mistakes I would avoid but on the real important things, I hit the jackpot. Picking a place to live, finding a compatible spouse, picking a career and, last, but most important, having a solid faith system in place, are my greatest blessings in life. Are you where you need to be?

• If it's one of those cold nights in Highlands, download Fred's thriller, *Deceived*, on your Kindle or Nook and snuggle in for the evening with your sweetie.

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• THE VIEW FROM HERE •

The importance of saying 'Good-bye'

I never said "Goodbye" to my Mom. I tried, but not hard enough. She'd been through a lot. Dad died young and left her with two young daughters, Joanna, eight, and Marguerite, six. A few years later she was diagnosed with the first of five different cancers she would battle. She fought well, raised her daughters, saw them through college and begin families of their own. She lived well, carefully shepherded the modest fortune my father had left. She indulged her kids and her love of travel. Her version of Carpe Diem was "We pass this way but once." She traveled light and ruled that her daughters could bring whatever they wished, but had to carry their own bags. She favored quick drying fabrics and laundered them in a hotel sink each evening. She said she traveled to see, not to be seen.

She'd overcome her first three cancers, when she suffered a massive stroke. She might have found a home with one her four kids and beloved grandkids, were it not for the fact that she had alienated all our spouses. Nobody ever loved her children more than my Mom, but she was incapable of including our spouses in the circle. She made her own bed. We found a fine nursing home, one run by the Quakers and located in her home town. She lived there for the last five years of her life, never learned adaptive skills to help her deal with her dense paralysis, doggedly insisting instead that she would walk again.

I didn't see Mom much in her later years. I called her from time to time, but rarely made the trip north to Indiana. When I telephoned her in the spring of 1997, her voice was so weak I thought we'd been disconnected. I called the nursing station at the nursing home several times. Each time I



Dr. Henry Salzarulo

Feedback is encouraged.

email:
hsalzarulo@aol.com

asked to be connected to her room and explained that I'd lost the connection. I finally asked the nurse to check in Mom's room. A nursing aid picked up Mom's phone and dispassionately explained that the phone was working well, but Mom was too frail to speak above an inaudible whisper.

There were things I wanted to say, fences I wanted to mend, and I realized there was very little time.

My mother had a terrible fear of death, was reluctant to discuss or consider the inevitable end. I sat in her room for two days trying to communicate. We were unable to pass beyond small talk. Finally I took the plunge. I'd read somewhere the importance of closure.

I told Mom that I loved her, that I realized I had often disappointed her, and asked for her forgiveness. I added that she had occasionally failed me, too, but realized she had always done her best, and forgave her. Then I waited. Hoping to spark a response, I told her I'd be leaving soon. She remained silent. I asked if there was anything she wanted to say or anything I could do. She asked if I'd get her a Coke. I brought her a Coke, drew a long breath, and said I guessed it was time for me to be on my way. I lingered at the door. She whispered "See ya," and I answered, "See ya," although we both knew it wasn't true.

I wish I'd try harder to break through, to hold, comfort, and reassure her. The failure was as much mine as hers, the result of my impatience as much as her intransience. I should have poured her Coke into a glass, placed it in her feeble hands, and asked if she'd like a pack of Nabs to go with her soda. I should have given her time. Finally, if she remained mute, I should have said, "Mom, you know it's time to say Goodbye."

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• BACK DAYS • John Palmer and Margaret 'Jane' Gribble McKinney

This continues our Back Days series in Highlands' Newspaper. This time it features the family of John Palmer and Margaret Jane Gribble McKinney families whose descendants tell the tales that will follow in this and subsequent issues.

Those who came before and after them – Part 4

By Jessie Owens
The John Palmer McKinney and Margaret (Jane) Gribble McKinney connection.
Margaret Gribble McKinney's family started in Pennsylvania in 1748. He married Sarah Irwin and their second child John, who was born in 1770 married Margaret Black and their second child, William Black Gribble married Rachel Frizzell, the daughter of John and Margaret Bowen Frizzell.

William and Rachel moved to Macon County. They had 13 children and it's their third child, Thomas married Claressa Louise Adeline Rogers on Sept. 1, 1827 and part of her "story" follows:

According to Betsy Coward Phillips, In 1838, when the Cherokee Indians were forced to make their exodus from the Appalachians, a young Indian girl named Claressa, was forced to drop behind the others in Cherokee, NC, because she couldn't walk fast enough.

The girl was taken in by a white family by the name of Carter, whose members treated her like a slave. One cold morning the Carters sent the barefoot girl to the camp across the creek to fetch some salt for breakfast. The family at the other camp was a Rogers family. They took compassion on the cold girl and invited her to take up residence with them. She accepted immediately.

Later that evening, Mr. Carter came to find out what had become of the salt and Claressa. Mr. Rogers informed Carter that Claressa would be staying with them, a revelation much to Carter's displeasure.

Thus, as the Rogers family came back east, the Indian girl came with them.

At length, Claressa married Thomas Gribble. Thomas' mother disapproved of her son's marriage to an Indian woman and would have nothing to do with the affair. But kind neighbors came to the couple's aid, giving them a Dutch oven, a bed tick, and corn shucks for stuffing it. With these goods, they set up housekeeping. The pair, obviously industrious, eventually owned a prosperous farm at Clarks Chapel near Franklin.

They grew corn, wheat and rye. The place had one of the best springs around so they built a water mill. When Thomas went to fight for the Confederates in the Civil War, Claressa kept the farm up. Folks would come from neighboring counties in North Carolina and Georgia to have their grain ground and often during the war there



John Palmer and Margaret Jane Gribble McKinney

would be a wising line of many wagons.

Thomas had been made a prisoner of war in Tennessee and was taken to Rome, GA. There the Union soldiers lined the Rebels up and gave them a choice – vow to vote the Republican ticket or die. Thomas took the oath. They turned him loose and he walked home to Macon County, near starvation.

When he got to the door, he said, "Clarsy, I want you to give me just a bite of something – don't let me eat – just a bite." He knew his system couldn't tolerate a normal meal. So, she would feed him a little bit a long. He didn't have shoes, just strings and his uniform was in rags. He's been in the army for four years.

Thomas and Claressa Gribble had seven children – the seventh was Margaret Jane who married John Palmer McKinney and settled in Highlands.

John Palmer McKinney and Margaret Jane Gribble grew up in the Clarks Chapel area that then was a large section of land stretching southward from Franklin between the Little Tennessee and Cullasaja Rivers. Turtle Pond Creek flows into the Cullasaja at Van Hook Camp Ground between Highlands and Franklin. Another creek, the Tesentee, has its headwaters close to Turtle Pone and flows northwest toward Clarks Chapel emptying into the Little Tennessee, as does the Cullasaja. A big family like the McKinnies, needing more land as the children grew up, would very likely travel up river by one of these routes into unoccupied territory.

On his death bed, John Palmer relived the journey he and Jane made from Turtle Pond to Highlands, struggling once again to cut down trees in the path of his wagon.

They got married the same year the

•See BACK DAYS page 19



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• COACH'S CORNER •

Linsanity takes over America

I considered using this space to write about our Highlanders first conference championship in several years. (I really am proud of those guys) I also considered using this space to write about the Duke-UNC classic from last week. (never been happier to get a prediction wrong...boy did Austin Rivers earn free lunch in Durham for the rest of his life or what?) However, at this point, I think that since America has been gripped by Linsanity, we need to take a look at this phenomenon.



Ryan Potts
tryanpotts@hotmail.com

What is Linsanity, you may ask? Linsanity refers to the meteoric rise of New York Knicks point guard Jeremy Lin, who just a few weeks ago was in the NBA Developmental League and had been cut four times in his career. After injuries opened the door for Lin to earn a spot with the Knicks, he was forced into spot starting duty, and responded with one of the best weeks in NBA history. Lin is Asian-American, and starred at Harvard before pursuing his dream of becoming an NBA player. In the 5 games that Lin has played more than 20 minutes, the Knicks are 5-0. In Lin's 4 starts he has scored 109 points, including a 39 point barrage that helped the Knicks upset the Los Angeles Lakers.

To watch Lin play is a thing of beauty, mainly because the system run by Knicks coach Mike D'Antoni is one that places a tremendous emphasis on

the point guard. Steve Nash put up huge numbers with D'Antoni in Phoenix, and D'Antoni's system has given lesser point guards such as Chris Duhon and Raymond Felton the opportunity to put up big numbers. With Lin, however, the proof just isn't in the numbers, it is with the way that he plays the game. If one

concentrates hard enough, you don't see Lin out there, you see Steve Nash...the way that Lin comes off the pick and roll, constantly probing the defense and looking for opportunities. Lin's jumper isn't the beauty that is Nash's, but Lin has the ability to finish at the rim and has displayed the same genius running D'Antoni's offense that Nash once did.

Obviously the question is, can Lin sustain his current level of play? The answer is likely no, but one positive for the Knicks is that they have won 5 games with Lin and little else. New York's two superstars, Carmelo Anthony and Amare Stoudemire have been out with injuries, but will be returning within the next week. Those two players, along with the emerging Lin should allow the Knicks to provide plenty of excitement throughout the rest of the NBA season. As for Lin, well, in a recent interview he thanked God for his opportunity, and said that he was looking forward to finding an apartment in New York...a nice turn of the coin for a guy who was sleeping on his teammates couch just a week ago.

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• CONSERVATIVE POV

Surprise!

A funny thing happened on Mitt Romney's path to the White House. Just when we thought it couldn't get worse with Romney and Gingrich tossing grenades at each other, Rick Santorum wins three states and becomes a legitimate contender. Now the mud is going to fly from every direction, and we are going to have non-stop contention for the months leading up to the Republican Convention.

While the Dems watch with glee as the candidates decimate one another, the world watches in wonderment while the Administration creates one political blunder after another, seemingly self-destructing in an election year. Unless their brain trust is so clever that what appear to be blunders actually work in their favor, they may be winning the race to the bottom.

For example, you remember Anthony Weiner and his fall from grace last year. He was forced to resign and a

special congressional election was held with Republican Bob Turner defeating Democrat David Weprin in that election. Dan Senor wrote a piece in the Wall Street Journal following that election.

"Why Obama Is Losing the Jewish Vote. New York's special congressional election was the first electoral outcome directly affected by President Obama's Israel policy. Democrats were forced to expend enormous resources in a losing effort to defend this safe Democratic district, covering Queens and Brooklyn, that Anthony Weiner won last year by a comfortable margin.

"A Public Policy Poll taken days before the election found a plurality of voters saying that Israel was 'very important' in determining their votes.



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

Only 22% of Jewish voters approved of President Obama's handling of Israel. Ed Koch, the Democrat and former New York mayor, endorsed Mr. Turner because he said he wanted to send a message to the president about his anti-Israel policies.

"This is a preview of what President Obama might face in his re-election campaign with a demographic group that voted

overwhelmingly for him in 2008. And it could affect the electoral map, given the battleground states – such as Florida and Pennsylvania – with significant Jewish populations. In another ominous barometer for the Obama campaign, his Jewish fund-raising has deeply eroded."

We all scratched our heads trying to understand the Administration's rejection

of the Keystone XL pipeline that would have delivered millions of barrels of Canadian crude along with tens of thousands of jobs to American workers. From the Free Republic: "Terry O'Sullivan, president of the Laborer's union issued the following statement vowing that blue collar workers will not forget this betrayal.

"The score is Job-Killers, two; American workers, zero. We are completely and totally disappointed. This is politics at its worst. Once again the President has sided with the environmentalists instead of the blue collar construction workers – even though environmental concerns were more than adequately addressed. Blue collar construction workers across the U.S. will not forget this: The project would create thousands of good jobs at a time when unemployment in the construction industry is 16 per cent with 1.3 million men and women jobless."

Why would Obama make a decision that flies in the face of reason? Larry Bell, who writes for Forbes, has an

idea. "President Obama has a lucky policy pal who may richly benefit from his administration's latest energy decision. Now that his State Department has decided to withhold approval for the Keystone XL pipeline that would have delivered millions of barrels of Canadian crude along with tens of thousands of jobs, a likely alternative is to transport that oil via the Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) railroad. That's the 32,000 mile line with the best north-south infrastructure that Warren Buffett's Berkshire Hathaway purchased a 22% (\$34 million) share of one year after Obama was elected." That might be a reason.

Last but not least in the hit parade, USA Today, not known for its objectivity, just released an editorial titled "Obama Angers Catholic Voters" from which I quote: "Election-year controversies are inevitable but usually candidates don't go looking for them. Certainly they don't pick fights with the unbridled enthusiasm that President Barack Obama has demonstrated with his commitment to showing the Catholic Church who's boss regarding birth-control insurance coverage.

The question is ...why? Other than to please constituencies that are already firmly committed to the Democrat's re-election, it is inexplicable. Obama's Health and Human Services secretary, Kathleen Sebelius, announced last month that guidelines for employer-provided health insurance would include a mandate for full coverage of birth-control products and services, including sterilization services and the so-called 'morning-after' pill, which many religious adherents consider a form of abortion. The reaction from religious groups has been furious."

As I write this, the administration is desperately trying to pull it back, but I don't think you can unring that bell. Let's see – he's offended the Jews, the unions and the Catholics not to mention Christians in general. I'd say, "keep up the good work, Barack."

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... CHAMPIONSHIPS continued from page 1

it was Senior night, and Blue Ridge had brought in one of the biggest crowds that Highlands has had all year. Yet, in front of a packed house, on Senior night, Munger delivered by burying a 24 footer that tied the score and sent the game into overtime. In the extra period, Munger scored 6 of Highlands eight points in the extra session of a 50-44 victory.

The Lady Highlanders found themselves trailing by ten at the half after an extremely physical and intense first sixteen minutes. The Lady Bobcats have been reborn this year, particularly with the addition of transfer Cassidy O'Brien, who is averaging over 15 points per game. Highlands struggled to contain O'Brien in the first half, particular due to the absence of Munger and Sophomore center Emily Shuler, both of who were relegated to the bench due to foul trouble. Despite this foul trouble, the Lady Highlanders were able to keep the game within striking distance, with great contributions from Seniors Emily Murphy, Stephanie Smart and Julianne Buras. In the second half the Lady Highlanders made a furious comeback, taking a brief lead before cold shooting allowed the Lady Bobcats to regain the lead and set the stage for Munger's heroics.

Friday marked the final regular season game for Munger, Buras, Smart and Murphy, all of whom contributed to the Lady Highlanders back-to-back LSMC Championship seasons. Two straight conference championships is a rare feat, and that fact was certainly not lost on the Lady Highlanders at the end of the evening. "It feels great to be back to back conference champions," said Munger, "it was definitely a team effort and having the support of Coach Lamb helped a lot. Without Coach Lamb we could not have done what we have this season and while we have accomplished one goal in winning the regular season, we want to continue our success in the tournament."

Highlanders dominate Bobcats to bring home first title since 2007

The Highlands Highlanders wanted to do something special to honor long-time Coach Butch Smart in his final season. The school put on a celebration for him, the Booster Club bought him a spe-

cial commemorative chair, but the Highlanders gave him what he wanted all along... a LSMC Championship.

The Highlanders used a combination of stingy defense and timely scoring to overcome a cold shooting night and put away the Bobcats in a 44-27 victory.

The Highlanders started a 5 senior line-up of Cody St. Germain, Cai Roman, Andrew Renfro, Clayton Dunn and Isaac Beavers, and it was Roman who delivered early for the Highlanders, swishing two threes and putting the Highlanders out in front with a lead that they would never relinquish. Juniors Dax Lloyd and Taylor Osteen then provided most of the offense the rest of the way and helped the Highlanders score

Despite being comfortable, the Highlanders could never push the lead to blow-out status, mainly due to a 2-15 shooting effort behind the three point arc against the Blue Ridge zone. However, because of the terrific defensive effort from the Highlanders, what was a 10 point lead the majority of the game felt like more than that. When the final buzzer sounded, the Highlanders celebrated at midcourt and reflected in the locker room on what is only the 4th conference championship in 25 years for the Highlanders. "It feels pretty amazing," said Osteen "we've worked hard for it, and we've said for three years we wanted to do it so

I'm glad we were able to get it done this year." Lloyd agreed, saying that "it was definitely our goal for this year and it shows that our hard work this season has paid off."

For seniors Beavers, Renfro, Dunn, Roman and St. Germain, this was the last regular season game and a great memory to have, but the journey is not over for them just yet, as the Highlanders will move on to the LSMC tournament and host a state play-off game on Monday February 20th as well. "It's an awesome feeling to be conference champs," said Beavers, "but I'm not ready for my basketball career to be over yet, so we have to keep winning."

Senior Issac Beavers versus Blue Ridge at home in Highlands Friday night.
Photo by Noel Atherton





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• BIZ NEWS •

Highlands featured in NY Times ‘Great Homes and Destinations’

Exurbia Sotheby's International Realty is thrilled that one of its listings, the Williams home on Holt Knob, was selected out of all listings across the country to be featured in a New York Times article on three homes that are available for under one million dollars. The reporter said that he was impressed with the merger of art and function expressed in the photographs of this beautiful home that he found surfing the web. Mimi Williams, an Atlanta designer, and her husband Bennett, built this home within walking distance to town with a million-dollar view. Featuring Highlands in The New York Times article validates that Highlands is one of the most special places on the planet: a perfect, calm hideaway in the midst of a busy world. We love you, Highlands!

What You Get for ... \$998,000

By Mike Powell

The New York Times

Published: January 4, 2012

Photos by Michael Belleme

HIGHLANDS, N.C.

WHAT: A three-bedroom house with three and a half baths in the Nantahala National Forest

HOW MUCH: \$990,000

SIZE: 2,400 square feet

PRICE PER SQUARE FOOT: \$412.50

SETTING: This house is on a hilly, winding road in Highlands, a town of about 925 residents in the southern Appalachian Mountains, about seven miles north of the Georgia border.

The town is within the Nantahala National Forest, which makes it a spring and summer recreation spot. There is fishing in rivers and lakes and hiking along the various trails, many of which lead to waterfalls. In town, about five minutes away, there are grocery stores, pharmacies, restaurants and small businesses.

INSIDE: The house was built in 2008 and designed by one of its current owners, a designer based in Atlanta. The kitchen, living and dining areas are incorporated into a great room with a vaulted wood-beam ceiling. The living room has a stone fireplace and a chimney flanked by shelves made from weathered barn wood. The kitchen has concrete countertops and copper light fixtures salvaged from the Philadelphia Civic Center. From the living and kitchen area, there are views of the Blue Ridge Mountains. Two of the bedrooms are on the main level; the other is on a lower level and has a fireplace.

OUTDOOR SPACE: The house is on a half-acre with panoramic views of the Blue Ridge Mountains. Off the living room and two of the bedrooms,



This three-bedroom house is on the market for \$990,000 in Highlands, N.C., a small town in the Nantahala National Forest.



This five-bedroom house is on the market for \$998,000 in Manchester, VT, at the foot of Equinox Mountain in the Green Mountain National Forest.



Jody Lovell

828-526-4104

exurbiasothebysrealty.com

there's a deck with a fireplace.

TAXES: \$2,957.67

CONTACT: Jody Lovell, Exurbia Sotheby's International Realty; (828) 526-4104; exurbiasotheby

MANCHESTER, VT.

WHAT: A five-bedroom house with four and a half baths with a one-room guesthouse

HOW MUCH: \$998,000

SIZE: 4,288 square feet (total)

PRICE PER SQUARE FOOT: \$326.57

SETTING: Manchester is a town of about 4,180 residents at the foot of Equinox Mountain, in the Green Mountain National Forest at the southwestern corner of Vermont. Adjoining the town, there's a 914-acre nature preserve with walking and hiking trails, and major ski resorts are within 20 miles. Day-to-day shopping can be done in town, which is home to public and private schools, including the Burr and Burton Academy and the Maple Street School. The Southern Vermont Arts Center, a nonprofit that hosts exhibitions, performances and classes, is a few miles away, as is an outlet mall. Manchester is about 175 miles from Boston and a little over 200 from New York City.

INSIDE: The house was built in 1850 and renovated between 2004 and 2008 by the current owners. The maple floors and fireplaces are original throughout, as are exterior details like the gabled mansard roof with red slate

• REAL ESTATE SNAP-SHOTS •

Properties for Sale

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SUPER DEAL



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Fantastic house. Fantastic view. Fantastic development. Understated elegance defines it all. This like-new, custom 3BR/3 1/2 BA home was built with an attention to detail and celebration of the tremendous view. Soaring ceilings, large rooms, two fireplaces, chef's kitchen, ample decks, and screened porch. Furnishings negotiable. \$825,000, MLS #74426.

The Car Spa of Highlands



The only car wash in Highlands, the Car Spa has a constant flow of customers & profitable cash flow. State-of-the-art, touchless wash system & automated pay system. Revenue expansion possibilities if car detailing added. Purchase includes building, structures, equipment, inventory, long-term lease, tremendous goodwill, the trade name of Car Spa of Highlands & adequate training to purchaser. \$678,000, MLS #74382.

Mitchell's Lodge & Cottages



Renovated & expanded in 2001, the 28 units range from single bedrooms to deluxe suites complete w/kitchens, fireplaces & 2 bedroom cabins. Devoted guests return each year to this spectacular 4.62 +/- acre setting w/stream, lake, pavilion, and plentiful native shrubs and trees. Further expansion possible with additional cabins and suites (inquire for details). Perfectly located only 2 blocks from Highlands' Main Street. *Seller will finance.* \$2,999,000, MLS #743546.

Please contact Susie deVille Schiffler at (828) 371-2079 or Mal Phillips at (828) 200-2642 for more information.



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... WHAT YOU GET continued from page 10

tile. On the main level, there's a marble foyer with a fireplace; a breakfast room; a dining room; a kitchen; and a living room. The kitchen was renovated in 2008. The dining room has coffered ceilings. The living room opens to the garden. The main house's bedrooms are split between the second and third levels. The master, on the second level, is part of a suite with a his-and-her bathroom. In addition to its three bedrooms, the third floor has a den.

What used to be a two-car garage has been converted

into a one-bedroom guesthouse with a loft. OUTDOOR SPACE: The house is on slightly over two acres. Behind it is a formal garden with slate walkways and a pergola. In front, there's a covered porch. There's also a deck off the living room.

TAXES: \$9,408.50

CONTACT: David Halligan,
Lang McLaughry Spera; (802)
362-4551; lionanddavis

AUSTIN, TEX.

WHAT: A two-bedroom,
two-bath condo in a former
Chevy plant

HOW MUCH: \$990,000
(or \$1,090,000 fully furnished)

• See WHAT YOU GET page 22



A two-bedroom condo in this former Chevy Plant in Austin, TX is on the market for \$990,000.

PULL OUT

Highlands Area Upcoming Events

• Registration is now open for the 2012 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). Most 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.

Daily

• CORE classes at Mountain Fitness on Carolina Way. Tues., Thurs., Sat., 9:30; Mon., Wed., Thurs., 5:15. \$10 per class or ask about specials. Call 526-9083. (st. 6/9)

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 \$40 a month.

• Zumba at the Rec Park, 9:05a-10a. \$5 per class. First class free. Call Mary Barbour for Franklin schedule: 828-342-2498.

Mondays

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

Tuesdays

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

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

Wednesdays

• The Highlands Mountaintop Rotary meets at 7:30 a.m. 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. Meetings end at 8:30 a.m.

• 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. Call 828-524-6777 or 706-746-9964.

Thursdays

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

• The Highlands Writers Group meets at 1 p.m. at the Hudson Library on Thursdays. Free writing exercises. Bring a seven-minute writing piece to read. Newcomers are welcome. Call Anne Doggett at 526 8009.

Thursdays & Sundays

• At Paoletti's, 15% off your entire Dinner Check. Call 526-4906 for reservations.

Fridays & Saturdays

• At Paoletti's, 25% off Beer & Cocktails and most bottled wines.

Every Saturday through Feb.

• The Art Room, 45 East Main St. in Franklin is having free Make & Take Classes from 10am to 12:30. Come make a Card...Ages 15 and up please! For More Information call Dianne 828-349-3777 or Robin 828-421-9891.

Every Saturday

• Ruka's Wine Tastings from 4:30- 6:30 p.m. Jazz begins at 7:30 p.m.

Every Third Saturday

• The Highlands Memorial Post #370 of the American Legion meets at the Shortoff Baptist Church. Breakfast is at 9 a.m. Meeting is at 10 a.m. All veter-

ans are invited to attend.

Through March 1

• Bascom Instructors. Arium Gallery. A sampling of talent from dedicated artists who share their gift through teaching. At the heart of The Bascom's education programs are the instructors who work with us throughout the year. These instructors hold the distinction of being experienced professional artists and skilled educators.

Mon. & Wed., Feb. 15, 20, 22

• At The Bascom. Ceramic Sculpture. 12noon – 2pm This is a great class for all interested in learning how to construct sculptures in clay. Instructor: Colette Clark. Levels: I & II. Tuition: \$125 member/\$160 non-member per month.

Wednesdays, Feb. 15, 22

• At The Bascom. Painting Basics and Beyond from 10am – 12noon. Enjoy the painting experience from inspiration, to design, to finished painting. An opportunity to create captivating works of art while learning or expanding your knowledge of the building blocks for application, design and color. Instructor: Robin Swaby. Levels: I & II. Tuition: \$100 member/\$135 non-member per month

Wednesday, Feb. 15

• Adult Classic Movie at Hudson Library at 3:30 p.m. "In the Heat of the Night."

Thursday, Feb. 16

• Taize at the Highlands United Methodist Church at 5:30 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 17

• The Hudson Library in Highlands, a member library of Fontana Regional Library, will be hosting a drop in e-reader and e-book workshop from 1-4 p.m. Bring your Kindles, Nooks, iPads, tablets, laptops, or any other e-reading device and we'll show you how to log on and download e-books. Library staff member Megan Potts will walk through the process of navigating the library e-books e-INC website, browsing and searching for books, connecting your device, and downloading e-books. The library will also have examples of some popular e-readers that will be available for people try. Drop in workshops are informal. Simply arrive anytime between 1:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. and stop by the circulation desk. Megan will be available during that time to walk you and fellow attendees through any questions you may have. The Hudson Library is located at 554 Main Street, just beyond the Episcopal church.

• The High Mountain Squares will dance this Friday night, February 17th at the Macon County Community Building on Route 441 South from 6:30 to 9 PM. Jim Duncan from Otto will be the caller. We dance Western Style Square dancing, main/stream and plus levels. There will be a Plus Workshop from 6:30 to 7. Everyone is welcome. For information call 828-349-0905, 828-524-4930, 828-524-2280, or www.highmountainsquares.org

Sat. & Sun., Feb. 18 – 19

Cast for HCP's 'Cat on a Hot Tin Roof' comes in all sizes



Left in front, Sayla Roman and Noah Carver. Left in back, Susan Duncan and Taj Roman

Children are definitely not the focus of Highlands Cashiers Players winter play, *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*, since mostly adult themes are discussed, but there are children in the play and they add a lot to it.

Playing the three Pollitt children are Noah Carver and twins Taj and Sayla Roman. Their lively antics as they romp through Big Daddy's birthday celebration add just the right distraction causing Rev. Tooker to exclaim, "my these kiddies are just so full of vitality!"

Taj and Sayla Roman, fifth graders at Highlands School, are no strangers to lo-

cal theater having appeared in both adult and children's productions. Noah Carver attends the Meadow Lark school and is excited to be on stage but reminds us that he also likes soccer and basketball.

Susan Duncan in her first stage role in Highlands plays the housekeeper/nanny, Sookie. She is charged with keeping the Pollitt children in line.

Audiences are reminded that the box-office opens this Thursday for season ticket holders and on Saturday Feb. 18 for the public. Call 828 526 8024 for tickets.

Upcoming Events

• At The Bascom. Horse Hair and Fuming Fires with Frank Vickery. 10 am – 4 pm What do feathers, horse-hair, and sugar have to do with ceramics? Learn this traditional low fire process with a twist. Instructor: Frank Vickery. Levels: I, II & III. Tuition: \$175 member/\$210 non-member

Sat. Feb. 18

• The Highlands Plateau Greenway will have its monthly work trip this Saturday. Anyone interested in participating, please register with Ran Shaffner by leaving a message at 828-526-5622 or emailing highlandsgreenway@nctv.com. We will meet at the large upper parking lot (near the pool entrance) behind the Rec Park at 9 AM for a brief orientation session. We'll be improving the entrance to the Bear Pen Trail where it starts at the upper parking area. Participants will be furnished the necessary tools and safety equipment. Participants should bring water, rain gear, and a day pack to hold them. Wearing clothes that can get dirty is advised.

• At The Bascom. Art Cinema. Sit back and enjoy our weekly feature presentation "Framed." 2 pm

• At The Bascom. Discovering the Image. 10am – 4pm. Whether you are a veteran painter or have always wanted to hold a brush in your hand and make a mark on the canvas, this class can benefit you. Diane's approach to painting is one of pure visual discovery from the first mark to the last! These one-day workshops can open your eye to discovering the image as you work, take your past habits and formulas, and set out on a journey of discovering your own way with the image. Instructor: Diane McPhail. Levels: I, II & III. Tuition: \$75 member/\$110 non-member per class

Sunday, Feb 19

• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take an easy one-mile hike on the Taylor Lake Loop at Black Rock Mt. State Park, Ga., stopping at the Overlook and Ranger station after the hike. Parking fee required. Meet at Smoky Mt. Visitors' Center, Otto at 2 pm. Call leader Kay Coriell, 369-6820, for reservations or alternate meeting place. Visitors welcome, but no pets please.

Mondays, Feb. 20, 27

• At The Bascom. Drawing Basics and Beyond. 10am – 12noon or

5:15 – 7:15pm. These classes are as much about learning to see as about making art. For the absolute beginner or as a refresher for skilled artists, discover a new sense of self and spirit enhance your observational skills and develop confidence and awareness. Explore drawing without making a lengthy or expensive commitment. Instructor: Knight Martorell. Levels: I & II. Tuition: \$100 members/\$135 non-members per month.

Tuesday, Feb 21

• The Highlands Dialogue Winter-Spring discussion series presents "The Provenance of Portrait of Adele Bloch-Bauer" (painting). Coordinator: Isabel Allen. At the Hudson Library from 10-11:30 a.m

Thurs.-Sun., Feb. 23-26

• Highlands-Cashiers Players "Cat on a Hot Tin Roof" at PAC. 7:30 p.m. and 2:30 Sunday matinee. Call 526-8084 for tickets.

Saturday, Feb 25

• Police Department Open House and Tour from 11am-2pm.

• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a four-mile moderate hike with elevation change of 800 feet to Rainbow

• See EVENTS page 14

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PULL OUT

Highlands Area Upcoming Events



Don't miss the February Winter Barn Dance at The Bascom. For information, call (828) 526-4949 or visit www.TheBascom.org.

Early Bird discounts continue at The Bascom

Visit The Bascom's website, check out all our offerings for 2012 and take advantage of Early Bird Discounts on adult workshops and classes in ceramics, painting, photography, journaling, drawing, and so much more. By March 31st, sign up for any 2012 adult class or workshop priced over \$100 dollars and receive a 10% discount when you pay in full. This offer is good for classes valued over one hundred dollars based on the membership price. Take advantage of studio art instruction in classrooms equipped with state-of-the-art tools and resources and featuring nationally recognized instructors including Kenn Backhaus, Donna Polseno, Fong Choo and Margaret Dyer.

Upcoming workshops in ceramics, painting, drawing, mixed media and journaling include:

- Ceramics: Beginning and Beyond with Frank Vickery on Tuesdays and Thursdays, February 7 - 16 from 1-3 pm or 5:15-7:15 pm.
- Ceramic Sculpture with Colette Clark on Mondays and Wednesdays, February 13 - 22 from 12 noon-2 pm.
- Discovering the Image with Diane McPhail, February 18 from 10 am-4 pm
- Horse Hair and Fuming Fires with Frank Vickery, February 18-19 from 10 am-4 pm.

- Journaling Mornings with Betty Holt on Saturday, February 4 from 10 am-12 noon.

The Winter Barn Dances celebrate the service of others to the community. Gather with friends and neighbors, enjoy great music with JP Harris and the Tough Choices and relive the memory of a great Highlands' tradition.

Honoring educators on Saturday, February 25th, the fun begins at 7 pm. Tickets are \$5 per person and can be purchased at the door. Admission for honorees is complimentary. Food and libations will be available for purchase. The Bascom's Winter Barn Dances are sponsored by The Bascom, The Highlands Area Chamber of Commerce and Visitor Center, Mountain Fresh Grocery, the Ugly Dog Pub and the Highlands Historical Society.

The Bascom is now open year-round - Monday through Saturday, 10 am to 5 pm and Sunday, 12 noon to 5 pm. Enjoy workshops, exhibitions, special events and quality programs throughout the year at The Bascom. For more information, to register for Bascom workshop offerings or for more details on all Bascom activities, visit www.TheBascom.org or call 828.526.4949.

and Turtleback Falls in Gorges State Park. Meet at the new parking lot near the new Rec Center, just past the Cashiers PO, at 10 am. Drive 16 miles round trip. Bring water and lunch. Call leaders: Mike and Susan Kettles, 828-743-1079, for reservations. Visitors welcome, no pets please.

• Winter Barn Dance at The Bascom celebrating community educators at 7 pm.. Educators get in free. \$5 for others at the door. For more information call 526-2112.

• At The Bascom. Art Cinema. Sit back and enjoy our weekly feature presentation "The Greeks, Part 1" 2 pm.

Sunday, Feb 26

• The Nantahala HPark Creek Trail at Standing Indian, either hiking all the way to Park Gap or using the connector trail to return via the Park Ridge trail, depending on weather. Meet at the NHC Club House at 8:30 a.m. Drive 20 miles round trip. Bring water and lunch. Call leader: Call Chris Shaw at 371-0183 for reservations. Visitors welcome; no pets.

Tuesday, Feb 28

• The Highlands Dialogue Winter-Spring discussion series presents "The Mind of the South by W. J. Cash (book). Coordinator: Peter Ray. At the Hudson Library from 10-11:30 a.m

Mon. - Thurs., March 5, 12, 19, 22

• At The Bascom. Drawing Basics and Beyond. 10am - 12noon or 5:15 - 7:15pm. These classes are as much about learning to see as about making art. For the absolute beginner or as a refresher for skilled artists, discover a new sense of self and spirit enhance your observational skills and develop confidence and awareness. Explore drawing without making a lengthy or expensive commitment. Instructor: Knight Martorell. Levels: I & II. Tuition: \$100 members/\$135 non-members per month

Thurs., March 1

• Taize at 5:30 at the Episcopal Church of the Incarnation.

Fri.-Sun., March 2-4

• Highlands-Cashiers Players "Cat on a Hot Tin Roof" at PAC. 7:30 p.m. and 2:30 Sunday matinee. Call 526-8084 for tickets.

Sat., March 3

• At The Bascom. Art Cinema. Sit back and enjoy our weekly feature presentation "The Greeks, Part 2" 2 pm.

• Journaling Mornings, 10am - 12:30pm. Journaling is more than keeping a daily log; it is an opportunity to take time for yourself. In these short creative writing exercises, you can clarify your goals, release negative feelings, get in touch with your authentic self, track cycles and trends in your life, experiment with creative writing and much more. January's theme will be "Personal goal-setting for a fabulous 2012!" An interest in writing is helpful, but no experience is necessary. Instructor: Betty Holt. Levels: I & II. Tuition: \$35 member/\$70 non-

member per class

Sunday, Mar 4

• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take an easy-to-moderate 3-mile hike with a 600 ft. elevation change on the Camprock Branch Trail at Coweeta Labs, a steep climb for 1/2 a mile then easy contouring the rest of the way. Meet at Smoky Mt. Visitors' Center, Otto at 2 pm. Call leader: Kay Coriell, 369-6820 for reservations. Visitors welcome, no pets.

Tues. & Thurs., March 6, 8, 13, 15

• At The Bascom. Ceramics Beginning and Beyond, 1 - 3 pm or 5:15 - 7:15 pm. Begin your ceramics experience or take it to the next level by disappearing into a quiet, nurturing environment. Instructor: Frank Vickery. Levels: I & II Tuition: \$125 member/\$160 non-member per month.

Wed., March 7, 14, 21, 28

• At The Bascom. Painting Basics and Beyond. 10am - 12noon. Enjoy the painting experience from inspiration, to design, to finished painting. An opportunity to create captivating works of art while learning or expanding your knowledge of the building blocks for application, design and color. Instructor: Robin Swaby Levels: I & II. Tuition: \$100 member/\$135 non-member per month

By Wednesday, March 8

• LOOKING FOR MUSICIANS for First Friday Fest Rock House in Downtown Clayton, May - October from 6-8 p.m. Will pay set night fee plus tips. Auditions Thursday March 8th starting at 6pm at Fromage & Other Fine Foods Please call Jenny to set up a time 706-982-1284 or drop off Demos at Fromage & Other Fine Foods or mail to CMBA, Post Office Box 25, Clayton, GA 30525, or e-mail Demo Link to werk@windstream.net. All demos must be received by March 8. Please include Group Name, Contact Name, Phone Number & E-mail.

Saturday, March 10

• Chili Cook Off at the Community Building 6:30-9:30 p.m. To enter the contest call 526-5841.

• At The Bascom. Discovering the Image, 10am - 4pm. Whether you are a veteran painter or have always wanted to hold a brush in your hand and make a mark on the canvas, this class can benefit you. Diane's approach to painting is one of pure visual discovery from the first mark to the last! These one-day workshops can open your eye to discovering the image as you work, take your past habits and formulas, and set out on a journey of discovering your own way with the image. Instructor: Diane McPhail. Levels: I, II & III. Tuition: \$75 member/\$110 non-member per class

• At The Bascom. Art Cinema. Sit back and enjoy our weekly feature presentation "Craft in America" 2 pm.

• JUST HERS •

Three little words

I used to think that those three little words that all women wanted to hear were "I love you." We have that drummed into our heads from childhood, but at no time more than Valentine's Day.

Does anyone else remember the torture of elementary school, creating those hand-made Valentines, and hoping to receive at least a few in return?

Perhaps some of you had romantic fathers who swept their wives off their feet, at least once a year. I don't remember my father ever buying my mother a greeting card, or a Whitman's sampler, to mark the event.

It didn't get much better in high school. If Valentine's Day fell on a school day, we could be treated to several happy couples, strolling through the halls, looking deeply into each other's eyes. They held hands, and stole kisses behind their locker doors. "Someday," I would sigh, "Someday, someone will look at me like that."

John was capable of romantic gestures, but like many men, resented the idea that there was one day a year when he would be obliged to put on a show of his deepest feelings. "I suppose I have to get you a card," he often grumbled, driving to The Dry Sink in search of the perfect Hallmark gesture. When I suggested a meal might be nice, too, he snorted, but made reservations. Of course, I always had at least two cards for him – one from me, one from the cats. Some years I would even get him three cards – one from the cats, and two from me (a funny one and a romantic one). He'd open the funny one, and laugh. Then he'd open the romantic one, smile quietly, say "aw, shucks," and wrap me up in a big bear hug.

With time, I've come to appreciate other three word combinations. Here are just a few:

• **Read the manual.** How often I remember those words of wisdom from my father, the electrical engineer! Few things have rung so often



Michelle Mead-Armor
michiemead@aol.com

in my head, or seen me in such good stead in life. Daddy's other favorite expressions were: **check the battery** and **carry a screwdriver** (This one was always good for a laugh. I can't remember all the times someone said to me, "Oh, if only I had a screwdriver," and I whipped one out of my handbag, to their general amazement.)

• We lost, folks! I

was born and raised mostly in the South, spending a mere three years out of my first 18 "Up Nawth." Although my roots are recent and shallow, with a Yankee father and French mother, I still consider myself a Southerner. Perhaps this is why it troubles me to still run into people who not only refuse to acknowledge that THE WAR is over, but that for all our gallantry, we did not emerge victorious. When I refer to THE WAR, I am, of course, referring to the Civil War, the War Between the States, the Late Unpleasantness (as my husband's grandmother, Dear Mother, used to call it), or even the War of Northern Aggression. This brings me back to another delicate fact.

• **We fired first.** Fort Sumter? Friday, April 12, 1861? Ring a bell with anyone? You can read about it in text books, even, presumably, the ones printed in Texas.

• **Bless her heart!** Oh, how I love this one! Aunt Lucy has just caught Uncle Henry with the check-out girl from the local Piggly Wiggly, and emptied a round of buckshot into his sorry behind? Well, bless her heart! Cousin Weasie decided to celebrate her 50th birthday by streaking in front of the Town Hall, clad only in her Red Hat and her Reeboks? Well, bless her heart! Mrs. Jameson got her hair dyed that color again even though she hasn't been a natural blonde since Bush was president (the first one, Hon). Well, bless her heart! Of course, the male equivalent, Bless his heart, also exists, but it doesn't usually seem quite as entertaining.

• See JUST HERS page 19

... TOWN BOARD continued from page 1

Alan Marsh.

Commissioner John Dotson said that due to the conversations he's had with numerous citizens who have contacted him – none of whom spoke in favor of the right-turn-only scenario – the issue needed to be looked at again.

Commissioner Gary Drake said that when the board OK'd the lanes, it agreed that it might be a temporary situation easily remedied with a coat of paint.

He said the traffic re-direction arrows only cost the town paint and it would be easily changed back if necessary. In the end, the board agreed to re-think the right-turn-only lanes.

First Presbyterian Church representatives requested ownership of a triangular piece of land at the corner of Church and Fifth streets extending along the sidewalk toward Main Street. The land was abandoned by the town when the Fifth Street laid out by Kelsey and Hutchinson was re-routed to its present configuration. However the land was never legally abandoned.

The First Presbyterian Church is requesting the Town to proceed with the abandonment of the existing right-of-way remnant at the corner of Fifth and Church Street

and to grant title to this property to the church so that it can proceed with the completion of its proposed Memorial Garden Park.

At the one end of the triangle is the Kelsey-Hutchinson Rock and the burial place of the time capsule; the rest of the triangle would be used as a Memorial Garden/Park for cremated remains.

Commissioners were hesitant to abandon another road without further consideration – because they just recently abandoned Church Street Alley.

A 99-year lease was discussed but Pat Moore, spokesman for the plan and the church, said members of the church's congregation may not be comfortable with that scenario considering the remains of their loved ones would be involved.

Both the Town Board and the church agreed to discuss the ramifications of relinquishing the property either by lease or abandonment and to discuss it at a later date.

Police Chief Bill Harrell requested permission to hire a sworn police officer as an administrative assistant – a position re-

• See TOWN BOARD page 19



Winter Barn Dance at The Bascom

February 25

Early Bird Discount

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**... UGLY DOG
continued from page 1**

The primary issue for the Craig's was that despite the former June's Place property having a special use permit, that permit expired after the establishment was closed for a year.

The Zoning board determined that since the Ugly Dog Public House already had a special use permit, and the former June's Place property previously had a permit as well, the real question was whether or not any material changes had taken place within the year of non-use at the June's Place property.

In approving the plans for the combination, the Zoning Board determined that since nothing had changed materially at the former June's Place site, then there was no issue with combining the two properties under one permit.

As board member Steve Chenoweth stated, "Both places either have or have at one time had approved permits, so all we are doing in this situation is simply combining the two permits."

The Craig building plans were the only ones submitted to the Zoning Board on Wednesday, and there were no public comments for or against the motion to approve the Craig permit.

**Roman named
National Merit
Finalist**



Nicholai Coyote Roman, "Cai" of Highlands School has advanced in the National Merit Scholarship process and is now a finalist in the 2012 competition for a National Merit Scholarship.

The selection of some 8,400 Merit Scholarship winners from the group of more than 15,000 Finalists is now in progress. In March scholarship offers will be mailed to winners and their high school principals.

LASIK MYTH # 26

"I've been told I am not a candidate for LASIK because I have Astigmatism..."

Far too often, people are given misinformation about LASIK. To view short videos of Dr. Blue explaining why, despite what you may have been told, it's very likely that you ARE a candidate for LASIK, please visit www.bluelasergroup.com/myths



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• SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING •

Unchecked love for humankind is center of Christ's message



Rev. Lee Bowman
First Presbyterian Church

When the apostle Paul said he wanted to be all things to all people (1 Corinthians 9), he was not abandoning his moral principles. He used that comparison to talk about putting the gospel message of God's unchecked love for humankind so much at the center of our lives that our petty differences and divisions cease to have importance. It's an intriguing notion in the midst of such fiery election rhetoric. I am reminded of a paraphrase of Zig Ziglar: "People don't care how much you know, or even who you know, until they know how much you care—about them."

The life of one of my favorite authors illustrates the truth of Ziglar's wisdom. Henri Nouwen was a Roman Catholic priest who died several years ago. He was also a scholar who was particularly noted for his work on the spiritual life. Henri taught theology at Notre Dame, Yale and Harvard. He was at the top of his career, greatly respected and sought after as a speaker and workshop leader. But in his early 50s, Henri moved from the comforts of a rewarding career in academia to the L'Arche Daybreak Community in Toronto—a center for mentally challenged adults.

Now bear in mind—Nouwen was a man who made his way in the world with his brain. He knew the fine points of theology—how to argue them and how to teach them. He was a prolific writer. He enjoyed a certain fame that came from being an expert in the field of spirituality. And yet he gave it all up to live in a community where no one knew he was famous. They couldn't even read his books. But he was propelled to make this change because of the profound pain inside him—a pain that resulted from the disconnect between his career and his vocation, the place God was calling him to be. As he put it, the question is *not*, "How many people take you seriously? How much are you go-

•See SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING page 18

John 3:16

• PLACES TO WORSHIP •

Proverbs 3:5

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

Sundays: 10 a.m. – Worship

Holy Communion 1st Sunday of the month

Wednesdays: 9 a.m. Healing and Prayer w/Holy Communion

CHRIST ANGLICAN CHURCH

Rector: Jim Murphy, 252-671-4011

Worshipping at the facilities of Whiteside Presbyterian Church, Cashiers

Sun.: Holy Communion - 9 a.m.; Adult Forum - 10:45 at Buck's Coffee Cafe, Cashiers

Mon.: Bible Study & Supper at homes - 6 p.m.

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

Thurs.: Women's Prayer Group - 10 a.m., Whiteside Presbyterian Church; Healing Service at noon

CLEAR CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Jim Kinard

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

Wednesdays – 7 p.m.

COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH

www.cbchighlands.com • 526-4685

3645 Cashiers Rd, Highlands, NC

Senior Pastor Gary Hewins

Sun.: 9:30 am: Adult Sunday School

10:30 am: Middle School; 10:45 am: Children's Program, . Worship

Service. 12:30 pm Student Arts Group, 5 p.m. HS

Wed.: 6pm: CBC University Program

EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE INCARNATION

526-2968 • Reverend Bruce Walker

Sunday: Education for children & adults and choir rehearsal beginning at 9:00am. Holy Eucharist Rite II Service held at 10:30am in the Main Nave of the Church.

Monday: 4 p.m. Women's Cursillo Group

Tuesday: 8 a.m. Men's Cursillo Group; Bible Study 10:30 a.m.

Reverend Howard L'Enfant

Thursday: 10 a.m. Holy Eucharist (Chapel)

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Dr. Charles Harris, Pastor • 526--4153

Sun.: Worship 10:45 a.m.; School – 9:30 a.m.; Evening Worship 6:30

Wed.: Men's Bible Study 8:30 a.m.,

Prayer Meeting – 6:15 p.m., Choir – 7:15-8:15 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

Mondays: 8 a.m. – Men's Prayer Group & Breakfast

Wednesdays – Choir – 7

GOLDMINE BAPTIST CHURCH

(Off Franklin/Highlands Rd)

Rev. Carson Gibson

Sunday School – 10 am, Worship Service – 11 am

Bible Study – 6 pm

HIGHLANDS ASSEMBLY OF GOD

Randy Reed, Pastor

828-421-9172 • 165 S. Sixth Street

Sundays: Worship – 11

HIGHLANDS CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Dan Robinson

670 N. Fourth Street (next to the Highlands Civic Center)

Sunday: School 9:30 a.m.; Morning Worship 10:45 a.m., Evening Worship, 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday: Prayer Service, 6:30 p.m.

HIGHLANDS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Pastor Paul Christy 526-3376

Sun: School 9:45 a.; Worship 10:50 a.; Youth Group 5:30 p.

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

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Pastor Roy Lowe, (828) 526-8425

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

Choir – 6 p.m.

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

MOUNTAIN SYNAGOGUE

St. Cyprian's Episcopal Church, Franklin

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MOUNTAIN BIBLE CHURCH

Pastor: Clayton Lopez • 828-743-9704

Independent Bible Church

Sundays: 10:30 a.m. at Big Ridge Baptist Church, 4224 Big Ridge Road (4.5 miles from NC 107)

Weds: Bible Study 6:30 p.m.; Youth Group 6 p.m.

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Rev. Dean Cesa, pastor – Parish office: 526-2418

Mass: – Sun: 11 a.m.; Sat: 4 p.m.; Thurs & Fri.: 9 a.

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 • 526-3212

Sundays: School – 10 a.m.; Worship – 10:45 a.m.; Worship – 6 p.m.

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

SHORTOFF BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Rev. Andy Cloer.

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

Wednesdays: Prayer & Bible Study – 7

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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 8th - 12th grades meet the 2nd Sundays 5 - 7:30 p.m

WHITESIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Cashiers, Rev. Sam Forrester, 743-2122

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

... SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING continued from page 17

ing to accomplish? Can you show some results? But: Are you in love with Jesus? Do you know the incarnate God? Because in our world of loneliness and despair, there is an enormous need for men and women who know the heart of God, a heart that forgives, that cares, that reaches out and wants to heal."

Henri's call to healing was a call to move beyond talking about God's love to becoming a vehicle for it instead. When he arrived at the Daybreak community he found that community life demanded that he take responsibility for things he had never thought about before. "Who do I give my laundry to?" he asked upon arriving. He soon found out the answer to that question, but despite a lesson or two about washing machine technology, his clothes started to shrink, change color and rip apart in awkward places. Even

washing dishes was novel to Henri, not just because he was clumsy but also because he was prone to get completely absorbed in conversations. Once when it was his turn to put dishes away, he was engaged in a particularly dense conversation with friends. After about fifteen minutes, the dish washer was wondering why so many utensils had been used in the preparation of such a simple meal. It turns out that Nouwen, like a man under hypnosis, had simply been putting the clean dishes back into the dirty dishwasher. He was like a fish flapping on dry land in his new surroundings.

At Daybreak Henri was assigned to care for a 25-year-old man named Adam Arnett, a man who could not speak or move without assistance and who had frequent seizures. In many ways this was a star-crossed friendship for a man who

was used to talking about theology with students and academic colleagues. But the challenges were equally mounted on Adam's side.

One day when Henri tried to rush Adam's morning routine, he found out that Adam *could* communicate. As Henri described it, "He let me know I wasn't being really present to him and was more concerned about my schedule than his. A few times when I was so pushy he responded by having a *grand malseizure*, and I realized that it was his way of saying, 'Slow down, Henri! Slow down.'" Henri would later reflect that Adam was his truest healer and teacher. He believed that Adam, like Jesus, had been sent into the world to fulfill a unique mission not in action but in passion, the suffering that leads us into the heart of God. He lived every moment waiting for others to act on his behalf, but all the action around

him did not diminish his passion which, to Nouwen, became a profound prophetic witness, challenging people to believe that compassion and not competition was the way to fulfill a human vocation.

This was the suffering love that cracked Henri's heart wide open. It mirrored the suffering love of the cross that Paul longed to know and faithfully proclaim. And it is the same suffering love that lures us from all the distractions of our lives and the differences that divide us, turning us toward one another and the God who created us for gratitude and love. Let it be said of our community that we are learning to love people we might not even ordinarily like. Let it be said that we are moving beyond talking about God's love and becoming vehicles for it instead.

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• POLICE & FIRE •

Highlands PD log entries from Feb. 6. Only the names of persons arrested, issued a Class-3 misdemeanor, or public officials have been used.

Feb. 6

- At 5 p.m., the breaking and entering of a vehicle parked on N. 4th Street was reported. About \$665 in money and cash was stolen as well as debit and credit cards and Wells Fargo checks. Later, the debit cards were reportedly used in Hendersonville.

- At 3 p.m., officers received a call about an intoxicated driver turning onto Mirror Lake Road from US 64 west. They weren't able to locate the vehicle.

- At 7:30 a.m., officers were alerted to two cars driving into Highlands erratically on US 64 west. One was a Honda and one was a BMW. The drivers were later located in town and told to drive safely in the future.

Feb. 10

- At 8:42 a.m., officers received a call about an aggressive German Shepherd dog in the vicinity of Carolina Way and Mountain Brook Suites who wouldn't let people get out of their cars or go into their businesses. The dog also confronted police. It belonged to a patron at the Suites, who was told to control his dog or risk it being shot. He was also told to keep the dog on a leash.

- At 5 p.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident on US 64 east.

- At 7:55 p.m., officers on patrol found an open door at the Community Building. It was secured.

Feb. 11

- At 8:15 a.m., officers responded to a one-vehicle accident on US 64 east.

- At 5:05 p.m., officers responded to a 9-1-1 hangup from a building on S. 4th Street. No one was there.

- During the week, police officers responded to

2 alarm and issued 5 citations.

Highlands F&R Dept. log entries from Feb. 7

Feb. 7

- At 9:15 a.m., the dept. responded to an illegal burning call at a residence on US 64 west. The fire was extinguished.

- At 9:38 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Mountain Ash Lane. The victim was taken to the hospital.

Feb. 8

- At 8:39 p.m., the dept. was called to a residence on Laurel Street concerning a problem with a kerosene heater. The call was canceled upon arrival.

Feb. 10

- At 5:04 p.m., the dept. assisted with traffic control at the site of a vehicle accident on N. 4th Street.

Feb. 11

- At 12:20 p.m., the dept. provided mutual aid to Scaly to assist with a chimney fire.

Feb. 12

- At 4:33 a.m., the dept. was called about a chimney fire on Blue Valley Road. It was out upon arrival.

Feb. 13

- A little after midnight, the dept. responded to an alarm at a residence on Falls Drive West. A sprinkler head had blown out.

- At 7:41 a.m., the dept. responded to a CO² alarm at a residence on West Black Rock Circle. It was due to a faulty furnace.

- At 10:12 a.m., the dept. responded to a chimney fire at a residence on Forrest Lane. It was extinguished.

- At 1:14 p.m., the dept. responded to an alarm at a residence on Stream Side Lane. It was set off by workers.

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... JUST HERS continued from page 15

The next set of expressions is more mundane, but takes on gathering importance as the years scurry by.

• **Guaranteed machine washable.** Anyone who grew up washing delicacies in the sink with Woolite appreciates the joys of machine washing. And, anyone who has ever had to pay a bill for dry cleaning rejoices in seeing these three little words on the inside tag of their clothing. To the same extent, **Dry clean only**, strikes fear into my heart and my pocketbook.

• **Guaranteed tumble dry.** Ah, the sight of one's laundry tumbling gently in the dryer, ready to be whisked away to a hanger or into a drawer. Yes, I know that there are people out there who actually enjoy ironing, but then there's also a TV show featuring people who eat moth balls and drink nail polish.

• **Dishwasher/micro-wave safe.** Forget Granny's antique tea service. If you're entertaining, whatever you serve your food on had better be happy being loaded into the dishwasher. In the mid-1960s, a member of my mother's book club inquired as to whether my mother had purchased a dishwasher yet. Maman smiled an inscrutable smile, and replied, "I have a dishwasher. It is my daughter Michelle."

And finally, my trio of insults: **Get over yourself! /Not bloody likely! / Ah, non, mais!**

As creative as one can be, it's still nice to have a quiverful of tried and true zingers on hand for every occasion. Other people may use the old "No way, José" or even "Fuhgettaboutit," but my top three retorts (one American/one British/one French) have seen me in good stay thus far.

I like to think that I'm a fairly tolerant person, but even I have my limits. Spare me another cocktail party where some simpering Scarlett O'Hara bats her eyelashes, and sighs deeply about "how things jus' haven't been the same since Great Granddaddy lost the plantation during "The Wah." This is even more puzzling because you know her maiden name is Yablonski, and the Great Granddaddy in question was a Polish coal miner from Pennsylvania.

And please, not one more mother of four who pretends that she doesn't know where babies come from, thinking we'll all assume this means she's "delicate" and "sensitive," when she's just pretentious.

Sometimes all it takes is three little words. They can be "I love you," "You are beautiful," or "Oh, you kid!" What ever makes your heart sing, I hope you have some to say these precious words to you. And, if not, I hope you say them to your mirror. Oh, and not just on Valentine's Day, either. **Every single day.**

• Michelle is a writer and translator who moved to Highlands after years of living in Baltimore, Sydney, Paris and New York. She lives in town with her two very spoiled cats, Orion and Weasel. Michelle was lucky to be married to a man who told her she was smart and beautiful. Whether he really meant it, or was just after her recipe for meatloaf, remains a mystery.


... BACK DAYS from page 6

town of Highlands was born - 1875 - though its name at the time was Kelsey's Plateau, and moved there shortly after.

Since they were one of the first three families in Highlands, they watched the town grow from a small settlement to one of the South's leading resort centers. He used to say, in the summer we lived off tourists and in the winter we lived off taters.

In 16 years, they had 8 children and their oldest, Al, who was born Nov. 18, 1876, was the first native son of the village. The rest were Montie Louise, born Aug. 18, 1878, Carrie Edna, born May 5, 1861, Charles Frederick, born Nov. 14, 1885, Helen Lee, born Jan. 9, 1887, Eula Belle, born Jan. 9, 1887, William Wendell, born March 17, 1890 and Thomas Gribble, born Aug. 9, 1892.

....To be continued.



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... TOWN BOARD continued from page 15

cently vacated - instead of a standard assistant on the grounds that the position wouldn't cost that much more, that the money is already in the police department budget and a sworn officer could better handle situations and questions concerning police matters and procedures.

However, when a vehicle, gas and maintenance is factored in, commissioners said it would cost more to fill the position with a sworn police officer than a civilian and so they ruled against it.

At the request of Commissioner John Dotson made at a previous meeting, the Thanksgiving and Christmas holiday trash pickup schedule was changed.

So this year, with Thanksgiving Day on Thursday, Nov. 22, 2012 the Thanksgiving Day trash pickup will occur on Friday, Nov. 23, along with the regular Friday route.

With Christmas Day on Tuesday, Dec. 25, 2012, the Christmas Day trash pickup will occur on Wednesday, Dec. 26, 2012.

This will keep holiday trash from piling up over the period of a week.

At Mayor David Wilkes' request, the town will send a letter to NC DOT asking that proper signage be erected at Main Street and NC 106, directing tractor trailers not to proceed down US 64 west toward Franklin - to instead take NC 106.

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A full job description and applications are available at the Town Office or on-line at the Town's website: www.highlandsc.org. Application deadline is Friday, February 24, 2012.

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... **WHAT YOU GET** from page 11

SIZE: 2,697 square feet
PRICE PER SQUARE FOOT: \$367.07

SETTING: This condo is within a few blocks of the Sixth Street Historic District, which is lined with bars, restaurants and music halls, many dating to the turn of the last century. It is also near the walking and biking trails along the Colorado River. Fourth Street — another commercial corridor — is around the corner.

INSIDE: This unit is one of 42 in a 1920s Chevrolet plant converted to condos in 1999. It retains the original oak floors, exposed brick walls and 16-foot-wood-beam ceilings. Initially, it had been two L-shaped units that the current owner purchased in 1999 and combined into one large U-shaped unit.

During renovations, she added 12-foot pillars, Chinese window frames and bamboo screens to imply partitions between interior spaces. The living-and-dining room has a wall of windows looking out toward the high rises and office towers of downtown Austin. The master suite, in the arm off the living-and-dining room, has a sitting area. The other bedroom — across the unit in the other arm — is being used as an office and has a separate entrance.

The unit conveys with two storage spaces and two garage parking spots.

OUTDOOR SPACE: None

TAXES: \$12,046.45 plus \$547 a month in condo fees

CONTACT: Rose Castro, Exit Options Realty; (512) 656-3281;

Exit

Sediment & Erosion Control training at Cashiers Library in March

The Jackson-Macon Conservation Alliance is teaming up with the NC State University's Soil Science Dept. and local sponsors including the Jackson County Planning and Parks and Recreation Department and the Albert Carlton Cashiers Community Library on March 15 to bring technical erosion control training to our local community.

This is an unique opportunity, because most training opportunities like this, happen "off the mountain" and require local business owners to travel a to get current information based on scientific research. It is also a chance to meet with technical experts in the field, who can answer questions and provide a hands-on opportunity.

The field component will allow participants to actually practice proper installation of best practices including silt fences, drop inlets, baffles, wattles and ground cover. The classroom presentation and field component

will be instructed by representatives from the NCSU's Soil Science Department.

Everyone in Highlands and Cashiers who actually installs, inspects or designs these types of erosion control measures are encouraged to attend. Proper installation of these best management practices is key to reducing sediment from leaving the disturbed area. This minimizes violations and maximizes the protection of off-site property and surface water quality.

We are also seeking donations from local businesses to provide materials for this training event, such as wattles, ground cover, silt fence, staples and more. If you are interested in co-sponsoring this event by donating materials for our field training please contact J-MCA.

Space is limited, pre-register is required for this event. To register before March 12th call J-MCA at 828-526-0890 x320 or annav@j-mca.org.

• BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NEWS •



Students in the music class with Angie Jenkins at the piano and teachers Sarah Bates, Lisa Mace, Keri Raby, and Mary Jo Tallent.

The benefits of Bel Canto funding

One of the beneficiaries of the funds raised by the annual Bel Canto Recital is Highlands Community Child Development Center. In 2009 Bel Canto began funding a music program at HCCDC headed by Angie Jenkins. The first year \$3,500 was donated and each year since Bel Canto has donated \$4,000. Angie has two, 30-minute music classes a week with approximately 30-35 children in attendance, ranging in age from 2½- to 5-years-old.

The program began with only the older children participating in music class. After awhile, the teachers began bringing the younger children to join us for one class each week. They enjoyed singing so much that they have been joining us for both weekly classes.

Angie has collected approximately 200 songs throughout her 28-year-career of teaching preschool music classes. Included are songs about the weather, the different seasons, animal songs, number songs, alphabet songs, songs about manners, patriotic songs, nursery rhyme songs, etc. She just composed a new song to help the children learn the months of the year, in which they recite all 12 months of the year. She also has a "days of the week" song well as songs about buckling your seatbelt, washing your hands often, brushing teeth twice a day, and covering your mouth when you cough and sneeze!

To teach the children these songs, she uses the "echo" method whereas she recites a short phrase, and then asks the children to mimic what she just said. "They learn very quickly, and are always excited about learning new songs. Many of the songs have cute hand motions which I also teach the children," said Angie.

She also teaches them basics about music such as recognizing high notes as opposed to low notes,

terms such as treble and bass, the difference between a solo, duet, trio, quartet, and chorus.

The children perform in two programs for parents and grandparents each year. These programs take place on the evening of the annual Thanksgiving dinner in November, and also in July at their graduation ceremony.

Each month a guest musician is invited to demonstrate a musical instrument. For the xylophone demonstration, the children walked to Highlands School and got to have hands-on experience playing approximately 20 of these instruments which were purchased with funds from Bel Canto for the Highlands School music program. They also get to have hands-on experience with other instruments being demonstrated when possible.



Les Scott of the Highlands United Methodist Church demonstrating the dulcimer at the Highlands Community Child Development Center.

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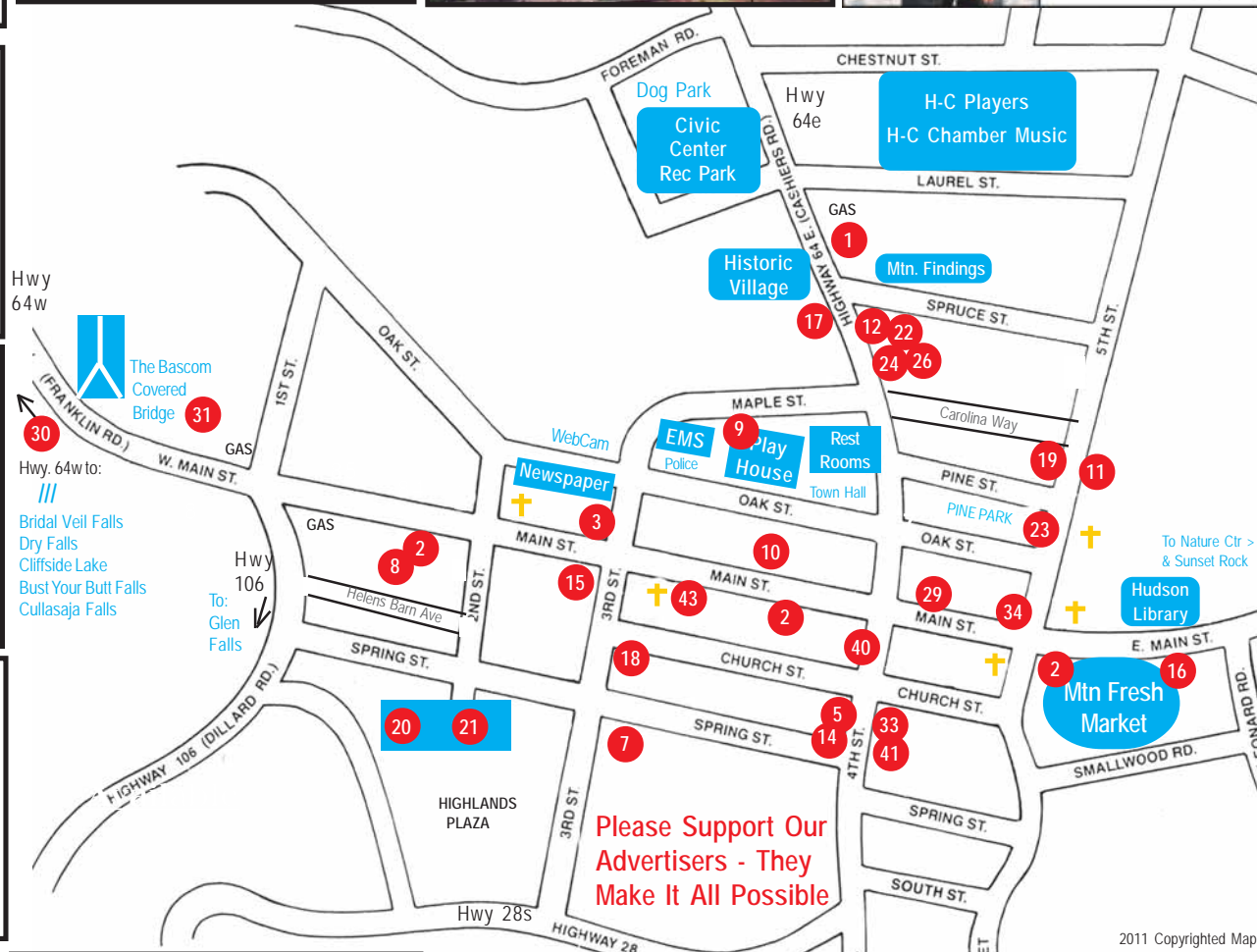
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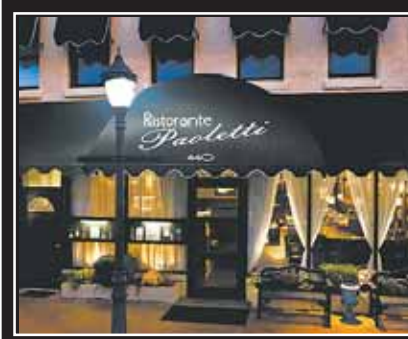
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