

Highlands Newspaper

FREE every Thursday

Volume 10, Number 30

Internet PDF Version at www.HighlandsNewspaperPDF.com

Thursday, July 26, 2012

Thurs, July 26-Sun., Aug. 19

• At The Highlands Playhouse, Dames at Sea. Call 828-526-2695 for tickets

Thurs.-Sun., July 26-29

• Live music at Altitudes at Skyline Lodge. Call for performers and hours. 526-2121.

Thursday, July 26

• Zahner Lecture at the Nature Center at 7 p.m. Woolly adelgid and dead hemlocks. Free

Friday, July 27

• HCCMF: "The Eroica Trio - Solo" at PAC at 6p. \$30, students \$15. 526-9060.

Saturday, July 28

• Tour of Homes fundraiser for Methodist church. \$25. Call 200-0261.

• Tour the Fisher's Sagee Manor to benefit the Episcopal church. For reservations call 526-2968. \$30.

• Relay for Life: An Evening with the Johnny Webb Band. 5:30-8:30pm at the Rec Park. \$10 donation.

• Audubon's Bird Walk. Meet in the Town Hall parking lot at 7:30 am.

• At The Bascom, Woodturning from 10a-4p.

Sat. & Sun, July 28-29

• Open House - 292 Upper Brushy Face Road. Luxury Home Sale. 12-4p.

• Open House - Sat., 10a to 4p, Sun., 1-4p. 35 Ravenel Lake Road.

Sunday, July 29

• R.E.A.C.H. Gala. Cocktails, live auction at 6 p.m. \$75. For reservations, call 828-369-5544.

• At First Baptist, a reception for Associate Pastor Jeremy Dooley at 6:30 p.m.

• HCCMF: "The Eroica Trio-A La Carte" at PAC at 5p \$30, \$15. 828-526-9060.

• Playhouse fundraiser concert at 5:30 p.m. at the Playhouse with daMon Goff. Cost is "Pay What You Can."

Monday, July 30

• At H-C Hospital, Memory Loss, Dementia and Alzheimer's. The Basic. 10a to noon. RSVP to 526-1498.

Wed., August 1

• A free Interlude concert at 2 pm. Robert Henry, piano at the Episcopal Church.

Drake blasts newspaper at TB meeting

For 10 minutes of the Thursday, July 19 Town Board meeting, Commissioner Gary Drake lambasted Highlands Newspaper for its official inquiry into and coverage of the legality of two elected officials meeting on a regular basis at Town Hall.

sis at Town Hall.

To see the article to which Commissioner Drake referred "2-member meetings allowed by law," see the July 19 edition at www.highlandsnewspaperPDF.com.

To read part of what he read

into the record Thursday night, see his letter-to-the-editor in this week's paper. The rest will be available to citizens once the minutes are made public which include many verbal interjections.

• See DRAKE page 3

Test scores up in MC schools

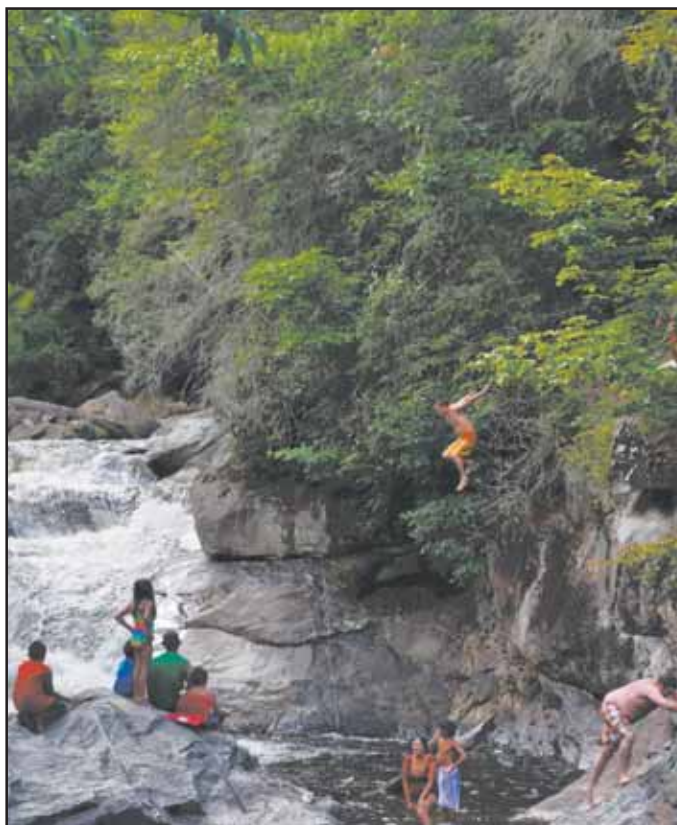
County-wide End-of-Grade and End-of-Course test scores for 2011-'12 show math, reading, biology and English proficiency up in Macon County Schools - something administrators attribute to the Lindamood-Bell reading program, the non-traditional calendar and the intercessions for remediation and enrichment held this past school year.

At the Monday, June 25 Board of Education meeting, administrators reported that teachers said on an individual level, many students who never passed End-of-Grade (EOG) tests which are required by No Child Left Behind for grades 3-8, passed the first time by earning a 3 or 4 which is the required mark on a 1-4 scale.

MC Schools Director of Testing and Accountability Pat Davis said scores for the EOG tests for elementary and middle school students and End-of-Course (EOC) tests for high school students aren't official until the state releases

• See TEST SCORES page 6

Summer fun at Bust Your Butt falls



Visitors enjoy nature's good, clean, cool fun at Bust Your Butt Falls on US 64 west between Highlands and Franklin. Highlands Fire & Rescue chief James Manley reminds all that this isn't an amusement park and special care should be taken while enjoying what nature has to offer. Photo by Jim Lewicki

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Highlands rolls with outage

Some made lemonade out of lemons; others didn't fare as well when around 5:30 p.m., Thursday, July 19, the lights went out in Highlands.

Time was when a squirrel on a power line or inclement weather caused the power to go out in Highlands rather frequently in one quadrant or another, but those days are long gone. So when the entire power grid went down it really was puzzling.

On his way into Thursday's 7 p.m. Town Board meeting at the Rec Park, Public Service Administrator Lamar Nix said he was still trying to get the full story.

Later everyone learned that though there was no telling weather in Highlands at the time, according to Fred Alexander, Duke Energy's district manager for government and community relations, a lightning strike destroyed two insulators at the substation outside the Thorpe Powerhouse off Hwy 107 in Jackson County. Since everyone gets their power from Duke, everyone was affected.

For a little over three hours, grocers, restaurateurs and citizens grappled with no power in

• See OUTAGE page 14

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• THE PLATEAU'S POSITION •

• LETTERS •

Religious beliefs should be tolerated

Dear Editor,

In his article, "The Spirit of Molech Lives with Us," Pastor Sam Forrester makes the allegation that burning to death a living, breathing human infant as a sacrifice to the pagan god Molech is the exact same thing as terminating the growth of a developing fetus. That comparison is a real stretch and hinges heavily on the belief of certain religious groups that human life begins at the moment an egg is fertilized - not proven legally, medically or theologically.

A few interesting points which we discuss in our book "Choice Matters." A fertilized egg does not implant in the uterus and become "a pregnancy" for 7 to 10 days with 50%-70% of these fertilized eggs never implanting. In the Old Testament they didn't even know that there was an egg - it was erroneously believed that a man planted his seed and if it didn't grow, it was the women's fault.

Breath seems to be a better determinant of human life than a fertilized egg. The Bible has many passages which refer to breath meaning life. We say in our book, "We became living human beings when we took our first breath and we will cease to be living after we take our last breath."

In our country religious beliefs should be tolerated and respected, but not imposed on others whose beliefs are different.

Paul and Barbara Gerhardt
Sapphire, NC

Highlands Newspaper questions my integrity

Dear Mr. Mayor, commissioners and ladies and gentlemen of Highlands,

I've prepared this letter so that it may be part of the public record at this meeting, Thursday, July 19, 2012. I am reading

• HAWK'S EYE VIEW •



this to you instead of speaking from memory to get all the facts correctly stated and also to control my anger issue.

I recently received an email that basically accused the mayor, another commissioner, the town manager and me of inappropriate behavior at Town Hall. In my 68 years, my integrity has never been questioned and I won't allow it now.

The email was sent by Kim Lewicki, owner and editor of the Highlands Newspaper, to Town Attorney, Bill Coward, me and others. Kim questioned the legality of the mayor, the town manager and two commissioners meeting at Town Hall on a regular basis in the mornings.

I take my job as Highlands commissioner very seriously and make it my mission to stay abreast of all town business, its employees and citizens' concerns. My morning visits to Town Hall are made because I owe it to the people who elected me. I was NOT elected to simply show up once or twice a month at a meeting and pretend to be aware of the complexities of safeguarding our town, our homes, and our citizens. Showing up for one or two meetings a month isn't enough to have a real pulse on our community and I don't know of a job anywhere that can be done effectively with limited knowledge. It is my duty to come to the meetings well informed and ready to make the necessary decisions required with little or no delays for our citizens. Also, I am a member and serve on other Macon County government boards and I feel it is incumbent upon me to relay the information I have received at these meetings to the town of Highlands and it is usually in these morning meetings.

In recent days there have also been accusatory letters-to-the-editor about the

• See LETTERS page 17

Highlands Newspaper

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• OBITUARY •

David Ricky Webb,

David Ricky Webb, age 55, of Highlands, NC, died Saturday, July 21, 2012 at a Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. He was born in Macon County, the son of Doris Gibson Webb of Highlands and the late Richard Webb. He was of the Baptist faith. He was a lineman for the Town of Highlands. He was a very loving son, husband, father, grandfather and brother. His nieces and nephews loved him very much.

In addition to his mother, he is survived by his wife of 12 years, June Wallace Webb; three daughters, Teri Wallace of Fountain Inn, SC, Amanda Webb of Alto, GA and Debbra Gilbreath of Dade City, FL; one son, Shane Webb of Spartanburg, SC; four grandchildren; one sis-

ter, June Webb of Highlands, NC; three brothers, Freddie Webb of Highlands, NC, Johnny Webb of Franklin, NC and Randy Webb of Hollywood, Maryland. He was preceded in death by two brothers, James Webb and Bill Webb. A memorial service was held Sunday, July 22 at 2 PM at Horse Cove Cemetery with Rev. Randy Reed officiating.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to The Liver Transplant Program, 400 Parnassus Ave. Sixth floor, San Francisco, CA 94143 or Four Seasons Hospice, 571 South Allen Road, Flat Rock, NC 28731. Bryant-Grant Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Online condolences may be made by visiting www.bryantgrantfuneralhome.com



... DRAKE continued from page 1

The article in the Thursday, July 19 edition didn't mention any names or accuse any public official of wrongdoing – rather it set the record straight concerning the legality of meetings between two elected officials, as per Frayda Bluestein of the UNC-Chapel Hill School of Government.

Bluestein verified what Town Attorney Bill Coward has always said over the years – that such meetings are legal.

Commissioner Drake also suggested that Highlands Newspaper had no business querying Town Attorney Bill Coward. "Who pays your salary, Bill? Kim or us?" Coward replied, "You do."

However, it is the taxpayers of Highlands who pay Attorney Coward's salary.

The purpose of the article was to set the public's mind at ease as to the legality of two-member meetings and to assure the public that Highlands Newspaper is a watchdog of government.

In other Town Board news commissioners heard a report about Highlands Playhouse repairs and discussed an interim 18-month lease with the Playhouse.

In recent months, the town has replaced the roof on the building, addressed flooring of the auditorium, removed a de-

funct 5-ton A/C system from the roof and replaced it with two 5-ton units installed in the crawlspace and a 3-ton unit for control areas and the box office; wiring has been substantially upgraded to OSHA standards and ADA requirements addressed.

Still more is needed.

At Thursday's meeting, MIS/GIS Di-

• See DRAKE page 6

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• LAUGHING AT LIFE •

Tom and Gerry

One of my favorite stories is about a couple named Tom and Gerry, short for Thomas and Geraldine. After being happily married for over 60 years, Tom became terminally ill. On his death bed, Tom gazed into Gerry's eyes, held her hand and said, "If there is any way I can reach you from the other side, I will. Listen for any sign that could be me trying to communicate with you."

In tears, Gerry said, "Yes, Tom, I will."

I'll miss you so much. Please, if you can reach me, I'll listen and be there for you as I have been for all these years."

Well, shortly after making this vow, Tom croaked and Gerry was heartbroken. A week passed and then one night, in the dead of sleep, Gerry heard her name whispered in her ear. She bolted up in her bed and stared into the pitch black bedroom. Then she heard it again, a soft whisper in her ear. It was Tom's voice. "Gerry, can you hear me?"

"Yes, Tom, I can hear you. How is it on



with Fred Wooldridge
Feedback is encouraged!
askfredanything@aol.com

the other side? Are you happy? Tell me everything," Gerry asked.

Tom whispered, "Yes, Gerry, I'm very happy. I waken each day and the first thing I do is have sex, then I eat and have sex again. Then I nap. When I wake, I have sex again, take another nap and eat again followed by more sex. My new life is all about sex, eating and napping. Yes, Gerry, I'm extremely happy."

Elated, Gerry responded, "Oh, Tom, I'm happy for you although I'm a little envi-

ous about you having all that sex. You must admit, that never happened when you were alive and married to me. What a wonderful gift you received from God."

Tom responded, "God? ... you think I'm in heaven? I'm a friggin rabbit in Kansas."

I think it's a fun story because if you're a person who refuses to believe there is an afterlife with the Lord, but on the other hand, being an atheist is waaaaay too frightening for you, then there is always reincarnation. I suggest you read Many Lives, Many Masters by Dr. Brian Weiss, a devote atheist. It's a fun read but don't take him too seriously. Remember, most every-

• See WOOLDRIDGE page 11

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• THE VIEW FROM HERE •

As a Christian do you include or exclude?

Jon Meacham, Pulitzer Prize winning author and editor at Time Magazine, recently penned an article entitled "God and Gays." Meacham, an Episcopalian, mused on the decision of some dioceses to bless same-sex unions. Like all members of the church he also gave some thought to the dwindling numbers of people attending services.

To further his point, he discusses the dangers of taking the bible literally. As he so eloquently states, "If we all took all scripture at the same level of authority, then we would be more open to slavery, to the subjugation of women, to wider use of stoning. Jesus himself spoke out frequently against divorce in the strongest of terms. Yet we have — often gradually — chosen to read and interpret the Bible in light not of tradition but of reason and history."



Dr. Henry Salzarulo

Feedback is encouraged.

email:

hsalzarulo@aol.com

His conclusion is that the Episcopal Church has made a sensible decision, in allowing dioceses to decide where they stand on this matter. Uncertain as to how this will affect membership, he nonetheless stands on the side of inclusion.

He mentions how Christianity is a religion that, at its best, reaches out and embraces our similarities and our differences. And if that causes diminishing numbers, so be it.

I applaud Meacham's point of view. I believe it is our responsibility to adhere to the tenants set forth in the gospels despite the outcome. We must be inclusive when we are tempted to be exclusive. We must embrace our differences when we would rather be lulled into the comforts of homogeneity.

• See SALZARULO page 16



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... TESTING continued from page 1

es the scores so they could change a bit both up or down, but overall results are promising.

Highlands high school students scored the highest percentages in the county for EOC tests in Algebra I, Biology and English I – 90.9, 100 and 100, respectively. However, compared to last year's scores, Highlands was down 9.1 percentage points in Algebra I, but still beat the county's overall score in Algebra I by 10.60 percentage points.

In Biology, Highlands high school students scored 100, up from last year's 96.2; the county's overall score was 80.8.

In English I, Highlands high school students scored 100 for the second year in a row; the county score was 90%

Highlands students grades 3-8 bested county overall scores in

reading and in math EOC tests in grades 5th-8th but fell short in 3rd and 4th grade math.

The county's 3rd grade scores in math were 83.4; Highlands was 81.8; the county's 4th grade percentages were 88.2; Highlands was 84.2.

The 2001 No Child Left Behind mandate that required the annual testing of students in English and math and mandated federal sanctions based on those scores has been tweaked by the Obama administration.

Due to broad dissatisfaction with the law, the federal Education Department is allowing states that implement pieces of the Obama administration's education platform to work around NCLB's broadest provisions.

Specifically, states are granted conditional waivers from

NCLB if the Department of Education accepts their proposal to raise standards, tie teacher evaluations to test scores and create new accountability systems that reward or punish schools based on performance. Macon County is currently outlining those requirements for submission.

The federal government approved the first group of NCLB-free states in February. The newest states to emerge from under NCLB will be Connecticut, Delaware, Louisiana, Maryland, New York, North Carolina, Ohio and Rhode Island, making for a total of 19 states that are no longer bound by the law. Seventeen other states and Washington, D.C., also applied in the second round, but their plans have not yet been accepted.

NCLB expired in 2007, and both Republicans and Democrats agree on the need to revamp the law, due largely to widespread concerns about the effect of standardized testing, which is said to encourage educators to teach to the middle and lower academic standards

Most of what the Obama administration has done is to try to give states more flexibility.

The next Board of Education meeting is Monday, July 25 at the administration office in Franklin at 6 p.m.

– Kim Lewicki

... DRAKE from page 1

rector Matt Shuler outlined both minor and major items that need to be addressed sooner, rather than later.

The ceiling joist needs repair estimated to cost \$1,340; an ADA sidewalk to street level is needed for egress estimated to cost \$50,145; and two rotten exterior doors need to be replaced, one on the Oak Street side and one on the Maple Street side -- one of which is causing rot under the stage, estimated to cost about \$4,000.

The status of the Playhouse repairs report is the first step in

• See DRAKE page 15

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• COACH'S CORNER •

Thoughts on the 1000th WWE Raw

Much to my wife's chagrin, Monday night was spent in front of the television taking in the special three hour edition of Monday Night Raw. Monday Night Raw is the flagship show for World Wrestling Entertainment, (or as my wife calls it "men prancing around in man panties") and has been on the air since 1993. Obviously there was quite a bit of nostalgia involved, as I can recall "going to bed early" on Monday nights as a 13 and 14 year old so that I could watch wrestling uninterrupted. My parents banned me from watching wrestling, but I thought I was smart and was getting away with murder by watching wrestling, all while my parents chuckled in relief at the fact that I was watching wrestling instead of sneaking out to drink.

The actual wrestling product that WWE has been putting out for the past 20 years has been hit or miss. At its best is when there is an interesting storyline that breaks new ground or introduces a captivating new character. Then, much like any other soap opera, the story gets run into the ground or the character becomes predictable, and then we are left with silliness until the next new character or storyline is developed. Characters that were once new and fresh can become boring and overexposed, which is what has happened with current WWE superstar John Cena. Cena is the modern day equivalent to Hulk Hogan...a cartoonish character who never loses and is no longer interesting. If Cena "turned bad" he would once again draw interest, but then WWE wouldn't be able to sell t-shirts to little kids.

The 1000th episode of WWE Raw had some highlights, as the show opened with a reunion of DX. When I was a teenager DX was extremely edgy and many times crossed the barrier into "R" rated material, but it seemed cool at the time. It was decidedly less cool to watch a bunch of almost 50



Ryan Potts
tryanpotts@hotmail.com

year old men point at their crotch...although it did make for an interesting conversation as I tried to explain this to my wife. There was a bit more nostalgia, with appearances by former Raw staples like The Undertaker (still one of my favorites) and Jim Ross and Stephanie McMahon, but that gave way to a

couple of the current storylines, most of which I find to be boring and repetitive.

Maybe it is just my age, but as the WWE expands its flagship show to three hours every evening, I am not sure that I will be able to justify watching on a regular basis. There are some potential storylines or characters that might be able to change that, but at this point it is the John Cena show and until he freshens up his character I am going to turn the channel. My wife will likely be excited at the prospect of me moving on from RAW, but just like any other soap opera fan, the right storyline can easily reel me back in again.

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• CONSERVATIVE POV

You don't say...do you?

In the past, around the time of the last general election, I wrote at least two columns centering on Obama's inexperience in leadership and management, and referred to his group as run amateurs. So, what did I know? Three-plus years later, Edward Klein, former foreign editor with Newsweek, former editor-in-chief of The New York Times Magazine, and a contributing editor of Vanity Fair wrote a book entitled The Amateur.

Needless to say Klein's editorial associations would earn him the label of "liberal," at least. Well, upon having read most of The Amateur, he certainly is no fan of Obama's, but that's beside the point. One thing most agree on is that Obama is no amateur when it comes to campaigning. Get him up there in front of a friendly crowd, and he is a pro. Or is he?

During one of his infrequent press conferences, on June 8th to be precise, the president declared "the private sector is doing fine." Really? This should come as cold comfort to 23 million Americans who are



Don Swanson
Feedback is encouraged.
Email

swanson@dnet.net

struggling to make ends meet.

Is he so far out of touch with reality that he doesn't realize the plight of the unemployed, or the underemployed, or those who have given up trying and are living on government handouts? Or, is this his objective? If so, it's doing fine.

Let's look at a little dose of reality, shall we? The day I'm writing this, reported initial claims for state unemployment benefits increased 34,000 to a seasonally adjusted 386,000.

Factory activity in the U. S. mid-Atlantic region contracted for a third month in July. The National Association of Realtors said that sales of previously occupied homes fell 5.4 percent in June. These are one day's economic headlines. Doin' fine? Maybe he was just having a moment of wishful thinking.

More recently, the Blaze headlines it this way. "President Obama to CBS: The Biggest Mistake Of My First Term Was Not Explaining How Good My Policies Are." "In an interview with 'CBS Good Morning' host Charlie Rose, President Barack Obama opened up and revealed what he considers to be the biggest mistake of his first term. No, it had nothing to do with his policies; those were good, he explained.

The mistake of my first term was thinking that this job was just about getting the policy right. And that's important. But the nature of this office is also to tell a story to the American people that gives them a sense of unity and purpose and optimism, especially during tough times.' What a revelation! That's called leadership, of which you and your nature know nothing about. You are too busy with your class warfare schtick to know how to spell unity; we know your purpose and that does not engender optimism. The storyteller-in-chief is falling down on the job.

Obama completed a trifecta of hopelessly out-of-touch statements even more recently. The following is excerpted from The Denver Post: "The teleprompter must have been out of commission when President Obama, speaking off the cuff, stuck his foot in his mouth at a campaign rally in Roanoke, Va. Despite the best efforts of campaign spokesman Ben LaBolt to recast Obama's remarks, he said what he said.

•See SWANSON page 10

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• JUST HERS •

Driving Miss Michie II

I walked into the waiting room of the Franklin DMV with the swagger of a nervous gunslinger in a disreputable Old West bar. The waiting room was full of equally anxious, unhappy looking people, each of whom had brought three friends and an equal number of people from their immediate family for moral support. Charles Parrish, the examiner, was a courteous, jovial gentleman, and he apologized for the length of the waiting time of people to be served. I signed the waiting list - #11 - and prepared for a long wait, my courage and bravado disappearing with each passing minute. Finally, they got to the young man just in front of me, and the bomb dropped. Since he was taking the actual driving test, he was the last person that morning to be dealt with. The rest of us would have to come back 1 ¼ hours later, after lunch. My heart sank. Head hung low, I accompanied Lee back to the car, sniveling at first, and then breaking into loud wailing. I sobbed and sobbed, inconsolable.

"Why don't we get something to eat?" Lee said, cheerfully. Normally, I'd have to be on death's door not to tackle food, but my appetite was gone. Instead, we walked around K-Mart, picking up odds and ends of shopping. Way too early, we were back in the DMV parking lot. We waited in the hot car, Lee making small talk, and me racking my brain to remember the fine print of the driving code. Surely I knew it by now, having studied it with the eagle eye of a Hollywood lawyer looking over a pre-nup. At times, I'd even tried bringing up details of the driving code into normal conversations, a challenge for some parts. Imagine my delight when one day I found myself with a friend in Clemson, stuck in funeral traffic. With great enthusiasm, I expounded on the do's and don'ts of driving, giving particular attention to the use of headlights and hazard warning signals. Even though she didn't say so, I'm sure she was impressed.



Michelle Mead-Armor
michiemead@aol.com

Finally, it was one o'clock, and Mr. Parrish reopened the doors. "Next," he called out. I clutched the documents I had brought, stood up, and moved toward his desk. Not wanting to have to come back for lack of the correct documents, I had brought with me: My short form Florida birth certificate (no, I was not born in France), My Social Security card,

showing my full name, My North Carolina marriage license, My late husband's death certificate, The title and all other papers relating to my car, My car insurance information, My passport, My utilities bill from the Town of Highlands, My North Carolina voter registration card and an issue of the **Highlands Newspaper**, with my photo and column.

That should do it, I thought. Heck, if he'd asked, I would have even shown him my tattoos - except that I don't have any! Poor Mr. Parrish smiled soothingly, and plowed through my paperwork like a trooper. Then it was on to the eye test. Funny, how the letters on the left side weren't as clear as the ones in the middle

• See JUST HERS page 10



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... JUST HERS continued from page 9

and on the right side. Never mind! Then, it was the sign test. Confident, I clearly stated what each sign silhouette stood for, and aced the lot. My confidence returned. I was on a roll! Then the examiner motioned for me to sit down at one of the two computer testing sights. I took a deep breath. It was show time.

I made myself comfortable in the chair, and put on the earphones. The instructions were clear: I tapped the screen, and began. There were 25 questions, and I had to get 20 of them right. Upon getting the required 20 correct answers, the test would stop. I took my time, reading each question thoroughly before answering. "You don't have to rush through this," I told myself. I got each question right, and moved to the

next. Then, I got one wrong. If you are involved in an accident, what do you do? Two answers seemed reasonable. I took a guess, and got it wrong. "Oh, no!" I thought to myself. "Was this the beginning of the end?" I panicked, but moved on to the next question. Confidence shaken, I read it, and froze. Another one with two reasonable answers. I pressed the button, and skipped it. Then, a few more correct answers, and another skipped one. I lost track of my tally at the bottom left hand side of the screen. Suddenly, the test stopped, and closed down. Had I blown it? Anxiously, I looked up to see Mr. Parrish smiling benevolently in my direction.

"Just give me a second, M'am, and I'll take your picture for your license." I

looked up, and said to no one in particular, "Put on your snowshoes, folks, it's a cold day in hell!" The lady having her picture taken burst out laughing. Lee exclaimed to the crowd in the waiting room, "This woman is 61 years old, and she's just now getting her Learner's Permit!" The waiting room erupted in cheers and applause. I walked over to have my photo snapped, wondering if when I got it in a few weeks it would show my stunned amazement and joy.

And then, it was all over. All that waiting and worry. All those sleepless nights and anxious days. That sour feeling in the pit of my stomach. The specter of failure hanging over me. Lee and I walked out of the building and down the sidewalk to the car. Suddenly, I remembered my school days in Virginia, and the victory cry we'd been taught as good Southern children. And with apologies to my Yankee father, I began to shout, my best rebel yell. "Yee-haw!" I crowed with enthusiasm. And since it sounded so good to my ears, I did another one. And another. I wonder what they thought in the waiting room of the DMV!

• 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. Now that Michelle has her Learner's Permit, she is not amused by comments like "Boy, give me a call when you're out on the roads, and I'll be sure to stay home!" They are tacky, unnecessary, and just plain cruel. Oh, and they're not particularly funny, either. Or helpful.

... SWANSON continued from page 8

'If you were successful, somebody along the way gave you some help. There was a great teacher somewhere in your life. Somebody helped to create this unbelievable American system that we have that allowed you to thrive. Somebody invested in the roads and bridges. If you've got a business, you didn't build that. Somebody else made that happen,' says Obama.

Although there were many kids in that great teacher's classroom, you may be the only entrepreneur who emerged, the one with the inspiration and the talent to build your own business; to risk a second mortgage on your home for startup capital; to work countless hours to get it off the ground; to run the obstacle course of government bureaucrats to get the required permits and licenses; and to take the job home with you every night.

What Obama called our 'unbelievable American system' was founded on individual liberty, private enterprise and limited government. That was the engine that propelled out economy to world dominance from the 19th century industrial revolution onward.

Henry Ford produced automobiles long before the infrastructure of paved highways. The likes of Alexander Graham Bell, Andrew Carnegie, John D. Rockefeller, Bill Gates and Steve Jobs are those who rise above the crowd. Their contributions were the result of individual initiative that ultimately created more wealth for the collective than it did for themselves.

This is a blind spot for Barack Obama, the student, community organizer, law-school lecturer and politician. He's had no life experience in the world of commerce. In his mind, business is something to be mistrusted, regulated and taxed. He takes the production of wealth for granted. His joy is in the redistribution of it. And he sees the government as the utopian solution to all our problems."

As someone recently wrote, he truly is the "affirmative-action president." A great example of what government can inflict on its people.



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... WOOLDRIDGE continued from page 4

thing you read these days is fake.

Which brings me to my last story (Yeah!!!!) about another married couple named Tom and Gerry who were career criminals, killing people and stealing stuff their whole lives. They were eventually killed in a shootout with the police and were reincarnated as dung beetles in Africa. These small bugs find animal dung on the jungle floor, roll it into a ball and push

it to their den for nourishment. One day while hard at work, Tom looked over at Gerry and said, "Is this all there is to life? Eat poop and die."

* Fred is in hiding at the Farmer's Market at the high school each Saturday morning peddling his books, I'm Moving Back to Mars and Deceived. Like Waldo, he's hard to spot but stop by anyway and give him "what for" if you can find him.

New Democratic Headquarters

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Highlands Area Upcoming Events

Saturdays 28 & Aug. 4
• Tour of Homes fundraiser for Highlands United Methodist Church. \$25. For more information call Wiley Sloan at 200-0261.

Thursday, July 26
• Movie at the Cashiers Library at 10a. Treasure Island.
• Movie at the Cashiers Library at 4p. A Space Odyssey.

• Zahner Lecture at the Nature Center at 7 p.m. Addressing the wooly adelgid and dead hemlocks. Free
• Opening Reception at Chivaree Gallery in Cashiers, "The Truth in the Light" new photography by Elizabeth Bick. 4:30-6:30p.
Thurs, July 26-Sun., Aug. 19
• At The Highlands Playhouse, Dames at Sea. Call 828-526-2695 for ticket information.

Friday, July 27

• HCCMF: The Eroica Trio Program: "The Eroica Trio – Solo" – Chopin, Brahms, Ravel, Franck. Performing Arts Center, Highlands. 6 PM. \$30, students \$15. 828-526-9060 or www.h-cmusicfestival.org
• Free movie at the Cashiers Library at 4 pm. "Big Year."

Saturday, July 28
• HCCMF: The Eroica Trio Program: "The Eroica Trio – Solo" – Chopin, Brahms, Ravel, Franck. Albert Carlton Library, Cashiers. 5 PM \$30, students \$15. 828-526-9060 or www.h-cmusicfestival.org
• Tour the Fisher's Sagee Manor to benefit the Episcopal church. For reservations at 828-526-2968. \$30 per person and is payable by cash or check.
• Artist Talk with photographer Elizabeth Bick at Chivaree Gallery in Cashiers. 3-4 p.m.
• Relay for Life, An Evening with the Johnny Webb Band. 5:30-8:30pm at the Highlands Rec Park. Concert, Spaghetti Dinner, Live

and Silent Auction. \$10 donation requested. For more information, please contact Betty Fisher with the Just for You team at donandbetty9126@frontier.com.

• Audubon's Bird Walk. Meet in the Town Hall parking lot near the public restrooms at 7:30 am. Call Michelle at 743-9670.

• At The Bascom, Woodturning from 10a-4p sponsored by the Carolina Mountain Woodturners and Cashiers' Western Carolina Woodturners.

• The 2012 Glenville Historical Society tour is 10a to 2p. It begins at the Norton Community Center, a schoolhouse in its original life, located on Norton Road. Tour sites which include historic homes, farms, points of interest and a toy museum. Gruelle of the Raggedy Anne and Andy Museum will host the museum visit, has also donated a Raggedy Ann and Andy doll for a GHS fundraising raffle. Raffle tickets, \$5 each or 5 for \$20, are available now from any GHS member and of course will be sold during the tour. The drawing will be held at the museum at the end of the tour...the winner will be called if not present. The cost for the tour is a \$10. Tour and raffle tickets can be purchased by calling Marietta and

Eroica Trio returns for the H-CCMF 2012 season

On Friday, July 27th, and Saturday, July 28th, the trio will perform selections from Chopin, Brahms, Ravel, and Franck.

They'll follow up with "The Eroica Trio – A La Carte" on Sunday, July 29th, and Monday, July 30th. These performances will demonstrate exactly why the trio has been invited back to the Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival year after year – their impeccable musicianship and the undeniable playfulness that informs their appearances. Based on audience applause, they'll perform selections from a musical menu – Brahms or Gershwin; Berceuse de Jocelyn or "Londonderry Air;" Caprese or Nicoise; Beethoven's "Kakadu" Variations" or "Ireland Phantasie;" Brahms' "Trio in C Major" or "Arensky Trio;" and "America" from "West Side Story" or "Miniature Viennese March." It's the musical equivalent of a high-wire act and it's the sort of challenge that The Eroica Trio clearly relishes.

Throughout the Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival season, concerts will be held at 6 p.m. Fridays at the Martin



Lipscomb Performing Arts Center in Highlands and repeated at 5 p.m. Saturdays at the Albert Carlton-Cashiers Community Library in Cashiers. Sunday concerts will be staged at 5 p.m. at the Performing Arts Center in Highlands and repeated at 5 p.m. Mondays at the Cashiers Community Library.

The 2012 Performance Schedule stretches all the way to Sunday, August 12th, culminating with a final gala concert at the Performing Arts Center in Highlands and a Dinner Party at Wildcat Cliffs Country Club.

The Linden String Quartet will stage a free concert at Buck's Café in Cashiers (at the Crossroads) at 8 p.m. Wednesday, August 1st. Bach at Buck's is as natural a combination as, well, rich coffee and warm, mellow notes.

For tickets or information about Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival and its full lineup of performances and events, visit www.h-cmusicfestival.org or call (828) 526-9060. Tickets are also available at the door of the venue for each performance.

Woodturning at The Bascom! Young Artists, Unite! opens on July 31 at the Hudson Library

Experience a day of woodturning at The Bascom on Saturday, July 28 from 10 am – 4 pm, sponsored by the Carolina Mountain Woodturners and Cashiers' Western Carolina Woodturners. Using the Turning Learning Center, a portable turning lab, eleven mini-lathes will be set up on The Bascom Terrace. Stop by and do simple woodturning projects like honey dippers, bud vases, bottle stoppers and spinning tops. Adults and children, 10 years old and up, are eligible to try woodturning!

Young Artists, Unite!, a children's art exhibition, will be at the Highland's Hudson Library, from July 31 through September 1. This wondrous expo of The Bascom's various partnerships with local organizations includes Big Brothers, Big Sisters (ceramics); Franklin Girl Scout Troop 02315 (ceramics); Literacy Council of Highlands (quilt); the Hudson Library and Fontana Regional Library; and the International Friendship Center (The Year of the Dragon creations). An opening reception will be held on Tuesday, July 31 from 3-4:30 pm at the Hudson Library in Highlands. Admission is free and open to the public.


The Bascom is 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.

Playhouse fundraiser concert on July 29



Music Director and Highlands favorite daMon Goff will be holding a concert titled "daMon: Playin' the Keys, Singin' Some Tunes" on Sunday, July 29th at 5:30PM on the Playhouse Stage. Act I will be daMon playing and singing some of his favorite songs, from Gershwin to the Beatles. Act II will be a Sing Along - so bring your singing voice! Cost is Pay What You Can, as all proceeds will benefit the Highlands Playhouse.

Docents needed at Historical Society



Where was Abraham Lincoln born?

What could Abraham Lincoln possibly have to do with Highlands, North Carolina? For the answer to these and other fascinating questions about the history of our town, visit the Highlands Historical Museum on Fridays and Saturdays between 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. and Sunday afternoons from 1 - 4. Meanwhile, the Highlands Historical Society needs docents for three hours on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday afternoons. If interested call 828-787-1050 and leave a message, or visit the Museum at 524 N. 4th Street.

Highlands Area Upcoming Events

PULL OUT

Don Domkowski at 828 743-3004.

Sat. & Sun, July 28-29

• Open House – 292 Upper Brushy Face Road. Luxury Home Sale. 12-4p. Offers may be made in person or by email to northcarolina@lhgn.com. www.buyhighlandshomenc.com. 10% of profits to go to Highlands-Cashiers Hospital.

• Open House – Sat., 10a to 4p, Sun., 1-4p. 35 Ravenel Lake Road. US 64 east past Cullasaja Club to Ravenel Lake Road on the right.

Sunday, July 29

• Second Annual R.E.A.C.H. Gala. Cocktails, live auction at the home of prominent Houston and Highlands interior designer, Tony Raffa and his partner Scott Allbee at 6 p.m. For reservations, call 828-369-5544.

• HCCMF: The Eroica Trio Program: "The Eroica Trio-A La Carte" – audience choice Performing Arts Center, Highlands. 5 PM \$30, students \$15. 828-526-9060 or www.h-cmusicfestival.org

• Playhouse fundraiser concert at 5:30 p.m. at the Playhouse with daMon Goff. Cost is Pay What You Can.

Monday, July 30

• HCCMF: The Eroica Trio Program: "The Eroica Trio-A La Carte" – audience choice Albert Carlton Library, Cashiers. 5 PM \$30, students \$15. 828-526-9060 or www.h-cmusicfestival.org

• Highlands Watershed project at Coleman Hall in the First Presbyterian Church on Monday at 1:30PM. Plans are to present the results of the study for the nine-element plan and to solicit feedback from all stakeholders in the target watershed. For more information, call LTLT at 524-2711 x309.

• At H-C Hospital, Memory Loss, Dementia and Alzheimer's. The Basic. 10a to noon. RSVP to 526-1498.

July 30-Aug. 3

• The Playhouse's Dance Camp. An intensive dance class for different levels. 9-11:30 for beginners and 12:30-3 for intermediate and advanced students. Cost is \$100 per student. For more information call (828)526-2695.

• At the country club at Sapphire Valley at 4 p.m., Bear Stories and Photography with Bill Lea.

Tues., July 31

• An opening reception of Young Artist Unite Exhibition at the Hudson Library from 3-4:30p.

Wed., August 1

• A free Interlude concert at 2 pm. Dress is casual. Robert Henry, piano at the Episcopal Church.

Thursday, Aug. 2

• Taize service at Incarnation Episcopal Church at 5:30 p.m.

• Zahner Lecture at the Nature Center at 7 p.m. Natural history of the southern Appalachians. Free.

• New Democratic Headquarters opening gala from 5 until 8 pm. Featuring a High Country Boil. Enjoy low country classic food fare in the mountains: shrimp, sausage, corn and potatoes accompanied by hush puppies with watermelon for desert all for \$15 and beer

or wine extra. Meet some of the local candidates, tour our new office, shop the Democratic Store and enjoy music from area musicians. Look for the Party's Opening Party on the Screened Porch of the Peggy Crosby Center-Lower parking lot.

Friday, August 3

• HCCMF: Bertrand Giraud, piano; Linden String Quartet. Program: "The French Connection" – Francaix, Debussy, Franck Performing Arts Center, Highlands. 6 PM \$30,

Fire & Rescue Open House Aug. 4



Highlands Fire & Rescue Open House at the station on Oak Street, 11a-3p. Hotdog plates and rides on a fire truck are part of the festivities celebrating 59 years of service to the Highlands community.

HCP's August production 'Fox on the Fairway' in the works



Play director Tanji Armor has cast the following actors in the Highlands Cashiers Players' production of Ken Ludwig's comedy, "The Fox on the Fairway," scheduled to run Aug. 23-26, and Aug. 30-Sept. 2, at the Performing Arts Center in Highlands. From left are Stuart Armor, Lance Trudel, Michelle Hott, Laura Zepeda, Ronnie Spilton, Chris Hess.

students \$15. 828-526-9060 or www.h-cmusicfestival.org

• Nature by Night at the Nature Center. Search for creatures like fireflies, snails, bats, owls, frogs and salamanders. Meet at the Nature Center at 9 p.m. Ages are 6 to adult, and advanced registration is requested due to limited space. To sign up call the Nature Center at 526-2623.

Sat., Aug. 4

• Highlands Fire & Rescue Open House at the station on Oak Street, 11a-3p. Hotdog plates and rides on a fire truck are part of the festivities celebrating 59 years of service to the Highlands community.

• At Cliffside Lake/Van Hook Glade Campground at 7 p.m. Hiking and Camping in Bear Country.

Dames at Sea opens July 26 at the Playhouse



The Highlands Playhouse is excited to open its third show of the 2012 Season, Dames at Sea, on Thursday, July 26th. Dames at Sea is a send-up of the classic 1930s musicals as it follows a young girl, Ruby, as she moves from Utah to New York City in order to land a role in a Broadway show. Expect madness and mayhem along the way as Ruby encounters obstacle after obstacle in obtaining her dream.

"Tap dancing sailors, classic show tunes, glitzy costumes, and a battleship – what more could an audience want in an evening's entertainment," Director William Patti said. Patti, a Rabun County resident who serves as the Director of Performing Arts at Rabun Gap-Nacoochee School and Co-Director of the North Georgia Studio of the Performing Arts, thinks that this will become an instant audience favorite in Highlands. "Audiences are going to be able to come to see Dames at Sea, relax for two hours, and leave with a smile on their face. No deep thinking, just good old fashioned fun!"

The show is being choreographed by Karyn Tomczak, a former Radio City Rockette and touring theater actress. The show stars Otto resident Heidi Spoon, as Mona, who will be making her Playhouse debut despite a long list of professional credits before moving to Macon County – including the 1998 run of The Wizard of Oz at Madison Square Garden. Nigel Huckle, who recently starred in the critically acclaimed Spitfire Grill at the Highlands Playhouse, will return to play the lovable sailor, Dick.

Tickets for Dames at Sea can be purchased by visiting the Highlands Playhouse Box Office or by calling 828-526-2695. Dames at Sea will run through August 18th, with shows on Tuesdays through Saturdays at 8PM, and Sundays at 2PM.

Highlands, Cashiers, Sapphire, Shortoff, Cullowhee (including Western Carolina University), East Franklin, South Cullowhee, and Tuckasegee. An estimated 9,000 people were affected.

Restaurateurs Arthur Paoletti of Paoletti's and Andrew Figel of ...on the Verandah didn't miss a beat. Figel's restaurant is filled with natural light due to its porch setting and the kitchen uses gas to operate. Paoletti's has a generator. "Luckily, it was business as usual," said staff.

Richard Delaney, president and managing director of Old Edwards Hospitality Group (OEI) said it was business as usual, too - actually busier.

"We are lucky to have generators at the hotel and at Satulah so we were out only briefly as the generators kicked in."

He said since they had a rehearsal dinner and reception that evening it was a good thing for OEI and for the guests coming for dinner.

"Madison's and the wine garden were extremely busy as we went from a pretty booked Thursday evening to being packed as guests made changes in their dinner plans because of the outage and booked with us," said Delaney. "It was pretty hectic for a few hours but we tried to accommodate everyone and did our best to handle twice as many guests as we had booked."

Marty Rosenthal of Lakeside Restaurant said when the power went out he closed up and went home. "I don't have a generator because the power goes out so infrequently, now."

JT Fields, owner of Mountain Fresh

Foods said he learned his lesson three years ago after the town lost power for several days due to a major ice storm that winter.

"We made the investment in a whole-store generator. This time around we were able to run the whole store on auxiliary power so we didn't miss a beat," he said. "When selling fresh and frozen foods, and serving the public, it's essential to not lose power."

Like OEI, Mountain Fresh's only issue was serving a couple hundred more guests than it normally does on a Thursday night.

"When word got out that we were still open, everyone came in. The line for the grill wrapped halfway around the inside of the building. We had two staff members taking orders, three on the grill, and one cutting potatoes to make into French fries. It felt great to be able to serve the community during a power outage," said Fields.

The folks at Our Lady of the Mountains Catholic Church didn't let a little power outage spoil their plans, either. Their once monthly 6 p.m. Ladies Night Out dinner went off without a snag under the ambience of candle light.

Bryson's Food Store also has a generator so the outage didn't cause it to lose product or business.

The generator at the Rec Park had a few hiccups. It started when the power went out, but staff had to twiddle with it to get it to turn the power on inside the building. The Police Department generator misfired completely. Luckily, it's under warranty.

The police department was busy manning traffic lights until happily, the power was restored in Highlands by 8:45 p.m.

- Kim Lewicki

LUNCH AT MOUNTAIN FRESH GROCERY

FRESH BURGER 8.99

8 OUNCES OF ALL NATURAL ANGUS GROUND DAILY IN-HOUSE. SERVED WITH HAND CUT FRIES

GRILLED CHICKEN SANDWICH 8.99

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HOT DOG 7.49

QUARTER POUND ALL ANGUS BEEF SPLIT AND CHARGRILLED. SERVED WITH FRIES

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Woodturning at The Bascom

Saturday, July 28, 10 am - 4 pm
Free and open to the public

A day of woodturning sponsored by the Carolina Mountain Woodturners, and Cashiers' Western Carolina Woodturners. Adults and children, 10 years old and up, are eligible to try woodturning.



Young Artists, Unite!

July 31 - September 1

Opening Reception, Tuesday, July 31, 3 - 4:30 pm
A children's art exhibition at Highland's Hudson Library. A Bascom partnership with Big Brothers, Big Sisters; Franklin Girl Scout Troop 02315; Literacy Council of Highlands; the Hudson Library and Fontana Regional Library; and the International Friendship Center

Monday-Saturday, 10 am - 5 pm
www.TheBascom.org
Highlands, NC
Sunday, 12 noon - 5 pm
828.526.4949

... DRAKE continued from page 6

the town's plan to budget for repairs to town buildings over the next few years. In FY 2012 the town spent \$112,000 on the Playhouse.

A draft of the lease was discussed in length centering around which entity will be responsible for repairs to the Playhouse dubbed "substantial and cosmetic." Commissioners grappled with categorizing repairs based on the cost, and suggested that anything that's done should be discussed with the town staff to determine the category before proceeding so the town will always know everything that is being done to the building. Attorney Coward was asked to re-work the draft lease.

The request for annexation by residents of the Dog Mountain subdivision made at the May 17 Town Board meeting is nearing completion.

Town Clerk Rebecca Shuler reported that she has received and verified all necessary signatures on the request for annexation petition.

Back in May, the Town Board heard the request for annexation because Extra Territorial Jurisdiction (ETJ) had been eliminated.

Tom Coley, president of the homeowners association said when property protection went away with ETJ, the property owners began discussing annexation. A total of 35 parcels are involved and all owners are in agreement.

They understand they would pay taxes to the town and in return would get all town services and possibly upkeep of the roads.

"The only outstanding question is the issue of roads," said Town Manager Bob Frye. "We are not required to take over the roads, but if we don't, they remain private and we aren't responsible for repairs or upkeep. If it is a public road it is subject to all therein."

The roads aren't up to town standards but if the town takes them over it isn't required to bring them into compliance. For instance the right-of-way is 40-ft not the required 44-ft.

According to Town Planner David Clabo, the proposed annexation area includes all properties in Kriswood Subdivision, plus four lots along Dog Mountain Road before entering the subdivision proper. There are 35 property owners with only three or four residences occupied full time. According to the county map the area to be annexed is a total of 42 acres.

A public hearing is required and has been set for the next Town Board meeting on Aug. 16.

Two resolutions and one memoran-

dum were adopted unanimously – a Sedimentation and Erosion Control memorandum required by the state which unifies all plans throughout the state.

"The state has cleaned up verbiage to make all ordinances the same and it wants all local governments to adopt it," said Clabo. "We will continue doing what we're doing; it doesn't change how we have been doing business."

When asked he told Commissioner John Dotson that everything Highlands has been doing thus far complies with the state ordinance.

The board also OK'd the ABC Commission Resolution that gives the Town Manager the power to sign off on the issuance of ABC permit recommendations to the state ABC Commission.

Currently the Mayor signs these permits and he felt that it was more appropriate for staff to handle these. The applicants would be people who want to open a restaurant and the process involves a background check by the police department.

The last resolution involved the Town Insurance Cafeteria Plan which has changed from last year's plan.

According to Frye, changes include an increase in the drug card co-pay from \$4 to \$10; a \$200 increase in what the town pays on the employee's deductible up from \$7,800 to \$8,000 this year -- total deductible is \$10,000 with the town covering \$8,000 and the employee \$2,000 (80/20 split) and a switch from a third party plan administrator to one provided by Blue Cross which should enable the claims to be processed faster and it saved \$13,000 in administration costs.

Mayor Wilkes reported that the town has been awarded a FEMA grant to improve and replace undersized culverts at Fifth, Laurel and Spruce streets. The total cost of the project is \$666,000 with the non-federal FEMA funds coming to \$166,500. FEMA has three years to come through with the funds.

Public Works Administrator Lamar Nix said the town has been eyeing this project for several years and all the preliminary work is done.

Frye said the money will come to the town and the town will oversee the bid process and the work.

Except for December, the board also agreed to meet the third Thursday of each month through the end of 2012. December's meeting will be held on the 6th. Unless otherwise noted, meetings will be held at the Community Building at 7 p.m.

— **Kim Lewicki**

The Center for Life Enrichment PRESENTS

Everyone is Knitting!

Instructors: Bascom Gallery Knitters
Fri, July 27, 10:30-12:30, Library,
\$20/\$30

Beginning Spanish II

Presenter: Laura Denenholz
Mondays, July 30-Oct. 1 (Skip
Sept. 3), 1:00-2:30, Library,
\$135/\$150

The Crisis in U.S.-Pakistan Relations

Presenter: Marion Creekmore, Jr.
Thurs. Aug. 2, 10:00-12:00, PAC,
\$25/\$35

The Future of Space Exploration in America

Presenter: Dr. Charles (Rick) Chappell
Fri. Aug. 3, 10:30-12:30, Library,
\$20/\$30



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La Boheme Brevard Music Center Saturday, August 4

2:00 Matinee

Trip Includes:

Bus trip to Brevard where we will
have lunch at Square Root

Tickets to Matinee

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Proverbs 3:5

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Rev. Oliver Rice, Pastor (706) 782-3965

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

Sunday night services every 2nd & 4th Sunday at 7

Wednesdays: Mid-week prayer meeting – 7 p.m.

BUCK CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

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

CHAPEL OF SKY VALLEY

Sky Valley, 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

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE CHURCH

283 Spring Street

Sunday Service: 11 a.m.

Testimony Meeting: 5 p.m. on the 3rd Wed.

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 9am. Holy Eucharist Rite I-8a; Holy Eucharist Rite II-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.

Wed.: Men's Bible Study 8:30 a.m., Prayer Meeting – 6:15 p.m., Choir – 5 p.m.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Dr. Lee Bowman, Pastor

Dr. Don Mullen, Parish Associate 526-3175

Sun.: Worship – 11 a.m.; Sun. 8:30a communion service June-Labor Day; 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 9:45a.; Worship 8:30 & 10:50.; 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.

LITTLE CHURCH IN THE WILDWOOD

In Horsecove

Sunday 7-8 p.m. Hymn-sing

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MACEDONIA BAPTIST CHURCH

8 miles south of Highlands on N.C. 28 S in Satolah

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

828-369-9270 or 828-293-5197

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.

OUR LADY OF THE MOUNTAINS CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

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

SCALY MOUNTAIN BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. Dwight Loggins

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

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP

85 Sierra Drive • 828-524-6777

Sunday Worship - 11 a.m.

Child Care - 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Religious Education - 11 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

Youth 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

... SALZARULO from page 5

As Christians, we are asked to open our world to others. Gay or straight, we are all human beings. Our duty is to do for others. Paul tells us that to lie with a member of the same sex is a sin. Christ says we are not to judge others. What do you say?

– by guest columnists Matt and Sims Bulluck and Lizzie Salzarulo

Dooley returns to Highlands

Rev. Jeremy Dooley became Associate Pastor at First Baptist Church, Highlands on July 1st. Affectionately called “Dooley” grew up in Highlands. He graduated from Highlands School, Southwestern Community College, Western Carolina University, and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. For the past four years he was Associate Pastor of Students and Families at Parkway Baptist Church, Auburn, AL. He and his wife Jaime, a public school teacher, have two sons, Ryne and Rayce. First Baptist Church invites the community to his reception in the church's fellowship hall on Sunday, July 29 at 6:30pm. Call the church office for more info (828-526-4153).



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Be a part of saving it today!

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... LETTERS continued from page 2

mayor, the town manager and commissioners who are simply trying to do the right thing for our citizens. Believe me, I have a business that doesn't get my full attention on some days, but again, I have taken my position as a Highlands commissioner very seriously and I intend to continue to do so. If it means meeting in Town Hall and getting answers to my questions that effect responsible voting on the Town Board than I will be there as often as it takes. Please feel free to drive by and check to see if my vehicle is there.

In the past months, I have turned a blind eye to some questionable comments made in my direction by Kim and on many occasions have laughed with others saying that I would have to get the paper to see what I said. As recently as this past week, I was asked questions by Kim concerning the subject of this letter. Make no mistake, I had no comment in her latest issue because I wanted my words correctly stated and to be recorded as such. The latest incident questioning my integrity is no laughing matter at all. I understand that there can be some editorial privileges but going forward Kim, I ask you to please practice responsible, informed, and respectful journalism. As my grandmother once stated: There are really no pots to be stirred!

I encourage all citizens to attend our meetings and get your information firsthand instead of through fabricated gossip that seems to stream through our town. If you have questions about Highlands, please contact your mayor, your town manager or your commissioners for the answer. If we can't answer you at that very moment, we will get the answer for you.

Note: Highlands Newspaper took the liberty of correcting punctuation and spelling, specifically correcting the names Lewiki to Lewicki and Cowart to Coward.

Run-off in the rainforest

Dear Editor,

Highlands is well known as a temperate rainforest that receives on average over 80 inches of rain per year. Some years the area receives significantly more than that, some years less. September, 2004, the month of Hurricanes Fran and Ivan, Highlands had more than 3 feet of rain in 10 days. Given the fact that we

live in a very wet climate it would behoove the Town if Highlands to adopt strict best management practices (known as BMP's) for storm water run-off and actually PLAN for high rainfall. These practices should be well-known to the people designing and overseeing construction in the town, yet are routinely absent from much of the work done recently.

Techniques to slow down and clean run-off include maintaining existing vegetation and plantings and directing run-off towards landscaping designed to filter and help prevent flooding downstream. This is both good for the watershed and means that expensive treated city water is being used for people and not landscaping. Imagine the irony of piping all the water off a site, then BUYING water to irrigate plants with. This is actually the way most commercial landscapes are built, sadly.

In our recent very heavy rains I noticed a plume of silt like chocolate milk from the Mill Creek tributary of Mirror Lake. Upstream are two large construction sites. On prominent construction site number one most vegetation was removed and replaced with impervious surface in the redevelopment of the site and all run-off is directed to storm drains where it dumps right into the drainage for the second construction site, a muddy mess. The increased volume of runoff completely overwhelmed the drainage systems on site two, and blew out silt fencing, sending volumes of silt into Mill Creek, Mirror Lake and the Cullasaja River.

It is not uncommon to have runoff measures put in place that are overcome by our heavy downpours. Contractors from out of town often aren't aware of the volume of water we routinely have here. Preventative measures have to be monitored and maintained. In the last heavy rain I observed a worker in the pouring rain sweeping mud into the drainage system, and ignoring gaping breaches in the silt-fencing. A large sign on the site apologized for the "inconvenience." This is much more than an "inconvenience." This is abuse of one our beautiful waterways.

We tout what a beautiful place this is to live. It takes forethought, work and vigilance to keep it that way. These issues are so much easier to prevent than to fix. The pretty stream by the pavilion where I eat my lunch at The Bascom is now compromised with silt. Who will pay to fix such damage? Fines? Wealthy donors? The people that made the mess? Several years ago the other branch of Mirror Lake was severely compromised by the "River Walk"

fiasco. In another egregious case siltation from the draining of Randall Lake compromised Big Creek, the source of the town's drinking water. Examples are too numerous to mention. It seems as though no lessons are ever learned.

To the credit of the Town of Highlands a large storm-water control and infiltration system was installed recently under the Kelsey-Hutchison Park with the funds from a clean water grant. This is work in the right direction and those involved deserve to be commended for a job well done.

It is possible to utilize runoff in landscapes – in beautiful healthy landscapes that benefit from the runoff water, clean the water, and slow down drainage from the site, thus reducing flooding downstream. The parking area at the Martin-Lipscomb Performing Arts Center is a good example of a landscape that utilizes water on site to support a lovely garden. Go by and look at it and see what you think. Compare those plantings to the ones in the largest existing parking lot in town. I believe you will find the difference quite refreshing.

Michelle Price wrote in a recent letter saying that we should be aware that the future intake for the Town drinking water is not located in the best water. Es-

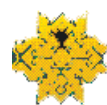
entially all of the run-off from downtown Highlands flows through the lake where the intake is to be located. This would make it even more imperative to control what is going into the system. Residents of Highlands should encourage the town to preserve its water quality. Let the Town Board know clean water is important to you.

As I sit here writing this letter it is pouring again – five inches of rain in the past three days. I know Mirror Lake will be silting up again. I hope we can turn our attention to preventing degradation of our waterways rather than cleanup. I encourage the Town Board to adopt strict BMP's for storm-water management. The town should require proper design and provide the tools and knowledge to properly perform construction in our wet climate and impose stiff fines for violations. Individuals and contractors need to be aware of runoff issues caused by our high rainfalls.

We need to be "on top" of this because we are on the top of the watershed – we have a responsibility to our beautiful waterways, all creatures dependent on the river (all of us), and those that live down stream.

Jodie Zahner
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• BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NEWS •

Potter Watts
spends day signing
his work at the
Hen House

In addition to signing pieces of his Good Earth Pottery for customers, Saturday, July 21, at the Hen House, one of Richie Watts' special End of Day creations was signed and will be auctioned off to benefit the Literacy Council of Highlands.



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Knitters
unite at
Knit

Recently, The Bascom knit group met at KNIT in Oak Square for its weekly meeting. Normally, the group meets on the terrace at The Bascom every Saturday from 10 am to noon.

HCC lady golfers give toward literacy



Highlands Country Club Head Golf Pro Ken Mattis, presented a \$1,500 check to the Literacy Council of Highlands Executive Director, Tonya Hensley and Judy Joyner. The funds were raised by the Highlands Country Club Ladies Golf Assoc. on July 10th in memory of Diane Biggers. Biggers was a loyal supporter of the Literacy Council and donated much of her time to tutoring young children. She also had a passion for adult literacy in Highlands.

Greenway names 'Trail Worker of the Year'



John Akridge received the Trail Worker of the Year Award at the recent annual meeting of the Highlands Plateau Greenway. President Joe Mangum (right) presented the award during the installation of officers and Board members: Vice President Edwin Poole, Secretary Rick Siegel, Treasurer Sonya Carpenter, and members Lester Norris, Kyle Pursell, and Pat Taylor.

Christie's unveils new look for magazine

Christie's International Real Estate, the world's leading network in the marketing and sale of luxury homes worldwide and the only property network wholly owned by an art auction house, announces the debut of its redesigned global property magazine. The quarterly publication, once a catalogue of homes offered for sale worldwide, now features articles of internationally respected journalists, intimate views of the luxury lifestyles of renowned global personalities and vibrant photography all portrayed in a new and sophisticated design aesthetic. Christie's is represented in Highlands by Harry Norman Realtors', Elizabeth Salzarulo - 828-342-5555.



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• POLICE & FIRE REPORTS •

Highlands PD log entries from June 25. Only the names of persons arrested, issued a Class-3 misdemeanor, or public officials have been used.

June 25

• At 6 p.m., officers received a report of shoplifting at Leil's Place on Main Street where numerous items of clothing were taken.

June 30

• At 2:27 a.m., Joshua Matias Delacruz, 18, of Highlands was arrested for driving after drinking underage.

July 1

• At 9:30 p.m., Matthew Newton Holt, 22, was arrested for being in possession of drug paraphernalia and possessing amphetamines/methamphetamines. He was held in the Macon County Detention Center on a \$3,000 secured bond.

July 2

• At 1:08 p.m., officers responded to an two-vehicle accident at Church and 3rd streets.

July 3

• At 12:20 p.m., officers responded to a one-vehicle accident in the Mountain Fresh parking lot.

July 5

• At 12:30 p.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident at 4th and Church streets.

• At 1 p.m., officers responded to a two vehicle accident on NC 28 south.

• At 5 p.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident on Main Street.

• At 10:52 a.m., officers responded to a residence on Paul Walden Way concerning a disturbing the peace,

verbal dispute between two women.

July 6

• At 2:45 p.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident on Biscuit Rock Road.

• At 1:21 p.m. First Citizens Bank reported ATM power outage.

• At 1:51 p.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident at NC 106 and Munger Road.

July 7

• At 1:32 p.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident at US 64 and Chowan Road.

• At 10 p.m., officers responded to a one-vehicle accident in the HCCDC parking lot.

• At 3:46 p.m., officers responded to a vehicle emergency activation at a residence on Cobb Road.

July 8

• At 1:19 p.m., officers were asked to check on an unoccupied residence on Hicks Road where a dog was barking.

July 9

• At 3:35 p.m., officers responded to a one-vehicle accident at Woodcrest Way and NC 106.

• At 9:49 p.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident at Main and 4th 2:30 p.m., officers were called to a residence on US 64 west concerning a civil dispute between two men.

• At 2:30 p.m., officers were called to a residence on Cullasaja Drive about a civil dispute between a man and woman.

• See POLICE & FIRE page 22

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• POLICE & FIRE REPORTS •
continued from page 19

• At 5:15 p.m., officers helped motorist with a disabled vehicle on Arnold Road.

July 10

• At 5 p.m., officers responded to a one-vehicle accident at US 64 and Hold Road.

July 11

• At 11:10 a.m., officers responded to a one-vehicle accident at Bowery and Biscuit Rock roads.

• At 9 a.m., officers were called to oversee a landlord/tenant matter at a home on US 64 west.

• At 12:45 p.m., a burglary was reported at Old Edwards Inn where a patron reported a gold watch valued at \$8,000 missing.

July 12

• At 5:48 p.m., officers issued a domestic violence order to the occupants of a residence on US 64 west.

July 13

• At 3:45 p.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident at Raoul Road and US 64 west.

July 15

• At 8:38 a.m., officers received a call from a resident on Dog Mountain Road who said a female wouldn't let him leave the premises.

Highlands F&R Dept. log entries from July 3

July 3

• At 2:46 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to Bust Your Butt Falls where a child had been caught by a rock and though appeared to be safe after release, his parents wanted him checked out so EMS transported.

July 4

• 7:18 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Clubhouse Trail.

• At 1:33 p.m., the dept. responded to a single-vehicle roll over on Horse Cove Road. Occupants were flown to Memorial Mission in Asheville.

July 6

• At 8:38 p.m., the dept. responded to an alarm at a residence on Crescent Trail. It was false.

July 7

• At 1:32 p.m., the dept. responded to a vehicle accident at US 64 and Chowan Drive.

July 9

• 2:07 a.m., the dept. responded to a CO² alarm at a residence on Eastover Drive. It was false.

• At 9:04 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to Sassafras Gap Road. EMS transported to the hospital.

• At 3:37 p.m., the dept. responded to a vehicle accident on NC 106.

• At 8:26 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Old Walhalla Road where a 46-year-old had fallen down the stairs.

July 11

• At 1:25 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to Main Street where someone had fallen.

• At 3:51 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a resident on Jenkins Lane. EMS transported the person to the hospital.

• At 4:20 p.m., the dept. was notified about a child being bitten by a dog.

July 13

• At 10:08 a.m., the dept. responded to a possible structure fire on Maplewood Lane. It was a controlled burn.

• At 7:16 p.m., the dept. responded to a CO² alarm

at a home on Sagee Woods Dr. It was false.

July 14

• At 7 p.m., the dept. responded to a call about a possible chimney fire at a home on VZ Top. A fire had been started with the damper closed.

July 16

• At 3:28 p.m., the dept. responded to a motorcycle accident on US 64 west. The vehicle was destroyed by fire.

• At 3:58 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to Main Street. EMS transported the person to the hospital.

July 17

• At 7:10 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to a lifeline alarm at a residence on Brookside Lane. EMS transported to the hospital.

• At 2:08 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on US 64 west where a person was bitten on the cheek by a dog. Animal control was called.

• At 10:11 p.m., the dept. responded to a one-vehicle accident on Cullasaja Drive. EMS transported to the hospital.

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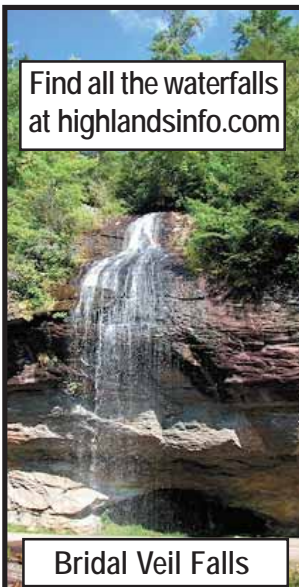
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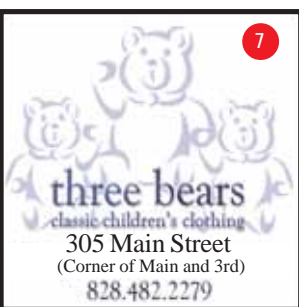
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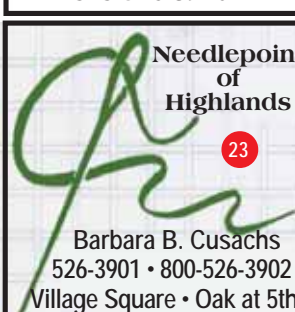
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