

Highlands Newspaper

FREE every Thursday

Volume 10, Number 39

Internet PDF Version at www.HighlandsNewspaperPDF.com

Thursday, Sept. 27, 2012

Thursdays, Fri., Sat., Sun.

• Live music at Altitudes at Skyline Lodge, 470 Skyline Lodge Road off Flat Mountain Road. Call 526-2121.

Thursday, Sept. 27

• A celebration of this year's Relay For Life success on Thursday from 6-9pm at Fressers Eatery in historic Helen's Barn for a buffet dinner and refreshments. Also, you may get involved with Relay for Life at any time. Call 526-1841 for more information.

Saturday, Sept. 29

• Live music at Main Street Inn's The Bistro, noon-3 p.

• Highlands Farmers Market at Highlands School from 9a to noon, through October.

• At Mountain Fresh Grocery, free wine tastings from 2-4 p.m.

Sunday, Sept. 30

• A faculty/student concert from the WCU music dept. at First Presbyterian Church at 2 p.m. Everyone is invited.

Mon., Oct 1

• Living with Alzheimer's for Caregivers, 10a to noon at H-C Hospital. Call Sheraldine at 526-1498 to register.

Tues., Oct. 2

• Board Certified Gynecologist, Julie A. Farrow, MD will present "Women's Health-Screening Tests You Need and Don't Need," a complimentary lunch and learn, held at 12 noon in the Jane Woodruff Clinic on the Hospital campus. Please register in advance (828) 526-1313 or email cutz@hchospital.org.

• Highlands Dialogue at the Hudson Library from 10-11:30 a.m. "Who Owns Democracy?" by Nick Penniman.

Wed., Oct. 3

• Flu shots 1-4p at the Jane Woodruff Building at Highlands-Cashiers hospital. The vaccine is \$25. The public health center will bill insurance companies so clients should bring their cards with them. Medicaid does not cover the cost.

Encroachments OK'd, charges, policies, discussed at TB meeting

At the Sept. 20 Town Board meeting, commissioners agreed unanimously to OK encroachment requests on Spring Street and Worley Road.

As the Spring Street one-way configuration nears completion, Old Edwards Inn (OEI) asked permission to build traffic control and landscaping islands in the

street.

The islands within the right-of-way of Spring Street will help

• See ENCROACHMENTS page 13

Meadows and Rogers face off at League Q&A

— Part 2 —

On Thursday, Sept. 13, the Macon County League of Women Voters held a Question and Answer Forum between Democrat Hayden Rogers and Republican Mark Meadows who are running for the 11th Congressional in the U.S. House of Representatives.

The candidates were given five questions on the following topics: the health of the economy and what you hope to do about it, Medicare and social security, Women's health and welfare issues, What differentiates you from your opponent, and finally discussion of any other issue you would like to cover including your general philosophy and closing remarks.

Since the candidates' answers were lengthy, answers to questions one and two were reported in the Sept. 20 edition. This

• See LEAGUE Q&A page 11



Six students from Ms. Murphy's and Ms. Vanderwiele's fifth grade classes led the Macon County Board of Education meeting in its Pledge of Allegiance on Monday, Sept. 24 in the Media Room of Highlands School. Pictured from left are Ms. Vanderwiele, Saylor Roman, Matt Campbell, Taj Roman, Reid Ingate, Julia Egler and Jessica Campbell.

Photo by Kim Lewicki

Superintendent charges school district to do better

At Monday night's school board meeting, Interim Superintendent Dr. Jim Duncan, didn't candy-coat the need for the Macon County school system to do

better in preparing students for college.

Macon County is deserving of having its schools prepare stu-

• See SUPERINTENDENT page 18

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Tax reports show economy on the mend

One of the benchmarks marking the healing economy is the sales tax reports. These figures are used to gauge whether people are letting go of their dollars and thereby seeding the economy.

According to recent reports at both the county and town level, sales tax reports indicate that the economy in Highlands and Macon County are on the upswing and in some cases doing better than neighboring counties.

July 2012 figures for Macon County show \$1,795,148 in gross tax collections, and \$37,676,675 in taxable sales. Gross collections include penalties, interest and sales and use taxes.

Sales and use tax returns submitted during July 2012 reflect sales primarily made during June 2012. So each month's report is

• See TAX page 25

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• THE PLATEAU'S POSITION •

• FORUM •

About Hispanic immigration to the United States ...



Alex Osteen

José, one of my friends in Honduras paid a coyote four years' savings to be guided into the United States. The journey took them through the jungles of Guatemala, the deserts of Oaxaca and mountains of northern Mexico. They went on foot the majority of the time, riding on the tops of Mexican freight trains some nights. They traveled through rain and shine, intense heat and bitter cold, with little sleep or food, and finally made it to the southern banks of the Rio Grande after five months.

It is truly a dangerous and dog-eat-dog trip that kills thousands yearly and José felt relieved to have made it all the way in one piece. Then, as he was crossing the river, within literally a few yards of the shores of Texas, a U.S. border patrol helicopter caught him. He spent the next month in jail before being sent back home on a plane full of other detained illegal immigrants, a flight that took under two hours. Had he made it to Texas, he would have joined the ranks of hundreds of thousands of immigrants who illegally enter the U.S. every year. This is an interesting issue for both Latin American countries and the United States that I'm willing to bet you've got an opinion about.

Many people argue that immigrants who are living in the U.S. illegally are put-

• See FORUM page 22

• HAWK'S EYE VIEW •



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• MILESTONE •

Lewicki seeks community's support



Megan Lewicki, graduate of Highlands School and Appalachian State University who is pursuing her acting career in Chicago, has launched a Facebook campaign to stir up interest and to hopefully land an audition/screen test for the upcoming film adaptation of the novel Divergent.

Divergent is the novel of Chicago-based author, Veronica Roth, and is the first installment of a trilogy.

Set within a dystopian Chicago, the novel has received comparisons with the The Hunger Games trilogy in media articles, with both works featured in the "Young Adult" fiction category.

Neil Burger (The Illusionist) is said to direct, and production companies Red Wagon Productions (Lawless) and Summit Entertainment (Twilight) are also involved.

Please like Megan's Facebook Page: Cast Megan as Tris Prior <http://www.facebook.com/castmegan>

Using social media, she is hoping the buzz will reach the right people.

You can follow Megan and the campaign's progress on Twitter @castmegan

• OBITUARIES •

Bertha Blackburn Moss

Bertha Blackburn Moss, age 90, of the Yellow Mountain Community died Friday, September 21, 2012. Born in Jackson County, she was the daughter of the late Parker and Arizona Blackburn. She was married to Gus Moss who passed away in 1999. She was a loving mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. She loved to spend time with her family, gardening, sewing, quilting and cooking.

Mrs. Moss was survived by two daughters, Joyce Smith and husband Bobby of Walhalla, SC and Gail Bryson and husband Marvin of Mt. Rest, SC; one son, Dale Moss and wife Aileen of Cullowhee, NC; nine grandchildren and 17 great-grandchildren.

In addition to her parents she was preceded in death by seven sisters, Zelma Passmore, Iva Dills, Dellie Hooper, Sally Stiwinter, Ida Mae Norris, Alice Blackburn and Ruthie Blackburn; three brothers, Arthur, Howard and Roy Blackburn.

Funeral services were held Monday, September 24, 2012 at Yellow Mtn. Baptist Church with Rev. Keith Ashe, Rev. Ed-

die Stillwell and Rev. Jim Ed Powell officiating. Burial was in the Stewart Cemetery. Pallbearers were the grandsons.

Bryant-Grant Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements.

• See OBITUARIES page 19

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• LAUGHING AT LIFE •

Oh, Ellen, I just love what's under your robe!

Back in the day, the worse thing that could happen to a criminal was getting caught red handed committing a crime....ouch! The next worst thing for that same criminal was being assigned a public defender who graduated two weeks ago from the University of Miami law school in the lowest 10% of his class....double ouch! The, next worst thing for that same criminal was to learn that the last 10 defendants defended by his attorney were all found guilty and went to prison. Triple ouch! How could things get any worse for this criminal? Well, read on 'cause it can....and did.

The next, next, next worse thing the criminal could learn was that his case wound up before the Honorable



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

Judge Ellen James Morphonios. It was time for the criminal to put his head between his legs andwell, you know.

To start, the criminal's lawyer would try to get a continuation, then another, then another, etc, etc. Since it was next to impossible to get the case transferred to another judge, continuation after continuation after continuation was the only option a lawyer had. Maybe the judge would have a heart attack? Or maybe someone would shoot her (little chance of that) was the lawyer's only hope.

Judge Ellen, as she was known by the cops, was an ex-prosecutor for Dade County, FL, and known as 'hagin' Ellen. The public called her Maximum Morphonios. For

•See WOOLDRIDGE page 5



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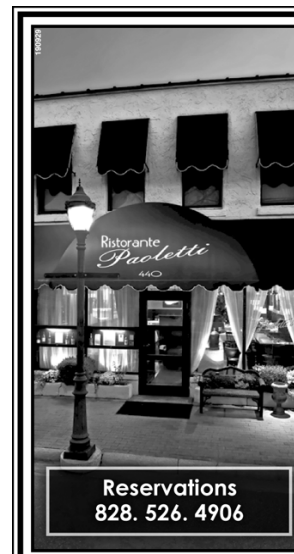


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... WOOLDRIDGE continued from page 4

me, she was the judge from heaven. Ellen loved to pick on rookie lawyers and did it with a smirk. Miami citizens, mostly women who had nothing better to do, would sit in her courtroom, knit and enjoy the entertainment.

Here's a few of Judge Ellen's quips I can write about. Hey, this is a family newspaper! Once, at a bond hearing, the defending lawyer said, "Your honor, this is the defendant's first offense and I would ask the court to"....Judge Ellen would interrupt, "Don't tell me this is his first offense, counselor. What you really mean is this was the first time he got caught." Then she would lean forward across her bench, her granny glasses mounted on the edge of her nose, look down at the defendant and ask, "You've committed other burglaries but this is the first time you were caught, right?" Before the rookie lawyer could tell his client not to answer, the criminal, already intimidated by this scary woman, was nodding yes. The courtroom broke in laughter.

Several times I heard her tell a criminal, "Your lawyer was able to prove a break in the evidence chain against you and I'm required by law to dismiss this case. That doesn't mean you're not guilty because I'm sure you are. Case dismissed." As the criminal walked toward the back

of the courtroom a free man, Judge Ellen would call his name and say, "Next time you appear before me, bring

• See WOOLDRIDGE page 22

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• THE VIEW FROM HERE •

Six weeks and counting ...



Dr. Henry Salzarulo

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A recent pole shows President Obama enjoys a widening lead over Governor Romney among most demographic groups.

His overwhelming advantage with African Americans comes as no surprise. But he also leads among women, young adults, Hispanics, and tattooed Americans.

Governor Romney holds a commanding lead among fat, old, white men, but there just aren't enough of us to turn the tide. His narrow lead among evangelicals may be partially due to the fact that a good many of them still think Obama is Muslim.

The Republican challenger's gaffes have been numerous and spectacular. In retrospect, his criticism of the London Olympics seems as trivial as Clint Eastwood's convention appearance.

The final straw might have been a secretly recorded presentation to a group of supporters in which he basically described 47% of Americans as freeloaders. That doesn't seem a particularly effective strategy. If his opponents needed confirmation of their suspicion that Romney cares only about the rich, he delivered the smoking gun. Of course, no evidence was necessary, but a little proof never hurts.

The Romney campaign is in tatters. Rumors of infighting among senior staffers abounds. The resignation of Tim Pawlenty, co-chair of the Romney campaign, conjures an inescapable image of a drenched rat clinging to a bit of flotsam.

Have no fear. Pawlenty, who accepted a job as president of Financial Services Roundtable will be warm and dry. He will be lobbying Congress for special consideration for the banking industry. He is one of many who want small government for the little guy. Loopholes for the wealthy and powerful industries are another thing.

It seems that almost no one likes Romney. He is unable to connect with the American people. At best, he is viewed as the lesser of evils, an alternative to President Obama. A recently conducted poll says it all.

An online survey of NASCAR fans favors Obama over Romney, 49% to 42%. There is no group more Southern, more conservative, more bigoted, and less tolerant than NASCAR fans. They have comfortably resided in the Republican party since the Reagan presidency.

That they now prefer a liberal, Democrat, black man speaks to Romney's failure. There were only 820 respondents to the survey, a small number, but maybe all that remain of the sports once fanatic legions. It is well known that sky rocketing ticket prices have driven the little guy, the soul of NASCAR, from the fold. Perhaps some of these fans are among the 47% of the population who Romney describes government-dependent victims, voters certain to favor big government and support President Obama.

Maybe in their indignation and outrage they said, as one, "OK, Mitt, if that's the way you see us, the Republican party is not the home we once believed it to be."

CLE introduces Saturday night at the movies!

A first is being planned for the evening of Nov. 3 at the Highlands Playhouse. Rene Silvin will show the film W.E., about the Duke and Duchess of Windsor, of which Rene was the historical consultant and Madonna was the director. Rene is known as America's foremost Windsor authority and is author of Noblesse Oblige, The Duchess of Windsor as I Knew Her. Movie will start at 6:30. Cost is \$15.

In addition, CLE still has a few more classes available.

On Oct. 4 "A new look at retirement" is being offered by Betty Holt, a Highlands resident. Betty received the title "certified retirement coach" after an extensive study program with Retirement Options. The class is from 10a-12p at the Performing Arts Center and is \$35 for CLE members and \$45 for non-members.

With the explosion in iPad use and the genius of instructor Nigel Sixsmith, CLE has added another session on IPAD 102 to take place on Friday, Oct. 26. This workshop is perfect for those who are familiar with the basics of their iPad and want to learn more about all its capabilities. The class is from 10:30a-3:30p at the Peggy Crosby Center and costs \$60 for members and \$70 for non-members.

Finally, on Saturday, Nov. 10, as part of the Culinary Festival Weekend, it's a discussion on nutrition and dietetics. The discussion will take place at the Performing Arts Center from 10:30a-12:30p and will cost \$20.

For reservations or more information contact The Center for Life Enrichment at 526-8811 or clehighlands@yahoo.com.

• COACH'S CORNER •

Qwest for Reason



Ryan Potts
tryanpotts@hotmail.com

"What's the best headline going to be from this...I like Seattle Screwed or the Golden Fleece."

Now, keep in mind that I am not opposed to sharing my opinion on Facebook, particularly when it comes to one of my favorite teams. However, emotions can often get in the way of logical thinking. For example, any-

one who had money on Green Bay Monday night may have experienced an emotional reaction and acted differently than normal. Heck, last week I made up an emotional disorder to explain my lack of rationality when it comes to explaining how the Pittsburgh Pirates have ruined my life. Emotion is a powerful thing, and when mixed with any subject on which people disagree, whether it be sports or politics or religion, etc...we as a society have to fight to access reason and logic and let it be the common bond that we can all agree on.

I often think that Freud would have a field day were he to live in the modern internet age. It amazes me how the simple notion of being behind a computer screen allows people to fully expose their id to the rest of society. Message boards, Twitter and Facebook now give us instant access to countless reactions from any number of people around the nation...but is this a good thing? I know that it amazes me how my twitter feed or Facebook page explodes after any controversial sport event, and the collective id of those I know spills out all over my computer screen.

While this often provides me copious amounts of entertainment, it can also disturb me that our society is so plugged in to giving our own reactions as quickly as possible that some people lose emotional self-control and allow the id to completely take over. After the Seattle-Green Bay game on Monday night, my Facebook feed filled with outrage over the call on the final play of regulation that gave Seattle a win. While I initially thought the call was correct due to simultaneous possession, replay confirmed that this was incorrect and that it should have been an interception. I also considered several other issues while laughing at all of the people on the internet just killing Roger Goodell and the replacement officials. Here is some insight into my id-in no particular order.

"I bet those officials didn't have the guts to overturn that call because they didn't want to end up buried under Qwest Field."

"Too bad Seattle fans don't know what it feels like to get screwed over in a regular season game-they only got bent over in a SUPER BOWL."

"So what if these officials didn't cut it in the Lingerie Football League-I doubt I would stay focused on officiating either."

"Everyone is killing Goodell, but doesn't he work for the owners? Why aren't they held responsible for this?"

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Politically correct – How our leaders affect real estate

It's just one more thing to consider. How will the election affect real estate? The answer? Who knows. Here's what we DO know. In November, we all have a chance to cast our ballot for President of these United States. Just like those annoying television commercials, wait for it, here it comes "But wait there's more!"

I wonder how many people step into the ballot box to do their civic duty, vote for the presidential candidate of their choice, and maybe a governor, congressman, or senator, but the rest of the names on the ballot? Who are they, and why should I vote for one over the other?

Soon, the newspapers will print a sample of our 2012 ballot, please take that section out of the paper. Use it for research. Ask your friends, neighbors, do some Internet research (from several sources) but don't stop there. We are all guilty from time to time of listening/ relying on the media to 'help' us know what to do.

If you don't want to wait, go to: <http://www.maconnc.org/images/MACON-20121106-Style001.pdf> to see the November ballot.

Will Rogers, once said during the depression "the money was all appropriated for the top in hopes that it would trickle down to the needy." Some attribute Reagan with 'Trickle Down Economics' as a part of his plan for the country. Whether it's economics, education, foreign affairs, or one of the other areas current to our state, all may be applied to the trickle down theory.

It is up to each of us to pay attention, study and read about all the candidates on the ballot, because we are the foundation of the very tall and sometimes wobbly structure known as the United States. Anybody knows the foundation of a structure has to be solid and sound to be able to withstand the blows it takes.

Realtors are one of the largest political action groups that stay on top of the issues pertinent to us in our country, NC and right



Jeannie Chambers
The Chambers Agency
REALTORS
jsc@chambersagency.net

here in Highlands. (See, more trickling.) When an issue arises that may cause concern for Realtors, buyers and sellers, we get an email – a 'call to action.' Our elected officials need to hear from us. If they get enough letters, emails and phone calls about an issue, it reminds them about whom they were elected to represent.

There are many issues that have come up in our local real estate arena in the last few years that warranted action from the Realtors, one of those was the transfer tax. Transfer taxes are in 36 states, but so far, NC has been able to thwart that vote. The National Association of Realtors is against it because it inhibits the buying and selling of real estate and makes housing less affordable.

Other national issues that are on record are Federal tax issues like: capital gains, estate tax reform, mortgage interest deductions. Environmental issues like the Clean Water Act, lead paint, national flood insurance, and methamphetamine clean up. Commercial finance issues like small business insurance, sales tax fairness, SBA loans and more.

Whatever your reasoning for voting in November, just make sure you do it. When you fill in that oval beside a name, remember, it's not just a name. It's a person who may be able to help you with an issue down the road. You may never meet the elected official in person, but at least you've done your homework and voted for the best person on the ballot that has your best interests at heart. Now, that's the ticket!

Jeannie and Tucker Chambers are owners and Brokers at The Chambers Agency, REALTORS. 401 N. Fifth Street, Highlands, NC 28741 828-526-3717 getit@chambersagency.net, www.chambersagency.net While each of us at our office have strong political beliefs- we make a practice not to discuss or share them at the office.

• HIGHLANDS SCHOOL SPORTS •

Highlanders get in gear, win three in a row

By Ryan Potss

At the start of the season Highlands Varsity Soccer Coach Chris Green was pretty up front about his team, noting that while the team was very young, they had the talent to become a very good team. The young Highlanders took a step in that direction this week, defeating Cherokee, county rival Franklin, and Hayesville all in the span of 6 days.

Wednesday, the Highlanders hosted Cherokee and immediately were able to use their speed advantage to surge ahead. Taylor Osteen, Tyler Munger and Ryan Vinson all had 2 goals apiece for the Highlanders in what was a dominating 6-2 victory.

Thursday, the Highlanders hosted archrival Franklin, looking for a little revenge after a bitterly contested contest down the mountain earlier this season. Highlands struck first, as Kenan Lewis headed home a corner kick from Tyler Munger to put Highlands up 1-0. The Panthers equalized just before half, and the two teams went to the break all square at 1-1. Despite numerous opportunities, the Highlanders couldn't get anything going

Water levels to rise in Nantahala River Sept. 29-30

The By-Pass reach of the Nantahala River, commonly referred to as the Upper Nantahala, will be higher than normal on Sept. 29-30.

Duke Energy will increase water flows in the river from the lake to the power house on the Nantahala River for the two-day period to provide kayakers and other boaters an enhanced whitewater recreational experiences.

On Sept. 29, Duke Energy will release approximately 300 cubic feet per second (cfs) of water into the river for seven hours, resulting in Class IV water conditions in the Cascades Section and less-than-optimal flows downstream to the power plant.

On Sept. 30, 425 cfs will be released for five hours, followed by 250 cfs for two hours. The release of 425 cfs results in Class IV+ water conditions on the Cascades Section and Class III-IV downstream.

Only skilled boaters should attempt to paddle on the Nantahala River on Sept. 29-30.

until Lewis played a ball into the box that Freshmen Colin Weller got his body on to give the Highlanders a 2-1 lead. Despite a frantic final five minutes, the Highlander defense and GK Philip Murphy held firm, and the Highlanders finished off a 2-1 victory.

Monday, Highlands continued to build on their success, traveling to Hayesville to face what has proven in recent years to be one of the stiffest tests in the SMC. This year would be different, however, as the Highlanders cruised to a 4-0 victory. Vinson, Weller, Munger and Victor Lopez all scored goals for the Highlanders.

Lady Highlanders defeat Rabun Gap

The Highlands Lady Highlander volleyball team defeated the Lady Eagles of Rabun Gap in straight sets on Tuesday night, 25-17, 25-17 and 25-15. The win marked the second win over Rabun Gap in the last three weeks for the Lady Highlanders.

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• THE 'CONSERVATION' POV

Voila, the light bulb shines

As some of you have noticed, I have taken a pretty good licking in the Letter-to-Editor Department lately. I tried to understand what precipitated this sudden outpouring of nasty. What changed my loveable image to that of a pariah? I pondered and pondered – nothing. I emailed my personal guru in Tibet; he couldn't help. I sought counsel of my closest friends (didn't take long) and they had no idea.

Suddenly it struck me. With all this political foolishness, I have completely neglected to keep up with our favorite bim-bos. No wonder I'm hated – I have ignored the heartbeat of America – celebrity gossip.

Let's check-in with Lindsay and see what she's been up to. Shocking! From Fox News: "Lohan was arrested in New York City for leaving the scene after allegedly clipping a 34-year old while driving a 2010 black Porsche Cayenne SUV in an alleyway between two hotels. Authorities said that the actress and a passenger checked the car for damage, and then proceeded into the Dream Hotel, while the alleged victim was sent to Bellevue Hospital.

In June, Lohan's Porsche crashed into a dump truck on Malibu's Pacific Coast Highway, and was totaled. She said she was the passenger in the vehicle, but authorities are not so sure, and may arrest her for



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

lying to police if they find evidence that she was indeed the driver (good grief, fellas, you've had three months to figure it out).

In March, Lohan reportedly attempted to maneuver a Porsche (that seems to be her weapon of choice) in a crowd of paparazzi in Hollywood and hit the manager of a popular VIP hangout. No charges were pressed, and she denied the incident." No matter which coast, vehicle or pedestrian, moving or stationary, our girl Lilo can hit them all. How she is still on the loose is a mystery to me.

(You conservative wackos, hang in, the good stuff is coming).

I'll make this fast. From the nydailynews.com: "It's been a while since Paris Hilton has been in the spotlight, so the hotel heiress made sure to make her comeback in a very big way. 'Gay guys are the horniest people in the world...they're disgusting,' she reportedly told a pal in the backseat of a NYC cab on Sept. 7. 'Dude, most of them probably have AIDS.'"

According to RadarOnline.com the homophobic slurs came up as a gay pal of Hilton's was telling her about an app called Grindr, a popular social media app that can be used to allow gay men to locate sexual partners." Who said social media is good-for-nothing? Oh yeah, it was me. Enough of that stuff.

The column that brought the most response in my memory was the recent article concerning the government's procuring huge quantities of hollow-point bullets, ostensibly for domestic use. Well, they weren't finished, according to Infowars: "Following controversy over its purchase of around 1.2 billion bullets in the last six months alone, the Department of Homeland Security has put out a new solicitation

for over 200 million more rounds of ammunition, some of which are designated to be used by snipers.

The number of bullets purchased by the DHS now adds up to a staggering 1.4 billion over the last six months alone. Although all of those bullets won't be delivered at once, the DHS's commitment to purchasing such an arsenal of ammo is both worrying and ironic given Americans are being harassed and treated with suspicion for buying a couple of boxes of ammo at their local gun store." Assuming a kill ratio of 25%, that's enough ordnance to eliminate the entire population of the United States.

Glenn Beck, before his stint on Fox News ended, persisted with the thought that Obama had adopted Saul Alinsky's theory that if you keep on throwing new chaotic issues on the table, the opposition can't keep up, and soon tires of trying. As an example, if you get shot in the foot, you'll pay plenty of attention to it until a few days later, you get shot in the arm, and you forget about your foot, and so on.

Somewhere (around the end of April) in the non-stop production of hazarai by David Axelrod's propaganda machine, the Obama campaign slogan of "Forward" hit the streets. From the Washington Times: "The Obama campaign apparently didn't (or perhaps they did) look backwards into history when selecting its new campaign slogan, 'Forward' – a word with a long and rich association with European Marxism."

The Times story quotes Wikipedia's description of Forward: "The name Forward carries a special meaning in socialist political terminology. It has been frequently used as a name for socialist, communist and other left-wing newspapers and publications." The slogan "Forward" reflected the conviction of European Marxists and radicals that their movements reflected the march of history, which would move forward past capitalism and into socialism and communism.

And every time Obama makes a campaign speech, he stands behind a podium that proudly displays his intentions for our country – "Forward." And we either don't know what it means or we don't care. But no one can accuse him of hiding his intentions.

... LEAGUE Q&A continued from page 1

week we feature answers to question 3.

3. How would you differentiate yourself from your opponent and please include some remarks on your general philosophy.

Hayden Rogers

I think a lot of things, how we view things, is our background and who we are and where we came from. I grew up in one of the poorest counties in this state, one of the smallest and I'm proud of it. Some of the best people I've ever met in my life come from Graham County. I'm running because I truly love this. This is my home. I don't care Democrat or Republican, I love Western North Carolina and I'll fight like you've never seen somebody fight to help it.

Now there are other areas in the country I like, but you only have one home. Now my opponent and I don't mean this despairingly because one of my best friends in the world moved here from Miami, but he moved from Florida here. Now I'm sure he loves Western North Carolina and loves Cashiers, but he doesn't love it like I do. No way. There's no way.

I've grown up catching screen lizards running up the creeks, just that community, and those memories you have, that affects you. That affects you. So when I have passion for preserving social security, when I believe in Medicare, when I see poor people -- and all the kids we went to school together with, most of us were poor, we just didn't know it. Now I was better than some because my parents were teachers, but I look at some of my neighbors when I go back into Robbinsville -- we still have a home there -- I see people who are hurting.

And here we're having this debate in Washington where I work as Congressman Shuler's Chief of Staff, now Mark would blame me for all the problems in Washington because I work there. He calls me a DC insider. I'm a Western North Carolinian insider, Mark. And I'll tell you this. When I see how we will find things to fight over to prevent progress, some rigid ideology we subscribe to, guys, sometimes the good of the whole, I'm not even going to advocate all the time, but sometimes the good of the whole trumps what preconceived condition you had in your head before you got there. And that's for both parties. That's far left, that's far right that's people in the middle. I don't care who you are, when you get elected to govern, listen to your people, think for yourself and be willing to work together.

Now Mark said I'm for raising taxes.

That's not accurate. What I said was, we can't tax our way out, cut our way out or grow our way out. We will need to combine those three things. Double-digit growth for almost two decades, if our economy grows by double-digits for two decades we still will have a deficit. Do you expect double-digit growth? Can we cut enough regulations and enough taxes to get double-digit growth for 20 years?

Now we also talk about President Reagan. I like President Reagan. I think President Reagan did some good things. But let me tell you some things you might not know President Reagan did. He increased the debt limit 17 times. Bill Clinton four, George W. Bush, seven.

President Reagan worked with Tip O'Neil for a compromise to preserve Social Security and extend that life. Democrat, Republican, very different tracts on what they believe. They were able to pull it off and get it done. Got us more time. That's what we have to get back to. It doesn't matter who is in charge of Congress, who is in the White House when this election is over, it's time to get to work. It is.

Now we should all fight for who we believe in and vote for who you believe in. Do those things. I'm in an uphill battle, I know that. I've had a district drawn that anybody that has much sanity wouldn't even run for. But I care that much about Western North Carolina. I care that much. I'm not going to allow the chance -- one of the gentlemen I was running against in the primary -- I couldn't sleep at night knowing there was a chance that that guy could be representing my people and trying to help my district because I knew he couldn't do it.

If you want somebody's that's passionate and if you want somebody who will fight and not be pushed around down here, up there or anywhere else, if you want someone who will look at facts and look at the evidence and make decisions regardless of what ideology I had before I went to there, I am going to be a good candidate for you.

Now if you want somebody who is going to be selective and is only going to tell you the facts of history that line up with the way they think the world should be, Mark's going to be a good candidate for you. It's just that simple. It's just that simple.

So the difference in us is we're in a time with the biggest threats to this country, economically and every other way, and what's slowing this recession down is the gridlock in Washington.

We can all disagree on what needs to happen, but I think we should all agree that something has to happen. Our credit has already been downgraded. S&P said the reason they downgraded us is because it looked

like we weren't serious about dealing with the problem -- we played chicken too long and they downgraded us. Guys that's unacceptable.

Concerning Social Security, Medicare -- we all need these things. We can worked together and solve them. I believe I'm the better option for that. I believe I'm better suited for that. I work for one of the most independent members of Congress, continually, to his own demise. I've been hit over the head by more hammers with Democrats mad at us. Then I pick up the phone and have a Republican hit me over the head the other way. I know what I'm talking about. If you want a good Congressman, you are going to have to have one that he willing to make these decisions and willing to lose his job.

Now I already stepped down from one job, I'm unemployed. My wife thank goodness has a job supporting us while I'm doing this. I'm serious about it, I will work for you and I think you'll be proud of me if I have a chance to do this. Thank you.

Mark Meadows

We do have a difference and I haven't been in Washington, DC in a program that has been broke for the last five or six years working there.

I'm a small business guy and I have lived the American Dream. I grew up poor. I grew up in a 900 sq. ft concrete block, three bedroom, one bath house with a full family and truly, I played in a ditch; thought it was a creek.

• See LEAGUE Q&A page 12

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... LEAGUE Q&A continued from page 11

It's real easy to say somebody is not from here and they don't love our country, I can tell you. I wasn't born in Florida; I was born on an Army base while my Dad served this nation. And I love this nation just as much as Hayden or anybody else does and I can tell you that the reason why I'm running for Congress is not to be your Congressman, it's to be your representative. And there's a big difference. A Congressman goes up there and does whatever he thinks is best that will get him re-elected. A representative will go up there and vote the will of the people.

What we've seen over and over again is that on both sides of the isle they will not tackle the hard questions. We've been criticized, quite frankly quite a bit. We've even heard some of it in the last few min-

utes. Because we have been very specific when a question is asked, we answer the question whether you like it or not because that's what you deserve as a people. You deserve someone who will give you a straight answer and say this is what I stand for and if you don't like it you don't have to vote for them.

It is time that we quit equivocating and saying, "Well, I'm kind of for it and I'm kind of not for it."

You know we've got gridlock; we don't have gridlock. The thing is the Democrats had control of everything in 2008 and 2010 and they passed two things, Obamacare and a stimulus plan, both of which are a burden on the economy and won't move things further along.

It is time we stop doing business the



League of Women Voters Susan Erwin introducing candidates Mark Meadows and Hayden Rogers.
Photo by Kim Lewicki

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way we have always done business.

For me, I cannot imagine that we don't have a budget. We've gone over 1,200 days without a budget. Yet, we think we can make rational decisions? So I think if we can't pass a budget, Congress shouldn't get paid. We have a Constitutional responsibility to pass a budget and we need to do that. When we start to work and we work together and yes, we will have to compromise on some things, but there are some times when you have values you can't compromise on.

So much of what we are being asked to do is throw out the Constitution. Throw out what we have had men and women fight and die for. I'm strong on our Veterans and our commitment to our Veterans. It's a travesty when we start to change our commitment to them when they come home. When we say, "Guys, the deal we cut isn't the deal we are going to keep." We need to stay true to our word and make sure we are going to do that.

There are major differences between us. I don't believe government is the answer. Since the time I have been running for office, I have seen the deficit go from under \$15 trillion to click over \$15 trillion and now click over \$16 trillion. So that's been in less than a year and one month. That is something that's not sustainable. We've got to make sure we rein that in. We can't do it my making small little cuts that appear to be cuts that are really cuts in growth and they aren't real cuts. We have to do that.

Are people willing to sacrifice on behalf of this great nation? Yes. Do I believe that both Democrats and Republicans across this district are willing to do that? I can tell you they are. I have been across ev-

ery counties multiple times and they are willing to sacrifices because they know it's not sustainable.

If what we have been doing has worked so well, why do we have such high unemployment here in Western North Carolina? I just ask you the question. If what we're being doing is working, then why change it? But I'm telling you it's not working. Graham County where he grew up is one of the highest unemployment if not the highest unemployment in the state and if that's the way he'll treat his home county, how will he treat the rest of us?

Here's what we need to do. We have to make sure we have a plan and we have a plan and we have communicated that plan today and truly, it will make a big difference moving forward. I am committed to not just being your Congressman but to being your representative and when you speak, it will be your voice that's heard in Washington, DC.

Next week: Questions 4 & 5:

4. Voters are concerned about issues and policy changes impacting women's health and welfare. In an effort to shape social policy, legislators are challenging and implementing barriers to long standing legal services. Please explain your position on the government's role in reproductive rights in shaping social policy and please speak specifically to access to contraception.

5. What are two or three additional issues that are most important to you to address in the upcoming term, such as health care, climate change, education, income disparity, international relations and what actions would you support and conclude with your closing remarks.

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... ENCROACHMENTS continued from page 1

with traffic control, particularly where it exits onto Fifth Street, by narrowing the travel way from 24 ft. to 15 ft. This will make the one-way more obvious to drivers, they said.

Town Manager Bob Frye recommended approval saying the islands in the street were approved years ago when the Town Board voted to change the street to one-way.

However, according to the minutes of the Special Town Board held on Nov. 3, 2010 at 4 p.m. to discuss the Parking Study Recommendations – at which Mayor David Wilkes and Commissioners Amy Patterson, Gary Drake, Dennis DeWolf and John Dotson were present – the board only agreed with the Planning Board's recommendation to convert Spring Street to a one-way street east bound and to construct a sidewalk along the north side of the street.

In fact, during a discussion concerning Spring Street traffic safety and flow issues at the May 3, 2012 meeting just prior to the changes actually taking place, at which Mayor David Wilkes, Commissioners Patterson, Drake, Pierson, Dotson and Stiehler were present, Commissioners Patterson and Dotson both stated they didn't remember approving the planters coming into the town's right-of-way.

Commissioner Drake made a motion for Public Works Director Lamar Nix to proceed with the one-way signs to get the safety issue solved, which Commissioner Pierson seconded. He said he felt the town needed to look at safety first and then could look at the planters. That's the last time the planters were mentioned; the work continued, and then the public got involved.

At the May 17 Town Board meeting, the town heard from Mary Bynum who was against the street becoming one-way, period.

At the June 7, Town Board meeting Ridgley Berger and Margaret Browne addressed the board with concerns about a one-way Spring Street and they were told to return to the June 21 Town Board meeting.

At the June 21 Town Board meeting, one-way traffic on Spring Street was discussed at length, initiated by Berger and Browne who again expressed their concerns about Spring Street becoming a one-way street and going in the same direction as Church Street. They didn't feel the public was adequately informed of the pending changes.

After lengthy discussions, Commissioner Dotson said the Town of Highlands Parking Study that was conducted on July

1, 2009 by Wilbur and Associates. He said there were advertisements in the newspapers and displays at the Rec Park that showed traffic flows, changes and suggestions for public input during the study.

Furthermore, Mayor Wilkes said items such as those do not require public hearings nor meetings and suggested citizens to request being put on the Sunshine List.

Plans for the Spring Street configuration continued culminating with Thursday night's decision to narrow the travel-way via the islands for safety reasons.

Town Planner David Clabo said the wide mouth of Spring Street where it empties onto Fifth Street connotes a two-way street and said an out-of-town motorist traveled up the road in the wrong direction recently, despite the one-way signs.

The board also OK'd the Glass family request to construct two parking pull-offs in front of their home on Worley Road.

Commissioner Patterson asked that they make sure run-off caused by the new configuration doesn't cause problems further along the road for other homeowners.

Town Manager Frye said a revocable permit was also required with granting of the encroachment in case the town ever needs this area of the right-of-way for utilities, roadway, or other public purposes.

For more on the Parking Study see the accompanying article.

In other Town Board news, Wic Ashburn of Landmark Realty in Wright Square asked the town to reimburse him his \$1,000 insurance deductible for a recent claim he had to make to his insurance company due to a town water line break behind his building that flooded his office.

Manager Town Frye said the town's insurance company denied the claim on the grounds that there was no negligence on the town's part.

"It's understood that water lines sometimes break," he said. He also said the town has never paid for any insurance claim or insurance deductible that has been turned down by its insurance carrier.

Commissioner Dotson said he understood the town's position, but felt since it was a town line and Ashburn wasn't at fault, the town should offer something.

Commissioner Stiehler said he was concerned about the precedent the town may set by granting Ashburn's request.

"What if it happened to someone who has a \$5,000 deductible? If the staff had worked on the water line and something happened, that's one thing, but this is why you have insurance. This is something we have to be careful with," he said.

The board voted 4-1 to deny Ashburn's

• See ENCROACHMENTS page 20

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- 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.

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Monday

- Mountain View Group of Alcoholics Anonymous will be held in the Faith and

Fellowship Center of First Presbyterian Church. Enter via the entrance on 5th St. and proceed a few steps down to the library.

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 Presbyterian Church at Fifth and Main streets.

Wednesdays

- The Highlands Mountaintop Rotary meets at 7:30 a.m. in the dining room at the H-C 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.

- Mah Jong games will be held, open to the public, at the Albert Carlton Cashiers-Community Library at 1 p.m.

Wednesdays & Fridays

- Open AA meeting at noon at the Presbyterian Church at Fifth and Main streets.

Thursdays, Fri., Sat., Sun.

- Live music at Altitudes at Skyline Lodge, 470 Skyline Lodge Road off Flat Mountain Road. Call 526-2121.

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. Call Anne Doggett at 526 8009.

- Free dinner at the Cashiers Community Center from 5-7 p.m. Mostly organic,

healthy food. Donations accepted. Call 743-5706 for more information. Volunteers needed!

Second Thursdays

- The regular meeting of Highlands Chapter #284, Order of The Eastern Star is held at 7:30 p.m.

Saturdays

- Live music at Main Street Inn's The Bistro, noon-3 p.

- Highlands Farmers Market at Highlands School from 9a to noon, through October.

- At Mountain Fresh Grocery, free wine tastings from 2-4 p.m.

- Simply Homegrown is a local farmers market in Rabun County, GA. Celebrating its 11th season as the area's original sustainable farm market. Open 9 am to 2 pm at the new location 0.7 mile west of Clayton on Highway 76 West. Look for directional signs on Routes 441 and 76 in Clayton. Our website has detailed directions www.simplyhomegrown.org.
- 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! Call Dianne 828-349-3777 or Robin 828-421-9891.

• Bascom Community Knitters welcome all knitters, crocheters, smockers and needlepointers to join us on the Terrace at the Bascom. 10 until noon. From now until Thanksgiving! Come and knit or come and watch. mscarolray@yahoo.com

Every Third Saturday

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

Thursday, Sept. 27

• A celebration of this year's Relay For Life success on Thursday from 6-9pm at Fressers Eatery in historic Helen's Barn for a buffet dinner and refreshments. Also, you may get involved with Relay for Life at any time. Check out www.relayforlife.org/highlandscnc or call 526-1841 for more information.

Saturday Sept. 29

• The Foxfire Museum and Heritage Center will open its doors free of charge along with over 1,400 other participating venues for the eighth annual Museum Day Live! For one day only, The Foxfire Museum will grant free access to visitors who download a Museum Day Live! ticket at Smithsonian.com. The Foxfire Museum and Heritage Center, a 22-log-cabin village, contains exhibits, artifacts, and crafts of early Appalachian life, as well as a gift shop featuring The Foxfire Book series and other traditional crafts. Open Mon-Sat., 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., the museum is located at 98 Foxfire Lane, off Cross Street, in Mountain City.

• The Nantahala Hiking Club's Family Hiking Day. Registration is at 9:30-10:30a at the Standing Indian Campground Family Pavilion. Franklin. Registration is from 9:30 AM to 10:30 AM at the Standing Indian Campground Family Pavilion. There will be a hiking lecture, organized hikes from 1-4 miles, and a cookout lunch for hikers.

• The North Carolina Bartram Trail Society will celebrate its 35th anniversary with an illustrated presentation on "The Natural History of the Southern Appalachians" and a trip to the Cowee Mound. The meeting will begin at the Franklin library at 10 a.m. Following a presentation, participants will travel down the river to the eat lunch beside the Cowee Mound, which William Bartram described in his book Travels (1791). Deadline reservation is Sept 27. Call Meg Petty at 828-371-0633.

• Friends of Panthertown has invited

League candidate forum to feature MC Commission candidates Higdon and Kuppers



Bobby Kuppers (D)

On Thursday, October 11, the Macon County League of Women Voters will host a forum for county commission candidates. For the District 3 seat, incumbent Bobby Kuppers (D) is facing Paul Higdon (R) in the November 6 election. District 1 candidate, incumbent Jim Tate (R), and District 2 candidate, incumbent Kevin Corbin (R), are unopposed.

Candidates participating in the forum will respond to questions about important issues in the upcoming term.

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan organization, on a national, state, and local level, that encourages the informed and active participa-



Paul Higdon (R)

tion of citizens in government, works to increase understanding of public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy. The Macon County LWV has hosted election forums for over 15 years and is respected for the fair and unbiased nature of the forums. In keeping with LWV traditions, it is preferred that there be no display of campaign paraphernalia. Signs and banners are prohibited on the premises.

The meeting will be held at Tartan Hall in Franklin at noon. Attendees are welcome to bring their own bag lunch and drink. The program will begin shortly after noon and last approximately one hour. The public is invited.

Frank Sinatra Show to Play at the Highlands Playhouse

Old Blue Eyes. The Chairman of the Board. The Voice. All are nicknames of the legendary crooner Frank Sinatra. Close your eyes and remember the days when you could sit back and enjoy the velvet tunes of the most prolific member of the Rat Pack. Those sweet melodies still resonate. The world has been without Sinatra since his fatal heart attack in 1998, but his voice and songs still live on.

The Highlands Playhouse is proud to present Sinatra extraordinary Gabe Russo in "Summer Wind: An Intimate Evening with Frank Sinatra" this October. The show is a theatrical presentation brought to you in two acts. Act 1 is an informal meeting backstage with Frank before a concert. In just under an hour he discusses his career in music and film, with a few songs 'thrown in.' Act 2 is a forty-five minute concert with all the best of Sinatra's music. You will hear Sinatra staples such as Fly Me



to the Moon, Young at Heart, My Way, and I've Got You Under My Skin.

"Getting Gabe Russo to perform Summer Wind is as close as any theater can come to booking Frank Sinatra," Executive Director Tina Rogers said, "If you close your eyes and listen, you will feel like you are listening to the real thing." Playhouse Theater Manager Bill Patti agrees, "Gabe is fantastic and Highlands and Sinatra make such a logical pair. Our audiences are going to go crazy when they see this show."

Tickets to the show are \$30 and can be purchased by calling the Highlands Playhouse box office at 828-526-2695. Performances are Friday and Saturday nights at 8PM and Sunday afternoons at 2PM from October 5th-14th.

Highlands Upcoming Events



volunteers to join them for trail work and hiking. Volunteers will meet at the Salt Rock entrance to Panthertown at the end of Breed-love Road in Cashiers at 9:30 am and will hike in to prune and maintain nearby trails. Tools and instruction are provided and all ages and skill levels are welcome to participate. Volunteers should be water, lunch, and wear good shoes. The group will hike 4-5 miles on easy to moderate trails and expect to be done by 2:30 pm. For more information call (828) 269-4453 or visit www.panthertown.org

Sunday, Sept. 30

• A faculty/student concert from the WCU music dept. at First Presbyterian Church at 2 p.m. Featured WCU faculty members will be Mike Lancaster, baritone; Bill Martin, tenor, and Bradley Martin, piano. Also featured will be several of the university's star vocal students. Bradley Martin, a professor of piano at WCU, has recently been hired as Organist at Highlands United Methodist Church. Everyone is invited.

Mon., Oct 1

• Living with Alzheimer's for Caregivers, 10a to noon at H-C Hospital. Call Sher-aline at 526-1498 to register.

Tues., Oct. 2

• The Mountain High Republican Women's Club (MHRWC) October luncheon meeting is on Tuesday, 11:30a at the Country Club of Sapphire Valley in Sapphire. The featured speaker, Dr. Luis Valdes, Professor Emeritus of Political Science at Rollins College, continues the conservative speakers' series the group has featured each month. MHRWC members, guests and anyone interested in hearing Dr. Valdes are asked to reserve by September 28th. The cost of the lunch is \$25 when reserved in advance or \$30 at the door. For additional information or for reservations please call 828 526-4146 or email mtnrepublicanwomen@yahoo.com.

• Board Certified Gynecologist, Julie A. Farrow, MD will present "Women's Health-Screening Tests You Need and Don't Need", a complimentary lunch and learn, held at 12 noon in the Jane Woodruff Clinic on the Hospital campus. Participants will learn the latest information regarding preventive medical treatments and screenings to maintain optimal health. Please register in advance (828) 526-1313 or email cutz@hchospital.org.

• The Plateau Fly Fishing Club final meeting for the season at the Cashier Library at 7 p.m. with raffle of a Wolfman Net from Wisconsin feature fine ash and black walnut. For more information, call 828-885-7130.

• Highlands Dialogue at the Hudson Library from 10-11:30 a.m. "Who Owns De-

mocracy?" by Nick Penniman. Sojourners. Aug. 2012. "Big money has corrupted our politics, and We the People want it fixed. What will it take to clean up the mess?" Handout (also e-mailed). Coordinator: John Gaston.

• Board of Education Candidate Forum from 7-8 p.m. at the Fine Arts Center on the campus of Franklin High School.

Wed., Oct. 3

• Flu shots 1-4p at the Jane Woodruff Building at Highlands-Cashiers hospital. The vaccine is \$25. The public health center will bill insurance companies so clients should bring their cards with them. Medicaid does not cover the cost.

• At The Rotary Club of the Cashiers Valley meeting, candidates for Jackson County Commissioner, District 4 (South Jackson County) Republican Marty Jones and Democrat Mark Jones will answer questions posed from Republican and Democrat moderators. At the United Methodist Church, 8-9a. Open to the public.

Thurs., Oct 4

• Flu shots at Sapphire Valley Resort

Community Center in conjunction with Ingles Pharmacy in Cashiers 10 am and 12 noon at the Sapphire Valley Resort Community Center. The cost is a reduced fee of \$20 per person.

Medicare owners must bring their red, white and blue Medicare Card with them and present it before receiving the flu shot. A Patient Consent Form will be distributed at the Community Center. In order to have the correct amount of vaccine available, please call the SPM Resorts office for a reservation at 828-743-7667.

Friday, Oct. 5

• At Dr. Buchanan's Center for Plastic Surgery in the Jane Woodruff Building, OBA-GI DAY 2012. Drop in from 10a-4p. Refreshments. Door Prizes. 20% Off Obagi and Jane Iredale. Free Clarisonic Head with the purchase of a Mia or Pro. Come and get color matched for your skin with Jane Iredale Mineral Makeup.

Saturday, Oct. 6

• Pour Le Pink 5-K Walk/Run for Breast Health and Women's Services - organized

by the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital Foundation, a 5-K beginning and ending on the campus of the hospital. Funds raised will go toward maintaining HCH's state-of-the-art equipment as well as financial aid for HCH patients. The event begins at 9am and is open to male/female runners and walkers, all ages. Pre-registration is \$20, if received by Sept. 21st, and \$30 thereafter. To register, become a sponsor, or for additional race details please visit www.highlandscashiershospital.org or call (828) 526-1313. The race is being organized with assistance by Highlands Roadrunners Club.

• John Michael Montgomery will perform twice at Carpe Diem Farm: 2-4p Concert on the Lawn. Gates open at 1 p.m. Bring a chair or blanket. Family friendly and no alcohol. Tickets are \$50 per person. Children under 12 are \$10. Also at 6:30 during the Tux, Tails and Blue Jeans Ball in the indoor arena. Catered by Tim Lundy of Rosewood Market. Tickets are \$200 per person. All monies raised will go to provide for the equine staff. For tickets and more information got to

www.carpediemfarms.org or call Peter Raoul at 526-5700.

• Highlands Nature Center program on fall colors scheduled from 2 - 3:30p on Participants should meet at the Nature Center by 2:00 pm. Cost for this event is \$2 per person, and the program is appropriate for all ages. Advanced registration is requested due to limited space. To sign up, please call the Nature Center at 526-2623.

Tuesday, Oct. 9

• Alzheimers Affects on Baby Boomers, at 10 a.m., in the Jane Woodruff Building, lower level, at H-C Hospital. To register, call 526-1498.

Learn about Fall leaf color at the Highlands Nature Center



Looking for a fun, educational activity for the whole family? Want to learn more about the beautiful autumn leaves? Then come to the Highlands Nature Center for a program on fall colors scheduled from 2 - 3:30 pm on Saturday, October 6.

Head Naturalist Patrick Brannon will lead activities about how leaves change color, deciduous versus coniferous trees, and the winter survival strategies of each. Afterwards, visitors will be led on a walk through the Botanical Garden and will learn to identify many species of trees by leaf type, shape, and color.

Participants should meet at the Nature Center by 2 pm. Cost for this event is \$2 per person, and the program is appropriate for all ages. Advanced registration is requested due to limited space. To sign up, please call the Nature Center at 526-2623.

WCU faculty/student concert Sunday at First Presbyterian Church



The Music Committee of First Presbyterian Church and the Music Department of Western Carolina University will co-sponsor a faculty/student concert at 2pm on Sunday, September 30. The concert will take place in the church sanctuary. Featured WCU faculty members will be Mike Lancaster, baritone; Bill Martin, tenor, and Bradley Martin, piano. Also featured will be several of the university's star vocal students.

Bill Martin, a professor of voice



at WCU, is well known and loved by Highlands audiences, having sung in many previous concerts in the area. Lancaster is the new Director of Choral Activities in the School of Music at WCU where he conducts the Concert Choir, University Chorus and Early Music Ensemble, and teaches conducting and voice. He has also been appointed Director of the Asheville Symphony Chorus. Most importantly, Lancaster was recently hired as Director of



Music/Worship at Highlands First Presbyterian Church.

Bradley Martin, a professor of piano at WCU, has recently been hired as Organist at Highlands United Methodist Church.

Everyone is cordially invited to come and enjoy this concert. First Presbyterian Church is located at the corner of Main and Fifth Streets. Handicap entrances are located on Church Street and on Fifth Street.



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Autumn Home Improvement

Tips for Protecting Your Deck

(StatePoint) Many people build their decks to improve the beauty of their backyards while adding value to their home. Wood decks are an investment and as such, should be protected. However, the National Association of Homebuilders estimates that there are currently 20 million unprotected decks in the United States.

Staining is not only an easy solution to protecting your investment, it is also the best way to protect and preserve the wood. But before beginning a staining project, homeowners and contractors should understand the process involves more than just a can and a brush.

"While there are many DIY-ers and pros out there that have experience with woodcare projects, I still find it surprising how unnecessarily intimidating wood staining can be," says Paul DiMeo, television DIY star. "Having a core set of wood care standards provides professionals, DIY-ers, and homeowners with the correct information they need to properly understand the ins-and-outs of staining."

DiMeo, along with other industry experts, is a member of the Cabot Woodcare Council Advisory Board. The advisory board is a group of industry experts who have leveraged their collective and indi-

vidual expertise to develop the standards of wood care, to help solve staining problems and keep projects moving as efficiently as possible.

Before beginning a staining project, the Council reminds everyone to keep the following in mind:

- When choosing a stain, consider the more opaque a stain, the more durability it will have.
- Before beginning a staining project, thoroughly assess your wood for the presence of mold, mildew, and signs of weathering.
- When cleaning the deck, you'll want to use a gentle cleanser formulated for wood. Regular soap and water will leave behind residue which will reduce penetration.
- The ideal temperature to stain your deck is between 50 and 80 degrees Fahrenheit. It is also important to choose a day when no rain is expected for 24 hours.

Whether you are a first-timer at staining or a professional who has been doing it for 20 years, comprehensive staining resources that can benefit anyone can be found at, www.CabotWoodcareCouncil.com.

By staining your deck properly, you can protect your investment for years to come.



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Autumn Home Improvement

How To Improve Your Home's Entryway

(StatePoint) Nothing says "welcome to my home" quite like an impressive entryway. Attention to detail and some added extra touches of hospitality can transform any ho-hum entry into a warm and inviting approach to a home.

"A front door should have good energy efficiency features, a snug fit to the frame and an appealing color," says Mark Clement, a professional contractor and host of the home improvement radio show, MyFixItUpLife. "If you're missing any of those elements, consider investing in a new front entryway."

Start with the basics. Evaluate the look and condition of your front door. Determine if your current door needs to be replaced or just enhanced with a decorative urethane pediment, crosshead and pilasters.

If you're replacing your door, consider one made of secure fiberglass that resists denting and scratching, is easy to maintain, energy efficient and quiet, such as one from the Therma-Tru Classic-Craft Canvas Collection, which is a "Consumers Digest Best Buy" recipient. The smooth, paintable finish on this door allows you to select any accent paint color for your home.

Quality products are important, so don't forget to add a touch of appeal to your home's entryway. Start with decorative glass for the doorlites and potentially your sidelites. You can select from privacy glass or designer

elegant features and colors in attractive glass packages to create a warm, welcoming entryway.

To enhance your door and protect it from rot, mold, insects and decay, select moisture-resistant trim products. Those from Fypon, for example, are made of urethane and are lightweight and easy to install.

"For most entryways I recommend a set of pilasters that stand up next to both sides of your door and attach to the surface siding," says Clement. "Then add a crosshead and pediment that can 'sit' on the top of the entryway and act as a key focal feature. These simple and relatively inexpensive additions can truly transform the look of a home."

Find a retailer that carries low-maintenance synthetic products in dozens of designs, so you can showcase your own personality. Urethane millwork products are long-lasting, since their surfaces are not subject to chipping and peeling as you'll find with many wood trim pieces. The pieces also resist humidity and warping, making them ideal for all climate conditions.

For the final steps, consider new exterior lighting fixtures to complement your new door, along with a colorful welcome mat and planters of bright flowers. Together, these all add up to create an inviting entryway for you and your guests.



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Students in Sabrina Cashion' apparel class and Anne Porter's Microsoft Academy class worked on a project to transform Macon County Schools Vision Statement into a logo for the school system. The business class created the logos and the apparel class used them on dish towels which they presented to each school board member at Monday night's meeting. Highlands School Board representative Stephanie McCall is pictured with her towel.

Photo by Kim Lewicki

... SUPERINTENDENT from page 1

dents for college and high performance careers," he said. "Far too many of our students are attending community college and four-year universities without adequate preparation for success at these schools"

He said 53% of all jobs in North Carolina will require some post-secondary training beyond high school. By 2018, new jobs in North Carolina requiring post-secondary education and training will grow by 322,000 while jobs

for high school graduates and dropouts will grow by 157,000.

"We can't afford to ignore the fact that students need to be pre-

pared for the new jobs market," he said.

It's part of North Carolina's Ready-Set-60 Initiative to have all students graduate, be better prepared for college, and possess skills necessary for careers in today's economy.

As part of that initiative, all students are required to take the ACT Test in their 11th grade year. Through many years of research and the experiences of what it takes to succeed in college, the ACT has established Benchmark scores that should be achieved.

Duncan said these scores represent how likely it will be that a student will have a 50% chance of making a B or better, or will how likely to have a 75% chance of making a C or better in college level credit bearing courses. These Benchmarks are:

"While our scores in Macon County are near the middle of the rankings in Region 8 – the 17 western counties – there is ample room for improvement. This is especially true for this year when the scores will be reported as part of a schools A, B, C, D, F ranking," he said.

Duncan said academic preparedness is a challenge and asked how is it that two-thirds of North Carolina students in community college are enrolled in a remedial course? "Over 20% of all high school graduates who go to college are required to take remedial courses," he said.

During the 2009-10 school year, over 50% of students enrolled in a North Carolina community college took a remedial

• See SUPERINTENDENT page 23

To compete in college courses, the ACT test percentages should be:

College Course	ACT	Benchmark Score
English Composition	English	18
Algebra	Math	22
Social Sciences	Reading	21
Biology	Science	24

Benchmark scores in Region 8 by county:

ACT REPORT

COUNTY	ENGLISH MEAN	MET % BENCHMARK	MATH MEAN	MET MATH % BENCHMARK	SCIENCE MEAN	MET SCIENCE % BENCHMARK	READING MEAN	MET % READING BENCHMARK
Ash City	19	53.2	20.8	44.1	20	31.9	21.1	52.7
Buncombe	17	44.1	19.5	31.8	18.6	18.1	18.9	37.3
Cherokee	16.8	42.7	19.2	30.3	18.8	18	19.1	41.2
Clay	17.9	51.7	20.8	39.3	19.7	24.7	20.2	48.3
Graham	16.7	36.0	18.1	18.6	16.3	7.0	17.2	30.2
Haywood	16.3	37.2	19.3	31.1	18.1	10.9	18.4	35.9
Henderson	17.7	47.4	19.9	38.2	19.2	18.7	19.2	40.1
Jackson	17.1	42.3	19.4	28.2	18.8	20.2	19.2	39.0
Macon	16.1	37.9	18.8	23.3	18.2	14.2	18.9	35.8
Madison	15.8	36.6	18.6	21.1	17.5	11.4	18.0	30.3
McDowell	15.6	34.4	18.3	21.1	17.5	11.7	17.2	24.5
Mitchell	17.4	46.2	19.5	28.8	18.3	19.2	19.3	40.4
Polk	18.5	52.5	20.5	42.6	19.8	20.4	20.3	45.1
Rutherford	15.0	29.6	18.0	18.3	16.9	8.0	16.8	23.4
Swain	14.7	26.4	17.9	17.1	17.0	9.3	16.6	21.4
Transylvania	17.2	43.7	20.1	37.0	19.3	18.2	19.6	43.3
Yancey	15.9	37.8	18.5	23.0	17.7	11.9	17.7	30.0
STATE	16.4	39.5	19.3	30.4	18.3	16.2	18.3	53.8

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... OBITUARIES continued from page 3



Frank Edgar Henson, Jr.

Frank Edgar Henson, Jr., 76, of Cashiers, NC, died Saturday, September 22, 2012.

Born in Jackson County, he was the son of the late Frank E. Henson and Edith Norton Henson. He was owner and operator of Henson Cabinet and Woodworking and member of Cashiers Baptist Church. Frank was an avid outdoorsman; enjoying deer hunting, fishing and riding motorcycles. He loved talking on his CB radio. Frank was a retired volunteer for the Glenville/Cashiers Rescue Squad after over 25 years of service.

He is survived by his wife Marilyn Hunter Henson; four children, Patricia Villarreal and husband Felix of Cashiers, Angie Biller and husband Glen of Cullowhee, James Barry Henson and wife Karen of Cashiers and Sabrina Rogers and husband Dan of Franklin; three brothers, T.R. Henson of Apopka, FL, Marshall Henson of Franklin and Charles Henson of Cashiers; eleven grandchildren; two great grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral Service will be held at 2 p.m. Tuesday, September 25, at Cashiers Baptist Church. Rev. Scottie Patrick, Rev. Bill Rogers and Rev. Lewis Smith will officiate. Burial will be in the Norton Community Cemetery on Norton Road, Cashiers, NC.

The family will receive friends from 6-8 p.m. Monday, September 24, at Cashiers Baptist Church. Pallbearers will be Fabian Villarreal, Jonathan Villarreal, Cody Biller, Devin Nordan, Brandon Henson and Charles Henson, Jr.

Memorial donations can be made to the Felix's Mission Trip, 376 Laurel Knob

Road, Cashiers, NC 28717 or Cashiers Baptist Church, PO Box 336, Cashiers, NC 28717.

Macon Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements.

Online condolences can be made at maconfuneralhome.com



Harriet Owen Boger

Harriet Owen Boger, 64, of Atlanta and Highlands, North Carolina died quietly in her home on Sunday, September 23, 2012 surrounded by her family after a brief illness following a lung infection.

She was born on March 12, 1948 in Griffin, Georgia and was predeceased by her parents, James Coleman Owen, Jr. and Harriett Burke Owen of Griffin. Harriet was a devoted and caring wife, mother, grandmother, sister and a friend to so many people. Her magnetic personality and smile were contagious and she always had a kind and caring word for those she encountered or counseled. She was a graduate of Griffin High School and The University of Georgia where she was a member of Kappa Kappa Gamma. In 2004 she was elected to the International Honorary Society Phi Beta Delta, Oklahoma State University chapter.

Following her graduation from UGA she moved to Atlanta and entered the interior design business where she managed the Atlanta showroom in Atlanta Decorative Arts Center for the New York and Paris fabric firm Brunschwig & Fils. She later met and married her husband of 38 years, Richard Lee Boger and left the design business to become a fulltime mother of two sons and community volunteer. She worked tirelessly as a parent volunteer at her sons' schools: Atlanta Speech School, The Westminster Schools, Episcopal High School (Alexandria, Virginia) and Williams Col-

lege (Parents Council - Class Chair). She was a Sustaining Member of the Junior League of Atlanta, Member and Committee Chair of Cherokee Garden Club and Cherokee Garden Library at The Atlanta History Center, President's Club and Bulldog Club Member at UGA, and co-chaired along with her husband "Collective Spirits" Wine Festival in 2009 and 2010 to benefit The Bascom arts center in Highlands, North Carolina, among several other activities.

She was an avid connoisseur and collector of contemporary art, gourmet cook and devoted duplicate bridge player. She enjoyed hiking in her beloved mountains surrounding Highlands, gardening, golf, tennis and six-wicket golf croquet. She was a party planner and entertainer without peer and always enjoyed hosting friends in Atlanta and Highlands at dinner parties where stories and laughter abounded.

In late 2007 she was diagnosed with Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis, a deteriorating condition of both lungs with no known cause or no known cure. In February, 2008 she underwent a successful double-lung transplant under the skilled hands of Dr. Seth Force, Transplant Surgeon, at the Andrew J. McKelvey Lung Transplant Center at Emory Healthcare. Energized by her new lease on life she devoted her time to promoting patient and family counseling and advice for both pre- and post-lung transplant patients. She became a mentor to dozens of such patients while they awaited their organs for transplant and followed-up with patients and their families after their transplants as they adjusted to their new and radically different lives.

Dr. Clint Lawrence at Emory commented: "There is no way to measure the impact that Harriet Boger has had on so many lives of transplant candidates and patients as she discussed, laughed and cried with them as they approached these life altering decisions in their lives."

She became friends and associates of the lung transplant doctors, nurses and staff at Emory as they charted the growth and future of their lung transplant program. She constantly reminded them what great work they do and made them ever more conscious of what the many pressures and anxieties that their patients faced during the organ transplant cycle. To raise public awareness of the positive societal impact of organ donations, Dr. Lawrence even wrote a song: "Waiting For The Call" (now "Harriet's Song") describing Harriet's process of waiting for that call that brought her new lungs to her so she could experience a new life full of breath and activity and be able to "dance at her son's wedding

in May." She fulfilled her goal.

She is survived by her husband and sons: Owen Richard Boger (Maegan) of New York, New York, Burke Lawrence Boger of Atlanta, her grandson James Owen Boger of New York, sister Margaret Owen Kimberly (Dan) of Hinsdale, Illinois, nieces, Katherine Burke Kimberly of Boulder, Colorado, Laura Kimberly Glosniak (Michael) and great-niece, Avery McNeill Glosniak of Chicago, Illinois.

A memorial service and celebration of Harriet's life was held at All Saints' Episcopal Church, Atlanta at 1:30 PM on Wednesday, September 26, 2012 and will be held at the Episcopal Church of the Incarnation in Highlands, North Carolina at 11 AM on Friday, September 28, 2012. Interment will be at Highlands Memorial Park, Highlands, North Carolina.

A reception beat Highlands Country Club following the service on Friday in Highlands.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made in Harriet's name to McKelvey Lung Transplant Center, Emory University Hospital, 1364 Clifton Road, NE - Suite F-520, Atlanta, Georgia 30322, The Cherokee Garden Library c/o The Atlanta History Center, 130 West Paces Ferry Road, NW, Atlanta, Georgia 30305 or to The Westminster Schools, Office of Development, 1424 West Paces Ferry Road, NW, Atlanta, Georgia 30327.

Playhouse Rummage Sale set for Sat., Oct. 13

On Saturday, Oct. 13, The Highlands Playhouse is having a fundraising Rummage Sale.

It's going on the same day as the Highlands Own Arts & Crafts show and will be one more fun event to attend that day.

It takes place at 221 N. 4th Street, two doors down from CK Swan, across from Town Hall, from 10a-4p.

All proceeds benefit Highlands Playhouse.

Items are needed so drop off donations will be accepted Monday, Oct. 1 from 10a to noon, Wed., Oct. 3 from 10a to noon, and Mon. Oct. 8 from 10a to noon the event location - at 221 N. 4th Street next to CK Swan.

Donations can include, electronics, books, golf items, luggage, furniture, holiday items, baby items, furniture, clothing for ladies, men and children, linens etc. etc.

... ENCROACHMENTS continued from page 13

reimbursement request. Dotson voted agreed to the motion.

Since staff has been called for frivolous service calls, commissioners also agreed to raise service call charges from \$30 to \$75 during regular business hours and from \$30 to \$150 after business hours.

Commissioner Patterson said she didn't want to deter citizens from helping police the town's system and helping staff know what's going on by making them afraid of calling because of a big service call bill.

Commissioner Dotson said he wanted to make sure the town wouldn't take work away from the service industry by charging, but Nix said if the problem isn't the town's responsibilities, his staff always directs citizens to call an outside source to get it fixed.

Commissioner Patterson said there are two reasons to charge, "One to recoup our costs and the other is charge for an unneeded call. As long as discretion is used, I don't have a problem."

Nix assured the board the town would use discretion and only charge someone who is trying to take advantage of the town crews.

The board also agreed to put a Surveillance Camera Policy in place.

With the donation of cameras to the town and school by Gilliam's Promise, Town Manager Frye said the town needed a surveillance camera policy or it risked being liable for invasion of privacy issues.

"As we've gotten into the operation of cameras around town, we have found they can be used in ways we didn't mean them to be used," he said. "We need to have a policy in place and err on the side of caution."

A draft policy was presented and will be discussed at length at the October 18 Town Board meeting.

Concerning the Rec Park's 50-inch flat-screen TV in the lobby showing about 30 camera angles inside and outside the building, Commissioner Stiehler said there was a "creep factor."

"I understand why it's necessary, I just don't like where it's at. It's a little creepy and I'd like to see it moved to the back room. Who is supposed to see it, employees or people hanging out in the lobby?"

Matt Shuler, GIS technician, said the screen is meant as a deterrent so people can see that they can be seen everywhere and potential thieves or vandals will know they are on camera.

Commissioner Dotson said there's also the chance that they can see where they won't be seen. "You're giving them the keys to the kingdom, so to speak."

Rec Park Director Lester Norris said the reason the screen is in the lobby at the reception desk is so the people on duty, especially the one person at night, can watch it while at the counter so he or she can know what's happening in every room.

Commissioners didn't make a final decision on placement of the Rec Park screen, but Mayor David Wilkes said a policy was needed.

"Who is looking at what and who should be looking at what? The board didn't give approval for what's going on – where the cameras should go, what gets monitored, and who has the ability to watch the monitors and the video tapes, so a policy is needed," he said.

On Sept. 20, the board also heard an update on and approved the Main Street Branding Program.

The town has budgeted \$20,000 to help with the construction and placement of various signs around town. The chamber

agreed to fund \$10,000.

Next week, in the Oct. 4 issue, the story will be presented at length. – KL

The story behind Spring Street and the Parking Study

Since the re-routing of Spring Street, citizens and even past members of various boards have questioned the legitimacy of the process concerning the issue – a process which the current administration claims was decided long ago by the Town Board.

Over the last few months, the administration consistently refers to the Parking Study whenever questions arise about the streets re-routing and more specifically, the bump-outs in the street's right-of-way. But according to archived Town Board minutes dating back to July 2, 2008 when the Parking Study was first discussed, only the re-routing of Spring Street one-way east bound is documented at meetings and in the Parking Study.

The timeline is as follows:

- At the July 2, 2008 Town Board meeting at which Mayor Don Mullen, Commissioners Patterson, Ross, DeWolf, Rogers and Dotson were present, Zoning Administrator/Planner Joe Cooley explained that the study was a parking and circulation study that would show where parking was in relation to businesses. He said it had been 20 years since the last study and it would enable the board to make some good judgments. At that meeting he included a proposed RFP for the parking study with his report. The deadline for submittal of proposals was July 21, and the contract was scheduled to be approved by the board at its August 20 meeting.

- At the Town Board meeting August 20, 2008, at which Mayor Don Mullen, and Commissioners Patterson, Ross, DeWolf, Rogers and Dotson were present, Cooley's report on the study and its estimated cost was submitted. An estimate of \$31,000 had been received from Wilbur Smith Associates to conduct the study. The board unanimously agreed to contract with Wilbur Smith Associates to conduct the study for an estimated cost of \$31,000.

- The next mention of the Parking Study in the archived Town Board minutes is from a budget worksession that took place February 11, 2010 at 4 p.m. at which Mayor David Wilkes, Commissioners Patterson, Dotson, DeWolf, Drake and Rogers were present. Jim Fatland was Town Manager. Town Planner Cooley reported that the consultant had presented the Parking Study Report to the Town Board (we were unable to locate those minutes) and was waiting for direction. Mayor Wilkes suggested that the Business Group review the findings prior to bringing the report back to the Town Board.

- Then at a Special Meeting on Nov. 3, 2010 at 4 p.m., specifically to review some of the Parking Study recommendations, at which Mayor David Wilkes, Commissioners Patterson, Drake, DeWolf and Dotson were present, the following items in the study were discussed.

1. The need for better signage to direct tourists to off-street parking and destinations. The Town Board agreed. *This is now in the works as part of the Small Town Main Street Wayfinding project.* (See next week's edition.)

2. The need for definitive gateways into Highlands to let visitors know they have arrived. The board decided the existing signage was sufficient. *However, that is now in the works as part of the Small Town Main Street Wayfinding project.* (See next week's edition.)

3. The need to convert N. 3rd Street and Maple Street and Maple Street to US 64 east and S. 3rd to US 28 to a truck route. The board decided more analysis was needed.

4. The need to landscape the median down Main Street from 1st to 5th streets. The board decided that wasn't needed but suggested bump-out nodes be installed at all intersections on Main Street to improve pedestrian safety. *To date, walkways for pedestrians have been painted on Third and Oak streets and along the edge of the Mountain Fresh Grocery parking lot where it meets Main Street. In addition, a bump-out node has been constructed on the corner of 4th and Main streets.*

5. The need to construct angular parking spaces along the north side of Main Street from 1st to 3rd streets. The board voted not to do this in the foreseeable future, but recommended a sidewalk be installed on the upper bank down to 1st Street.

6. The need to pursue a traffic signal at the Main and 3rd street intersection. The board supported the report's recommendation of a traffic signal at the 3rd and Main streets intersection for truck route and safety reasons. *However, left-only turn lanes were installed, instead.*

7. The need to convert Spring Street to one-way east bound and to construct a sidewalk along the north side of Spring Street. The Town Board supported this suggestion *but nothing more.*

8. To install a traffic circle at the intersection of 4th and South streets to act as a gateway and to eliminate the confusing intersection. The Town Board endorsed the idea of improving the design of the intersection at 4th and South streets to make that intersection more efficient and safer.

9. Mid-block crosswalks on Main Street. The Town Board was divided on mid-block crosswalks

- The next time Spring Street was discussed was at the May 3, 2012 Town Board meeting, at which Mayor David Wilkes, Commissioners Patterson, Drake, Pierson, and Stiehler were present.

Concerning Spring Street one-way traffic, they discussed safety issues regarding the traffic flow on Spring Street and the construction of a circular drive with a planter at the OEI Falls Cottages site.

Commissioners Patterson and Dotson both stated they didn't remember approving the planter coming into town right-of-way.

Commissioner Drake made a motion for Public Works Director Nix to proceed with the one-way signs to get the safety issue solved, which Commissioner Pierson seconded saying he felt the town needed to look at safety first and then could look at the planters and the vote passed unanimous. *Work on planters and bump-outs continued.*

– Kim Lewicki



Highlands
Arts & Crafts
Show

Saturday, Oct. 13

30th Annual Highlands Arts & Crafts Show.

9a to 5p

at the Highlands Civic Center.

Fressers Eatery will have breakfast and lunch available for purchase.

Free admission and parking.

• SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING •

Joy!

Pastor Sam Forrester
Whiteside Presbyterian
Church



In the modern world of Christianity many have moved away from the true preaching of the Word of God. They have taken up a service geared to entertainment. They claim those who hold to God's Word as being infallible and inerrant and follow God's regulative principle of worship do not have any joy in their service. To say, a church of believers has no joy is to deny, they are true believers. It's to accuse them of not knowing the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Jeremiah 15:16 declares "Your words were found, and I ate them, And Your word was to me the joy and rejoicing of my heart; For I am called by Your name, O Lord God of hosts." It is the joy of the Lord that separates believers from the rest of the world. Without joy we are indeed a dead lot and a bunch of hypocrites for calling ourselves believers.

The apostle Paul speaks of Christ as substitute for sinners in Romans 5:6-11. He says we were devoid of strength before Christ came to die for us. He points out that someone might give their life for someone they thought was righteous but it would be a rare event. He goes on to show, God demonstrated his love for us in dying in our place while we were still lost in our sins. He points out we were justified by Christ's blood and saved from God's wrath through Christ. We were enemies of God and he still came to reconcile us to himself through the perfect life of Jesus Christ. He concludes with these words from verse 11 "And not only that, but we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received the reconciliation." The joy of any group of believers is found in the hearing of the Word of God and the receiving of the salvation of their souls by grace through faith in Christ Jesus and in him alone.

What members must do in considering their church, if it is filled with the true joy of God, is search the Scripture to know what that true joy is. Then, they must ask themselves "Do I see the joy of the Lord in this place?" The words of Peter came to me as I was pondering the answer to this question. In I Peter 1:3-12, he talks about the inheritance that awaits those who believe in Jesus Christ. He says these people have a living hope that is perfect, not defiled in anyway, and all of that is reserved in heaven waiting the finishing of the race they are now running. He declares, this is what you can rejoice in, even in the face of hard times because Jesus Christ is the

• See SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING page 22

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
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www.gracecashiers.com • Pastor Steve Doerter: 828-743-9814
Services: Sundays 10am - Wed. - 7pm
Catered dinner - Wed. 6pm

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 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.

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. Saturday, 4pm

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

... FORUM continued from page 2

ting a drain on public services, namely health care and education, while taking jobs from unemployed American citizens. The other side views these undocumented Latinos as hard-working fundamentals of our economy, doing the work that no one else wants to do while contributing billions to our GDP. They claim that racism and xenophobia have more to do with anti-immigration sentiment than economics. So who's right and what's to be done? I believe that Latin America's emigration to the U.S. causes a vicious cycle of under-development there that ultimately benefits the U.S. but perpetuates an unjust system.

José, like many Latinos who make the trip, is a young, motivated and energetic person. Upon graduating high school, he took a rational survey of his options. In a country with a great deal of political corruption and nepotism, social inequalities, crime that's getting out of hand in the country's major cities, a huge wealth gap, unemployment pushing 25% and incredibly high interest rates, he saw that earning a successful future was going to be quite difficult.

Meanwhile, the U.S. still offers the shiny American Dream including beautiful women, cheap cars, dollars and the freedom to do whatever you put your mind to. His choice was easy, he told me, though heartbreaking. Would I have chosen any differently, honestly? The United States has thrived off of the talent, innovation, courage, diversity of thoughts and skills and initiative of motivated thinkers and workers for its entire history, immigrants and natural-born citizens alike. And not just at the white-collar level either: we will take good workers where we can get them because the Bottom Line is colorblind.

Of course the catch is that Honduras and other Latin American countries have been suffering from serious brain drain for decades. Their young people are putting all that productive energy to good use in our country instead of working on changing their own communities for the better. Imagine if all those entrepreneurs and skilled and unskilled workers were to stay in their hometowns and cities, starting businesses, creating jobs, waking their local economies and piece by piece unraveling the social injustices that are interwoven into their surroundings! Think of the development that would take place. The rational survey of

things would start to change and the next wave of young people may not even have to consider leaving home.

I'd say that's the dream goal of every Peace Corps volunteer and it should be the new focus of the United States' foreign policy to the south of our borders. Instead of thinking in terms of walls and "us vs. them," let's invest in promoting education, business skills, gender equality and cheap cred-

... WOOLDRIDGE continued from page 5

your toothbrush."

The best part about Judge Ellen was what she kept underneath her black robe. Hanging upside down from her shoulder holster was her .357 magnum Smith and Wesson six-shot revolver loaded with hollow point slugs. Her robes had long slits on the side for easy access. Only once during my long career did I get to meet her two friends, Smith and Wesson. I was called to her chambers while waiting in her courtroom. As I entered her chambers, I could see she was about to don her robe. There, hanging under her shoulder were her two buddies. She never brought up the topic of being a packin' judge and I surely wasn't

it in Latin America. I believe that within a generation we'd see a totally different Latin America and the issue of illegal immigration would fall by the wayside. In the meantime, I believe we should all strive to be friendly and empathetic towards the immigrants who are here now, no matter their legal status. We only live once, after all, so why waste it on being angry about immigrants?

going to bring it up. She had a trivial question about an arrest I made, and then she dismissed me.

Judge Ellen died from stomach cancer just three days before Christmas of 2002. When I see what goes on in our criminal system these days, I grieve for the loss of this fine judge. Our criminal justice system is operating about as well as our economy.

** Bulletin: Are you aware that policemen wearing ski masks who terrorize dangerous criminals are violating the U.S. Constitution? No Duh! Read Fred's column online all winter.

... SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING from page 21

heart and center of all you have been given. And even though you have not seen him, you love him. "Though now you do not see him, yet believing, you rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory" (1 Peter 1:8).

Do you see a people in your church who rejoice in hearing the Word of God proclaimed? Do you see a people who rejoice in the hope of their salvation? Do you see a people who know they are sinners but take heart and have joy in the salvation of their souls? Your answer has to be a resounding yes, if your church is truly a Christ centered body that lives in the joy of God.

Therefore, the only explanation I can find for someone saying there is no joy at a church that holds to the infallible and inerrant Word of God is their mistaken idea about how to define joy. Joy is never to be based on the sensation of fleshly pleasures. It is not defined by emotional highs. It does not consist of worldly flashes of happiness derived from entertainment of the eyes. It comes only from an assurance of the promises of God. It can be built up only through proper study and preaching of God's Word.

I believe with all my heart, true Christ centered joy is held high only where the Word is the center of worship and people declare with David "My mouth shall praise You with joyful lips" (Psalm 63:5b). Please, do not forsake true joy in worship for the pleasures of the flesh. Be committed in your heart to God and his Word, let your

joy proceed from a love of his message. A love that is made clear through the Christmas story that says Jesus came into this world to save sinners and lead them into his joy. A joy derived from an understanding of the promises of God's Word. True God centered joy comes in hearing that message proclaimed over and over, Sunday after Sunday.

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October 2012

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Contact: Jennifer Forrester

Director of Children & Youth Ministries

526-3376

... SUPERINTENDENT continued from page 18

mathematics course..

"This challenge for our county begins with parents being supportive and encouraging of higher expectations in today's classrooms," he said. "Teachers and administrators need to closely monitor schedules, instructional time on task, and sequencing of courses especially at the high school level. Our problem is not isolated with any one school grade level, or organizational chart. It is a system-wide challenge that can be met with supportive parents and dedicated professionals in our schools."

He said the diversity of the state's decentralized system of education leaves the definition

of what constitutes a rigorous curriculum lacking. But he said several organizations have defined the following as rigorous: 4 years of English, 4 years of Math-Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry, and one other Advanced Math, 3 years of Lab Science-Biology, Chemistry, Physics, 3 years of Social Studies and 2 years of a World Language

"This rigorous high school curriculum is not possible unless all courses across all grade levels teach thinking skills, comprehension skills, writing skills, and computational skills," he said. "The Common Core Standards adopted this year in all our schools is a step in the right direction."

Duncan said middle school should ensure that the academic core of English, Math, Science and Social Studies is challenging enough. The recent National Assessment at Eighth Grade found that at least one-third of middle grade students are not prepared for challenging high school courses.

"Our elementary grades should be prepared to increase the expectations of each student, closely monitor instructional time, and provide experiences for all children that are based upon common materials and across grade level assignments that require the students to go beyond rote repetition and worksheet assignments," he said.

He also said parents must clearly understand and support higher standards. He suggested frequent conferences, meaningful home assignments that should be graded and not just busy work and a partnership with the school that encourages reading to and with their child.

He said Macon County Read2Me initiative is a huge step

in the right direction as is the Lindamood-Bell program whose statistics are showing drastic increases in student reading skills and comprehension.

"The task is upon us as we should accept the challenge of making Macon County education the best it can be," he said.

— Kim Lewicki

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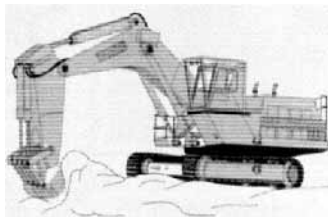
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• FIRE DEPT. REPORTS •



Around noon on Friday, Sept. 14, both Highlands Fire and Rescue and the Highlands Police Dept. responded to a two-vehicle accident on S. 4th and Spring Street where a vehicle flipped on its side when it hit an oncoming vehicle. There were no injuries.

Photo by Sarah Valentine

Highlands Fire & Rescue Dept. log entries from Sept. 12.

- Sept. 12
- At 3:29 p.m., the dept. responded to an alarm on Falls Village Court. It was due to burning food.
- Sept. 13
- At 3:45 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to Catawba Trail where a 4-year-old boy had fallen and hit his head on a rock.
- Sept. 14
- At 3:17 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Cheney Lane.
 - At 5:24 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Cullasaja Club Drive.
 - At 9:37 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Mountain Ash Lane for a Medical Alert alarm but it was false.
 - At 12:10 p.m., the dept. responded to a two-vehicle accident on S. 4th Street. There were no injuries.

- Sept. 15
- At 1:40 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Cullasaja Drive.
- Sept. 16
- At 12:40 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Main Street.
- Sept. 17
- At 1:08 p.m. the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Cook Road.

- Sept. 18
- At 6:22 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on NC 106.
 - At 1:33 p.m., the dept. responded to a two-vehicle accident on US 64 east. There were no injuries.
- Sept. 19
- At 8:09 a.m., the dept. responded to a two-vehicle accident at Wyanoak and Chowan. EMS transported to the hospital.
 - At 6:17 p.m., the dept. responded to a report of smoke in the Sassafras Gap area but it was due to a controlled burn.
- Sept. 22
- At 11:28 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence at Highlands Mountain Club. EMS transported to the hospital.
 - At 7:13 p.m., the dept. helped search for a missing person. He was found on the Greenway Trail about 30 minutes later and he was OK.
- Sept. 24
- At 9:21 p.m., the dept. responded to an alarm at a residence on VZ Top which was set off by smoke from the fireplace. The damper was closed.
- Sept. 25
- At 9:44 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to Main Street where a 60-year-old woman had fallen. There were minor injuries.

• BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NEWS •

Annual Dazzling Dahlias Festival huge success



After touring the Exhibit Hall at the Highlands Civic Center which was full of exquisite dahlias, guests attended a reception at the Society's Historic Museum and enjoyed the bluegrass music with Charles Wood. Delicious refreshments including punch graciously provided by Main Street Inn. All funds raised during the Dazzling Dahlias Festival go to benefit the many programs of the Highlands Historical Society. Pictured from left are: Joyce Franklin, Linda New, Raya McArthur, Sandie Trevathan and Kitty Moore.

... TAX continued from page 1

actually reporting sales from the previous month.

At the Sept. 20 Town Board meeting, Commissioner Gary Drake, who sits on the county's Economic Development Commission said according to the July 2012 figures, Macon County beat Jackson County.

During the same period, Jackson County reported \$1,616,180 in gross collections and \$33,895,870 in taxable sales

"The good news is that based on the taxable sales of the seven counties in this area we finally are ahead of Jackson by about \$4 million in July – \$37 million plus in taxable sales – so that's real good and it's more than it was a year ago. So it looks like we are moving in the right direction," said Drake.

A year ago, In July 2011 Macon County's gross collections were \$2,052,527 with taxable sales listed at \$35,634,528.

For Jackson County in July 2011 it was \$1,836,864 in gross collections and \$31,872,849 in taxable sales.

In the September 13 edition of Highlands Newspaper in the story "Merchants gamble on Cashiers market," several merchants said that business was good in Cashiers – and that was one reason they chose to open shop there.

President of the Highlands Area

Chamber of Commerce Bob Kieltyka suggested sales tax reports would tell the real story. But since Cashiers isn't a municipality, taxes collected are not separated out from the county as are Highlands and Franklin in Macon County.

Tax figures from the NC Dept. of Revenue Local Government Division's Certification of Amounts Disbursed during the 12-month period of a fiscal year are a bit more detailed, but the figures are still telling.

The final figure includes all articles of the Local Government Sales and Use Taxes – Art. 39 1%, Art. 40 1/2%, Art. 42, 1.2%, Art. 44 1/2% Art. 46 1%.

For FY 2011, Macon County was disbursed \$6,924,308.33; Jackson County got \$7,506,064.86; Franklin got \$415,493.16 and Highlands got \$661,339.65.

For FY 2012, Macon County was disbursed \$7,322,272.18; Jackson County got \$7,891,427.05; Franklin got \$657,823.04; and Highlands got \$418,452.35.

Not included in those figures are taxes from beer and wine, scrap tire, white goods, electric/nature gas, telecommunications, video programming, solid waste disposal. Nor were refunds of sales and use tax paid, and sale and use tax city hold harmless taxes or reimbursements from the state included.

– Kim Lewicki

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• BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NEWS •

H-C Hospital Auxiliary volunteers honored at annual luncheon



Members of the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital Auxiliary and a number of guests heard a hospital update provided by Craig James, HCH President and CEO, and also celebrated their contributions to that success during the group's annual luncheon at Chestnut Hill. It was also an occasion for Auxiliary members to elect officers for the coming year. Pictured are Patti Hutchins who will continue as Auxiliary president. Other officers will be Elaine Reynolds Vice President, Jolene Niblack Treasurer, Sally Maloney Secretary, and Sandy Holden Assistant Secretary. The club meets at 10 a.m. on the first Monday of each month. If you would like further information or if you would like to join this group of volunteers, please contact Volunteer Services at 526-1376 or email jobs@hchospital.org

Rotary clubs unite for dental health



On September 13, Mary McClean, a registered dental hygienist and professional dental educator from Nashville, TN presented a dental health program to the students

in grades K-5 at Highlands School. This program is part of a 3-point dental health program jointly sponsored by the Rotary Club of Highlands and the Highlands Mountaintop Rotary Club. The other two segments of the program are a weekly fluoride swish for younger students and a yearly exam by volunteer dentists.

HFCC raises money for C-H Humane Society



Highlands Falls Country Club had a fun, fundraiser for the Cashiers-Highlands Humane Society on Sunday, Sept. 9. Delicious people cookies and candies in the shape of dog biscuits were served to the people "owned" by their dogs. Themed libations like Bark-tinis were served. A pooch parade and a musical sit were amount the many events. Prizes were awarded in many categories and any dog that was a rescue won a prize also. David Stroud, director of the humane society was present.



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Highlands Locations

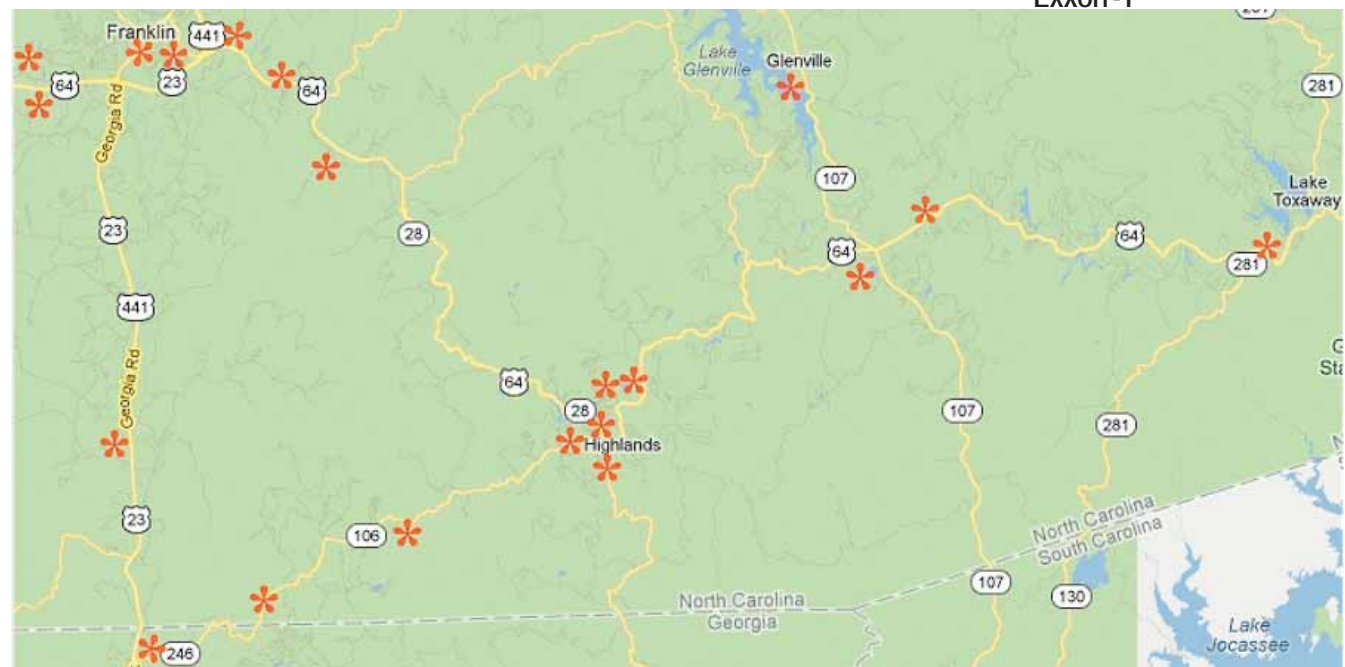


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I = Inside Rack, O = Outside Green Box
Red * = Location

- Town Hall - I
- Mountain Fresh Grocery - I & O
- Hudson Library - I
- Main Street Pharmacy - O
- Highlands Pharmacy - I
- Highlands School - I
- Mountain Brook Center - O
- Rec Park - I
- Ugly Dog 4th & Spring - O
- Main St. Country Club Prop. & Wright Sq. - O
- Main Street Sports Page - O
- Highlands Newspaper - O
- Visitors Center Driveway - O
- Bryson's Foods - I & O
- Dusty's - O
- Post Office - I
- Citgo - O
- Exxon - I

Additional Locations



- Sapphire Post Office - O
- Cashiers Ingles Foods - I & O
- Cashiers Post Office - I & O
- Glenville Post Office - O
- H-C Hospital - I & O
- Chestnut Hill - I
- Scaly Mtn. Post Office - I
- Sinclair Gen. Store Sky Valley - O
- Chevron Hwy 441 Dillard, GA. - O
- Otto Post Office - I
- Ingles Foods W. Franklin - I
- BP Gas W. Franklin - I
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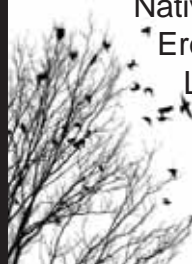


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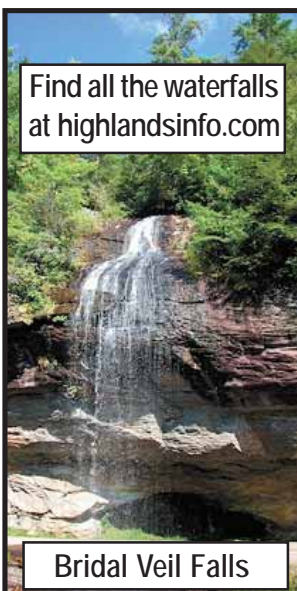
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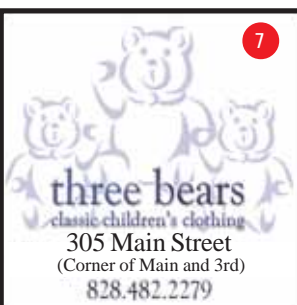
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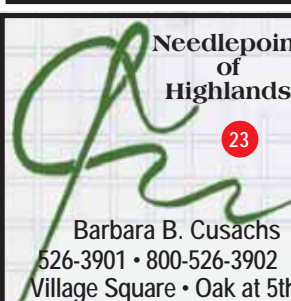
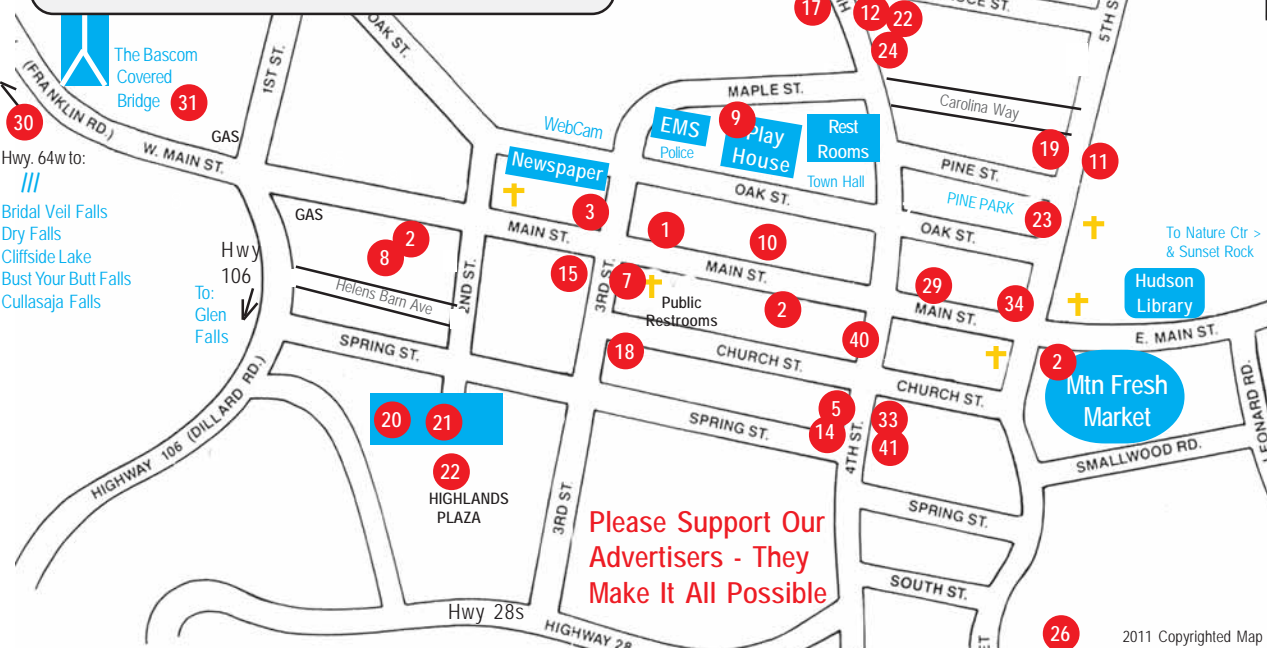
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