

Highlands Newspaper

FREE Every Thursday

Volume 11, Number 32 Real-Time News, Weather & WebCams: HighlandsInfo.com Thursday, Aug. 15, 2013

Thurs., Aug. 15

• At Main Street Inn, live music with Norma Jean on the lawn from 5-8p.

• Zahner Conservation Lecture by Dr. Lenny Bernstein on "Why We Should All Be Concerned about Climate Change," 7 p.m. at the Nature Center. Free.

• At The Lost Hiker, call for all musicians. Open Mic Night at 9 a.m.

Fri., Aug. 16

• Live music in Town Square on Main Street from 6-8 p.m.

Fri. & Sat., Aug. 16-17

• At Altitudes at Skyline Lodge, Hal Philips on the piano in the evening.

Sat., Aug. 17

• At Cliffside Lake, Live Birds of Prey with Michael Skinner with Balsam Mountain Trust. Live raptors at 11 a.m., at the patio.

• The Highlands Plateau Greenway monthly work trip this Saturday. Register with Ran Shaffner by calling 828-526-5622.

• The Twilight 5K. Starts at K-H Park on Pine Street at 6 p.m. \$25 early sign up, \$30 day of race. Kids under 8 free. Bring a cooler and a blanket. Live music from 6-10 p.m. Proceeds to benefit the Highlands Rec Park. Sign up forms at the Rec Park, Highlands Decorating Center or Macon Bank.

• At The Lost Hiker, live music – The River Rats, at 9 p.m.

• At Highlands Country Club, "Bluegrass and Barbecue" featuring Nitrograss to benefit Four Seasons Compassion for Life from 6:30-9:30p. \$125 with advance confirmation. Visit www.fourseasonsfl.org.

Sat. & Sun., Aug. 17-18

• At Main Street Inn, live music on the lawn with Norma Jean from 12:30-3:30p.

Sun., Aug. 18

• Auditions for HCP's "Murder among friends" from 1-3p at PAC on 507 Chestnut St. For info

• Grand Re-opening of the Eckerd Living Center from 2-4p.m. Ribbon cutting and special presentation at 2:15 p.m.

Tues., Aug. 20

• At The Lost Hiker, Karaoke at 9 p.m.

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County allocates \$5,000 to Scaly Mtn.

In an unexpected move Tuesday night, the Macon County Commission voted unanimously to fund an expense that wasn't budgeted for in the 2013-'14 budget.

Unexpected because even be-

Tourism on the upswing

MC spending by overnight visitors increases by 7.6% to \$135.76 million

The Highlands Area Chamber of Commerce and Visitor Center recently announced that visitors to Macon County spent \$135.76 million in 2012, an increase of 7.6% from 2011 which ranks Macon County 30th among North Carolina's 100 counties.

"This significant increase in spending by visitors to Highlands and Macon County clearly demonstrates the continuing popularity of our community and the surrounding area as a vacation and second home destination," said Bob Kieleyka, Executive Director of the Highlands Area Chamber of Commerce and Visitor Center. "This means state and local tax revenues generated from tourism spending represented a \$490 tax savings for every Macon County resident in 2012."

Tourism impact highlights for 2012:

• The travel and tourism industry directly employs more than 1,150 people in Macon County.

• Total payroll generated by

• See TOURISM page 16

fore the budget was finalized Commissioners Ron Haven and Paul Higdon usually voted no for unbudgeted requests no matter what they were – but not Tuesday night.

At the Aug. 13 commission meeting, the board voted to give

the Scaly Mountain Historical Society \$5,000 to repair and clean up the playground and basketball court at the Old Scaly School House.

"We provide the only recre-

• See SCALY page 10



The US Flag flown in honor of the late Butch Smart at last weekend's Relay was presented to his wife Judy Smart Tuesday by Relay Chairs Mike Murphy and Debbie Grossman and Boy Scout representative Phil Potts whose idea for the presentation became a reality. Butch Smart lost his 12-year battle with cancer this year.

Photo by Kim Lewicki

Relay for Life falls short of \$100k mark

Committee asks community for help

Mike Murphy & Debbie Grossman Co-Chairs 2013 Relay For Life of Highlands

On behalf of the 2013 Relay For Life of Highlands Planning Committee, we would like to thank everyone that participated in our Relay Event this past Friday night/Saturday morning at the Highlands Rec Park! The crowd was amazing, both in terms of its size and its enthusiasm!

As you may know, our goal this year is to raise at least \$100,000

for the American Cancer Society. This year, it is particularly important to our Relay family to meet this goal, as our way of showing special support and significance to the Highlanders we have lost this year to cancer.

To date, we have raised approximately \$60,000. This number is quite an achievement and one we should be proud of! This number will increase because we still have a large, community wide

• See RELAY page 4

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Citizens unite against Internet bully

By Davin Eldridge

A local YouTuber and physical fitness enthusiast has went on the defensive recently, after uploading a series of inflammatory videos about the health of people in Macon County.

On the morning of August 5, 67-year-old Hugh Simpson uploaded six videos entitled "Obesity reigns in Macon County, NC" onto YouTube.com. According to Simpson, formerly of Atlanta, GA, the videos were made as a 'wake-up' call to the citizens of Macon County—whom he deemed numerous times in his web series as being overweight.

Throughout the videos, Simpson crept around corners, often shooting over his shoulder, footage of locals – children and adults alike – entering or leaving restaurants and parks throughout Franklin, all the while commenting and berating them in first person. Furthermore, he lamented the lack of exercise of Macon County residents, after counting only a handful of people using the Little Tennessee Greenway.

Among the locations Simpson in his videos during NC's Tax-Free weekend, were Subway, Lit-

• See BULLY page 6

• THE PLATEAU'S POSITION •

• LETTERS •

Thank Gov. McCrory for being fiscally responsible

Dear Editor,

On Monday this first week of August a group of people showed up in Raleigh complaining about teachers' pay and the budget for the coming school year.

Does anyone believe that Gov. McCrory has a "stash" of money hidden in Raleigh somewhere he can use to increase pay for teachers or any other state employee? We all know that teachers deserve more money, but how do we solve the problem?

We have 1.7 million people in NC on food stamps up from 1.6 million the year before. Nationally food stamp use has gone up from 17.7 million people in 2006 to 46.6 million. These numbers came from the Asheville Citizens Sunday paper.

Our teachers are ranked in the bottom of the barrel nationally as far as pay goes. Our state's tax rates have been the big reason these numbers are so high.

Gov. McCrory and the Republicans have just redone our state tax rates to make us a more business friendly state. We are now listed as one of the more friendly states to expand an existing business or start a new business. Adding new businesses and helping the unemployed find work is the key to rebuilding our state's economy. Adding tens of thousands of new tax payers to our employment rolls is the only way to build up our state's income. When our state's income goes up then teachers pay will follow.

Like Detroit, Gov. Perdue kept borrowing money from the US Treasury to balance the budget. The Republicans are now forced to pay that money back along with the interest.

Perhaps the people who went to Raleigh think the Republicans should keep borrowing money like Gov. Perdue did. That would be a grave mistake.

Gov. McCrory has put North Carolina on the path to economic recovery. It is always painful to do the right thing. We should be grateful our Governor and his legislators have the guts to do the right thing for our state.

Jim Mueller
Glenville, NC

• PHOTO OF THE WEEK •



Photo by Linda Barden

Jobs, Jobs, Jobs

Dear Editor,

This was the message that our State Republicans and Senator Davis ran on last November. I ask you now, how much legislation did we see come out of Raleigh to bring jobs back to North Carolina?

Friends, there was no legislation passed through the General Assembly. In fact, while the national unemployment rate fell to 7.2 percent last month, 44 counties in North Carolina saw unemployment rise above 10 percent, 8 of those being in Western North Carolina. Instead, the State Legislators spent their entire session pushing radical legislation through the General Assembly. The biggest blow to our state was found in the new budget, where education saw a cut of almost half a billion dollars.

Education is the single largest priority in our North Carolina state budget. It seems now though, that the General Assembly doesn't have our teachers and students in their best interest. Instead, teacher pay will remain close to the bottom of national averages, almost 4,000 teacher assistants will be laid off, and the pay increase for earning a Masters Degree will be eliminated. Now instead of public funds being directed to public schools, it will be funneled into "scholarships" that will directly benefit private schools. At a time when North Carolina is 48th in per pupil spending, we should not be taking money out of public schools, but putting it back in them.

We must all stand against this radical takeover of our state. Call Senator Davis and tell him that you oppose the undercutting of our public school system. Engage in this conversation in your community and make sure people know who is to blame, because next November we have to be ready to fix the North Carolina that this General Assembly has given to us.

Samuel Wallace
Franklin

Support the library

Dear Editor

The Hudson Library is one of our community's treasures. Its shelves are full of adventure, wisdom and entertainment.

Its services include programs for children, monthly movies, and more. It benefits all of us. Now we have an opportunity to show our gratitude. Please contribute to the generous challenge made by Horst and Margaret Winkler. No gift is too small!

Delaine Mehder
Hudson Library Board

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• OBITUARIES •

Dr. Travis Bedsole Goodloe, Sr

Dr. Travis Bedsole Goodloe, Sr., age 72, of Highlands, NC died Friday, August 2, 2013 at his residence. He was born in Mobile, AL, the son of the late John Russell and Nell Bedsole Goodloe.

He was a Veteran of the US Navy serving during the Vietnam war. He graduated from the University of Alabama and University of Alabama Medical School. He practiced pediatrics and emergency medicine in Mobile, Alabama.

Dr. Goodloe retired to Highlands in 1999. He was a member and elder of the First Presbyterian Church of Highlands, a member of the Mobile Medical Society, the Southern Medical Association, the sitting chairman of the Board of the Community Care Clinic of Highlands-Cashiers, a volunteer at the Highlands Visitor Center, a volunteer at the Hudson Library Book Worm, a volunteer at the International Friendship Center and a volunteer for Relay for Life.

He is survived by his wife of 50 years, Carol Ploetner Goodloe; his daughter, Mary Ellis Goodloe Gazaway (Hoyt) of Braselton, GA and his son, Travis Bedsole Goodloe, Jr. (Lisa) of Mobile, AL; his grandchildren, Amelia Gazaway Granberg (Garrett), Jeffery Gazaway, Wright Gazaway, Cameron Gazaway, Grace Gazaway, Kathryn Gazaway, Travis Goodloe, III and Emma Goodloe.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the First Presbyterian Church of Highlands, PO Box 548, Highlands, NC 28741 or to the Community Care Clinic of Highlands-Cashiers, Inc., PO Box 43, Highlands, NC 28741

Bryant-Grant Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Online condolences may be made by visiting www.bryantgrantfuneralhome.com.

Warren William Chambless

Warren William Chambless, 69, of Highlands, NC died Saturday, August 10, 2013. Born in Bay County, Florida, Bill was the son of the late Horace Russell Chambless and Frances Beall Chambless.

He was married to Penny Kente Chambless for 47 years. Bill was a graduate of Fitzgerald High School, and the University of Georgia.

He retired from Allstate Insurance Company in 2000 and later returned to work with

the National Catastrophe Team for Allstate.

Bill was a loving husband, father and grandfather. In addition to his wife he is survived by a son, David Russell Chambless and Monika of Cashiers, NC; one sister, Martha Chambless of Sevierville, TN; two grandchildren, Sofia and Lilliana Chambless of Cashiers, NC.

A memorial service will be announced at a later date. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Four Seasons Hospice, 571 South Allen Road, Flat Rock, NC 28731 or to the charity of ones choice. Bryant-Grant Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Online condolences are available by visiting www.bryantgrantfuneralhome.com.



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... RELAY continued from 1

live and silent auction at Scudder's Galleries on Sunday, August 25th from 3-5pm and we have a Kilwin's Ice Cream Night on Tuesday, September 3rd from 6-9pm and the ongoing percentage days every Monday in August and September at Fressers Eatery, but unfortunately, these remaining fundraisers aren't likely to get us to that \$100,000 goal.

Can you or someone you know make an additional donation to help us achieve this community goal? Donations are tax deductible and every \$1 brings us closer to ridding the world of this terrible disease. Credit Card donations can be made at www.relayforlife.org/highland-snc and cash/check donations can be dropped off at the Episcopal Church to the attention of Mike Murphy or can be mailed to:

Relay For Life of Highlands; ATTN: Mike Murphy; 79 Cook Rd.; Highlands, NC 28741

Checks can be made out to the American Cancer Society. To count toward our 2013 goal, donations need to be received by August 31st.

Thank you for all you have done and will do to help us one day be able to say - "What's cancer?"



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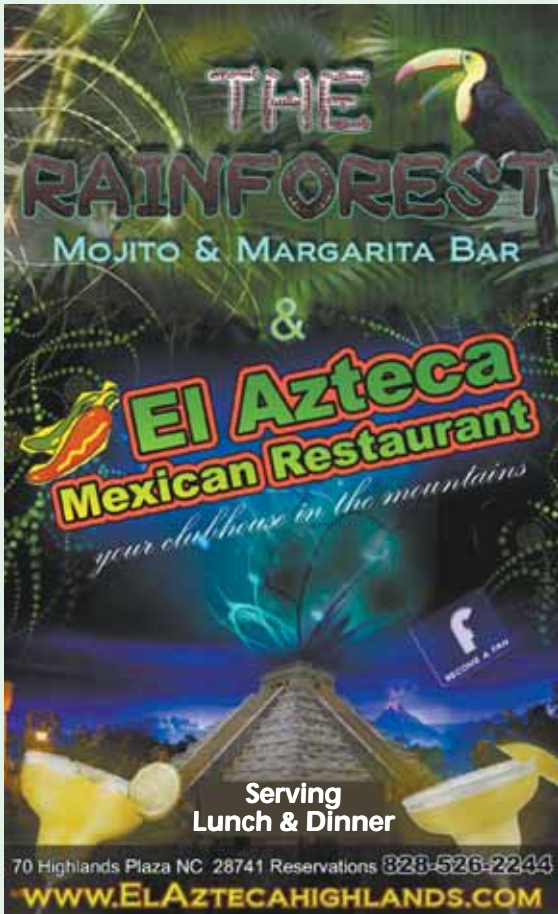
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...BULLY from page 1

the Tennessee Greenway, Burger King, Wesley Park, Fat Buddies and Ms. Lois' restaurant all in Franklin.

"In Macon County, the percentage of adults who are obese is 35%," said Simpson in an interview last week, citing a 2012 assessment by Healthy Carolinians. "The national average for obesity in the U.S. is 28%. The people of this county need to get up, get out, get healthy and lose weight... Wake up people —you're obese," he said.

Within hours the YouTube videos went from having a few dozen views to approximately 600. At the same, time Simpson was the object of many a Maco-nians' ire on Facebook.

"Macon County may be fat, but Hugh Simpson is an ugly person, and we can go on diets," said 27-year-old Justin Burch.

"That man has no right videoing people and posting them up on YouTube just because of their weight," said Anthony Le, 23, of Franklin, but formerly of Baltimore, Maryland. "I've never ever heard of that crap. I'm from the city; nobody does that in the city? Who cares if you are fat, skinny, ugly or pretty! He didn't create us. God did. He's not God."

"I don't feel sorry for him at all," said 31-year-old Sarah Collier. "He preys on people he doesn't know. He chose to be the grinch and not a who."

By the afternoon, the Macon County Sheriff's Office had received dozens of complaints, while Simpson received numerous threats.

"Dear Mr. Hugh Simpson, I have accepted your 'friend request' this afternoon for one reason only. I wish to allow you to see the comments regarding your tasteless, unprofessional, and hurtful video that degrades those who you see as 'not to your standards'," said a sincere Sheriff Robert Holland in a statement on August 7. "I feel this is unkind and disrespectful. While our investigation into this finds that this kind of journalism isn't illegal, I feel it is in poor taste and respectfully request that you cease and desist from continuing to post such videos. Meanwhile, I respectfully request that you contact my office where we may have a face to face meeting regarding this issue."

To date, Simpson has not contacted Sheriff Holland.

Holland said that after meeting with the District Attorney's office about Simpson, it was determined that he had broken no laws.

"I thought it was disrespectful," said Holland. "Even though it wasn't illegal, that doesn't mean there isn't grounds for

•See BULLY page 9

• THE FREDSTER •

Highlands can be a dangerous place to drive

If you're coming to Highlands for a visit, be very afraid. If you're coming to Highlands for a visit and you're from Florida, be very, very, very afraid. "What's the difference?" you ask.

We Floridians, sometimes called Floridiots by the locals, drive 90 mph on the straight-aways and 7 mph around the curves. And we never, never, never pull over to allow a local to pass. Now that's scary, especially when you pit locals and Floridiots together on the same road.

Each morning around 8 AM and again at 4 PM, journeymen (those local workers who come here to fix, build and repair our stuff) are on our highways and headed to or from Highlands. The first thing these crazy locals do is put their left wheels right smack dab on the double yellow line and keep them there until they come to a curve, then they cut those curves by placing their truck waaaay on your side. Oh, by the way, we don't have a "your side of the road." This is their territory so keep your dad-gum right tires over in the soft shoulders to avoid a head-on collision.

To further avoid all these dangers, only drive our highways between the hours of three and six in the morning. Most locals are still asleep and our visiting drunks are passed out. Are you writing this down? Oh, and I almost forgot. If you're driving, make sure you have a car. Our motto is "buy a motorcycle and die young." Some of our "meaner than a snake" locals have been



Feedback is encouraged
highlandseditor@aol.com

known to put oil on the curves, then sit back and watch the action? Do not, I repeat, do not mess with our locals.

Sooooo, if you're from Florida, there's simply no reason you can't get here safely. Select a mode of transportation with four wheels, then drive the speed limit on the curves and straight-aways with your right tires in the shoulders, being aware of oil on the road. And pull off and let them pass. Hey, they gotta get to work and we don't.

Finally, if anything in this column has your shorts in a wad, call me at 1-800-Who-Cares!

OPEN HOUSE Saturday, August 17th 2-4 PM



Highlands Manor Court off 5th Street.

Very private in town condo with wood floors. Look for signs on Fifth Street just north of the Catholic Church.

Keturah Paulk - Country Club Properties

EVENTS

Scudders Auction

• Sunday, August 25th, 3pm - LIVE and Silent Auction! Contact: Debbie Grossman @ (828) 421-2144 or fresserseatery@aol.com

Kilwin's Ice Cream Night!

• Tuesday, September 3rd, 6pm-9pm-50% of proceeds goes to Relay! Contact: Mike Murphy @ (828) 526-1841 or epjmcm@hotmail.com

Fressers Eatery

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• HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HOSPITAL NEWS •

Board certified neurologist joins H-C Hospital medical staff

Highlands-Cashiers Hospital welcomes Board Certified Neurologist, Bayard D. Miller, MD, to its medical staff. Dr. Miller will provide a part-time service model with office days twice per week located on level two of the Jane Woodruff Clinic. His prac-

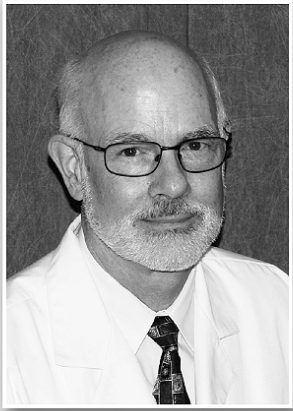
tice will focus on a full spectrum of general neurological issues including Alzheimer's disease, cognitive memory disorders, epilepsy, headache and migraine, movement disorders, multiple sclerosis, muscular dystrophy, myasthenia gravis, myopathy, neuromuscular disorders, Parkinson's disease, peripheral neuropathy, seizures, stroke, and tremor.

Dr. Miller has more than 35 years experience in practicing Neurology in both office and hospital settings, recently as Associate Chair, Clinical Associate Professor at the University of Florida College of Medicine, Department of Neurology (UF/Shands Healthcare System).

"Miller will play a large role in our community, allowing closer access to neurological services. He will also provide continuity of care, working closely with primary care physicians and patients' primary neurologists for those living in the Highlands-Cashiers area seasonally. Miller is familiar with our area, having spent many summers here and is a true pleasure to be around," said Hospital President and CEO Craig James.

Dr. Miller is a graduate of University of Florida Medical School, Gainesville, FL. He completed his Internship in Internal Medicine at Parkland Memorial Hospital at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical School in Dallas, Texas, and was the Chief Resident of his Residency Program at the University of Florida in Gainesville, FL. Dr. Miller is Board Certified in Neurology and is a member of the American Academy of Neurology. For the past 15 years, Dr. Miller has been listed in Woodward/White's "The Best Doctors in America".

Dr. Miller's office is located in Suite 203 of the Jane Woodruff Clinic on the Hospital's campus. His office hours include Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 8:00 am to 12:00 pm. To schedule an appointment or for additional information, please call (828) 526-5045.



Bayard D. Miller, MD
Neurology

PRACTICE INFORMATION

Highlands-Cashiers Hospital
Jane Woodruff Clinic, Suite 203
209 Hospital Drive
Highlands, NC 28741

Office Hours

Tuesday and Wednesday: 8am to 12pm

(828) 526-5045

NOW ACCEPTING APPOINTMENTS

CERTIFICATION

- Bayard D. Miller, MD is a graduate of University of Florida Medical School, Gainesville, FL. He completed his Internship in Internal Medicine at Parkland Memorial Hospital at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical School in Dallas, Texas and was the Chief Resident in his Residency Program at the University of Florida in Gainesville, FL. Prior to joining the HCH Medical Staff, Dr. Miller practiced at the University of Florida Department of Neurology, Shands Healthcare in Gainesville, FL and has more than 35 years of clinical experience. Dr. Miller is Board Certified in Neurology and is a member of the American Academy of Neurology.

Welcome!

Bayard D. Miller, MD
Neurology

Please welcome Bayard D. Miller, MD to our community of Board Certified Physicians and Providers. Dr. Miller will join Highlands-Cashiers Hospital Physician Services practicing on the 2nd Floor of the Jane Woodruff Clinic. His practice will provide a full spectrum of general neurological issues.

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- Epilepsy
- Headache and Migraine
- Movement Disorders
- Multiple sclerosis
- Muscular dystrophy
- Myasthenia gravis
- Myopathy
- Neuromuscular Disorders
- Parkinson's disease
- Peripheral neuropathy
- Seizures
- Stroke


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... BULLY continued from page 6

a civil case. The burden of proof is far different in a civil case than it is in a criminal case, and [Simpson] could have caused a lot of distress."

In response to Simpson ridiculing Fat Buddies for its mere namesake, as well as the size of some of its customers, County Commissioner Kevin Corbin also made a video for Facebook. "Hello there," said a smiling Corbin. "I am here at my favorite restaurant, Fat Buddies, here in Franklin. 'I've eaten here over the past year and I've lost 85 pounds, as you can see.' Corbin said that he chooses the lighter fare foods available on the Fat Buddies menu, such as Brunswick Stew and the Buffalo Chicken Tenders. "Anyway, just wanted to let you know, I've lost weight eating at Fat Buddies."

So far, many of the businesses involved in the videos have remained tight-lipped regarding any intention they may have of suing Simpson. However, they all had reported typical and sometimes increased business, especially from regulars — indicating to some business operators a strong resolve among the community to stick together.

"The things Simpson said, and the way he said them, especially about our customers... I don't appreciate them at all," said Joe Angel, manager of Ms. Lois' of Franklin. "But we've seen no drop in sales. In fact, since all the media attention, and as a way to show support, our sales have gone up slightly."

Angel also added that many of the menu items at Ms. Lois are healthy options and contain healthy portions. Simpson had called Ms. Lois' food "artery clogging" after just minutes before, going into the business, ordering nothing and taking a quick glance at the menu. Angel pointed out that Simpson actually had no idea what the customers had ordered that day, before he attacked their weight.

Asked why he chose to make the videos in the manner that he had, Simpson remained unapologetic. "I never meant to hurt anybody. I just wanted to wake people up. Macon County

has a weight problem, and if we don't figure something out soon, as a society, then there will be a whole new set of health problems for our young people."

Simpson added that he had been overweight for much of his youth, and remembers the bullying he went through — which ultimately lead to his recent accomplishment of losing 46 lbs., through exercise and a healthy diet

of Subway food. "People used to call me names and make fun of me when I was younger and it made me want to lose weight even more," he said.

"While I do believe there is an obesity issue in our country, and not just in Macon County, I believe Simpson's videos serve more to anger and de-motivate people because of the way they were presented," said Franklin

resident Richard Tarleton, who has served as a certified trainer at Franklin Fitness Center since 2010. "I understand he was venting his concerns, and while a 'kick in the pants' approach may occasionally get a person who has hit rock-bottom to take control of their health, there are far better ways to get people to take action. Successful weight loss requires

constant reinforcement of positive habits -- eating well, exercising regularly, and making those actions entertaining while easy to maintain will guarantee success."

Simpson has recently deleted his Facebook and taken down his YouTube videos since the incident ignited the community. He has also not been available for comment since last week.

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... SCALY continued from page 1



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ational facilities for local residents in Flats Township,” said John Bankston President of Scaly Mountain Historical Society. “We have a basketball court, playground equipment, picnic tables and grills. We would like to be able to maintain and upgrade these facilities to a safer condition.”

According to Bankston, Robert Shook, president of the Macon County Historical Society said the Scaly Mountain Historical Society is the only historical society in Macon County that provides a recreation facility – in this case the Old Scaly School House.

Providing recreation is a county stipulation for providing funding for the school house.

In 2006, the county gave the historical society \$55,000 to renovate the old school house so it could become a viable community center, which included recreational options.

Commissioner Jim Tate said he and the society began discussing options about two months ago and as a commissioner and their representative he had no problem helping them fund the needed repairs.

“As evidenced from the people here tonight, this is extremely important to this group,” he said.

He made a motion to immediately allocate \$5,000 from the 2013-’14 \$200,000 contingency line item and to consider annual funding during the 2014-’15 budget talks that will begin in January.

Bankston initially asked for \$21,000 for numerous repairs but said since they missed consideration for the 2013-’14 budget cycle the society would settle for \$4,000 so the recreational aspects on the

• See SCALY page 15



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• HIGHLANDS AREA UPCOMING EVENTS •

PULL OUT

Ongoing

• Registration is now open for the 2013 summer Nature Day Camps at the Highlands Nature Center. Five different camps are being offered: "WOW! – a World of Wonder" (ages 4-6), "Amazing Animals" (ages 7-10), "NatureWorks" (ages 8-11), "Mountain Explorers" (ages 10-13), and "Junior Ecologists" (ages 11-14). Most camps are offered more than once during the summer and sessions run from Tuesday to Friday each week. For complete schedules, costs, and other information, please call 828-526-2623 or visit the summer camps webpage at www.highlandsbiological.org.

• A Gilliam's Promise fundraiser. Raffle tickets on a 2003 Mitsubishi Eclipse Spyder convertible. \$25 per ticket or 5 for \$100. We will give the car away at our annual 5K race on September 21 and you don't need to be present to win. The car can be seen at Franklin Ford most days, or at the Highlands Farmers Market on Saturday mornings, or you can call Gilliam's Promise office at 828-526-2220 for information on how to get your tickets.

Mondays-Fridays

• At The Bascom. Adult Classes: Sculpture: Clay "Fearless Sculpture" 10am to 4pm. Photography: Digital and Photoshop "Beginner" Friday, 2 - 5pm; Saturday, 10am - 4pm

Mon., Wed., Fri.

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

Mondays

• 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. Take the few steps down to the library.

Monday & Thursday

• Hatha Yoga – Body n' Soul. 10:45a at the Episcopal Church of the Incarnation. R.Y.T. and YA (828) 482-2128. (8/29)

Tues.-Sat.

• The Bookworm in the Peggy Crosby Center on 5th Street is 10a-4p.

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

• Dine at Lakeside Restaurant. A portion of proceeds go to area nonprofits.

• Hatha Yoga – Body n' Soul. 7:45a at First Presbyterian Church. R.Y.T. and Y.A. (828) 482-2128. (8/29)

• 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 am.

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

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

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

1st and last Wednesdays

• Kayak demos and roll clinics are held the first and last Wednesday of every month throughout the pool season from 4:30-8 p.m.

1st Wednesday

• Movies at the Hudson Library. Children/ Family movies at 3:30 p.m. Free including popcorn. Bring your own soft drinks. 828-526-3031 for movie information.

3rd Wednesday

• Movies at the Hudson Library. Recently released movies at 2 p.m. Free including popcorn. Bring your own soft drinks. 828-526-3031 for movie information.

Thursdays

• Live music with Norma Jean on the lawn at Main Street in from 5-8p.

• Free lectures, which will be held each Thursday evening at 7pm through August 29th at the Highlands Nature Center at 930 Horse Cove Road in Highlands. Call the Highlands Biological Foundation at 828-526-2221 for information.

Fridays through August

• The Highlands Area Chamber of Commerce and Visitor Center presents Friday Night Live in Town Square. Save the dates as the season festivities will be held every Friday, from 6-8pm. Scheduled performances feature area musicians and a variety of musical styles and talents.

Fri., Sat., and Sun.

• At Attitudes at Skyline Lodge, Hal Phillips on the piano Friday and Saturday evening and Sunday brunch.

Fridays

• Free, Grief Support Group, 10:30am-noon at the Jane Woodruff Clinic - Suite 201, on the H-C Hospital campus. Questions? Call 828-692-6178 or email: mlee@fourseasonscfl.org

Saturdays

• At The Bascom, knitters meet from 10 AM to noon.

• Highlands Farmer's Market in Highlands Plaza 9a to noon. Fresh vegetables, Flowers, breads, baked goods, craft items, jewelry.

• Live, free concert in K-H Park on Pine

Street from 6-8p.

Sat. & Sun.

• Live music with Norma Jean on the lawn at the Main Street Inn 12:30-3:30p.

Through Oct. 15

• Join the "Winkler Challenge" for Hudson Library. Horst and Margaret Winkler are offering the library \$35,000 if it can collect a matching amount. Donations will be accepted July 15-October 15.

Thurs., Aug. 15

• Favorite Poems Night at the Cashiers Library. Readings begin at 7 p.m. followed by a reception in the library's Friendship Garden
• Zahner Conservation Lecture by Dr. Lenny Bernstein of L.S. Bernstein & Associates on "Why We Should All Be Concerned about Climate Change" at 7 p.m. This lecture is sponsored by the Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust and will be held at the Highlands Nature Center. Free..

• At The Lost Hiker, call for all musicians. Open Mic Night at 9 a.m.

Sat., Aug. 17

• At Cliffside Lake, Live Birds of Prey with Michael Skinner with Balsam Mountain Trust. Featuring live raptors at 11 a.m., at the patio. No pets allowed. Program is free with admission to the recreation area for \$4 per vehicle. Please arrive 15 minutes early.

• The Highlands Plateau Greenway monthly work trip this Saturday. Anyone interested in participating, please register with Ran Shaffner by emailing highlandsgreenway@nctv.com or leaving a message at 828-526-5622. Meet at the large upper parking lot (near the pool entrance) behind the Rec Park at 9AM for a brief orientation session for work on the Mill Creek Trail bridge. Participants will be furnished the necessary tools and safety equipment. Participants should bring water, rain gear, and a day pack to hold them. Wearing clothes that can get dirty is advised. Lunch will be provided courtesy of funding from the Cullasaja Women's Outreach.

Bel Canto 21 is Sold Out



The Bel Canto Committee announces that the Bel Canto Recital and Gala Dinner for September 8 is completely sold out. Stell Huie, Chairman, said: "We always sell all our tickets, but this is the earliest we have ever sold out. We are delighted, but regret that we are not able to fill all the requests we have. We are asking those who have tickets to return any that may not be used."

To get on the waiting list send your check for \$150 per ticket to Bel Canto PO Box 2392, Highlands, NC 28741.

• The Twilight 5K. Starts at the K-H Park on Pine Street at 6 p.m. \$25 early sign up, \$30 day of race. Kids under 8 free. Bring a cooler and a blanket. Live music from 6-10 p.m. All proceeds benefit the Highlands Rec Park. Sign up forms at the Rec Park, Highlands Decorating Center, Macon Bank or The Highlander newspaper.

• At The Lost Hiker, live music -- The River Rats, at 9 p.m.

• "Bluegrass and Barbecue" featuring Nitrograss benefits Four Seasons Compassion For Life's vital non-profit patient services on Saturday at Highlands Country Club's Hudson House, from 6:30-9:30 p.m. Cost is \$125 with advance confirmation. Visit www.fourseasonscfl.org for more information.

Sun., Aug. 18

• Auditions for HCP's "Murder among friends" from 1-3p at PAC on 507 Chestnut St. Scripts may be read at the Hudson Library. If you can't attend auditions call director Tangi Armor for a reading at 526-9227 or cell 200-2591. Performance dates are October 17-20, 24-27.

• Grand Re-opening of the Eckerd Living Center from 2-4p.m. Ribbon cutting and special presentation at 2:15 p.m.

Tues., Aug. 20

• At The Lost Hiker, Karaoke at 9 p.m.

August 23-25

• HCP's "Almost, Maine" are August 23-August 25. Call 526-4904 for more information.

Friday, Aug. 23

• H-C Hospital and MC Public Health are sponsoring a new Diabetes Self-Management Education Program at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital beginning Friday. The program is certified by the American Diabetes Association and is facilitated by a Registered Dietitian. Topics include healthy eating, active living, checking blood sugar, taking medication, problem solving, healthy coping, and reducing risk for complications. For information on registration requirements or fees, please call 349-2086.

Sunday, Aug. 25

• Women's Dialogue lead by Psychologist Dr. Carole Light, and Dr. Martha Porter from 3-8p at Jones Fellowship Hall at the Episcopal Church. "How women are represented in the media." \$30 registration fee includes wine, appetizers and light dinner. Pre-registration is required by Aug. 22. To register call Martha Porter at 787-1463. Check or credit card.

• See **EVENTS** page 14

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• HIGHLANDS AREA UPCOMING EVENTS •

Monday, Aug. 26

• The All Male Beauty Pageant at Highlands Playhouse to benefit the Highlands Bolivian Mission at 8PM. A complimentary wine bar will precede the function at 7PM. The contestants, all well-known members of the Highlands community will compete for the title of Missed Highlands. The ticket price to this event is a donation of \$100 and the mission certifies that it is totally tax deductible as you will receive nothing of value for your donation. The mission is a 501 C3 charity and tickets are available at the Methodist Church on Main Street, Wilson Gas, 526-2568, Dr. Baker's office at the Woodruff building, 526- 1700, or by calling Dr. Baumrucker at 526-3605.

Aug. 29-Sept. 1

• HCP's "Almost, Maine." Call 526-4904 for more information.

• Free Interlude Concert at the Episcopal Church at 2 p.m.

Sat. & Sun., Aug. 24-25

• Village Square Art & Craft Show in downtown Highlands from 10a to 5p. Regional artisans, food, music, face painting, family fun. Free admission. (828) 787-2021 for info. Sponsored by Macon County Art Assn.

Wed., August 28

• Free Interlude Concert at First Presbyterian Church featuring the Mountain Faith Bluegrass Group at 2 p.m.

Thursday, Aug. 29

• NAMI Appalachian South's quarterly enrichment program with Dr. Carole Light who will lead our program with a discussion about our relationship

to money, 7-8:15 p.m. Dr. Light is a clinical psychologist in private practice with an office in Scaly Mountain, NC. She also works through the Psychotherapy and Counseling Center in Highlands, NC. This center operates with a sliding scale based on income. Carole is one of the three founding members of NAMI Appalachian South, our local affiliate of NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness). This program will be in place of the regular Thursday support group. For more information, contact Ann Nandrea 828 369-7385

Choral Concert at First Presbyterian Church to benefit students' trip



The First Presbyterian Church of Highlands, 471 Main Street, is hosting a benefit concert on Sunday, September 1 at 5pm for the Concert Choir from Western Carolina University. The Concert Choir, the premier choral ensemble in WCU's School of Music, is planning a trip to central Europe in May 2014. The itinerary includes Berlin, Leipzig, Prague, Vienna, Salzburg, Innsbruck, Munich and Neuschwanstein Castle. Please make plans to join us for a delightful afternoon of beautiful choral and vocal music and an opportunity to help young people experience the culture of Central Europe.

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... SCALY continued from page 10

property could be immediately repaired.

County Attorney Chester Jones, said the vehicle to funnel funds to the school house was dependent on an agreement whereby the historical society agrees to provide recreational opportunities for citizens of the county – something they have continued to do even though an

agreement drafted in 2006 had lapsed.

“A lot of us think these little school houses are important,” said Commissioner Vice Chair Ronnie Beale. “We have Pine Grove, Scaly Mountain, Holly Springs, and the Cowee School we are preserving because they are part of

our heritage. There are very few of them left.”

The 25 Scaly Mountain residents who turned out for the meeting gave the commission a resounding applause and thanked it profusely.

– Kim Lewicki



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- **Unit 704**, 2BD/2BA: \$249,000
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Look for the balloons
on the units for sale.

... TOURISM continued from 1

the tourism industry in Macon County was \$22.63 million.

• State tax revenue generated in Macon County totaled \$5.97 million through state sales and excise taxes and taxes on personal and corporate income. Approximately \$10.72 million in local taxes were generated from sales and property tax revenue from travel-generated and travel-supported businesses.

Governor Pat McCrory announced in May that visitors to North Carolina spent a record \$19.4 billion in 2012, an increase of 5.4% from 2011.

These statistics are from the "2012 Economic Impact of Travel on North Carolina Counties." The study was prepared for the North Carolina Division of Tourism, Film and Sports Development by the U. S. Travel Association.

Statewide highlights include:

• State tax receipts as a result of visitor spending ... neared \$1 billion in 2012 and have increased 42% in the last 10 years.

• Visitors spend more than \$53 million per day in North Carolina and contribute over \$4.2 million per day in state and local tax revenues as a result of that spending (about \$2.7 million in state taxes and \$1.6 million in local taxes).

• The travel and tourism industry directly employs nearly 200,000 North Carolinians.

Locally, Highlands received \$293,900.98 in room tax proceeds for 2011-2012 and \$316,088.86 for 2012-2013.

The fiscal year begins July 1.

Disbursements are two months behind so there is no report for the start of the 2013-2014 fiscal year.

The Franklin TDC received \$141,826.34 for 2011-2012 and \$143,686.22 for 2012-2013.

By law, proceeds from the 3% room tax which is added to all accommodation bills are disbursed to Macon County's two Tourism Development Commissions (TDC). That money must be spent on attracting tourists to the area or servicing them through the Highlands or Franklin Visitor Centers.

The Franklin TDC serves areas outside of Highlands including Nantahala.

Circulate the money!
Advertising in Highlands Newspaper - the LOCAL newspaper - is a win-win for everyone.

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• SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING •

Where you go, I will go



Chaplain Margaret Howell
HOLY FAMILY LUTHERAN CHURCH – ELCA

Just about missed my deadline for this article AGAIN! Lately, my life has not been my own, but I have no regrets.

My Mother-in-love, Barbara, is slowly slipping into the shadow world that is Alzheimer's.

As she requires more and more attention, I find that the frivolities of life, the non-essentials fall away. My friends say, "Well she's your mother-in-law, not your mother,

Au contraire..... Barb has treated me like one of her own from the moment I met her.

She is generous too a fault and has wicked sense of humor, even as Alzheimer's steals her ability to speak more than a word or two at a time. We are spending more and more time together -- at respite care (she's a shark at marble games and Bingo) going to doctor's appointments and weekly trips to the hairdresser.

Friends tell me "Take time for yourself" and I do, puttering around my house or slipping in trips to the "GW Boutique" between our time together. Every time I get discouraged, I think of the verse for the Book of Ruth. Chapter 1: 16. "But Ruth said, "Do not press me to leave you or to turn back from following you! Where you go, I will go; Where you lodge, I will lodge; your people shall be my people, and your God my God. 17Where you die, I will die -- there will I be buried. May the LORD do thus and so to me, and more as well, if even death parts me from you!"

Already I see signs of fall -- leaves starting to color and wither gardens whose tomatoes and other plants are growing rusty with age. I makes me sadder than usual, because I see the same change of seasons in my Mother-in-love, and I cherish every moment we have together. May God bless all of us who are walking with those we love in the shadow lands.

John 3:16

• PLACES TO WORSHIP •

Proverbs 3:5

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464 US Hwy 64 east, Cashiers
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Mon.: Bible Study & Supper at homes - 6 p.m.

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

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Tue. Guys study 8am, Gals 10am

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Senior Pastor Gary Hewins
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am, Holy Eucharist Rite II, (sanctuary), 10:30 am
Thursdays: Holy Eucharist, (chapel), 10 am

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Dr. Mark Ford, 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 • 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

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Sunday School – 10 am, Worship Service – 11 am

Bible Study – 6 pm

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Sundays: Worship – 11

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Pastor Dan Robinson
670 N. 4th Street (next to the Highlands Civic Center)
Sunday: Morning Worship 10:45 a., Evening Worship, 6:30 p.
Wednesday: Prayer Service, 6:30 p.

HIGHLANDS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Pastor Paul Christy 526-3376
Sun: School 9:45a.; Worship 8:30, 9:09 & 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)

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Wednesdays: Prayer Mtg. – 7 p.m.

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

SHORTOFF BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Rev. Andy Cloer
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Wednesdays: Prayer & Bible Study – 7

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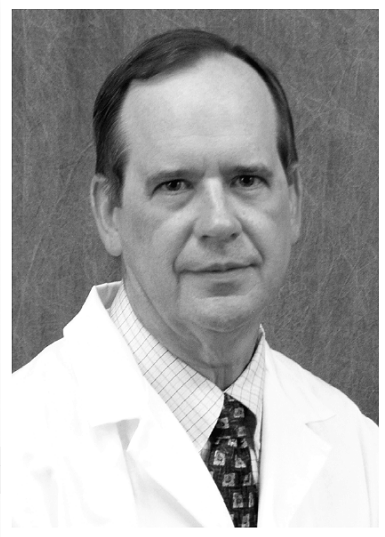
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Thomas L. Duncan, MD is a graduate of Creighton University School of Medicine, Omaha, NE. He completed his Residency at Mason City Family Practice in Mason City, IA. Prior to joining the HCH Medical Staff, Dr. Duncan was in private practice focusing on a full spectrum of primary care for 25 years in rural Iowa. Dr. Duncan is a fellow of the American Board of Family

Thomas L. Duncan, MD

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Thursday, Aug. 15: 10a-noon: The U.S. and Africa

Ambassador Gordon Streeb, former U.S. Ambassador to Zambia and Under Secretary of State for Economic Affairs, and Cedric Suzman, director of programming for the World Affairs Council of Atlanta, will discuss the U.S. and Africa. Ambassador Streeb is currently a visiting professor in the Dept. of Economics at Emory University where he teaches development issues in Sub-Saharan Africa. Dr. Suzman has just returned to the U.S. from his native South Africa where he observed the political and economic situation in this vital African country. These two individuals have impeccable credentials and are certain to give us a look into the complicated and intricate paths being followed as the United States attempts to gain and maintain a foothold in a continent that is moving toward the forefront of this world we live in.

Tuesday, Aug. 20: 2-4p: Aesthetic Epiphanies

Randall B. Robertson, Founding Director of GladdeningLight, a spiritual arts endeavor will discuss the thread that links the cave painting of Chauvet in Southern France to the first deified forms rendered by early Christians on the walls of the Roman catacombs. This lecture will ponder this mystical yearning and examine select achievements in the history of Western Art.

Wed., Aug. 21: 3:30-5:30p: Another Afternoon in the Vineyards

This class is full, but if you love coffee as much as wine, there is still space in **Let's Meet for Coffee** on Wed., Aug. 28 from 10a-noon. Led by coffee barista Don Reynolds, this class will take place at Mountain Fresh Grocery.

For more information and complete schedule:
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• POLICE AND FIRE REPORTS •

Highlands PD log entries from July 17. Only the names of persons arrested, issued a Class-3 misdemeanor, or public officials have been used.

July 17

• At 10:10 a.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident on Oak Street.

July 18

• Officers responded to a two-vehicle accident on Main Street near Second Street.

July 19

• At 5:26 p.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident at US 64 and N. 4th Street.

July 22

• At 4 p.m., a case of fraud – obtaining property by false pretenses that occurred on May 28 was reported by a retail business on Third Street and involved a \$240 Western Union transaction.

July 27

• At noon, the larceny of an Oriental rug was reported at a retail shop on US 64 east. The rug was valued at \$500. At 10:44 a.m., officers responded to a call about a nuisance dog on Dogwood Dr.

July 30

• At 5:30 p.m., officers responded to a one-vehicle accident on Hickory Street.

• At 6 p.m., an aluminium wallet containing numerous debit cards was reported missing from a residence on Woodland Hill Drive.

• At 9 p.m., a white purse containing \$100 was reported missing from the vicinity of Main Street.

• At 6:18 p.m., officers responded to a call of an abandoned vehicle parked behind the Highlands Police Dept.

July 31

• At 3:08 p.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident on Main Street.

• At 6:15 p.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident on Smallwood Ave.

• At 7:17 p.m., officers responded to a call about an ordinance violation on town property on Big Bear Pen Drive.

Aug. 1

• At 2:15 p.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident on Main Street.

• At 7:37 p.m., officers responded to a possible ordinance violation on town property on Dog mountain Road.

The Highlands Fire & Rescue Dept. log entries from July 30

July 30

• At 8:36 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with a medical call at a residence on Chestnut Hill Drive. EMS transported to the hospital.

• At 10:39 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with a medical call to Dry Falls where a person had passed out. There was no

transport to the hospital.

• At 8:31 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with a medical call at a residence on Upper Divide Road. EMS transported to the hospital.

July 31

• At 4:16 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with a medical call at a residence on N. 4th Street. EMS transported to the hospital.

Aug. 1

• At 11:35 a.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at a residence on Oak Street. It was pulled by mistake.

• At 5:16 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with a medical call at a residence on Happoldt Drive.

• At 11:43 a.m., the dept. responded to a one-vehicle accident on NC 106. There were no injuries.

Aug. 2

• At 1:11 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to assist EMS at a residence on Apple Mountain Lane. EMS transported to the hospital.

Aug. 3

• At 7:35 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to assist EMS at a residence on Magnolia Drive. EMS transported to the hospital.

• At 8:57 a.m., the dept. helped a woman who was locked in a room in a residence on Raoul Road. The door knob had come off and she couldn't get out. The dept. used a ladder to assist her getting out the window.

Aug. 4

• At 9:48 a.m., the dept. helped with traffic control at Maple and Fourth streets when the traffic light went out.

Aug. 5

• At 9:02 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with a medical call at a residence on NC 106. EMS transported to the hospital.

Aug. 9

• At 6:05 p.m., the dept. responded to a one-vehicle accident where the driver ran off the road. There was one injury. EMS transported to the hospital.

Aug. 10

• At 8:45 a.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at a residence on Clubhouse Trail. It was false.

• At 1:17 p.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at a residence on Sassafras Gap Road. It was set off accidentally.

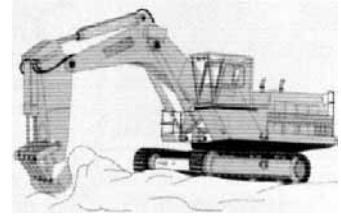
• At 8:48 p.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at the OEI Farm on Arnold Road. It was set off by a fog machine.

Aug. 11

• At 6:36 a.m., the dept. stood by at the MAMA helicopter pad at the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital for a landing.

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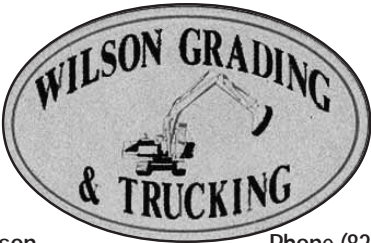
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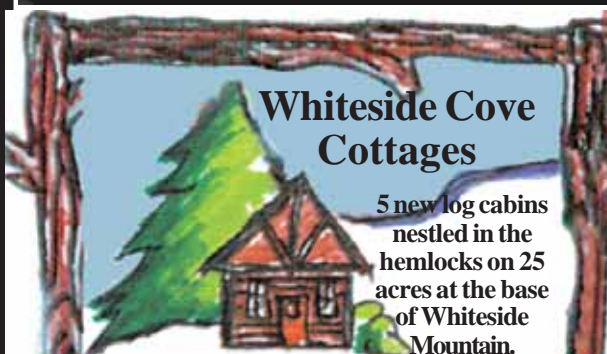
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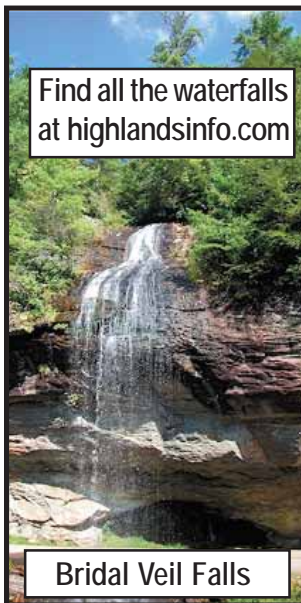
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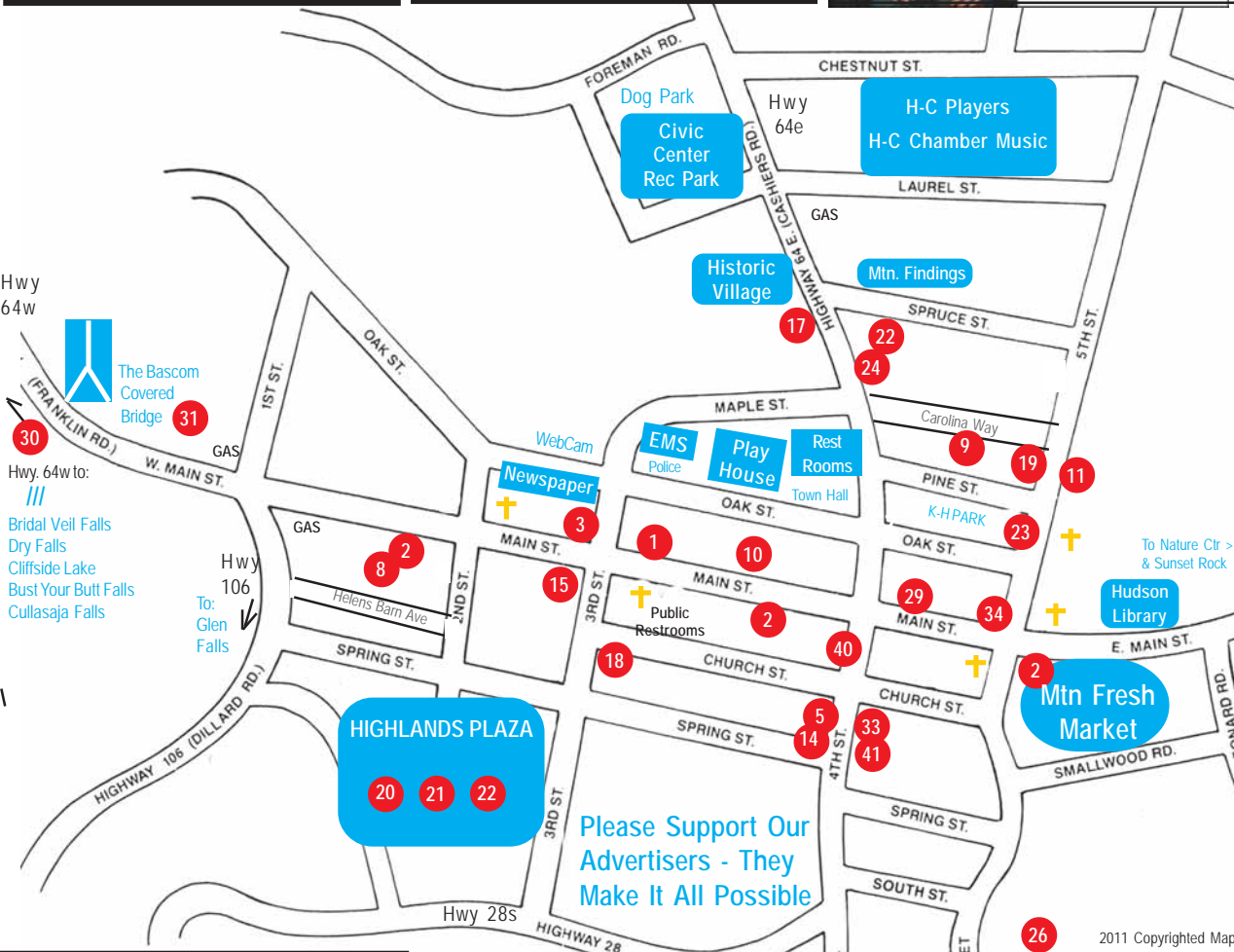
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