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Highlands' Newspaper

FREE

Volume 2, Number 18

Locally Owned & Operated

Friday, May 7, 2004

The week of May 6-13

May 6

• **OPENING NIGHT** – Curtain at 8 p.m. for the Highlands Community Players spring play, the drama "Proof" at PAC. The play continues on Fri. and Sat. evenings, May 7 and 8, 8 p.m. and with a Sunday matinee, May 9, at 2:30.

May 7

• **FREE CONCERT AND DESSERT** – Community Bible Church at 7 p.m. Don Robinson of the Colorado Symphony, accompanied with Janell will perform. International Partnerships' ministry update by founders and director Nick and Maila Mitchaluk.

• **ASSEMBLY** – HS Awards & Yearbook Assembly at the Highlands Civic Center at 10 a.m.

May 10

• **SOFTBALL** – Adult League Softball meeting at the Rec Park at 6 p.m. Anyone interested in having a team and playing should attend the meeting.

• **LAKE MEETING** – The Lake Sequoyah Improvement Assoc. will meet at 6 p.m. at the home of Jim & Shirley Johnson at 48 Naiad Terrace.

May 11

• **FINAL PTO** – At 6:30 p.m. in the school cafeteria. On the agenda is accepting the county proposed new charter by-law, election of the 2004-2005 officers, recognition of retiring teachers, staff and discussing the future principal of Highlands School.

• **WINE DINNER** – Wine dinner featuring Flora Springs Winery. at ...on the Verandah at 6:30 p.m. 526-2338.

• **AUDUBON** – The Highlands Plateau Audubon Society hosts its first program of the season at 7:30 p.m. at the Rec Park for a program on Birds of Southeastern Arizona, presented by Sandy Anderson, Sierra Vista, AZ.

May 13

• **SCHOLARSHIPS** – HS Senior Scholarship Night at PAC at 5 p.m.

May 14

• **SCOUTS** – Old Scouter's Round-up on Walden Way Road between Dry and Bridal Veil falls on U.S. 64 west at 6:30 p.m. Come enjoy an old-fashion dutch oven meal prepared by Troop 207, and view a 1910 campsite. For reservations, call 526-4645 and ask for Buck.

Clustering amendment nearing finish line

By Kim Lewicki

The last hurdle is the outcome of the public hearing. With that, revisions to the clustering ordinance could make clustering feasible in the B3 district regardless of lot size.

Over the last few months, the clus-

tering issue has been discussed at length by both the planning board and the Town Board.

It was brought to the board's attention by a developer who asked to cluster homes on the old miniature golf tract next to Nick's Restaurant on N.C.

28, instead of building 12 single-family homes.

"I think we all agree that clustering in this particular case would be more visually and environmentally pleasing but we want to make sure it's

■ See CLUSTERING page 3

Runners turn out for 5th annual Mountain Lakes 5K Race



Although the threat of rain kept many local runners away, 35 runners lined up at the start under ideal conditions, Saturday, May 1. The temperature was cool, and aside from a light mist the forecasted rain never materialized. See story page 22.

Photo by Jim Lewicki

Budget requests may cause policy change

By Kim Lewicki

This is the time of year when commissioners hear budget requests from various organizations – mostly nonprofits.

Each year, commissioners design

the Town's budget to accommodate such requests – it's rare that an organization goes home empty-handed. But commissioners are now wondering if a special nonprofit fund with a set amount should be set up as part of the

town's budget.

"We've been basing the decision on who gets what on who is the most needy, who can negotiate the best and who writes the best letters," said com-

■ See REQUESTS page 3

County proposing to take over Rec Park

By Kim Lewicki

If Macon County takes over the Highlands Rec Park, the town could funnel the money it uses to maintain and operate the facility elsewhere.

That's the thought behind a proposal Macon County Commissioner Allan Bryson made to the county board at Monday night's meeting.

"We're already taking care of the recreational facilities in the rest of the county, and we've been talking about doing this for years," Bryson said.

The suggestion is in response to budget requests the town has recently made of the county.

Over the last decade, the county has been reimbursing the town

\$300,000 a year for its wastewater treatment plant operation because the plant services people outside the town limits.

Though the contract expires June 30, 2004, with the wastewater treatment plant expansion in the works, the town has asked the county to ex-

■ See REC PARK page 5

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• LETTERS TO THE EDITOR •

Let's stop littering

Dear Editor,

Litter on Highlands highways is unsightly. In fact, according to a recent magazine article, all of North Carolina has a major litter problem.

Last year North Carolina's Dept. of Transportation spent \$13 million picking up nine million pounds of roadside litter.

It is against the law to litter and the improper disposal of cigarette butts is even littering. We need to see more convictions of drivers who haul trash uncovered to the landfill, dropping most of it on the way. Dumping large items at our scenic overlooks, instead of hauling it to the landfill is becoming a major problem, too.

Offenders could face a fine of \$1,000, community service, points on their licenses and even jail time if caught. During a recent litter pick-up by the Baptist Church on N.C. 28, three "Litter Pick-up in Progress" signs were stolen. This reflects the way some people feel. Enough said.

Sheriff Robert Holland has been most cooperative in sending inmates from the Franklin jail to clean the overlooks on N.C. 28. If more people would call him, he would help in other areas. He is interested in helping keep Highlands' roadsides litter free. Please give him a call.

Trash along roads can discourage visitors and damage the environment. It is up to all of us to make a difference.

**Neville Wilson
Queen Mountain**

It's time...

Dear Editor,

Isn't it time that we congratulated and applauded the staff and administration of Highlands School? Isn't it time that certain parents take responsibility for their children's behavior at home, which reflects on their attitude when they come to school. Attitudes and values begin at home, as does learning to be respectful. Isn't it time that petty complaints and nasty politics by a small vocal minority stop and we give credit for the high standards at the school? Do you have to go to a school in Atlanta to appreciate what we have here?

Highlands School has the highest SAT scores in Western North Carolina; the drop-out rate is one of the lowest in North Carolina; two students have received the prestigious Morehead award – that's a full scholarship to UNC Chapel Hill worth \$80,000; 90 percent of seniors at Highlands School plan to attend college. Thirteen seniors have each earned more than 20 hours college credit at school; and over \$100,000 in scholarships for outstanding performance over the past four years. What does this say? To me it says cooperation of parents and students with educators. These figures speak for themselves.

Speaking as a parent, volunteer and substitute teacher, I am proud to have been associated with Highlands School for the past three years. I have seen from the inside the devotion and exhausting hard work put in by educators. I have seen the challenges they have to cope with – the long hours and sometimes heartache. For this, they have my utmost respect. Having volunteered at schools overseas and in the U.S., I find this school exemplary in it's caring for, and encouragement of students. In trying always to be fair and impartial, educators may sometimes have to go against the wishes of some parents, who in turn may be influenced by their children!

School is a place of learning, and only educators can be in charge of a school. Parents should work together with, and support the efforts of the staff. It's the only way that children can grow into responsible successful adults. It's also time to give a special thanks to Jack Brooks and Dr. Melissa Porter for their hard work and contributions in making Highlands School a place of learning, encouragement, and high achievement. It's time for the silent majority to speak up and let them know how much they are appreciated.

How about calling Highlands School at 526-2147 or writing a note to let them know how much you appreciate them?

**Barbara Lawrence
Scaly Mountain**

• OBITUARY •

Genelia Bessie Keener

Genelia Bessie Keener, age 92, of Highlands died Sunday, May 2, 2004 at a local nursing home. She was a native of Macon County, the daughter of Ervin and Belle Gibson Keener. She was a homemaker and a member of the Goldmine Baptist Church. She was the last child of the Ervin Keener family.

She is survived by many nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held Tuesday, May 4 at 2 p.m. at Goldmine Baptist Church with Rev. Bill Wooten, Rev. Roy Lowe and Rev. John Rogers officiating. Burial was at Mt. Moriah Cemetery.

J.B Keener, Arnold Keener, Tommy Keener, Randall Simmons, Randy Brown and John McCall served as pallbearers.

The family received friends from 1-2 p.m., one hour prior to service at Goldmine Baptist Church.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Mt. Moriah Cemetery Fund, c/o Mary Owens, 21 Pinecone Dr., Franklin, NC 28734.

Bryant Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

... CLUSTERING continued from page 1

best for the town as a whole," said Commissioner Amy Patterson.

Strict setback and lot size requirements curtail clustering in many cases around town. Amendments to the ordinance relax those requirements, but only in the B3 zone.

Instead of a 100-foot setback from the road, the amended version suggests 25 feet in the B3 zone. Also, suggested is a 10-foot setback from adjoining properties and a special vegetative buffer. Houses within the cluster development must be 10 feet apart.

Whether in the critical area of the watershed or the balance of the watershed, housing density – the number of houses allowed in the clustered unit – is still based on the number of single-family units allowed in the B3 district

... REQUESTS continued from page 1

missioners.

Mayor Buck Trott said the county has a nonprofit funding pool budgeted and once it's depleted, that's it. "That's why they're coming to us now," he said.

So far, for the 2004-2005 budget, four nonprofits have gone on record requesting funds with another four expected to make requests soon.

Hudson Library requested and received \$12,000 last year – this year it's requesting \$21,500.

The Peggy Crosby Center requested \$30,000 last year, received \$20,000 and is requesting \$32,000 this year.

The Highlands Historical Society requested and received \$15,000 last year – this year it is requesting \$20,000.

Last year, the Highlands Emergency Council requested and received \$700. So far, a request for for 2004-2005

"The total number of clustered lots shall not exceed the number of lots allowed for single-family detached developments in the applicable zoning district based on the size of the parcel to be subdivided," reads the amendment.

To insure that once a clustered residential development built in the B3 (commercial) zone stays that way, the planning board suggested and commissioners stipulated that the cluster development can't be converted to commercial/retail use in the future without Town Board approval.

On June 2, the public can comment on whether the town should change its zoning ordinance to accommodate clustering in the B3 district.

After the public hearing, the board will rule on the ordinance change.

hasn't come in.

The Highlands Biological Station requested but was denied \$10,000 last year. A 2004-2005 request hasn't been submitted.

The MC Humane Society requested \$5,000 last year, but missed the application deadline. The town received a letter-proposal for 2004-2005, but the amount needed is unclear.

Last year, Highlands Playhouse requested \$3,000 but its request was denied. It hasn't submitted a request, yet.

New this year is a request by the Highlands Community Child Development Center for \$30,000.

A budget work session is set for May 19. Commissioners will decide who gets what and if a capped nonprofit fund should be created in the Town's budget.

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• LIFE UNDER CONSTRUCTION •

Birthdays...and we all have them!

I am not counting anymore. But seriously, I love my birthday. It is *my* day. Or as some of my good friends would say, my month since I tend to celebrate the entire month. I simply declare to myself and anyone else that will listen that May is Mel's month. That's my nickname.



Dr. Maryellen Lipinski

be there to get the picture in totality. My point, and I do have one, is that you don't have to be busy doing, doing, doing. You will always have time for the important things in life, but not if you do the unimportant things first.

Birthdays are not about age and focusing

on the wear and tear of my body and whining, although sometimes I am tempted to do so. I find this is usually better done alone so no one has to bear the burden of listening to me. I am in the second half of my life and I have learned not to identify myself with my body. That would just turn into a burden. I am identifying myself with the Self. Sure, there are some unpleasant physical things about growing old but my hope is that the lamp of the beauty inside will glow brighter with the passage of time. Aging cannot be postponed and after about 30 or so -

- the physical scales are tilted against you. As Brad Pitt would say, and he is turning 40, "It's about inner humanity and honesty. Don't waste someone else's time". I hope you are looking for something else to measure your beauty by - - that of a peaceful mind and a loving heart.

A friend of mine, initials J.K., mentioned that he reads my columns. His major was sociology, which he simply calls, "Painstaking Research into the OBVIOUS." In a polite way, he said that my columns resembled his definition of the study of sociology.

So, if I state the obvious to some of you, I won't apologize because maybe, just maybe, you need to be reminded of just that.

I'm starting coaching sessions again at the Schoolhouse in Cashiers. Stop by Chapter 2 in Cashiers or Cyrano's Bookshop in Highlands to purchase *Life Under Construction...a work in progress?* or email melspeaks@aol.com. Dr. Maryellen Lipinski is a psychologist by profession and an international professional speaker by design. Currently, she coaches individuals to obtain their goals in life and works as a Realtor at Village Realty of Sapphire Valley. www.ilovemountainrealestate.com. Her first book, *Random Thoughts and Mine Always Are. Conscious Detours to Creative Power* will make you laugh, cry, and think! www.maryellenlipinski.com

• SPORTS PICKS •

Sports Haiku

One of the more popular forms of entertainment on message boards (and Gregg Easterbrook columns) is fun little sports haiku. Haiku is best described as a small poem that follows the 5-7-5 syllabic formula. Here are some good ones that I have come up with, and hopefully y'all can send me some good ones for next time.



Ryan Potts

We are the Lakers
Shaq, Payton, Phil and Malone
And then there's Kobe.

Soccer, global game
Not quite as popular here
Meet Freddy Adu

A-Rod worth millions?
Next time Yanks should consider
Martha Stewart stock tips

Saints draft for talent
Patriots draft for their needs
Wonder why I cry?

Deng and Shaun leaving
Coach K would worry if not
for Wojo Mojo.

Eli in New York
Attitude more stubborn than
Mel Kiper's hairdo

Rangers in first place
Their hitting is golden but,
Pitching from Wal-Mart

NBA playoffs
Supposed non stop action
Why then do I yawn?

Mindless droning words
With a hint of envy, pride
Joe Morgan talking

End of an era
"Put the balls up and get dressed"
Spoken one last time

College hoops over
Brownnose in hibernation
Wither Dick Vitale?

... REC PARK continued from page 1

tend the reimbursement for another few years.

But Commissioner Bryson said that might not happen.

Meanwhile, the town has budgeted \$540,000 for Rec Park operations for 2004-2005 and has asked the county for \$270,000 towards that bill. "Lots of people who live outside the town use the facility," said Town Administrator Richard Betz.

For several years, the county has been giving the town \$150,000 toward Rec Park operations - half of the \$300,000 Rec Park budget when the

town first asked for assistance years ago. Betz said this time the town is asking the county for half of the current Rec Park budget.

Bryson said he doesn't know if the town will give up the Rec Park. However, he suggested the county lease the property from the town for one dollar and then it will take over the financial and operational responsibilities of the facility.

Bryson is set to meet with the town's Finance Committee Thursday, May 6 with discussions to follow at the May 19 Town Board meeting.

Would you like to serve on a Town committee or board? There are several openings on several boards. Call Town Administrator, Richard Betz for details at 526-2118.

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• LAUGHING AT LIFE •

My Spring Gadfly Report (trashy stuff)

Highlands is coming alive. Summer folks are rolling in here faster than permit applications at town hall. Grocery stores are taking orders for cases of Yellow Tail and service personnel are dusting off their lawn mowers, attacking yards that have been asleep for months. (I think mine is dead.)

The smell of money is everywhere as summer folks arrive with bundles of thousand dollar bills, eager to get rid of them. Shops are filling up and so are long stemmed wine glasses and

golf bags. Excitement is in the air.

It is my time to flit about Highlands, pen in hand, gathering news about things that are going on around here. This is what I found.

Edna Dawson, of Homely, Georgia, reports she has arrived this year with her 10- year-old nephew, Thornton, in tow. Poor Thornton, spotted wearing a flea collar at last weeks Jackenhimer gala, has a severe case of head lice and his family has tried everything to get rid of them. The

Jackenhimers are now scratching their heads on what to do about the problem and everyone is just itching to have Thornton return to Homely.

I suggested that Edna have Thornton dunk his head in a bucket of coal oil (remember coal oil?) and hold his breath for one minute. Most head lice I know cannot hold their breath that long and should croak after taking several gulps of the fluid. It has always worked for me. Do not smoke during this procedure. If you do spot a head louse with coal



Fred Wooldridge

oil breath, it came from Thornton.

Flash! I was told the Visitor's Center may have a special section display, featuring everything to do at our upscale hotels and B & B's ... like sleeping. A very elegant looking volunteer, wearing a blue blazer and Rolex watch that doesn't keep time, will look down his nose and answer questions with a heavy British accent. Our less fortunate visitors will be helped by the regular personnel with North Carolina accents.

This rumor just in. Our town fathers are working on a brochure just for "day trippers." Not only does it highlight stores in which they are not welcome, it also displays a large roadmap of Franklin and instructions on how to get there.

Moving on. I got a tip that certain politicians have met in private to discuss a new "Standing Ordinance." A law that limits the amount of time a person can stand still on Main Street. Kind of an extension of our timed parking program that is so popular with everyone.

People who gather to chit chat and gossip in bunches, blocking the sidewalk and actually prevent people from spending money, will have to move on after 10 minutes or be fined. This program will be monitored by special officers who will chalk mark people's shoes when they're not looking and write a ticket if they have not moved in the allotted time.

As usual, some folks are exempt from the program. Our good-will ambassadors, merchants standing outside wondering why no one is coming in their store and politicians who like to glad-hand during election time, may stand as

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• ARMCHAIR TRAVELER •

The mystery of Egypt continues to enthrall travelers

By Phyllis Picklesimer
Contributor

In the crisp grayness of dawn, the call of the muezzins floats through the clear air to arouse the faithful to begin their morning prayers to God. My memory of its lilting melody is as sharp today as on that morning of May 1991 when I first heard it. After four more trips, Egypt still has me in her thrall.

Though Egypt is larger than any European country, except Russia, 93 percent of its area is barren desert inhabited by nomads. It is the Nile that provides the lifeblood to the five percent of the country where most of the population dwells.

The Nile of Egypt is formed by the joining at Khartoum of the ying and yang of the peaceful White Nile from Lake Victoria and the turbulent Blue Nile rising on the Ethiopian plateau. It was the winter rains swelling the Blue Nile that produced the annual flooding that held sway over the lives of the ancient Egyptians.

On its course northward, the river narrows and widens, races and meanders, until it splays across the Delta and empties into the Mediterranean Sea.

To sail upon its waters is sublime, a vision of times past. The pulse of life along the river unfolds as on a stage. Jumbled, mud-brick villages cling to the banks, monochromatic but for the vivid splash of an orange window from or an azure batten door to inject some individuality. The bright green and golden fields are dotted with their workers weeding, plowing, or harvesting their crops, much as it has been done for generations. The brilliant white cattle egrets searching for a tasty grub are highlighted by the inky soil of a just plowed field. Fishermen pole their boats and toss their nets, while buffalo stand

half-submerged in the eddies near shore. Running children wave and shout hello while mothers scrub their pans or pound their clothes in the shallows. It is the journey of a lifetime.

Cairo is the lively hub of the country, sprawling outward on both sides of the Nile toward the impinging deserts to the east and west.

What began life as an Arab camp is today the largest city in Africa with 18 million people and still growing.

It is a vast bazaar of hurrying humanity overhung with the smell of spices, charcoal, dust, and sandalwood. It is also, first and foremost, a storehouse of many of man's most lasting achievements.

To wander through that great treasure house of antiquities, the Egyptian Museum, is to watch the developing of thousands of years of craftsmanship and art. The world-weary eyes of the scribe watch today as cynically as in the ages past, and the bedazzling treasures of the boy king Tutankhamum still bring gasps of disbelief at their magnificence.

The walled city of medieval Cairo with its bristling minarets is guarded by the Citadel, built in 1176 by Saladin, on a tall hill overlooking the town.

Within the medieval city is the Khan-el-Khalili market with its rabbit warren of alleys lined with importuning salesmen who beckon into the shadowy interiors of small shops filled with glinting copper and brass, gold and silver

jewelry, gallibujas, leatherwork, mother-of-pearl inlaid boxes, and whatever other bibelots of the East one's heart could desire. But don't forget to bargain.

No trip to Egypt would be complete without a pilgrimage to Giza, at the edge of the Western Desert, to behold the pyramids. They stand immense on their escarpment these colossal



monuments to the Old Kingdom pharaohs Cheops, Chephren, and Mycerinus, drawing and holding the eye while overwhelming

any preconceptions.

Southeast and below the pyramids lies the Sphinx, its lion's body crouched to spring. It's enigmatic smile and distant-looking eyes consider all of its millenniums and keep its secrets safe.

Fifty percent of the world's antiquities lie within the borders of Egypt, and of that 50 percent, half are found within the precincts of Luxor and Thebes. This abundance of sites draws many visitors to this rather sleepy little town to walk along its pleasant tree-lined corniche and to gaze across the Nile toward the violet Thebean hills and the Valleys of the Kings and Queens.

The town of Luxor with its monumental temples of Karnak and Luxor was the place of the living and the sunrise. Across the river lay the vast necropolis of Thebes, a place of the dead and the setting sun.

The Temple of Karnak, built over 1,300 years ago, is the world's largest religious complex. To

wander down its avenue of sphinxes to its inner reaches is to be confounded by its scope and majesty. Its hypostyle hall is one of the most spectacular sights in Egypt and, perhaps the world. A forest of 137 huge columns, with a circumference of 50 feet at the bottom and reaching 75 feet in height, overcome the senses with their massiveness. Hatshepsut's magnificent 320 ton obelisk stretches skyward above the complex to the glory of Amun. The temple remains today a wonder of the world.

Luxor Temple, connected in the past to the Temple of Karnak by a mile-long avenue of sphinxes, is on a less grandiose scale. Built over a shorter period and embellished less by subsequent pharaohs, it retains a certain purity of original design.

In the early morning, the tourist ferries begin their journeys across the Nile to Thebes. There are at least 900 tombs of kings, queens, royal children, nobles, and others hewn into the cliffs of the Thebean hills. Of these, 62 tombs are known in the Valley of the Kings. The tombs were cut into the soft limestone for great distances, adorned with painted or carved scenes of the pharaohs lives, hieroglyphics telling of their glory, and passages from the Book of the Dead to lead them and their journey to the Underworld.

Today many tombs are well-preserved, glowing, painted in lustrous reds, yellows, blues, and gold, as if the artist had just laid down his brush for a short rest.

Along with the tombs, the west bank is scattered with the mortuary temples for the pharaohs. The most famous and beautiful is that of Hatshepsut, the only female pharaoh, at Dier el Bahri.

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Highlands School alumnus earns prestigious graduate Scholarship

UNC students Claire Young from Highlands and classmate Menaka Kalaskar from Idaho have been named recipients of the Harry S. Truman Scholarship. This distinguished scholarship recognizes approximately 70 college juniors each year on the basis of exceptional leadership potential and commitment to careers in public service.

Scholars selected are eligible to receive \$3,000 for their senior undergraduate year and a total of \$27,000 for graduate studies. This scholarship is the nation's only memorial to President Harry S. Truman.

The Foundation also provides students with leadership training and fellowship with other students dedicated to public service. This is only the eighth time that students from the same college or university have received the award in the same year. Over 2,000 students have received the scholarship since the first was awarded in 1977.

Claire Young was born and

raised in Highlands, and went to Highlands School from kindergarten through 12th grade, except for a Rotary Exchange Year in Japan her sophomore year of high school. She was valedictorian of her class in 2001. Currently a

international studies major at UNC, she has been abroad studying Arabic at the American University in Cairo this year, and will return to Chapel Hill for her senior year. She is the daughter of Janet and King Young of Highlands, and the granddaughter of Carolyn B. Summers of Brooks, Georgia.

UNC is already the nation's No. 2 public university in number of recipients of the

Rhodes Scholarship, with the latest award given to senior Liz Kistin last fall. George Lensing, director of the UNC Office of Distinguished Scholarships, named one factor responsible for the University's production of prestigious award winners. "It's about the quality of our students."



Claire Young

Proctors needed for end-of-grade tests at area middle & high schools

Macon County Schools are recruiting volunteer proctors for the End-Of-Grade testing at all elementary schools and Macon Middle School, Tuesday-Thursday, May 11-13, from 8 a.m. until 12 noon. Please contact Jennifer Jones at 524-4414 x 324 or jennifer.jones@mcsk-12.org for more information or to volunteer.

... TRAVELLER from page 7

From Luxor, south along the Nile to Aswan, the Ptolemaic temples of Esna, Edfu, and Kom Ombo stand sentinel to the final days of pharonic rule.

At Aswan the river widens to contain several islands. To the west of the Nile, the cliffs rise steeply and the desert sands edge down to the water. Aswan is a town surrounded by desert, but which still retains a feeling of greenness with its trees and gardens.

Aswan is the location of the first cataract of the Nile, and it is beyond this point that the High Dam was completed in 1972 forming Lake Nassar, now the largest man-made lake in the world.

One of the favorite activities of Aswan is to hire a felucca for a sail on the Nile. This also allows a visit to Kitchener Island with its fragrant botanical garden and to Elephantine Island with its distinct rock formations which give it its name.

The feluccas with their flapping white sails tack across the water, catching the smallest zephyr to send the boat skimming among the reeds and small rocky islands. The only sound is the

creak of the sail as it turns into the breeze and the flapping of the wings of a flock of hoopoes startled by the boat.

In contrast to the peacefulness of the river, a trip to the Sharia-el-Souk, Aswan's market, is a fantastic experience of sights, smells, and people. Its spice market is a good place to purchase all the spices of the East.

Egypt is a land of many contrasts. There are spectacular monuments from 6000 years of building and crumbling buildings, calm and din. There is dirt and breathtaking beauty. There is poverty, but no poverty of the spirit. In any discussions of Egypt one must not forget the people of the country. Egyptians are some of the warmest, friendliest people in the world. They have a fierce pride in their history and country, and to any visitor who falls under its spell, they say, "Welcome."

And when the sun sets over the Thebean hills, the pyramids, the Nile, the play of colors—gold, red, violet — washes everything with its exquisite light and Egypt becomes a part of you. You will return again, Inshallah (if God wills).

Phyllis Picklesimer and her husband Fred are summer residents of Highlands. She is associated with Starr Travel in Greensboro, N.C. and leads groups to many far-flung areas of the world several times a year. Fred's family has lived in Highlands since 1853. Once a month, she writes a travel column for Highlands' Newspaper

'Proof' now playing at PAC



Production crew takes a break on the set of "Proof" now on stage at the Martin-Lipscomb Performing Arts Center through May 9. From left are Dean Zuch, Bob Trevathan, director Virginia Talbot, Caroline Cook, set designer Peter Jefferson, and Bill Hall. There are a few tickets left for opening night Call the box office at 526-4904. The play continues on Friday and Saturday evenings, May 7 and 8, 8 p.m. and with a Sunday matinee, May 9, at 2:30. Tickets are \$10.

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Highlands Diner now open for lunch and dinner – still featuring its “Famous Barbecue”

The Highlands Diner, formerly Rib Country, is now open for lunch and dinner daily. The Spring Street eatery continues its tradition of serving the barbecue and southern favorites that made it famous in a casual, family-style setting. Diner managers are Martin and Robin Chavez.

For starters the diner offers its signature appetizer, The Onion, a golden brown fried onion served with Cajun Ranch dipping sauce; Jalapeno Bites and Chicken Tenders. A selection of sandwiches includes the Big Pig shredded barbecue pork sandwich, an 8-oz. Angus Beef Burger, and the Catfish Sandwich. Sandwiches come with a choice of french fries, cole slaw,

baked beans or collard greens. Lunch entrees include a Half-Rack Baby Back Ribs, Barbecue Chicken,

Buffalo Shrimp, and Shredded Pork or Beef Barbecue. Entrees are served with a choice of two sides and Texas Toast.

The dinner menu at the Highlands Diner features a full rack of Baby Back Ribs, Barbecue Platters, Southern Fried Chicken, a Fried Catfish Dinner, a 12-oz. New York Strip Steak, and The Pig Pack, a dinner for two containing a full rack of ribs, barbecue chicken, pork and beef with four side items. Lunch

prices range from \$6-10 and dinner prices from \$11-20. A children's menu is also available.

The diner's specialty dessert is home-made fruit cobbler and pies. Take-out and a full catering menu are available. Hours for lunch are 11

a.m. to 2 p.m. Dinner service begins at 5 p.m. The Highlands Diner telephone number is 828-526-2626.



Diner managers Martin and Robin Chavez with Mario Gomes, chief operating officer, Old Edwards Hospitality Group.

... WOOLDRIDGE from page 6

long as they want, but only when they are actually acting like ambassadors, wondering where customers are, or glad-handing. This all sounds reasonable to me, which is scary.

Moving on further. With all the uppity things going on around here, a special committee has been formed to deal with the rising nuisance of motorcycles. (After all, how much money can you bring in on a motorcycle?) Even though most of these folks are doctors, lawyers and such, they just don't fit our new image of snooty people and stretch limos. Unfortunately, the committee is struggling. Oil slicks on sharp curves is all they

have come up with thus far.

And finally, what would a gadfly report be without a little bit of home town, trashy, down-in-the-dirt gossip. Are you sitting down? The very young and pretty Beatrice Wilson of Canton and summer resident of Highlands, will marry her dog. She feels that with all that is going on with relaxing the marriage laws, why not? Here's a direct quote from Bea. "Sparky is loyal, loves only me, is always in a good mood and doesn't leave the toilet seat up. Besides, all the men I have met that have the qualities I need for marriage already have boyfriends" Hmmm.

Cool Runnings

A 1993 feel-good sports comedy, written by Lynn Siefert and Michael Goldberg, directed by John Turteltaub, starring John Candy, Doug E. Doug, Malik Yoba, and more.

A very funny, very cool, very silly, and very uplifting story of the 1988 Jamaican bobsled team competing in the Calgary Games. Not surprisingly, it's an underdog, impossible odds story, that includes a lot of slapstick, sight gags, fish out of water elements and more.

The storyline: Several Olympic hopefuls are in tryouts for track and field events, three racers are disqualified but unwilling to give up their dreams of



competition. They recruit a disreputable ex bobsled racer as coach and begin training without sleds or ice. Hilarious scenes of disaster, cluelessness, mayhem and destruction ensue, followed by more when they actually get to Calgary (the bit with the Rastafarian line dancing in a cowboy bar is terrific). They make some friends and a few enemies, but they do get a chance to compete.

It really is a

neat story, based on a true story when an underdog team from Jamaica became media darlings in the 1988 games who actually did have some surprisingly good qualifying times. In fact or fiction, I think nearly everyone likes stories of people who just won't give up, no matter how badly the odds are stacked against them, and the odds against these guys are high. It is a good, family friendly film, funny and with a little bit of a message.

If you like this one, try Jerry Maguire, Planes Trains and Automobiles, Mighty Ducks, and Field of Dreams. These and about 5,000 other titles are available on VHS and DVD at Movie Stop Video. Stop on by and give us a look.



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Following the 'Mountain Trail' to Asheville

By Kathryn Coppage

Mountain Trail Staff

Journalism students from Highlands School gained first-hand knowledge of the newspaper industry recently. Members of the Mountain Trail newspaper staff followed the trail of their school newspaper. After completing their newspaper layout at school, the students traveled to Asheville, learned about the printing process and actually caught a copy of the paper as it came off the press.

The school newspaper is printed at the Asheville Citizen-Times print shop as a pull-out section of Highlands' Newspaper. Commercial printing sales manager Steve Koletnik invited the students to the Asheville shop for an educational tour.

Each month the journalism students deliver the Mountain Trail to Highlands' Newspaper publisher Kim Lewicki on a CD. Lewicki then combines the student paper with Highlands' Newspaper and sends both to Asheville over Internet as a PDF file.

A crew receiving the PDF file at the Asheville shop develops negatives of the newspaper and burns the images onto metal plates. The plates are put on the printing press where the images are printed on 2,000-pound rolls of paper. In only five minutes 5,200 copies of the Highlands' Newspaper are traveling down the conveyor belt.

Workers in every room and in every station of the facility were doing their job to produce newspapers. The students observed papers continuously running on the press, ink being refilled, paper being spliced and replenished and workers catching and bundling the finished products.

"It's not just an individual who makes a newspaper run. It takes a strong team of dedicated people and long hours, not to

mention, a little bit of stress!" said first year journalism student Allie Roman. "It amazed me to see how much work goes into creating a simple newspaper. One of the key things that I learned was how I can strengthen my contribution to the paper and understand how the paper makes it into other people's hands for their enjoyment."

The students learned that practically everything at the Asheville Citizen Times is recycled. The paper, the cardboard, and even the metal plates are recycled. Koletnik assured the group that both the Highlands' Newspaper and the



Top photo from left: Journalism students (left to right) Cole Berg, Allie Roman, Margie Potts, Rachel Lewicki, Katy Betz, and Kathryn Coppage stand by a conveyor belt as it delivers finished copies of the Highlands' Newspaper and the Mountain Trail, ready for delivery.



Left photo from left: Steve Koletnik, and Journalism students Kathryn Coppage, Rachel Lewicki, Allie Roman, Katy Betz and Highlands' Newspaper publisher Kim Lewicki examine the paper as it comes off the conveyor belt in the press room.

Bottom photo from left: Cole Berg, Kathryn Coppage and Margie Potts watch the Highlands' Newspaper roll off the Asheville Citizen Times \$26 million, 3-story, high-speed press.

Mountain Trail are environmentally safe papers. "I am proud to read newspapers that are printed in such environmentally friendly ways," said Katy Betz.

Faculty adviser Beverly VanHook said she is glad her class was able to take this field trip.

"I spoke to Mrs. Lewicki and Mr. Koletnik about having the students follow the path of their first edition of the Mountain Trail next fall. We all agreed that it will be advantageous to have the students know from the beginning exactly what goes into publishing a paper and why deadlines are so important."



The history behind celebrating Mother's Day

By Kayla McClure
Contributor

The matriarch of the family, the mother, has been revered in many cultures including our own for eons.

The truth is we don't really need a special day to celebrate all the work, love and devotion our mothers show us. But just in case we forget to let Mom know how much we appreciate her, the second Sunday in May is the official Mother's Day in America – this year on May 9.

In the late 1800s, Julia Ward Howe became the memorial of Mother's Day in America because she wrote the words to the Battle Hymn of the Republic and was responsible for organizing a Mass in Boston every year for a day dedicated to peace.

But Anna Jarvis was responsible for organizing the first formal program in tribute to her deceased mother on May 9, 1908, the 3rd anniversary of the death of her mother. On that day, Miss

Jarvis and the Andrew's Methodist Episcopal Church Philadelphia, Penn., held a service to honor all mothers.

... "To revive the dormant filial love and gratitude we owe to those who gave us birth. To be a home tie for the absent. To obliterate family estrangement. To create a bond of brotherhood through the wearing of a floral badge. To make us better children by getting us closer to the hearts of our good mothers. To brighten the lives of good mothers. To have them know we appreciate them, though we do not show it as often as we ought..." Jarvis wrote in a telegram about the affair.

That service developed into the celebration we are familiar with today. She and others began to campaign to ministers, business and finally politicians to make this a national holiday. On April 26, 1910, Governor William E. Glasscock of West Virginia issued the first Mother's Day proclamation.

Then in May 1914, Jarvis got a



Photo by Jim Lewicki

Annette Jenkins with children Casey, Brice and Chase

representative of Alabama and a senator from Texas to introduce a joint resolution naming the second Sunday of May as Mother's Day. It was passed in both houses — President Woodrow Wilson approved the resolution and Secretary of State William Jennings Bryan proclaimed it so.

Following the proclamation, President Wilson ordered the flag be displayed on all government buildings in the U.S. and foreign possessions on Mother's Day.

Mr. Heflin, the representative from Alabama, who co-authored of the resolution said the flag was never used in a more beautiful and sacred cause than flying above that tender, gentle army, the mothers of America.

America, Italy, Australia, Denmark, Finland, Turkey, and Belgium celebrate Mother's Day (mostly on the second Sunday of May). Numerous people follow the custom of wearing a carnation on Mother's Day. A colored flower means that the person's mother is living while a white carnation

honors a person's mother who is deceased.

Before the United States celebrated this holiday, it has been traced back to the spring celebrations of ancient Greece in the honor of Rhea, the Mother of Gods.

In the 1600s, England celebrated a day called, Mothering Sunday, honoring the mothers of England.

During this time in England many poor folks worked as servants for the wealthy. Most of the jobs that were available to them were far from their homes, so they lived with their employers. On the mothering Sunday the servants were encouraged to return home and spend time with their mothers. A cake called, Mothering Cake, was often brought along to provide a festive touch.

– Mother's Day Ideas –
Breakfast in bed, dinner away from the kitchen; flowers, candy, jewelry, and cards that say, "We love and appreciate you!"



Photo by Jim Lewicki

Three generations of mothers and one sure to be – from left, Angie Lewis Jenkins, Jane Lewis, and Amy Jenkins Ramey with daughter Kadence Grace Ramey.



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Fresser's opens second location

Debbie Grossman, owner of Fresser's Eatery in Village Square has opened another Fresser's in Helen's Barn with a much expanded menu. Village Square will feature take-out and Fresser's at Helen's Barn will offer sit-down lunches and dinners.



Photo by Jim Lewicki



Now it's official!

Though at it's new location at Falls on Main since mid-December, Radio Shack dealer Star Pony Electronics officially opened May 5. Owners Chuck Willhide and Cynthia Stacey had free give-aways all day and celebrated both the store's opening and Cinco de Mayo next door at Highlands Wine & Cheese that evening.

Artists, donors busy at work

By Barbara Lawrence
Contributor

'Be a Star for a Child' is well underway. Sue Blair has been working with her father on remodeling Dead Eye's Barn in preparation for the grand event on June 12. Dry wall has been erected and a fresh look for the whole barn is underway.

The success of Carpe Diem Farm's children's camps is a mission for Sue Blair. She has seen the need in the community for this type of educational program, and knows first-hand the results that can be achieved. "We are a giving community, although we receive so much more when we give with love."

"If we don't, who will?" were Gerry Doubleday's words when I asked him why he helped and donated in Highlands. "The people here see a need, and do something about it. There are disadvantaged children within our community. By donating time and money and by encouraging them to be more and develop focus, we may not make them much richer, but we can enrich them. According to the US Census Data, two-thirds of Macon County children are on subsidized lunches and many are in foster care, showing that educational programs are vitally important."

Gerry says the high pregnancy rate of children aged 10-19 years old is shocking. There must be educa-

tion in this respect, he says. As a committee member for Carpe Diem Farm's "Be a Star for a Child" he is an example of someone who gives it all he's got when he takes on a project.

Dr. Rodney Shotwell, Superintendent of Macon County Schools is complimentary of the Gar's Kids Program at Carpe Diem Farms. "I feel that the program meets the

needs of our youth to have sustained caring relationships with adults, receive guidance in facing serious challenges and feel a sense of worth as a person. What better place to invest than in our children's future?"



A day with ATV Adventures has been donated for the fundraiser

he asks.

Peter Raoul of ATV Adventures feels he is privileged and lucky in so many things. "We live in an area where there is an excess of beauty, lack of crime and I have an over-

whelming joy at being the only car on the road sometimes." Peter believes that a community needs to support each other and all the community benefits from business.

Peter has created an outdoor recreational business with his son Michael. People can ride ATVs, and enjoy a mountaintop picnic in Nantahala National

Forest on a special use permit from the Forestry Service. This is a safe way to experience the forest, and be with people who are expert guides.

The artists and donors who have



The Custom House has donated a whimsical 'Tally Ho' fox lamp for the auction.

... DONORS from page 14

helped with the labor of love, aptly name 'Be a Star for a Child' are so deeply appreciated. We recognize every minute that they put into the planning of their artwork or selecting an item from their inventory, knowing a child will benefit from their work. We would like to recognize some of these dedicated people.

- Alaina from Mountain Fitness has donated personal training.

- Janet Young of The Custom House has donated a 'Tally Ho' fox lamp that will delight.

- Holly Rogers of Let Holly do the Cooking has donated a dinner for eight. That will really be a treat for someone.

- Ron Salzer of Bridges to the Other Side, is making a trellis just for this occasion.



Photo by Cynthia Strain
Thea & The Greenman will be on hand at the "Be A Star" fundraiser.

- Thanks to Alan Reese of The Total Picture for the photo frames.

- Ed Barker, owner of Furniture South has donated a beautiful Italian Bowl.

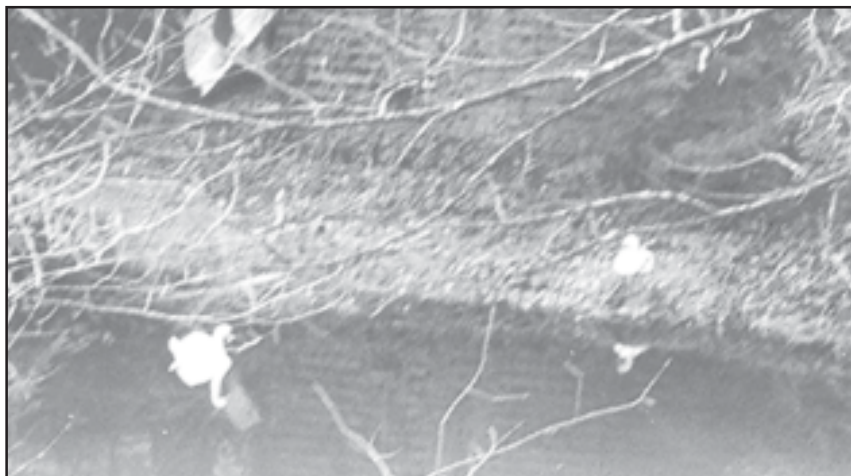
- Patrick Taylor, master potter is busy designing an original piece.

- Cynthia and Chuck, the musical pair extraordinaire, of Star Pony Electronics at the Falls on Main are donating to this event, too.

Many more exciting and eclectic items are being prepared for the auction at "Be a Star for a Child, Carpe Diem Farms, June 12 starting at 5.30 p.m.

Tickets are \$100 and can be purchased at Wit's End on Main Street; Highlands Office Supply in the Highlands Plaza, or call Carpe Diem Farms at 526-2854

Swans nesting on Mirror Lake



Members of Mirror Lake Improvement Association were thrilled to watch the swans choose a spot, build a nest and settle in. We were looking forward to seeing the three cygnets. But, alas, when the swans were both in the water for a bit of R and R and off, apparently an animal stole the eggs. When the swans discovered the empty nest, they decided to abandon the site. This is very sad and disappointing. At least we still see the adults gracing the lake. – Elaine Johnson

Town Spring Clean Up –The week of May 24 will be for "white goods" pick up. Call Town Hall at 526-2118 for white goods pick up – appliances, furniture, debris.

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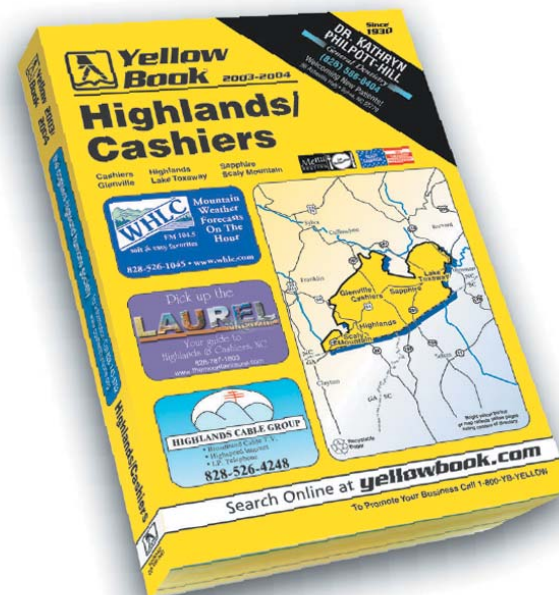
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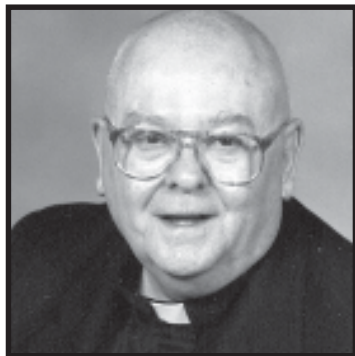
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• SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING •

His doubting speaks volumes



**William Evans, priest Our
Lady of the Mountains
Catholic Church**

History has really given Thomas a bum rap. We have even misnamed him. He is known as "doubting Thomas," but the reality is that he is Thomas the Honest, Thomas the Brave. But most of all, he was a person who deeply loved Jesus.

When Jesus' friend Lazarus lay dying, many of the disciples were hesitant to make the trip with Christ. They knew that in going to Lazarus' hometown, they risked death. Going too close to Jerusalem was dangerous for Christ and his followers.

Yet it was Thomas who without fear said, "Let us also go that we may die with him." This is in the eleventh chapter of John verse 16. Thomas was brave – he was not afraid to die for and with a friend. Thomas was the kind of friend all of us long to have – one who is not afraid to stand with us in times of real need.

When this little group of disciples eventually did go to Jerusalem, Christ was betrayed, convicted, condemned and cruelly murdered on the cross.

Thomas could understand that. He knew how to grieve the loss of a friend. In fact, on the first Easter night when the Lord appeared, Thomas was not there. Perhaps he wanted to grieve alone. For whatever reason, he was not there that night.

When he arrived later, he could not believe that Christ had risen from the dead. It must have seemed to him to be the cruelest joke of all. It was hard enough accepting Christ's death, and now his friends seemed to have lost touch with reality.

Maybe that made it easier for the other disciples to bear, but Thomas would never accept a false comfort. Better the bitterness of loss than a deluded happiness. He stood his ground: "I'll never believe it without putting my finger in the nail marks in this hand and without putting my hand in his side."

And for that comment, he has been named

▪ See SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING page 18

• PLACES OF WORSHIP ON THE PLATEAU •

Blue Valley Baptist Church

Rev. Oliver Rice, Pastor (706) 782-3965
Sundays: School – 10 a.m., Worship – 11
Sunday night services every second and fourth
Sunday at 7 p.m.

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

Buck Creek Baptist Church

Sundays: School – 10 a.m.; Worship – 11
First Saturday: Singing at 7:30 p.m.

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints

NC 28 N. and Pine Ridge Rd., (828) 369-8329
Rai Cammack, Branch President, (828) 369-1627
Sundays: Worship – 10 a.m.; school & primary
classes – 11 a.m.; Women's & Men's Org. – noon
Tues: Women's Org. – 6:30 p.m.; Library – 6-8 p.m.
Wednesdays: Boy Scouts of America mtg. – 6:30
p.m.; Young women's activities – 6:30 p.m.

Christ Anglican Church 743-3319

"A Bible-based liturgical church"

Services: Sundays at 4 p.m. at the
Community Bible Church in Highlands
Holy Communion at most services.

Clear Creek Baptist Church

Pastor Everett Wilson, (828) 743-3379
Sundays: School – 10 a.m.; Worship – 11
Prayer – 6:30 p.m.
Evening Service – 7 p.m.

Community Bible Church

(Evangelical Presbyterian Church
Steven E. Kerhoulas, Pastor, 526-4685
3645 U.S. 64 east

Sundays: School – 9:30 a.m.; Worship – 10:45
Tuesdays: Women's Bible Study – 9:45
Wed: Supper – 5:30 p.m.; Bible Study – 6:30 p.m.
Thursdays: Guys Sr. High Discipleship – 6

Episcopal Church of the Incarnation

Interim Priest: Stephen Hines, 526-2968
Sundays: Choir – 9 a.m.; Bible Study & Book Study
classes – 9:15 a.m.; Holy Eucharist – 10:30 a.m.;
Children's Chapel – 10:30 a.m.
Mondays: Daughters of the King – 10:30 a.m.;
Women's Cursillo Group (Library) – 4
Tuesdays: Men's Cursillo in Jones Hall – 8
Thursdays: Holy Eucharist – 10 a.m.; Maundy
Service – 6 p.m.

The Sunday Service is telecast on cable channel 14

First Baptist Church

Dr. Daniel D. Robinson, 526-4153
Sundays: Worship – 8:15 a.m., 10:45 a.m., 6:30
p.m.; School – 9:30 a.m.; Youth – 6:30 p.m.; Choir
– 7:15
Wednesdays: Dinner – 5:30 p.m.; Team Kids – 6
p.m.; Prayer – 6:15 p.m., Choir – 7:30 p.m.

First Presbyterian Church

Rev. J. Hunter Coleman, Pastor, 526-3175
Sundays: Worship – 11 a.m. (child care at 11 a.m.);
School – 9:30 & 9:45.
Wednesdays: Children's Devotions – 9:30 a.m.;
Supper – 6 p.m.; Choir – 7 p.m.

Thursdays: Bible Study – 10 a.m.

Sat: Adventistas del Septimo Dia – 10 a.m. & 5

Highlands Assembly of God

Rev. Scott Holland, 524-6026, Sixth Street
Sundays: School – 10 a.m.; Worship – 11
Wednesdays: Prayer & Bible Study – 7

Highlands 7th-Day Adventist Church

Wednesday evening prayer & Bible Study
Call Lloyd Kidder at 526-9474

Highlands United Methodist Church

Pastors Eddie & Kim Ingram, 526-3376
Sundays: School – 9:30 & 9:45 a.m.; Worship – 11
Wednesdays: Supper – 5:30 p.m.; Bible Study &
activities – 6 p.m.

Lutheran Church of the Holy Family – ELCA

Rev. Pam Mitcham, Pastor,
2152 Dillard Road – 526-9741

Sundays: Worship/Communion – 10:30

Macedonia Baptist Church

8 miles south of Highlands on N.C. 28 S in Satolah
Pastor Rusty Wolfrey, (706) 782-8130

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 369-6871
Friday: Sept. 12 Sabbath Eve Services at 7

For more information, call
(706)-745-1842.

Our Lady of the Mountains Catholic Church

Rev. William M Evans, Priest
Parish office, 526-2418

Wednesdays & Fridays: Mass – 9 a.m.

Sundays: Mass – 11 a.m.

Scaly Mountain Baptist Church

Rev. Clifford Willis
Sundays: School – 10 a.m.; Worship – 11 a.m. & 7
p.m.

Wednesdays: Prayer Mtg. – 7 p.m.

Scaly Mountain Church of God

290 Buck Knob Road; Pastor Alfred Sizemore
Sundays: School – 10 a.m.; Worship – 10:45 a.m.;
Evening Worship – 6 p.m.

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

For more information call 526-3212.

Shortoff Baptist Church

Pastor Rev. Wayne Price
Sundays: School – 10 a.m.; Worship – 11
Wednesdays: Prayer & Bible Study – 7

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship 526-9769

Rev. Maureen Killoran (part-time)
Sundays: Worship – 11 a.m.

Westside Baptist Church

Interim Pastor, Terry Dixon
Services in the basement of the Peggy Crosby
Sundays: Fellowship & Worship – 11

Whiteside Presbyterian Church

Cashiers, Rev. Sam Forrester, 743-2122
Sundays: School – 10 a.m.; Worship – 11

● UPCOMING EVENTS ●

Highlands' Newspaper - Friday, May 7, 2004 - Page 17

On-Going

- It's time to pre-register for summer camps and other programs at the Highlands Nature Center. Four different camps are being offered this year: "Amazing Animals," "NatureWorks," "Junior Ecologists," and "Mountain Explorers." Descriptions and dates for each camp are available at www.wcu.edu/hibio/ncschedule.html, or by calling the nature center. A different camp will run each week (Tuesday - Friday), in June (session 1), and will be repeated in July (session 2). Space is limited. To sign up, please call 828-526-2623. When calling, please indicate the title and session of the camp you want your child to attend.

- Time to register for swimming lessons at the Rec Park for children and adults, ages 3 and up. First 20 children/adults will be accepted. Call the Rec Park at 526-3556 to register.

- Registration for Summer Camp at the Highlands Rec Park is on. The camp begins June 14 and ends July 30. The camp will be closed the week of July 5-9. Camp is for children ages 5-10. Children must be 5 by June 14. No exceptions. Cost is \$2 per hour per child. Applications available at the Highlands Rec Park or call 526-3556.

- The Mountain View group of Alcoholics Anonymous now meets in the remodeled basement meeting room of the First Presbyterian Church sanctuary, in Highlands. Meeting times are Mondays at 8 p.m.; Tuesdays at 5:30 p.m. (women only); Wednesdays and Fridays at noon. For more info, call 524-7395.

May 7

- Free concert and dessert at Community Bible Church at 7 p.m. Don Robinson of the Colorado Symphony, accompanied with Janell will perform. International Partnerships' ministry update by founders and director Nick and Maila Mitchaluk.

- Awards & Yearbook Assembly at the Highlands Civic Center at 10 a.m.

May 8

- Highlands Little League plays interleague softball with Franklin Little League at the Buck Creek Fields at 10 a.m. - Highlands Red Sox vs. Franklin Cubs.; 12-noon - Highlands Diamondbacks vs. Franklin Braves; 2 p.m. - T-Ball with Highlands Braves vs. Highlands Cubs.

May 10

- Adult League Softball meeting at the Highlands Civic Center at 6 p.m. Anyone interested in having a team and playing in the league should attend the meeting.

May 11

- Final PTO meeting for the school year, 6:30 p.m. in the school cafeteria. On the agenda is accepting the county proposed new charter by-law, election of the 2004-2005 officers, recognition of retiring teachers, staff and discussing the future principal of Highlands School.

- Wine dinner featuring Flora Springs Winery. at ...on the Verandah at 6:30 p.m.. Call 526-2338.

- The Highlands Plateau Audubon Society hosts its first program of the season. Join us at 7:30 p.m. at the Highlands Civic Center for a program on Birds of Southeastern Arizona, presented by Sandy Anderson, Sierra Vista, Arizona. Refreshments will be served prior to the meeting at 7 p.m.

- The Mountain Garden Club is having a dedication of the Dorothy Wertzler Memorial Garden at 10 a.m. (birthday). The garden is located beside the Town Hall/Visitor Center and the dedication is open to the public.

May 12

- The High Mountain Squares will square-dance at the Macon County facilities bldg. Ray Mauney, Kennesaw, GA., will call ALL SQUARES Plus & Mainstream. Info: 828-349-3571

May 13

- Senior Scholarship Night at the Martin-Lipscomb Performing Arts Center at 5 p.m.

- Weekly wine tastings at ...on the Verandah, Thursdays at 4:30 p.m.

May 14

- Old Scouter's Round-up on Walden Way Road between Dry and Bridal Veil falls on U.S. 64 west at 6:30 p.m. Come enjoy an old-fashion dutch oven meal prepared by Troop 207, and view a 1910 campsite. For reservations, call 526-4645 and ask for Buck.

May 15

- Barbeque & hotdog Blue Valley Church Building Fundraiser at 5 p.m. at the Satolah Fire Dept. Live music begins at 7 p.m. featuring the Cixie Bluegrass Boys and The Blue Ridge Mountain Band. Raffle, doorprizes and a cake auction, too.

May 16

- County League Fall Soccer sign up for 5-15 year olds, 1-3 p.m. at the Highlands Rec Park.

- The Nantahala Hiking Club will take an easy-to-moderate 1.5 mile hike on the Rufus Morgan Trail with wildflowers along the way and a lovely waterfall at the end. There is a short, steep section and some stream-hopping to be done. Meet at the

Westgate Shopping Center in Franklin (opposite Burger King) at 2 p.m. Drive 31 miles round trip. Call leader Kay Coriell, 369-6820, for more information.

May 17

- Mirror Lake Improvement Association will have its regular meeting at 7:30 p.m. at the Highlands Civic Center.

May 18

- The movie "Strictly Ballroom" sponsored by the Bascom-Louise Gallery at the Performing Arts Center at 7:30 p.m. Donations appreciated.

May 19

- Highlands School senior and parents supper at Highlands United Methodist Church at 5:30.

May 21

- County League Fall Soccer sign up for 5-15 year olds, 6-8 p.m. at the Highlands Rec Park.

May 22

- Mirror Lake Improvement will have a workday (litter pick up) 9 a.m. Meet at Thorn Park.

- The Literacy Council of Highlands invites you to attend Monte Carlo on May 22. This annual event includes fun, games, food, beverages and auctions. Please call 526-9938, ext 280 for more information.

- The Scaly Mountain Women's Club is serving a complete seated breakfast of homemade pancakes, meat, coffee and juice from 7-11 a.m. at the Scaly mtn. Ski Lodge. Proceeds go to area agencies and local scholarships.

May 23

- Baccalaureate at Highlands United Methodist Church at 3 p.m. Seniors to be in the fellowship hall no later than 2:30 p.m. Wear caps and gown and dress code applies.

Week of May 24

- The Town has designated the week of May 24 as Spring Cleanup Week this year. Residents may arrange for the collection of white goods, such as old washing machines or refrigerators, during that week by calling the Town Office at 526-2118 during business hours, 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

May 29

- Highlands School graduation practice is at 9 a.m. The real thing is at, 7 p.m. at Highlands Civic Center.

May 30

- The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a moderate-to-strenuous 4.6 mile hike from Rock Gap along the Appalachian Trail.



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Dr. Kit Barker

L.A.C., F.D., Ph.D.

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Evening Shows (After 5 p.m.)

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Adult - \$5; Child - \$4

Seniors get \$1 off
all regular evening shows

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VAN HELSING rated PG-13 (DTS)
7:05 & 9:20 Nightly
4:20 Tuesday & Thursday Matinee
2:05 & 4:20 Sat. & Sun. Matinees

NEW YORK MINUTE rated PG
7 & 9 Nightly
4 Tuesday & Thursday Matinee
2 & 4 Saturday & Sunday Matinees

MAN ON FIRE rated R
7:15 Nightly
4:30 Tuesday & Thursday Matinee
2 & 4:30 Sat. & Sun. Matinees

13 GOING ON 30 rated PG-13
7:10 & 9:10 Nightly
4:10 Tuesday & Thursday Matinee
2:10 & 4:10 Sat. & Sun. Matinees

... SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING from page 16

"Doubting Thomas." Would it be better to call him "realistic" Thomas?

Don't you think any human being in a moment of grief over the death of a loved one would not

appreciate assurances that the loved one is alive? That he or she had risen from the dead?

Thomas was just verbalizing what all the others would keep in

their hearts. How many of us would be willing to speak out against the crowd? How many would be willing to say what they really believed? It is so easy to keep quiet and pretend to agree with everybody else.

But not our friend Thomas. What he believed he said. That is

why it is better to think of him as Thomas the Honest or Thomas the Brave.

Fortunately, the story does not end here. In fact, for the church, the story really begins here.

Eight days later, Thomas is back in the famous room where all of those disciples were hiding. Christ once again appears and speaks to Thomas with compassion certainly and with a healthy dose of humor as well.

He knows what Thomas had said. Holding out his hands, he asks Thomas to place his fingers in the holes. Imagine Jesus saying this with a twinkle in his eye and a loving smile on his face. He knew Thomas just like he knows each one of us.

When that forthright apostle met the risen Lord, there was only one way for him to act – without hesitation and from the heart. Thomas fell to his knees and uttered what every Christian must say – "My lord and my God." In so doing, he gave voice to the first of all creeds.

Others would have tried to find some way of saving face or would have rationalized. They might have denied even saying "those" things. But not Thomas.

For the evangelist John, Easter evening is the birthday of the church. Usually, we think of Pentecost as the church's birthday. But in this gospel, the church is founded on that first day of resurrection.

It is a sacramental church – a "show me" church – a "do it for me" church. Christ walks into the room and greets the people. Then he breathes on them. He breathes life into them as God breathed life into the first human being. It is the life of the Holy Spirit of God.

Then Christ says, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive sins, they are forgiven; if you hold them bound, they are held bound." With that power to forgive sins in the name of Christ, on that first night we see the birth of a sacramental church.

Who forgives sin? You do, folks, and don't you ever forget it. If your child takes \$5 from his mother's purse, who will do the forgiving?

▪See SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING page 22

• HOME DECOR & FIXTURES •

The Custom House

The Custom House on Carolina Way is often referred to as the "Lighting Center" or the "Lamp shade Shop." With one of the largest selections this side of Atlanta, customers often discover this shop as they search for a new shade. Once inside, they find much, much more - lamps, chandeliers, exterior lighting, vanity lighting, mirrors, hand-thrown pottery, hooked, braided, and woven rugs, furniture, distinctive gifts and accessories for the home.

For 24 years, Janet and King Young have strived to feature and support handmade crafts and Americana. Seeking craftspeople who use natural fibers in their mediums, the Youngs look for home accessories that are appropriate to the area.

Now Meridith Watson has joined The Custom House as artist-in-residence. Using accessories from the shop, she hand-paints custom designs on lamp shades, mirrors, boxes, chargers and lamp bases.

Meridith enjoys collaborating with clients and sharing ideas that convey their personal style. These one-of-a-kind accessories make a truly unique statement in their home.

Come by and see Janet and Meridith and enjoy customizing your nest at The Custom House on Carolina Way.

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• HEALTHY LIVING •

Microcurrent technology for pain relief and healing

By Dr. Kit Barker

Contributor

What is Microcurrent? Microcurrent is not only a term, but also a technology that grew out of the expansive field of electrophysiology. Modern medical science acknowledges multiple processes in the body that are electrical. Every cell in the body can be seen as an "electrical generator" which generates electrical currents. These currents are measured often by means of electrical activities in the skin (GSR), the brain (EEG),

the heart (EKG) and the muscles (EMG). Microcurrent technology works hand in hand with these currents. The technology recognizes the body as a self-healing organism and supports its many natural occurring functions. In turn, microcurrent achieves a variety of results in the many facets of youth, health and wellness.

Accelerating healing

Microcurrent stimulates the production of Adenosine Triphosphate (ATP), which is stored cellular energy that allows a cell to function. This in turn triggers the body's natural bio-chemical

healing process. This process allows intracellular fluids to be restored, electrolyte levels to be replenished, and the absorption of nutrients.

The stimulation of intracellular calcium further strengthens cellular balance and healing. Amino acid uptake is increased, as well as protein synthesis, which assists in tissue repair. Blood circulation and lymphatic flow are increased.

These vital functions are increased by 500 percent with microcurrent technology to promote optimal healing and regeneration of cells and tissue.



For more about this pain relief technology, contact Dr. Kit Barker, L.Ac., F.S., Ph.D at (828) 526-1566.

School Board Tidbits

The state of affairs at Highlands School was not the only item on the Macon County School Board agenda, April 26.

The progress on the Highlands Gym was outlined. A local vender has donated a maple hardwood floor for the new gym. Shotwell said that this may allow for additions that weren't available in the original budget because the money set aside to pay for the floor is now available.

The Highlands School academic calendar for 2004-2005 was approved by the Board. It will allow for make up days due to inclement weather to be allotted at the end of the calendar year. Previously, such make up days were scattered throughout the second semester.

The calendar was also adjusted to synchronize workdays in Franklin and Highlands so those Highlands teachers attending workshops held in Franklin on Franklin work days won't need substitute teachers to take their places. All holidays matched Franklin holidays as well. The first day of the 2004-2005 school year will be August 6. With 10 snow days factored in, school will end June 2, 2005 if all 10 are used up. If there are fewer snow days the last day to be earlier. – Sally Hanson

• BUILDERS & ARCHITECTS •



15

For years, Koenig Homebuilders has been setting the standards of craftsmanship and values that many area Builders are envious of. Koenig's product speaks for itself, but the company's level of expertise is what makes it so desirable.

What sets Koenig Homebuilders apart from the competition? – alue in craftsmanship. Unlike most Builders that sub-contract much of their framing, siding, trim and specialty work (such as timber framing), Koenig does it all in-house. With almost 50 folks on our payroll, they have a better handle on schedules, budget, and most importantly, craftsmanship levels. "Our whole team's proud of the capabilities within our company, and this shows in the finished home."

Koenig Homebuilders uses a team approach to custom building, and Production Manager Zac Koenig is the person coordinating that team. Zac describes it in just one sentence. "We're a very process oriented company, with a strong commitment

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to both the client and the project." From land selection and conceptual design right through punch list and warranty, Koenig tries to make your process as painless and seamless as possible. Their belief is that building a home should be fun, not drudgery.

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• CLASSIFIEDS •

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Or call: Mary Osmar, Hu-
man Resources,
828-526-1301

• Pre-employment substance screening •

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

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One is full-time, 10-hours/day, ev-
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• POLICE REPORT •

The following are the Highlands Police Department log entries for the week
of April 28 The only names are of public officials and/or people who were
arrested.

April 28

- At 4:15 p.m., officers responded to an accident at Main & 5th streets. There were
no injuries.
- At 6:50 p.m., officers responded to an alarm at Lupoli Construction on N.C. 106.
It was a false alarm.

April 29

- A little past midnight, officers responded to a fire alarm at First Presbyterian
Church. It was a false alarm.
- At 9 a.m., a motorist was cited for driving without a current inspection sticker or
registration.

April 30

- At 8 a.m., a motorist on Main Street was cited for driving without an inspection
sticker.
- At 11:22 a.m., officers responded to an alarm at a residence on Many Drive. It
was a false alarm.
- At 5 a.m., a truck driver was cited at Satulah Ridge and Wilson roads for driving
on a road not designated for tractor-trailers.

May 1

- At 1:55 a.m., officers responded to a complaint of a loud party at Mountain High
Lodge. The patrons were told to quiet down.
- At 1:40 p.m., a possible hit & run of a vehicle was reported on Spring St.

May 2

- At 3:02 p.m., officers responded to an alarm at Gold n' Clipper on Main Street. It
was a false alarm.

May 3

- At 7:30 a.m., a motorist at Cherokee Drive and N.C. 28 was cited for driving
without registration.
- At 8:35 a.m., a motorist at Hicks and Mirror Lake roads was cited for driving
without an inspection sticker or registration.

May 4

- At 7:40 a.m., a gas drive-off was reported at 64 Stop and Shop.
- At 7:45 a.m., officers responded to an alarm at the Hudson Library. It was a false
alarm.
- At 11:05 a.m., officers responded to an accident between two vehicles at Memo-
rial Park. One motorist was cited for failing to reduce speed. There were no injuries.
- At 5:30 p.m., officers responded to an alarm at the Gold n' Clipper on Main
Street. All was secure.
- At 7:35 a.m., a motorist was cited for speeding 59 mph in a 35 zone.

The following are the Highlands Fire & Rescue Department log entries for
the week of April 29 - May 5

April 28

- The dept. responded to a fire alarm at the VZ-Top. It was set off by workers.

April 29

- The dept. responded to a fire alarm at First Presbyterian Church. It was false..

May 2

- The dept. removed a tree on a power line on N.C. 106.

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Highlands Little League plays interleague with Franklin Little League at Buck Creek Fields

The first official Little League Softball games to be played in Highlands are May 8, Saturday, at the Buck Creek Fields.

10 a.m. - Highlands Red Sox vs. Franklin Cubs.
12-noon - Highlands Diamondbacks vs. Franklin Braves

2 p.m. - T-Ball with Highlands Braves vs. Highlands Cubs.

Chief executive officer/general manager named at Old Edwards Hospitality Group

Mario C. Gomes, chief operating officer of the Old Edwards Hospitality Group was named chief executive officer/general manager of the company on May 1. Gomes has a 30-year career in the hospitality industry. He most recently worked for Crown American Hotels in Atlanta, Ga., where he was regional director of operations for 13 properties in the Southeast. Prior to Crown American, he held senior positions for 21 years with Omni Hotels in Atlanta including director of operations and food and beverage director. He is a member the National Restaurant Association (NRA) and the American Hotel and Motel Association (AHMA). His certifications include Certified Hotel Administrator (CHA) and Certified Food & Beverage Executive (CFBE).



Locals and visitors turn out for annual Mtn. Lakes 5-K Race

By Richard Betz
Race Director

The Fifth Annual Mountain Lakes 5-K took place as planned on Saturday morning, May 1. Although the threat of rain kept many local runners away, 35 runners lined up at the start under what Race Director Richard Betz called ideal conditions; the temperature was cool, and aside from a light mist the forecast rain never materialized.

Winner of the event this year was Jeremy Whitworth from Brevard in a time of 20:05. The first place masters (over 40) trophy for the men went to local runner Steve Hott, who finished in 22:01. The first woman to cross the line was Tricia Shepard in a time of 22:39,

and the masters trophy for women went to local runner Ursula Long.

Local runner Luther Turner, 74, won the first place trophy in the 70 and over age group.

The race netted nearly \$1,300 for the Highlands Roadrunners Club. The Club is a non-profit corporation, and 100 percent of the proceeds goes toward athletic scholarships and fitness-related projects in the community. In the past, the Club has funded \$500 scholarships for students at Highlands School who have excelled in sports and plan to continue that in college. It has also provided funding for fitness equipment at Highlands School, the Recreation Park, and Highlands-Cashiers Hospital HealthTracks.

... SPIRITUALLY from
page 18

The mother of course – but I'll bet she will require some kind of restitution. The priest only speaks the words of forgiveness in your name.

We also see a professing church – and that is thanks to Thomas. This church believed that Christ the human was also Christ our Lord and our God that he had risen from the dead and broken the bonds of death. Those who believe in him and are baptized in his name no longer need to fear death. This is the greatest of gift of Christian faith. We no longer have any reason to fear death.

What would have become of that statement of faith had Thomas not been so painfully honest? What if he had gone along with the gang or given in to an attack of wishful thinking? Or acquiesced in a faith he did not feel because "everybody else was doing it?"

Thomas loved too much for that. He also hurt too much for that. And he refused the easy answer.

Because he cried out in such anguish – "I will not believe..." he is not only the most credible witness we have to the resurrection, but – and who dares to doubt it – no one in the upper room knew better than Thomas the true depth of Easter joy.

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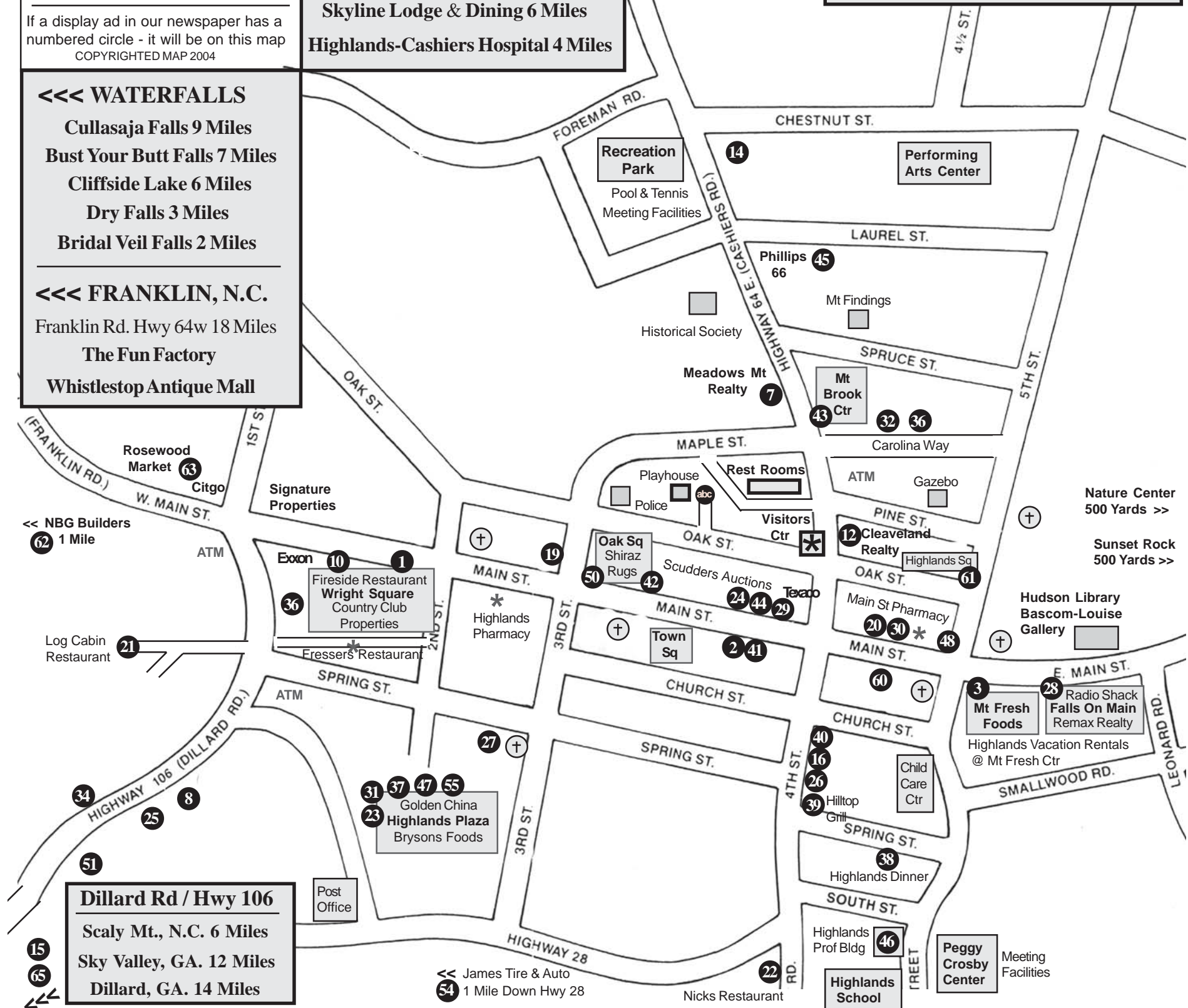
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Private Yet Civilized. This 5-bedroom, 3 bath located on 1.9 acres located in Rolling Acres. The living room features a large stone fireplace and vaulted ceiling. Large sliding door opens on to a covered porch to enjoy a ridgeline view – the top of Whiteside Mountain – and a pond on the grounds with a recirculating stream. Offered in excellent condition at \$495,000. MLS# 52156.



The Quintessential Mirror Lake Cottage. This one bedroom, one bath cottage is loaded with warmth and charm with its wood floors, walls and ceilings and is perfect for relaxing times spent in Highlands. Conveniently located within walking distance to town and offered mostly furnished for \$239,000.



Cute Starter-cabin Located in the Mirror Lake Area on Wyanoak Drive. Two bedrooms, 2 baths, plus an office or workshop. Open great room with high ceilings and old cabin charm. Large covered porch and open deck to enjoy the outdoors and woodsy setting. Winter ridgeline view. Offered at \$237,000.

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Shadow Creek Lane. Sitting on a gentle lot at the end of a lane, this lovely 3 bedroom, 2 bath has great features including fireplace and vaulted ceiling in great room, wood floors, propane and kerosene heat, tile floors in lower level garage. Back yard features a patio with hot tub and lovely landscaping. Offered at \$325,000 and shown by appointment only. MLS# 52202



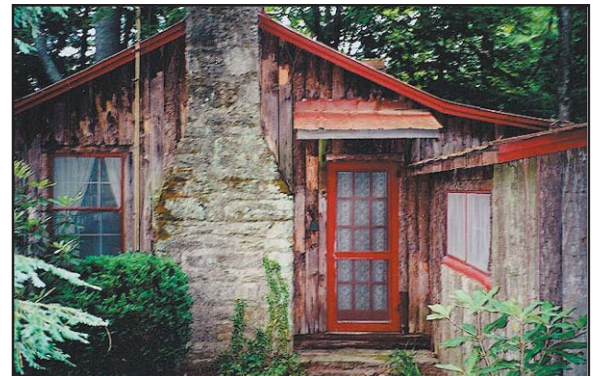
View from Rocking-chair Porch. This custom-designed, quality built home has a great mountain view from the front rocking chair porch. The great room has vaulted ceilings and a brick fireplace. The kitchen is large and open with custom oak trim work, an office area and dining area. The upper level consists of an office, bonus room and additional bedrooms. This home also has a two-car garage and utility area. Located on just over two acres, this mountain home has plenty of room for the entire family! (Additional acreage available with purchase of home.)



Old Highlands Charm. Lovely Four Bedroom, two-bath home exudes old Highlands charm. Lovingly renovated and ready for your enjoyment. Located on Cullasaja Drive in the desirable Mirror Lake area. Offered at \$440,000.



Unit 602 Highlands Mountain Club. Beautiful two bedroom, two bath unit. It is in excellent condition and overlooks a pleasant wooded setting. Don't overlook this one if you are interested in the Mountain Club. Offered with furnishings available at \$237,000.



Unique Log Cabin. New gas furnace with central air, beautiful stone fireplace, old hardwood floors, and completely fenced for privacy. Walking distance to Mirror Lake and town is what makes this log cabin unique and a must see!



Charming Mountain Cottage. This is loaded with all the extras you would expect in a top-quality home. The exterior is dressed in bark, stone and wood. Custom mountain laurel railings surround the decks and back porch which features a fireplace and a whitewater stream. The split bedroom floor plan has 3 bedrooms, 2 baths on the main level, a family room and full bath, plus a large workshop in the lower level. The great room features a cathedral ceiling with heart of pine floors and opens onto the covered back porch. Great kitchen with granite countertops and stainless steel appliances. Spacious baths with heated ceramic tile floors. An exceptional location rounds out this exceptional package. Offered at \$850,000. MLS#52253