

Highlands School paper **INSIDE** **FREE** Highlands' Newspaper

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Volume 3, Number 13

Locally Owned & Operated

Friday, April 1, 2005

'Task Force' ready for innovative measures

By Erin Brown
highlandserin@aol.com

The first Highlands Drug Task Force met Wednesday, March 23 and set an unprecedented goal: to achieve a drug-free student population.

By implementing programs through educational and religious factions and also a method to inform teachers and administrators of drugs on campus through an anonymous text messaging system, the committee

hopes to achieve this goal for the approximately 400 student population of Highlands School.

"I think that's the purpose of this committee, to try and do something,

▪ See **TASK FORCE** page 6

On-Going

- Swimming lessons at Highlands Rec Park Monday and Wednesday for ages 3 and up. \$10 per child per week. Call 526-3556 to register.

- At Highlands Wine & Cheese at the Falls on Main, complimentary tastings Sat. from 1-4 p.m. Wine flights Friday & Saturday from 4:30-6:30 p.m.

- "Evenings of Entertainment" Friday nights at Instant Theatre Company in Oak Square on Main Street. Tickets are \$15 with reservations and \$20 at the door. Doors open at 7:45 p.m. Show starts promptly at 8 p.m. No entry after show begins. Call for reservations. 342-9197.

- Pilates classes Tuesday and Thursdays at 5:15 p.m. in the Jane Woodruff Building at H-C Hospital. All classes at the Women's Center will be \$10, or \$8 if you purchase a package of 10.

April 1

- At Buck's Coffee Cafe, live entertainment at 8 p.m. with Cooking with Quanta.

April 2

- At Buck's Coffee Cafe, live entertainment at 8 p.m. with Angela Faye Martin.

- The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a 7-mile moderate hike on the foothills and Palmetto trails in SC. Meet at the Cashiers Wachovia Bank (in back) at 9 a.m. Call leader Doug Deane, 864-718-9265 for reservations.

April 3

- The Nantahala Hiking Club will take an easy 2-mile hike on the Little Rock Branch Trail at Standing Indian. Meet at Westgate Plaza in Franklin (opposite Burger King) at 2 p.m. Call leader Kay Coriell, 369-6820 for reservations.

- A workshop for women will be held at The Instant Theatre Company's Studio on Main from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The cost of the all-day workshop is \$80. For more information please call Ms. Volk at (845) 256-0160.

Easter eggs, Easter bunnies, Easter fun!



Photo by Kim Lewicki

Elizabeth Windham, 5, and her sister Mary Danielle, 2 1/2, granddaughters of Carolyn and Rayfield Lines, came to Highlands for Easter from Gulfport, Miss. They joined about 50 children at the Town Easter Egg Hunt at the Rec Park, Saturday, March 26.

Seven senators aim to raid local tax base

Kim Lewicki
highlandseditor@aol.com

As if budget woes precipitated by state shortfalls aren't enough, now there's a chance local government agencies will lose income from the only source they've been able to count on – property tax revenue.

Senate Bill 508 dubbed the "Exempt Builders' Inventory" bill, sponsored by Senators Dalton, Brown, Hartsell, Hoyle, Hunt, Swindell and Weinstein, stands to raid local tax bases by giving developers a tax-free holiday.

"The legislative branch of our state government continues to listen to special interest groups over the concern of local elected officials," said Macon County Tax Appraiser Richard Lightner. "Their latest raid comes in the form of Senate Bill 508 and House Bill 648 which basically gives developers a five-year tax-free holiday on any subdivided or developed property as a definition of inventory."

Real estate valuation and growth in the county generate revenue that keeps Macon County taxes low and helps local municipalities and the school system stay afloat.

▪ See **RAID** page 8

Planning Board split on rezoning multi-family tract

By Erin Brown
highlandserin@aol.com

In the battle to limit multi-family housing, the Planning Board has split four-two to rezone a 4.72-acre tract bordered by Hickory, U.S. 64 east and

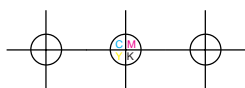
Chestnut streets to R3.

"If we allow the multi-family housing, as nice as it is, then what we are doing is going against what we have been talking about, and it certainly goes against the current land use plan that

favors single-family residences," said Board Member Griffin Bell.

Commissioner Alan Marsh, a member of the audience, told Bell it wasn't the planning board's job to

▪ See **MULTI-FAMILY** page 5





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Athlete drug testing could change

By Erin Brown

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Macon County Schools have strong drug testing policies but each school's is different.

By the start of the 2005 school year, a hybrid of the current policies and a policy proposed by Superintendent Dr. Rodney Shotwell could be in place for all the high schools.

At the March 21 school board meeting, Shotwell presented a policy from another state as a guide when considering changes to the current policy.

"We discussed what we liked and disliked from the proposed policy," said Shotwell. "In the end it will likely be a blend of the current Highlands policy along with a chain of custody issues concerning when testing will occur."

The proposed policy institutes a "three strikes you're out" rule where athletes and other students participating in competitive clubs, would have three chances before they are kicked out of all sports for the rest of the school year.

Currently, Highlands students who test positive for drugs aren't allowed to participate in any contest or practice until the start of the next sport season or after 90 school days have elapsed. If the second test is positive, the student is suspended

from all team sports for one calendar year from the date the results are received

Vice Chairman of the Board Donnie Edwards said the proposed policy was too lenient.

"I think we should just take them off the team," he said. "If the test is positive they'll see they have no chance to play on the team. The proposed policy is taking away a little bit here and there, this isn't baseball, you kick them out for the rest of the year," Edwards said. "Then they'll know we have a no-tolerance policy about drugs."

Shotwell felt differently. "Kids are kids, and they will make mistakes," he said.

The proposed drug test would involve a urine or swab test with all testing results confidential and expunged at the end of the year.

The main thing is to get all the high school administering the same policy.

"It will define the who, what, and where on how we are to administer the policy for all three high schools," said Shotwell.

In the proposed policy, students are given three chances to test "clean." Exclusion from team activities and required counseling get more strict with each "positive" drug test.

• LETTERS TO THE EDITOR •

Misunderstandings can be cleared up

Dear Editor,

We have known Carlos Green since he was in grade school. As a student of ours, he appeared in a children's production of "Midsummer Night's Dream." More recently he played the role of Jesus in The Instant Theatre Company's production of "Cotton Patch Gospel" last October.

His roots go deep in this community and he is well loved. As a member of the town crew he is respected and appreciated for the work he does for our town. Those of us outside this current situation between the Greens and the local board of Habitat for Humanity do not have a clear idea of the misunderstandings which transpired. However, all of us know that misunderstandings can occur between the most well meaning of people. And, as we all also know, misunderstandings can be cleared up between the interested parties if there is a sincere desire on everyone's part to do so.

Collin Wilcox Paxton and Scott R. Paxton

Bascom-Louise Gallery an asset

Dear Editor,

In a word, "WOW" for the 2005 Fine Art Center program of workshops, lectures, exhibits and special events.

Kay Gorecki, executive director and her staff, Mary Judernstn, Cynthia Soderstrom, Willie Sloan, the board of directors, artists, volunteer, financial contributors have made it possible for the Bascom-Louise Gallery to evolve into a superb art center for adults as well as children. The center is truly a cultural asset to our community.

**Mary Ann Curtis and Georgianna Ralston
Highlands**

• OBITUARY •

Frederick Junier

Frederick Junier, 83, of Sarasota, Fla., died March 23, 2005.

He was born May 30, 1921, in Valley Falls, R.I., and went to Sarasota in 1968 from Philadelphia, Penn. He was a trucking manager and an Army Veteran if WWII.

Survivors include a daughter, Vicki Palmer of Scaly Mountain, N.C., and two granddaughters, Kimberly Palmer of Franklin, N.C., and Shannon Palmer of Clayton, Ga., and one great grandson, Christian Tubiolo of Franklin, N.C.

Memorial donations may be made to Hospice of Southwest Florida, 5955 Rand Blvd., Sarasota, Fla., 34238.

Wiegand Brothers Funeral Home was in charge of the arrangements.



Youth and adults from the Highlands-Cashiers area headed for week-long visit to Bolivia, Thursday, March 24. As in the past several years, the group will assist Dr. John Baumrucker in his continued mission work in Montero, Bolivia and in neighboring villages. Pictured from left are: Matt Keener, Alex Osteen, Maggie Dearth, Elaine Reynolds, Josh Hendricks, Jacquelyn Kerns, Hannah Hendricks, Catlin Huitt, Becca Dotson, Eddie Ingram, Luke Osteen. Jack Philpot drove the group to the airport.

Photo by Kim Lewicki

News from Montero, Bolivia

By Dr. John Baumrucker
Contributor

Hello from Bolivia. We have also been very successful with our projects and everything is finally falling into place in all the project areas.

The foster home playground is completely finished and it should last 100 years. The wood is guaranteed for that long so I need to be around to keep them at their word. We also fixed up the similar playground at the girls' orphanage. The swings had worn out, and we had new ones made from old tires. The man who made sandals from old tires made these in a few minutes. These should last for several years, but if they don't, we know where to go to get more. The connectors wear out on the swings, so we put replaceable ones in this time. The new ones cost 50 cents a piece. They can afford that.

The Methodist parsonage is well on its way to completion. This was started by the University of Mississippi group as they could not get to their project the first two days. Conversely, we will finish their house when we visit the Guarani community on Friday. The adobe church we are building is another challenge. We are putting on the roof while they are using a mixture of mud, straw and animal waste to make the walls. I did not know the last

ingredient, but this is how houses have been made for thousands of years.

We have visiting every church in the area and seeing the evidence of our mission last year. People come from all over the nearby countries to see how the project works to train disciples and go to other new areas. Three churches have been built of our effort, and thousands of people have found Jesus. My work in the clinic is finished, and no cases of HIV were found, but I would like to expand the area of testing. The education of this disease is far better than exists in the US. This makes me happy.

The surgery project continues despite Dr. Choi being back in Franklin for several weeks. The equipment we shipped in January has finally arrived. We will distribute those items and the other things we brought on Friday. It will be a grand day!

The weather has been OK. It feels cool, but it is 90 degrees. It is funny how you get used to the heat. It got into the 70s and you would have thought we were in Minnesota by the way everyone was dressed. A little rain today to make the dust go away, but not enough to keep us from working. A great time and thanks to all who helped make this possible.

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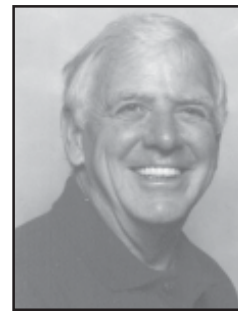
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• LAUGHING AT LIFE •

Watch out for those SOB's

ALERT! ALERT! Those SOB's are coming to Franklin and you know what that means. It is only a matter of time before they'll want to be in Highlands. Don't smile, this is serious stuff.



Fred Wooldridge

Word has just come to The Highlands' Newspaper that Franklin's Aldermen (not to be confused with altar boys) are grappling with the possibility of sexually oriented businesses (SOBs) opening right in the same town where an Irishman still cannot get a drink. If I were Jewish, I would scream "Shande," but I'm not.....well, maybe a little. I did work on Miami Beach for 32 years. Does that count?

Anyway, it looks like real live smut is on its way to the big city and officials are helpless, or maybe too wimpy, to stop it. They are worried that if they don't issue licenses for sin, they will violate someone's First Amendment rights. They should have called me 'cause I worked the vice squad for a number of years and I could really help them with this. The US Supreme Court has already dealt with this issue decades ago. Remember "Deep Throat"? No, no, I'm not going there.

The high court said that the definition of what is sexually explicit can vary, depending on community standards. In a town such as Franklin, a place that is so conservative that walking the streets with your fly open can cause scandal, I would say they could win this one. The high court also said the standard should be what arouses "prurient interest." Ha, that's a hard one because when I was in the 10th grade, my prurient interest could get aroused right in the middle of an algebra problem. Keep in mind that Franklin has very high community standards and prurient interests are different than what might be considered the norm elsewhere.

What is needed here is a study. A research project to determine just what is or is not XXX. This would require Franklin's Aldermen to travel to Miami Beach, the Mecca of smut and sin. There, they can see just what could happen to Franklin. I could put them in touch with Laptop Sally. Folks, this is

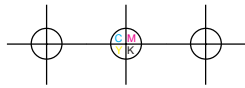
not a computer. She is a gal I busted several times after she got caught over arousing the prurient interest in both men and women while laptop dancing. Reportedly, she was awesome.

If I were a Franklin Alderman (sometimes I have terrible nightmares

that I am) I would simply deny any SOB that comes along, a license. Of course someone would sue and that's a good thing. Franklin has lawyers just sitting around in musty little cubby holes at Town Hall, feeding from the public trough and not doing too much these days. Let's put these guys to work, already. Also, Franklin's Aldermen could learn a lot from Highlands' commissioners, who sue or get sued about once a year. This would be the most courageous thing that Franklin could do since allowing Highlands to send its poop down the river.

Franklin Aldermen cannot be wimpy here. If they roll over on this issue and XXX comes to Franklin, there will be a zillion church folks ready to vote them out of office next election, no matter how much they say they couldn't stop it. But if they deny the licenses but then loose the lawsuit, the SOB's might still come to Franklin but then the Aldermen are the crusaders who fought it. They can be in office forever. And who knows, maybe Franklin will win.

Now Highlands is a different story because our community standards are different than Franklin's. Getting sued would get us nowhere. We already have drinking and carousing in the joints at night and hard liquor is on the way. Single people are fornicating in the Inns and bringing their own XXX videos with them. We have a massage parlor at OEI and a pawn shop across the street. We are already a "sin city" in the making. Our commissioners should keep themselves abreast (ha) on what happens in Franklin because an SOB is surely on its way to Highlands and we really will be helpless to stop it. If our commissioners do allow an SOB to open, they should give me a call and I'll see what Laptop Sally is doing these days.



I, Robot, the 2004 action/sci fi/thriller, written by Jeff Vintar, directed by Alex Proyas (Dark City, Crow) and starring Will Smith, Bridget Moynahan, Alan Tudyk, James Cromwell, Fiona Hogan, and a cast of thousands (some real, some computer generated). Based on the novels and short stories of Issac Asimov.

The Storyline: Tuff, Gruff and Sardonic cop, Del Spooner (well played by Smith, of Shark's Tale, Men In Black, Independence Day) has an attitude about robots. Now, this is not a big problem for Us, you see, cause there aren't a lot of robots out and about on the street today, but in the near future, they are all over the place, as house servants, laborers, delivery men (delivery bots?), just a harmless presence in every day life. Or are they harmless? Every one thinks so, but Detective Spooner remains unconvinced, and when Dr. Lanning (James Cromwell dose a good job in this rather small role), robot miester extraordinaire, takes a swan dive from his office, a locked room with no one home but us robots, it raises a few questions. Enter Dr. Susan Calvin (Moynahan, from Sum Of All Fears, Recruit, Sex in the City), robot psy-

I, Robot



Stuart Armor
Movie Stop Video

chologist, Sonny (Alan Tudyk), a very unique robot indeed, and uber robot VIKI (Fiona Hogan plays this both fun and creepy), and you have the characters that are either the suspects or the sleuths, we'll just have to find out. Lots of neat twists in the storyline, I can't say much more without giving away some of the story surprises. But I will say that, in the near future, with new energy sources, positronic brains, and self operating robots, the traffic and parking problems of downtown Chicago are solved. Aint technology grand?

While the script does not follow any

one specific Asimov story, fans of Issac Asimov will recognize several elements of his robotic stories in this film. The characters of Dr. Calvin and Sonny appear in several of his books, and some of the plot lines will be recognizable. Very cool special effects, good tension in the plot, Will Smith gets to deliver a fair amount of his customary gag lines. Moynahan as Dr. Calvin is prettier and more emotional than the character in the books, but plays her part well. The prize performance goes to Alan Tudyk, for his voice work in the role of Sonny.

Expressive, funny, tear jerking at times, a bit scary, he does an excellent job. And the computer animation really is artfully done, but it's not just a special effects film. A good pick for fans of SCI FI, action/thrillers, Will Smith, and special effects films.

Other good robot/android films are Blade Runner, Artificial Intelligence, Matrix, Stepford Wives, 2001 Space Odyssey, Robo Cop, and Mary Shelly's Frankenstein. And if the story intrigues you, give a look to any of the Asimov books and short stories, as one of the most prolific writers of the 20th century.

... MULTI-FAMILY continued from page 1

"look for multi-family housing," but to make a recommendation to the Town Board as to whether the tract should be rezoned.

The parcel is currently split-zoned, with part of the land zoned B4 and the other R2. B4 came about in the 90s as a "buffer zone" between the B3 business districts and the residential areas. Allowed are small, low-impact, light commercial uses such as professional offices and gift shops.

The property is under contract and Chuck Simmerson of Americus, Ga., was present to answer questions regarding the parcel. He said the historic house would remain, with four buildings, each with four condominium units built across the driveway. Another single-family unit is planned too, but some board members said it's too close to the historic house.

Simmerson has had experience incorporating the old with the new. He developed a similar area in Winter Park, Fla., with a historic home that was registered on the National Historic Registry.

"I'm concerned with that unit being so close, could you put it some

other place on the property or do away with it altogether?" said Board Member Ginger Slaughter. "We spend a lot of time on this committee paying attention to the historic houses, and we really want to hold on to them."

The condos would be garden-type structures around the \$600,000 range with two units downstairs and two upstairs, for a 11,000 sq. ft. total. The natural rhododendron buffer along U.S. 64 would be left in tact and the prospective owner said they had agreed to run a sidewalk along the highway.

"That was brought up at the town meeting and we've agreed to put in a sidewalk," Simmerson said. "I have asked the city to take care of the drainage."

Taylor said that with the property zoned the way it is now major development could go on without any repercussion.

"This is what you can put in B4 right now. You can put modular homes, apartments, any retail or wholesale business; including art galleries, bakeries, photo stores, flower shops and other small gift or novelty shops, beauty shops, barber shops museums

and on and on," said Highlands Zoning Administrator Larry Gantenbein.

Board Member Griffin Bell said tattoo parlors and naughty novelties are allowed in B4.

Zeke Sossomon, representing the buyer, said this was one of the last remnants of commercial zoning along the highway and the idea on the table now was a compromise between the two zoning districts.

"I think there's some sort of precedent for the argument that they are entitled to go one way or the other, but the idea here is that R3 is kind of a compromise between the two existing zones," Sossomon said.

Even though Bell was concerned about potential businesses in the B4 zone, both he and member Clem Patton voted against rezoning the property for multi-family housing.

"We're really wrestling with the best of all the poor alternatives here," Patton said.

Members King Young, Doug Campbell, Taylor and Slaughter voted to rezone the property R3, relocate the proposed single-family house farther away from the historic home on the

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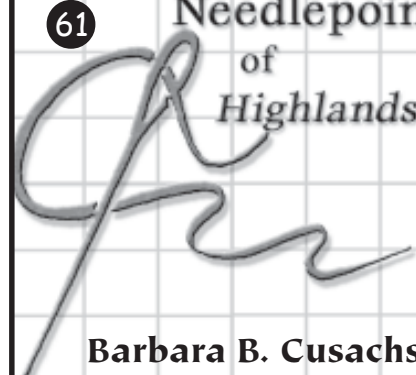
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MISS CONGENIALITY 2
rated PG-13

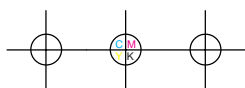
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Sat & Sun: (2), (4:10), 7, 9:10

GUESS WHO
rated PG-13

Weekdays: (4:05), 7:10, 9:05
Sat & Sun: (2:10), (4:05), 7:10, 9:05

property, create a sidewalk along U.S. 64, maintain the natural highway buffer and prohibit a U.S. 64 entrance.

With the go ahead from the Planning Board, the Town Board will decide whether to schedule a public hearing. After the hearing, commissioners will have the final say on rezoning.



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... TASK FORCE continued from page 1

anything, that's never been done before," said Highlands Police Chief Jerry Cook.

Present were Highlands School Principal Monica Bomengen, Chief Jerry Cook, Town Administrator Richard Betz and Commissioners Dennis DeWolf and Alan Marsh, the focus group had their work cut out for them. Local physician Patti Wheeler, who brought the idea of a focus group at the March 2 Town Board meeting, was unable to attend.

"We may start something here that will spread across this nation, but it's got to start somewhere," said Chief Cook. "I'm more than willing and I know the police department is."

Chief Cook impressed upon the committee the importance of getting everyone in the community involved in this mission.

"We need to get them talking about drugs and thinking about drugs and thinking about how we can make this place better for everyone."

The task force will not only target students during school hours, but will also focus on students who participate in extra-curricular activities and religious groups. Bomengen said that the most "at risk" group for gateway drug use is middle-school students, and they would be targeted most aggressively.

Chief Cook also expressed the need to enlist both secular and religious groups to communicate to the entire community, not just one segment of the population, the importance of drug use prevention.

"We need to attack this drug problem from all angles, not with just one program, but with many different programs," said Chief Cook. "But the most important thing is getting the parents involved. We need their help if this is going to work."

Chief Cook cited a drug forum held last year at the Methodist Church, where Macon County Sheriff Robbie Holland enlisted drug rehabilitation professionals and narcotics officers. The focus was getting community support for the overwhelming methamphetamine problem, however very few members of the community attended the meeting, which he fears could be symptomatic of an apathetic population.

The police chief said to attain this goal everyone has to be willing to do

his or her part. Commissioner Marsh said there had to be something that would get the community involved, but along with the rest of the group was unsure as to what "the hook" was.

"We need to get our heads together and come up with something that is going to work in this community," Chief Cook said. "We need to focus on educating, not only the children, but the parents as well."

Bomengen said that she had no doubt that the best source of information for on campus drug busts was the student population.

"But what you have is a very powerful psychological predisposition against snitching on other people, I call it the law of the playground," said Bomengen. "It's just that they will absolutely not do it."

Bomengen said many students fear being found out as the "one who told" and thereby being ostracized by the majority of the student population.

"That's a big key that will unlock a big door, and I do have some ideas on how to deal with that problem," Bomengen said.

She referred to her former school in Connecticut, where that administration worked towards trying to find solutions for the students to communicate who the drug users and dealers were within the school.

"We instituted an email campaign because there were very few kids who would walk right into the front office and say, 'you need to search x, y and z today because they are dealing,'" she said.

Bomengen said her idea for the best way to eliminate the fear factor of tattling on fellow students was to implement a text messaging system where students could use their cell phones to send anonymous text messages to her or Assistant Principal Mark Thomas.

"A lot of the kids have them, and it would be a very simple thing for the kids to send text messages, and I would have no problem publicizing mine and Mark's cell phone numbers around school," Bomengen said.

Chief Cook said there were ways to have a text-messaging system set

■ See TASK FORCE page 17



Becca Johnson donated 14 1/2 inches of her hair to Locks of Love.

Give me a head with hair, long beautiful hair

By Nancy Welch
Contributor

When Becca Johnson heard the scissors clip, she was a bit nervous, but, she said, she was "excited, because I knew I was doing something important for someone else."

Becca, a fourth grader at Highlands School, had made the decision to have her hair cut and contribute it to Locks of Love.

"I guess my mother and I started talking about it a long time ago," she said, with an infectious giggle. "So we were in JC Penney in Anderson and I decided to do it."

"I felt sad and excited at the same time," she said. "I knew I was going to help someone else and that felt very good. at the same time."

Becca donated 14 1/2 inches of her light brown hair to the cause. Her classmates were amazed.

"When I walked into school, they all said, 'Look at Becca, look at her hair!'"

Becca said her Dad, Greg's, first response was that she looked older. Did that bother him?

"I think it did, just a little," she said.

Becca has plans for her life.

"I want to be a forensic scientist or a veterinarian," she said.

She admits she has been influenced by the television shows featuring forensic law officers.

"Yes, it can be pretty gross at times," she said. But she is not bothered by that.

Becca is an avid reader, sometimes reading two books at a time. She is an honor roll student at Highlands School.

"I think it is such an amazing thing she did," said her mother, Nancy Johnson. "You know, hair is so important to girls at this age. But when she was very young, we had a friend with cancer and she had to wear a wig. I think, somehow, that affected Becca. Of course, this is for children. But she wanted to do something.

Nancy said Becca has a much easier time taking care of her hair now.

"She couldn't handle all that hair — shampooing and conditioning. Now she can just go in there and take care of it herself. But she looks so much older," Nancy said. "It is a little scary."

As for Becca, she said she will keep her hair short this summer and then, maybe, grow it long again so she can, once again, make such an important donation.

For more on Locks of Love go to www.locksoflove.org.

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Collin Wilcox Paxton and Jill Montana as bag ladies in the Snapshot, "Sam & Effie."

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... RAID continued from page 1

If the law passes, Macon County would lose \$370,000 in tax revenue and \$50,000 in fire taxes in the first year. This just as Highlands Fire & Rescue Department is looking to use fire tax funds to hire some full time personnel. "During the fifth year, Macon County would be losing \$1,850,000 in general taxes and \$250,000 in fire taxes per year," said Lightner.

Taxes would likely have to increase by about .04 cents to offset the decrease in real estate taxes.

"Macon County enjoys a low tax rate because of our real estate growth in new developments," said Lightner. "On average, we add \$150-\$200 million of new value yearly. Of that total only about 40 percent is attributed to new construction. The remainder is allotted to subdivisions and new land developments."

Mayor Buck Trott said the effects could be disastrous. "We don't know the total impact of this, but it's pretty risky." He said municipalities are already feeling the effects of tight state and county budgets. "From all I read the building business is booming and I think their timing on this is very poor," said Trott. "At some point someone is going to have to step in and defend small municipalities."

The proposed bill will amend Article 12 of Chapter 105 of the General Statutes to read: Real property held for sale by a builder is designated a special class of property under authority of Article V, Sec. 2 (2) of the North Carolina Constitution. Any increase in value of this classified property attributable to subdivision of or other improvements made to the property, by the builder, is excluded from taxation under this subchapter as long as the builder continues to hold the property for sale. In no event shall this exclusion extend for more than five

years from the time the improved property was first subject to being listed for taxation by the builder. The builder must apply for the exclusion annually. In appraising property classified under this section, the assessor shall specify what portion of the value is an increase attributable to subdivision or other improvement by the builder."

"This is simply rotten special interest legislation which reduces county and municipal tax revenues, shifts tax burden to all other property owners, dampens a great part of the local government incentives to provide infrastructure, will be expensive to administer, flies in the face of the intent of property tax law and lastly is just plain wrong," wrote Senator John Snow to Representatives Phil Haire, and Roger West. "Your assistance in putting this little monster in a deep hole will be warmly received back home."

Macon County commissioners are adamantly opposed to the bill.

"The county strongly opposes this," said Chairman Alan Bryson. "Developers can purchase large tracts of property and make a great profit. They should pay their share of taxes," he said.

The value of a tract of land increases once it's subdivided because that's considered an improvement.

"This has lobbyists' fingerprints all over it," said Zoning Administrator Larry Gantenbein. "Municipalities won't want to invest in infrastructure if they're not going to see an increase in the tax base. They don't get any return on it."

In addition to State Representatives Haire and West, Snow is enlisting help from the county and Highlands and Franklin commissioners as well as the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners.

The bill was sent to the Finance Committee on March 15.



MOUNTAIN TRAIL

Volume 2, Number 6

Highlands School News

Friday, April 1, 2005

Coming Up...

MONDAY, APRIL 4—Spring Break ends (school in session)

TUESDAY, APRIL 5—3:30p PTO board meeting @ Peggy Crosby Center; 5p VG Soccer @ Murphy (away)

THURSDAY, APRIL 7—6:30p Girls Soccer vs. Walhalla (home)

MONDAY, APRIL 11—5p Girls Soccer @ Smoky Mtn HS (away)

THURSDAY, APRIL 14—70p PTO meeting presentation of 3-year plan

FRIDAY, APRIL 15—Progress reports mailed home; Interact Club

MONDAY, APRIL 18—5p Girls Soccer vs. Smoky Mtn

TUESDAY, APRIL 19—3p Driver's Ed test

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20—5:30p Girls Soccer vs. FHS (home)

THURSDAY, APRIL 21—9a K-5 David Ginn Magic Reading Show

FRIDAY, APRIL 22—6:30p French Class Dessert Theatre: *Beauty and the Beast*

SATURDAY, APRIL 23—6:30p French Class Dessert Theatre: *Beauty and the Beast*

TUESDAY, APRIL 26—5p Girls Soccer vs. Cherokee (home)

THURSDAY, APRIL 28—4:30p Girls Soccer @ Rabun Gap (away)

FRIDAY, APRIL 29—4:30p Baseball @ Hiwassee Dam (away)

SATURDAY, APRIL 30—7p-11p HS Sadie Hawkins Dance in old gym

MONDAY, MAY 2—5:00p VG Soccer vs. Murphy (home)

TUESDAY, MAY 3—4:30p Baseball @ Andrews (away)

THURSDAY, MAY 5—3:30p PTO Board Meeting @ Peggy Crosby Center

FRIDAY, MAY 6—4:30p Baseball vs. Cherokee (home); Interact Club during Lunch

MONDAY, MAY 9—5p Baseball @ Rabun Gap (away)

TUESDAY, MAY 10—4:30p Baseball @ Rosman (away)

THURSDAY, MAY 12—7p PTO Meeting, vote in new Board Members

FRIDAY, MAY 13—Last day for students; dismissal at 12:30 p (*April Fool's!!*)

French students to perform *Beauty and the Beast*



Sophomore Alec Schmitt as *Lumiere* and senior Kathryn Coppage as *Mrs. Potts* rehearse a scene for the upcoming French play *Beauty and the Beast*. Students throughout the high school are participating in the production which is premiering Friday, April 22 through to Saturday, April 23.

Photo by McKenzie Thompson

McKenzie Thompson 12th Grade

French III Honors students are proud to announce their upcoming performance of *Beauty and the Beast*. Production of the play has been a year-long project for the French Department. Performance dates are set for April 22 and 23 at 7 p.m. in the Highlands School gymnasium.

Preparation for *Beauty and the Beast* began with fund-raising. Organizations around the Highlands community donated generously to the students' requests. Money was primarily needed for the purchase of raw materials, costumes and props. Students have been required to devise a way to bring in or make costumes

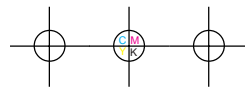
and to construct the set for the performance. Parent volunteers Monica Crook and Diane Sackman have aided in sewing *Belle* and *Lumiere* costumes.

Rehearsals for the play began during mid-January. "Pulling this play together has been a lot of hard work. Practices have been going well so far, and I think that everyone is in for a good show," said student director Kathryn Coppage.

Beauty and the Beast is a fairytale about a prince, magically transformed into a beast, and a small-town girl, Belle, who falls in love under an unusual set of circumstances. *Belle*, played by senior McKenzie Thompson, and *Beast*, sophomore

Darin Keener, will be joined on stage by *Gaston*, senior Andrew Kerhoulas, *Lefou*, senior Matt Keener, and *Mrs. Potts*, senior Kathryn Coppage. Fifth grade students will act as *spoons, forks, napkins* and *plates* during a musical number, and may play as extras at other points during the play. Kindergarten boys from Jane Chalker's class will play *wolves* during various scenes.

Beauty and the Beast is viewed as a cross-curriculum project because it involves so many different grade levels. Various high school band students will participate in the play performing an overture and other pieces as accompaniment.



- Movie Review -

Friday Night Lights

Stephanie McCall
11th Grade

Every Friday evening in Odessa, Texas, from September through December, Ratliff Stadium, the country's biggest high school football field, overflows with 20,000 people shouting "MO-JO! MO-JO! MO-JO!" This is the signature chant of the Permian Panthers in the movie *Friday Night Lights*. Football is the only thing on anyone's mind in this small West Texas town. Since their first season in 1959, the Panthers became the most successful football program, not only in Texas, but in the entire country.

Then in the summer of 1988 the Permian High School Panthers began the season with one thing on their minds, winning their fifth straight championship in their 30-year team history. All the pressure rides on this team, but most especially on coach Gary Gaines played by Billy Bob Thorton, (*Bad Santa*, *Armageddon*, *The Alamo*) who will settle for nothing less than perfection.

Friday Night Lights is based on a true story and tells the history of the Permian Panthers. It is packed with hard-hitting action and close-ups on destructive football force. Director Peter Berg (*The Rundown*, *Very Bad Things*) based his movie on the book *Friday Night Lights* by H. G. Bissinger and played on the emotional struggles each player experienced trying to win the football state championship. He focused on players such as Garrett Hedlund (*Troy*), who's persistent father, Tim McGraw, pushed him into trying harder and quarterback Lucas Black (*Cold Mountain*, *All the Pretty Horses*), whose mother's dying wish was to see him win state. It is an inspiring and moving film.

This Universal Picture is rated PG-13 for thematic issues, sexual content, language, some teen drinking and rough sports action. I recommend this movie to any sports fans that love a little action and enjoy learning about a little history.

- Music Review -

Shivaree

Stephanie McCall
11th Grade

You're sure you've heard the hot femme band Shivaree a hundred times before, and then you're not. Shivaree is not a new group but some people are just now starting to notice them. Yes, some of their tracks are predictably titled "Lost In A Dream," "I Close My Eyes," but then there are the ones called "Mexican Boyfriend" and "The Fat Lady Of Limbourg," not to mention the cool title of Shivaree's 1999 CD that gives them their flash, "I Oughtta Give You A Shot In The Head For Making Me Live In This Dump."

The new song that Shivaree has out is "Who's Got Trouble?" Shivaree's old-time cabaret flare in this song has a bit of bizarreness to it that tends to draw its listeners in. Singer Ambrosia Parsley, whose deep, rich dark-candy voice goes against her suburban upbringing, is above old-pro musicianship to a more profound grace thanks to the excellent talents of the other two-thirds of her band, Duke McVinnie and Danny McGoug.

While sexy and all that, however, much of the song tends to give off background ideas of velour chairs, rich drinks and dim lights, but is less entrancing as a stand alone piece.

In other words, this song says break loose and live by all means, but let the weirdness suck you in. It is a great new song for people with eclectic taste and an interesting test for the ears of anyone else.

April Fool's Word

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Unscramble each of the clue words.
Take the letters that appear in boxes and unscramble them for the final message.

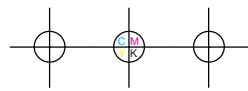


Photo by Beverly VanHook
Teachers Michelle Lane (foreground) and Sallie Taylor along with seniors Ian Marsden and Remington Veteto enjoy dinner at the New Shakespeare Tavern in Atlanta on March 24. They attended a reproduction of *Hamlet* performed by the Atlanta Shakespeare Company. The audience was served dinner at the theater prior to the performance. Most students savored the tavern's "world-famous" apple crisp a la mode during intermission.

MOUNTAIN TRAIL
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Varsity Golf is in full swing this spring

By Stephanie McCall
11th Grade

“Fore!” A familiar call from the green rang out on Thursday, March 24, when the Highlander golf team approached the Mill Creek Golf Course in Franklin to play Nantahala and Swain.

Highlands junior Tyler Shook began the match at the first hole. Each player goes out in a group of three with two opposing players. Once one group gets ahead by several holes the next group starts. The three teams played 9 holes in this match.

The mood on the course was fairly mellow but Highlands was feeling some frustrations with their performance. “I

think this was the worst match this season we’ve played,” commented Jacob Chandler. Highlands gave it their best, but it seemed golf just wasn’t in their favor that day. The Highlanders had no hole-in-ones and no birdies or eagles

In the end the final scores were: Tyler Shook 45, Craig McCall 48, Jason Aspinwall 50, Adam Hedden 56, Adam Chandler 57 and Jacob Chandler 59. Highlands beat Nantahala but lost to Swain.

“This was my worst game,” said leading scorer Tyler Shook. “We’ll just have to try harder next time.”

The Highlander Golf team is now 3-3 for the season.



Photo by Stephanie McCall

Highlands School golfers from left to right; Jacob Chandler, Jason Aspinwall, Craig McCall, Tyler Shook, Adam Chandler and Adam Hedden strike a pose after their match against Swain and Nantahala March 24.

Varsity Highlanders fight hard in tournament

By Matt Keener
12th Grade

The Highlands baseball team traveled to Rabun Gap Nacoochee School for their annual baseball tournament that included Providence, Tenn., Blue Ridge High School, NC, Highlands High School, NC, and the home team Rabun Gap Eagles, GA.

The Highlanders had to face Providence in the first game at 11:00

a.m. The game was close for the first three innings with a score of 2-0 in favor of Providence.

Providence opened up the game by getting walked by the pitchers and poor field playing by the Highlanders. But the Highlanders were not ready to let this one go. Late in the game at the bottom of the sixth inning, Highlands hit the ball very, very well and scored about 6 runs.

Providence got three easy outs in the top of the seventh inning to seal the game and put the Highlanders into the consolation game which was played at 4:30.

The Rabun Gap Eagles lost to the Blue Ridge Bobcats 14-3 and had to play against Highlands in the consolation game.

After a what seemed like a short rest break Highlands was ready to hit the field again at 4:30. Rabun Gap got an early lead scoring two runs in the bottom of the second inning.

The Highlanders tried their best to keep it a close game but could only manage a couple runs as Rabun Gap cut them off winning the consolation game 10-3.

Blue Ridge Bobcats won the tournament by one run over Providence, Tenn.

Come support your Varsity Highlander Baseball team at the upcoming games!



Photo by Stephanie McCall

Name: Matt “the man” Keener
Age: 17
Height: 5’5
Weight: 122
Position: All positions
Years playing baseball: 7
Why do you play? “I just love the game, cause there ain’t nothin’ betta”
Future Ambitions: “I want to play soccer at Pfeiffer University.”



Photo by Stephanie McCall

Name: Allen Shearl
Age: 17
Height: 5’10”
Weight: 150 lbs
Position: Center Field
Years playing baseball: 13 yrs
Why do you play? “I love the game.”
Future Ambitions: WCU

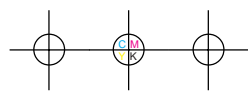


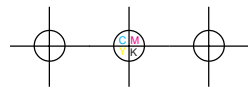
Photo by Matthew Keener

Name: Jeremy Keener
Age: 17
Height: 5’11”
Weight: 140 lbs
Position: 2nd base
Years playing baseball: 13 yrs
Why do you play? “I love baseball.”
Future Ambitions: NC-State

UPCOMING BASEBALL GAMES

- | | |
|---|---|
| 4/5 - Highlands vs Robbinsville Home @ 4:30 | 4/29 -Highlands vs Hiwassee Dam Away @ 4:30 |
| 4/6 - Highlands vs Tamassee Salem Home @ 6:00 | 5/3 - Highlands vs Andrews Away @ 4:30 |
| 4/8 - Highlands vs Rosman Home @ 4:30 | 5/6 - Highlands vs Cherokee Home @ 4:30 |
| 4/12 - Highlands vs. Blue Ridge Home @ 4:30 | 5/9 - Highlands vs Rabun Gap Away @ 5:00 |
| 4/14 - Highlands vs Rabun Gap Home @ 5:00 | 5/10 - Highlands vs Rosman Away @ 4:30 |
| 4/18 - Highlands vs Hayesville Away @ 4:30 | Tournaments TBA |





English language taught to Spanish speaking students

By Catlin Huitt
12th Grade

The Highlands Literacy Council has been offering English as a Second Language (ESL) classes at night for many years, so ESL is not new to the community. ESL instructor Faviola Olvera started teaching for the Literacy Council, while she was a student at Highlands School and was asked this past October to be the school's ESL instructor. Peggy Peck oversees all Macon County ESL programs and Olvera oversees learning activities for students who are involved in the ESL program at Highlands School.

Many schools today are starting ESL programs due to the increasing population of non-English speaking students. ESL programs include classes for students who need help learning the basics of English.

The purpose of the program is to enhance non-English speakers' English comprehension skills, expand their vocabulary, enhance their conversational skills, and teach proper pronunciation

and grammatical rules.

The students learn and use new vocabulary words, converse in English, and translate from their native language into English. Each of the students has a work book that can help them learn English. The students use the workbooks to match pictures to words, make sentences and learn vocabulary. Younger students focus on learning reading comprehension and grammar while high school students usually get help with homework assignments.

According to Olvera, the basic characteristics of an ESL teacher are knowledge of the English language, teaching skills and patience. She added, "A teacher does not necessarily have to know and speak the language of the students but must have the skills to teach the English language; it does help to know the students' language."

Patience is a major requirement for teaching ESL as well. It takes some time for students to grasp the entire concept of the English language. Olvera said, "One must start at the bottom and slowly



Faviola Olvera assists ESL students with homework in the Highlands School media center.

Photo by Catlin Huitt

work up. Each student learns at a different pace, so the teacher must work at the pace of the student."

The goal of ESL is to enhance and expand students' English skills through

reading, writing, vocabulary, grammar or conversation. ESL students benefit by learning how to interact with other students in the school, and are assisted with learning in their regular classes.

Sheriff Holland opens eyes with *Reality Check 101*



With help from Sheriff Robby Holland, inmates Erin and Bobby tell students of their experiences with alcohol and drugs.

Stephanie McCall
11th Grade

Students in grades 6-12 at Highlands School got a real reality check on Wednesday, March 9. Macon County Sheriff Robby Holland brought two current inmates to visit students and discuss why kids should not experiment with alcohol and drugs.

Holland told students about the effects of methamphetamines, the signs of a meth lab and what to do if

you know someone that could be involved with illegal substances. He gave an intense power point show of pictures showing different drug busts, substances found at crime scenes and hazardous chemicals used to make meth. He also taught students how to identify drugs even when slang terms are used like tina, crank, glass, crack and ice. Then he introduced inmates Erin and Bobby, who told their own

experiences of abusing alcohol and drugs and the effects on their lives.

Twenty-two-year-old inmate Erin has been in jail 14 times since age 13.

"I began hanging out with people that were maybe 15-20 years older than me," she said. "By the time I knew it, I was doing every drug out there possible. I've been arrested for breaking and entering and stealing, and it was all just to get high. I was constantly trying to get a high like the first time I ever tried meth. I hate the fact that I know when I get out I'll probably do the same thing. I don't want to, but that's how it is."

Erin told stories of her withdrawal symptoms like cold sweats, nightmares and coming very close to overdosing. With a sixth grade education, Erin admits that she will probably have to depend on her parents to support her and her two-year-old son when she is released from jail.

Bobby, an alcoholic, has been out of jail six months in the past four years. "After that first sip, I couldn't stop,"

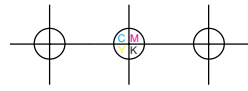
he said. "I got to the point that I was drinking about 48 beers and a fifth of liquor a day. Now I'm in and out of jail all the time and I hardly ever get to see my two kids."

Though now in his early twenties, Bobby's last full year of school was eighth grade. He is aware that when he gets out of jail there is a very high chance he will start drinking again. He's been in ICU a few times for DT's (Delirium Tremens) that caused him to hallucinate and convulse.

Holland said, "I have never met a person that has done meth and quit. The purpose of this program is to get students to not take that first step. It takes lots of courage for these inmates to tell their stories. This way kids will get to see people that are living with the consequences of doing drugs today."

The Reality Check 101 program was started in 2004 by Holland and his wife Marcy. The program has gained outstanding support from the community.





Matt-Man makeover complete: *wild to styled*



By McKenzie Thompson
12th Grade

The transformation is complete! Matt Man Keener has undergone a basic makeover during the past month. Keener is known around school as being a real live wire. He is a friend to all as well as an outstanding athlete. Prior to the makeover, he was also known through the halls as a kid who would wear anything!

Mountain Magic, a local salon, was proud to host Matt Man as he began his makeover. He was accompanied by peer advisors Kathryn Coppage and McKenzie Thompson. The three assumed Matt's trip to the salon would be quick and painless, but three hours later Keener emerged from the "operating chair." His hair had been cut and given subtle highlights, and his eyebrows had been waxed.

"Matt was a real sport about the whole process. I won't even get *my* eyebrows waxed; we were so proud of him! It was a lot of fun," said

Thompson.

Keener and friends went on a shopping spree to the Mall of Georgia in Buford the following weekend. With the help of Thompson, Coppage and others on the trip, Keener purchased several basic, but matching, articles of clothing and accessories. He bought jeans, a casual dress shirt and a few stylish t-shirts from various stores in the mall, such as American Eagle and Hollister.

"The makeover was a great experience that I will never forget! It was like a journey to the 'other side.' I will never wear plaid pants and a baseball t-shirt again," said Keener.

Contrary to Keener's response to the makeover, Beverly VanHook, Highlands School Journalism teacher says, "Yeah right. Mismatched clothes are part of Matt Man's personality."

"He looks great and I'm glad that somebody finally decided to tackle that mess," said fellow student and friend Erin Munger.

Left, Matt "the man" Keener is stylin' and profilin' in his new look. Keener hams it up for a photo-op while wearing his newly purchased clothes from American Eagle Outfitters.

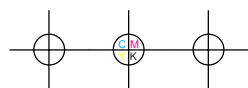
Photo by McKenzie Thompson

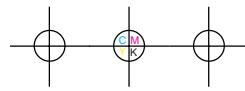
Breaking the spring fever



Photo by McKenzie Thompson

Two Highlands School sophomores are breaking their spring fevers by taking trips out of state or country. Sara Bates (left) is taking an international vacation to Panama with her family. While in Panama, Bates and her family will go hiking, rafting, camping and will also take surfing lessons. Lucy Herz (right) is going with her family to the Big Apple for four days and then to Boston for the remainder of the break. Herz and her family will spend their time shopping and sightseeing. Many other Highlands students are involved in the Bolivia mission trip, as well as other travels around the globe.





Lady Highlanders Soccer

Stephanie McCall
11th Grade

Varsity Girls Soccer players faced a re-match against the Lady Wildcats from Rabun County March 24. Tensions were high since Highlands previously had been defeated by the Wildcats in an earlier game this year. An overtime game left the Highlanders with a second one-point loss to Rabun County and a score of 3-2.

The re-match started out with a constant battle for the ball. The Wildcats were making numerous attacks on goal, but nothing slipped by Highlander goalie Allison Winn. In the first half, minutes before halftime, a hand ball was called on the Wildcats giving Highlands a penalty kick at the goalie. Amy Crook lined up for her shot and with a witty corner kick scored the goal with great ease putting Highlands in the lead 1-0 for the first half.

After half-time Highlands was eager to score again, and the Wildcats were hungry for their first goal. Minutes into the second-half Highlands was awarded another corner kick. Callie Rawlins lined up her shot for just the right curve and kicked it. The ball went streaming for the goal where mid-fielder McKenzie Thompson was able to head

the ball to center-forward Sara Bates, who tapped the ball in just out of the Wildcat goalie's reach. Highlands was up 2-0.

Adrenaline was pumping now and the Lady Wildcats were even more eager for a goal. It didn't take long before they put a strong attack on the Lady Highlanders. The Wildcats soon scored two goals for a tie game. The game was close and each team was playing hard defensively and offensively. Repeated shots on goal were blocked by goalies from each team and soon time ran out. At the end of the second-half Highlands and Rabun County were tied 2-2. The battle would have to be won in overtime.

Overtime was only 15 minutes. One team had to score to take the victory. The Lady Highlanders were really on their game stealing the ball and shooting as much as possible. They gave it their best shot, but in the last two minutes of the game a Lady Wildcat drove the ball hard past Highlands' defense and drilled the ball into the net. Rabun County took the lead 3-2. Highlands fought hard to get their lead back but could not score. It was a sad defeat for the Lady Highlanders but a game well-played.



Photo by Stephanie McCall

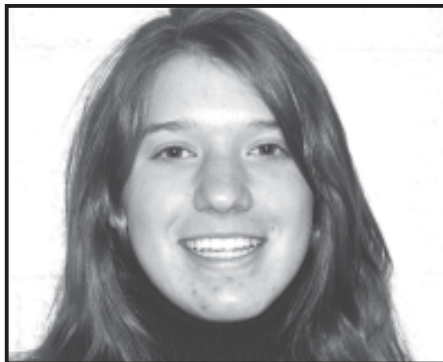


Photo by Stephanie McCall

Name: Amy Crook
Age: 18
Height: 5'6"
Weight: 125 lbs
Position: Mid-field and Captain
Years playing soccer: 10 yrs
Why do you play? "Because I love it!"
Future Ambitions: "I plan to attend a four-year university."



Photo by Matthew Keener

Name: Iyali Ruiz
Age: 17
Height: 5'2 1/2"
Weight: 108 lbs
Position: Left Forward
Years playing soccer: 4 yrs
Why do you play? "It's only the best sport ever and I love my team!"
Future Ambitions: "UGA for International Business."



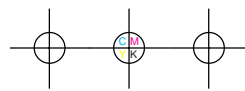
Photo by Matthew Keener

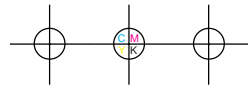
Name: Kathryn Coppage
Age: 18
Height: 5'8 1/2"
Weight: 167 lbs
Position: Forward
Years playing soccer: 4 yrs
Why do you play? "I love the game and our team loves to win!"
Future Ambitions: "A 4-yr school and a major in communications."



Photo by Stephanie McCall

Name: McKenzie Thompson
Age: 17
Height: 5'9"
Weight: 135 lbs
Position: Defense
Years playing soccer: 7 yrs
Why do you play? "I love the game."
Future Ambitions: "UNC-Chapel Hill."





Middle school recycles to save environment

By Marlee McCall
Grade 6

Middle school is helping decrease the trash load at Highlands School. Middle school SGA (Student Government Association) has placed a paper recycling box for magazines, newspapers and loose papers in each middle school homeroom.

The High School SGA had planned to start a recycling campaign for the whole school but it was delayed by other projects. Therefore the Middle School SGA took it upon themselves to start their own recycling program. At a Middle School SGA meeting the sixth grade representatives brought up the subject of the recycling project to the Middle School SGA.

Middle School SGA President Luke McClellan said, "I thought it was a great idea. It would be a good way to help the environment."

Students may put any scratch paper or graded papers their parents have seen in these boxes. The recycling

project is also an incentive to help keep student's messy backpacks a little bit more organized.

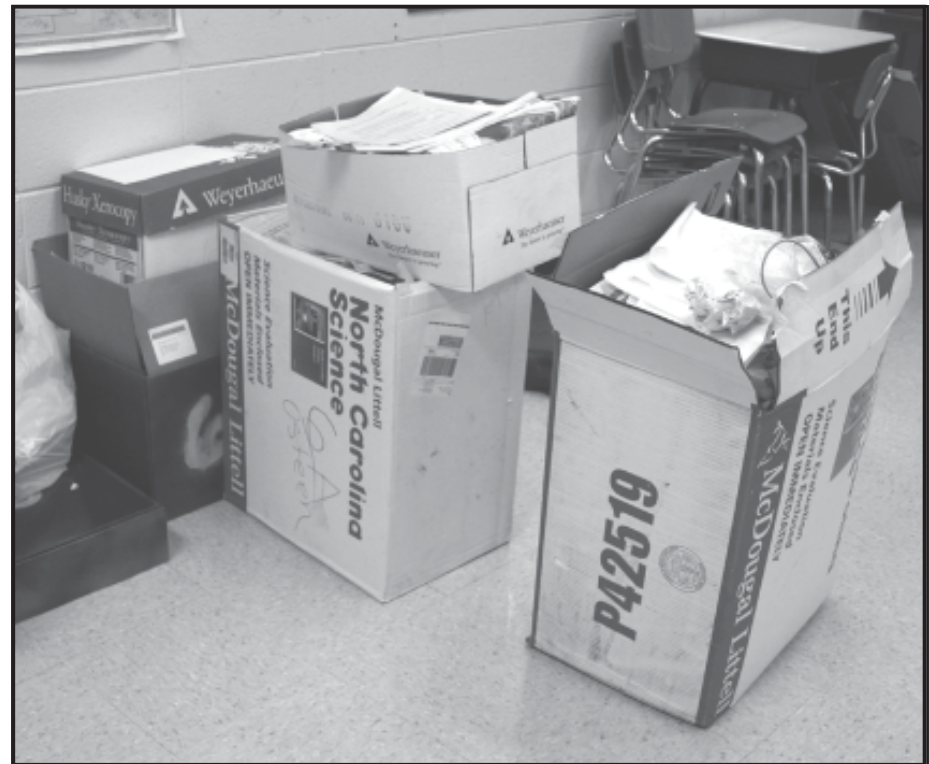
SGA is urging students to recycle by organizing competition between middle school homerooms. At the end of each week SGA members pick up the recycling boxes and take it to SGA sponsor Steve Massey's classroom.

"The project is going really well and we're getting a lot of paper in from middle school. It's going a lot better than I thought it would," Massey said.

Massey will weigh each classroom's paper and keep a running score of which classroom has recycled the most paper. Mr. Massey will also be the one who will take the paper to the recycling center.

In mid-May the homeroom with the most recycled paper will be rewarded with a pizza party. McClellan feels that the pizza party is a good way to get students to recycle.

SGA hopes that students will also recycle in their own home.



The first batch of recycled paper from Middle school's recycling project is ready to be weighed and delivered to the recycling center.

Photo by Marlee McCall

E.C. Department holds spring book sale to raise money for school

By Erin Munger
Grade 12

The Highlands School Exceptional Children's Department will be holding a book sale in late spring, early summer in Highlands. Proceeds of the book sale will go to the Exceptional Children's Department at Highlands School.

There are about ten students in the Exceptional Department and each student will choose a book to donate to the Highlands School library in their name using the proceeds raised. They will also use the money to buy resource materials for the Exceptional Department and if there is enough funding left, the Exceptional Children's teachers would like to take the kids on a field trip to Six Flags or Dolly Wood.

Books can be donated by anyone and those who wish to do so can contact Karen Hasbrook at Highlands School at 526-2147 or at home at 526-5247 if they have books they would like to have picked up. Hasbrook is a paid assistant in the Exceptional Children's

Department and is organizing the book sale. "I very much appreciate the Highlands School faculty and staff and community for donating books. The success of this book sale is based on the help of the community and all volunteers are welcome." Hasbrook said.

Books have already been donated by Chapter 2 bookstore in Cashiers and the faculty and staff of Highlands School along with members of the community. All kinds of books are welcomed; fiction, nonfiction, coffee table books, children's and cook books, as well as games and videos. No book will exceed the total of two dollars.

All of the children involved are very excited about this book sale and are staying busy making posters to advertise the upcoming sale.

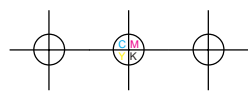
The location of the book sale is yet to be determined, if anyone would like to volunteer a spot to hold the book sale they should contact Hasbrook at Highlands School or at home.

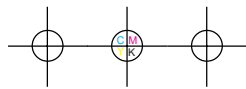


Photo by Anne Tate

Johnson and Wales University graduate Kevin Baur demonstrated his culinary arts skills for both Highlands and Franklin students when he visited Franklin High School. Baur demonstrated how to make a Philly Roll, or sushi with a twist. Baur's Philly Roll is made by using traditional seaweed sheets and rice, then spreading a layer of Philadelphia cream cheese over the rice before adding smoked salmon or *nova*. The seaweed is then rolled up and cut into bite-size pieces. Foods II students were invited to sample the sushi, and most enjoyed it. Junior Ramsey Ashburn said, "It was really fun to try the sushi, and hear about Johnson and Wales University."

Shown from left to right are Foods II students Jackie Reed, Keri Raby, Kim Higgs, Baur, Stephanie Dalton, Lauren Dalton, Ramsey Ashburn, Kristi Billingsley and Nicole Barnes. Students also learned about attending the Charlotte Campus of Johnson and Wales, a culinary arts school, and about the variety of interesting classes the university has to offer.





Artattack *After school art class for students in grades 4 - 8*

Wednesday 3:15-4:15

This is a class designed for students in grades 4 through 8 who want to “do art.” The students will work in mixed media including: painting, printmaking, graphics, cartooning, clay, 3-D design, fabric and textile. There will be an emphasis on the purpose of art in society, a focus on some of the different forms art takes, and how the visual art affect us. Each student’s individual creativity and style will be encouraged. Bus transportation from Highlands School to the Bascom-Louise Gallery will be provided for this class.

High School Art Workshops *Tuesdays 4:30-5:30*

Tuesdays 4:30-5:30

This is a class designed for high school students who are interested in discovering, exploring, experimenting and stretching their creative abilities. The emphasis of this class will be personal growth. Whether you “can’t draw a straight line” or are working on portfolio submissions for college, this class is designed to stimulate your personal creativity and ability to communicate artistically through the visual arts. Students will be introduced to a medium, given a subject matter, and then be encouraged to work through the process of self-expression.

It's Masterful! *Art classes for home-schooled students.*

1st & 3rd Wednesdays from 1 - 3

This class will be held during the school day. Its purpose is to enhance the academic educational process through art, working closely with the foundational principles of home school education. The use of the Bascom-Louise Gallery’s art educational facility and library will help to enhance the student’s artistic experience. The heart of the curriculum will be centered on the influence of “The Masters.” This class is open to students from first grade through high school. Class size and age grouping will be determined by need. Each class will have a short lesson on a specific artist followed by a creative project. Instruction and experimentation with different mediums will be the core of this class. Each student will be encouraged to work independently at his or her age and experience level. There will also be a take-home portfolio that the students will work on, independent of the actual class time.

Artventure *Art for Children in Kindergarten and First Grade*

Tuesdays 3:15 - 4:15

This class is for kindergarten and first graders, and is designed to inspire joy, confidence and pride in the art that is produced. The child will have the fun of learning about paint, paper, scissors, glue, crayons, pastels, papier-mâché, fabric, and clay. They will be taught that these products can be manipulated to produce a desired two- or three-dimensional effect. Not only will their work be inspired by their personal experiences, observation, or imagination, this class will also include an awareness of environment and the influence of other cultures that are around them. Bus transportation from Highlands School to the Bascom-Louise Gallery will be provided for this class.

Little Stars *Art for Preschool children - Starting Sept. 28*

Tuesdays 10:30-11:30

The Bascom-Louise Gallery is excited to be offering a new art program for preschool children. This is a wonderful opportunity to broaden the children’s experience by a hands-on, age appropriate introduction to the visual arts. The children will be acquainted with the Gallery’s permanent and temporary exhibits. This will be a chance to experience personal observation and expression and to learn how artists communicate thoughts and feelings through art. They will then make their own inspired special art. The children will have the chance to work with mixed media, learning the artistic process of using paints, pastels, fabrics, and clay.

Parent and child *Wednesdays 11-12*

Wednesdays 11-12

This is a delightful time for pre-school children, age 2 to kindergarten, and parents to “play” together. Parent and child will enjoy the creation process of a start-to-finish project, which will delight the eyes and heart. The child will also begin to learn how to use the “tools of art,” safely and with respect. This is a fun mixed media class that will bring out the child in everyone.

Each class is \$5 • Call the Gallery at 526-4949 to register
Scholarships available



HS 4th & 5th All As Honor Roll



In Ms. West’s 4th-grade class: Rebecca Johnson and Anne Richardson. In Ms. Sizemore’s 5th-grade class: Kim Machuca and Cai Roman. In Ms. Archer’s 5th-grade class: Timothy Fogle, Cody St. Germain, Tyler Ternes, Danielle Shomper

HS 4th & 5th A-B Honor Roll



In Ms. West’s 4th-grade class: Will Arauj, Skyler Wagner, Lindsay Wagner, Dax Lloyd. In Ms. Sizemore’s 5th-grade class: Yanet Rangel, Stephanie Smart, Dylon Tucker, Delaina Webb, Corey Ramey. In Ms. Archer’s 5th-grade class: Coleman deHoll, Clayton Dunn, Emily Munger, Logan Schmitt, Matthew Stalling.

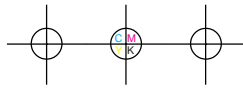
HS 4th & 5th Perfect Attendance



In Ms. West’s 4th-grade class: Will Araujo, Autumn Chastain, Dax Lloyd, Clay TucciCaselli, Sydney Wagner. In Ms. Sizemore’s 5th-grade class: Justin Rodriguez, Dylon Tucker. In Ms. Archer’s 5th-grade class: Sayne Cruz, Timothy Fogle.

Photos by Carol Bowen





... TASK FORCE continued from page 6

up where the caller could remain unknown to the receiver.

"Even if someone subpoenas me, I'm not going to reveal a child's source of information," Bomengen said. "It's too risky to the child."

Bomengen said that the only obstacle with the implementation of an anonymous text-messaging system is the fact that the Macon County School policy frowns upon students carrying cell phones to school.

"They all have them any way, and it's not enforceable and we have said, 'alright we're not going to look at your cell phones if you promise not to have them out during school hours,'" she said.

Bomengen said that she would talk with Macon County School Superintendent Rodney Shotwell and the BOE about relaxing that policy because "we're excluding a really great tool of communication."

She said the quicker an administrator was informed about drug activity on campus the quicker she could take action and search that student.

Chief Cook and Bomengen both agreed that the police department and the school needed to work hand-in-hand.

Bomengen said that she had much more latitude in the search and seizure of illegal drugs on school grounds than the police department.

"I only have to have a reasonable suspicion to search a student's locker or book bag the police have to have probable cause," Bomengen said.

Bomengen and other school officials have the ability to search students and their possessions on campus because the Supreme Court has granted them wide latitude. But their ability to randomly test students directly is limited.

A brand new Macon County School Board policy, currently under consideration, outlines what administrators can do within those limitations. The proposed policy authorizes the faculty to test students

who are involved in sports and other competitive extra-curricular activities randomly, regardless of suspicion.

Another way to tackle the on-campus drug problem Bomengen said would be to hire a full time School Resource Officer. She said this was greatly needed because Greg Rogers, the school's current SRO, is split between the three high schools.

"In all reality we see Greg about once every 10 days," said Bomengen.

An SRO would be another set of eyes that would get to know the majority of the student population and would be an asset in identifying problem students to the administration.

"It would be a tremendous help to us, to be able to have a school resource officer, even if it was only on a part-time basis, but to have a regular presence for kids to know there is an officer on campus and they can develop a relationship," said Bomengen. "They're just now starting to really trust Mark and me."

Bomengen also shared the idea of having the high school students split into homerooms of no more than 10 students throughout the duration of high school so they would connect with a teacher who was not in the traditional role of teacher.

"In the fall, when we go to our block schedule we are going to have an extended homeroom every Friday and part of our reason for doing this is so these kids would have a relationship with a teacher who may not be one of their classroom teachers who they see on a regular basis," she said. "We have had some instances where kids have confided in their homeroom teacher and that might not have happened otherwise."

Bomengen also said a great way to target drugs in the school and train teachers would be to have a group of students share what they know with the teachers.

"What kids will tell you many

■See TASK FORCE page 19

'Wine Dinner' Old Edwards style



Photo by Kim Lewicki

On Thursday, March 24, Old Edwards Inn & Spa held its second wine dinner of the season at The Farm. The setting: elegantly rustic. The five-course dinner paired with wines from the Domaine Serene Vineyards and Winery: sumptuous and innovative. The service: impeccable. The evening: Memorable. The next event: Burgundy Wine Weekend at The Old Edwards Inn and Spa Friday, April 15 - Sunday, April 17. For additional information or to make reservations, please call 828-526-8008.

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GOOGLE Us - Search The Following Terms:

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Cashiers NC Newspaper, or Highlands NC Real Estate

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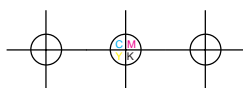
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Clothing - Footwear - Outdoor Equipment - Fly Fishing

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Highlands

Highland Hiker
at the Crossroads
Cashiers

Highland Hiker Shoes
The Falls on Main
Highlands



HS Accelerated Readers



Ms. West's 4th-grade Accelerated Readers: Will Araujo, Jonah Forrester, Corbin Hawkins, Rebecca Johnson, Dax Lloyd, Anne Richards, Clay Tuccicasellin

HS Accelerated Readers



Ms. Sizemore's & Ms. Archer's 5th-grade Accelerated Readers: Will Hedden, Kim Machuca, Yanet Rangel, Justin Rodriguez, Cai Roman, Stephanie Smart, Gabrielle Tilson, Dylon Tucker, Delaina Webb, Clayton Dunn, Tim Fogle, Matthew Stallings, Tyler Ternes.

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Highlands-Cashiers Hospital free health screening No. 2 set for May 7

Registration is now under way for the second free health screening for residents of Highlands and Scaly Mountain. That screening will be held May 7 at the new Jane Woodruff Clinic on the campus of Highlands-Cashiers Hospital.

Participants will be checked for important health indicators such as blood pressure, blood sugar levels, cholesterol levels, height, weight, bone density, hearing, and body composition. They will also have the opportunity to talk with experts on a variety of health topics, including the opportunity to talk directly with a physician at many of the screenings. There is no charge whatsoever, however pre-registration is required.

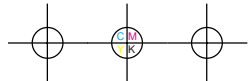
To pre-register, participants can use the hospital's website at www.hchospital.org, by clicking on the screening menu, and completing

the registration form. Or they can call the hospital's Foundation office at 828 526-1435.

Appointment times will be assigned as part of the registration process to help reduce lines and waiting times.

As in the past, those participating in a screening are asked not to eat or drink anything but water after midnight the night before. They should also wear short sleeved garments, and women who wish to have their bone density checked should wear socks instead of hose, and shoes that can be easily removed.

Confidential results of screening tests will be reviewed by the participant's own family physician (or another local physician if no family doctor is specified) before being mailed.



POLICE & FIRE

The following are the Highlands Police Department log entries for the week of March 23-30. The only names printed are of public officials and/or people who were arrested.

March 23

- At 1:05 p.m., officers responded to an accident at U.S. 64 east and Laurel. There were no injuries.

- At 2:55 p.m., officers responded to an accident in the post office parking lot. There were no injuries.

March 24

- At 10:15 a.m., officers responded to a call of a suspicious vehicle at the Performing Arts Center. It was unfounded.

- At 1:10 p.m., officers responded to an accident at Main and Fourth streets. There were no injuries.

March 25

- At 6:15 a.m., a motorist was cited for speeding 52 mph in a 35 zone at Cobb Road and N.C. 106.

- At 7 a.m., officers responded to an alarm at Cafe 460. All was secure.

March 26

- At 11:15 a.m., a motorist was cited for speeding 40 mph in a 25 zone.

- At 10:30 a.m., a suspicious vehicle was reported at Mountain Findings. It was unfounded.

- At 2:30 p.m., officers responded to a 9-1-1 call from the pay phone at Highlands Plaza. It was unfounded.

March 27

- At 8:10 p.m., a house on Mirror Lake Road was vandalized by an angry visitor.

March 29

- At 6:30 a.m., a motorist at N.C. 106 and Cobb Road was cited for speeding 60 mph in a 35 zone.

- At 2:30 p.m., officers escorted a mobile home through town.

The following are the Highlands Fire & Rescue Department log entries for the week of March 24-27

March 24

- The dept. responded to an alarm at a residence at VZ-Top. It was false.

March 25

- The dept. responded to a chimney fire at Old Creek Lodge. There was no damage.

March 27

- The dept. responded to an alarm at a residence on Crescent Trail. It was false.

March 28

- The dept. responded to an alarm at a residence on Crescent Trail, again. It was false.

- The dept. responded to an accident on Buck Creek Road. There were no injuries.

- The dept. responded to the call of an accident on N.C. 28 south. It was unfounded.

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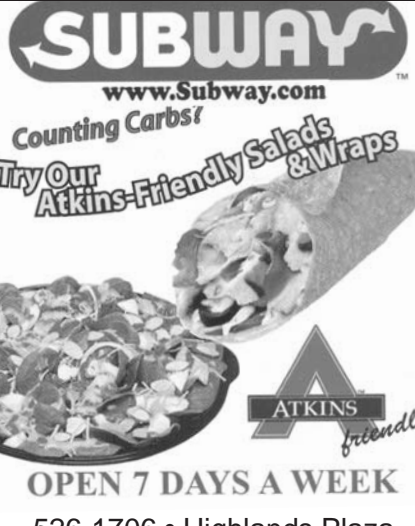
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 Fri and Sat. 7:30 a.m. - 11 p.m.
 Live music Fri and Sat
 Coffee, tea, wine, pastries, sandwiches
 384 Main Street

... TASK FORCE from 17

times is much more useful than what you might hear in a staff training session," she said.

Chief Cook said Sheriff Holland has implemented a program in the school system where students share with teachers their own personal drug use while they were attending school.

"I saw them at the Cullasaja School and these teachers were shocked to find out what was going

on right under their noses," Chief Cook said. "This teacher was devastated."

Chief Cook said what is imperative is that the community attack the drug problem in several different ways so that every child is reached, especially those who are not prone to join clubs or religious groups.

"My program will not be the same as yours and what I would like

to see is all these programs working together," he said. "Because if we can save just one life, it's worth it."

The committee agreed to meet on Thursdays at 7 p.m. in the Town Hall conference room to continue brainstorming ideas for community involvement.

Dr. Patti Wheeler, Rick Rawlins and youth pastor Ryan Sprague of Community Bible Church are expected to join the committee.

• **SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING** •

Romance Lost (and found)



**By Rev. Bill McCutchen
Community Bible Church**

Robert Frost's poem, "Nothing Gold Can Stay" reminds us of something lost:

Nature's first green is gold,
Her hardest hue to hold.
Her early leaf's a flower;
But only so an hour.
Then leaf subsides to leaf.
So Eden sank to grief,
So dawn goes down to day.
Nothing gold can stay.

We all live within the tension of a sense of loss and the hope of something to be found. Our lives have been filled with great joys and experiences which tickle our hearts and souls with the feeling of transcendence – there is something more out there to be experienced. Yet the pains and sorrows of life in this world truncate those joys and harden us to a point which asks, "Is this as good as it gets?"

Do you remember your first kiss? Can you still see your beloved on your wedding day standing in all her beauty and radiance? Close your eyes and experience the moment you saw your child born and held him for the first time. Or return the top of Whitesides and be moved by the majesty and splendor of God's creation.

Those are moments of transcendence – taking part in a greater story. Each of us intrinsically knows that there is something more than this life. We have foretastes and pointers directing us to something greater – God himself.

What happens so often, though, is that we place our hope and future in the events or experiences instead of in the God behind them. Or, the pains in this life and the disappointments of living in a fallen creation steal our hope of transcendence and nullify our belief in a loving God. C.S. Lewis wrote, "...it [is] not in them, it only comes through them and what [comes] through them [is] longing...They are not the thing itself; they are only the scent of a flower we have not found, the echo of a tune we

▪ See **SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING** page 21

• **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
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.

CHAPEL OF SKY VALLEY

Sky Valley, Georgia
The Right Rev. Dr. John S. Erbeling, Pastor
Church: 706-746-2999
Pastor's residence: 706-746-5770
Sundays: 9 a.m. - choir
Holy Communion 1st Sunday of the month
Wednesdays: 9 a.m. Healing and Prayer with Holy Communion each service

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

CHRIST ANGLICAN CHURCH

743-9370
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Worship and communion: Sundays at 4 p.m. at the Community Bible Church in Highlands.
Monday Bible Study: 6 p.m. Parish House
Tuesday Noon Bible Study: noon Parish House
Pot Luck Dinner: Last Sunday of the Month.

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; Youth "The Rock" meeting.

Tuesdays: Women's Bible Study – 9:45

Wed: Supper – 6 p.m.; Bible Study – 6:45 p.m.

EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE INCARNATION

Rev. Brian Sullivan – 526-2968
Sundays: Choir – 9 a.m.; Adult Sunday School classes – 9:15 a.m.; Holy Eucharist – 10:30 a.m.; Children's Chapel – 10:30 a.m.;
Mondays: Women's Cursillo Group (Library) – 4
Tuesdays: Men's Cursillo in Jones Hall – 8
Wednesdays: Liturgy Mtg – 4 p.m.; Christian Education – 5 p.m.; Supper & Program – 6 p.m.
Thursdays: Holy Eucharist – 10 a.m.
Sunday Service is telecast on cable channel 14

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Dr. Daniel D. Robinson, 526-4153
Sun.: 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
Sun.: Worship – 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
Sun: School – 9:30 & 9:45 a.m.; Worship – 8:30 & 11
Wed: Supper – 5:30 p.m.; Bible Study & activities – 6

HOLY FAMILY LUTHERAN CHURCH – ELCA

Rev. Delmer Chilton, Pastor,
2152 Dillard Road – 526-9741
Wednesdays: Lenten Services at noon followed by a meal.
Sundays: Worship/Communion – 10:30

MACEDONIA BAPTIST CHURCH

8 miles south of Highlands on N.C. 28 S in Satolah
Pastor Jamie Passmore, (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: Sabbath Eve Services at 7 p.m.
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.
Saturday Vigil Mass – 4 p.m.
Sundays: Mass – 11 a.m.

SCALY MOUNTAIN BAPTIST CHURCH

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

SCALY MOUNTAIN CHURCH OF GOD

290 Buck Knob Road; Pastor Alfred Sizemore
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

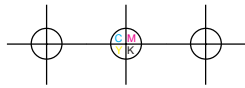
Rev. Maureen Killoran (part-time) 526-9769
Sundays: Worship – 11 a.m.

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



... SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING continued from page 20

have not heard, news from a country we have never visited.”

So what do you long for? What is so deep in the recesses of your soul that you are almost afraid to acknowledge for fear that in the acknowledgment it will be lost or discarded? The Bible joins the testimony of our own souls when it says that our deepest longing is to be found (to be passionately loved) in God our Creator. Don't settle for "less-wild lovers" in this world. Don't allow the pains of this life to steal your hope. Pursue God and find that, in that pursuit, it is really Him that is pursuing

you.

These ideas and thoughts are wonderfully expounded upon in "The Sacred Romance" by John Eldridge and Brent Curtis. I would encourage you to flip through the pages and gain a deeper glimpse into the heart of the most passionate lover in the world – the God of the Bible.

Let God's passion for you consume you; woo you; and melt you. Maybe for the first time in your life you will experience romance the way it was designed to be.



Photo by Erin Brown

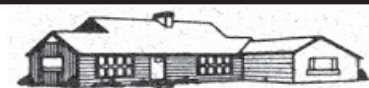
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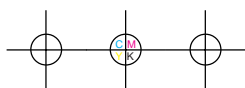


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'Diary of Anne Frank' next for HCP

Callie Rawlins (Margot Frank), left, and Kayla Bott (Anne Frank) share a laugh during a rehearsal of "The Diary of Anne Frank" to be presented by the Highlands Community Players May 5 - 8, 14, 15 at the Martin-Lipscombe Performing Arts Center.



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Dr. Lindsay practiced in Brevard, NC, for 14 years prior to relocating to Cashiers. A native of High Point, NC, Dr. Lindsay earned his medical degree from the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill in 1988 and completed both his internship and residency in family practice at East Carolina University in Greenville, NC, finishing in 1991. He is also an experienced emergency room physician.

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NORTHLAND CABLE COMPANY – We are needing a Customer Service Representative, this is a full time position. They would need computer experience, telephone skills, cash drawer experience and able to travel between other Northland offices. People skills are a must! EEO.

HIGH COUNTRY CAFE – Now accepting applications for all positions. Apply in person or call 526-0572. Located on Cashiers Road next to Community Bible Church. EOE.

CHATOOGA GARDENS GARDEN CENTER – Positions available: greenhouse manager, sales persons, cashier, delivery driver. Call 828-743-1062.

PT SECURITY GUARD POSITION – Sat. & Sun. 7 a.m.-7 p.m. Call 828-526-4161.

DIETARY AIDE AT HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HOSPITAL. This part-time position is for three days per week. Days will vary. Work patient tray line, cafeteria line, stock kitchen, wash dishes. Pre-employment substance screening. Call Mary Osmar, 828-526-1301.

HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HOSPITAL AND FIDELIA ECKERD LIVING CENTER: One opening for an RN or LPN: 3pm to 11pm and one RN 7pm to 7am. If you are looking to join a team whose focus is on excellent elder care with a low staffing ratio, above average wages, excellent benefits, and shift differentials, call. We are also accepting applications for PRN CNAs. Pre-employment substance screening. Mary Osmar, 828-526-1301.

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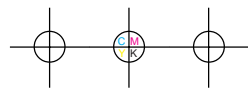
LEGALS

NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND DEBTORS JO LAURA CHAPMAN

Any persons, firms, or corporations having claims against Jo Laura Chapman, Deceased, are notified to exhibit them to J. Wiley Hicks, Personal Representative of the Deceased's Estate, at the address of the Estate's undersigned attorney, on or before June 29, 2005, or be barred from their recovery thereafter. Debtors of the Deceased are asked to make immediate payment to the above-named Executor at the same address. DATED: March 16, 2005

John R. Mayer
Attorney at Law, PLLC
511 Smallwood Avenue
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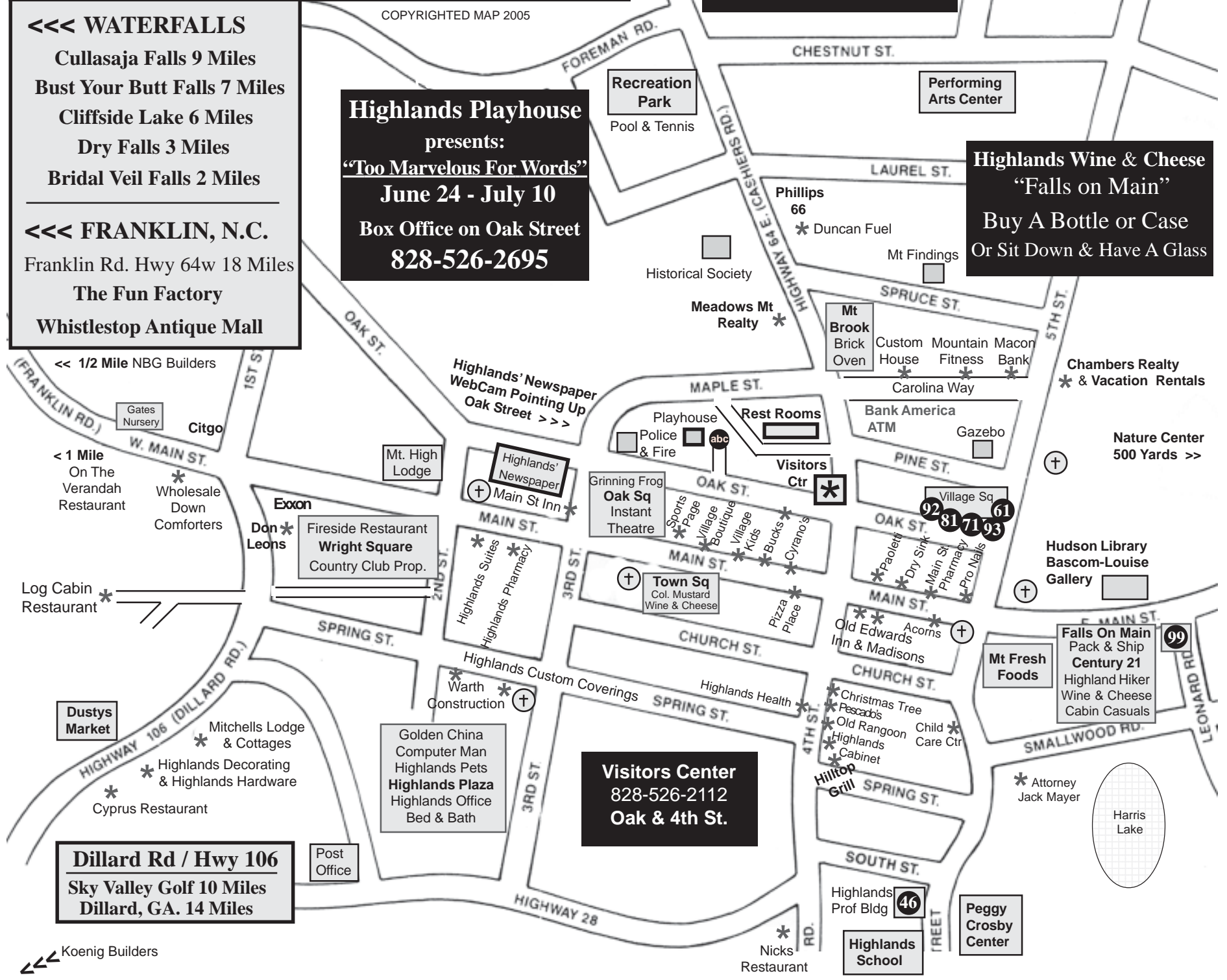
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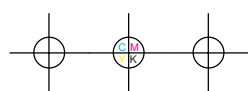
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● HIGHLANDS UPCOMING EVENTS ●

On-going

• Swimming lessons at Highlands Rec Park Monday and Wednesday for ages 3 and up. \$10 per child per week. Call 526-3556 to register.

• At Highlands Wine & Cheese at the Falls on Main, complimentary tastings Sat. from 1-4 p.m. Wine flights Friday & Saturday from 4:30-6:30 p.m.

• "Evenings of Entertainment" Friday nights at Instant Theatre Company in Oak Square on Main Street. Tickets are \$15 with reservations and \$20 at the door. Doors open at 7:45 p.m. Show starts promptly at 8 p.m. No entry after show begins. Call for reservations. 342-9197.

• Pilates classes are moving to the new Women's Center at the Hospital effective Tuesday, March 22. The classes are Tuesday and Thursdays at 5:15 p.m. All classes at the Women's Center will be \$10, or \$8 if you purchase a package of 10. Instructor: Sandie Trevathan

• Al-Anon Group meets at noon on Thursdays in the Community Room at First Presbyterian Church.

• Mountainview Alcoholics Anonymous meets in the remodeled basement room of the Presbyterian Church sanctuary, Mondays in Highlands at 8 p.m.; Tuesdays at 5:30 p.m. (women only); Wed. and Fri. at noon.

April 2

• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a 7-mile moderate hike on the foothills and Palmetto trails in SC. Meet at the Cashiers Wachovia Bank (in back) at 9 a.m. Bring a drink, lunch, and wear sturdy, comfortable shoes. Hikes are limited to 20 people. Call leader Doug Deane,

864-718-9265 for reservations.

• The annual Senior Games spring flea market is Saturday, 8 a.m.-2 p.m. in the County Community Building gym, 1288 Georgia Road, Franklin. Sale booths rent for \$20 each. Refreshments will be available for sale. For more information call Senior Games Coordinator Teresa Holbrooks at (828) 349-2090.

April 3

• A workshop for women will be held at The Instant Theatre Company's Studio on Main from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The workshop is lead by Susie Volk, M.A., M.S. Ms. Volk is a professional counselor, coach, and consultant. Her passion for mythology as inspired her to create this workshop for women who want to live fuller and happier lives. The workshop is designed as an interactive process, enriched by story telling, guided imagery, art, meditation, movement and ritual. If you would like to create order in your life, learn to access your own power and use it wisely, develop a personal identity and give life to new parts of yourself, then this workshop is for you. The cost of the all-day workshop is \$80. For more information on, and registration for, this workshop please call Ms. Volk at (845) 256-0160.

• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take an easy 2-mile hike on the Little Rock Branch Trail at Standing Indian. Meet at Westgate Plaza in Franklin (opposite Burger King) at 2 p.m. Bring a drink, a snack if you wish, and wear sturdy, comfortable shoes. Drive 28 miles round trip. Hikes are limited to 20. Call leader Kay

Coriell, 369-6820 for reservations.

April 5-7

• NC Competency Test for highschoolers at Highlands School.

April 9

• Job Fair sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Conference Center. Call 526-5941 for more info.

April 11

• Adult softball organization meeting 6 p.m. at the Rec. Park.

April 15-17

• At OEI - Burgundy Wine Weekend at The Old Edwards Inn and Spa Friday, April 15 - Sunday, April 17. For additional information or to make reservations, please call 828-526-8008.

April 18 & April 20

• An American Red Cross Adult CPR with AED, Infant/Child CPR, and First Aid Basics course, will be sponsored by the Macon County Public Health Center. The course will be held on Wednesday, April 20, 2005 from 8:30 a.m. until 5:30 p.m. at the Macon County Public Health Center at 1830 Lakeside Drive. You may take individual parts or the entire course. Participants must pre-register and pre-pay at the Macon County Public Health Center before Monday, April 18, 2005. If you have questions, please call Jennifer at 349-2439.

April 19-20

• High School Comprehensive Test for 10th Grade.

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