

Highlands' Newspaper

FREE

Volume 3, Number 31

Locally Owned & Operated

Friday, August 5, 2005

On-going

- At Bascom-Louise Gallery, "Wood Works," an exhibit of fine art works created from wood by 13 accomplished artists
- Live music at Jack's at Skyline Restaurant every Friday and Saturday nights.
- "Jerry's Girls" at Highlands Playhouse through July 31. Call 526-2695 for ticket information.
- Music and dancing at Fressers in Helen's Barn the third Thursday of each month, 8-12
- Live Music at Buck's Coffee Cafe Thursday-Saturday, 8-11 p.m.
- Piano Bar at ...on the Verandah seven nights a week accompanied by jazz guitar Tuesdays and Thursdays all at 7 p.m.
- Live music at Wolfgang's Restaurant and Wine Bistro, Mon., Wed., Thurs., 6-10 p.m.
- This Week at Highlands Wine and Cheese Shop: Complimentary Samples Saturday 12:30-4 p.m. Wine Flights Thursday-Saturday 4:30-6:30 p.m. Special Guests: Friday, Phil Edwards of Ex Cellars. Saturday: Grapevine Distributors rep Emily Krainik.

Aug. 5

- Instant Theater Little Entertainments features Cindy McConnell and John Roman. \$20 in advance \$25 at the door. Call 342-9197. All proceeds finance adult and children FREE acting classes.

Aug 5-7

- The Highgate Tour of Homes and Gardens at Highgate in Highlands, Friday through Sunday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Proceeds from the tour benefit area charitable organizations. The tax-deductible tickets are \$15. Call 526-4104.

Aug. 6

- Highlands Fire & Rescue Open House, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the station. Hotdogs and drinks will be served free of charge and rides on the fire truck are planned.
- The Macon County Art Association "Art Show & Sale," Saturday from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at Our Lady of the Mountains Catholic Church.

- Instant Theater Little Entertainments features Songwriters-in-the-Round. Saturday specials: \$15 adults, \$7 students. Call (828) 342-9197. All proceeds finance adult and children FREE acting classes.

- Bat Program at the Nature Center. 8-9 p.m. Cost is \$5 per person. Call 526-2623.

Aug. 8

- The Right Reverend John Shelby Spong presents "Diagnosing The Human Situation: We Are Not Fallen, We Are Incomplete" at PAC at 7:30 p.m. It's free.

Aug. 9

- Audubon presents "A Year in the Life of a Bird," with Georgann Schmalz, at the Rec Park, refreshments at 7, program at 7:30 p.m.

Aug. 11

- The Right Reverend John Shelby Spong presents "The Christ Story Posed Against The New Diagnosis" at PAC at 7:30 p.m. It's free.

FRI	SAT	SUN
79-63 °F	78-63 °F	76-62 °F

ETJ & annexation top on LUP list

By Erin Brown and Kim Lewicki
highlandseditor@aol.com

At the last Town Board meeting in July, which focused primarily on prioritizing the updated Land Use Plan, commissioners took a good look at the plan to decide what they wanted to tackle first.

But what to tackle first baffled them,

so Commissioner Amy Patterson asked the Planning Board to return to the Town Board with a list of top priorities for the Town.

They returned to the August 3 Town Board and suggested ETJ (extraterritorial jurisdiction) and annexation be the top priorities.

▪See ETJ page 18

Fire truck rides at Highlands Fire Dept.



Highlands Fire & Rescue Open House, Aug. 6, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the station. Hotdogs and drinks will be served free of charge and rides on the fire truck are planned.

Photo by Jim Lewicki

Town for upgraded greenway

By Kim Lewicki

highlandseditor@aol.com

Improving the town's existing greenway trail has been on the drawing board for years, and now at the Land Use Planning board's urging, it is suddenly an idea the Town Board believes is worth pursuing.

No funding was appropriated to upgrade the greenway at the Aug. 3 Town Board meeting, but commissioners said they support the concept and agreed to appoint a member of the Planning Board and town staff to a newly formed greenway committee.

Spokesmen of the greenway committee, Ran Shaffner and Hillrie Quin suggested rerouting the current greenway away from downtown streets where it now meanders to areas more "green" in town.

"Right now the trail starts at Sunset Rock continues down Horse Cove Road to Fifth Street, to Main Street, over to Pine, then over Fourth Street to the Rec Park where it meanders through the 40 acres behind the park below Oak Street and across the Mirror Lake bridge where it stops," he said.

The suggested route will come down Sunset Rock cross over Horse Cove Road to the Nature Center through the botanical gardens, Rhododendron Trail (a recent Land Trust acquisition) along Upper Lake and a piece of Big Bear Pen down to the Kelsey Trail, Fifth Street, Hickory Street, down the 4 1/2 Street hill to Chestnut over Fourth Street and on to the Rec Park.

"The proposed trail would be much more of a greenway than the current trail

▪See GREENWAY page 11

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School gym, playground, on the mend

By Kim Lewicki

highlandseditor@aol.com

Gym construction woes have spilled over into the elementary playground but with a lot of elbow grease, volunteer-hours and the go-ahead from the school board, Monday, it ought to be usable by Aug. 25th.

"We've gone a year without a playground due to the construction of the new gym," said Cindy Reed, co-chair of the playground committee.

The school board has been plagued with "new gym construction problems"

▪See PLAYGROUND page 9

Annual county funding official

By Kim Lewicki

highlandseditor@aol.com

Up until now it's all been verbal, but as of Monday night, the county officially agreed to help fund the Town of Highlands Recreation Department up to \$500,000 for four years and they put it in writing.

"They really need an answer from us on this," said Chairman Allan Bryson at the Aug. 1 meeting. "They need to know a figure so they can do their budgeting."

The Town of Highlands had requested a minimum annual contribution from the county of \$500,000 so that inflationary measures could be built in and they asked for a 15-year contract. "We don't know what's going to happen," said Highlands Commissioner Amy Patterson. "As costs go up, we may need more."

The agreement request the Town Board sent to the county was for a 15-year term, at \$500,000 per year, with the

▪See FUNDING page 22

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Middle School beautification a work in progress



Highlands School Assistant Principal and Highlands United Methodist Church pastor Kim Ingram, labored long and hard, Saturday, July 30, planting trees and landscaping the quad between the middle school and vocational wing of the school. On Friday, the Schiffli family helped, too, weeding and hoeing. The Mountain Garden Club donated \$1,600 to the school for the project. The money was used to buy cedar chips, two maple trees and two rhododendron bushes. John Shearl constructed a drainage field to divert water from the mucky area. Much more is planned for the area.

Photo by Kim Lewicki

• LETTERS TO THE EDITOR •

Historical Society says 'thanks'

Dear Editor:

Great strides have been made this year in completing the restoration of the Historic Village which includes the old library building and the oldest house within the town limits. There is still more work to be done and that work is progressing through the generosity of individuals, organizations and governmental entities.

On behalf of the Society's Board of Directors, I say a heartfelt "Thank You" to one and all for the recent donations that we have received. A special Thank You goes to Mountain Findings which has supported our efforts for the past several years. Also thanks to the Town of Highlands for its continued support. The HHS Grants Committee has successfully received funds from several entities.

We are striving to have the Museum/Archive open on a regular basis throughout the remainder of the season. The hours that we can open are dependent on the volunteer staff that we have. If you are able to serve as a Hostess/Host for a 3-hour period on Friday or Saturday beginning at 11 a.m., please call us at 787-1050 and leave us your name and phone number. All help, both financial or volunteer time is greatly appreciated.

Wiley Sloan
President

FBI owes community explanation

Dear Editor,

The area newspapers in Asheville and Franklin have publicized the FBI's investigation of Dr. Miles Hyman's drug prescriptions. The FBI has not reported results of its investigation.

■ See LETTERS page 6

• OBITUARIES •

Ellen Esther Shields Breckinridge

Ellen Esther Shields Breckinridge, 91, of Highlands, NC, died on June 22, 2005, at the Fidelia Eckerd Living Center. Born on September 5, 1913 in Colorado Springs, Colorado, she lived in New Orleans, LA with her late husband, Preston Marshall Breckinridge after their marriage in 1938. She moved to Highlands, NC after his death in 1971.

Ellen was a member of the Junior League of New Orleans. In Highlands she served on the Vestry of the Episcopal Church of the Incarnation, and was head of the altar guild. She was a past treasurer of the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital Auxiliary, and served on the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital Board (1979-1983). For many years she was treasurer of Mountain Findings.

Ellen was an avid needle pointer, and stitched kneelers and chair seats for Incarnation, the Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd in Cashiers, and the Highlands United Methodist Church. She was a member of the Sapphire Valley Chapter of the American Needlepoint Guild, and a founding member of the S&B Group.

She is survived by her children Barbara Breckinridge Cusachs of Highlands and R. John Marshall Breckinridge and wife Madelon of Wintergreen, VA, 6 grandchildren, Charlotte C. Bujoreanu, Preston E. Cusachs, Kendall C. Andrews, Katherine B. Graham, Elizabeth B. Haines, and Bonny B. DiNovo, 9 great-grandchildren, and sister-in-law Jean Shields and niece Leila Shields Chapman, both of Highlands. Honorary pallbearers are Preston E. Cusachs, Robert G. Andrews, Maricel Bujoreanu, Ford F. Graham, David K. Haines, and Anthony A. DiNovo.

A memorial service will be held Friday, August 5, 2005 at 11 a.m. at the Episcopal Church of the Incarnation in Highlands. A reception will follow after the service. Memorial gifts may be made to Incarnation, PO Box 729, Highlands, N.C. 28741 or to the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital, 190 Hospital Dr., Highlands, N.C. 28741.

Bryant Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Linda Elizabeth Spitzer

Linda Elizabeth Spitzer, age 56, of Highlands, died Monday, August 1, 2005 at the Eckerd Living Center. She was born in Dade County, FL, the daughter of the late Arthur W. and Mary Hunt Spitzer. She was a lab technician and had worked for Proctor & Gamble and GNC. She attended Highlands Presbyterian Church. She is survived by her sister, Cathy Crane of Highlands, NC and a brother, Jim Spitzer of Hazelton, Idaho.

A memorial service will be held at a later date. Bryant Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

County OKs Highlands free clinic

By Kim Lewicki

highlandseditor@aol.com

With the final word from the Macon County Board of Commissioners, the Community Care Clinic of Highlands is set to open sometime in September.

At Monday night's meeting, commissioners voted to allow the clinic to use the Buck Creek Health Department facility, located on the lower level of the building.

"Two doctors in Highlands have offered to man the clinic one night a week," said Chairman Allan Bryson. "It's for people in the community with no insurance but who need to see a doctor."

On July 7, chairman of the clinic committee, Ginger Slaughter met with Bryson and Director of Macon County Health Department, Ken Ring at the facility.

"Mr. Ring approved the partnership of his department with our free health clinic, permitting us to use their health facility on Buck Creek Road during the Health Department's non-operating hours," said Slaughter.

Bryson said the health department

is giving up a closet in the facility to serve as an office for the doctors and director and will provide space to lock up medicine in the storage area. No narcotics will be on the premises, just samples of antibiotics and other common medicines, said Bryson. The Macon County Health Department lab will be used for tests.

The clinic will be open one night a week, probably Thursday, from 5-9 p.m., 52 weeks a year, said Slaughter. "We expect to serve 10-16 patients a week at no cost." A \$5 donation per patient will be suggested but not required.

Primary health care services will be offered uninsured people with incomes at or below 150 percent of the poverty level who live and work in the Highlands area. "But no one who is uninsured will be turned away no matter where they work or live," said Slaughter.

Referrals to specialists who have also agreed to provide services free or at a reduced cost will be made as needed.

Bryson said as soon as the county can make the needed renovations, the clinic can open.



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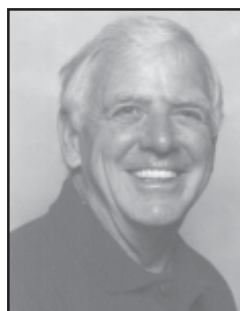
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• LOOKING AT LIFE •

The little missus – Her friends still call her Saint Maddy!

She was only 19 when I first laid eyes on her, a dark-haired, brown-eyed, French/Italian knockout. Maddy went to the beach with friends to work on her already perfect tan and swim in the ocean. I had done the same and now our blankets were less than 20 feet apart.



Fred Wooldridge

She went into the water and so did I. From her glances I was sure she was interested. At one point we were less than six feet apart but I was too timid to speak. Nothing happened.

After much coercing from my buddies, I decided to make my move. I strutted over to her

blanket. "Anyone have a light?" (Is that corny?) In those days, everyone smoked but nerds. No one moved, except the lil missus, who offered her lighter. That was it.

I wonder, to this day, if she knew she would eventually become a policeman's wife, would she have been so quick with her offer. She has always said yes, but still I wonder. She was not happy the day I told her I had been accepted on the force but she never interfered or objected.

Maddy worked for the FBI in Miami for 10 years before our first child was born. Now, with a son in our home, the announcement of another policeman's death took on a

deeper concern for her. Then there was a second child, then another. How would she ever raise three small children if her husband was killed? Miami became more dangerous with each passing day.

Life got even harder for her the day I was assigned to work narcotics. Little did either of us know I would spend the next 10 years working dope, four of those undercover. It was a very scary time for both of us.

At church on Sunday, Maddy would march down the aisle with her three small children and her dirt-bag husband in tow. I had hair to my shoulders and a scruffy beard. People

•See WOOLDRIDGE page 8

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• MOVIE PIX •

Phantom Of The Opera,

The 2004 Gothic/romance/musical, Starring Gerald Butler, Emmy Rossum, Patrick Wilson, and Minnie Driver. Directed by Joel Schumacher, who's directing credits include such diverse films as Batman Forever, Lost Boys, and the Client. Musical composition by Andrew Lloyd Webber, who also produced, co-wrote, designed much of the set, and I believe hand made the little canopies for the cast party. Based upon the novel "Le Fantôme de l'Opéra" by GASTON LEROUX.

The Storyline: (which I assume most people are familiar with, but for those that are not, I'll skip some of the plot points) Our tale begins at an auction in Paris, 1919, where many of the items that made the sets of the famed and celebrated Opera Populaire are being sold off. In a brilliant scene and tone change, every bit as stunning and dramatic as Dorthy's exit from her tornado tossed home, we jump back to 1870 to see the opera house in its heyday. And quite a heyday it is, with beautiful women, fat tenors, stunning dancers, and well heeled patrons. And of course, an ingenue with a tragic childhood who yearns for stardom (Emmy Rossum, from Songcatcher, Day After tomorrow, and Mystic River, really is the best actor in the show), the requisite Diva, who can only be described as less than charitable by the most charitable of describers (Minnie Driver does her customarily brilliant job, as expected, in the role of La Carlotta), toss in a handsome love interest (Patrick Wilson as Raoul) and you got a show. Oh, actually, there is someone else, a little less visible to start with, The Phantom, who moves at top speed through rafters and catwalks, basements and sewers, and has the ability to make really impressive organ music sound out whenever he's about to something scary (a fine job by Gerald Butler, from Dear Frankie and Timeline). A series of unexpected (to anyone but those watching the film) events occur and the young soprano gets a chance to sing the lead in the place of the aforementioned diva, and in the process, catches the eye of the handsome young patron. Her other admirer (you guessed it, The Phantom) gets jealous and all kinds of bad things (and visually stunning and well filmed things they are) start to happen. Tragedy, romance, sword fights and high notes ensue.

I really liked the movie, both the



Stuart Armor
Movie Stop Video

story and the filming technique, and the music will blow you away. I do have to say I wasn't much impressed with the quality of the singing. For a musical, they could have put a bit more into it. But the costuming, scenery, lights and sound are pretty close to flawless. There are some very real differences in stage work verses film, but Schunmacher and

Webber really do a great job of it. And it is not just an image fest either, the story, whether you are familiar with it or seeing it for the first time is compelling, scary, romantic, and more. For more musical opulence, try Chicago and Moulin Rouge, Cats, and one that is lessor known and a little stranger, American Pop.

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Aug. 5-11

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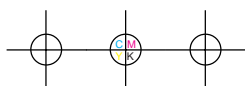


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The Lower Level of the Peggy Crosby Center on S. 5th Street.

Mountain Findings keeps on giving

On July 1, more than 40 volunteers gathered for the annual Mountain Findings General Meeting.

The primary purpose of this annual meeting is to determine the distribution of donations.

Mountain Findings was started in 1969 by a small group of women who saw the need of a thrift store to collect and sell household items with the profits going "to public welfare, for religious, charitable, or educational purposes."

Surely these women did not visualize that 36 years later, their project would result in Mountain Findings donating \$65,000 this year to their vision of helping the community and people of Highlands.

A huge thank-you goes to every person who donates household items and also to each person who comes by to shop and buy at Mountain Findings.

This year 20 organizations will receive donations from Mountain Findings. Each year as the volunteers determine how funds will be distributed, they examine how the organization benefits



Highlands Cemetery Fund: Richard Betz accepts a check in the amount of \$3,000 from Mirella Matassi. The cemetery depends on charitable donations such as this to maintain this part of Highlands' history and past.

our community, how funds have been utilized in the past, and any upcoming specific needs the group may have.

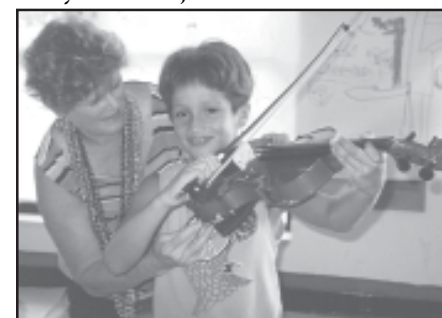
Rec Park Day Campers get Cajun lessons

Campers at Highlands Recreation Park Day Camp created original works of art for the Cajun Music and Dance Festival Poster contest on Tuesday.

They were given a little inspiration by Carolina Cajun Dancer Anita Williams and Janet Wilson. The campers learned some of the history of the Cajun people of South Louisiana and about their French heritage.

They got a sample of the culture with a Mardi Gras dance lead by Anita Williams dressed in a traditional, country Mardi Gras costume.

They were also



Janet Wilson instructs on the proper position for playing the Cajun fiddle.

treated to some toe tapping, hand clapping Cajun music and got to try their musical talents by playing the fiddle.

All of the poster contest entries will be displayed at the Cajun Music and Dance Festival on Sunday, September 4 at 7 p.m., at PAC.

This is a fund raiser for PAC and tickets are \$25 and can be purchased at Don Leon's Deli Cafe, Let Holly Do The Cooking, The Toy Store and PAC. Come see the art and "put on a good time" with lots of food, fun, music and dancing.

Dubberly returns for 13th Bel Canto

Stephen Dubberly, music director of the University of North Texas Opera Theater, will for the 13th year be the accompanist for the Bel Canto recital on Sunday, Aug. 21 at PAC.

Since its inception, Bel Canto has relied on Dr. Dubberly to provide the kind of support every vocalist has endorsed with enthusiasm and every audience has found to be a vital part of every program.

Appearing with Dr. Dubberly and opera star Stella Zambalis at the recital will be Kelly Anderson, American Baritone, who will be heard in Highlands for the first time.

Tickets are available for the recital and wine reception and buffet at Highlands Falls Country Club.



Stephen Dubberly returns.

... LETTERS continued from page 2

If no irregularities are found, the FBI should report it promptly.

It is obvious that reporting an investigation of a doctor's prescription file raises a presumption of guilt.

My interest in this case? Dr. Hyman has made it possible for me to live virtually pain-free for the last five years in this beautiful little mountain village.

T.C. Merchant, Jr.
Highlands

Note: Merchant graduated from the University of Florida Law School, Harvard Business School, and studied at Oxford University and edited his family newspaper for 50 years.

Note: He also proofreads and edits Highlands' Newspaper.



Instant's summer High School Acting Students accept a grant for \$2,500 from HCF). From left: Devin deHoll, Lauren Snyder, April Hicks, HCF Chair Sam Hollis, Callie Rawlins, Hannah Krumholdt, Cate Cochran, and Victoria Jenkins
Photo by Adam Heffernan

Instant Theatre gets \$2,500 grant

With help from a \$2,500 grant from The Highlands Community Foundation (HCF), The Instant Theatre Company will be able to continue a program of providing free acting classes to local children.

"Our board is committed to supporting the arts in Highlands," said HCF Chair Sam Hollis, "It is especially important to involve students in creative projects like those at The Instant Theatre Company to develop an appreciation for the arts at an early age."

The HCF grant will cover a portion of classroom rent, scripts, textbooks, props, costumes, set materials and instructor fees for a fall production by Instant Theatre students. "We are dedicated to nurturing creative talent in young people," said Adam Heffernan, Instant's artistic director. "This gift from the Highlands Community Foundation allows us to continue offering our free classes to students who otherwise wouldn't have an opportunity at theatre training."

A group of part and full time residents established the Highlands Community Foundation in 1996 as a permanent resource for funding nonprofit organizations in Highlands.

Over the years many residents have made gifts to the Foundation, helping build assets that are dedicated to supporting local charities.

The HCF is an affiliate of The Community Foundation of Western North Carolina, a 27-year-old nonprofit organization that serves the 18 western mountain counties and professionally manages 700 charitable funds totaling more than \$125 million. Each fund ranges in size from \$5,000 to \$9 million, and supports a different charitable purpose as specified by the person who created it. A fund may be established using many different types of assets and can benefit a certain geographic area, like Highlands, a specific nonprofit organization or broad area of interest, such as helping children in need.

For more information on The Highlands Community Foundation, call Chair Sam Hollis at (828) 526-5053. To learn more about The Community Foundation of Western North Carolina, call (828) 254-4960 or visit www.cfwnc.org. For more information on The Instant Theatre Company call (828) 526-1687 or visit www.InstantTheatre.org.

Highlands School athletic team practices begins

Boys Soccer

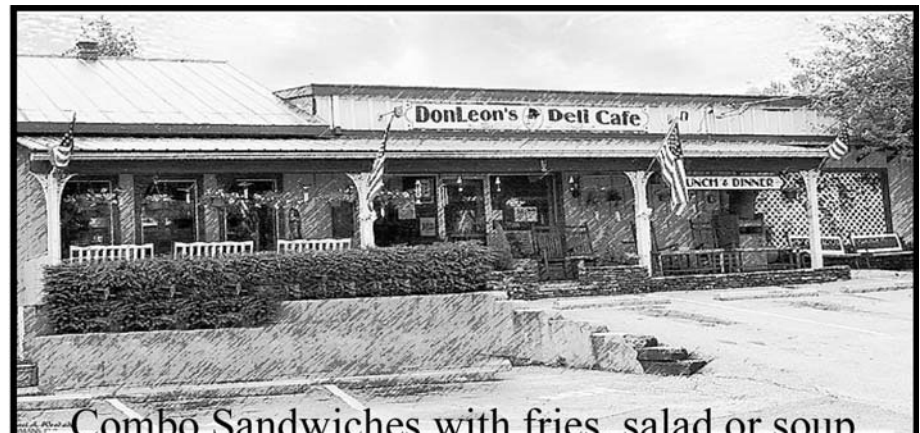
- Conditioning Practice has started. Anyone boys interested in playing on this year's team, please contact Coach David Parrish at 421-5391 for more information on times and locations.

Varsity Girls Volleyball

- Practice with Coach Rawlins starts August 8 at 5 p.m.

Co-ed Cross Country

- Anyone interested in running meet with Coach Thomas every morning until school starts, at 8 a.m. at the track.



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Artists lining up for B-L wine & art auction



The Fine Art Center-Bascom Louise Gallery continues to gather together artists and their creative donations for the annual "Art & Wine Auction" weekend, Sept. 30 and Oct. 1. The weekend will begin on Friday night, Sept. 30 with a wine tasting, bids on silent auction items and a-to-be auctioned on-site painting by local artist Juylan Davis. Saturday night, Oct. 1, there is to be a seated dinner, the closing of the silent auction followed by a live auction of fine wines and art. To reserve your ticket, or a table, or for more information, call The Fine Art Center at 526-4949. Above is artist Helena Meek's "Wine and Vegetables."

... WOOLDRIDGE continued from page 4

would shake their heads in disbelief at how such an attractive woman with those lovely children could get hooked up with such a slimy character. But the lil missus never allowed herself to be embarrassed. She held her head high with the personal knowledge that her husband was taking drug dealers off the street. She could tell no one.

When the phone rang at three in the morning, she would wake with a jolt and pray it was not the call all police officers' wives dread. It happened often. This time, I had gone to work in the afternoon and was now calling to tell her I was in New York on a drug buy. I would not be home for days. You just can't imagine what she went through unless you personally experienced it.

She went to a few funerals with me. One, an FBI agent and good friend of ours, Ben Grogan, had been gunned down in the street during a wild shootout in Miami. The sorrow was overwhelming and she couldn't help but think if her time to grieve for me was coming soon. It never did. I eventually retired and life became a little calmer for both of us.

Adding to her stress, there was rappelling. Our youngest son was

only six when I first coached him off a hundred foot cliff, much to Maddy's disbelief. She sat quietly for years as I taught each child how to play on the cliffs. The torture of watching them step out on the precipice was unnerving for her. She never interfered, knowing I would do nothing that would harm them. Eventually, she put on the harness and stepped from that same 100 foot cliff. She was, and still is, such a good wife and mother.

When I write, she is my first and most crucial critic. An "A" student in English and grammar, almost nothing gets by her. Sometimes she applies tough love. We debate, she wins, and I continue writing. How can she be smarter than "spell check?"

We have been married forever. (Don't ask!) Through all the good times and some really bad times, there was always love, sometimes very strong, sometimes seemingly nonexistent, but it was, and is, always there.

When it is time for Maddy to meet with her maker, she will simply say to the Lord, "I was married to Fred Wooldridge" and POW, the gates will open.



Hospital gets new equipment for exercise, therapy program

Exercise and therapy patients at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital are now benefiting from a major new resource for increasing their strength and fitness.

The hospital recently purchased more than \$45,000 of state-of-the-art strengthening equipment for its HealthTracks and Physical Therapy programs. The 12 exercise machines, made by the Cybex Corporation, constitute a complete line of equipment designed to work every major muscle group in the body.

"We are thrilled. This Cybex equipment is some of the best exercise equipment on the market today," said Yvonne Smith, RD, MHS, and director of HealthTracks. "This will allow us to significantly expand the exercise options available to members of HealthTracks."

The new equipment replaced several, more limited pieces of Cybex equipment and a Schwin Multi-exercise machine. As a result of the new arrangement, more people will actually be able to strength train at one time. And the equipment is located in a central area, allowing it to be shared by both the hospital's fitness program (HealthTracks) and physical therapy. Both programs are located in the lower level of the Jane Woodruff Medical Building.

"This is a great situation because it allows the patients of both programs to

benefit without any duplication," said Alan Frederick, PT, and director of the hospital's Physical Therapy department. "This is going to give our therapists a lot more treatment options to offer our patients. We also hope to be able to offer personal fitness training to interested individuals in the near future."

In all, the equipment will likely benefit quite a number of patients and residents, including those in the hospital's cardiac rehabilitation program, osteoporosis therapy, weight-loss programs, and other wellness offerings.

As with most new equipment the hospital purchases, this was made possible through donations to the hospital's Foundation.

"Without the support from people who recognize and understand the importance of having a state-of-the-art medical facility close by, the hospital could not continue to provide the standard of care that we have all come to expect," said Jack A. Calloway, president of the Foundation. "Keeping pace with modern technology is crucial, whether it's offering up-to-date fitness equipment or saving lives in the emergency room. We must have financial support in order to provide our physicians and staff with the best technology possible."

... PLAYGROUND continued from page 1

for the better part of a year.

"It's true," said school board chair Donnie Edwards. "Construction crews trashed the playground."

Though much of the playground equipment is antiquated, it was usable until construction began on the gym. The playground was used as a dump for construction debris and the swing set and fencing was damaged in the process.

"Basically we're asking for new fencing, wood chips, and maybe some manpower to get this back in shape so the kids can use it," said committee co-chair Assistant Principal Mark Thomas.

Chief Executive Officer of Macon County Schools, Terry Bell, said his crews were slammed and they probably couldn't do more than remove the construction debris and boulders littering the playground. "But we can probably have

■See **PLAYGROUND** page 22

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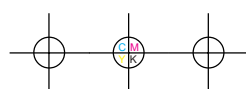
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The entry landscape of the Warner Home was designed by Will Goodman & Associates of Atlanta and contains a gently curved stone wall with a lawn bisected with a path to the front door.

Highgate Tour of Homes – Aug 5-7 –

The Highlands Cashiers Highgate Foundation will once again host the Highgate Tour of Homes and Gardens at Highgate in Highlands. There will be a number of interesting and diverse homes on the tour. Among them will be a unique 1870s log cabin moved from Tennessee to serve as a guest house for the larger main home that is a converted barn from Pennsylvania. The gardens were designed by Atlanta Landscape Architect Mary Palmer Dargan.

"Moss Creek," formerly a contemporary clubhouse, has been transformed into an Australian farmhouse-style family mountain home with the help of architect C. Allen Brown of Cashiers, interior designer Jim Herbst of Memphis and Naples and landscape designer John McCauley. Three of the four bedrooms were built over the former pool.

Antique double doors invite one into the elegant entry of the Costello House designed by Jack Davis of Atlanta. The Keeping Room is the hub of the home where cooking, dining and relaxing by the fireplace are all combined in this wonderful area. Don't miss the cozy porch with a

charming fireplace and rustic laurel railing overlooking a beautiful mountain range.

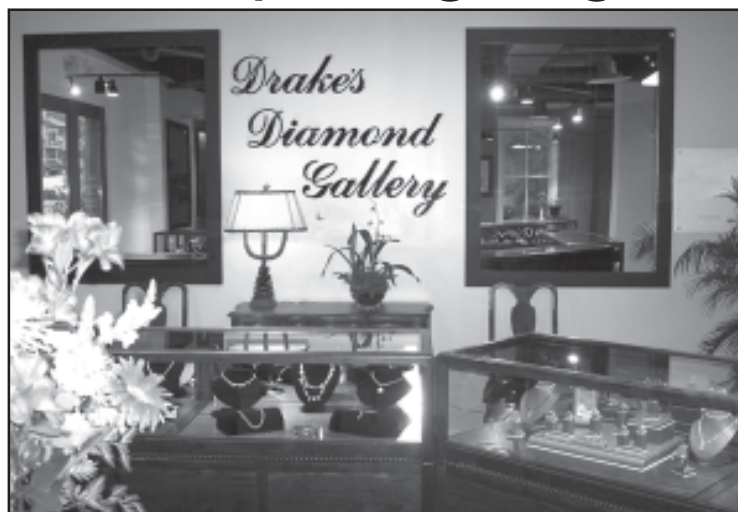
The Warner House was designed by the noted Augusta architect John Sandeford, and the landscape was planned by Will Goodman of Atlanta. Featuring an exterior of cedar shakes, the focal point in this home is the stone fireplace in the vaulted ceiling living room.

The Bennett House was originally designed by John Sandeford with modifications by Jack Davis. It is a log home that epitomizes mountain living and features a large covered porch with a stone fireplace. The delightful landscape was created by Paul Sanger.

In addition to the gardens of the homes on tour, other gardens in Highgate will be open to those attending. The tour will be held August 5-7 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Proceeds from the tour benefit area charitable organizations. The tax deductible tickets are \$15 and can be purchased at Highgate during tour hours. There is ample on-site parking available. For additional information, call (828) 526-4104 or toll-free (888) 454-4342.

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Highlander Lucy Herz, 16, a Rotary Exchange student, exchanged with Myriam Milcent, 15, from France who is staying with the Herz family a few weeks this summer.
Photo by Erin Brown

Two girls' summer exchange

By Erin Brown

highlandserin@aol.com

Highlands may be a small town, but its youth are clearly well-traveled and it's become a destination of sorts for youth from around the world.

The most recent visitor to Highlands is Myriam Milcent, 15, a member of the Rotary Exchange Program who is staying with the Herz family a few weeks this summer. Lucy Herz, 16, a Highlands School sophomore who did a summer exchange this year, stayed with Milcent's family in Mortagne-au-perche for a month and said it was very different from Highlands.

"It was a very small town, but everyone lived downtown, not like in Highlands where everyone lives on the outskirts of the town," said Herz. "I think I like the European towns better."

Herz said her host family, who live in a home on the beaches of Normandy, took her to Paris, castles and 15th century manors in the surrounding countryside.

"Since Normandy is famous for

horses, we also went horse-back riding," she said with a smile.

As is the summer exchange custom, Milcent came home with Herz to visit America. Herz couldn't be happier. She said it has really made her realize what a special place Highlands is. So far she and her family have already taken Milcent hiking on Whiteside Mountain and to Atlanta to the Martin Luther King Jr. Center. Herz said they also plan to take Milcent to Tallahassee and on day-trips around the area.

"There is so much to do around here that I haven't done at all," Herz said.

Milcent is staying for five weeks and found out about the program through her mother who is a German teacher. Milcent speaks French, German and English and Herz said she speaks German better than English. Herz said the language barrier hasn't been much of a problem because they both help each other out.

"It's very different, but so far it has been a lot of fun," Milcent said.

... GREENWAY continued from page 1

through town, said Shaffner.

Both Quin and Shaffner said the proposed variations are just suggestions, but it's a start.

Quin, who has worked on establishing greenways in several areas in Georgia and Florida, has been through the planning, implementing, designing and maintaining of greenways.

"The most important thing is to establish a comprehensive plan rather than a piecemeal approach," he said. "First decide where the best place is."

He said most greenways follow the natural features of an area and said the use of the town's GIS system and capa-

bilities would be helpful in laying out the expanded greenway.

He said beside the obvious healthful benefits of a greenway trail within a town setting, a greenway can actually offer a transportation alternative while linking historical areas and structures.

Quin said since 1988 the establishment of greenways has been an important aspect of many municipalities in the United States. "Forty-four states have 150 land trust initiatives and greenways in urban areas have been around for 400-500 years."

Every commissioner supported the idea.



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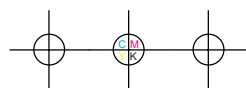
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The story behind Collin Paxton

By Erin Brown

highlandserin@aol.com

To many, Collin Wilcox Paxton is an enigma, a puzzle of stage, screen and script, who in 1962, portrayed May Ella Violet Ewell in the film adaptation of "To Kill A Mockingbird;" to others, those few whom she keeps close, she is much more than the sum of her parts.

"In the old days of Highlands, there were locals, and a local was at least someone whose grandfather was born here – but if you lived here a long, long time then the locals considered you a Highlander. None of that made any difference to me because this is my home," she said. "This is the only home I've ever known." Some would beg to differ, because Paxton has made it quite clear that her "home away from home" is the stage.

Paxton's father, a Canadian, was a professor of socio-economics and was the town clerk for Highlands back in the 40s. Her mother, who was originally from Atlanta, was president of the PTA in the late 30s and helped work to create the first school hot lunch program. She and her friend Bess Hines started the first daycare center where Nick's Restaurant is now. Paxton's parents started The Highlands Community Theater in 1940 and today it is Highlands Playhouse. In fact, Paxton's father built the Highlands Playhouse stage.

"The unique thing about the Highlands Community Theater was that they always had professional directors, although mainly they used community actors. They would bring in a sprinkling of professional actors," Paxton said. "The good thing about bringing in occasional professional actors is that you are raising the bar for the amateur actors."

In the 1940s Highlands had very little to choose from in the form of live entertainment; there was Helen's Barn and the Galax Theater, but Highlands Community Theater offered local people the chance to experience the thrill of the stage.

"It was a community theater in the best sense of the word," she said. "Everybody was just so excited about creating this new thing."

With her first role as a dead woman in "Our Town" at the age of nine, the dye was cast and Paxton wanted to maintain the thrill.

"It was so exciting because it was a free performing arts education," Paxton said. "We just parked ourselves at that theater all summer long."

Her father, Jack Wilcox, believed an actor should know all aspects of theater and above all taught his daughter the importance of community. Paxton obtained her theater education from the ground up, build-



Collin as May Ella Violet Ewell in "Too Kill A Mockingbird" with William Windom playing her lawyer.

ing sets, helping with costumes and lighting and even cleaning the bathrooms.

When her mother, Virginia Randall Wilcox, played the role of a housekeeper in "The Late Christopher Bean," Paxton was so captivated by her performance she had to be carried from the theater screaming when her mother left the stage. "My mother was leaving – she picked up her suitcase and was leaving," she said laughing. "It was that real to me."

She said seeing her mother portray her other many roles in plays such as "The Corn is Green," "The Doctor in Spite of Himself" and "The Beautiful People," made her realize just how inventive their theater was because they were on such a limited budget. They made it work creating wigs out of dyed mops and buttons made of gold painted clothes pins.

"My mother was an astounding actress, and my father was very gifted," she said. Paxton shared one story about the cast dyeing a number of bed sheets blue to create the backdrop of a production "Escape Me Never" with Edie Summer Soderberg. Soderberg wrote "Room Full of Roses" which starred Patricia Neil on Broadway and later with her husband co-wrote the popular soap opera "As The World Turns." Soderberg was crying because there were little white spots all through the backdrop, but Paxton, who was five at the time, said, "Oh Edie, but they're clouds. It was wonderful," she said. "It was making do."

Paxton said once she was up there, on stage, she couldn't ever conceive of doing anything else, "Why would anyone want to?" she said.

Around 1948 her father persuaded the town to allow the Highlands Community Theater to rent the building for a \$1 a year. They were only responsible for upkeep and that charter still remains to this day.

Paxton worked with the Carousel Theater in Knoxville, Tenn., but her father insisted she take two years of college and she obliged him, but not without a fight.

"I think he just wanted me around for two more years," she said. "Southern girls can be awfully young."

She ventured to the Goodman Memorial School of Drama in Chicago and realized she had a lot more experience than the other students. She learned the history of theater, make-up and speech.

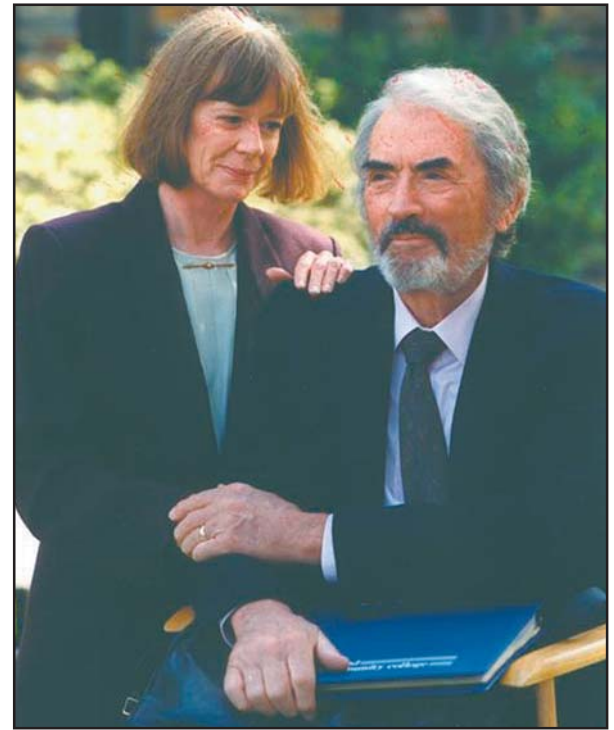
"That was my jumping off point to Broadway," she said. "I had this idea that to be on the Broadway stage they literally wouldn't let you across the bridge if you weren't a good actor; that New York was full of nothing but good actors."

But with 1950 a sinister cloud spread across the nation and even into The Highlands Community Theater. It was closed because of a fear of Communist ideals. The McCarthy trials terrified people into questioning and labeling those intellectuals they suspected of communism and forcing them literally underground.

"It was fearsome then," she said. "I just knew people were terrified."

The theater suffered because of the rumors and didn't reopen its doors to the community until 1957 when Jack Wilcox was asked to reopen the theater because of the growing tourist population. Paxton returned to the Highlands stage that summer in "The Four Poster." The following winter she made her Broadway debut in "The Day the Money Stopped," but she seldom missed a summer to return to Highlands and act on her father's stage.

Paxton said she was fortunate enough to have as a mentor "the late and great" Geraldine Page, who told her she must study with Lee Strasberg at The Actors Studio in New York City. Paxton went through the three grueling auditions and was judged not only by Lee



Collin and co-star, the late Gregory Peck in a television film, "Painting Churches."

Strasberg, but also by Elia Kazan and Cheryl Crawford and Arthur Penn.

"If they thought you were any good you were a member for life," she said. "I was in a covey of good actors, Kim Stanley, Geraldine Page, Paul Newman, Joanne Woodward – just everybody that was anybody on the New York stage."

Paxton said she had an advantage which she didn't know at the time, but it was her stage technique and her maneuvering around the stage which let the audition panel know she had stage presence and also, knew how to project her voice.

"Lee Strasberg gave me the voice of my own intuition," she said. "It was a time when literally it seemed as if everybody who was on Broadway knew each other. It was my breakfast at Tiffany's time."

On Broadway, Paxton played in "Strange Interlude," "The Family Way," "Crazy October," "The Day the Money Stopped," "La Bonne Soup," "Period of Adjustment" and "Look We've Come Through" including many other off Broadway plays.

During her first Broadway show Paxton made \$150 a week, which she thought was a "princely salary." Not knowing the cost of rooms, she decided to stay at the Waldorf-Astoria and when the bill came she was forced to telegram her father. He sent her a check, writing on the bottom – for bail.

"The letter said, 'When you do better, I'll do better,'" she said with a smile.

Paxton said her father was responsible for not letting her ego get in the way of her work and was also responsible for teaching her how to think.

"To really learn the difference between thinking and an emotional response to something," she said. Paxton's father died in 1968, and she said the theater wasn't as strong without his influence.

After Broadway Paxton made her way to the London stage after Tennessee Williams saw Paxton as Isabel in his play "Period of Adjustment" where she played opposite William Wyndam. The Royal Court in London wanted to produce the play but Tennessee said they could only do it if they cast me as "Isabel," she said almost unbelievably.

The play was a huge success. It moved from The Royal Court to Wyndams Theatre on the West End.

"That was the first time I saw my name in lights above the marquee," she said. "I was always the last

■See COLLIN page 13



Note: Highlands School junior Rachel Power is one of Highlands Rotary outgoing exchange students. She will be keeping us informed of her Chilean escapades throughout the year.

- News from Arica, Chili, part 1 - Heading out for a new world

By Rachel Power

Highlands Rotary Exchange Student

After 16 years of living in Highlands, I am ready to experience something new. Thanks to the Highlands Rotary Club, I am going to experience a different culture, and become totally submerged in another language for my junior year in high school.

I will miss a lot of things in Highlands. I will miss the mountains, the enormous amounts of rain, and of course my family and friends. I will miss most of the people that I know here. I know that I will see some of them when I come back, and some I will never see again. But all in all, I am very excited to go on the Exchange Program to Chile.

To help you understand my upcoming adventure I will give you a little insight on Chile. Chile is the longest country in the world, and is bordered by Peru, Bolivia and Argentina. All of Chile's western shoreline is Pacific seashore. Think of California for the USA. Now stretch California until it's a small strip of land-that's Chile. It is 2,880 miles long, and from west to east, it stretches out to only 265 miles at its widest point.

There are three major climates for this long strip of land. In the north, it is desert. The Atacama Desert lies in the north of Chile, which is the world's driest region. In the central region the climate is Mediterranean and Temperate. And in the south, it is cool and damp. But is very close to Antarctica, so there are glaciers and Chile has claimed Antarctic territory.

The location of Chile that I will be

staying in for the following year is in Arica, which is in the north. There are a few differences with Arica and Highlands.

Arica is a city that lies on a beach. The closest beach to Highlands is probably Myrtle Beach. Rain doesn't exist in Arica. Neither do grassy hills, or mountains with blankets of trees covering them. But there is the constancy of sunshine and great weather. It is considered, "Eternal Spring", b/c the weather is always like springtime.

And then there is the obvious difference in the language. I will be fluent in Spanish when I come back from Chile.

The interesting thing about Arica is that I will be closer to Peru than the rest of Chile. Arica is only 11 miles away from the southern border of Peru. Arica is also a very important seaport for Chile, Peru, Bolivia and Argentina.

My host family, the Garcias are very excited to see me, and vice-versa. The father owns an exporting/importing company in Arica. I will also have a host sister who is 12 years old, like my own sister. They have son who is 17 and is also doing the exchange, but is going to New York. I won't see him while I am there, but I will probably have his room.

The school I will be attending is called Junior College. Some countries call the high schools colleges. It is a private school, and for the first time in my life, I will need to wear a uniform. I don't know what the uniforms style is going to be, but I know the school colors are navy blue and yellow, kind of like Highlands School. They don't have any school-organized sports like here, but there are club sports, like rugby, soccer,

... COLLIN continued from page 12

out of the theater, and I remember walking out just as the marquee started to flick off each letter, C-o-l-l-i-n-W-I-l-c-o-x and I said, 'that's what being a star is.'

Paxton shared a joke about the life span of an actor - Who is Collin Wilcox? Get me Collin Wilcox. Get me a Collin Wilcox type. Get me a young Collin Wilcox. Who is Collin Wilcox?

Paxton said her biggest challenge as an actor was overcoming a lateral lisp which prevented her from enunciating the t-h sound properly.

"I had a devil of a time with Shakespeare, but I mastered it," she said.

After London she traveled to Italy and Spain before returning to New York and finally Hollywood.

Unbeknownst to Paxton her most memorable role was about to land right in her lap. A role which would define more than the actors themselves, but would unleash a torrent of prejudicial

rain upon its participants.

Robert Mulligan cast Paxton as Mayella Violet Ewell in "To Kill A Mockingbird" for two reasons; the first because he knew her work having cast her before in "Member of the Wedding" and the second because she looked like hell in the audition.

"The other three or four young actresses who auditioned all put on lipstick and mascara and their hair was all done, and I knew what I had to look like. I had cold cream in my hair, no make-up on. I had some little old ragged dress on, and I wore pumps with socks. I copied her after someone I'd seen on Main Street in Highlands," she said.

Paxton said none of the members of the cast had any idea what a success the film would become.

She recounted her scene in the trial where she is accusing a black man, Tom Robinson, played by Brock Peters, of



Arica is also a very important seaport for Chile, Peru, Bolivia and Argentina.

volleyball and tennis. I would like to try rugby, and join their soccer team.

I am very excited about the city I am staying in, and meeting new people. I have heard that everyone in South America is very friendly, welcoming and

love to have fun. They seemed to be more relaxed than Americans, and take their time with things. I also can't wait to experience a different culture and learn a new language. I will hopefully keep Highlands informed about my trip and what I have experienced for my next year.

rape. Atticus Finch, played by Gregory Peck, cross-examines her.

"It was a wonderful time and there were so many good actors in it," she said.

It was volatile time because of what was happening with integration in America. Paxton and Peters were delegates to the NAACP in Santa Monica and had a responsibility to maintain racial equality. During the shooting of the courtroom scene, the assistant director called for "black atmosphere upstairs" and "white atmosphere downstairs." Paxton and Peters came flying from opposite sides of the sound stage flanking him saying, "We need to change that verbiage."

Paxton admired Peck for his superb acting skills.

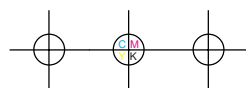
"We called Gregory, the *impeccable* Mr. Peck because he was flawless," she said. "He came into that courtroom scene and nailed it the first time. I don't

know how many times he did that summation scene, but he never flubbed or faltered."

Thirty years after "To Kill A Mockingbird," Peck and Paxton shot a television production of "Painting Churches." Peck played Professor Gardner Church and Paxton played the Chancellor of Harvard. What tickled Peck was that Miss Mayella Violet Ewell had now become a Harvard Chancellor.

After more than 20 movies and working with stars like Carlo Carlei, Susan Clark, Joan Blondell, Mia Farrow, Beau Bridges, Morgan Freeman, Vivian Pickle, Irene Worth, Diane Keaton, John Cusack, Kevin Spacey, Jude Law, Reese Witherspoon and Patricia Arquette, Paxton returned home and she and her husband Scott Paxton started Highlands Studio of the Arts. The Studio taught all forms of performing arts free to the chil-

■See COLLIN page 19



• SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING •

Let him sweep you away

Our Heavenly Father is with us '24/7/365... (for those who may not understand that is 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and 365 days a year.)

That is ALL the time that our Heavenly Father is with us! Oh, I am so sorry!

Hello! My name is Bartley Williams. I am the Minister to students at First Baptist Church of Highlands. I just returned from the BigStuf camp (in Panama City Beach, Fla.) and have a feeling that cannot be expressed in words! Yeah, it is that good!!!

At BigStuf, they have their own band that plays music that is indescribable! There is a name of a song that they play called 'Sweep Me Away', that is written by Charlie Hall.

Sweep Me Away? What a wonderful theme song for those who like to clean-up in the kitchen, hallways, around the house, etc... But I don't think so!

This sweep away is not at all about using a broom. The singer sings about Jesus and how He has us in the grasp of His hand. He is ready to MOLD US! Because we are His clay! He already has in His plan for our life how we are going to make decisions that will affect our life. And I, Bartley, can choose to live my own life my way or I can let God intervene and follow HIS plan for my life. However, this song talks to the listener and the listener gets caught up in saying the words, or at least I do!

Here are the lyrics to the song:

Verse: Suddenly I feel You holding me

Chorus: Sweep Me Away

Suddenly I feel Your Hand in mine

Sweep Me Away

Suddenly I feel You leading me

Sweep Me Away

Suddenly I feel Your Heart in mine

Sweep Me Away

On the last chorus, the singer adds I'm all alone with you, and song fades away

How powerful is that! I know this representation does absolutely no justice AT ALL to the lyrics, but if you would like to hear and feel the presence of God through this song, go check it out or come by the office and we will have to have a sit-down with a listen. From this song, alone, He has truly placed in my heart a burden for not only youth, but all those I come in contact with. Of course I am not one to bring out the Bible and get all "churchy" on you, but I will do so through my actions. I am sorry to be repeating myself, but I definitely can feel Him holding me in all that I do through my work here at the church, driving up and down the mountain to and from work, and in all things that I do. SWEEP ME AWAY, Lord.

Before I came into this world, He had His Hand on me and knew where I would be today in my life. Guiding me through my times and struggles with my car accident over 10 years ago, He had His Hand on me (Praise the Lord!) and knew where I would be today in my life. Having me in the position as Minister to Students, He has His Hand on me and knows where I will be today in my life. Tomorrow and the future, He will have His Hand on me and knows where I will be tomorrow and days to come in my life. SWEEP ME AWAY, Lord.

Finally, what a feeling to have my Almighty Heavenly Father leading me and who dwells in my heart! Sweep me away is what the song says. I have come to the point where I have said Sweep Me Away, and I think, at least in my life, He has SWEPT ME AWAY!!!



Bartley Williams
Highlands Baptist Church

• 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

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Rai Cammack, Branch President, (828) 369-1627

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Sunday Worship and communion at 4 p.m.

Tuesday Noon Bible Study: noon Parish House

Thursday worship and communion at 10:30 a.m.

Pot Luck Dinner: Last Sunday of the Month.

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Wednesday at 7 p.m.

Study Room Open Saturday, 1-3 p.m.

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, Senior Pastor

www.cbchighlands.com

526-4685

3645 U.S. 64 east, Highlands

Sundays: 9:30 a.m. Sunday School; 10:45 Worship;

6 p.m., "The Rock" for highschoolers

Tuesdays: 10 a.m. Women's Bible Study

Wed: 5:30 p.m. Prayer Meeting; 6:15 p.m. Supper; 7 p.m. Teaching

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 – 8:30 & 11 a.m.; Sunday 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

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. Tien, 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



'Champagne Tea and Fashion Show' at OEI's The Farm

Hurricane-like weather sent patrons scurrying for cover Thursday, July 28, at The Farm, but soon the sun was shining and the show went on.

Just before the show began, wind and rain blasted the tented venue, but OEI employees never missed a beat. They worked fast to secure the tent, dry tables and chairs and re-set tables.

The McKim family, friends, neices and nephews stole the show with sisters Molly, Millie, Melisa and Meg modeling the latest fashions from Miss Priss and Rosenthal's. Local June Hogue also modeled the latest fashions.

Detra Kay Jewelry and Flying Figs Scarves from Miss Priss. A trunk show is planned for Aug. 11-13 at the shop.



Meg McKim, her sister Millie, and their nephew parade the latest fashions from Miss Priss signature Lilly Pulitzer fashions.



About 150 patrons enjoyed a bevy of tea sandwiches, three kinds of tea, champagne and crumpets.

One show ends, another begins



The Instant Theatre Company wraps up its summer season this weekend with Little Entertainments on Friday and Songwriters-in-the-Round on Saturday. This fall, The Instant Theatre will include an adaptation of Henry James' "Turn of the Screw," the return of Brian Starr, an "Acoustic Dance Party" with a live band, and more. For tickets, call (828) 342-9197. Tickets for Songwriters-in-the-Round are \$7 children 17 & under and \$15 adults. Little Entertainments tickets are \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door. All shows are at 8 pm.

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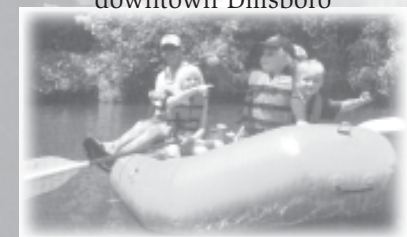


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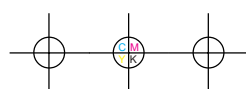
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Town Of Highlands Scholarship Fund Golf Classic Monday, August 29 at the Cullasaja Club

I/We _____ would like to make a donation and become a sponsor of this exciting event in the following manner:

_____ \$1,000 Platinum Sponsor of the 1st Tee or 18th Tee (Program and Sign Recognition on Tee)

_____ \$500 Tee/Green Sponsor, Practice Putting Green Sponsor, Practice Range Sponsor (Program and Sign Recognition on Tee/Green)

_____ \$250 Patron Sponsor (Recognition in Event Program)

_____ \$125 per Golf Contestant

_____ Guest Ticket/s at \$50 per ticket for the Awards Party

There will be _____ Golfers in our group and they are:

1. _____ 2. _____
3. _____ 4. _____

Please find attached a check made payable to the Town of Highlands Scholarship Fund in the amount of _____, or you may contact David Cull to make credit card payments for the Golf. Sponsor donations may also be made through David Cull.

All Monetary Donations are Tax Deductible

All Sponsors will receive 2 Tickets to the Awards Party! Golf Contestants may bring a guest to the Awards Party by purchasing a ticket for \$50.

Event Agenda

11 a.m. – Registration & Lunch Buffet in Clubhouse, Practice Range Open, Tee Gift Distribution, Complimentary Beverages on Course

12:30 p.m. – Shotgun Start – California Scramble

5 p.m. – 7 p.m. – Cocktail, Hors d'oeuvres and Awards Party

To become a Sponsor or make a gracious donation you may contact Helen Simmons at 508-2542. To make arrangements to play in the event you may contact David Cull at 526-3531. You may also fax this form to David Cull at 526-3560 after making credit card payment arrangements with him.

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• UPCOMING EVENTS •

On-going

• Highlands School Cross-country team training, every day until school starts, 8 a.m. at the school track. Coach Assistant Principal Mark Thomas is looking for interested male and females in grades 7-12 for this year's team. The team will compete in the Smoky Mountain Conference. Only requirement is a sports physical on file at the school.

• Thursdays at the Library — an eclectic mixture of programs by authors and musicians on topics designed for enjoyment and education of area residents and visitors alike. All programs are free and start at 7 p.m. unless otherwise noted. For more information, please call during Library operating hours at 524-3600. Library hours are 10 a.m. until 7 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. Friday and Saturday.

• Cashiers Quilters Guild which meets at the United Methodist Church in Cashiers, every Wednesday at 12:30.

Through August

• At Bascom-Louise Gallery, "Wood Works," an exhibit of fine art works created from wood by 13 accomplished artists

• Camp activities for the entire family at The Mountain Retreat and Learning Center. Adults can relive summer camp days and children develop an appreciation of the out of doors; you can learn new skills, meet new friends, and experience the joy of summer. Whether it's reading a book or playing field games, we have something for everyone! Call 526-5838, ext 203 or email info@mountaincenters.org.

• Live music at Jack's at Skyline Restaurant every Friday and Saturday nights.

• "Joseph & the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat" at Highlands Playhouse through July 31. Call 526-2695 for ticket information.

• Music and dancing at Fressers in Helen's Barn the third Thursday of each month, 8-12

• Live Music at Buck's Coffee Cafe Thursday-Saturday, 8-11 p.m.

• Piano Bar at ...on the Verandah seven nights a week accompanied by jazz guitar Tuesdays and Thursdays all at 7 p.m.

• Live music at Wolfgang's Restaurant and Wine Bistro, Mon., Wed., Thurs., 6-10 p.m.

• This Week at Highlands Wine and Cheese Shop: Complimentary Samples Saturday 12:30-4 p.m. Wine Flights Thursday-Saturday 4:30-6:30 p.m.. Special Guests: Friday, Phil Edwards of Ex Cellars. Saturday: Grapevine Distributors rep Emily Krainik.

• HealthTracks, at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital, offers a special class on Mondays and Thursday to help reduce the risk of osteoporosis by building strength and helping to increase bone density 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. at HealthTracks. Cost is \$8 per session. Call HealthTracks at 526-1348.

• HealthTracks is currently offering two yoga classes per week, both taught by certified instructor Carole Mackey. "Gentle Yoga" is held each Tues. at 5:15 p.m. "Hatha Yoga" is offered Wed. at 5:15 p.m. in the fitness studio on the first level of the Jane Woodruff Clinic. Cost is \$12 per session or 10 sessions for \$100. Call HealthTracks at 526-1348

• HealthTracks offers a Pilates class on Mon. and Wed. at 4 p.m. Classes are taught by certified instructor Sandie Trevethan in the fitness studio on the first level of the new Jane Woodruff Clinic. Cost is \$10 per session or \$80 for 10 sessions. Call HealthTracks at 526-1348

• HealthTracks is offering a special ton-

ing class on Tuesday and Thursday at 9 a.m. Cost is \$6 per session for HealthTracks non-members. The classes are held at HealthTracks. Call HealthTracks at 526-1348

• Adult Drawing 101 with Kathy Evans at B-L Gallery Tuesdays from 10-12 through July. Take one class or take them all! This beginning level class will provide instruction on various techniques along with aspects of design and composition. Call 526-4949

• Independent Study Art Class with Kathy Evans at B-L Gallery Tuesdays from 1-3 through July. This adult class offers independent study in a medium of your choice at the Intermediate and Advanced level. Call the gallery at 526-4949

• Open Studio with a live model at B-L Gallery on Tuesdays from 5:30 – 8:30 p.m. Cost is \$10 per evening. Please call the gallery by Monday evening if you will be stopping by Tuesday night, so that we may coordinate with our models. Call the gallery at 526-4949.

• Improv Classes for high school and college students Mondays at 6 p.m. at Instant Theatre's Studio on Main, 310 Main Street. 526-1687. FREE.

• Each Thursday – Open House at Chestnut Hill of Highlands, Highlands-Cashiers only senior residential community. Refreshments and tours of the model home and Clubhouse.

• 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 at 8 p.m.; Tuesdays at 5:30 p.m. (women only); Wednesdays and Fridays at noon.

Aug. 4

• Highlands attorney Leonard Baer will present a talk entitled "Be Prepared" on Thurs., Aug 4 at the Eckerd Living Center in the dining room at 7 p.m. He will discuss Advance Directives — Living Wills, health care Powers of Attorney, and Do Not Resuscitate (DNR) orders, providing an overview of each, explaining the differences among them, and stressing the importance of having Advance Directives. It's free.

Aug. 5

• Instant Theater Little Entertainments features Cindy McConnell and John Roman. \$20 in advance \$25 at the door. Call 342-9197. Saturday specials: \$15 adults, \$7 students. All proceeds finance adult and children FREE acting classes.

Aug 5-7

• The Highlands Cashiers Highgate Foundation will once again host the Highgate Tour of Homes and Gardens at Highgate in Highlands, Friday through Sunday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.. There will be a number of interesting and diverse homes on the tour. Proceeds from the tour benefit area charitable organizations. The tax deductible tickets are \$15 and can be purchased at Highgate during tour hours. There is ample on-site parking available. For additional information, call (828) 526-4104 or toll-free (888) 454-4342.

Aug. 6

• August is Free Picnic Series Month at Hambidge in Rabun Gap. David Marcus, singer of Cuban, Spanish, Argentinian & Arabic folk music, will be performing jazz and classical piano at noon. Mr. Marcus, in addition to being a jazz and classical pianist, is also a chamber music composer. He is presently a Professor of Music Theory at Clark Atlanta Universi-



• UPCOMING EVENTS •

ty. Bring a picnic lunch and join the fun! The concert, soft drinks and dessert are free to the public. Please call 706-746-1247 for directions or information.

- Highlands Fire & Rescue Open House, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the station. Hotdogs and drinks will be served free of charge and rides on the fire truck are planned.

- The Macon County Art Association will present an outdoor "Art Show & Sale," Saturday. (Rain date Aug 13) from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. on the grounds of Our Lady of the Mountains Catholic Church - 5th Street in Highlands.

- Instant Theater Little Entertainments features Songwriters-in-the-Round feat. Jon Zachary, Freddie Bradburn, Lisa Stevens, and Thea & The Greenman. \$20 in advance \$25 at the door. Call (828) 342-9197. Saturday specials: \$15 adults, \$7 students. All proceeds finance adult and children FREE acting classes.

- Bat Program at the Nature Center. 8-9 p.m. Come for a presentation about bat biology and natural history including some live bats. Afterward, stay to locate bats in the wild. Cost is \$5 per person. Call 526-2623.

Aug. 7

- The Nantahala Hiking Club will take an easy 1.5 mile hike to Big Laurel Falls off Forest Service Road #67. Meet at Westgate Plaza in Franklin (opposite Burger King) at 2 p.m. Drive 40 miles round trip. Bring a drink, a snack if you wish, and wear sturdy, comfortable shoes. Hikes are limited to 20. Call leader Kay Coriell, 369-2860 for reservations.

Aug. 8

- The Right Reverend John Shelby Spong, Bishop of the Diocese of Newark, Retired, presents "Diagnosing The Human Situation: We Are Not Fallen, We Are Incomplete" one of four public lectures in the Highlands Institute's Public Lecture/Seminar Series in August at the Martin-Lipscomb Performing Arts Center, Highlands, at 7:30 p.m.

Aug. 9

- "A Year in the Life of a Bird," with Georgann Schmalz, formerly of Fernbank Science Center in Atlanta, Highlands Plateau Audubon Program at the Highlands Civic Center, refreshments at 7, program at 7:30 p.m.

Aug. 11

- At Bascom-Louise Gallery, a lecture, "Collecting Wood Art Works" presented by Arthur and Jane Mason in the Gallery at 7 p.m.

- The Right Reverend John Shelby Spong, Bishop of the Diocese of Newark, Retired, presents "The Christ Story Posed Against The New Diagnosis" one of four public lectures in the Highlands Institute's Public Lecture/Seminar Series in August at the Martin-Lipscomb Performing Arts Center, Highlands, at 7:30 p.m.

Aug. 11-13

- At Acorn's - Detra Kay Jewelry and Flying fig Scarves, Trunk Show, 10 a.m. -6 p.m.

Aug. 12-14

- A Singles Get-Away at The Mountain Retreat and Learning Center. Singles from Atlanta, Highlands and Asheville are encouraged to meet new friends while swimming, dancing, exercising hiking. Call 526-5838.

Aug. 13

- 125th year Anniversary of Highlands' Inn. Food, music and tours are planned.

- Cashiers quilters guild quilt sow from 10 - 4 P.M. at the Sapphire Valley Community Center (3 mi. east of Cashiers crossroads on HWY 64 in Fairfield Resort area) Numerous quilts; boutique; silent auction of miniature and small quilts; door prizes; quilt raffle; dem-

onstrations; vendors. Arts & Crafts Show in same area. Everyone welcome!!

- Nantahala Hiking Club annual picnic at Cliffside Lake

Aug. 14

- Audubon Annual Picnic, Highlands Rec Park, 5 p.m. All are welcome, please call 526-2775 and bring a dish to share. Meet at the South Picnic Shelter.

Aug. 15

- The Right Reverend John Shelby Spong, Bishop of the Diocese of Newark, Retired, presents "Christ Our Passover: Breaking The Power Of Death" one of four public lectures in the Highlands Institute's Public Lecture/Seminar Series in August at the Martin-Lipscomb Performing Arts Center, Highlands, at 7:30 p.m.

Aug. 18

- The Right Reverend John Shelby Spong, Bishop of the Diocese of Newark, Retired, presents "My Struggle For A Christianity Of Integrity, Love, and Equality" one of four public lectures in the Highlands Institute's Public Lecture/Seminar Series in August at the Martin-Lipscomb Performing Arts Center, Highlands, at 7:30 p.m.

Aug. 20

- The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a 3.5 mile moderate-to-strenuous hike to Three Forks, where three waterfalls converge to form a fork of the Chattooga River. A swim in the river at your own risk is optional on this hike, which requires a river crossing and a scramble down a steep bank and over rocks. Meet at the Highlands Bank of America at 9:30 a.m. or at the Scaly Mountain post office at 9:50 a.m. Drive 30 miles round trip. Bring a drink, lunch, wear sturdy, comfortable shoes and bring a swim suit and river shoes which are required, if you plan to enter the water. Hikes are limited to 20. Call leader Mo Wheeler, 526-9561, for reservations

Aug. 21

- Bel Canto 4 p.m. at PAC. Call 526-5252 for tickets. Proceeds benefit the Bascom-Louise Gallery and Highlands School.

- Highlands Rotary Club and the Bolivian Mission announce the "All Male Beauty Pageant" at Highlands Playhouse, Mon., Aug. 8 at 8 p.m. There will be a complimentary wine bar starting at 7 p.m. Contestants will compete for the title of "Misses Highlands," in evening gown, talent and lingerie competitions. Winner bouquets will be provided by "The Little Flower Shop." Tickets are \$50 per person. Call 526-3605 or 526-1436 and ask for Dr. Baumrucker.

- The Nantahala Hiking Club will take an easy 3-mile hike on the Cliffside loop trail from the Skitty Creek trail on Hwy. 64 between Franklin and Highlands. Meet at Westgate Plaza in Franklin (opposite Burger King) at 2 p.m., or call leader for an alternate meeting place if coming from Highlands. Drive 40 miles round trip. Bring a drink, a snack if you wish, and wear sturdy, comfortable shoes or boots. Hikes are limited to 20. Call leader Kay Coriell, 369-2860 for reservations.

Aug. 22

- Women's Invitation Golf Tournament at Highlands Falls Country Club. Club Professional Allen Chandler has designed an interesting format that combines nine holes of Captains Choice with nine holes of 1 Best Ball of Four - just for women. Cost is \$125 per person and includes breakfast, lunch and Tee gifts. To sign up, call Christy Kelly at the Peggy Crosby Center, 526-9938, ext. 110.

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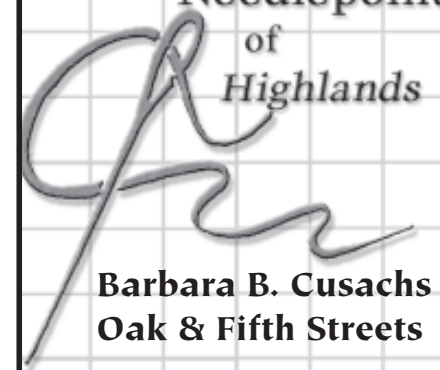


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Hospital honors volunteers

Highlands-Cashiers Hospital honored its many volunteers last Thursday with a special dinner party at Highlands Fall Country Club. Nearly 90 of the hospital's 150 volunteers attended the fete.

Hospital CEO Jack A. Calloway told the volunteers that without them, and others like them over the years, the hospital could not have become the outstanding facility it is today. Calloway pointed out the volunteers contributed more than 4,300 hours to the hospital just since the beginning of the calendar year.

"Volunteers are an integral part of virtually every area of hospital operations. They play a very important role in helping our staff provide quality care for both hospital patients and residents of the Fidelia Eckerd Living Center," he said later. "They are an essential part of our hospital family. Honoring them in this small way is one thing we can do to tell them how important they are to the hospital, and the community as a whole."

In addition to a sumptuous buffet,

... ETJ continued from page 1

Planning Board Chairman John Cleaveland spoke for the planning board. "Number one, we think you should invoke ETJ one mile out from the town limit. But just because you ETJ it doesn't mean you have to zone it," he said.

Much of the land one mile out is U.S. Forest Service land which the town wouldn't touch, he said.

The second priority was to ask the three country clubs north of town if they might consider voluntary annexation. "We think that is worth the Town Board pursuing," he said.

Once extraterritorial jurisdiction and annexation is decided upon, there is a lot of leg work that has to be done.

"We have to decide how the area will be zoned and incorporate it within the zoning of Highlands," said Cleaveland. "We need to get started on this."

Zoning Administrator Larry Gantenbein said descriptions have to be developed and the ETJ'd area has to follow parcel lines. "You can't ETJ part of a parcel," he said. "If the one mile line splits a



Hospital volunteer mailman Jimmy Sherrard and wife Vita take a few moments to dance to the live music on their way to the buffet table at Thursday's hospital volunteer party.

parcel you have to fall back to the line inside the ETJ area."

Commissioner Herb James asked about the density of the potential annexation areas.

"It all meets the two-pronged density requirement for annexation of 60 percent of the area's parcels being less than three acres and 60 percent of the parcels having taxable buildings on them," he said.

Vacant land cannot be annexed.

Mayor Buck Trott said the board will discuss the two top priorities at the Aug. 17 Town Board meeting. Land Use Planning facilitator Geoffrey Willet will be at the meeting to thoroughly explain the ETJ and annexation process.

Cleaveland said while the top two priorities are being addressed, the Planning Board will prioritize the next sections of the Land Use Plan but prioritizing and implementation will take awhile.

"There is a lot to swallow all at one time," he said.

Gantenbein awarded for zoning efforts

At a N.C. Association of Zoning Officials meeting in Wilmington, N.C. Aug. 3, Zoning Administrator Larry Gantenbein was named "Top Zoning Enforcing Official for 2005." Mayor Buck Trott said Gantenbein is the first certified zoning administrator the town has ever had.

There are 500 certified zoning officers in the state of North Carolina.



POLICE & FIRE

The following are the Highlands Police Dept. log entries for the week of July 28-Aug. 2.

July 28

- At 11 a.m., a gas drive-off was reported at D&J Express Mart.

July 29

- At 6:49 a.m., a motorist was issued a warning citation for no registration.

- At 11:10 p.m., residents complained of noise at Cyprus caused by a wedding party. Officers instructed the patrons to turn off the music and they did.

- At 6:20 p.m., a resident on Satulah Ridge was issued a warning about his dog.

July 30

- At 3 p.m., a visitor reported losing a cell phone on Main Street.

- At 2 p.m., residents on Mirror Lake Road filed a final complaint about a neighbor's dog.

- At 5:50 p.m., officers served a criminal summons concerning his dog.

Aug. 1

- At 8:52 a.m., residents on Piper's Court complained of barking dogs.

- At noon, Freeman Gas on N.C. 106 reported an aluminum wheel block valued at \$100 missing.

Aug. 2

- At 5:30 p.m., officers responded to an alarm at a residence on Big Bear Pen. All was secure.

The following are the Highlands Fire & Rescue Dept. log entries for the week of July 27-Aug. 3.

July 27

- The dept. responded to a mutual aid call in Cashiers but it was cancelled en route.

July 28

- The dept. responded to a vehicle fire on Wahoo Trail.

- The dept. responded to a possible structure fire on the Cashiers Road but it was steam rising off the roof.

- The dept. was first-responders to assist EMS at Fairway Condos where a person had fallen. The victim was transported to the hospital.

July 30

- The dept. responded to an alarm at a residence on Keener Road. All was secure.

Aug. 1

- The dept. responded to an alarm at a residence on Piper's Court. It was set off by cooking smoke.

Aug. 2

- The dept. responded to an alarm at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. It was set off by cooking smoke.

- The dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with a medical call at a residence on Apple Mountain Circle where someone had fallen. The victim was transported to the hospital.

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... COLLIN continued from page 13

dren of Highlands and the lessons are still going on today at the Instant Theatre Company's studio space on Main Street.

Having written half a dozen of her own plays, she said if she wasn't an actress she would definitely be a playwright. Her first play, "Papa's Angels" was picked up by CBS Television in 2000 starring Scott Bacula and Cynthia Nixon. After the play was published by Samuel French, she also wrote a book based on the play.

"Plays are easy for me to write; I'm not a novelist," Paxton said.

"Snapshots," a collection of ten-minute plays, have been performed this year during The ITC's "Little Entertainments." Paxton said she would prepare for publication at the end of the season. A portion of the proceeds that she and her husband, publish will go back into ITC.

There is no doubt that Paxton has had many grand roles, but the one she is currently playing is a little more practical. She is Founding Artistic Director of

the Instant Theatre Company and will assume the Artistic Director position when Adam Heffernan starts graduate school at University of Tennessee. She said her most important mission is to provide free acting classes for Highlands' youth.

"You play so many lives and portray so many different people. It's a great chance to drop your own ego and be someone else" she said. "I guess that's why I've never gotten bored - because I've taken so many vacations away from myself." Good thing for all who have gotten to enjoy those vacations with her.

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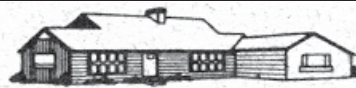


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• BUSINESS NEWS •

New faces and top-producers at Century 21



Phil Smith



Monica Calloway



Gary Garren

Century 21 Mountain Lifestyles is pleased to announce Phillip Smith has joined its firm as a sales associate, specializing in residential sales in the Highlands office

A graduate of Valley Forge Military Academy and an Air Force veteran, Phil has worked in the furniture sales and decorating business for 20 years. He has lived in the Highlands area for 13 years where he worked for one of the local furniture stores. In his spare time, Phil rides and raises horses.

Monica Calloway was top producer for the Cashiers Century 21 office in June 2005. She was chosen as the "Rookie of the Year" in the Century 21 Cashiers office for 2004.

Gary Garren, Managing Broker for the Highlands office, which celebrated its grand opening in May 2005, was top producer for the Highlands Century 21 office the month of June 2005..



'Jerry's Girls' opens at Highlands Playhouse Aug. 4

Courtenay Collins (center) and Joni Illi (right) will lead a World Class cast of female actress/singers in *Jerry's Girls* which opens August 4 at the Highlands Playhouse. The show is directed and choreographed by Robert Ray and will feature some of Broadway's greatest show tunes from "Hello Dolly," "Mame" and "La Cage Aux Folles." Performances are Tuesday through Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. Visit the box office Monday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. or call 526-2695.

... FUNDING continued from page 1

right to renegotiate the amount every three years.

But what they got was a firm commitment of "up to \$500,000" for four years.

"I think the term of a county commissioner is a reasonable length of time for the contract," said County Commissioner Jim Davis.

County attorney Rick Moorefield agreed. "Fifteen years is an extreme agreement. To guarantee funding for that time period is not necessary. You don't even need a contract to fund the program," he said.

But at Commissioner Bryson's urging, the board agreed to enter into a contractual agreement to contribute to Highlands Rec Dept. funding for four years.

"They want stability to do their budget and don't want to have to worry about it every year," he said.

The board was concerned about the maintenance of the county's Buck Creek fields. But Bryson said the town had agreed to maintain the grounds using the landscaper they use for other town projects.

Moorefield said the contract will have an escape clause for both parties.

... PLAYGROUND cont. from page 9

that much done in about a week.

Jennifer Jones, director of the VIP Afterschool Program, said as it stands now there really isn't anyplace for kids to play at the school. "We don't ever take our children out there," she said. "You need to be a licensed playground and you need a consulting to tell you what you need to do to fix it," she said.

Meanwhile, the board OK'd allocating time, resources and personnel to get the playground in shape by the time school starts. Eight new pipes were OK'd to fix the damaged swing set, as were new fencing and bark chips for the playground floor.

Meanwhile, crews are busy on the new gym. "A lot has happened since the construction meeting two weeks ago," said Edwards. "They're suddenly making a good, honest effort to repair the roof and to redirect the water on the lot so we can get a Certificate of Occupancy from the Town of Highlands."

Edwards said the contractor has a list of what needs to be fixed from the roof to washers that have popped off. He said at the last construction meeting, the roofers admitted that the water problem in the gym was from the roof not due to condensation on the sprinkler pipes.

"Workmanship has been a problem the whole time," said Edwards. "But now they're making the effort that should have been made two months ago."

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