

Highlands' Newspaper

FREE

Volume 3, Number 30

Locally Owned & Operated

Friday, July 29, 2005

On-going

- Adult Swim at the Rec Park Pool Mon.-Fri., 8-9 a.m. and Tues. & Thurs., 6-7 p.m.
- 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.
- 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 Wine Bistro, Mon., Wed., Thurs., 6-10 p.m.
- This Week at Highlands Wine and Cheese: Complimentary samples Saturday 12:30-4 p.m. Wine Flights Thurs.-Sat., 4:30 until 6:30 p.m. featuring Bordeaux.

July 29

- Live Music at Cyprus Friday night. Chuck Beattie & Blues by Design -10 p.m.
- At Mill Creek Gallery, multi-media artist, Thea (Cynthia Stacey), presenting her photography. Artist's reception on Friday, from 6-8 p.m. featuring the music of singer-songwriters Thea & the GreenMan.
- Instant Theater Little Entertainments features guests Brian Reese & Uncle Bob. \$20 in advance \$25 at the door. Call (828) 342-9197. All proceeds finance adult and children FREE acting classes.

July 30

- Saturday, singer-songwriters Thea & the GreenMan at The Instant Theatre. Tickets for Thea & The GreenMan are \$7 children 17 & under and \$15 adults. Call The Instant Box Office at (828) 342-9197. All proceeds finance adult and children FREE acting classes.
- The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a 3.5 mile moderate hike to Split Rock on the Chattooga River. Drive 30 miles round trip. Call leader Mo Wheeler, 526-9561.

Aug. 1

- There are a few foresomes open for the 2005 Highlands Playhouse Benefit Golf Tournament at Highlands Cove on Monday. The cost per player of \$125 includes a box lunch, dinner, greens fees and cart, hors d'oeuvres prizes and an auction. Call the Playhouse at 526-2695 or call Joanna Baumrucker at 526-3605.

Aug. 3

- Capitol City Opera Company comes to Highlands, at the Episcopal Church on Wed., at 2 p.m. It's FREE
- CLE Wednesday night lecture series Wed., at the Civic Center at 7:30. Dr. Rob Young, a WCU geologist will discuss his work on the Elwha River Restoration Project. FREE.

Aug. 4

- Highlands attorney Leonard Baer will present "Be Prepared" on Thursday at 7 p.m. at the Eckerd Living Center in the dining room. He will discuss Advance Directives — Living Wills, health care Powers of Attorney, and Do Not Resuscitate (DNR) orders.

FRI	SAT	SUN
74-63 °F	73-62 °F	71-61 °F

Sheriff Dept. presence appreciated

By Kim Lewicki

Highlandseditor@aol.com

Some communities might not like the idea of the Sheriff's Department hanging out in their neighborhood, but Scaly Mountain residents say "It's about time."

Over the last few weeks, sheriff dep-

uties from the Macon County Sheriff Department have set up license check points in the area – the first step in discovering who is coming and going in Scaly.

"We have made some arrests as a result of those license check points," said

▪See **SHERIFF** page 5

State statute not needed for new zoning 'tool'

By Erin Brown

highlandserin@aol.com

Through a conference call with the North Carolina Institute of Government, Highlands Zoning Administrator Larry Gantenbein learned that the NC courts have endorsed conditional use zoning districts and conditional use zoning.

"Since the state has blessed conditional use districts, we no longer need state-enabling statutes," he said.

This will give Highlands a tool to negotiate building plans on a site-by-site basis if standard zoning districts don't fit, said Gantenbein.

The purpose of conditional use zoning was spurred by the proposed development of the Werder property at the corner of U.S. 64 east and Hickory Road.

At the April 6 Town Board meeting, commissioners made it very clear no matter how emphatic Developer Chuck Simmerson was in his promises to utilize the property as requested by various town boards, they wanted guaranteed control over the property up front, no matter what the zone.

Simmerson pledged to relocate the proposed single-family house farther away from the historic home on the property, to build a sidewalk along U.S. 64, to maintain the natural highway buffer and not to have a U.S. 64 entrance – all at the Planning Board's request.

But Commissioners wanted assurance the recommendations would be followed because technically, once a final plat is approved the developer is not legally bound to adhere to it.

There was some discrepancy as to whether the board was allowed to make recommendations to Simmerson without first changing the zoning ordinances. Gantenbein said it was against the law

▪See **STATUTE** page 15

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Guess who?



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.

Planning board recommends ETJ

By Erin Brown

highlandserin@aol.com

To ETJ or not to ETJ? That was the number one question at the Planning Board meeting Monday. The answer? To recommend declaring ETJ one mile out from the town line.

"You're going to have a lot of opposition on this," said chairman John Cleveland.

The board suggested an open dia-

logue with residents affected by the ETJ proposal to discuss the benefits of ETJ and to also discuss voluntary annexation.

In voluntary annexation, residents offer their property to the town, usually to take advantage of water and sewer infrastructure. The process can be completed in 90-100 days.

"It takes a short amount of time to establish the ETJ but going in and chang-

▪See **ETJ** page 5

Pledges come in for Pine St. Park

By Kim Lewicki

highlandseditor@aol.com

The Pine Street Project might just be the fastest concept to come to fruition in Highlands history.

Last week the call went out for monetary pledges to back the \$800,000-\$1.2 million project, and this week, the group

is just about ready to sign loan papers.

The largest pledge came out of the Town Board closed session last Wednesday night. "Commissioners voted to allocate \$300,000 for the park in the FYI 2006-2007 budget," said King Young who spearheaded the project. "I'm over-

▪See **PINE STREET** page 22

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Copy Editor/Proofreader Tom Merchant

Circulation/Tech. Support – Jim Lewicki

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Printed by the Asheville Citizen-Times, Asheville, N.C.

• LETTERS TO THE EDITOR •

Stormwater measures in the works

Dear Editor,

Recent heavy rainfalls have resulted in street flooding and stormwater damage throughout Highlands. We write to inform the public about the many things that have been, and will continue to be, done by the Highlands Community Child Development Center (HCCDC) to prevent siltation and flooding at the intersection of Fifth Street and Smallwood Avenue.

Driving along Fifth Street, you cannot see the special features built above the slopes. When you see mud, water, and gravel running down the ditch on Fifth it is natural to assume that the silt is coming from the HCCDC property above the road. However, if you follow the water trail upstream to its sources you will find that is not the case.

Since design began, HCCDC has partnered with the Upper Cullasaja Watershed Association and has voluntarily incorporated numerous erosion control and stormwater management features on the site. HCCDC made a significant commitment to being a good neighbor in the downtown business district spending over \$75,000 on innovative site drainage and erosion control measures. Aware of the flooding problem at Fifth and Smallwood that existed long before construction began, our design goal was to ensure that no more stormwater runoff leaves the site after construction than did before we started. While state law requires design for a 10-year storm, HCCDC designed for the Highlands 25-year storm. We believe the design goal has been achieved.

Besides three types of permeable paving in the HCCDC parking areas, the total site is drained by catch basins and underground piping to collect runoff and divert it to bioretention areas. Roof gutters are piped underground to the garden and pond areas. The "retention pond" incorporates a special soils mixture formulated for draining the water slowly and will be planted with native and wetland plants to create HCCDC's "rain garden". This rain garden is a stormwater best management practice designed to hold the runoff for 24-hours and slowly release it into the storm sewer system. By slowing and reducing the peak runoff amounts, the potential for street flooding is reduced and the plants have time to filter and reduce the amount of pollutants like silt, oils and greases, etc., that may come from the parking areas.

Fifth Street ditches and steep slopes are the responsibility of NC DOT (not the Town). Because ditch maintenance is not being done, HCCDC has undertaken the recent work to minimize local street flooding. Since early June HCCDC has continually worked to improve the stormwater management features spending another \$3,000-\$5,000 on site improvements and maintenance in the DOT right-of-way. We are proud of our neighborhood and we intend to keep it looking and functioning well.

The EPA and NC DENR consider HCCDC to be an excellent demonstration site and learning center for others interested in using the latest construction practices for stormwater management in the mountains. We invite you to come by the Highlands Community Child Development Center and let us show you what community-minded construction projects can do to keep from adding to the Town's stormwater challenges.

Don Mullen, president and Bob Wright, secretary-treasurer, HCCDC

Nature's solution

What am I?

I can be more beautiful than a decorated Christmas tree..

I can withstand freezing Aprils without missing a beat

I can withstand floods and winds.

Even hail stones that ruined so many other plants

I shade many a paved road and keep walkers cool in the summer.

I hold the soil in place so it won't erode.

Some in my family bloom in May, others in July.

I require very little pruning.

I am useful for screening unsightly areas because I am green all year.

Growing me in Highlands takes no special effort.

Look around you...

Can you guess who I am?

Rhododendron, that's who!

By admirer Glenda Bell

Happy anniversary!

Dear Editor,

I'd like to extend my congratulations and best wishes on your Highlands' Newspaper's second anniversary.

I hate to admit that I was among the skeptics after your first issues appeared. "A town the size of Highlands can't support TWO newspapers!" I thought at the time. But how very wrong I was!

Your professionalism and excellent journalistic skills and ability proved otherwise.

Please "hang in there" and keep up the good work. Highlands NEEDS you.

Best wishes for continued success.

**Mopsy Anderson
Highlands**

Share your views.
email: highlandseditor@aol.com

• WEDDING •

Nicole Talley and Steven Hans Bloedow

Nicole (Niki) Elizabeth Talley and Steven Hans Bloedow were united in marriage on Saturday, June 11, 2005, at the Highlands United Methodist Church in Highlands. The Rev. Carl Lindquist of Morgan-ton, N.C., performed the ceremony.

The bride is the daughter of Cliff and Jerri Talley of Highlands. She is the granddaughter of Garrett and Katherine Davis of Franklin and the late Len and Charlotte Talley of Highlands. Honorary grandparents of the bride were Earl and Terese Heard of Highlands.

The groom is the son of Jack and Judy Tapscott of Englewood, Fla., Bryan Bloedow of Detroit, Mich., and Ricky and Melinda James of Scaly Mountain. He is the grandson of Emily Adamcheski of Okeechobee, Fla., and Hans Bloedow of Ossineke, Mich. Honorary grandparents of the groom were Milton and Claudia Nelson of Scaly Mountain.

The bride's maids of honor were Danielle Closen and Michelle Closen of Daytona Beach, Fla., friends of the bride. Bridesmaids were Cody James of Scaly Mountain, sister of the groom, Traci Hedetniemi of Clemson, S.C., Betsy



Nicole Talley Bloedow

Melvin of Highlands, and Amber Porter of Shelby, N.C., all friends of the bride.

Flower girl was Briana Jenkins of Highlands and bell bearer was Jonathan Corrigan of Roswell, Ga., both friends of the bride and groom.

The groom's best men were Clint James, brother of the groom, and Ricky James, father of the groom, both of Scaly Mountain.

Groomsmen were Bryan Dearth of Scaly Mountain, A.J. Owens of Seneca, S.C., Charlie Houston and Vince Petrone, both of Highlands, all friends of the groom.

The bride wore a formal gown of white bridal satin and chiffon. The fitted basque bodice was adorned with a border of pearls, bugle beads and sequins which also outlined the halter neckline. The chiffon and satin full skirt was enhanced with schiffli appliques made of pearls, bugle beads and sequins. Attached streamers flowed from the back waist and down the entire length of the cathedral train. The bride chose a veil of imported silk illusion with pearls along the border that was accentuated with a crystal tiara. She carried a bouquet of white hydran-

•See WEDDING page 8

• OBITUARY •

Lucille K. Wood

Lucille K. Wood, 91, of the Fidelia Eckerd Living Center in Highlands died on Friday, July 22, 2005 at the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital following several months of declining health. Also preceding her in death was her husband Kenneth E. Wood, sons Robert E. Wood and Franklin H. Wood

She had previously resided at 194 Knob Hill Road, Glenville, NC for the past nine years. Lucille was born in Kennerdale, PA on July 23, 1914 and resided in Meadville, PA for 60 years prior to moving to Temple Terrace, Florida for three years prior to her move to Glenville.

She was an avid hunter, gardener and volunteer, spending many hours volunteering at the Glenville Community Center, Highlands Cashiers Hospital and Eckerd Living Center.

She is survived by her son, Thomas and wife, Ann Robinette of Glenville, "Honorary Son" and hunting companion John R. Wood of Fairview, PA; daughter-in-laws Loretta Wood of Pr. Frederick, MD; Evelyn Wood of Rockville, MD; Sisters Dorothy Burns of Elk Grove, CA; and Evelyn Stinson of Jykl Island, GA; along with grandchildren, Heather Lynch and husband, Michael, of Pineville, NC; Michelle Savage and husband, Greg, of Apex, NC; Pamela Minard of Jacksonville, NC; Kenneth Wood and wife, Carol, of Damascus, MD; David Wood and wife, Ann, of Pr. Frederick, MD; Terry Wood of Ft. Myers Fl; Kelley Eutushek and husband, Steve, of S. Paris, ME along with 11 great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild.

There will be a memorial service beginning at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, July 30, 2005 at First Presbyterian Church, Highlands, NC with The Reverend Hunter Coleman officiating.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the First Presbyterian Church Memorial Flower fund.

The family will receive friends at the church prior to the memorial service.



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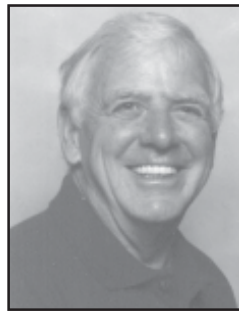
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• LAUGHING AT LIFE •

Will Zeke go 'Buck' hunting?

Please... everyone, let's sing together, "First he said he would, then he won't." Remember that golden oldy? No? ... then you must be younger than Mayor Buck Trott. Then again, everyone is younger than Buck Trott.

There are two kinds of people on this planet who have, without any warning, a God given right to change their minds; women and



Fred Wooldridge

politicians. Just when you thought it was safe to say, "Did you hear Buck is retiring?", POW, he isn't. Or is he? I guess it depends on what your definition of "is" is.

This all may be a great ploy by Buck to get even more attention than he now has, if that's possible. First, his announcement of retirement and the whole town is buzzing. Buck rumors are

flying everywhere. Then, out of the blue, the announcement that he isn't retiring (apparently his grandchildren made that decision while Buck was asleep) and the whole town is buzzing some more. More rumors fly and it's all about Buck. Buck this, Buck that, Buck who? Cool, huh? Great strategy.

At the other end of the spectrum is his opponent, Zeke Sossoman, a man who will fall asleep at his desk if you don't shake him occasionally. He is a well respected local boy who made good and does some of the town's legal work. Zeke is a good guy and could easily be mayor if Buck hadn't vacillated. Now, Zeke will have to go Buck hunting if he wants to win. This will be a duel of the hyper vs. the placid. The local boy

vs. the outsider. A proven track record vs. a wannabe. To get equal time, I suggest Zeke withdraw from the race and then the day before the deadline, resubmit his name to get everyone talking about him instead of Buck.

As I see it, Zeke is not much of a predator or hunter and will feel uneasy slugging it out in the trenches with his friend, Buck. He just may be too easy going to be mayor. Worse yet, he is not Santa Claus. I predict Buck will go with the old theme "A vote against Buck is a vote against Santa, which is a vote against Christmas." Zeke will have to counter with something big.

Of course, all of this depends on whether Buck will change his mind

▪See WOOLDRIDGE page 8

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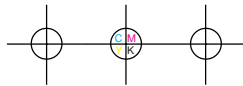
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... ETJ continued from page 1

ing the ordinances can take months," said Geoffrey Willet, Land Use Plan facilitator.

In North Carolina, as in most other states, a city may exercise jurisdiction in various land use planning-related matters over areas located outside its boundaries, similar to ETJ.

More specifically, a city may establish planning authority outside its boundaries, without approval from the county, if the county is not already enforcing a zoning ordinance, subdivision regulations and the State Building Code in that area. If a county is enforcing these regulations in the area, a city may then establish its planning jurisdiction only upon agreement with the county.

"Even though you do ETJ, you don't have to exercise any control until you're ready to decide what that control ought to be," said board member Clem Patton. "You don't extend zoning to every parcel of land that you put in ETJ, you do it at the consideration of how that fits into the overall plan.

Zoning Administrator Larry Gantenbein said the procedure for ETJ involves the Town Board adopting the suggested ETJ perimeter and then holding a public hearing.

During the update for the Land Use Plan, ETJ and annexation were discussed at great length. The Land Use Planning Committee, comprised of members of

■See ETJ page 19

... SHERIFF continued from page 1

Sheriff Robbie Holland. "They were minor offenses, but we received good information as a result concerning drug activity in the area."

Holland said over the years, check points have been used to make good contacts within several communities in the county.

Joe Simmons, of Cabe Realty, said the sheriff's commitment to the area is greatly appreciated.

"Because we don't have a local police department, we rely on and are very thankful for the Sheriff Department presence we've seen in recent weeks," he said. "Though the sheriff has said Scaly is no worse than anywhere else when it comes to drugs, we know that Scaly is a hard place for the Sheriff's Department to get to. That makes the area even more susceptible to undesirable elements."

Holland said he appreciates the response from citizens living in the Scaly Mountain and Highlands area. As of last week, the department received 24 phone calls concerning the Sheriff's Department conducting check points and all have been very positive with the exception of one.

Scaly resident J.B. Coram said in the 10 years he has lived in Scaly as a full-time resident, this is the first time he has seen a concerted attempt of policing in the community.

"Part of the problem is that we are right on the state line," he said. "The drug community has figured it's 'no man's land' and they can slide back and forth over the line because they are in the far-reaches of both Rabun County and Macon County.

Sheriff Holland is pleased with the community's support.

"I have received numerous thank you cards and letters thanking my officers which I have posted on my door for my officers to read," he said. "Everyone likes to know they are appreciated."

Coram said the sheriff has directed significant efforts and fiscal reserves to such a small community.

Holland said while he appreciates

the people of Highlands and Scaly taking the time to say 'thanks' he and his officers are honored to have the opportunity to serve our community.

"We take a lot of pride in the job we do," he said. "All my officers work very hard and get paid very little for doing it."

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STEALTH

rated PG-13

Weekdays:(4:10), 7, 9:10

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

WEDDING CRASHERS

rated R

Weekdays:(4:20), 7:10, 9:20

Sat & Sun:(2:10), (4:20), 7:10, 9:20

THE ISLAND

rated PG-13

Weekdays (4:20), 7

Sat & Sun:(4:20), 7

BAD NEWS BEARS

rated PG-13

Weekdays: 9:20

Sat & Sun: (2:15), 9:20

CHARLIE AND THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY

rated PG

Weekdays: (4:15), 7:05, 9:15

Sat & Sun: (2:05), (4:15), 7:05, 9:15

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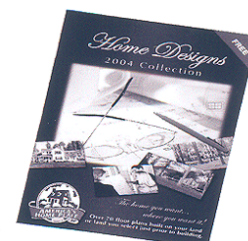
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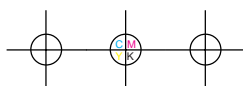
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• ANOTHER VIEW •

Battle for women's equality still on

Even though the war for gender equality in this country is far from over, it's often tempting (especially for heterosexual men) to think that only a few minor mop-ups remain to be settled. And, compared to what is happening in much of the rest of the world, it might look that way from Washington or Raleigh or Highlands. But a number of reports suggest that even here, in the United States, the battle for women's equality has a way to go.



Alex Redmountain

However in this column I want to spotlight the unique, brutal oppression of women in places like Burma (Myanmar), Pakistan, India, parts of Africa, and, yes, Ireland and Australia. The maltreatment, murder, and massacres are legion.

Some of you may be familiar by now with the widely-reported case of Mukhtar Mai, 33, who was ordered raped by a council of elders in eastern Punjab province, Pakistan, because her 13-year-old brother had an alleged affair with a higher-caste older woman. The gang rape, committed by 13 men from the woman's extended family, was ordered as punishment by the council.

In a uniquely courageous effort, Mai pursued the case all the way to Pakistan's Supreme Court after the High Court in Punjab acquitted five of the men and reduced the sentence of a sixth. The Supreme Court ultimately overturned the acquittals, but not before Mai's life was repeatedly threatened.

Mai was invited to speak in the United States, but her passport was confiscated by Pakistani authorities "in the best national interest" of the country. Recently, under pressure from the United States, President Musharraf, a war on terror ally of President Bush, finally reversed his decision. Several hundred women are raped or killed in "honor" attacks in Pakistan every year.

But even that is trifling compared to the situation in Darfur, Sudan, where over 100,000 people have been driven from torched villages. Black men are routinely killed by the Janjaweed militia in a policy of extermination; their women are raped and then murdered. "The New York Times" reported that Nemat, 21, related that she left a refugee camp with three friends to get firewood when she was caught and gang-raped by men in uniform. "They said, 'You

are black people. We want to wipe you out.'"

She was found by relatives who carried her back on a donkey. There is compelling evidence that the government of Sudan is complicit in these attacks on the black population. When the Dutch branch of Doctors Without Borders released

a report detailing 500 rapes in four months, the group's director for Sudan, Paul Foreman, was charged with spreading false information; the Darfur coordinator, Vincent Hoedt, was detained.

In Turkey, a country with one foot in modernity and the other in an ancient patriarchal tradition, violence against women, The Los Angeles Times reports, is widespread. The Turkish government, with help from the European Union, has established training programs for legal administrators to implement new laws for women's rights, programs for army conscripts to reduce domestic violence when the men are separated from the services, and instructed thousands of state-employed Muslim clerics to preach against "honor" killings.

From the Associated Press, we learn that from acid attacks for unpaid dowries in Bangladesh to forced abortion in China to rape by Security Forces in Nepal, abuse of women is legion. Amnesty International added that the situation in Afghanistan, despite rosy reports by Mrs. Bush and others, remains grim for women. Hundreds of women have set fire to themselves to escape violence in the home or forced marriages; others were restricted to the home by males, and in any case feared venturing out because of armed abductions.

Trafficking in women for slavery and prostitution proliferates in the Middle East — specifically Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Kuwait, and the United Arab Emirates — and in North Korea, Burma, and Cuba, according to the State Department. The Gulf Arab states were cited primarily for the abuse of domestic servants, while the above named countries and many others imported women against their will, or by misrepresenting the kinds of jobs they would be offered.

In Australia, more than 1,000 women, mostly from Thailand and Burma, are kept in debt-bonded prostitution until they "pay off"

■ See ANOTHER VIEW page 9



Medical advances learned at seminar

Both retired and active area physicians enjoyed an opportunity last Saturday to learn the latest medical thinking regarding treatment for a leading cause of stroke and preventing sudden death from cardiac arrhythmias, as Highlands-Cashiers Hospital hosted the first in this summer's series of physician symposiums.

More than 20 area physicians attended the breakfast event, which featured presentations by two cardiovascular experts: J. Jeffrey Marshall, MD, FACC, and Karthik Ramaswamy, MD, FACC. Both physicians are part of the Northeast Georgia Heart Center in Gainesville, Ga.

The symposium was sponsored by Highlands-Cashiers Senior Physicians, a group formed several years ago to help make retired physicians around the area more familiar with Highlands-Cashiers Hospital and to facilitate continuing educational opportunities.

Dr. Marshall spoke on minimally-invasive techniques for surgically treating carotid artery stenosis, a condition that can lead to strokes. While removing plaque blockages from the internal carotid artery is frequently done by open surgery, Dr. Marshall said new techniques for improving or restoring blood flow to the brain without using an open incision are proving effective for many high-risk patients. In cases where open surgery may not be appropriate, doctors can now perform transfemoral angioplasty much more safely. Dr. Marshall said the technique employs a special catheter that is inserted into an artery in the leg. It is then fed up through the circulatory system to the carotid artery in the neck while the physician watches the progress with fluoroscopy.

A special temporary umbrella-like filter is deployed inside the artery just above the narrowing in the artery to catch any

plaque that is loosened during the procedure, preventing it from reaching the brain where it could cause a stroke. Then a small balloon device is used to dilate the artery and deploy a permanent screen that will keep the artery open. The temporary screen is then removed, along with any loose plaque, and the procedure is complete.

Dr. Ramaswamy talked on the role that combined pacemakers/defibrillators

can play in preventing sudden death from cardiac arrhythmias. Modern technology has reduced the size of implanted defibrillators to one-sixth of what was required only a decade or so ago. In addition to a pacemaker that helps the heart maintain a normal rhythm, these units, known as ICDs, also have a built-in defibrillator de-

signed to automatically restore the heart's normal rhythm. Dr. Ramaswamy, a cardio-electro physiologist, said improvements in technology and effectiveness of ICDs in recent years has strengthened the argument for their use in treating patients that have arrhythmias that could lead to sudden death, even before those patients actually experience a major event.

Another symposium is planned for this fall at the hospital. They are open to any physician, active or retired, and medical credit for continuing education is available to qualifying participants.

"The lectures that have been presented over the last several years have all been outstanding, and I think physicians who have taken the time to attend one or more events have found them both interesting and informative," said Donald C. Mullen, MD, organizer and chair of the senior physicians group. "We hope even more physicians will decide to take advantage of this opportunity in the future."



Dr. Karthik Ramaswamy fielded questions about pacemakers and arrhythmias following his lecture last week during a physicians symposium at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital.

Mammography program re-accredited

The Mammography program at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital recently received three-year re-accreditation from the American College of Radiology.

The American College of Radiology, headquartered in Reston, Va., is authorized by the Federal Drug Administration to award accreditation to facilities that achieve high practice standards after a peer-review reevaluation. The ACR currently accredits more than 12,000 programs at over 9,000 healthcare facilities around the country.

Evaluations are conducted by board-certified physicians and medical physi-

cists who are experts in the field. They assess the qualifications of the personnel and the adequacy of equipment.

Surveyors report their findings to the ACR's committee on accreditation, which subsequently provides a comprehensive report and certificate of accreditation to those programs that meet the criteria.

The American College of Radiology is a national organization serving more than 32,000 diagnostic/interventional radiologists, radiation oncologists, and medical physicists with programs for focusing on comprehensive health care service.



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Bel Canto set for Aug. 21

Kelly Anderson, a distinguished American baritone who has a reputation for "stealing the show" will appear for the first time in Highlands, Sunday, Aug. 21 when Bel Canto presents its 13th recital at PAC. He has sung with opera companies throughout America and Europe performing in such works as "Otello," Marriage of Figaro," Don Giovanni" and more. For tickets call 526-5252. Proceeds benefit the Highlands School music program and the Bascom-Louise Gallery.



Kelly Anderson

... WOOLDRIDGE continued from page 4

again. Politicians are allowed to switch positions in a heartbeat and if the rumor is true that Buck changed his mind because of the influence of his wife, then standby, cause she's a woman. Women can change their minds faster than Kudzu can grow up Zeke's leg.

Zeke knows that Buck will be tough to beat. He will need a theme. I have always thought Highlands needed an official Easter Bunny to go along with our Santa, but when I try to envision Zeke wearing a bunny outfit with a cigar in the corner of his mouth.....Nah! This job should go to Hank Ross. Wouldn't he be the coolest of the coolest Easter Bunny? His theme for re-election could be, "Bunny In with Hank Ross."

I have always been a Buck Trott fan, even though I have no right to vote. (Shouldn't I get a half vote?) He is perfect for a resort town like Highlands. Like Santa, he always tells you what you want to hear and will say anything to get

you off his lap. He is the perfect politician. He loves his job and is reliable when it comes to showing up and taking a position, even though it could change at any time.

Because Buck takes his job so seriously, maybe it's time for him to retire. One of the great challenges of life is knowing when to hold and when to fold. Always bail out when you are at the top of your game. Sell your stock just before the fall. Step off the Ferris wheel before you get stuck at the top. Apparently Buck has been able to do that for most of his life. Buck should put on the parachute because he is at the top of his game.

I say this out of respect for him. I believe there is no job in this world that is worth losing your health over. I know the political pounding and aggravation he takes is affecting him. Highlands needs Buck as a friend, an activist and a Santa Claus, not in a box.

... WEDDING continued from page 3

geas, white roses, and calla lilies accented with lavender.

Her maids wore white and eggplant gowns. The white empire satin bodice was adorned with a halter neckline and the eggplant skirt had a border of bugle beads which adjoined the bodice and skirt. The bridesmaids wore matching gowns of white and lavender. The flower girl wore a charming white dress embroidered with purple flowers.

The groom's attire was a black tuxedo with a white vest and tie. The best men wore black tuxedos with eggplant jacquard design vests and ties and the groomsmen were attired in black tuxedos with gray vests and ties. The bell bearer wore a tuxedo matching the best men.

Wedding music was provided by Don Long and Amye Ranck. Soloist was Jennifer Mouchet of Cary, N.C., friend of the bride, who sang "When You Say Nothing At All." She was accompanied by Amye Ranck on the piano.

Guest book attendant and greeter was Jennifer Mouchet. Wedding coordinator was Anne Tate of Highlands.

After the ceremony, a brunch reception was held in the Fellowship Hall of the Highlands United Methodist Church. Eva Marshall, Lee Durci, Beatrice Ruhl and Irene Talley, aunts of the bride, assisted with the serving.

The rehearsal dinner, given by Ricky and Melinda James, was held at the Dillard House in Dillard, Georgia.

The bride is a 2000 graduate of Highlands School and a 2004 graduate of Clemson University with a B.S. degree in Mathematics Teaching. She is employed as a mathematics teacher at Westside High School in Anderson, S.C.

The groom is a 1999 graduate of Highlands School and a 2001 graduate of Nashville Auto Diesel College in Nashville, Tenn. He is employed as a transmission specialist at Stegall's Transmission in Greenville, S.C.

Prenuptial events given in honor of the couple included a bridal shower hosted by Mary Beth Houston, Jody Zoellner, Joy Still, Michelle Closen and Danielle Closen; a bridal breakfast hosted by the Mathematics Department at Westside High School; and a bridal luncheon given by the Highlands Community Players. A bridesmaid's luncheon was given in honor of the bride's wedding party at Wild Thyme Gourmet in Highlands.

To celebrate the beginning of Nicole and Steven's new life together, monarch butterflies were released as they left for their honeymoon. After a honeymoon in Florida, the couple now resides in Seneca, S.C..



HCP in rehearsal for Aug. 18 play

The cast for "Dearly Departed" is working hard these days getting ready for performances in August. The 15 very funny Southern characters of the comedy are played by several new actors and several HCP veterans, not to mention several "Joy of Life" singers, who will add some good old gospel singing to the production.

Lee Lyons and Jennifer Royce, new to the HCP stage, will play the wives of the two brothers in the comedy, Ray-Bud, played by Derek Taylor, and Junior, played by Taylor Earman. New to HCP, but not to stage, is Sue Manning of Cashiers, an experienced actor who has the pivotal role of Raynelle, widow of Bud Turpin, the "dearly departed."

Jean Morris (Aunt Marguerite) and Dean Zuch (Reverend Hooker) are re-creating their roles from HCP's original production 10 years. Jody Read, also from the original production, is alternating with Shirley Williams, in the role of Veda, long-suffering wife and caregiver of Norval, played by Jim Schulte in his first stage role. Stuart Armor, well-known HCP actor, plays Royce, the lazy, exasper-

ating son of Aunt Marguerite.

Newcomers Ron Leslie and Mary Haratsaris play the roles respectively of Clyde, the garage mechanic, and Juanita, former Yam Queen of Lula. Jenny King plays Nadine, the mother of multiple children, pregnant again and still with a babe in arms. Samantha Moore plays Delightful, the Turpins' daughter, a girl of few words, but a prodigious appetite.



Sue Manning and Dean Zuch in rehearsal as the widow Raynelle Turpin and the Reverend Hooker in the Highlands Community Players production of the comedy "Dearly Departed" to open Aug. 18-20 at PAC For information call 526-8084.

"This outrageous comedy is the play most requested for revival by those who saw it 10 years ago," says director Virginia Talbot. "I'm excited about working with my cast of crazy characters. We're going to have as much fun as

the audiences who will see the play in August."

The fun begins opening night, Thursday, Aug. 18, with reception for audience, cast, and crew after the performance. The performances continue Aug. 19 and 20, Aug. 26 and 27, at 8 p.m. and on Sundays, Aug. 21 and Aug. 28 at 2:30 p.m. Tickets go on sale Aug. 15. Call 526-8084.

"Dearly Departed" is generously sponsored in part by Warth Construction.

... ANOTHER VIEW continued from page 6

inflated sums up to \$50,000, or when they're "too old" to be of use to the pimps. They are usually locked in the brothels and beaten if they protest in any way. And such other "civilized" countries, like Ireland and the United States, are not immune to the trafficking problem.

Some 50,000 women regularly enter Ireland to serve as prostitutes, mainly from North Africa and Europe. They too, are promised legitimate jobs which never materialize. In the United States, a California coalition found that in excess of 10,000 people, about 80 percent of whom are women, are being forced to work against their will in that one state alone. Some were kidnapped, mostly in Mexico, others promised decent jobs by human smugglers, then pressed into service.

What is shocking to me is that so few Americans, most notably women, have not raised louder voices in protest against the mistreatment of their sisters here and abroad. Our government has spoken, but in a relatively tepid way. I would think that an outcry about these practices would be resounding from London

to Moscow, from Stockholm to Tel Aviv. Our Pollyanna leaders will dream their dreams of progress and make their pacts with the Egyptians and the Saudis. But it is the cries of plain citizens that need to be heard throughout the world.

In a somewhat related but markedly more auspicious story, Gaby Vermot-Mongold, an anthropologist and member of the Swiss parliament, has proposed awarding the 2006 medal to "A Thousand Women for the Nobel Peace Prize" — a recognition of peacemaking outside of politics.

Since 1901, only twelve women have won the Nobel Peace Prize. In 2006, three women will be chosen as representatives of the thousand, and a vote will then pick one as the symbolic nominee for the prize.

In 2004, the Peace Prize winner was Wangari Maathai, the first African woman to receive the honor. She was cited for promoting ecologically viable social, economic and cultural development in Kenya. Maathai was elected to parliament in 2002 with 98 per cent of her constituency vote.

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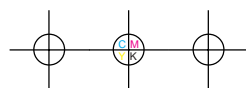
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Secrets of Petra unveiled

By Phyllis Picklesimer
Contributor

One can only imagine what the early traders felt, after traveling across the desert with their precious cargo, to suddenly come upon a city with massive buildings carved into the sandstone cliffs glowing red in the sun.

An Arab tribe, the Nabateans, about whom little is known, settled Petra, Jordan in the 6th century B. C. The area of Petra rises up from the desert with jagged sandstone cliffs. Its steep walls formed a natural fortress that allowed the Nabataeans to defend and hold their territory until 109 A. D. when Emperor Trajan made Petra a part of the Roman Empire.

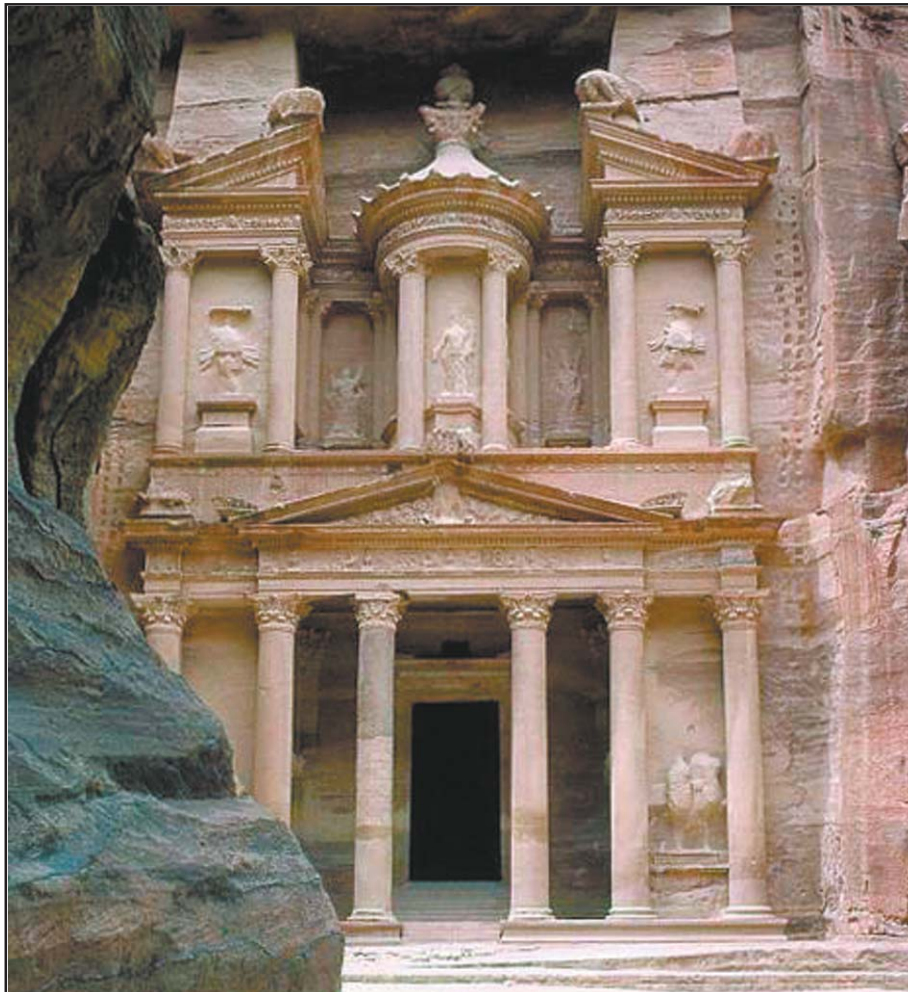
Its location, its fresh-water springs and water storage methods, and its caravanserais allowed the Nabataeans to make it a desired stop on the trade routes and also allowed tolls to be extorted from those same travelers.

Petra was not only a trading center and gateway between east and west, but also a necropolis. It is this necropolis for which it is most famous today.

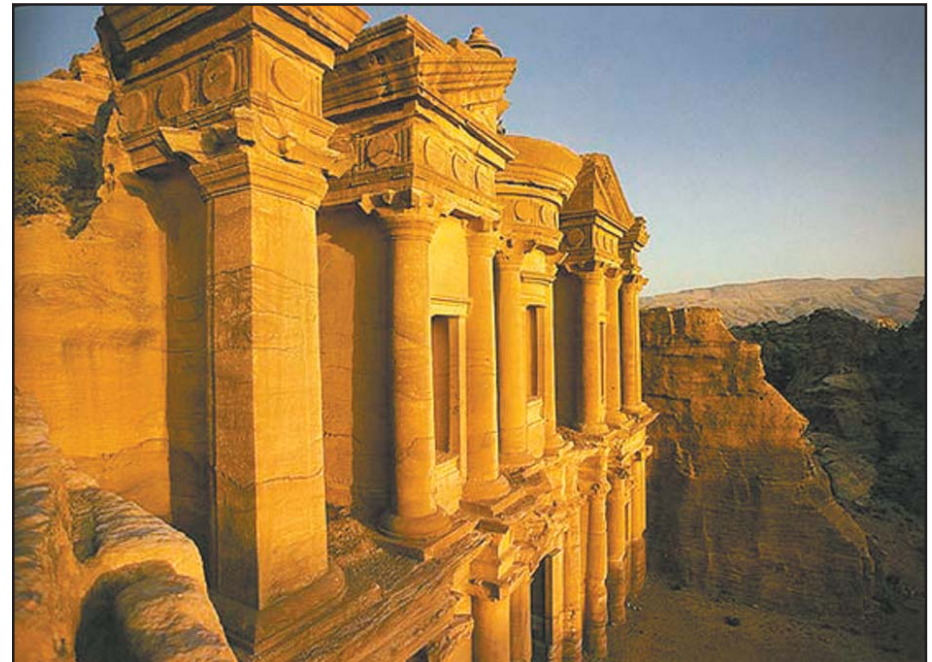
Its cult of the dead necessitated chiseling into the sandstone magnificent tombs and rooms where funeral banquets could be held. There are more than 800 tombs in the valley.

The sandstone is not just red. It is layered with graduations from pink to crimson with layers of black and white for contrast. All has been contoured and refined by the forces of wind and water to expose the colors in a kaleidoscope of often-brilliant hues.

The site is approached down the mile-long Siq, a narrow walkway surrounded on right and left by sheer rock walls. At the end, a narrow crevice gives a tantalizing view of Petra's most famous monument, The Treasury. It received its name because of the urn carved on its top that is said to contain the treasure of a pharaoh. Bullets fired



The approach through a kilometer long, cool, and gloom chasm (or Siq) a long narrow gorge whose steeply rising sides all but obliterate the sun, provides a dramatic contrast with the magic to come. Suddenly the gorge opens into a natural square dominated by Petra's most famous monument, The Treasury (El-Khazneh), whose intricately carved facade glows in the dazzling sun.



Petra sights are at their best in early morning and late afternoon, when the sun warms the multicolored stones

through the centuries in efforts to break it and release its treasure pockmark the urn. In fact, the urn is solid, cut out of the surrounding rock, as are all the monumental building and tombs.

This is a rock city of facades carved into the sandstone, rather than one built of stone blocks. In addition, all of the facades were sculptured from the top down rather than *vice versa*.

The Treasury with its 120-foot façade is composed of Corinthian columns on two levels, a delicate freeze over the entrance including various plants and griffins, sphinxes on its ends and an eagle atop the pediment. On the second level, three statues somewhat the worse for wear stand on plinths. The overall aspect is one of Greek design with Egyptian overlay. The interior was once stuccoed with designs much like the exterior, but today its interior walls are bare rock.

After leaving The Treasury, the Siq continues through the now more open valley. The grandiose tombs are located at various levels on the craggy cliffs. On the left are several very simple tombs with small square doors hollowed into the cliff face. Some of my favorites; the beauty of these tombs lies in their magnificent striation showing all the colors inherent in the sandstone. The play of light makes them incandescent. They shimmer with fire.

Not far is the theater with its columned stage. Its rows of seats carved from the stone could seat 6,000 people.

Further walking along the Siq reveals rock walls covered with huge ornately designed tombs, many for royal personages. Some require a climb, but the rewards are many with several extraordinary views over the valley. The Urn Tomb is the most famous. It is reached by climbing a rather long flight of steps. Upon arrival

at its terrace, the tomb face is directly before you with its façade decorated with four weathered Doric columns and an entrance pediment topped by an urn. On each side of the terrace are porticoes supported by Doric columns.

After leaving this area of monumental tombs, the path continues downward to the lower city. This was the heart of Petra. This area has a stone-paved street that had covered markets on each side. This was where the people lived, worshiped, shopped, and used the public baths. The Nabataeans were sophisticated. Their delicate eggshell thin glass is famous. The rock tombs were just that; not used for housing the population.

Petra is truly a fascinating place to explore. My first visit was in 1992 after the end of the first Gulf War. There were no other people. There was only the whispering of the wind through the canyon as it swirled small whirlwinds of dust into the air. My second trip in September 2000 was very different. Hundreds of people walked the Siq and visited The Treasury, the Royal Tombs, and the lower city. Such a unique destination is surely something to be shared by all, but I also missed the whisper of the wind and solitude.



It is mostly the rock-cut tombs which remain today, though freestanding temples built of stone, the Qasr Al-Bint Temple and the Temple of the Winged Lions can also be seen.

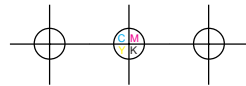


Photo of the nursery in Linville where Kelsey's diaries were preserved.

Kelsey's diaries come home to Highlands

By **Ran Shaffner**
Contributor

One of the high points of the recent Grand Opening of the Highlands Historical Village was the announcement that the diaries of Highlands co-founder Samuel T. Kelsey had been donated to the Highlands Historical Society for preservation in its archives. It was not known until six years ago that these diaries even existed.

In partnership with C. C. Hutchinson, Kelsey founded Highlands in 1875. When he left the town in 1890 to help found Linville, N.C., he took with him his diaries, along with several log books of work done on early roads in Highlands. These treasures were kept until recently at a nursery, which he and his son Harlan founded in Linville.

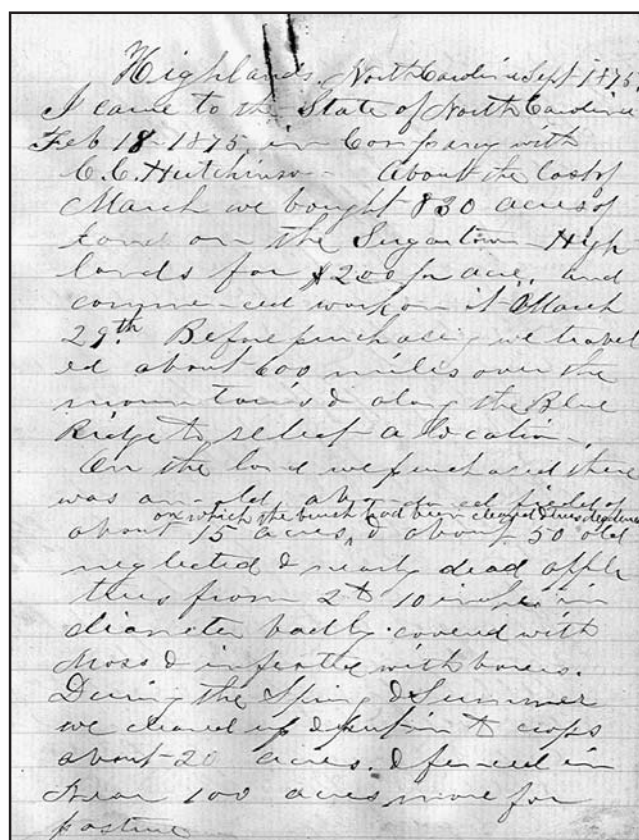
The diaries include accounts of Kelsey's horticultural work at Ottawa University in Kansas from 1866 to 1869, then describe his founding of Highlands in 1875, and end before his departure in 1882. They provide vital references to early settlers and events in Highlands as well as daily weather reports.

Indeed, they are the source for the assurance that the current home of the Highlands Historical Society (the House-Trapier-Wright House, also known as the "Prince House") is the oldest remaining residence in Highlands. Kelsey helped Arthur House build it in the fall of 1877.

It is through the generosity of Katy Robbins Fletcher that

Highlands received Kelsey's diaries. She is the granddaughter of E. C. Robbins, who worked for Kelsey when he was living in Highlands and accompanied him to Linville. In 1923 he bought out Kelsey's nursery in Linville, which is popularly known today as the Garden of the Blue Ridge in nearby Pineola.

Maxie Wright Duke has volunteered to transcribe Kelsey's diaries to make them more accessible to the public. The Highlands Historical Society is thrilled to have them in its archives and hopes to accumulate many more diaries, genealogies, letters, photographs, artifacts, etc., from local residents to make its collection more complete and available to all who have a genuine interest in Highlands history.



Page of Kelsey's diary describing the founding of Highlands



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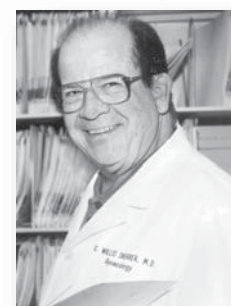
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• BOOK REVIEW WITH KATIE BRUGGER •

Watershed: The Undamming of America, by Elizabeth Grossman 333.91G

I read this book a couple of years ago, before I started doing these reviews, and I have thought from time to time of reviewing it. Then I noticed that a lecture about the removal of dams sponsored by the Center for Life Enrichment on August 3 and I knew the time had come.

My first environmental experience was opposition to the Army Corps of Engineers' plans to build dams for flood control in my native state of Missouri. As a teenager I loved the naughtiness of wearing T-shirts that said "Dam the Army Corps of Engineers." Even with that in my past I believed that because dams were the source of hydroelectric power they were, balancing all other factors, environmentally positive. Dams also make beautiful lakes that serve as a source of drinking water. My first glimpse of Highlands was driving up Highway 64 from Franklin: after an incredible ride through canyons of green and rushing water the first sight of a sparkling mountain lake was breathtaking.

This book changed my mind about dams. A dam ruins a river, a living system that is the foundation of an entire ecosystem. This system is altered by a dam with dire consequences for many forms of wildlife. One of the most obvious victims of dams are fish, because they can no longer move up and down the river during their life cycle. It seems to be a common thing for fish to swim upstream to spawn: I always thought the salmon in the Northwest were unique in this but that is not true. Many fish on the east coast of the United States are imperiled because of dams blocking their access to the interior of states such as Maine and North Carolina. Other fish may not travel so far but move up and down a river during their lives.

Watershed is a look at ten rivers across the United States with dams that have either been removed or their removal is being contemplated. Most of these dams were built originally for hydropower, but over time, as utility companies have spread powerlines everywhere, the small generating capacity of the dams have made them more-or-less irrelevant for this purpose. But the dams remain, blocking the movement of riverine creatures, capturing sediment in the impounded lake, and altering the ecology of the river downstream by the lack of normal sediment deposition and the regulated water flow.

Just last week I found out that the very controversies Ms. Grossman describes are happening right here in our backyard. I just happened to see the *Crossroads Chronicle* of July 13 which has a front-page article entitled "Relicensing Alternative?"

The licenses of a number of hydroelectric dams in western North Carolina owned by Duke Power are up for review. Duke Power wants to remove some of their dams, including one in Dillsboro (the one you can see from Highway 441/23 on the Tuckaseegee River). There are many people and groups in favor of the removal of the Dillsboro dam, including whitewater kayakers. But as in *Watershed*, groups of citizens and governments have come together to block removal of the dam. In our case these are Friends of Lake Glenville and Jackson County and Macon County. These entities have filed a Preferred Settlement Agreement (PSA) with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) which, among other things, argues for the preservation of the Dillsboro dam.

Opponents of the dam argue that the dam is "historic" so should be preserved; it's "scenic;" and the

sediment release upon breaching the dam will harm endangered species. These are all familiar arguments after reading *Watershed*.

Also as in *Watershed*, the main arguments in favor of removing the Dillsboro dam are the benefits of river restoration to the wildlife. The *Crossroads Chronicle* reported: "In the original settlement agreement, Duke Power calls for the removal of the Dillsboro Dam, which Duke said would 'allow full access by aquatic resources to an additional 9.5 miles of river, which would provide restored habitat for numerous riverine fish species, macroinvertebrates, and the federally endangered

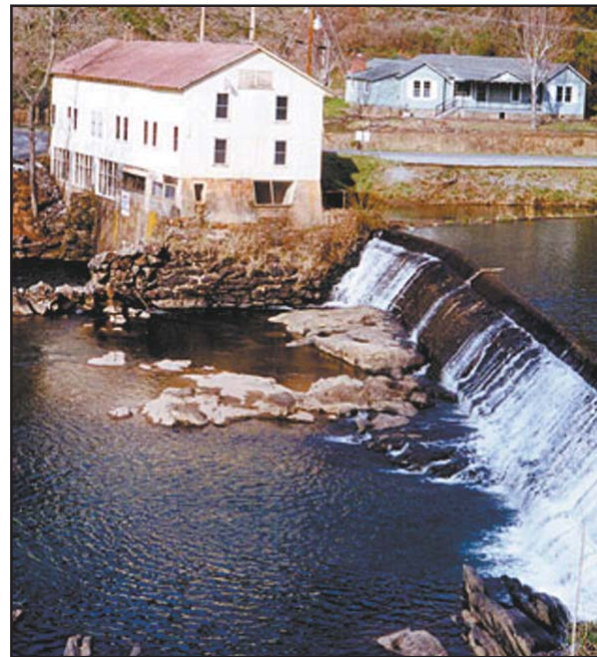


Photo courtesy of Smoky Mountain News
Dillsboro dam in Dillsboro, N.C.

Appalachian elktoe mussel, and would remove a barrier to upstream fish movements, including mussel host species in the Tuckaseegee River."

Ms. Grossman describes how the spawn of mussels grab on to migrating fish and hitch a ride to a new part of a river for the next phase of their life. Some opponents of the Dillsboro dam removal claim that the release of the sediment when the dam is breached will harm the mussels so the dam should stay to protect them, but it is very likely the elktoe mussels are endangered because their passage up the river has been blocked. The dam removal won't harm them, it will save them. In addition, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service tested the sediment for toxic contamination and found no evidence that release of the sediment would be harmful.

The Dillsboro Dam is a good example of a hydroelectric dam that has become obsolete, just like the dam on Lake Sequoyah. The Dillsboro dam's generating capacity is 225 kw, and its average annual generation is about 1,350 megawatt hours. Duke Power could replace Dillsboro's total power output in less than a day of additional operation of the utility's 10 other area hydroelectric plants (from the *Sylva Herald*).

As I looked over the *Chronicle* I wondered whether it was any coincidence that in that same issue, on the front page of the next section, there was an article about the pleasures afforded by the existence of Lake Glenville—how natural river recreation is fine and good

but in the summer there is nothing like waterskiing for real fun, including a few pictures of the author having a really good time doing just that.

One of the most affecting stories that Ms. Grossman told is about two dams in the Olympic National Park. The damage these dams have wreaked upon the native salmon population is heartbreaking, yet at the time of the publication of this book the future of these dams was in doubt, and the reader isn't left much hope that removal would happen. Happily, the upcoming lecture is by Dr. Robert Young of Western Carolina University, who will be speaking about his involvement in the removal of these two dams on the Elwha River which is set to begin in 2008.

I was also thrilled to read that the removal of Glen Canyon Dam, on the Colorado River upstream of the Grand Canyon, is within the realm of possibilities. I consider myself an environmentalist, but I do not agree with the tactics of Earth First!, the radical group inspired by the writings of Edward Abbey, in particular his novel *The Monkeywrench Gang*. When I read this book I realized it was written by someone who loved a landscape more than anyone I had known before. Mr. Abbey adored the desert southwest, and when he saw his beloved being developed it was like watching his lover be raped. By the end of the book I was contemplating blowing up the Glen Canyon Dam.

Many years ago a water compact was reached between the states in the Colorado River drainage, dividing up the water rights. Glen Canyon Dam was built to store water for the lower Colorado Basin states, and Ms. Grossman documents that this is an extremely inefficient method of water transfer. Every year Lake Powell loses to evaporation and seepage into the porous rocks of Glen Canyon enough water to supply a city the size of Los Angeles. The loss of the dam would reduce the amount of water delivered to the lower Colorado River Basin by only one percent.

A favorite book of mine is *Controlling Nature* by John McPhee. In this book Mr. McPhee looks at the folly of humankind's attempts to control nature on a grand scale. Mr. McPhee looks at three projects in great detail, including building dams and levees to control the Mississippi River, and I found myself wishing that Ms. Grossman had taken the same approach. She gives snapshots of the battles around the dams on the ten rivers, but the issues are similar and by quickly addressing one dam after another the material got kind of repetitious.

The other thing I think would have improved her book was if she discussed dams that are useful, for example those that produce a lot of electricity. By doing so she could have helped readers assess the pros and cons of a dam in their own backyards.

I just heard that the Dillsboro dam is here to stay. This may be rumor, but it saddens me to hear it because I have become convinced of the benefits of dam removal. I look forward to hearing Dr. Young's opinion. The lecture is sponsored by the Center for Life Enrichment, and will be given Wednesday, August 3 at 7:30 pm at the Civic Center.

• For more information on our local dam removal:
www.ferc.gov

www.friendsoflakeglenville.com

www.nantahalapower.com/nantahala/lakes/hydroelectric/



Note: After being away from Highlands for 10 months, Megan returned to Highlands June 26. She has written 10 articles about her experiences; and has also included a multi-part series about the trip she took with the Rotary and other exchange students around Europe. She returned home before finishing her series and more installments are due, so stay tuned.

– News from Chambéry, France, Part 11 – Around Europe in 15 days flat, – continued –

By Megan Lewicki

Highlands Rotary Exchange Student

A lot happened on Day Eight of our tour.

Day 8

The eighth day of the bus trip had been anticipated from the beginning. Today, we would be spending our time in Venice. Almost every girl had been saving her spending money exclusively for the Venetian boutiques.

Because of my handicap, we realized I would never make it to all of our appointments for the day on my crutches. So the boys took turns carrying me in a basket toss (strictly a cheerleader's term for a hand over wrist formation between two pairs of hands, forming a human chair) over bridges and all around Venice. They were absolute troopers. I promised them I wouldn't eat anything that afternoon to lessen the workload, a.k.a moi.

When the boys got tired, one of the chaperones took over and I sat on his shoulders for a while. I didn't enjoy that so much; he was very tall and very thin, and I couldn't help but cling to his head for dear life, fearing I might cause him to topple over.

We finally made it to our destination...a gondola port! We were about to take a 45 minute tour of Venice via gondola. All of us were looking forward to it. Most of us used up our memory cards in our digital cameras from all the pictures we took. It was absolutely amazing. Venice really is everything they say it is.

We met our tour guide afterwards and luckily, he was able to get me a wheelchair. We visited the

famous Saint Marc Basilica and Doges Palace. The murals and paintings were absolutely gorgeous! Even though the tour guide told us it was forbidden to take pictures, the other exchange students would crowd around my wheelchair while I secretly took as many photos as I could with the flash off.

After the tour, I found all four chaperones huddled together in what appeared to be a serious discussion. One of them approached me and said, (translated for your convenience) "We would like you to have this wheelchair for the rest of the afternoon, but technically we aren't allowed to keep it after the tour is finished. So...we are going to sneak you out of here when we see a large group heading towards the exits, and hide you among the other people." I started to laugh at their 007 attitude. Then another chaperone checked me and said, "Don't laugh! Pretend that it's your wheelchair and look like you really need it!" I mustered all my acting abilities and bit my tongue hard to keep from laughing as they hid me among a group of Austrian senior citizens. I think

Below: Megan takes a break on the plaza of Saint Marc Basilica.

Right: A view of Venice via gondola.
Above: Megan gets a little support from one of her chaperones.

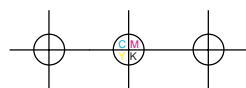
Photos by Megan Lewicki



they were really excited from all the strategic planning. Then I had the afternoon to spend almost all my money in the Venetian boutiques.

At the end of the afternoon we all headed wearily back to our hotel, and thought about our upcoming events. Tomorrow we would be heading to the south of France and then off to Monaco.....

Stay tuned to see how the remainder of the trip ends.



• SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING •

"I lay me down to Sleep"

When all the World Was Young," is Ferrol Sam's third in a trilogy that traces the life of Porter Osborne. Porter is in medical school about to be drafted into service.



The Rev. Hunter Coleman
First Presbyterian Church

have become so self-reliant, so pragmatic that we trust only that which can be seen and measured, tested and touched.

And yet, the practice of prayer in the life of the believer is crucial.

Jesus prayed, often, every day, at the drop of a hat, as if his life depended on it, which apparently it did. Jesus commanded us to prayer. Prayer is an integral part of discipleship.

And yet, who among us can say they are satisfied with their understanding of and practice of prayer?

"Teach us to pray," asked the disciples and many of us would agree. Yes, teach us to pray.

If you want to learn to pray, said Jesus, pray like this. "Our Abba, who art in heaven." The most important word in all of the Lord's Prayer, the paradigm of prayers, is "Abba" which translates most accurately not as father, but as papa. That one word defines the true nature of prayer.

To pray "abba" is to see yourself as a child of God and God your heavenly parent, with the understanding that God defines parenthood. Parenthood, does not defined God. The nature of God, his awesome power, untried, or, they think they know how but don't because it's ineffective. David, a man after God's own heart, prayed. Psalm 86 is but one of the many in scripture attributed to him. Praying is integral to the life of the believer, yet the practice of praying comes hard. It's hard because as adults, we are so grown up that we have lost much of the childlikeness God seems to welcome in the very act of praying.

"Now I lay me down to sleep..." Do you remember being taught that as a young child?

We are so grown up, we have apparently grown past having needs that the act of praying implies. We

Even though prayer is childlike, it isn't childish. It isn't like the young boy who interrupted his family to announce, "I'm going to say my prayers now. Anybody want anything?" Sadly, those who eventually

•See SPIRITUALLY pg. 18

• PLACES OF WORSHIP ON THE PLATEAU •

BLUE VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

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

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
743-9370

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Tuesday Noon Bible Study: noon Parish House
Thursday worship and communion at 10:30 a.m.
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Wednesday at 7 p.m.

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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.

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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

Opera company to perform at 'Interlude'



Capitol City Opera Company comes to Highlands, at the Church of the Incarnation, on Wed., Aug. 3, as one of the programs constituting the Interlude Series 2005. Atlanta's most frequently performing opera company, Capitol City Opera Company presents high quality, innovative, and exciting opera theater. Interlude Series 2005 concerts are held at 2 p.m. on summer Wednesdays through Aug. 31. Programs alternate weekly between the First Presbyterian Church of Highlands and the Episcopal Church of the Incarnation. There is no admission charge for the programs, which constitute a ministry in music to the many visitors, members and friends of the churches in Highlands and provide a time to reflect, to be refreshed and renewed.

... STATUTE continued from page 1

to suggest conditions for approving the plat.

"That's contractual zoning and it's illegal," he said. "Unless you go in and make fundamental changes to the ordinance."

Since that time, Gantenbein has discussed the matter with the Institute of Government and learned that a state-enabling statute is not required for conditional zoning and it can be used to develop "difficult" tracts of land — difficult as it applies in Highlands to topography and adjacent zoning districts.

Gantenbein said this allows any town board to discuss sites on a case-by-case basis so that the final site plan becomes the ordinance — with its setback heights, parking requirements and individual specifications included.

"It will allow the Town Board to negotiate the whole package," he said.

Conditional zoning would give the Town Board more control over development prior to the zoning board's final step of issuing a Special Use Permit.

Gantenbein said he was encouraged by this because the current zoning ordinances are "cookie cutter ordinances" and "they just don't work here in the mountains with the terrain."

Gantenbein said he thinks conditional zoning would have made a difference in the Town Board's decision regarding the Werder property because this would give the Town the ability to use their own discretion on a project by project basis. Developer Simmerson

wanted the tract rezoned R-3; the Town Board wanted it rezoned R-2.

"Now, they can match the project to the terrain," he said.

Gantenbein said there were two options from which the Town Board could choose. One would be a site-plan review by the Town Board, then the planning board and back to the Town Board for final approval.

In the second option, the site plan would go directly to the zoning board for a conditional use permit in a procedure similar to the issuance of a Special Use Permit.

The town's zoning ordinance would have to be amended to permit the new "conditional zones" which are actually the site plans.

"This would make contractual zoning legal," Gantenbein said. "I would pick the first option."

Gantenbein said the downside to conditional zoning is that it could become political because everything is done on a site-by-site, person-to-person basis.

Calling all singles

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 for details.

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• UPCOMING EVENTS •

On-going

- 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 outdoors; 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: Complimentary samples Saturday 12:30 until 4:00. Wine Flights Thursday, Friday, and Saturday from 4:30 until 6:30, featuring Bordeaux.

- 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 toning 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.

July 29

- Live Music at Cyprus Restaurant. Chuck Beattie & Blues by Design -10 p.m.

- Renaissance Woman and multi-media artist, Thea (Cynthia Stacey), will be presenting her photography at Mill Creek Gallery & Framing in Highlands during the month of

At Instant Theater



This Saturday, July 30, singer-songwriters Thea & the GreenMan who are known for blending impeccable harmony vocals with acoustic guitars and percussion will be at The Instant Theatre Company's Studio on Main for a very special concert. They have been compared to Peter, Paul & Mary, Judy Collins and John Denver. Tickets for Thea & The GreenMan are \$7 children 17 & under and \$15 adults. Call The Instant Box Office at (828) 342-9197.

Also on The ITC's calendar is Little Entertainments, a weekly show featuring improv comedy, guest musicians, original short plays, a radio show and The Back Porch Band that plays to full houses every Friday night at 8 p.m. July 29 guests include Highlands musician John Williams and pianist C.W. Stewart. Complimentary wine is served before the performance and at the interval. To reserve tickets, call The Instant Box Office at (828) 342-9197. Little Entertainments tickets are \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door.

• UPCOMING EVENTS •

August. An artist's reception is set for 6-8 p.m. and will feature the music of singer-songwriters Thea & the GreenMan.

- Instant Theater Little Entertainments features guests Brian Reese & Uncle Bob. \$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.

July 30

- Saturday, singer-songwriters Thea & the GreenMan who are known for blending impeccable harmony vocals with acoustic guitars and percussion will be at The Instant Theatre Company's Studio on Main for a very special concert. Tickets for Thea & The GreenMan are \$7 children 17 & under and \$15 adults. Call The Instant Box Office at (828) 342-9197.

- The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a

3.5 mile moderate hike to Split Rock on the Chattooga River. Drive 30 miles round trip. Call leader Mo Wheeler, 526-9561.

- The last Mountain Music concert at Highlands School gymnasium 7:15-9:15 p.m. The Dendy Family and Mountain Faith, a family of musicians from Sylva.

July 31

- Cajun Festival poster contest deadline is Sunday. The winning entry will receive two tickets to the festival, dance lessons by Carolina Cajun Dancers, Cajun cuisine from Don Leon's Deli Cafe and Holly Does The Cooking, and a Cajun gift basket from The Toy Store. Total prizes are valued at \$100. Entries may be any size, but must be turned in to The Toy Store or the PAC by July 31. Call 526-1552.

Aug. 1

- The Highlands Playhouse benefit golf tournament on Monday at Highlands Cove. The event will feature a shotgun start and the \$125 fee per person includes greens fees, cart a box lunch, hors d'oeuvres, dinner prizes and an auction all at the beautiful Highlands Cove. There will also be awards for a hole-in-one, closest to the pin and a putting contest to add enjoyment to the round of golf and challenge the contestants. To registrator call 526-9443.

Aug. 3

- The third in the CLE Wednesday night lecture series on Wednesday will be held at the Highlands Civic Center at 7:30. Dr. Rob Young, a Western Carolina University geologist will discuss his work on the Elwha River Restoration Project. Admission is free.

- Capitol City Opera Company comes to Highlands, at the Church of the Incarnation, on Wed., at 2 p.m., as one of the programs constituting the Interlude Series 2005

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. 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 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.

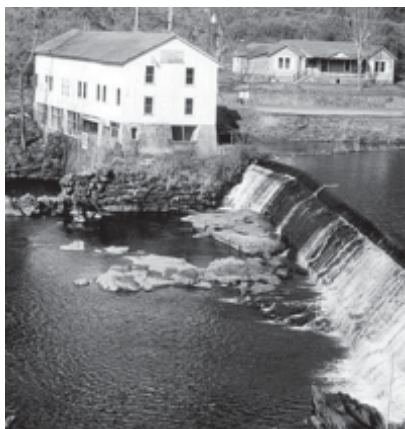


Photo courtesy of
Smoky Mountain News

Next up at CLE

The third in the CLE Wednesday night lecture series on August 3 will be held at the Highlands Civic Center at 7:30. Admission is free.

Dr. Rob Young, a Western Carolina University geologist will discuss his work on the Elwha River Restoration Project. A \$182 million federally funded plan to restore the Elwha River, the largest watershed in Olympic National Park, will result in the removal of two dams — the 108-foot tall Elwha Dam and the 210-foot Glines Canyon Dam. The project, set to begin in 2008, is designed to re-establish the salmon fishery in the Elwha River and restore the river's delta area to its original sandy coastal environment. Young will guide the design and monitoring phases of the associated coastal restoration, an effort that could last 10 years.

The project also has implications for western North Carolina, as Duke Power is considering removal of a dam on the Tuckaseegee River in Dillsboro. Dr. Young will describe the benefits and risks associated with these projects and present the engineering behind a large dam removal project.

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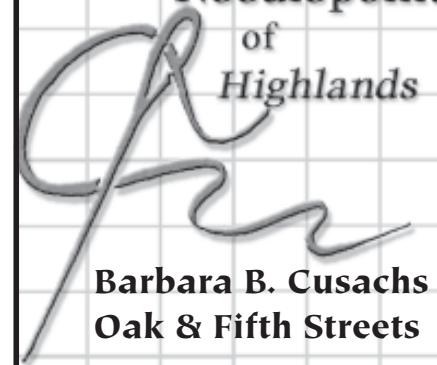


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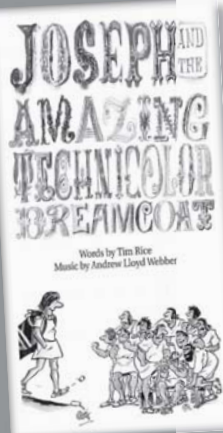
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BUSINESS NEWS

Bear Mountain Outfitters



The Highlands Chamber of Commerce held a ribbon cutting at the newly expanded Bear Mountain Outfitters in Oak Square. The store has tripled its size and expanded its lines of hiking and outdoor outfitters inventory including a complete shoe department. Owner Sean Mullarkey and his staff cut the ribbon for his renovated store.

... SPIRITUALLY continued from page 14

ly give up on prayer have the mistaken notion that they are praying to a genie in a bottle, a great problem solver, a cosmic magician. God is anything but. God is "abba," said Jesus. As the paradigm of parenting suggests, God offers us the good news of an abiding presence that provides the wisdom, courage, and strength, to mature sufficiently to live out our days freely, faithfully, and fully.

Those of you who don't pray because you don't think you know how, or don't because you think you know how but don't any more because it hasn't worked, please don't give up. You can learn to pray. It won't be over night. It will take time but it will be worth all the groping, all the growing. Robert Fulghum, in the sequel to his best seller, "All I Really Need to Know I Learned in Kindergarten," shares an experience he had in learning the Lord's prayer as a young child. He writes:

"My mother's name was Howard having come from a large Memphis clan that was pretty close

and referred to as the Howard family, which made my first lesson in Sunday School something else. The teacher was teaching us the Lord's prayer which I heard as:

'Our father in heaven, Howard be thy name.' Since little kids mutter their prayers, no one realized what I was saying so I went right on believing that God's name was Howard, and believing I was a member of God's family, the Howards. I had a pretty comfy notion about God. When I knelt down beside my bed each night and prayed: 'Our Father in heaven, Howard be your name... and ended with for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever.... I went to bed feeling pretty well connected to the universe for a long, long time.'

Prayer is being still and quiet and

pondering what it means to address the Sovereign of the Universe as Abba. What it means that as a child of God, we are connected to the very one who placed the planets in their orbits, causes the sun to shine, the rain to fall, the grain to sprout. What it means that such a one loves us most, knows best for us, washes us in his endless mercy, invites us to put your feet under his table, promises nothing can separate us from him.

Prayer is pondering all of that and taking it to heart & talking with God about it. To contemplate the one true God is to remember that he isn't some thin skinned, blue nosed prude who is easily offended. Remember Celie's caution in "Color Purple:" "You better not tell nobody but God. It'd

kill you mammy." God's seen it all and heard it all. He can handle whatever you have to say. He already knows. He'll be disappointed if you don't bare your soul. You can laugh, cry, scream, argue, lament, rejoice, ask.. You're talking to none other than your heavenly "abba." You can pray it from the heart like....the fourth grader who prayed, "I've been thinking about you a lot lately. I know you are pretty busy with all you have to do, but when is the best time I can talk to you? I know you are always listening, but when will you be listening real hard in Troy New York? My little sister is four years old. She's driving me crazy." You can pray it like it is, like, the seventh-grader who prayed: "If you know so much how come you never made the river big enough for all the water and our house got flooded and now we got to move."

Prayer is intimacy with God, a lifetime of thinking and talking in preparation for that day when we shall see him face to face and understand fully as we are now fully understood. "When you pray," said Jesus, pray: Abba, Papa."

POLICE & FIRE

The following are the Highlands Police Dept. log entries for the week of July 21-27.

July 21

- At 9:30 a.m., officers responded to a vehicle accident at N.C. 106 and Arnold Road. There were no injuries.

- At 1 p.m., officers responded to a vehicle accident at Farmers Market. There were no injuries.

- At 4 p.m., a "peeping Tom" was reported at Bear Mountain Outfitters.

July 22

- At 2:10 p.m., officers responded to an alarm at Highland Hiker. All was secure.

- At 12:30 p.m., a gas-drive off was reported at D&J Express Mart.

July 23

- At 10 a.m., vandalism was reported at the Highlands Biological Station when an employee discovered a broken window.

- At 12:00 p.m., officers responded to an alarm in a residence on Bowery Road. All was secure.

- At 9:50 p.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident. There were no injuries.

- At 6:35 p.m., officers responded to an alarm at a residence on Bowery Road. All was secure.

- At 5:20 p.m., a purse lost on S. Fourth Street was reported.

July 25

- At 7 a.m., a motorist on N.C. 28 and Cherokee was cited for driving without a inspection sticker.

July 26

- At 4:41 p.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident at the U.S. 64 east and Foreman Road. There were no injuries.

- At 4:47 a.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident. There were no injuries.

- At 2:10 p.m., officers responded to an accident between two vehicles on Raoul Road. There were no injuries.

- At 5:30 p.m., a motorist was cited for failing to stop at a stop sign and for driving without a license.

July 27

- At 2:37 a.m., a bear was reported a residence on Raoul Road.

- At 4:10 a.m., officers responded to an alarm at a residence on Split Rail Row.

... ETJ continued from page 5

the Planning Board, took a field trip around Highlands to peruse the corridors leading into town and to determine the highest priorities for ETJ and annexation.

Members were unanimous in their decision to ETJ areas along U.S. 64 east first – corridors leading up to and including Highlands Falls Country Club, Culasaja Club and a significant part of Wildcat Cliffs Country Club. ETJ-priority areas were determined based on current and potential development in those areas.

In an April Land Use Plan meeting,

Highlands Falls resident Jim Whitehurst said the club was not a threat to the town and consequently should be left alone.

"We don't need any service that Highlands can provide us," he said to committee members. "There is only one reason why Highlands would want to annex Highlands Falls... greed. You want to get into our pockets and extract tax money from us."

Residents from Highlands Falls have maintained that the club is not a zoning threat to Highlands because its covenants prevent any major zoning menace to the

town.

But not all are in agreement with Whitehurst. But some residents in Highlands Falls feel ETJ would be a fair thing for the plateau.

The powers in ETJ are limited to land use planning authority and include: zoning; subdivision regulations; enforcement of the State Building Code; minimum housing code regulations; historic district regulations; historic properties designation and regulation; community development projects; jurisdiction of the community appearance commission; ac-

quisition of open space; floodway regulations; and soil erosion and sedimentation control regulations.

If a city intends to enforce zoning and subdivision control in its ETJ area, it must permit residents of the extraterritorial area to sit on the planning board and the Zoning Board of Adjustment. In those cases, the representatives of those boards are appointed by the county board of commissioners. The city can allow "out of town" representatives to vote on all matters before the two boards,

■ See ETJ page 21

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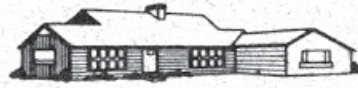
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... ETJ continued from page 19

or it may limit their voting to only those issues related specifically to the extraterritorial area.

"I think arguably they have better representation, because we all have to pay taxes, they don't have to pay taxes, but they still have representation on the only thing that affects them. I think they're better off than the rest of us, but they don't know that because they're getting the wrong information" said Bell.

"Representation without taxation, that's pretty good," agreed Board Member Doug Campbell.

Bell asked Commissioner Alan Marsh, who was in the audience, what he thought of the Planning Board's recommendations.

"Number one you have to go ETJ, they want that. The longer you put it off the worse it gets," said Marsh.

Extraterritorial jurisdiction is not to be confused with annexation.

When annexed, an area actually becomes part of the city and is consequently subject to city taxes. Annexed areas are also entitled to all services provided by

the city and annexed residents can vote in city elections, as well as run for city elected positions. Under state law, a city can annex an area only if the area meets certain minimum development standards.

Under ETJ, an area does not become a part of the city and is not subject to city taxes. Residents in ETJ areas cannot vote in city elections or run for city elective positions. There are no minimum development standards an area must meet to be included in an ETJ (as long as it's within one mile of the city boundary). Just because an area is included within ETJ does not imply that the area meets the minimum development standards for annexation.

Several towns in Western North Carolina have established extraterritorial jurisdiction, primarily for zoning and subdivision control. These include Shelby, Boiling Springs, Hendersonville, Asheville, Franklin, Waynesville, Banner Elk, Clyde, Brevard and Canton.

The next Town Board meeting is scheduled Aug. 3 at Town Hall.

Golf tourney set for women only

Golf in support of the Peggy Crosby Center, 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. There will be hole-in-one prizes on all par 3s throughout the course, including a Club Car donated by Appalachian Golf Cars. 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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Coming up at Mill Creek Gallery

Renaissance woman and multi-media artist, Thea (Cynthia Stacey), will present her photography at Mill Creek Gallery & Framing during the month of August. An artist's reception will be held on Friday July 29 from 6-8 p.m. and will feature the music of singer-songwriters Thea & the GreenMan.

"Songs of Trees" features photographic images of trees.

Mill Creek Gallery is located in the Highlands Village Square on Oak Street (behind Wolfgang's Restaurant). Hours are noon to 5 Mon. through Sat. Call (828) 787-2021 for more information.



... PINE STREET PARK continued from page 1

whelmed that the town voted us that amount of money. It's going to make fundraising alot easier."

The Pine Street Park fits one of the newly released Land Use Plan recommendations – to establish a green area for the town.

"The town has no common area to complement the 'village feel' of the town," said Young. "A village green is something the Land Use Planning Committee supports and is encouraging."

With \$460,000 pledged so far, the steering committee feels confident enough to waive the escape clause in the sales contract for the .36-acre parcel on the corner of Pine and Fifth streets and is ready to sign loan papers.

Several individuals, banks and organizations have offered to loan the group the money to buy and develop the property if it can be paid back in one year.

"Our credit is good. Lot's of people want to loan us money. We just have to be sure we can pay it back," he said.

The parcel would complement the green space on the other side of Pine Street in the already approved Macon Bank plan. Macon Bank is leaving part of the property 'green' so the town can continue to use it as a gathering place.

Together these two sites could become a town commons where community activities could take place, said Young.

The total amount of \$1.2 million includes the purchase price and the construction of a park and possibly a pavilion with rest rooms.

The group is still taking calls from donors. They would love pledges for the total amount. Call Hillrie Quin at 526-2385, Ginger Slaughter at 526-8517 or King Young at 526-3443.

The steering committee will make the "official" call on the property, Fri., July 29.

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

<<< WATERFALLS

Cullasaja Falls 9 Miles
Bust Your Butt Falls 7 Miles
Cliffside Lake 6 Miles
Dry Falls 3 Miles
Bridal Veil Falls 2 Miles

<<< FRANKLIN, N.C.

Franklin Rd. Hwy 64w 18 Miles

Cashiers Road, Hwy 64e

Whiteside Mt Hiking Trail 7 Miles
High Country Cafe 5 Miles
Skyline Lodge & Jack's 4 Miles
Highlands-Cashiers Hosp. 4 Miles
Good Year Tire & Repair 3 Miles
Highlands Outdoor Tool 2 Miles
TWIGS & Fibbers 1/4 Mile ↑

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Dillard Rd / Hwy 106
Sky Valley 10 Miles
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The Farm 1 1/2 Miles

Tin Roof Studio 2 Miles

Koenig Builders & Peak Experience 3 Miles

Highlands' Newspaper WebCam Pointing Up Oak Street >>>

Newspaper

Partridge Rice Home

Main St Inn

* Highlands Suites

* Highlands Pharmacy

* Ace Hardware

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Visitors Center
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Oak & 4th Street

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Grinning Frog Oak Sq

Shiraz Rugs

Bear Mtn.

Town Sq

Anna Wear

Pizza Place

Shiraz Rugs

Tino

Gem Shop

Mirror Lake Antiques

Buyer's Realty

Christmas Tree

Old Rangoon Icon Art

Highlands Cabinet

Hilltop Grill

Rib Shack

Dry Cleaner

Northland Cable Co.

Highlands School

Nicks Restaurant

PlayHouse

Visitors Ctr

CK Swan

Schmitt

Highlands Inn

Paolletti

Dry Sink

Old Edwards Inn & Madisons

Acorns & Miss Priss

Christmas Tree

The Lodge

Highlands Cabinet

Hilltop Grill

Rib Shack

Dry Cleaner

Northland Cable Co.

Highlands School

Nicks Restaurant

Highlands' Newspaper

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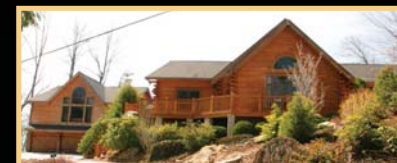


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