

Highlands' Newspaper

FREE

Volume 3, Number 25

Locally Owned & Operated

Friday, June 24, 2005

On-going

• Highlands Playhouse presents "Too Marvelous For Words," 8 p.m. Tues.-Sat., 2 p.m. Sunday. Call 526-2695 for tickets.

• At Highlands Wine and Cheese at Falls on Main. Wine Flights Thurs.-Sat. 4:30-6:30. On Saturday, join special Guest Uta Bracey of Owl's Nest Trading – a specialist in German imports. Complimentary samples Sat., 12:30-4.

June 24

• Instant Theater's Little Entertainments with Thea & The Green Man, Friday at 8 p.m. \$20 in advance \$25 at the door. Call 342-9197.

June 24 & 25

• Amy Jo Gladstone Shoes Trunk Show and Art from Russia: Paintings Trunk Show at Acorns on Main Street. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Daily.

June 25

• Live music at Buck's Coffee Cafe, 8-11 p.m. Carol & Jerry – Jazz Standards & Pop.

• The Scaly Mountain Women's Club's pancake breakfast at the ski lodge on N.C. 106 from 7:30-10:30 a.m. \$5 for adults, \$2.50 for children.

• ITC's Middle School Summer Acting Class presents a showcase of scenes and improv, 2 p.m. at The Studio. It's free.

• Highlands Historical Society's Annual Tour of four historic homes, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Tickets are \$45 at D&J Express Mart, Cyrano's Book Shop and The Chambers Real Estate.

• Mirror Lake Improvement Assoc. work day/litter pickup, 9 a.m. at Thorn Park.

• SOAR race starts on Main Street at 7:30 a.m.

June 26

• Auditions for HCP "Dearly Departed" Sunday, 3 p.m. downstairs at PAC, Call director Virginia Talbot, 526-4904. Eight women and seven men of varying ages.

June 26-30

• Vacation Bible School at HUMC. Join them at the Circle G Ranch. Supper is at 5 p.m. VBS begins at 5:30 p.m. To register call 526-3376.

June 27-July 9

• Acting and Theatre Games for children ages 6 to 9, with professional actors Sara-June and Jeff Treadwell. \$175 per session. Call 526-1687.

June 27-July 8

• Highlands Playhouse Summer Youth Classics, 9-11:30 a.m. Monday-Friday, \$150 per student. Call the Highlands Playhouse, 526-2695.

June 28-July 1

• "WOW! – a World of Wonder" day camp at the Nature Center. 10 a.m.-noon. Ages 4-7. \$25 per child, Call 526-2623 to register.

June 29

• The Ways of Art & the Paths of God with CLE at PAC, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. \$20 for members, \$30 for non-members. Call 526-9938 ext. 120.

• The Owl Prowl, sponsored by the Nature Center and Highlands Plateau Audubon Society at the Nature Center, 7:30 p.m. Call 526-2623.

June 30

• The Zahner Series Thursday at 7 p.m. at the Nature Center. Jackie Greenfield presents "From Collection to Commerce." Admission is free.

• Live entertainment at SweetTreats, HoTt Acts – DJ, 7-10 p.m.

Commercial development in the works for U.S. 64 east lot

By Erin Brown and Kim Lewicki
highlandserin@aol.com

The Town Board may have cut off Highlands' nose to spite its face.

Although developer Chuck

Simmerson's request to rezone the Werder property on the corner of U.S. 64, Hickory and Chestnut streets to R-3 was turned down, he is moving forward with

•See **COMMERCIAL** page 9



Rain and then hail plummeted the plateau about 4 p.m. Saturday. Sunday morning, patches of half-inch hail lingered. Frank James snapped the background photo from his porch in town on Laurel Street.

Photos by Jim Lewicki & Frank James

Winter weather in June?

By Erin Brown

highlandsnews@aol.com

Around 4 p.m. Saturday, a storm of biblical proportions blew in from the northwest. The skies blackened, then half-inch hail, torrential rain and blustering winds accompanied by a symphony of thunder and lightning fell on the Highlands plateau.

Although the storm caused minimal damage, hail in June is not the norm.

"The striking thing is that the hail came down so intensely and stuck around for so long," said Director of the Highlands Biological Station Robert Wyatt. "It made it look really weird around here."

Even though Wyatt was out-of-town Saturday evening he said driving back into Highlands Monday he was amazed at the amount of leaf and limb debris that covered the streets and highways.

"It really devastated the tulip and oak

tree population which had already taken a hit back in April," he said. "It looks like it's still winter up here."

Sonja Stewart, a local resident, said between the wind and hail her hostas were destroyed.

Though intense, Saturday's weather caused minimal problems for town crews. "The hail didn't cause any problems, but there were some power outages that were fixed quickly and everybody was back online," said Town Engineer Lamar Nix.

Highlands experienced a milder winter this year than in the recent past, but the spring has been more bewildering — snow fell on April 24 and the temperature dropped to the 20s.

Wyatt said the rainfall is running strong this year and for the past two years has hit the 100-inch mark.

Sunday morning patches of hail still lingered all over town.

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Admittance rules in effect for MC schools

By Kim Lewicki

highlandseditor@aol.com

Schools play a big part in a family's decision to relocate. But with Highlands sitting on the edge of three states there are issues parents need to know before assuming the county's free education system is for them.

The Macon County school system traditionally welcomes students from other counties, school districts, even

•See **SCHOOLS** page 3

SACS recognizes Macon County School system

Dr. Rodney Shotwell, Superintendent of Macon County Schools, was recently notified by the Chief Executive Officer of the Council on Accreditation and School Improvement (CASI) of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) of receiving special recognition as a school district that has all eligible elementary, middle, and secondary schools accredited.

"The district is considered a "2004-2005 Super System for Quality Schools," and was congratulated for its "...schools' accreditation accomplishments and continued success in improving educational opportunities for the young people it serves," wrote the council.

For 2004-2005, there were 521 school districts in the 11 state SACS CASI region that qualified for this recognition, with North Carolina receiving 52 recognitions.

Accreditation by SACS CASI is voluntary. SACS CASI is not a government agency. Accreditation helps schools im-

•See **SACS** page 7

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• LETTERS TO THE EDITOR •

Something amiss at the hospital

Dear Editor:

Dr. Mark Heffington has been my friend and mentor since July, 1987. Still in training at the time, I came to beautiful Cashiers Valley for an educational experience and to scope out Dr. Heffington's practice. The Cashiers Medical Center had opened the year before, having been built by the community in recognition of Dr. Heffington's dedication to his patients. I was certainly impressed, and the following year I joined him in Cashiers, with Dr. Patti Wheeler establishing her practice in Highlands. The Highlands-Cashiers Hospital thus doubled its medical staff, due in large part to Dr. Heffington's influence on these two young physicians.

Mark has continued to shape my attitudes about life and medical practice for the past 17 years. Not only is he the brightest physician I have ever known (Mark continues to score above 99th percentile on board recertification exams), he has taught me much more than medical facts and names of obscure diseases. His greatest influence has been in demonstrating such a giving and caring attitude toward his patients. Like many young physicians, I struggled with a tendency of being too cocky. Mark led by example. He almost never seemed to show frustration, despite the number of patients or family members that would catch him at the hospital on his way out the door, (already an hour late to the office), or call him at home with routine questions day and night. When someone would show up at the ER at 3 a.m. with a sore finger that had been bothering them for 3 months, Mark would get up, drive to the hospital, and actually be friendly and in a good mood for the evaluation. Through his actions, he taught me that having this attitude paid much higher dividends than sharing your frustration with the patient.

Mark may not fully appreciate the words of this paragraph, but his attitude, dedication of his life in service to others, genuine caring for those less fortunate, devotion to family, and willingness to fight for what is right, epitomize the characteristics of the Christian life. In fact, one might liken Mark's relationship with, and message for the Board's leadership and the CEO through recent years as similar to an Old Testament prophet struggling with his contemporaries. Mark speaks pointedly to social injustices occurring within the system, and his delivery style is not appreciated. He points out ways in which the executive committee is failing to heed the hospital's vision statement in its decision making. He has a message of potential doom unless the leadership changes its attitudes and actions. This message is certainly unpopular with the "authorities," he is labeled as being extremist, and someone to be shunned.

By his resignation, Mark has not changed his goals, attitudes, or what he believes to be right. He has simply stated he can no longer be a part of his beloved hospital as it follows its current course and leadership structure. Mark is still Mark, and will still be there for his patients. He has privileges to order tests and x-ray studies at all area hospitals. If you need hospitalization, he will be happy to arrange for that at one of the local hospitals including Highlands-Cashiers. He will have more available office time than he has ever had.

As for me, I plan to continue staff privileges at Highlands-Cashiers and influence attitudes as much as possible. However, I fully support Mark's letter of resignation and agree with its content. I admire his fortitude and tremendous sacrifice to stand up for what is right.

Folks are asking "what can we do?" This is a difficult question to answer. Mark's decision is final, perhaps it could eventually change, but not in the immediate future.

The management structure of the hospital board needs reorganization. The power of the executive committee should be limited and the entire board involved in all decision making. All board members need to understand their role and commitment as being much more than an honorary position, and thus prevent only the select few from making all the decisions. Much less should happen "behind the scenes."

The executive committee should include members with an understanding of the attitudes and needs of a significant portion of our service population — those of less privileged background, some of whom have lived here their entire lives.

Residents can impress upon the hospital leadership that much of the support for the hospital exists BECAUSE of the dedication of the primary care

■ See LETTER page 7

Years of service recognized



Mayor Buck Trott presented Police Chief Jerry Cook with a shadowbox containing his gun, badge and whistle at Cook's retirement party, Friday, June 17 at the Highlands Conference Center. "All last week Chief Cook looked for his pistol, and couldn't find it. Then he looked for his badge and couldn't find it. Next he looked for his whistle and couldn't find it. "Well here it is," said Trott. He said Cook's 21 years on the job in Highlands epitomized the meaning of dedication. Photo by Jim Lewicki

• OBITUARY •

Anna Catherine Langford

Anna Catherine Langford, age 86, of Highlands, NC, formerly of Orlando, FL, died Sunday, June 19, 2005 at the Fidelia Eckerd Living Center in Highlands.

A native of Orange County, Fla., she was the daughter of the late Benjamin Harrison and Maude Johnson Mallard.

She is survived by a son, Reginald Campbell and his wife, Elaine, of Franklin, NC; a daughter, Sandra Dotherow of Franklin, NC; five grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; and one great-great grandchild.

Funeral services were held graveside at Glen Haven Memorial Park in Winter Park, Fla., Thursday Morning, June 23, 2005.

Bryant Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

... SCHOOLS continued from page 1

from other states – if room allows.

Although the policy is relatively new – adopted about four years ago – it's necessary due to campus constraints.

"If there is room, we will admit out-of-district, out-of-county, and out-of-state students who are in good standing," said Superintendent Dr. Rodney Shotwell, "But students from across state lines must pay tuition each semester."

For years families who live "just over the state line" were accustomed to attending Macon County schools, but with the rapid growth has come new rules.

"The only students from out-of-state who don't have to pay tuition are the ones whose parents are full-time employees of the Town of Franklin, the Town of Highlands or Macon County," said Shotwell. "Lifeguards and other temporary positions out-of-state students may hold in Macon County do not count toward tuition-free status."

The cost of student tuition is the per pupil local expenditure from the county which is about \$1,442 per year – payable prior to each semester.

But just because an out-of-state family can afford to pay tuition doesn't automatically mean admittance to a Macon County School is guaranteed. Each principal and then the Macon County School Board ultimately decides if a student from outside the school district can attend school in the county.

The student must be in good standing at the school from which he or she is transferring and there has to be room in the prospective school.

Shotwell said if the board has to reduce its head count at a school, the out-of-state students go first, then out-of-county, and finally out-of-district.

The number of state-funded teachers for Macon County depends largely on head count which also helps the administration plan class sizes prior to the opening of school in the fall.

Anyone considering attending a Macon County school from outside the state, county, or district this fall is urged to call the principal of the intended school as soon as possible. The number at Highlands School is 526-2147.

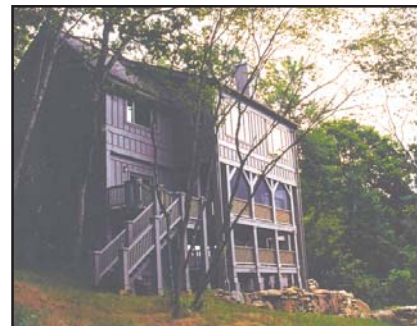
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Bears Den. Rustic lodge with Whiteside Mountain view. 8.68 acres surrounded by National Forest with seclusion that includes a tennis court, pool, sauna, streams and trails. This 7 bedroom, 7 bath offers a spacious great room with stone fireplace, commercial kitchen, wet bar, large dining area and more. A rare offering at \$1.5 million.



Lovely home sitting on 1.9 acres and features a super mountain view and rushing stream with several cascades of beautiful waterfalls. The home was a floor up renovation designed by Norman Askins and carefully crafted by Trophy Properties builders. The dwelling features a two-story living room, light and airy, that opens onto a large screened porch with a lovely mountain view. Custom kitchen, 2 fireplaces, great spaces. Four bedroom, 4 1/2 baths. Offered at \$1,600,000.



In a lovely secluded area close to Glen Falls is this ready-to-move into 3-bedroom, 2-bath with cypress floors, tongue-in-groove cypress ceilings in the living areas, vintage beams, stone-faced fireplace, wrap-around deck, verde butterfly granite countertops, Baldwin hardware, Hunter fans, locust posts with rhodo rails and a full basement on a beautiful open lot with winter Blue Valley view. Offered at \$599,000.



A fabulous combination of formal and rustic elegance, this home offers soaring glass in the family room with antique beams, fireplace and wood floors. A formal dining room, living room and office, compliment the kitchen with winter view of Shortoff Mountain. Master suite with ample closets, two bedrooms upstairs, 2-car garage and basement. Offered at \$1,100,000.

Call Pam Taylor
at 526-9027, 342-6988 or
526-2520, anytime.

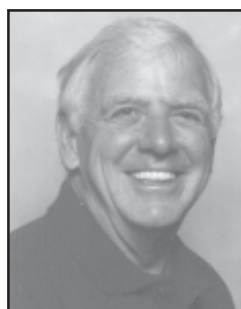


Building opportunities at Old Hemlock Cove. Seven lots left from \$195,000.

• LAUGHING AT LIFE •

Peter spam in Neverland A Highlands "Fairy Tale"

Here is another of my very tacky children's stories you can read when you want your little urchin to have terrible nightmares, start wetting his bed and sucking his thumb again. It is the story of a boy named Peter Spam and how he found a place called



Fred Wooldridge

"Neverland," high in the mountains of North Carolina. After reading this story, I recommend you give your listener a mild sedative. Remember to use your sing song voice.

Once upon a time there was a liddle' boy named Peter Spam who lived with his mommy

and daddy. One day, Mr. Spam decided it would be just grand if the whole Spam family took a trip to the mountains of North Carolina. So they packed their stuff in the Spam family van and headed out.

But along the way, a very bad thing happened. The Spam's family van slammed into a Ram, badly damaging the Ram and the Spam's family van. Can you say "Spam's Family Van Slammed into a Ram" real fast, three times? Isn't that fun?

While Peter and his parents sat dazed, a wonderful fairy appeared and said. "Hello little Peter, I am the good fairy, Michael, from Neverland and I am here to help you."

At first, Peter was afraid of Michael because he had very pasty skin and really looked a lot like "The Joker" from the movie "Batman." Then, with a wisp of his finger, Michael floated on top of the Spam's family van and did a great Moon Walk.

Then Michael said, "Don't be afraid, I won't harm you. I have millions of dollars and can take care of all your family's bills. If you will allow me to sprinkle some fairy dust on you, you will be able to fly like me and we can go to Neverland and have fun together."

Peter looked at the badly damaged Spam family van and decided he had

■See WOOLDRIDGE page 8

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Stuart Armor
Movie Stop Video

The Storyline:
Yana, a recent Russian immigrant to Israel, is beautiful, pregnant, and recently abandoned by her husband, it's just before the first Gulf War, and things are not easy for the most fortunate immigrants, and Yana is far from the most fortunate. So this is the scenario for this really very cool, very clever comedy/romance. Yes, that does seem an unlikely scenario for a light hearted film, but it really works. The story follows Yana as she seeks work, tries unsuccessfully to return to Russia, develops a relationship with her housemate, Eli, a wedding photographer with dreams of American film work, and gets involved with a group of an unlikely and seemingly unrelated cast of beggars, war heroes, accordion players, long lost lovers, and more. But as the story unfolds, it seems as if there is more connection than meets the eye among this large, weird, and VERY unique cast of characters.

The filming technique is brilliant, some dark (in color, as well as tone), and a great deal is shown as Eli's (remember, he is the wedding photographer/videographer) own film clips. It is a friendship story, a romance, an off the wall (not THAT wall) comedy, and a little of a fish out of water story. It is also a film that shows people in the Middle East as, well people, not movements or events. It is not a story for the kiddies, there is some adult content, tastefully done, and some of the scenes involving SCUD missile attacks are frankly a little scary (some, however, are

hilarious), but this film is a real Eastern gem.

Some other films from the Middle East well worth seeing, some very serious and some absolutely charming, are Children of Heaven, Osama, Baran, Afghan Stories, and Exodus.

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BATMAN BEGINS

rated PG-13

Weekdays: (4:30), 7, 9:30
Sat & Sun: (2), (4:30), 7, 9:30

MR. & MRS. SMITH

rated PG-13

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

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rated PG-13

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• ANOTHER VIEW •

Where's the separation between Church and State?

Radical, extremist evangelical Christianity, in a fiercely aggressive and dogmatic manner, is spreading across America and infecting much of American life, including parts of our government. This is no longer a subtle argument about what constitutes separation of Church and State, but an assault on our historic values and on the essence of the Constitution.



Dr. Alex Redmountain

duties and shipped off to Okinawa.

It isn't known at this time if there are similar violations taking place at West Point or the Naval Academy, but it certainly seems likely. None of this would be taking place, I expect, if the evangelicals were not encouraged by having one of their own sitting in the highest office in the land.

There may be room for disagreement on whether the Founding Fathers intended a secular future for the United States, but there is no doubt they wanted a strong wall erected between any particular religion and the functions of government. Statements that ours is a "Christian nation" and ought to be ruled by "Christian values" defy the clearly stated principles embodied in the Bill of Rights.

It was recently reported that the Chaplains Corps at the Air Force Academy, as well as a number of officers and senior cadets, were actively proselytizing among the students to convert them to evangelicals. This was happening with the support and encouragement of the highest authorities at the Academy. Protests by non-Christian Academy graduates were either ignored or disparaged. Dissenting cadets were afraid to express their opinions because they were sure it would hurt their careers.

Not until one of the chaplains herself, Captain McLinda Morton, publicly protested this gross abuse of religious freedom, was any action taken to investigate. By then, Captain Morton had been relieved of her

When John F. Kennedy, the first Roman Catholic to become President, ran for and took office, some critics expressed fears that his religion would dictate public policy. He was most careful to maintain strict separation between his faith and his governance. Can you imagine the outcry if chaplains at the service academies during Kennedy's incumbency had tried to convert cadets or plebes to Catholicism? Even Jimmy Carter, a professed born-again Christian himself, made it clear that his personal religious beliefs would not translate to political actions.

Whether one is a Democrat or Republican or Independent, a Christian or Jew or Muslim or nothing at all, he should be concerned about this insidious threat to our liberty. Contrary to what some maintain, when government and religion become entwined, it is profoundly dangerous to both.

P.S. Since this column was written, the superintendent of the Academy has admitted that religious bias exists there and has agreed to forcefully investigate the situation. He estimates that it might take six years to clear matters up at the Air Force Academy.

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Dr. Ken Hemphill, National Strategist for Empowering Kingdom Growth of the Southern Baptist Convention, will speak Sunday, June 26, during the adult Sunday School classes at the First Baptist Church of Highlands on the importance of Sunday School, and then preach at the 10:45 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. worship services.

Monday-Wednesday, June 27-29, Dr. Hemphill will teach/preach each evening at 7 p.m. Lunches will be held on Monday and Tuesday from 12 noon-1 p.m. to benefit from the teaching of this man of God.

Dr. Hemphill is married to Paula Moore from Greenville, SC, and they have three daughters: Kristina, Rachael, and Katherine. Mrs. Hemphill will accompany him for the Summer Bible Conference. Paula is employed and speaks extensively for the International Mission Board. She will speak for a La-



Dr. Ken Hemphill

dies luncheon on Wednesday, June 29. Please call 526-4153 for information.

... LETTER continued from page 2

physicians to the community, and their role in decision making and leadership is to be respected.

Perhaps most importantly, the CEO (currently Mr. Calloway), should actually answer to the board, as opposed to having a leadership role on all powerful committees. The positions of hospital CEO and Foundation President responsible for fundraising should not be held by the same person.

As a final note, Mark and I appreciate Jim Graham's fine work as administrator of the hospital for the past several years. Jim has spent innumerable hours as a liaison between the primary care staff and the CEO/board and has been caught up in these controversies through no fault of his own. Jim is a fine fellow, and I wish him the best as he leaves us soon.

Obviously, if a person with the dedication of Dr. Mark Heffington has become so disenchanted with the value system of the hospital leadership that he has chosen to resign, something is amiss. Remember Mark as he transitions into his new practice situation, and the hospital, as it struggles with the fallout from the executive committee decisions. Hopefully some good will come from this.

David M. Wheeler MD
Highlands and Cashiers, NC

... SACS continued from page 1

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• BUSINESS NEWS •

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... WOOLDRIDGE continued from page 4

no choice. He agreed to become a fairy and then Michael said, "Here is my personal check for one million dollars, and I will pin it to your dad's shirt since he is still in a daze. Now let's get out of here because I hear the police coming."

With that, Peter and Michael flew away, heading north into the mountains of North Carolina. Along the way Michael told Peter about how he founded Neverland. "I did it myself. It used to be a place called Highlands, but they got so caught up in greed and making money it became a very unhappy place to live. I bought the whole town and converted it into Neverland. Now there is no greed, just me, my fairy friends and my money."

"It sounds wonderful, but where do I live?" Peter asked. "All my friends live with me at the Neverland Castle. I have a giant bed where everyone sleeps. We will have so much fun. I will give you colorful pajamas, interesting books with pictures to look at, and best of all, Neverland Happy Juice."

Now Peter began to worry about this guy, Michael and the condition of his parents, but what could he do? He had agreed to accompany Michael to Neverland. "I think I want to check on

my family," Peter said. "That's silly, we'll do that later....much later," said Michael.

Once Peter got settled in at the Neverland Castle, he put on his colorful pajamas, looked at a few books and was on his third glass of Neverland Happy Juice when there was a loud bang on the bedroom door. The door flew open and in walked the police, accompanied by Peter's parents. They had a search warrant.

Then the police said, "The car accident was only a dream. You are under the spell of the bad fairy, Michael, and I'm glad we got here in time. As they carried Michael away in chains, he called out to Peter, "Don't worry, I always beat the charges. I'll be right back." Then Michael's bodyguards escorted Peter's parents, who are now very, very rich, out of Neverland and they never saw their son again. (Here, I recommend a sad face and pouty mouth.)

Years later, someone spotted Peter singing and dancing at a local Neverland nightclub. He was thin, had pasty skin and was teaching customers how to do the Moon Walk. Of course, he was wearing his colorful pajamas.

Now isn't that a fun story?

... COMMERCIAL continued from page 1

plans to develop the property.

"I have quite a bit invested in the project and I'm not going to go on down the road now," said Simmerson. "I am proceeding with development on the lot as allowed by the present zoning. I was hoping to have plans and site plans drawn up in time for the June 27 appearance and planning board meeting, but now it looks like they won't be ready, and it will have to wait until the July meeting."

The four-plus acre property is currently dual-zoned B-4 along U.S. 64 and R-2 at the back of the lot.

Meanwhile, the Town Board wants the entire parcel rezoned R-2 and has asked the planning board to re-consider the case. But when asked before, the planning board recommended rezoning the parcel R-3 saying the proposed multi-family development fit well with its recommendations for multi-family housing in the updated land use plan.

Furthermore, Attorney Zeke Sossomon, representing both Werder and Simmerson, said its dangerous waters to force rezoning without a request.

Gantenbein said a municipality can legally force rezoning, but often has to go to court to do so.

Simmerson went to the zoning administrator a few days after the Town Board denied his rezoning request to get the paperwork for a special use permit to construct five commercial buildings with apartments above each on the B-4 portion of the Werder property and four or five single-family detached homes on the R2 portion.

"Under the current zoning of B-4 and R-2 he doesn't need anything from the town for this project just a special use permit for any new construction," said Sossomon.

Plans for the new development will include 50 parking spaces and access to

the five commercial lots off U.S. 64 east. There will also be an 18-foot road cut through the property with a cul-de-sac for municipal vehicle turnaround.

Gantenbein said everything Simmerson wants to do is completely legal. He said all the vegetative buffering and appearance and planning board contingencies he agreed to for the original plan will be nixed. "You can kiss the rhododendron hedge good-bye," Gantenbein said.

Though some people think Simmerson is bluffing, his lawyer says differently.

"I can tell you the contract is not dead, in fact it's been extended. He's not walking away from this. He's given the seller a lot of money."

Simmerson's expertise is in high-end multi-family development and his partner's is in commercial development.

In Simmerson's original plan, the historical building on the lot - to be featured in this weekend's Highlands Historical Home Tour - was spaced apart from the four multi-family buildings to maintain its character. Now it could be sold, moved off the lot or torn down.

Simmerson is disappointed in the town's decision not to rezone the property R-3. "I really think it would have been better for the town than what's planned now - aesthetically and economically," he said. "It would have provided a \$14-million tax base and there would have been more sewer connections."

The Town Board can revisit the rezoning issue at any time but the applicant cannot go back to the board with the same request.

"Once the special use permit is issued, they have a legal vested right to build in accordance with the SUP even if the ordinances are changed," said Gantenbein.



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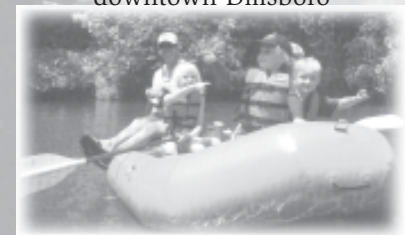
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An example of wood sculpture by Dr. Howard Suzuki.

Suzuki/Lilly Opening at the Mill Creek Gallery

Mill Creek Gallery and Framing is pleased to host an exhibit of wood sculpture and photography by two fine artists of Highlands. The opening

reception will be Friday July 1, 5-7 p.m.

Howard Suzuki, one of the artists is a wood sculptor, retired from a distinguished career as a biologist, teaching human anatomy at Yale, Arkansas and Florida Universities.

He has also been a field photographer for various government and research organizations, his photographs have been widely published.

Dr. Suzuki specializes in aquatic carvings and has a deep respect and love of wood as an art medium. He has taught carving in different parts of the U.S. and Caribbean, and he teaches an annual class at John C. Campbell Folk School.

Beth Lilly, who resides in Atlanta and has a second home in Horse Cove, will be showing striking images of trees and photographs from the Swan House in Atlanta.

Lilly received her undergraduate degree in film production from UGA and an MFA in Photography from Georgia State University. She studied under Guggenheim recipient John McWilliams, himself a student of Harry Callahan. Lilly served as Senior Photo Editor and then Director of Photography for Turner Broadcasting from 1996 to 2002. She has photographed and exhibited regularly from 1985 to the present.

The opening reception for this month-long exhibit will be held on Friday, July 1, 5-7 p.m. Following the exhibit will be "Songs of the Trees," an exhibit of photography by Cynthia (Thea) Stacey, opening on July 29.

Mill Creek Gallery is in Highlands Village Square on Oak Street (behind Wolfgang's Restaurant). The gallery offers custom picture framing services. The owner, Cynthia Strain, also exhibits her photographs of local scenery there, in addition to jewelry, carved walking sticks, baskets, pottery and weavings, all by local artisans. Hours are noon to 5 Mon. thru Sat. Call (828) 787-2021.

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Historical Society receives \$10,000 grant

The Highlands Historical Society recently received a grant in the amount of \$10,000 from The Cannon Foundation, Inc. The grant was earmarked for renovation and restoration of the old Hudson Library. The Cannon Foundation provides financial assistance for capital and building projects in the areas of arts and humanities, education, environment, health and hospitals, religion and social services.

The old Hudson Library was built in 1915 and remained on the grounds of the Church of the Incarnation until 2001 when it was moved to its present location in the Highlands Historic Village on U.S. 64/North Fourth Street.

When the building was moved, it was placed atop a poured concrete floor and walls. Since that time, fund-raising has occupied most of the efforts of the Historical Society, with financial assistance provided by the Town of Highlands, Macon County, the Highlands Rotary Club, the Woman's

Club of Highlands, Satulah Club, Laurel and Mountain Garden Clubs, and various individuals.

The money raised has provided for a new roof, exterior and interior painting, installation of sewage, wiring, and bathroom fixtures, as well as handicap access. Partitions that had been added to the interior of the building have been removed in order to return the structure as near as possible to its original configuration. Flooring on the main level is original to the building, as well as windows and some of the library shelves.

Local architect, Dennis DeWolf, has served as supervising architect.

The Grand Opening of the Historic Village is now scheduled to take place July 8, 9 and 10 with plans to be announced. Contributions are still needed for equipping the archives planned for the lower floor of the old library, for furnishing display equipment for the main floor, and for renovating and furnishing the Prince House.

**The Grand Opening of the
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– News from Chambéry, France, Part 10 –

Around Europe in 10 days flat, continued

By Megan Lewicki

Highlands Rotary Exchange Student
I recently took a bus trip with 49 other Rotary exchange students around Europe.

In 10 days, we visited Austria, Germany, Italy, Monaco, the south of France, and Spain. All I have to say is...WOW! This is the second part of that story.

Day 5:

We then left Salzburg to go to our youth hostel in Vienna, where a group of elderly ladies took care of us all. It felt very homey there...probably my favorite place to stay throughout the whole trip.

Behind the youth hostel was a huge hill that some of us climbed. Once on top of the hill, I felt the need to break out and sing, "The hills are alive with the sound of music..." It was the most beautiful scene ever, rolling hills colored with every shade of green, behind a cloudless blue sky. Absolutely gorgeous.

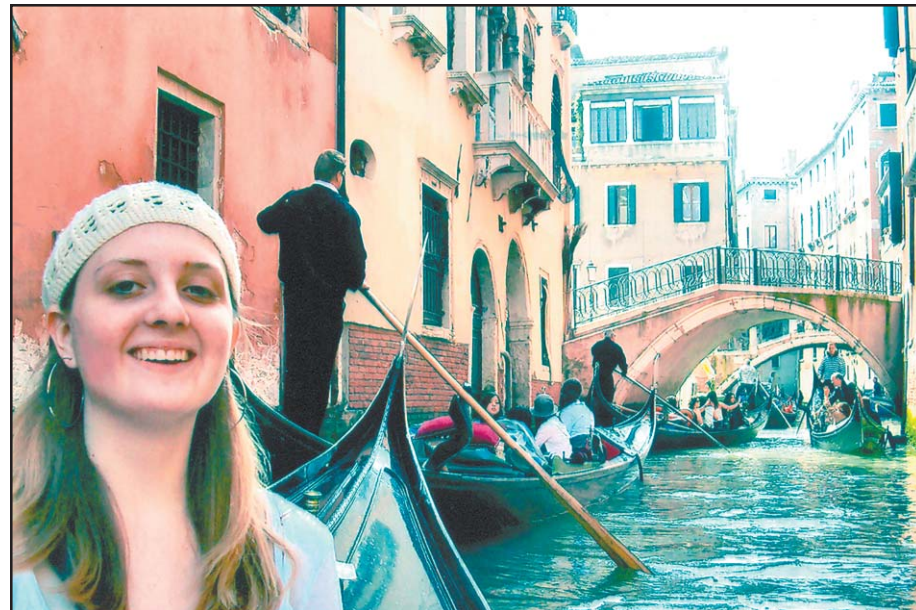
Some of us started to play soccer – the Anglo-Saxons vs. the Latin Americans. I decided to dribble the ball down the field, and was about to line up my shot when a hole in the ground

appeared out of no where, which of course I fell into. I'm surprised no one laughed, I'm sure it looked very funny but I was in serious pain, so two boys became human crutches and helped me down the hill.

When they rolled up my pants leg to get a look, it looked like my ankle had swallowed an orange. I went to the hospital, and discovered I had torn the ligaments in my ankle. They told me to stay on crutches for one week and give myself shots for six weeks. Shots you ask? Yes, due to the immobilization of my leg they were worried that the muscles would collapse and I would never be able to use it again. So I had to administer a shot every night. (Luckily when I got back to France 8 days later, they told me I didn't need to take the shots anymore...Thank God.) I used crutches, sometimes a wheelchair, for the rest of the trip. It wasn't too bad; I got a lot of special treatment...which I'll write about later.

Day 6:

After breakfast we took the bus for a guided tour of the Schönbrunn palace. The French call it "le Versailles autrichien," or "The Austrian Versailles." Though I have to say, I found this palace prettier than



Venice was everything and more of what you've heard – wonderful!

Versailles, the French strongly disagreed with me. Due to my handicap I was in a wheelchair for the tour. One of the Rotary chaperones pushed me around, making sputtering car noises the whole time. He wasn't very graceful with the wheelchair; he constantly rammed it into innocent bystanders or expensive furniture at the exhibits. I'm not sure if he did this on purpose or not...either way it was hilarious.

Schönbrunn was once an imperial summer palace, but was designated the Museum of Austrian Folklore in 1919. The architecture and paintings stunned me once again, the colors shocked me. Everything is so much brighter in Austria. They really know how to draw attention.

We then hopped (or in my case, hobbled) back onto the bus to take a tour of Vienna. I stayed with the chaperones while the others went off to go shopping. It wasn't as bad as it sounds. I got to take a horse and buggy ride, translating the tour from English to French for the chaperones (or I should say "tried" to translate, the

driver's accent was so thick, I couldn't tell what language he was speaking sometimes...) When it came time to head back to the youth hostel, I was very impressed with Austria and vowed to come back with my family one day.

Day 7:

After breakfast we began the seven-hour drive to Lido di Jesolo, a small town in Italy, close to Venice. We spent the afternoon exploring the town and played on the beach. All of us couldn't stop thinking about what we were going to do in Venice the next day. For most of us, this is where we planned to do a lot of our shopping. When I say, "most of us" I mean all the girls, which was the majority: Four male chaperones, seven boys, and 43 girls.

*Fun Fact #10:

Instead of saying "ouch!" or "Ow!" When the French get hurt they scream, "Aïe!" (long "I" sound...)

P.S. My incredible year in France has come to an end. I return home Sunday, June 26. But there are more stories to tell, so stay tuned.



Megan (left) and some of the other exchange students in front of the Schönbrunn palace.



Megan and her new best friend – the wheel chair – in the Schönbrunn's gardens.

Wine dinners: Everybody's doing it!

Editor's Note: Steve Stevens is the associate editor of The Wine Report magazine in Atlanta.

By Steve Stevens

In the South American country of Uruguay, summer ends in March and the wine grape harvests are in full swing. On the other hand, the frigid ocean waters swirling up from Antarctica make the summer nights surprisingly cool. Additionally, many people do not speak English here. To an American, Uruguay can seem like an otherworldly place.

However, as much as things change, they stay the same. In March, a group of U.S. journalists traveled to 15 Uruguayan vineyards and at each dinner stop there was the same, familiar routine. Passionate winemakers, talking about interesting native wines and serving delicious food. It dawned on me, half a world away from home, that wine dinners are not simply an American thing.

From the fjords of Norway to the Australian outback; from the celebrated vineyards of Bordeaux to the modest hamlets of New England; people are eating while listening to wine pros wax poetic about their vino. So what, in fact, is the appeal? People can get food and wine in a restaurant already—why do they need to have a special event?

"You know how big wine is now," says Cynthia Gomes, director of sales and marketing for Highlands' Old Edwards Inn and Spa. "I think it's because people are hungry to learn, and it's easier to get educated at one of these dinners," Gomes says the Old Edward Inn tries to have the

winemaker himself (or herself) come and talk about the wines. "Then you can learn about new wines and introduce new wines to friends. I think it's entertainment," says Gomes.

"Wine dinners are an area of the business that has interested me for a long time," said Leckie Stack, part-owner of North Georgia's Tiger Mountain Vineyards. Stack organizes some wine dinners in Georgia and North Carolina and agrees with Gomes that it lets wine lovers learn about their favorite wines, but it also opens up new doors.

"There are a lot of wines out there," said Stack. "And these dinners give people an opportunity to be exposed and educated about wines they otherwise may never try." She points out she pours wine varieties like Touriga and Tannat at some dinners; most people are unlikely to try these varieties on their own.

As wine's meteoric rise in popularity continues, it seems that people want more from their wine-related experiences.

"It's that thirst for knowledge," said Chris Reid, general manager and wine buyer for Atlanta's Iris restaurant and wine bar. "I think [the wine dinner] craze has got something to do with people wanting to get closer to the wines they love." Reid said that it's so much more powerful when the winemaker talks, because people hear "the creator, the father or mother of the wine."

But that alone does not guarantee a good time, says Reid. "Sometimes we get some very quiet winemakers and they can make the dinners tough," he laughs. "But still, people love it."

the **wine**
report

Arts and Crafts Festival

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TELEPHONE: (828) 526-4218 or TOLL-FREE: 866-526-4218

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HIGHLANDS COVE...

Sought After - Mountain Views and Condominium Homes
In A Master Planned Community

Location, location, location! Highlands Cove is strategically located within a ten minute drive of both Highlands and Cashiers, two of the quaintest mountain towns in Western North Carolina.

Master-planned, gated community offers homesites plus new homes, traditional cottages and condominiums. Service is provided by underground utilities and a central water and sewer system.

And the views... with elevations from 3,700 to 4,700 feet, mountain and/or golf course views are available from a majority of homesites. Plus a wide range of prices: mountain view lots from \$195,000 to \$595,000; golf course lots from \$125,000 to \$195,000; and beautifully wooded lots from \$105,000.

Single family residences from \$925,000 - \$2,430,000.

Turning Leaf condominiums provide a wonderful home alternative, many with views of the golf course and the mountains beyond. The three bedroom, three bath plan offers the quality of a custom-built home with 10 foot ceilings, stacked-stone fireplace, gourmet island kitchen with Corian counter tops, a conveniently located wet bar, tiled baths, a large screened porch, plus an open deck. The spacious master suite includes a double vanity, whirlpool tub and separate shower. All 44 new units sold - resales only.

Amenities include a magnificent Tom Jackson-designed 18-hole golf course, a clubhouse with a full-service golf pro shop, dining in "Peregrine" Restaurant and Bar, and Fast Dry tennis courts. All club facilities are daily-fee so use is optional (pay-as-you-go, no mandatory club membership fees or dues).

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"THE COTTAGES AT HIGHLANDS COVE"



This is the perfect mountain retreat! Nestled amongst rhododendron and mountain laurel, the 15 cottages are being carefully placed on a forested mountainside covered with mature oak, maple, poplar and cherry trees. The four porches included in each home offer exhilarating mountain and golf course views. Rustic elegance abounds both inside and out beginning with the English Garden Arbor entrance, cedar shake roof and timberframe carport with storage. "The Cottages" feature three bedrooms, three and a half baths, rustic oak flooring, two stone fireplaces (one in the living room and one on the porch just off the breakfast and living areas), 10 foot ceilings, large master suite with whirlpool tub and separate tile shower. The kitchens inspire entertaining with custom cabinets, granite countertops, top of the line appliances and an adjacent exterior grilling deck. Prices range from \$875,000 to \$995,000. Please call Gina McDonald or Kim James TOLL FREE at 866-220-2209 or 526-8218 or after hours Kim: 828-349-9067, Gina: 828-529-1090. These homes offer exterior building and yard maintenance.



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Pancake Breakfast at Scaly



From left, Tom and Kay Fussell of Scaly Mountain enjoy time with friends Anne and Bill Newman at a Scaly Mountain Women's Club monthly pancake breakfast served at the ski lodge on NC Highway 106 in downtown Scaly Mountain. This month's event, which will benefit the groups' scholarship fund, is June 25 from 7:30-10:30 a.m. Guests will get a full breakfast of orange juice, coffee, pancakes, patty sausage and plenty of warm syrup and butter. Members of the club will serve the food at tables, or you may order take-out if you choose. For this breakfast those attending will be guests of CABA REALTY, a full-service agency located in downtown Scaly Mountain. "We are very happy to underwrite the cost of this event," said Joe and Becky Simmons, owner of the agency.

Submitted photo

Cashiers Designer Showhouse features elegant farmhouse retreat

The eighth annual Cashiers Designers Showhouse is presented by the Cashiers Historical Society, benefiting the Zachary-Tolbert House restoration fund and 2005 grant recipient Cashiers Community Council.

Kicking off with "Diamonds and Denim," the popular Lee Epting catered Patron Party Friday, August 19 at Lonesome Valley, the Showhouse will be open Saturday, August 20; Sunday, September 4 from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. daily and from 1 – 4 p.m. on Sundays.

Tickets for the Patron Party and the Showhouse can be purchased by calling 743-7710. In addition to Patron Party and Showhouse tickets, for the first time this year there are \$2,500 corporate sponsorships available. Corporate sponsors receive eight Patron Party tickets and eight daily tickets.

The Homestead at Lonesome Valley, this year's Showhouse, promises to be exceptional. Sixteen designers

from Cashiers, Highlands, Sapphire and Atlanta will create a sophisticated mountain retreat amidst acres of pristine farmland overlooking long-range mountain views. In addition to the home's rooms, there are decks, porches, patios and a garden shop. Entering at the covered front porch, Cashiers/Palm Beach/Chapel Hill/Atlanta designer Skip Ryan will combine vintage antiques with his special finds. Ryan owns Ryan & Co. and The Cat Bird Seat in Cashiers. This year marks his eighth Showhouse.

Lonesome Valley, on Highway 64 east, is just across from the horse stables 2 1/2 miles from the crossroads of Highways 64 and 107. Free onsite parking is plentiful.

Each year Cashiers Designer Showhouse visitors look forward to seeing the newest custom furniture, venerable antiques, unique accessories and surprising twists on tradition from many of the Southeast's most sought-after designers.



On a cold day last December, Stella Zambalis warms the hear of Richard Joel as the Bel Canto founder watches the celebrated soprano sign for her third recital in Highlands. Submitted photo

Bel Canto set for Aug. 21 at PAC

Stella Zambalis, the incomparable American soprano, returns to Highlands Sunday, August 21.

After hearing nearly 200 opera singers audition in New York last December, Richard Joel, committee chairman, said "Not one voice surpassed that of Stella Zambalis and having her sign for a third appearance means another recital of the highest quality."

Zambalis, who sold out the Martin-Lipscomb Performing Arts Center in 2001 and 2003, will take center stage in the 13th Annual Bel Canto will benefit the Bascom-Louise Gallery's permanent art collection and the Highlands School's music program.

"Singing in Highlands gives me much pleasure, especially when I know the recital raises funds for the school and the gallery and fosters music and art in the community," Zambalis told Joel.

An artist who has sung leading roles with opera companies throughout this country and abroad, Zambalis is an established favorite in Highlands, where she will be welcomed back by music lovers who find the human voice the most exciting and satisfying of all musical instruments.

She will be joined by Kelly Anderson, the eminent American baritone, who will be making his first appearance in Highlands. In roles from Escamillo in "Carmen" to Scarpia in "Tosca," he has captured audiences with his deep, dark voice and dramatic portrayals.


The two artists will present a program that includes well-known arias and duets from favorite operas and musical theatre, the combination that Bel Canto audiences have enjoyed since 1993. They will be accompanied by Stephen Dubberly, the master pianist who has contributed to Bel Canto's success for the past 12 years.

The performance will take place at 4 p.m. on August 21 at the Martin-Lipscomb Performing Arts Center. Only 200 seats will be available for an event that sells out early to music lovers who look forward to this one-of-a-kind musical experience followed by an elegant reception buffet at the Highlands Falls Country Club.

Bel Canto benefactors also derive satisfaction from supporting the vocal program at Highlands School and the Bascom-Louise Gallery.

For Benefactor tickets and additional information, call 526-5252.

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• **SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING** •

Understanding Christian Science

By Martha Lemasters

First Reader and President of the Board – Highlands Group of Christian Scientists

The Highlands Group of Christian Scientists celebrates its 60th year in Western North Carolina this year. Open only from June through mid-October, the small group continues to serve the community with Sunday services at 11 a.m., and Wednesday testimonial meetings at 7 p.m., and special lectures once a year.

Christian Science is all about spirituality, health and healing. What is the connection between how one thinks and the health they experience...and what does spirituality have to do with it?

Spirituality has everything to do with your health when you understand what true spirituality is and understand the spiritual nature of health. When you understand what the two have in common, you'll start to see the connection and begin to understand how understanding your spirituality better, can lead to better health.

The definition of spirituality in the dictionary is "the quality or state of being spiritual." Then, what does it mean to be spiritual? In order to understand what it means to be spiritual or understand what spirituality is all about, you need to have an understanding of what Spirit is.

To me, Spirit is God. There is one infinite Spirit at work in this universe—God, divine Love. There are many different names you can use for that. In my faith of Christian Science, we actually use seven synonyms for God and one of them is Spirit.

To understand spirituality, you have to understand Spirit and to understand Spirit you need to understand God. So to me, spirituality is God expressed through me. Spirituality is qualities—like love, joy, peace, patience, compassion, wisdom, intelligence—manifest. When I manifest those qualities I feel spiritual. I am tapped into my divine Source. I am listening to my Father/Mother. I am living true to my spirituality, my real individuality at one with God.

So to be spiritual is to express those spiritual qualities coming from God, and to live true to your spirituality is to live true to those qualities in your everyday life.

I am so grateful to have been raised by parents who were devoted students of Christian Science. The truths I learned in Sunday School, and later through the instruction I had in Christian Science healing, have been a wonderful source of strength and have helped me in solving all kinds of challenges. These spiritual truths lighted my way out of great darkness and turbulence through a difficult and painful divorce after 23 years of marriage. The need to express gratitude was one step that unfolded to my yearning thought almost immediately. I began to look at my life more constructively and found much to be thankful for. I had to vigorously refute thoughts of self-

•See **SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING** page 22

• **PLACES OF WORSHIP ON THE PLATEAU** •

BLUE VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

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

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

BUCK CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

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

CHAPEL OF SKY VALLEY

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

CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS

NC 28 N. and Pine Ridge Rd., (828) 369-8329
Rai Cammack, Branch President, (828) 369-1627

CHRIST ANGLICAN CHURCH

743-9370

The Rev. Thomas Allen

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Monday Bible Study: 6 p.m. Parish House

Tuesday Noon Bible Study: noon Parish House

Pot Luck Dinner: Last Sunday of the Month.

CHRISTIAN SCIENTIST CHURCH

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Come hear the healing message of the Christ
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Wednesday at 7 p.m.

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

CLEAR CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

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

COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH

(Evangelical Presbyterian Church)
Steven E. Kerhoulas, Senior Pastor
www.cbchighlands.com
526-4685

3645 U.S. 64 east, Highlands
Sundays: 9:30 a.m. Sunday School; 10:45 Worship;
6 p.m., "The Rock" for highschoolers
Tuesdays: 10 a.m. Women's Bible Study
Wed: 5:30 p.m. Prayer Meeting; 6:15 p.m. Supper;
7 p.m. Teaching

EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE INCARNATION

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

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Dr. Daniel D. Robinson, 526-4153
Sun.: Worship – 8:15 a.m., 10:45 a.m., 6:30 p.m.;

School – 9:30 a.m.; Youth – 6:30 p.m.; Choir – 7:15
Wednesdays: Dinner – 5:30 p.m.; Team Kids – 6 p.m.;
Prayer – 6:15 p.m., Choir – 7:30 p.m.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Rev. J. Hunter Coleman, Pastor, 526-3175
Sun.: Worship – 11 a.m.; School – 9:30 & 9:45.
Wednesdays: Children's Devotions – 9:30 a.m.;
Supper – 6 p.m.; Choir – 7 p.m.
Thursdays: Bible Study – 10 a.m.

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

HIGHLANDS ASSEMBLY OF GOD

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

HIGHLANDS 7TH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH

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

HIGHLANDS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Pastors Eddie & Kim Ingram, 526-3376
Sun: School – 9:30 & 9:45 a.m.; Worship – 8:30 & 11
Wed: Supper – 5:30 p.m.; Bible Study & activities – 6

HOLY FAMILY LUTHERAN CHURCH – ELCA

Rev. Delmer Chilton, Pastor,
2152 Dillard Road – 526-9741
Sundays: Worship/Communion – 10:30

MACEDONIA BAPTIST CHURCH

8 miles south of Highlands on N.C. 28 S in Satolah
Pastor Jamie Passmore, (706) 782-8130
Sundays: School – 10 a.m.; Worship – 11
Choir – 6 p.m.

Wed: Bible Study and Youth Mtg. – 7 p.m.

MOUNTAIN SYNAGOGUE

St. Cyprian's Episcopal Church, Franklin 369-6871
Friday: Sabbath Eve Services at 7 p.m.
For more information, call
(706)-745-1842.

OUR LADY OF THE MOUNTAINS CATHOLIC CHURCH

Rev. William M Evans, Priest
Parish office, 526-2418
Wednesdays & Fridays: Mass – 9 a.m.
Saturday Vigil Mass – 4 p.m.
Sundays: Mass – 11 a.m.

SCALY MOUNTAIN BAPTIST CHURCH

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

SCALY MOUNTAIN CHURCH OF GOD

290 Buck Knob Road; Pastor Alfred Sizemore
Sundays: School – 10 a.m.; Worship – 10:45 a.m.;
Evening Worship – 6 p.m.
Wed: Adult Bible Study & Youth – 7 p.m.
For more information call 526-3212.

SHORTOFF BAPTIST CHURCH

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

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP

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

WESTSIDE BAPTIST CHURCH

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

WHITESIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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



POLICE & FIRE

The following are the Highlands Police Department log entries for the week of June 15-22. The only names printed are of public officials and/or people who were arrested.

June 15

- At 6:45 a.m., a motorist was cited for speeding 53 mph in a 35 zone at N.C. 28 and Sassy Lane.

- At 10 a.m., a delivery truck damaged a hand rail at the ABC Store was reported.

June 16

- A little past midnight, officers responded to a 911 hang-up at a residence on N.C. 106. All was secure.

- Officers were called to a home on Eagle Ridge Road where a fired bullet was found on the floor of the living room. It had come through the roof and was there when the owners opened the house for the season.

- At 2:35 p.m., officers responded to an accident. There were no injuries.

June 17

- At 5:30 a.m., business owners on Fourth Street complained about illegal parking.

- At 10:30 a.m., officers went to Fresser's Restaurant where a bag of white powder was found on a table and an air-conditioner was found out of the window and on the floor of the dining room. The powder did not test positive for drugs.

- At 11:45 a.m., officers assisted a motorist who had locked her keys in the car in Bryson's Food Store parking lot.

- At 4:05 p.m., a purse found in the Washing Well was returned to its owner.

- At 4:20 p.m., officers responded to a domestic call.

June 18

- At 3:30 a.m., officers responded to a call of prowlers outside a bedroom window at a residence on Wilson Road. It was unfounded.

June 19

- At 6:50 a.m., a motorist was cited for speeding 51 mph in a 35 zone.

- At 7:18 a.m., a motorist was cited for speeding 50 mph in a 35 zone.

- At 11:55 a.m., a motorist found a wallet on Dog Mountain Road and turned it in to the police station.

- At 6:24 p.m., a resident reported receiving harassing calls.

- At 6:45 p.m., officers on patrol found an open storage door at Bryson's Food Store. All was secure.

- At 10:30 p.m., officers responded to a traffic accident at U.S. 64 east and Sherwood Forest. There were no injuries.

- At 10:35 p.m., officers responded to a call of a bear in the house on Black Rock Road.

June 20

- At 2:20 a.m., officers responded to a call of a suspicious truck parked on Cullasaja Road. It was unfounded.

- At 11:40 p.m., officers responded to a call from a citizen claiming an assault.

June 22

- At 7:50 a.m., a motorist was cited

• HIGHLANDS EATERIES •

SPORTS PAGE



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for speeding 51 mph in a 35 zone at Sassy Lane and NC 28 and for driving without a license.

The following are the Highlands Fire & Rescue Dept. log entries for June 15-22.

June 15

- The dept. responded to a two-vehicle accident at U.S. 64 east at the hospital. There were two injuries.

June 16

- The dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with a medical call at a resi-

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dence on Dillard Road. The victim was transported to the hospital.

- The dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with a medical call at a residence on Westview Way. There was no transport.

June 17

- The dept. responded to an alarm at a residence on N.4th Street. It was false.

- The dept. responded to an accident on NC 28. There were no injuries.

June 18

- The dept. responded to an alarm at

the Methodist Church. It was false.

- The dept. responded to an alarm at a residence on Many Road. It was false.

June 19

- The dept. responded to a smell of gas at a residence on Dendy Orchard Road. Some gas had leaked out of a gas can.

June 20

- The dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with a medical call at a residence on Dog Mountain Road. The victim was transported to the hospital.



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On-going

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• Highlands Wine and Cheese Shop. Wine Flights Thursday and Friday afternoon from 4:30-6:30 p.m. Special Guest: Artist Helena Meek will be in the Shop Friday and Saturday, painting, displaying new works, and discussing her art. Complimentary wine samples Saturday from 12:30-4p.m.

• 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. The medically structured class, which is taught by Stacey Greene, LPTA, is held from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. at HealthTracks on the lower level of the Jane Woodruff Medical Building at the rear of the hospital campus. Cost is \$8 per session. Call HealthTracks at 526-1348.

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

• HealthTracks offers a Pilates class on Monday and Wednesday at 4 p.m. Classes are taught by certified instructor Sandie Trevethan and are held 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. Classes are led by Jeanette Fisher, exercise intern and the cost is \$6 per session for HealthTracks non-members. The classes are held at HealthTracks on the lower level of the Jane Woodruff Medical Building at the rear of the hospital campus. Call HealthTracks at 526-1348

• Films at PAC every other Tuesday at 7 p.m. Next one June 21. Donations accepted.

• 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 the gallery at 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 pm. 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

• At Mill Creek Gallery in Village Square - art exhibited and for sale, classes, too. Call 787-2021 for more information.

• Improv Classes for high school and college students Mondays at 6 pm 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. Complimentary 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.

June 23-26

• Designing a Woodland Setting. Church of the Good Shepherd, Cashiers. To register, please contact Clemson University at 864-656-2200 and ask for Kay James or register directly at <http://clemson.edu/Landscape.html>. The course website is www.ccald.org. Contact Mary Palmer 743-0307.

June 23-July 10

• Highlands Playhouse presents "Too Marvelous For Words," 8 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday with 2 p.m. Sunday matinees. Call 526-2695 for tickets. Pay What You Can show June 22, only.

June 24

Instant Theater's Little Entertainments with special guests Thea & The Green Man. Friday at 8 pm \$20 in advance \$25 at the door at Instant Theater on Main Street. Call 342-9197.

June 24 & 25

• Amy Jo Gladstone Shoes Trunk Show at Acorns on Main Street. 10 a.m. -6 p.m. Daily

• Art from Russia: Paintings Trunk Show at Acorns at Main Street. 10 a.m. -6 p.m. Daily

June 25

• The Scaly Mountain Women's Club will a seated pancake breakfast at the ski lodge on N.C. 106 from 7:30-10:30 a.m.

• The Instant Theatre Company's Middle School Summer Acting Class will present a showcase of scenes and improv on Saturday at 2 p.m. at The Studio on Main. The event is free and will last approximately 45 minutes.

• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a moderate 4.5 mile hike up Shortoff Mountain with an ascent of 800 feet, a descent of 1,000. Meet at the Highlands Bank of America at 9:30 a.m. or at the Yellow Mtn. trailhead (Cole Gap) at 9:45 a.m. Drive 10 miles round trip. Bring a drink, lunch, and wear sturdy, comfortable shoes. Call leader Mo Wheeler, 526-9561, for reservations

• Highlands Historical Society's Annual Tour of four Historic Homes in the Northern Historic District of Highlands, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Tickets are \$45. Available at D&J Express Mart, Cyrano's Book Shop and The Chambers Real Estate.

• Mirror Lake Improvement Assoc. will have a work day/litter pickup, 9 a.m. at Thorn Park.

June 26

• A perfect Sunday afternoon at the Albert Carlton-Cashiers Community Library begins at 5 p.m. with a reading by Georgianna Orsini from "An Imperfect Lover," her book of poems and watercolors. For more info, call 743-0215.

• Auditions for Highlands Community Players "Dearly Departed" will be held Sun-

• UPCOMING EVENTS •

day, 3 p.m. downstairs at PAC, 507 Chestnut Street in Highlands. The script is available for reading, but not for checkout, at the Hudson Library. For an alternate audition time, call director Virginia Talbot, 526-4904. A hilarious, backwoods Southern comedy has a cast of 15 characters plus several singers. Eight women and seven men of varying ages.

June 26-30

- Vacation Bible School at HUMC. Join them at the Circle G Ranch. Supper is served at 5 p.m. VBS begins at 5:30 p.m. All are welcome! VBS is for preschool through middle school students. Dr. John Baumrucker teaches biblical archaeology using slides and artifacts for high school students and adults. Call to register at 526-3376.

June 27-August 17 (10 weeks).

The Full Certificate course 9-12 a.m. Monday and Wednesday at the Church of the Good Shepherd in Cashiers. To register, please contact Clemson University at 864-656-2200 and ask for Kay James or register directly <http://clemson.edu/Landscape.html>. The course website is www.ccald.org. Contact Mary Palmer 828-743-0307.

June 27-July 9

- Acting and Theatre Games for children ages 6 to 9. Instructed by professional actors Sara-June and Jeff Treadwell. \$175 per session. Call the ITC at 526-1687.

June 27-July 8

- Children in grades first through seventh can get an excellent introduction to all phases of theater through the 2005 Highlands Playhouse Summer Youth Classics. Taught by Julie Gulasy, the classes will take students through "all it takes" to get a show from script to stage. The Summer Youth Classes, to be taught 9-11:30 a.m. Monday-Friday, the cost \$150 per student. For additional information, contact Highlands Playhouse, 526-2695.

June 28-July 1

- "WOW! - a World of Wonder" day camp at the Highlands Nature Center. 10 am - noon daily. Have fun playing nature games, exploring various habitats, and searching for critters. Ages 4-7. \$25 per child, pre-registration required. Call 526-2623.

- High Mountain Square Dancers, Carolina Mixer with Paws & Taws in Seneca, SC. ACE MGEE & JOE GOINS, callers.

June 29

- The Ways of Art & the Paths of God with CLE at PAC, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. \$20 for members, \$30 for non-members. Call 526-9938 ext. 120 to register.

- The Owl Prowl, sponsored by the Highlands Nature Center and Highlands Plateau Audubon Society at the Nature Center, 7:30 p.m. For further information, contact the Nature Center at 526-2623.

June 30

- The Zahner Conservation Lecture Series for 2005 continues on Thursday at 7 p.m. at the Highlands Nature Center. Jackie Greenfield will give a talk entitled "From Collection to Commerce: Wild-harvesting of Native and Naturalized Plants of the Southern Appalachians. Can it be Done Sustainably and Ethically?" Admission is free.

- Live entertainment at SweetTreats, HoTt Acts - DJ, 7-10 p.m.

July 2

- Fireworks and world-class music at the annual Symphony Under the Stars on the slopes of Fairfield Lake in Sapphire Valley fea-

turing the Greenville Symphony Orchestra under the direction of Maestro Edvard Tchivzhel. Gates open at 5 p.m. and the music begins at 7:30 p.m.. General Admission tickets are \$30. Call 743-2525.

July 2

- Clearwater Country performs at 7:30 p.m. at Highlands School gymnasium. Poor Man's Supper before concert from 6-7 p.m. \$5 per person

July 2 & 3

- At SweetTreats in Mountain Brook Center, Carol Criminger, vocalist and Jerry Lambert, pianist, entertain you with Light Jazz and Favorite Standards from 7-10 p.m.

July 5-8

- "Junior Ecologists" day camp at the Highlands Nature Center. 10 am - 4 pm daily. Learn what field biologists do while conducting real science such as measuring trees and mapping stream salamander communities. Ages 11-15. \$50 per child, pre-registration required. Call 526-2623.

July 6

- David Derondo will speak on Europe and the War on Terrorism as part of CLE's Wednesday Night Lecture Series, 7:30 p.m. at the Highlands Civic Center. It's FREE.

July 7

- Live entertainment at SweetTreats, Bobby Sullivan.

July 9

- Grand opening of the Museum/Archives Bldg. at the Highlands Historical Village.

- Learn flower arranging for all occasions at the Episcopal Church of the Incarnation, Saturday from 10 a.m.-12:30p.m. Famous floral designers Linda Roeklein, Co-ordinator of the Flower Guild for the National Cathedral in Washington, D.C., and Sue Morriss, also of the Guild, will conduct the demonstration. Cost is \$40 and includes a box lunch. For reservations call 526-2968.

July 11-23

- Acting and Scene Study for teenagers ages 14 to 18. The Instructor will be Max Vogler, a professional actor from New York and frequent guest star on NBC's *Law & Order*. \$175 per session. Scholarships available. Call the Instant Theatre Company at 526-1687.

July 14 & 15

- The 7th Annual Highlands Garden Tour to benefit the Basom-Louise Gallery. For tickets visit the gallery in the Hudson Library or call 526-4949. Platinum sponsors: Meadows Mountain Realty, Barry & Paula Jones of the Summer House. Gold sponsors: Macon Bank, The Bird Barn, Chattooga Gardens and Bryant Art Glass. Patron Party is July 14. Garden Tour is July 15.

July 15-17

- A "Walk in the Park" where actors portray people from Highlands' past.

July 16

- The "Summer Colors Fine Art Show" will feature Shaun Moss's Sparkle Magic Show at 1 p.m. The Children's Craft Table is well supervised and will be available both Saturday and Sunday from 10-4. There will be crafts and also a chair to paint and decorate which will then be donated to the Arts Alliance of Highlands for their autumn fundraising. For info on membership in the Art League or to inquire about the show, contact Marty Ruppert at 828-883-2560.



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DIETARY AIDES - HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HOSPITAL. Duties include working patient tray line and cafeteria line, stock kitchen, wash dishes. Excellent benefit package after 60 days. Pre-employment substance screening. Call Mary Osmar, 828-526-1301.

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sitions. If you want to join a team whose focus is on excellent elder care with a low staffing ratio, above average wages, and shift differentials, call. Pre-employment substance screening. Mary Osmar, 828-526-1301.

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Mountain music returns in July

– Proceeds to benefit Relay for Life –

Highlands School's newly renovated gymnasium on Pierson Drive will provide the setting for this year's Mountain Music Concerts. On the five Saturday nights of July, popular local musicians will present the best in mountain music as they seek to preserve our mountain heritage; to entertain locals, seasonal residents, and summer visitors; and most importantly to raise awareness for the Relay For Life Event scheduled for August 26 at Highlands Rec Park.

Hardly a single individual escapes the effects of cancer, whether personally suffering from the dreaded disease, or watching while a family member, friend or neighbor endures the agony. Popular ABC News reporter Peter Jennings recently announced he is now undergoing treatment for lung cancer. Highlands bears its own number of those presently suffering, those who have lost the fight and are lovingly remembered, and those who have fought the battle and won.

It is for all of those affected by cancer in any way that numerous volunteers, including all of the musicians, are working hard this summer to collect funds for the American Cancer Society's programs in research, services, education and advocacy.

Highlands School is the place to

be for mountain music on Saturday nights in July. Each program begins at 7:30 p.m. and lasts until 9:00 p.m. While the concert is free, donations will be collected for Relay For Life.

Prior to the Mountain Music Concerts, a Poor Man's Supper will be served from 6-7 p.m. for only \$5 per plate. The first supper will be served on Saturday, July 2.

Popular Highlands School chef June Zachary will be assisting a Relay For Life Team in serving a tasty mountain meal, complete with hot cornbread and homemade dessert.

Reservations are not necessary however, a strict serving hour will be observed so all may attend the concert which begins at 7:30 p.m. in Highlands School gymnasium.

Upcoming Saturday night performances at Highlands School gymnasium are:

- Clearwater Country will be performing on July 2.
- Terry Tritt and Grass Roots Revue will be performing on July 9.
- Oliver Rice and Blue Ridge Mountain Band will be performing on July 16.
- Performers to be announced for the July 23 performance.
- The Dendy Family will be performing on July 30.

Art stacking up for B-L auction

The Fine Art Center & Bascom-Louise Gallery continue to gather art and wine for their annual Art & Wine Auction. The weekend event is scheduled for September 30 and October 1 and was a sold-out event last year.

To reserve tables, purchase tickets or for more information, call The Fine Art Center at 526-4949.

Two featured artists are woodturners — Robin Piscitelli lives in the Southern Appalachians of North Carolina and is a member of the esteemed Southern Highland Craft Guild.

John Rymer became interested in woodturning when he retired in 1988. In 1991, he and his wife, Beverly, built a home in Highlands



A hand-carved bowl by Robin Piscitelli.

and John bought a lathe and tools and took private lessons from Roger Jacobs, a nationally known woodturner.

... SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING from page 16

recrimination, resentment, revenge, failure, sorrow, despair, and ruminating over the past.

Listening to tapes of the writings of Mary Baker Eddy and reading articles from the Christian Science magazines helped lift my thoughts and dissipate the sense of self-will that argued I was the arbiter of my own life and had pretty much made a mess of things.

Spiritual truths I had always loved poured in my longing mind. The following statement from Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures exactly sums up my thought processes at the time: "The sharp experiences of belief in the supposititious life of matter, as well as our disappointments and ceaseless woes, turn us like tired children to the arms of divine Love. Then we begin to learn Life in divine Science."

I began to realize as never before that the only power in the universe is God. I realized I could yield to this most powerful force there is on earth or in heaven—the God whom Christ Jesus was referring to when he said, "I can of mine own self do nothing." This quieted my frantic but futile efforts to "make" myself better. Instead, I allowed God to lift me up through His all-power. My life immediately began to take on more spiritual directions. The kingdom of heaven, which Christ Jesus said is within us, began to open up for me. Anxiety and discouragement just left, and instead I felt a calm trust that only good could come into my life

because I had accepted that God was in charge of it. I was full of joy and gratitude. In fact, I was engrossed in expressing love to everyone I met without any thought of whether or not it would be returned.

I said to myself, "I'm a good person. God loves me and cares for me. God wants me to prosper, to be healthy. God gives me everything I need to be happy, healthy, to be filled with joy and goodness in my life."

If there is one thing I've learned in my lifetime as a Christian Scientist it is the quality of my thinking determines the quality of my life. As one feels and understands more of God's control over them, their thinking will harmonize. So the body harmonizes, because the thinking is governing the body. The human body is human thought manifest. So as human thought is improved and spiritualized, the body, under its government, is improved as well.

And yes, I had to forgive. Forgiveness is about learning to love more. It is getting to a more God-centered life, rather than a self-centered life, looking for the good in others and realizing the most important thing in life is to love. Not to get our way or to get somebody else to do what we want them to do, but to just live a life of love. As we commit ourselves to that ideal, we will find it easier to love, we will love more successfully, and we'll feel a whole lot better.

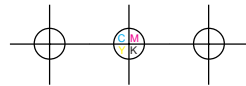
The only thing harmful about the past are the thoughts we hold today.

Business After Hours at Chestnut



This month's Chamber of Commerce Business After Hours was generously hosted by Chestnut Hill of Highlands on Tuesday, June 21. Bob Kieltyka of The Christmas Tree was the winner of a floral arrangement and Jama Harrison of Regions Bank was the winner of a lunch for two at Chestnut Hill. Chamber members enjoyed an evening of wonderful food, live music and conversation in the Chestnut Hill clubhouse.

Submitted photo



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Cyprus Restaurant

Old Creek Lodge

Dillard Rd / Hwy 106
Sky Valley 10 Miles
Dillard, GA. 14 Miles

The Farm 1 1/2 Miles
Tin Roof Studio 2 Miles
Koenig Builders & Peak Experience 3 Miles

Highlands' Newspaper
WebCam Pointing Up
Oak Street >>>

Mt. High
Lodge

Signature
Properties

Exxon
Don
Leons

Wright Square
Fireside Restaurant
Southern Hands
John Collette Fine Art
Coldwell Banker
Country Club Properties

Newspaper
Gift Shop
Main St Inn

Grinning Frog
Oak Sq
Shiraz Rugs
Bear Mtn.

Police
& Fire

abc

Rest Rooms

PlayHouse

Visitors
Ctr

Oak St

Whiskers

Town Sq

Anna Wear

Highlands Suites

Highlands Pharmacy

Ace Hardware

Highlands Custom Coverings

Warth Construction

Gem Shop

Mirror Lake Antiques

Buyer's Realty Highlands

Spring St.

Church St.

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Visitors Center
828-526-2112
Oak & 4th Street

Mt Brook
Brick Oven
SweeTreats
Int. Exchg.

Fletcher & Lee
Custom House

Custom House

Mtn Fitness

Macon Bank

Wild Thyme

Carolina Way

Bank America
ATM

Gazebo

PINE ST.

CK Swan

Village Sq

OAK ST.

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Chambers Realty
& Vacation Rentals

Nature Center
500 Yards >>

Hudson Library
Bascom-Louise
Gallery

Falls On Main
Bird Barn
Cabin Casuals
Century 21
Highland Hiker
Wine & Cheese

Mt Fresh
Foods

Acorns & Miss Priss

Christmas Tree
Pescado's
Cool Cats
Old Rangoon
Icon Art
Highlands Cabinet

Hilltop
Grill

Rib Shack

Dry Cleaner

Northland
Cable Co.

Highlands
School

Peggy
Crosby
Center

Lakeside Restaurant

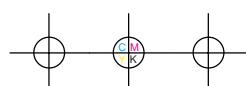
Attorney
Jack Mayer

Harris Lake

The Bird Barn
Bird houses, bird feeders,
birdseed, and bird books,
Highlands license plates.
@ Falls On Main 526-3910

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of Highlands
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526-3320





450 North 4th Street
P O Box 811
Highlands, NC 28741

Picture Perfect!



This elegant home close to town is located in the park like Shelby Place Development. Four bedrooms, three full baths and two half baths, great open floor plan for entertaining, charming screened deck overlooking the mountain view, beautiful crown molding, fireplace in the living room, exercise room, workshop, wine cellar, wood floors, tiled bathrooms and wiring for a generator, this lovely home has it all. Designed by Architect Paul Schmitt and constructed by Schmitt Building Contractors. Offered at \$978,000. MLS#55576 View a Visual Tour at www.highlandsproperties.com Tour #355248

View Visual Tours at www.highlandsproperties.com Phone 828.526.1717 Fax 828.526.1711

