

Highlands' Newspaper

FREE

Volume 3, Number 46

Locally Owned & Operated

Friday, Nov. 18, 2005

On-going

- On Mondays, from 4-6 p.m., The Food Pantry is open for anyone needing provisions – canned goods and non-perishables – at Highlands United Methodist Church building on Church Street Alley.

- At ...on the Verandah through the Nov. 26, live music — Chad Reed, piano player — on Friday and Saturday nights.

- Live music at Cyprus Restaurant every Friday at 9:30 p.m.

- Cy Timmons at Fressers at Helen's Barn every Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 6p.m. until close.

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

- Highlands Wine and Cheese Shop: Wine Flights Friday and Saturday from 4:30-6:30. Saturday, complimentary samples 12:30-4.

Nov. 18

- Don't miss Frannie Oates, appearing for one night only, Friday at 8 p.m. at The Instant Theatre Company's Studio on Main at 310 Oak Square. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$7 for 17 and under. Call the Instant Theatre Box Office at 828-342-9197.

- HS Basketball at home against Blue Ridge. Girls, 5:30 p.m., Boys, 7 p.m.

Nov. 19




- HS Basketball home game against Rabun County. Girls 5 p.m., Boys, 6:30 p.m.

- Pumpkin Cream Cheese Roll-ups, pecans, peanuts, jellies, jams and other baked goods FOR SALE, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the corner of Second and Main streets between the Masonic Lodge and HUMC and on the corner of Fifth & Main streets near the Presbyterian Church. Proceeds fund Highlands Chapter of the Eastern Star charitable programs.

Nov. 22

- 2005 ECO Film Series at Instant Theatre on Main Street in Oak Square. "The Future of Food." An in-depth investigation into the disturbing truth behind the unlabeled, patented, genetically engineered foods that have quietly filled the U.S. Doors open at 6:30 p.m., Film begins 7 p.m. Tickets are \$5 at the door. Call 536-5999 for info.

- Highlands Community Thanksgiving Dinner at the Rec Park at 6 p.m. It's Free.

FRI	SAT	SUN
		
46-25°F	50-29°F	51-30°F

Town adopts ETJ area

The 132 chairs set up in a room at the Civic Center weren't enough to seat the 250 people who turned out for Wednesday night's public hearing on the Town Board's proposal to evoke Extra Territorial Jurisdiction a mile beyond the town limits.

Due to fire safety codes, half-way through the public comment period, Highlands Fire & Rescue Chief James Manley ordered those standing along the walls, windows and in the hall to move into the gym. •See ETJ page 8

Girls win first game of season



At the opening toss, Becca Wyatt (33) and Katie Bryson (5) set the assertive tone of the first Girls Varsity Basketball game against Rabun-Gap Nacoochee at home, Friday, Nov. 11. Highlands won 51-34. See story page 11.

Photo by Jim Lewicki

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Town takes first step to control stormwater

A rainy summer accentuated the town's need to significantly improve its stormwater management system and the first step toward that goal is a stormwater master plan.

The process involves extensive data collection and a critique of the existing system's components.

All that costs money, and with the help of McGill and Associates the town hopes to get a \$40,000 Clean Water Management Trust Grant to fund the development of a comprehensive plan.

The town is concerned about the entire drainage within the town's limits and the area surrounding the Cullasaja River drainage above the dam at Lake Sequoyah.

Step one of the plan involves an inventory of existing stormwater infrastructure in town including pipes, culverts, junction boxes and drainage structures.

After the inventory is completed, the Town's GIS mapping will be used to create a stormwater utility system overlay.

Next comes Skeltonized Modeling which will include flood elevation modeling and mapping of impact areas, particularly on critical stream areas such as the Mill Creek drainage. A

•See STORMWATER page 7

Police seek help locating missing person

Elenia Victoria Alvarez, 22, from the Philippines, is missing and the Highlands Police Department, her employer and her roommates are asking the Highlands community for help.

Specifically, officials are looking for two women who left with Alvarez on Oct. 22 from the home she shared with roommates on Satulah Road.

Police say the two women appeared to be in their twenties. One said she was a teacher from South Africa. She has shoulder-length, blonde, wavy hair. The other woman has black hair that reaches mid-way down her back and appeared to be of Asian-Oriental descent, said eyewitnesses.

Alvarez's roommate, a co-worker at

Bryson's Food Store, said Alvarez introduced them to her, "So she knew them," she said. About 30 minutes later, Alvarez left with the women.

When she didn't report to work, Sunday, Oct. 23, her employer, Jim Bryson reported her missing to police.

Now police are seeking the commu-

•See MISSING page 7

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Toll Free FAX: 866-212-8913 • (828) 526-0782

email: HighlandsEditor@aol.com

Publisher/Editor - Kim Lewicki;

Copy Editor/Proofreader Tom Merchant

Cartoonist - Karen Hawk

Circulation/Tech. Support - Jim Lewicki

Adobe PDF version at www.highlandsinfo.com

265 Oak St.; P.O. Box 2703, Highlands, N.C., 28741

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

• A HAWK-EYE'S VIEW •



FOUND HIM A MILE OUTSIDE TOWN LIMITS..

• LETTERS TO THE EDITOR •

'Dupree' award means a lot

Dear Editor,

On behalf of all of the members of the Mountain Garden Club I say, "Thank You, Thank You, Thank You" to the Highlands Chamber of Commerce for recognizing the hard work and the strong civic spirit that we all have exhibited through our work here in the community. It is certainly an honor for our members to receive the Robert Dupree Community Service Award for this year.

We recognize that there are many other people in the community who work tirelessly to make our town better and we are all humbled that you have chosen to recognize the Garden Club in such a prestigious way. Being the recipients of this honor just energizes us even more to continue our efforts to work diligently to make our town a better place to live. Thanks again for this wonderful honor.

Dixie Barton, President
Mountain Garden Club

HCC member not for ETJ

Dear Editor,

I have left Highlands so I am writing prior to the public hearing on Extra Territorial Jurisdiction Nov. 16 at the Civic Center. We have winterized and left until next spring.

I have followed closely the discussions about ETJ. Most residents at the Falls agree with me that such action is arbitrary and simply not fair to the residents of our Club Community.

For all practical purposes, we are "built out." We, at our expense have provided utilities; road and streetscape installation and maintenance; tight zoning standards and enforcement. We have excellent security and self-government.

It would be difficult to imagine anything you could add, except bureaucracy and taxes, now or later. In my home state of Georgia, it is against the law to annex areas without majority vote from the residents.

Pronouncements from the city represent that the main reason for the city's proposal is to control development and erosion. May I suggest a compromise amendment to your actions. Why not agree to stipulate that you will not levy any taxes and that the city's authority will be limited to "use zoning" for at least a period of 10 years. That would accomplish your announced goals, while curing our skepticism.

Our club is a leader in volunteerism and support for Highlands' efforts. Good will and public relations are important. We love Highlands. Let's keep it that way.

Matt Friedlander
Moultrie, GA and Highlands

Scouts earn 'special' patch



Youth at Our Lady of the Mountains Catholic Church joined thousands of Boy and Girl Scouts across the country to complete requirements to earn the Year of the Eucharist Scout Patch. After the death of Pope John II, the program became a way many Catholic Scouts chose to honor the late Pope. Receiving the patch were from left: Mary Catherine Karcher, Ann Marie Crowe, Brendan Karcher and Emily Crowe. Stephen and Bridget Karcher are in the back.

100 years old and still voting!



If she can do it, everyone can do it! Irene James, who turned 100 this past summer, was one of the curb-side voters at the Highlands Civic Center on Election Day, Nov. 8. The first year she was eligible to vote, she was working "somewhere in the county" and couldn't vote in the Highlands election, but she says voting is very important and she tries to do it every election. Her son Tom James drove her to the polls this year.

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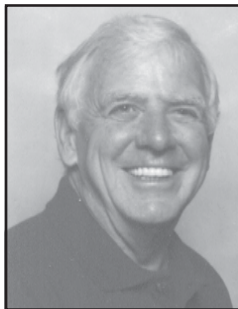
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• LAUGHING AT LIFE •

Kudos to Dapper Don

Hurray, kudos, bells and whistles and all that stuff. TA DA, Dr. Don Mullen is our new mayor. For me, that's good news and bad news. First the bad: I am sincerely going to miss poking fun at my friend, Buck Trott. He is a fun, colorful guy and I will miss not having him in the thick of things so I can make outrageous comments about him that are not true.

The good news is, of course, there is new meat out there, waiting for me to pounce on. For sure, I am salivating. I have never had the honor of meeting the good doctor, but he seems like a



Fred Wooldridge

good guy with a sense of humor.... maybe not.

Dr. Mullen can soon become the newest member of our "Mad at Fred" club. Members are only allowed to stay mad for one week until the next article comes out and I am poking fun at something else.

Since "The Highlands Newspaper" is a free, user friendly operation, Dr. Mullen has a choice as to whether he wants to join.

Here's how it works. He picks up the phone, calls my editor and says the following words. "Yes, I want to join

the 'Mad at Fred Club.' I am not afraid of that big mouth, goofy buffoon and he can write whatever he wants because no one believes him anyway, except maybe a few Realtors. Fire away because I have a great sense of humor."

Or he can tell my editor, "Do not let that man write a word about me. I am terrified of him and have much to hide. My poor sense of humor will not permit me to allow him to say silly stuff about me. I may have to sue."

We will publish the results in next week's paper.

Here are two predictions so write them down. Dapper Don will join our team and have fun with us, just like Buck. Second, a "Dapper Don" torso doll will hit the market soon, complete with 15 removable parts, including a brain, in case you want to play politician. When you pull the string on the doll, it says "I want to control growth in Highlands." Awesome!

The real reason Dr. Mullen beat

out Zeke and Buck is simple. Statistics show that "Dapper Don" (Don't ya just love it?) said the words "I am for controlling growth in Highlands" 780 times more than his opponents. I always knew whoever said those words the most would win.

Also, no one took my advice and said, "I am for world peace." Any candidate, who had said that enough times, could have beat out any opponent, no matter how many times they spoke the "growth" statement. In the meantime, Highlands grew more during the election campaign than it ever has.

Also, kudos for my friends Amy Paterson and Hank Ross, both big anti-growth speakers. Although the two sometimes have different agendas, they are active, colorful Commissioners who seem to draw news. It's going to be an exciting time.

Finally, here's some worthwhile advice for our new mayor. Go find

•See WOOLDRIDGE page 6

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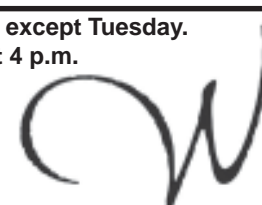
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Celebrating Winter

I think the time has come for us Highlanders (even us who aren't natives but who have lived here a long time) to stand up and announce that "Highlands doesn't roll up its sidewalks and disappear like some mirage in the winter!"

People who scurry from Highlands as soon as the season shifts, act like winter is some big bad wolf waiting to gobble down those who linger after Thanksgiving.

Like elsewhere in the nation, Highlands has kept up with the changing technology and it's comfy and cozy here in the winter.

Highlands boasts a state-of-the-art water treatment plant and waste water treatment plant. Utility infrastructure has been upgraded so now the power doesn't go down all over town when a squirrel walks on a wire.

No longer just a place of cool summer sojourns, homes in Highlands have been retrofitted, remodeled, insulated and upgraded so they are "cold weather friendly."

When we first started visiting here 12 years ago and even after we moved here nine years ago, everything did close up tight right after the last leaf twirled to the ground – sometimes way before Halloween.

But in the interim Highlands has been evolving into a bona fide year round town. Now the hotels entice people from off the mountain to enjoy the cozy ambiance of rooms warmed by a crackling fire. Most stores stay open — though some only Thursday through Sunday. Most restaurants offer meals whether noon and night and cafes and eateries continue to entice with hot coffee and entertainment.

In fact, between Cyprus, Fressers, Buck's Coffee Cafe, SweetTreats, Instant Theater and Highlands Community Players -- venues open year round -- there's more nightlife in Highlands than ever before!

Are the streets slammed with people Monday through Sunday? No. But over the last couple of years, come the weekends in the winter Highlands is hopping.

Owners of hotels and inns who closed last year for January and



Kim Lewicki

February aren't willing to lose the business this year and are opting instead to stay open all year.

And why not?

Interstate highways make getting to Highlands fast, easy and safe from any direction, especially since NC DOT scrapes and salts the state roads as fast as the snow falls.

Highlands town crews don't need much coaxing to hop on a snow plow, either.

The point is winter is one of Mother Nature's most glorious seasons and we should celebrate it and not run and hide.

Those of us who live here year round know life goes on in Highlands winter, spring, summer and fall. Each season brings with it different weather, different visitors, different activities. But we still pay our mortgage and utilities, read the newspaper, go to the post office, the grocery store, the school, doctor offices, the library, the drug store and depend on the police force and the volunteer fire and rescue department.

The weekend of Nov. 12, we went to Boone, N.C. to visit our daughter Rachel who attends Appalachian State University and to watch the App-Western game. While there we ventured over to Blowing Rock and Banner Elk. What hit us is how people in that three-town area celebrate winter, not just Christmas and Thanksgiving, but WINTER.

Yes, there are ski slopes there and yes, there is a vibrant university there, but why shouldn't Highlanders celebrate winter, too?

Besides the snow sports of tubing, sledding and skiing, we have clear, crisp nights when the moon casts tree-limb silhouettes on white blankets of snow. We have ice-coated tree limbs that shimmer like jewels in the morning sun. We have evergreen trees, their limbs laden with soft snow, that bow to the season. And we have people living and thriving here year round.

Surely shopping, dining and sleeping in charming venues surrounded by winter's beauty is far more appealing than sitting in bumper to bumper traffic on Johnson Ferry Road or Riverside Drive in Marietta while attempting to enter yet

• See ANOTHER VIEW page 7

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... WOOLDRIDGE continued from page 4

Buck Trott and give him a big hug. You have big shoes to fill if you're going to keep up with him. Buck was a 24/7 mayor who really loves Highlands and did much for us, whether you agreed with him all the time or not. The reason he needs a hug is because his ego is bigger than mine, if you can believe that. Being the mayor when you go to bed and just being Mr. Buck Trott when you wake the next morning is a blow. I know, I went through it when I retired.

I had a brand new oval office on the fourth floor of police headquarters and if you squinted, you could see the

Atlantic Ocean between condos two blocks away. I was in charge of the Criminal Investigations Division with an army of detectives working for me. I was king. I was "The Man." That was on Friday. On Monday morning I was retired and just plain ole Fred, unemployed and looking for a second career. It's a humbling experience.

Buck Trott, like me, will never be inactive because his ego will not permit that to happen. Just watch and see.

On second thought, let's all find Buck and give him a big hug.

... BOARD continued from page 14

civic affairs in Charlotte, and since moving to Cashiers he has served on the board of the Village Green, the Summit Charter School Foundation, and the new Community Care Clinic. He is a member of the Cashiers Rotary Club, the Highlands Community Chorus, the Highlands Male Chorus and the Highlands First Presbyterian Church Choir.

Jim Rothermel, MD practiced obstetrics and gynecology in St. Petersburg, FL, for 26 years before retiring to Highlands in 2000. A Fellow of the American Academy of Gynecology and a Diplomate of the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology, he was also an associate clinical professor of medicine at the University of South Florida. He earned his medical degree from Temple University in Philadelphia, PA. Since moving to Highlands, he has been active in the Episcopal Church of the Incarnation, where he is a chalice bearer, lay Eucharistic minister, and a former member of the vestry. He currently serves on the board of the Diocese of Western North Carolina. He

is chaplain of the Highlands Rotary Club, and is a board member and past president of Leadership Highlands.

Relocating from Manchester, KY, Dr. Rodney G. Stinnett became the Hospital's first full-time radiologist in January of 2004. A native of Virginia, Dr. Stinnett earned his medical degree from the Medical College of Virginia in 1974. He has worked at hospitals in Virginia, North Carolina, Tennessee, and, most recently, Kentucky.

A graduate of Sullins College and the University of Texas with a degree in journalism, Cassandra Manley has been active in a number of civic organizations, both in Houston TX, and Cashiers. She co-chaired the silent auction for the Church of the Good Shepherd and the Fall Fling Festival, and has edited Color the Mountains. She has served on the Village Green board and the Cashiers Humane Society board. While in Houston, she participated in the Junior League, the Post Oak Garden Club, the Houston Food Bank, the End Hunger Network, and the Public Relations Board of St. Joseph's Hospital.

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... MISSING continued from page 1

nity's help.

"This is uncharted waters," for us said Highlands Police Chief Bill Harrell. "We've never investigated anything like this in our careers."

Chief Investigator Todd Ensley said the department is looking for next best possible lead. "We're hoping someone will know who the two women are. No one seems to know who they are or where they work, but they said they lived in Highlands."

Since Alvarez was only in Highlands for five days authorities doubt anyone other than her immediate contacts at Bryson's Food Store and roommates know her.

The evening of Oct. 18 Alvarez was picked up at the Atlanta airport by her roommates and Bryson Food Store co-workers and taken to Bryson's Food Store employee-housing on Satulah Road.

She reported to work on Oct. 20 and 21; she was scheduled for a day off on the Oct. 22.

On Oct. 22, she and a female co-worker were at home when the two wom-

en arrived at the front door.

Though Alvarez is clearly missing, authorities don't suspect foul play.

Authorities have entered Alvarez into the National Crime Information Center and contacted the Philippine consulate in Atlanta and the Philippine embassy in Washington, D.C.

Intrax, the company with whom Bryson's Food Store contracts international labor has been contacted, as has Alvarez's family in the Philippines.

So far, Alvarez hasn't made contact with the company or her family.

"She is here on a Work Visa issued by the U.S. Dept. of Justice and that paperwork is on file at Bryson's Food Store," said Chief Harrell. "It's likely Work Visa stipulations require that she stay in contact with Intrax, very similar to stipulations concerning someone on probation," he said.

Anyone with information regarding the case is encouraged to contact the Highlands Police Department at 526-9431 or Crime Stoppers at 349-2600.



Elenia Victoria Alvarez

... ANOTHER VIEW continued from page 5

another strip center?

People with disposable income from Atlanta, Greenville, Charlotte, Chattanooga, Knoxville, even as far away as Charleston and Savannah, appreciate the fact that they can get to Highlands and home again in a weekend, long or short, in the spring, summer and fall.

Instead of boo-hooing weekends, we should say "Come on! You can get here in the winter,

too!"

Bustling weekend business throughout the winter months is good for all. Instead of being compared to summer or fall, it should be encouraged and appreciated for what it is.

So this year, join Highlands' Newspaper as we "Celebrate Winter" with all its possibilities, its beauty and its splendor.

... STORMWATER continued from page 1

model will be created of the Town's existing system comparing storm frequencies against measured and calculated capacities of critical stormwater structures.

The plan will be developed using a five-year timeline and its orientation will be toward techniques that will foster water quality.

Based on the data, a stormwater capital improvement plan will be designed to address stormwater infrastructure needs, flooding, intake protection and water quality enhancement in town. Sedimentation in Mirror and Sequoyah lakes will also be addressed.

A 10-year financial analysis will be prepared to determine the affordability of implementing the recommendations.

The grant money requires a \$10,000 match from the town.

Town Administrator Richard Betz said the expenditure wasn't budgeted for 2005-2006, but can come out of contingencies or the budget can be amended to reflect the expense.

At Wednesday nights Town Board meeting, commissioners voted to adopt the resolution approving the grant application.

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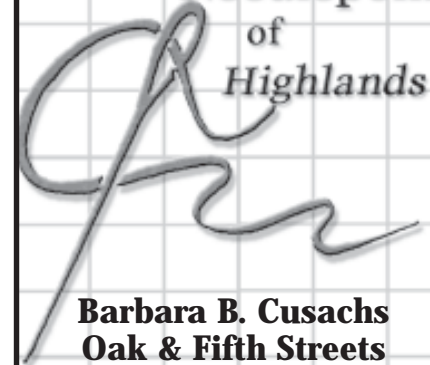
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... ETJ continued from page 1

adjacent to the meeting room where a PA system was set up.

Later 46 citizens signed a petition claiming they were denied their public access to the meeting.

Passionate comments from 30 people fueled the crowd and ran the gamut.

Several people likened the Town Board's proposal to evoke ETJ to life under Adolf Hitler's regime.

"Highlands is like Hitler's Germany and the people are like the Jews," said Harold Neely. "Clear Creek and Horse Cove are no threat to Highlands. The real purpose of zoning is to control people," he said.

Several accused the board of using ETJ as the first step toward annexation.

"I'm afraid ETJ is a precursor to annexing areas into the Town of Highlands," said Rick Rawlins who lives on Owl Gap Road, an in the ETJ'd area. "We bought land outside the town limits because we didn't want to pay taxes and we want to continue to live on a one-lane dirt road where we have to stop and wait for cars to pass. I fear another Bowery Road situation."

But Mayor Pro-Temp Amy Patterson said the process for annexation is not related to ETJ. "In many communities ETJ is a precursor to annexation, but if you're worried about taxation and annexation here, that's a completely different fight than ETJ."

Most everyone who spoke against ETJ was against the town telling them what to do on their property.

"Horse Cove was a community before Highlands was founded and we've done a good job with our zoning, if that's what you want to call it," said Donnie Edwards. "We don't need any interference from the Town of Highlands."

Many were concerned about not having a vote concerning what would go on in the ETJ'd area.

"This is fundamentally wrong," said David Hourdequin. "We can't decide by voting and this is robbing us of those rights. You can't ignore the people who are overwhelmingly against this and if you do, those people will find a way to respond to you."

Though Hourdequin was referring to taking the question to the polls, commissioners said State Statute required representation from the ETJ area on the Planning Board.

Others worried about losing freedoms they now enjoy on their property once the area was ETJ'd.

Tommy Chambers said he's got animals on his farm and he wants to continue making decisions concerning his property. "I don't want the town to tell me what I can and can't do," he said.

Still others worried about grandfathering. "I have a lot that's two-thirds of an acre and if my house burns down I won't be able to rebuild," said one citizen.

But Commissioner Patterson said before zones are set up in the ETJ'd area there will be a lot of comment elicited from the public. "We want public input and we will discuss having animals on property and once zones are set up, if people need a vari-

ance, they can come before the zoning board."

Commissioner Hank Ross reminded the audience that Highlands has always supported grandfathering. "There will be new residential zones set up that allow animals. This is about preserving what's out there not changing it," he said.

By a show of hands, the majority of the people who came to the meeting were against ETJ, but a good amount were for it, too.

Kim Thompson, president of the Highlands Hills homeowners association said rampant construction with no restrictions was destroying Apple Lake in Highlands Hills. "I'm hoping ETJ can do something about what's going on outside the town limits."

Builder/Architect Thomas Craig, who said he owns property both in town and outside of town, said he's had to deal with the town on several occasions and "it wasn't horrible."

He suggested people think about the future. "You have stewardship over your land for a limited amount of time. If we see anything we don't like, the people we should blame are our parents and grandparents who didn't have the vision to preserve it," he said. "You have to preserve what you like best and you have to ask, 'Will your family always be good stewards of your property?' 'Can we always trust our neighbors to be good stewards?'"

In the end the board voted 4 to 1 to adopt ETJ, to adopt an ordinance exercising ETJ and to amend the watershed ordinance to establish Watershed II Balance of the Watershed designation.

Commissioner Herb James voted against all three motions. "I'm opposed to all of it," he said. "Highlands has done well in spite of all of us and it will continue to do well in spite of us."

Though on the proposed ETJ map, commissioners agreed not to ETJ the Cullasaja Club or Highlands Falls Country Club. "Those folks had the foresight to have regulations regarding setbacks, watershed, and soil erosion and they're stricter than we are," said Patterson. Also, the ETJ line cut the Cullasaja Club in half and commissioners agreed that such boundaries weren't reasonable.

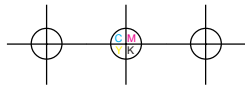
The board also voted 3 to 2 to adopt an ordinance imposing a moratorium on commercial development and signage for the next 120 days.

"We want to get zones in place so no one will scurry to get things done prior to community input," said Patterson.

Commissioners Ross and James voted against the moratorium.

There is no taxation associated with ETJ. Only the town's subdivision, sign and soil erosion regulations will go into effect immediately.

Commissioner Patterson was acting Mayor since Mayor Buck Trott was out of town at a family function scheduled several months prior to the rescheduled public hearing.



• UPCOMING EVENTS •

On-going

- On Mondays, from 4-6 p.m., The Food Pantry is open for anyone needing provisions – canned goods and nonperishables – at Highlands United Methodist Church building on Church Street Alley.

- Anyone interested in officiating basketball this upcoming season should contact the Southwestern Officials Association. Officials are needed for all levels of play in WNC, including middle school and high school. For more information contact Lori Jones, Booking Agent, at 828-507-4404.

- At ...on the Verandah through the Nov. 26, live music — Chad Reed, piano player — on Friday and Saturday nights.

- At Bascom-Louise Gallery: Tuesdays, Art for pre-schoolers, 9:30-10 a.m.; Tuesdays, Kindergarten-first grade, 3:15-4:15 p.m.; Wednesdays, Home-schooled students, 1st and 3rd Wednesdays, 1-3 p.m.; Grades 6-9, Wednesdays, 3:15-4:15 p.m.; Grades 2-5, Wednesday, 4:30-5:30 p.m.

- At Paoletti's Raffle Tickets for sale to support the New Orleans Humane Society, Habitat for Humanity and for Thanksgiving dinners for the parishes affected. Raffle tickets are \$50 with seven winners. The drawing will be November 21.

- GULF COAST SUPPORT GROUP — Anyone displaced by Hurricane Katrina who would like to get together come to a group meeting at the Episcopal Church of the Incarnation, Thursdays at 10:30.

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

- Live music at Cyprus Restaurant every Friday at 9:30 p.m.

- Cy Timmons at Fressers at Helen's Barn every Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 6 p.m. until close.

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

- Highlands Wine and Cheese Shop: Wine Flights Friday and Saturday from 4:30-6:30. Saturday, complimentary samples 12:30-4.

- HealthTracks, at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital, offers special fitness classes Monday through Thursday. HealthTracks at 526-1348 for details.

- 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.

Nov. 18

- Don't miss Frannie Oates, appearing for one night only, Friday at 8 p.m. at The Instant Theatre Company's Studio on Main at 310 Oak Square. Frannie is a Storyteller, Performance Artist and Spinner of songs. Her instruments are her alto-soprano range voice, Native American style flutes, and guitar. She is of the mountains of North Carolina. Tickets are \$15 for

adults and \$7 for 17 and under. Seating is limited and early reservations are suggested. Call the Instant Theatre Box Office at 828-342-9197.

- HS Basketball at home against Blue Ridge. Girls, 5:30 p.m., Boys, 7 p.m.

Nov. 18-20

- The all-children's play, "THE ADVENTURES OF TOM SAWYER" will be presented on two consecutive weekends, in the "Dillard Playhouse Theater." Show times are Friday, Nov. 18 at 7 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 19 at 7 p.m., and Sunday, Nov. 20 at 3 p.m. The Theater is located in Dillard, Ga. at 892 Franklin Street, off #441 N. (turn on Henry Dillard Dr. at "The Dillard House" restaurant sign.) Tickets for this show are priced at \$10 for Adults and \$5 for children under 12 years of age, and can be purchased at most banks in Clayton and the Rabun County Chamber of Commerce. Call (706) 212-2500 for tickets/information.

Nov. 19

- HS Basketball home game against Rabun County. Girls 5 p.m., Boys, 6:30 p.m.

- The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a moderate six-mile hike in the Standing Indian area, from Yellow Patch to Bear Pen on the Appalachian Trail and down to Betty Creek. Meet at Westgate Plaza in Franklin (opposite Burger King) at 10 a.m. Drive 40 miles round trip. Bring a drink, lunch, and wear sturdy, comfortable shoes. Call leader Gail Ledman, 524-5298, for reservations.

- The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a strenuous 8.5 mile hike on the Bartram Trail from Jones Gap to Buckeye Creek trailhead with beautiful views along the way. Meet at the Highlands Bank of America at 9:30 a.m. or the Jones Gap trailhead at 10. Bring a drink, a lunch, and wear sturdy, comfortable shoes. Hikes are limited to 20; Call leader Jim Whitehurst, 526-8134.

- Pumpkin Cream Cheese Roll-ups, pecans, peanuts, jellies, jams and other baked goods FOR SALE, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the corner of Second and Main streets between the Masonic Lodge and HUMC and on the corner of Fifth & Main streets near the Presbyterian Church. Proceeds fund Highlands Chapter of the Eastern Star charitable programs.

Nov. 20

- The Nantahala Hiking will take an easy four-mile hike on the Greenway in Franklin from the Nonah Bridge to the end of the Greenway. Meet at Westgate Plaza in Franklin (opposite Burger King) at 2: p.m. Drive 6 miles round trip. Bring a drink, a snack if you wish, and wear sturdy, comfortable shoes. Hikes are limited to 20; reservations are required. Call leader Kay Coriell, 369-6820.

Nov. 22

- 2005 ECO Film Series at Instant Theatre on Main Street in Oak Square. "The Future of Food." An in-depth investigation into the disturbing truth behind the unlabeled, patented, genetically engineered foods that have quietly filled the U.S. Doors open at 6:30 p.m., Film begins 7 p.m. Tickets are \$5 at the door. Call 536-5999 for info.

- Highlands Community Thanksgiv-

ing Dinner at the Rec Park at 6 p.m. It's Free.

Nov. 25

- The Instant Theatre Company's popular series, Songwriters-In-The-Round, will have its fourth performance of the year on Friday at 8 p.m. at the Studio on Main at 310 Oak Square. Songwriters-In-The-Round features both local and out-of-town musicians, singing and playing their own music, and trading stories back and forth about what inspired each of their songs.

- Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival presents its Fall Concert, Friday, 5 p.m., at PAC. Franz Schubert's Winterreise performed by Daniel Cole, accompanied by William Ransom. Call 526-9060.

Nov. 26

- Classically trained pianist Anna Dolga is a student from Ukraine, appearing only at SweetTreats. She has delighted crowds throughout the season with her talent of old classics and personal compositions. Join us from 7-10 pm.

- Pumpkin Cream Cheese Roll-ups, pecans, peanuts, jellies, jams and other baked goods FOR SALE, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the corner of Second and Main streets between the Masonic Lodge and HUMC and on the corner of Fifth & Main streets near the Presbyterian Church. Proceeds fund Highlands Chapter of the Eastern Star charitable programs.

- Annual Highlands Town Lighting, 6 p.m.

- Photographer George Humphries, will autograph his new "Images of the Blue Ridge Parkway," Saturday, 1 to 3 p.m. at Cyrano's Book Shop on Main Street.

Nov. 29

- 2005 ECO Film Series at Instant Theatre on Main Street in Oak Square. "The Green Zone." A stream and its riparian zone are really a single entity. Film shows how protecting a stream or restoring a river requires preservation of this vital green zone. Doors open at 6:30 p.m., Film begins 7 p.m. Tickets are \$5 at the door. Call 536-5999 for info.

- HS Basketball at home against Robbinsville. Girls 6:30 p.m., Boys, 8 p.m.

Dec. 2

- HS Basketball at home against Walhalla. Girls 6:30 p.m., Boys, 8 p.m.

- Highlands PTO and Pescado's will host a fundraising dinner the evening of the home basketball games against Walhalla. Dinner will be from 5:30 until 7:30 in the cafeteria (games begin at 6:30 p.m. and 8 p.m.). Please join us for a tasty dinner and stay to cheer on the teams!

Dec. 3

- Annual Highlands Christmas Parade on Main Street, 11 a.m.

- A Holiday Gift Show & Sale by the Highlands Plateau Craftsmen and Bascom-Louise Gallery, after the parade, Saturday, from noon-6 p.m. at the Highlands Conference Center. Featuring artists who have exhibited at the Bascom-Louise Gallery.

- The Nantahala Hiking Club will take two easy short hikes for a total of 2.5 miles in Blue Valley to the amethyst mines supposedly operated by Tiffany's years ago and to Picklesimer's Rock House, where a waterfall drops over a huge overhanging rock

shelf under which prehistoric people once sheltered. Meet at the Highlands Bank of America at 9:30 a.m. Bring a drink, a lunch, and wear sturdy, comfortable shoes. Drive 25 miles round trip. Call leader Jim Whitehurst, 526-8134, for reservations.

- Pumpkin Cream Cheese Roll-ups, pecans, peanuts, jellies, jams and other baked goods FOR SALE, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the corner of Second and Main streets between the Masonic Lodge and HUMC and on the corner of Fifth & Main streets near the Presbyterian Church. Proceeds fund Highlands Chapter of the Eastern Star charitable programs.

Dec. 4

- The Nantahala Hiking Club will take an easy 1.5 mile hike on the Tessentee Farm loop. Meet at the Riverside Road picnic area off Hwy. 441 S. in Otto at 2 p.m. Drive 3 miles round trip. Reservations are required. Call leader Kay Coriell, 369-6820.

Dec. 6

- HS Basketball at home against Franklin. Girls 6:30 p.m., Boys, 8 p.m.

- HIARPT's Dialogue at Civic Center, 10-11:30 a.m. Topic: Tom Friedman's *The World is Flat*. Bill Martin—coordinator.

Dec. 10

- HS Basketball at home against Hayesville. Girls 6:30 p.m., Boys, 8 p.m.

- Pumpkin Cream Cheese Roll-ups, pecans, peanuts, jellies, jams and other baked goods FOR SALE, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the corner of Second and Main streets between the Masonic Lodge and HUMC and on the corner of Fifth & Main streets near the Presbyterian Church. Proceeds fund Highlands Chapter of the Eastern Star charitable programs.

- The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a moderate five-mile hike to Siler Bald with an elevation gain of 900 feet. Meet at Westgate Plaza in Franklin (opposite Burger King) at 9:30 a.m. Drive 20 miles round trip. Reservations are required. Call leader David Sapin, 369-2628 for reservations.

Dec. 12

- HS Basketball at home against Rosman. Girls 6:30 p.m., Boys, 8 p.m.

Dec. 13

- HIARPT's Dialogue at Civic Center, 10-11:30 a.m. Topic "Dark Side of American History," with a selection from Howard Zinn's "Peoples' History of the United States." Alex Redmountain—coordinator.

Dec. 14

- Highlands Plateau Audubon Society Christmas Bird Count.

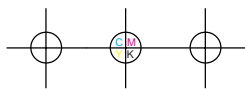
Dec. 16

- HS Basketball at home against Tallulah Falls. Girls 6:30 p.m., Boys, 8 p.m.

Dec. 17

- The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a moderate five-mile hike to Whiteside Mountain and the Devil's Courthouse. Meet at the EXXON gas station on the Highlands Road (Hwy.64 E) at 9 a.m. or at the Highlands Bank of America at 9:45 or at the Whiteside parking area at 10 a.m. Bring a drink, lunch, and wear sturdy, comfortable shoes. Hikes are limited to 20; reservations are required. Call leader David Sapin, 828-369-2628, for reservations.

Nov. 26



– The Fighting Highlanders – A season to remember

On Nov. 11, during the Quarter Finals – State 1A Playoffs, Highlands played and beat Blue Ridge at home, Highlands 4 – Blue Ridge 3.

Less than 10 minutes into the match, Blue Ridge went up 3-0 and things looked bad for the mighty fighting Highlanders. Luckily, Highlands found their composure and Buddy Parrish reversed the momentum, finding the net with 15 minutes left in the first half. Following soon after, Ryan Bears and Matt Chenoweth each scored a goal to tie the game before the half and turn the apparent run-away into a close match.

At half time, the score was Blue Ridge 3 - Highlands 3

Both teams played with all they had in the second half with great defense and goalie work, preventing any goals. Then, with less than two minutes left in the game, injured and hobbling on a badly bruised right foot, Buddy Parrish scored on a low, hard shot to the opposite post securing the victory for the Fighting Highlanders and sending them to the Semi-Finals of the State 1A playoffs. Ryan Perkins preserved the second half shut-out with four key saves in goals for Highlands.

Buddy-Parrish scored 2 goals and made one assist; Matt Chenoweth scored 1 goal; and Ryan Bears scored 1 goal.

Nick Kerhoulaus and Taylor Parrish each had 1 assist; Ryan Perkins made 9 saves for the team.

The win at the Nov. 11 Quarter Finals sent the Fighting Highlanders to the State Semi-Final Match in the 1A West Regional Finals – a first for Highlands.

Though the Highlanders lost at home to Thomasville 5, Highlands 3, the game marked a season for the record books. The NCHSAA 1-A victory over number on-ranked Jordon-Mathews, proved to much for the mighty Highlanders to overcome in Saturday's Semi-Final State Match. Thomasville's Walter Cruz, scored all 5 goals for Thomasville, coming off their victory in the Quarter Final

Thomasville went up early, 2-0 on Cruz's right foot. Highlands fought back as Matt Chenoweth scored off a cross from Alec Schmitt to bring the Highlanders within 2-1, but less than three minutes later, Thomasville's Walter Cruz scored his third goal of the day to give the Bulldogs a 3-1 lead at halftime.

Less than a minute into the second half, Highlands pulled within 3-2 on a penalty kick by Schmitt, but once again Cruz had an answer as he scored his fourth goal of the day less than four minutes later.

Cruz added his fifth goal of the day with 20 minutes remaining to give the Bulldogs a 5-2 lead. Highlands scored their final goal of the day with six minutes remaining, when Buddy Parrish collected a loose ball and pushed the ball into the left side of the net.

"We had our chances in the 2nd half



Photo by Mark Smith

and just couldn't put them away," said Coach David Parrish. "Thomasville is a quality team and I would be surprised if they don't win it all."

Parrish said he can't say enough about this year's team. "They exceeded my expectations for the season and most importantly proved to themselves that they are...winners!"

Matt Chenoweth and Buddy Parrish

each scored 1 goal; Alec Schmitt scored 1 goal and made 1 assist.

Goalie Ryan Perkins made seven saves for Highlands who had advanced to the State Semi-Finals for the first time in school history.

The Fighting Highlanders ended their season ranked #3 in the entire State for 1A schools.



Above, The Fighting Highlanders in the fray of it during the Nov. 11 game against Blue Ridge. Far left, Ryan Bears, bandaged nose and all, takes off after the Thomasville opponent. Left: Matt Chenoweth heads the ball during the Nov. 12 Playoff game.

Photos by Noel Atherton



Becca Wyatt, number 33, takes a foul shot.

Photo by Jim Lewicki

GV Volleyball first game a winner

It was an exciting first game for the Girls Varsity Volleyball team, Friday, Nov. 11 at home.

Highlands played Rabun-Gap Nacoochee, a team that wanted to win as badly as Highlands. It wasn't an easy win for Highlands and was a close match for most of the game.

In the first quarter, Highlands scored 11 points; Rabun Gap scored 8. In the second quarter Highlands scored another 15 points, Rabun Gap scored another 11 but it was the third quarter that pretty much decided the game – Highlands scored 14 points and Rabun scored 2.

In the fourth quarter Rabun Gap rallied to score 14 points while Highlands scored 11, but Highlands' firm lead gave the team plenty of cushion.

Toni Schmitt was the top scorer with 11 points, followed by Katie Bryson with 10; Becca Wyatt with 9; Keri Raby with 7; Allison Winn with 6; Ramsey Ashburn with 5 and Kaylie Buras with 3.

Highlights of Game included Keri Raby leading the team with 10 rebounds; Toni Schmitt leading with 6 assists and Bailey Buck getting 6 steals.

Coach Brett Lamb said seeing the team in action against an opponent showcased weaknesses that the team needs to work on, but he was very pleased with Friday's outcome. "We just have to complete the play at the net," he said.

Team members are Katie Bryson, Keri Raby, Allison Winn, Toni Schmitt, Becca Wyatt, Ramsey Ashburn, Maggie Dearth, Bailey Buck, Vicki Smith, Kaylie Buras, Codi Moore, Ali Lica, Danielle Reese, Franka Dadic, MariSol Ruiz

Assistant coaches are George Schmitt, Shanci Messer and Stephanie Smathers. The next home game is against Blue Ridge, Nov. 18 at 5:30 p.m. The Varsity Boys game is at 7 p.m. There is also a Saturday home game, Nov. 19, against Rabun County at 5 p.m. The Varsity Boys play at 6:30 p.m. The girls record is 1-0.

"Shop with a Cop"



**Sponsored by:
The Macon County Sheriff's Office,
The Franklin Police Department,
Wal-Mart and Burger King of Franklin**

It may not be Christmas yet but it's already time for your Sheriff's Office to organize our Annual "Shop with a Cop" event and once again we're asking for our communities' help!

As usual it's your contribution we're asking for. With your contribution officers will pick up local children in their patrol cars and take them Christmas shopping at Wal-Mart of Franklin.

Again these children are local kids and many are ones that officers have met throughout the year during the performance of their duties. The officer and his friend will have lunch together compliments of Burger King of Franklin after their day of shopping.

As always the only requirement is that before the child finishes his shopping spree he must buy a minimum of one gift for someone of his choice. After having lunch together the officer and child will then go back to the Sheriff's Office or Police Department to wrap the gift they purchased for that special person.

Just as last year, officers from the Macon County Sheriff's Office, Franklin Police Department, NC Highway Patrol, NC Wildlife Commission and NC State Bureau of Investigations are invited to participate.

This year's event will include the Highlands Police Department and even Santa is going to join us if he is able to fit us in his tight schedule. This event is always a special time and the officers from all the agencies always look forward to participating.

Thank you to the people of Macon County for all the support you have given to the Sheriff's Office and to all the other law enforcement agencies in our area. We could not be what we are today if not for the support of our community, friends and most importantly our families. We know how truly blessed we are and we thank you all.

So remember... if you happen to see a swarm of patrol cars around Wal-Mart during the Christmas holidays don't fret it's only us on our shopping spree. If you have ever been to Wal-Mart on the day of our event you know it is truly a sight to see. Some people even say that Franklin has the safest Wal-Mart on "Shop with a Cop" day.

– Stay safe and GOD Bless, Sheriff Robert L. Holland

No tax dollars are used to fund this program. Your contribution is needed to make this year's event a huge success. Help give a child and his/her family a Christmas they'll remember for years to come.

Please send checks by December 12 to:
Macon County Sheriff's Office
"Shop with a Cop"
1820 Lakeside Drive, **Franklin NC 28734**

• SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING

God's Reminders



Pastor Steve Kerhoulas
Community Bible Church

I don't know about you, but I'm finding it increasingly difficult to remember things. I forget where I lay my keys, my wallet, and I also forget names. My wife and I have decided to wear name tags around the house. It's gotten that bad. I don't believe it's an age thing, my kids can't remember either. I think the problem is that it's easier to forget than it is to remember.

It occurred to me the other day that part of the reason God has given us the Bible is because we need all the help we can get to remember certain things. Especially the things that help us deal with the pressures of everyday life.

For example, Peter's second letter was written to Christians who faced the same temptations, and challenges we do. Staying on track spiritually and deciding to do the right thing is as difficult today as it was back then. Peter's letter contains reminders on how to deal with the pressures that confront believers.

The fact is all of us blow it on occasion. We say, or do, or think, things we wish we had the strength not to have said, done or thought. When this occurs, we repeat the same excuse: "I'm weak...if only I was stronger I would have been able to do the right thing."

The fact is we are capable of doing what is right each and every time. It's true! And you might be thinking, "Don't I wish! I do the things I do not want to do because I'm weak." The truth is that the reason we cave in and do them is because we forget what is in the Bible. If anyone had the right to address this subject it was the Apostle Peter. What he discovered was a Biblical principle that transformed the way in which he dealt with life's pressures. This is what he tells them:

God has given to Christians everything that is needed to live a godly life. If we need strength to say no...got it! The ability to do the right thing...got it! The power to deal with temptation...got it! Anything that is required to live a godly life...you've got it!

What Peter is saying is: "You've Got The Power".

The problem is that we forget this. We forget that God has given us everything, which means "nothing is missing in the life of a Christian as it pertains to living a godly life. Everything is in us. But how does it work? Every time we remember

•See SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING page 18

• PLACES OF WORSHIP ON THE PLATEAU •

BLUE VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

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

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.

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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

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Tuesday Noon Bible Study: noon Parish House
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All services at the Community Bible Church

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.

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(Evangelical Presbyterian Church)
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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: Holy Eucharist – 8 a.m.; Sunday School – 9
a.m.; Choir – 9:45 a.m.; Holy Eucharist – 10:30 a.m.;
Youth Group – 5 p.m.
Mondays: Women's Cursillo Group – 4 & 5:30
Christmas Chorale – 7 p.m.
Tuesdays: Men's Cursillo in Jones Hall – 8; Staff Mtg. –
9:30 a.m.; Flying Solo – 6:30 p.m.
Wednesdays: Supper & Program – 5:30 p.m.; Choir
Rehearsal – 6:30 p.m.
Thursdays: Holy Eucharist – 10 a.m.; Gulf Coast
Support – 10:30 a.m.; Women's Cursillo – noon.
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.; 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 – 11
Wed: Supper – 5:30 p.m.; Bible Study & activities – 6

HOLY FAMILY LUTHERAN CHURCH – ELCA

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2152 Dillard Road – 526-9741

Sundays: Worship/Communion – 10:30

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

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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 Dept. log entries for the week of Nov. 11-16.

Nov. 11

- At 1:10 p.m., officers responded to a two-car accident N.C. 106 and Cobb Road. There were no injuries.

- At 1:15 p.m., a motorist was N.C. 106 and Cobb Road was cited for driving left of center.

- At 3:50 p.m., officers responded to a two-car accident in Highlands Plaza at Second Street. There were no injuries.

- At 5:03 p.m., officers issued a warning ticket to a motorist.

Nov. 12

- At 1:30 p.m., officers responded to a two-car accident at Main and U.S. 64 west. There were no injuries.

- Issac John Carrion, 24 of Franklin was arrested for DWI and is being held on a \$1,000 unsecured bond.

Nov. 14

- At 2 p.m., officers responded to a two-car accident on Main Street. There were no injuries.

The following are the Highlands Fire & Rescue Dept. log entries for the week of Nov 11-16.

Nov. 11

- The dept. responded to a call of a brush fire on Woodland Hills Drive. There was no damage to structures.

Nov. 14

- The dept. responded to a fire alarm at the Fidelia-Eckerd Home but it was caused by a faulty alarm.

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

Nov. 15

- The dept. responded to a wreck on N.C. 106. There were no injuries. The dept. directed traffic.

Nov. 16

- The dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with a medical call at a residence on McCall Road where a woman wouldn't awaken from sleep.



Frannie Oates at ITC Nov. 18

Frannie Oates coming to ITC


Don't miss Frannie Oates, appearing for one night only, Nov. 18 at 8 p.m. at The Instant Theatre Company's Studio on Main at 310 Oak Square. Frannie tells stories, sings stories, and introduces us to the world of Frannie Oates. Her instruments are her alto-soprano range voice, Native American style flutes, and guitar. She weaves a definite spell, transporting her listeners to that realm

between myth and reason.

For reservations call the Instant Theatre Box Office at 828-342-9197. Tickets are \$15.00 for adults and \$7.00 for 17 and under. Seating is limited so call early. Complementary wine and soft drinks will be served at the performance.


The Instant Theatre Company's Studio on Main is located at 310 Main Street, across the street from The Methodist Church and above Sports Page Restaurant and Shiraz Rugs.

For much more information about The Instant Theatre Company, visit our web site at: www.InstantTheatre.org or call (828) 526-1687.




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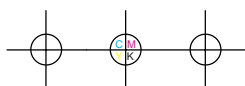
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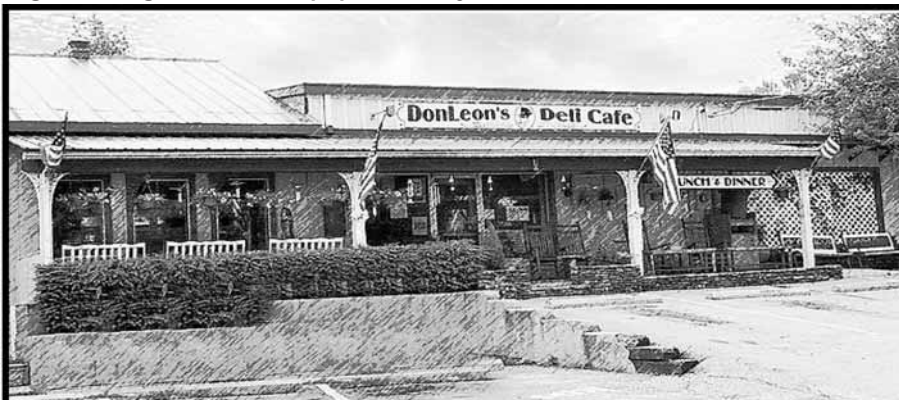
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Dr. Don Mullen, Bud Smith and Dr. Brenda Stewart

New slate of officers head Highlands-Cashiers hospital board

Cashiers businessman Bud Smith is the new chairman for the 2005-2006 fiscal year (which began Oct. 1). Joining Smith as officers are retired cardiac surgeon and associate pastor of Highlands First Presbyterian Church, Donald C. Mullen, MD, who will serve as vice chairman, and Brenda Stewart, supervisor of the Glenville-Cashiers EMS, who will serve as secretary.

Smith and Mullen are joined on the board's executive committee by Cashiers real estate appraiser Rick Robson and retired businessman Julian Franklin, of Highlands. All of the new officers are veterans of the board. Even though Mrs. Stewart is beginning a new term, she served on the board previously in the late 1990s.

Other new board members are retired ENT Bruce Berryhill, MD of Cashiers, and retired OB-GYN Jim Rothermel, MD of Highlands. Cassandra Manley of Cashiers is the new Foundation representative on the board and Radiologist Rodney Stinnett, MD will represent the Medicine Committee. All are first-time members.

Going off the board in September at the end of their terms were Marlene Fowler, of Cashiers, and Paul W. Black, MD, of Highlands. Claude Dillard, of Dillard GA, had resigned from the board in October citing increased business commitments.

The board also has a new name. The Highlands-Cashiers Hospital Board of Trustees became the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital Board of Directors last spring. Many hospital boards are changing to directorships, a more contemporary term that reflects the role board members actually play in overseeing hospital operations.

The board's new chairman says he is looking forward to the challenges ahead.

"Like all hospitals today, this one faces a number of challenges," said Smith. "However, I believe the hospital

has a bright future ahead, and together with the rest of the board, physicians, and administration, I am going to work to move the hospital forward to meet the health care needs of everyone in all the communities we serve. The most important person at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital must always be the patient."

Smith said the board is currently focused on bringing a new medical office facility to Cashiers, funding and installing the new MRI scanner, recruiting new physicians to serve the area, and planning for a 50-bed expansion of the Eckerd Living Center.

Smith, who owns Smith and Associates of Cashiers, is a real estate broker and property project manager, as well as a commercial pilot. He has a master's degree in both business management and project management.

A North Carolina native, Mullen earned his medical degree in 1961 from Duke University's School of Medicine. He practiced cardiac surgery in both Charlotte and Milwaukee, WS, before entering Princeton Theological Seminary, where he earned a master's of Divinity degree in 1991.

A resident of the Yellow Mountain Community, Brenda Stewart is an EMT-Paramedic who has been a leader in the Glenville-Cashiers Rescue Squad for 27 years. She is currently the supervisor of the EMS service for Southern Jackson County. She is a member of the Jackson County Planning Committee, and a member of the Yellow Mountain Baptist Church.

Charlotte native Bruce Berryhill, MD, practiced otolaryngology (Ear Nose and Throat) in Charlotte for 30 years before retiring and moving to Cashiers several years ago. He earned his medical degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and he is a Fellow of the American Academy of Otolaryngology. He was active in

•See BOARD page 6



Annual discount offered for Rec Park workout

The Highlands Recreation Department is now offering an annual special on its fitness program.

Buy one year membership for Nau-

tilus and free weights for \$90 per person.

Makes a great Christmas gift!

For more information, call the Highlands Recreation Department at 526-3556.



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the
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NC Poet Laureate to speak at function



**Kathryn Stripling
Byer**

Kathryn Stripling Byer of Cullowhee, North Carolina's Poet Laureate, will speak at the Friends of the Library annual Christmas Party Sunday, Dec. 4, at 2 p.m. in the Library, 108 Wayah St., Franklin. The public is invited to attend. The Carolines, Macon County's popular women's chorus, will entertain with holiday selections. Refreshments will be available.

Byer has served at Western Carolina University as poet-in-residence and is the author of four collections of poetry. Appointed by Gov. Mike Easley in February to succeed Fred Chappell, Byer serves as an ambassador of North Carolina literature.

She is a former poetry instructor in the Masters of Fine Arts Programs at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro and also served as poet-in-residence at Lenoir-Rhyne College.

Originally from South Georgia, she received her bachelor's degree in English from Wesleyan College in Macon, Ga., and her master's degree in fine arts from UNC-G.

Her collections of poetry include "Catching Light" (2002), "Black Shawl" (1998), "Wildwood Flower" (1992), and "The Girl in the Midst of the Harvest" (1986).

"Wildwood Flower" received the Lamont Poetry Prize for the best second book of poetry from the Academy of American Poets and "Black Shawl" won the Roanoke-Chowan Award and Brockman-Campbell Award. "Catching Light" was nominated for the Los Angeles Times Book Award in Poetry and received the Southeast Booksellers Assn. Best Book of the Year in Poetry Award in 2003. Byer is also the author of several chapbooks, including "The Evelyn Poems" and "Wake."

She has received fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts and N.C. Arts Council. In 2001, she received the N.C. Award for Literature.

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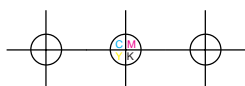
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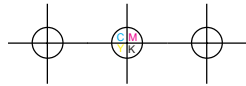
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Songwriters-In-The-Round at ITC Nov. 25

The Instant Theatre Company's popular series, Songwriters-In-The-Round, will have its fourth performance of the year on November 25 at 8 p.m. at the Studio on Main at 310 Oak Square.

Songwriters-In-The-Round features both local and out-of-town musicians, singing and playing their own music, and trading stories back and forth about what inspired each of their songs. Songwriters-In-The-Round is unusual because it is something that the public rarely gets to see.

Generally musicians gather together at each other's homes and play for each other. This kind of performance allows the audience a peek into the musician's world.

The November 25th performance will again be hosted by Jon Zachary from Cashiers. Joining Jon in this day-after-Thanksgiving holiday treat will be well-known local musician-composer John Roman, J. C. Honeycutt from Charlotte, NC, and Wanda Lu Paxton from Brevard.

Tickets, at a special holiday price, are \$10 for adults and \$5 for 17 and under. For reservations call the Instant



The first "Songwriters" in May 2005 featured from left, Jon Zachary (host), George Reeves, Freddie Bradburn, Wildcat William Jude, and John Roman.

Theatre Box Office at 342-9197. Seating is limited and reservations are suggested.

The Instant Theatre Company's Studio on Main is located at 310 Main Street, across the street from The Methodist Church and above Sports Page Restaurant and Shiraz Rugs.

'Holly Days' Shopping Spree

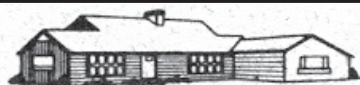
The Chamber will kick off the holiday season with the "Holly Days in Highlands Shopping Spree" sales promotion Nov. 19 through Nov. 26.

For every \$100 spent at a Chamber member's retail store, restaurant, or other business, the customer receives one raffle ticket. (Customers must show their sales receipt to receive a ticket.)

Customers get two raffle tickets for each night they stay in a Chamber member's accommodation. Receipt and raffle ticket exchanges will be done from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Highlands Visitor Center on Nov 26 ONLY. Raffle winners will be announced at the Town Lighting Ceremony, Saturday, Nov. 26.

Prizes include: a weekend stay at Mitchell's Lodge & Cottages; a stay for two week-nights at Old Edwards Inn & Spa; two nights at the Crown Reef in Myrtle Beach, S.C. (from Mountain High Lodge and Highlands Suites); two \$50 gift certificates from Wolfgang's; an antique salt & pepper shaker from Colonial Pines Inn.

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GENERAL MANAGER FOR PROPERTY OWNERS' ASSOCIATION – for a private country club community in Highlands, NC. This is a 350-home community with a 24 hour security force. The ideal candidate will have progressive management experience coupled with 5 years operational management experience in property management, construction or related fields. The General Manager will supervise 9 to 11 people and will work closely with a Board of Directors. Candidate must be able to develop and manage a budget, effectively implement Board policies, liaison with community government officials, provide guidance and leadership to an established group of employees and members while marketing homeowner's services to existing and new members. The position is available immediately. The salary will be commensurate with experience and qualifications. Retirement and health benefits are available. Please send resume to: General Manager, P. O. Box 220, Highlands, NC 28741.

OFFICE HELP WANTED – Construction company in Highlands. 25-40 hours per week. Flexible schedule. Computerized bookkeeping, filing and other office duties as required. Send resume to Scott, P.O. Box 397, Otto, N.C., 28763. 11/18

EXPERIENCED MEDICAL OFFICE help needed to check patients in and out, file insurance claims, do billing follow up and perform general office support for Cardiology office in Highlands, NC. Email pbarrett@ngheartcenter.com or fax 770-

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CLINIC DIRECTOR FOR COMMUNITY CARE CLINIC, that provides free health services to medically underserved in Highlands-Cashiers area. Qualifications: strong management background and minimum of five years experience working in health or non-profit public assistance organization. Thirty-hour week position with benefits. Salary commensurate with background and skills. Mail resume to Community Care Clinic, PO Box 43, Highlands, NC 28741.

LAB. X-RAY II TECH AT MOUNTAIN COMMUNITY HEALTHCARE IN DILLARD, GA. Candidate must be licensed for laboratory work and have a minimum of two years' radiology experience. This position is full time, temporary. Pre-employment substance screening. Call Mary Osmar, 828-526-1301.

HOUSEKEEPER AT HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HOSPITAL. Sundays-Thursdays, 7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Experience in hospital cleaning is preferred. Pre-employment substance screening. Call Mary Osmar, 828-526-1301.

EXPERIENCED RN to assist non-interventional cardiologist with office patients, echo and stress tests in new clinic. Email resume to pbarrett@ngheartcenter.com or fax 770-538-7872 and indicate "Highlands."

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COOK – at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. One year experience in institutional or volume cooking necessary. Must have knowledge of proper sanitation practices. Pre-employment substance screening. Call Mary Osmar, 828-526-1301.

DIETARY AIDE – Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. Duties include working patient tray line and cafeteria line, stock kitchen, washing dishes. Full time position, 10:30 a.m. to 7 p.m., flexible days. Pre-employment substance screening. Call Mary Osmar at 828-526-1301.

C.N.A.S! CHECK OUT THE NEW CNA WAGE SCALE AT FIDELIA ECKERD LIVING CENTER: Starting at \$9.50 per hour (Plus weekend and shift differentials). All shifts available. Excellent benefit package for full-time positions. Pre-employment substance screening. Call Mary Osmar at 828-526-1301.

LPN OR RN AT FIDELIA ECKERD LIVING CENTER at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. Three 12-hour shifts per week,

7 p.m. to 7 a.m.. Shift differentials paid to work every other weekend. Salary range based on years of experience. Pre-employment substance screening. Call Mary Osmar, 828-526-1301.

LPNS AND RNS - FIDELIA ECKERD LIVING CENTER AT HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HOSPITAL: Now hiring for PRN positions. 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.

MEDICAL STAFF COORDINATOR AT HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HOSPITAL. Requires a high degree of organizational skills and attention to detail. Medical staff credentialing, planning meetings, taking minutes, and coordinating education events. Flexible days and hours for this full- or part-time position. Pre-employment substance screening. For information, call Mary Osmar 828-526-1301.

ITEMS FOR SALE

GOLD CHAINS & COLLECTIBLES – At the Gold Chain Center at the Franklin Flea Market. Selling TK Collectibles at discount prices to make more room. See us Fri-Sun 9-4 p.m. or call 828-369-9299

FURNITURE — 2 love seats, matching chair, coffee table, rugs, and more Highlands Cove. 526-4000.

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OPPORTUNITY

STRESSED, ANXIOUS, DEPRESSED? Dreading the holidays? Counseling (and hypnosis) can help. Reasonable rates. The Conscious Connection. 526-5558.

VEHICLES FOR SALE

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1999 VOLKSWAGEN JETTA WOLFSBURG EDITION, White, 89,500 miles, Power Windows/Doors, Power Sunroof and CD Player \$6,000, call 828-421-3476

1995 CHEVY TRUCK, Green, 150,000 miles, 4WD, CD Player \$5,500 call 828-371-2669

REAL ESTATE SALES

INCREDIBLE WHITESIDE VIEW – 2.5 gentle acres, 3/2, \$450 K.. Call 743-1947. No Realtors.

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BY OWNER – Two blocks from Main Street. Remodeled 2-bed/2-bath second floor condo with fireplace and glassed-in sunroom. Extensive use of mirrors. Must see to appreciate. 526-4874.

BY OWNER-SAPPHIRE VALLEY — A unique "Timberpeg" Post & Beam home. Three levels: Upper Level, lofted bedroom, full bath and bed room with its own deck. Main level: Open living room w/fireplace, dining room and kitchen, 2 full baths, master bed room, and a large deck with a spectacular view. Lower level: large family room w/fireplace, full bath, laundry room and an outside patio. A fully finished room with full bath over a 2 car garage. Also a separate roomy workshop. All this located on +/- 2 acres, on a private cul de sac. The

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Community effort knocks out knotweed

by Mercedes Heller

Land Stewards of the Highlands Plateau Phase I of Operation "Knockout Knotweed" is complete. Phase II will begin in the late spring of 2006. Any remaining stands of Japanese Knotweed, an invasive alien plant that has been crowding out native wildflowers, grasses, sedges and small shrubs will be attacked with the same vigor when Phase II begins.

Many people played an active role in helping with this project. The Land

Stewards of the Highlands Plateau, a collaborative effort of the Laurel Garden Club and the Mountain Garden Club, sought partnership with the Town of Highlands for this project almost a year ago. They received 100% support from the Town Board. Then, the Land Stewards contacted experts in the field of exotic plant eradication programs. Thanks to the leadership of Dr. Kenneth McCaskill, Director of the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service, a program for educating other

conservationists and the public was done. Newspaper articles, seminars, posters, and radio station spots helped spread the message.

Dr. Robert Wyatt, executive director of the Highlands Biological Station supported the project and provided scientific knowledge.

Dr. Johnny Randall, Director of the NC Botanical Garden and current President of the NC Exotic Pest Council, and Dr. Dick Bir, past President of the NC Exotic Pest Council, offered advice and council throughout the process.

Edwin Poole, Jim Whitehurst, and Glenda Bell spent many hours of volunteer service mapping the locations of the plant. That hand mapping was entered into the town GIS system for fu-

ture monitoring by GIS Coordinator, Tim Schuler.

Grants from the Highlands Community Foundation, Laurel Garden Club, Mountain Garden Club, Land Stewards, and Robert and Corbin Tucker funded the first phase of the project. More funds will be needed for Phase II, but the Land Stewards are confident of future support from conservation organizations and granting agencies.

It is through working together that this phase of the project has been successful. The Land Stewards greatly appreciate the wisdom and support of the mayor, Town Board and Town Administrator Richard Betz, for their help in preserving native flora and protection of wildlife habitat.



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entire property backs onto a green area. By appointment 828-743-2567

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SCENIC VIEW HOME SITES. Turtle Pond area. Views, secluded, near town. (828) 526-2759 marbago@direcway.com.

HIGHLANDS-RV LOTS-WALK TO TOWN – Rare offering. 28 RV lots, some with RV vacation homes and porches in place. 2 1/2 blocks from Main Street. 7 creek-front lots available. Lots from 95K-129K. Only 10k upon signing contract. Close by mid-April, 2006 in time for season. These won't last. Call 706-613-1438, 706-202-5292 (cell) or 828-526-9493.

CONDO FOR RENT – By Owner. Great 2-bedroom, 2-bath upstairs condo in town. Save gas, walk everywhere! Asking \$210,000. Call for details. 526-3671.

HOUSE FOR SALE – 275 Foreman Road. In-town on .87 acre-wooded lot. 2 bedrooms, 1 1/2 baths, study, large workshop/studio, stone fireplace, oak floors, hemlock paneling. Quality construction, mature landscaping, exterior stonework. Asking \$425,000 (828) 342-2624. Broker/Owner

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AIRPORT SHUTTLE SERVICE – Call Dick Friess. Cell: (772) 359-0412 • 24-hr. (706) 746-3657. North Carolina, Georgia, South Carolina, Florida.

HIGHLANDS SHUTTLE SERVICE – Atlanta Airport Shuttle. Drive - Away • Auto Delivery. All Out-of-Town Trips Driving Services. Call 526-8078.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

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... SPIRITUALLY from page 12

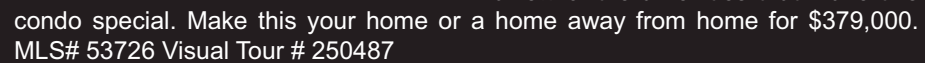
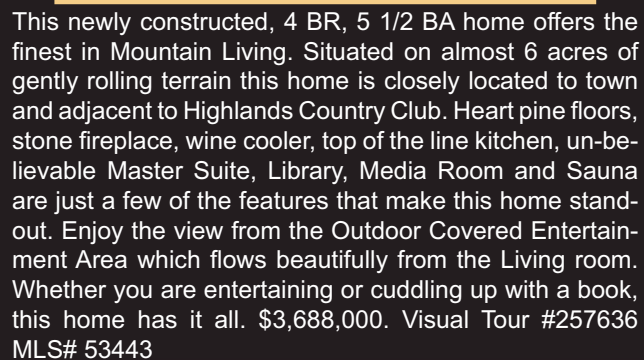
that we have what it takes to do what is right and rely upon the Lord's strength, we will succeed in doing the right thing. It's when we forget that we get ourselves into trouble.

"Seeing that His divine power has granted to us everything pertaining to life and godliness, through the true knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and excellence. For by these He has granted to us His precious and magnificent promises, in order that by them you might become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world by lust." 2 Peter 1:3-4 (NASB)

How I relate to all of this is simple, I've decided to never forget the importance of reading God's daily reminder, the Bible. How about you?



COMMANDING VIEWS PRIVATE ESTATE



Located in Highlands Manor, hidden in the woods near the heart of Highlands! 3 BR, 2 BA Condo with open floor plan, decks off two of the bedrooms and living room overlooking gardens and woods, wood burning stone faced fireplace, and lots of storage are only a few of the amenities that make this a home away from home for \$379,000.

This 2 Bedroom, 2 1/2 Bath Townhouse in the well established Pinegrove Townhouses in Cashiers, offers maintained mature landscaped grounds and wonderful long term neighbors, all a short distance from the center of town. Granite countertops, custom cabinets, pine wood floors and stone fireplace are a few of the amenities that grace this cozy townhouse. \$219,000 MLS#53722 Visual Tour # 233594

