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# Highlands School Newspaper & Shopping Map **INSIDE** **FREE** Highlands' Newspaper

Volume 1, Number 20

Locally Owned & Operated

Friday, Nov. 28, 2003

## The week of Nov. 28-Dec. 5

### Nov. 28 & 29

- **SANTA'S COMING** – Santa will be hearing wish lists and posing for photos in Oak Square on Main Street Fri. and Sat.

### Nov. 29

- **TREE LIGHTING** – The annual town Christmas Tree Lighting is the Saturday after Thanksgiving in front of the HUMC.

- **POTTERY FOR SALE** – Patrick Taylor is having an open studio pottery sale Saturday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. & Sunday 1 to 4 p.m. Call 526-1995 for directions.

### Dec. 1

- **MEETING** – The Highlands/Cashiers Hospital Auxillary will meet Monday, at 10 a.m. in the hospital board room to wrap presents for residents at the Fidelia Eckert Living Center and to decorate the Tree of Lights.

### Dec. 4

- **BAND PERFORMANCE** – Highlands School PTO Christmas Program for Grades Kindergarten through Fifth in the gym at 7 p.m.

- **COMBO MEETING** – The combined Nov. and Dec. meetings of the Upper Cullasaja Watershed Association will be held at 9 a.m. in room 228 of The Peggy Crosby Center at 348 South Fifth Street. This will be the last meeting of the year.

### Dec. 5

- **FREE MOVIE** – The film "A Christmas Carol" will be shown at the Performing Arts Center at 7 p.m.

### Dec. 4-7

- **LIVE PERFORMANCE** – "Nick the Beard" will be performed at PAC. Show times are 8 p.m. on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, and at 2 p.m. on Sunday. Tickets are \$5 for children under 18 and \$15 for adults.

### Dec. 6

- **PARADE TIME** – The annual Christmas Parade through Highlands begins on Main Street at 11 a.m.

## HCCCC project to be highly energy efficient

By Kim Lewicki

They look like giant white blocks strewn in a sand lot by some playful giant. But really they're high tech building materials aimed at making the Highlands Community Child Care Center a certified environmental project.

The Styrofoam blocks stacked on the Church Street lot are insulated wall forms which will be attached to rebar set in concrete footings of the building's frame. Once up, concrete will be poured into the forms automatically creating insulated walls.

"The forms will not be removed," said

Bob Wright with First Presbyterian Church which is spearheading the child care center project. "After the

concrete is poured, they will become part of the wall which will create a highly energy efficient structure."

These insulated concrete walls will have an insulating value of R-50. "Super energy efficient," said Wright.

Each form is eight to 10 inches thick but the walls are sure to be a thicker before its over, said Wright.

There are a few houses in the area using the Styrofoam technique. The church is using a company out of Toccoa, Ga.. Wright said though it's a bit more expensive up front, the technology will save fuel costs in the end.

Little feet will

■ See HCCCC pg. 6

## Sharing the joy of giving



Highlands School Interact students bought medical and hygiene supplies for the migrant workers who have come to our area to harvest Christmas trees. At their Friday meeting, Nov. 21, the booty was sorted and bagged and delivered to the Highlands United Methodist Church for distribution. Interact is the youth offshoot of Rotary. Sorting from left are Rachel and Megan Lewicki, Maegan Gallira, Catlin Huitt, Iyali Ruiz, Chris Mouchet, Stacy Wright and Chase Jenkins.

## – 'A Thanksgiving Tale' – Giving and receiving thanks

By Barbara Lawrence  
Contributor

The excitement was building in the Stone's house. The children and grandchildren were arriving for Thanksgiving from many states, and Kay was busy preparing a wonderful meal for everyone. It had been about six months since they had seen each other, and she wanted to be sure the meal was perfect. She

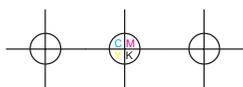
called out to her husband, Thom, "They should be here in a couple of hours, so enjoy the rest while you can!" Thom who was reading the newspaper sighed. He loved the visits from family, but the grandchildren did keep him on the go. "That turkey sure smells good, I can hardly wait."

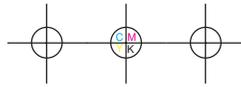
Kay noticed that she was low on pepper, and called out to Thom. "We need some pepper, and the stores will

be closing in about an hour, let's run and get some before they all arrive. "OK," said Thom, "It's probably the only chance we'll have to go for a quiet drive for the next few days" Kay set the oven on low and they headed to Highlands.

On the way back to Scaly Mountain, they decided to stop at the overlook. It was a beautiful day, one

■ See THANKS page 7





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## • Letters to the Editor •

### Special helpers make Fall Festival a success

Dear Editor,

On behalf of the Class of 2004 and the senior sponsors I would like to especially thank the following for all of your help and support with this year's Fall Festival.

Thank you David and Sherry Sims, Joe and Karen Potts, the Civic Center Staff and Selwyn Chalker for all of your help organizing the event.

We would also like to thank the Rotary Club for serving food, Dianne Sackman and Pat Hedden for helping out in the kitchen, Doc Wilson for the barbeque, Tina Rogers for the bingo, the Highlands United Methodist Church for providing two wonderful booths, Terri Potts for the haunted house, Tommy James for providing a car for the car smash, every one who donated Bingo prizes, all the parents, booth sponsors, teachers and staff who helped make this year's Fall Festival a successful event.

I would also like to personally thank the senior sponsors Anne Tate, Jane DeWolf and David Cashion for all of your help and commitment.

**Melissa Warren**  
Senior Class President

### Merchants come through for Historical Society

Dear Editor,

A couple of months ago, 21 Highlands' merchants participated in the first annual Highlands Historical Society (HHS) Day. The purpose was to focus attention on the efforts being made by HHS to provide all Highlands' residents and visitors a venue where they can experience the rich heritage of the area. Each merchant agreed to contribute a percentage of their sales made on 9/18 to HHS.

On behalf of the Society, I offer my sincere appreciation to those merchants for their generous contributions which amounted to more than \$3300.00. Their kindness will help us reach our goal of establishing the Highlands Historical Village where we will preserve the town's valuable history for present and future generations.

Those merchants participating were:

- |                                |                           |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Acorns                         | Juliana's                 |
| Best Of The Bunch Florist      | Lindy's Gifts             |
| Bucks Coffee Cafe              | Mill Creek Store          |
| Cleaveland Realty              | Mirror Lake Antiques      |
| Cyrano's Bookstore             | Mountain Heritage         |
| D & J Express Mart             | Paoletti's Ristorante     |
| The Dry Sink                   | Rosenthal's Furs          |
| Elephant's Foot Antiques       | Shiraz Rugs               |
| The Golden Clipper             | Southern Hands            |
| Images Unlimited/Spa on Spring | Wholesale Down Comforters |
| John Collette Fine Arts        |                           |

We are delighted to have the support of Highlands' merchants and hope that others will join in the 2004 HHS Day.

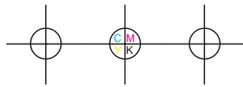
And to everyone in the Highlands Township area, please consider making a personal year end contribution to the Society. All contributions are tax deductible as we are a 501(c)(3) organization.

Send your contribution to: Highlands Historical Society, P.O. Box 670; Highlands, NC 28741

**Luther S. Turner, Jr., President**  
Highlands Historical Society

We welcome letters from our readers. All letters are subject to editing. We reserve the right to reject letters. Anonymous letters will not be accepted. Letters bearing identification can arrive by post or email. Published letters do not necessarily represent opinions of Highlands' Newspaper. Letter deadline: Monday prior to publication.





... LETTERS TO EDITOR continued

**Town employees under magnifying glass**

Dear Editor,

Now that Larry Gantenbein mentions it, I wish that his son HAD borrowed the money for the auto center from the Regions Bank or any of the other five banks in town.

Regions Bank is not going to the zoning board, for which Mr. Gantenbein is the administrator, to get zoning variances on a weekly basis. Mr. A.L. Williams, through his own lending agency, has provided the money for this purchase. Mr. Williams needs the cooperation of Mr. Gantenbein. I have always heard that the zoning administrator is knowledgeable and fair, so it is a shame that this particular business deal looks suspicious.

Why is Town Hall so defensive about this deal? I believe, just as Mr. Gantenbein does, that his son has a perfect right to do business in this town. However, town employees are vested with the public trust; therefore they and their families must be alert to any personal actions which may adversely affect the public's trust. Mr Gantebein and his son used poor judgment in this situation. As taxpayers, I believe we have a right to ask questions.

**Glenda Bell  
Highlands**

**Hard work pays off for GED recipient**

The Highlands Literacy Council announced another recent success of its community literacy program..

Jennifer Lee Neighbarger, 20, recently received her GED (general education diploma). After studying a number of weeks in preparation, Jennifer took the two-day, five-subtest examination that covers a range of subjects intended to reflect proficiency at a high school level.

Over the last year, the Literacy Council has made a precedent of acknowledging the success of its

graduates with a cake (shared with other fellow students) and a gift -- a book, of course.

Jennifer was presented with a copy of Mary Kay Moore's book, "Sacred Woods," donated by its author for these presentations. This donation reflects the generous spirit of the larger Highlands community in its continued promotion of literacy and more personally, in its celebration of the achievements of those who seek help from its services.



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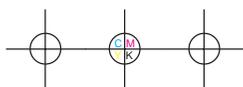
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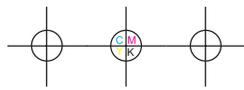
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**Restoring your Energy**

Dr. Maryellen Lipinski



**B**y now you know that I am multi-talented. That just really means I get bored easily so I do many things. After a speaking presentation this year, the meeting manager commented that I was a 3-volt energizer bunny with a 12-volt battery pack! Well, if only he had seen me after my recent move. Sometimes writers write about what they need, so this column is going to be about restoring my energy.

I noticed this morning that even my coffee maker has an automatic shut off valve. Maybe I could use one of those. I've had jobs before where I worked about 90 hours a week, but moving can even be more demanding than that. It has become clear to me that energy is one of my best resources as long as I follow some simple guidelines, most of which I ignored while I unpacked my first week. If only I would have read that chapter in my book where I talk about restoring energy; to bring back something that has been lost, a state of vigor, health, and order. Here are a few suggestions for managing time and energy. I hope you find them somewhat useful.

1. Make a list of priorities, not to exceed 10 on the list. Drop the rest, (this involves compromising). Too often, I find myself just running on adrenaline. Oh, it works for awhile, until something breaks down.
2. Develop an absolute YES list. Go back and review the list of 10 priorities and decide which of the top five need your attention

right now.

3. Eliminate energy drains such as a phone call you need to make or a goal that no longer makes sense in your life, or saying yes to a commitment that you now regret.

Is there something that needs your attention at this time in your life? Could it be a relationship that you have been neglecting or maybe your health? Is there something that you need to let go of? Remember; let it go, let it go, let it go.

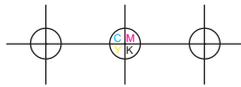
"Things that matter most should never be at the mercy of things that matter least." Goethe

This week, my top priority is thankfulness. I am thankful that I am in my new home and that it suits me. I am grateful to be surrounded by caring friends and family. I am oh so very delighted that finally my new book, *Life Under Construction...a work in progress* will be at the local bookstores the day after Thanksgiving. And finally, I appreciate and relish living in these majestic mountains where I am surrounded by beauty, spirit and the howling winds.

What are you thankful for? Take a deep breath, close your eyes and let it flow, let it flow, let it flow.

**Have you ordered your copy of *Life Under Construction*? Stop by Chapter 2 in Cashiers or Cyrano's Bookstore in Highlands or email [melspeaks@aol.com](mailto:melspeaks@aol.com). Dr. Maryellen Lipinski is a psychologist by profession and an international professional speaker by design. Currently, she coaches individuals to obtain their goals in life and works as a Realtor at Village Realty of Sapphire Valley. [www.ilovemountainrealestate.com](http://www.ilovemountainrealestate.com). Her first book, *Random Thoughts and Mine Always Are. Conscious Detours to Creative Power* will make you laugh, cry, and think! [www.maryellenlipinski.com](http://www.maryellenlipinski.com)**





# • Ask Fred •

## Summer visitors

Dear Fred:

My husband of 30 years hasn't found out as yet but I know it is only a matter of time.

It started last summer. At first it was innocent enough, only an extra bag of bird seed not intended for the birds. It was love at first sight. After that I couldn't help myself. I did anything to keep him coming back day after day. He's the strong silent type but so gentle with me.

After first frost last year he didn't come back. I was heartbroken but hid my pain from Carl (that's my husband). This year we came back to an open door. All the beds had been slept in and all the porridge bowls dirty in the sink.

It was unbearable to keep my secret joy as the Highlands' police took the report. Today there is a neighborhood watch.

That is why I write here. What am I to do? The love of my life is a fugitive. The neighbor (a retired SWAT officer) is loaded for bear and every broken branch sends my heart racing into my throat.

Last week I found myself at a Cashiers outfitter (incognito you know) thinking I could go commando and leave Carl and give myself entirely to my new love. What am I to do? The love I have for my husband binds me to the past but this new love is now a year old and still burns hot. Time is of the essence! "Where to spend the winter" is my mantra. Do I take the leap and spend the next six months nestled in the bliss of my honey's arms? Awaiting your response as I cut my golden curls I remain



Fred Wooldridge

**Unbearable Feelings  
From Franklin**

Dear Space Cadet:

Here are a few thoughts right off the top of my head. First, never date anyone who eats bird seed and second, never live next door to a retired SWAT guy.

I hope Carl is wired tighter than you are. Reading between the lines, I assume you are interested in dumping Carl, who must be a Saint, and run off with someone who disappears after first frost, breaks into your house when you're not home, leaves dirty dishes in the sink and sleeps around in every bed you have. Then he shows up in spring wanting to be fed. Reminds me of summer people.

Keep very far away from the strong and silent types. They never say anything and life can get real boring, although they are great to

have around for heavy lifting. Retired SWAT commandos will make you a nervous wreck, although it seems you might already be there. My hard and fast rule of love is; "Never sleep with anyone who wears camouflage paint to bed."

Wolves will howl at noon and our Mayor will shave his beard before I could ever come up with a solution to your mantric dilemma. Maybe you could get Carl to eat bird seed, I don't know. One thing for sure, you are a very scary person! If I were you, I would not spend the winter nestled in the bliss of your honey's arms but, instead, check into the Heavenly Hills Rest Home.

PS: Are you sure you don't live in Gatlinburg?

## "DEAR FRED" column

Want to have some fun this winter? Our very own Contributor/Columnist Fred Wooldridge is ready to answer your questions about Highlands with tongue in cheek. The sky's the limit. All published questions are anonymous and, of course, don't expect a straight answer. E-mail us at askfredanything@aol.com. Put "Dear Fred" in memo line.

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**The Holidays! How to Party and Not Gain Weight**

If you feel you're in a social whirlwind and find your best 'nutritional' intentions shattered by party after party, your 're a typical American. We average two to three "special occasions" per week. Many Americans gain 5-7 pounds every year over the holiday. But, take heart, these fun activities do not have to mean a weight disaster. Change Your Attitude



**Bonnie Powell**  
 Health Tracks  
 Highlands-Cashiers Hospital

incidentally offer you food, you will not overeat. You need to get your focus off food and on to fun with friends!

**Party Tips**

Because you feel that many of the parties offer goods less nutritious than you prefer to eat, here are some tips:

- Take along a food you love and can nibble – veggies

and low fat dip, popcorn, low fat yogurt and fruit.

- Fill up on the healthiest foods and savor a smaller portion of the less healthy foods.

- Avoid thinking about the food before the party, during the party and even after.

- You will make yourself hungry.

- Do not stand by the food, focus on conversations (not about food) and friends.

- Sip a low calorie drink and fill up with salad or veggies to take the edge off your hunger.

- Be aware that alcohol increases your appetite and lowers your inhibitions. This can make you care less about those wiser food choices.

- Plan to exercise. Take a walk after your big meal, stay on your feet and circulate among family and friends to burn extra calories.

- If the dinner is later than usual for you, have a snack at home, so that you'll be pleasantly hungry instead of famished.

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... **HCCCC from page 1**

never feel the cold at the center, either. Hot water piping will be set into the floor slab before that is poured.

The driveway to the center, planned for some time next year, will be constructed of a pervious paving

material which allows water to drain down under the surface to a piping system which routes it to the storm water ponds on the site.

A plastic grid is laid down and filled with gravel. "The grid keeps the

gravel from impacting," said Wright. "Our aim is to make the entire project a LEED certified environmental project," said Wright.

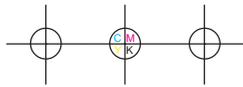
He said during last week's down-pour of more than seven inches of rain in less than 24 hours, not one

bit of silt left the building site.

"The storm water ponds caught it all," he said. "Nothing left the area."

Another \$800,000 to \$900,000 is needed to complete the child care center which officials hope will open the Fall of 2004.





### ... THANKS from page 1

of those days when the mountains seem within touching distance. It was the time of year when everything seemed to be holding its breath, before the cold resting season. "I cannot imagine a better place to live" said Kay. They sat in companionable silence for a while, just enjoying the mountains' beauty, and then headed back home.

When Kay and Thom returned, they knew something was very wrong. There was smoke seeping out from under the ill fitting door, which Thom had been meaning to fix for a while. "Oh my goodness" said Kay, and she rushed in. In her haste to leave the house, she had turned the oven to broil instead of low, and the turkey was ruined. "They will be here in half an hour, and we have no turkey. This is a disaster" said Kay.

Thom opened the doors and windows to get rid of the smoke, and commented "Don't worry, they will understand, well get something out of the fridge. At least we will all be together. Go tidy up and I'll get the smoke out of here."

Kay went to tidy up for the family arrival, although she was upset about

the ruined dinner she had worked hard to perfect.

Just as Thom finished cleaning up, there came a knock at the door. "They are early" called Thom "Put on a cheerful face Kay."

Instead of the family, their friend Melinda stood at the door, and unbelievably, holding a huge cooked Turkey. "Hi, Thom" she said "I tried to reach you earlier, but you must have been out. Congratulations! You have won the Scaly Mountain Women's Club raffle. You probably have a turkey already, but with family here, I'm sure you can put it to use!"

Thom stood there dumbfounded. "What happened here, said Melinda, did you burn some peas or something?"

"Something like that," said Thom.

The family arrived. They bounded from the car, a mass of vibrant color, red woolen hats and scarves. The children unbundled themselves, and came running up the driveway with rosy cheeks and bright faces. "It smells so good" they said. We can hardly wait to have some turkey.

Kay said a silent "Thank you."



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**"Fast food is not good...  
Good food is not fast."**

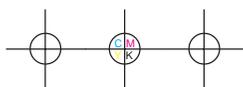
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## • Movie Pix •

The Video Guy presents:  
The 1973  
political/ecological/sci fi/  
thriller:

### The Day Of The Dolphin

Directed by Mike Nichols, starring George C. Scott, Trish Van Devere and Paul Sorvino



**Stuart Armor**

**D**r. Terell (Scott) is a stereotypical obsessed, secretive scientist, in love with his project more than the people around him, including his wife (Van Devere). They have worked on a remote island in the Florida Keys with dolphins, studying their intelligence, communications, and abilities. Oh yea, also to teach them to speak English (we are never quite sure why).

Word gets out about the talking dolphins and shady bad guys wish to make nefarious use of their unique abilities.

Terell is drawn into a web of intrigue filled with shady reporters, government officials, and assassins.

Dated and a little goofy, but nonetheless a neat bit of suspense, it was done in 1973, and the script reflects it. Conspiracy plots, nasty government bad guys, eco-

friendliness, all this and more to make a good story, some tension, great photography of dolphins, and good

accompanying music. It's like "Manchurian

Candidate Meets

Flipper". I

remember

it coming

out in the

theater, and

being a bit of a

science nut as

well as a

conspiracy theorist,

found it quite good.

Based on the novel of

the same name by

Robert Meryale.

A bit of trivia, Mrs.

Terell (Van Dervere) was

played by Scott's wife at the

time, and the voice of Fa the

dolphin, was done by Buck

Henry, the screen play writer.

A few more "man and animal

interact" films are "Planet of the

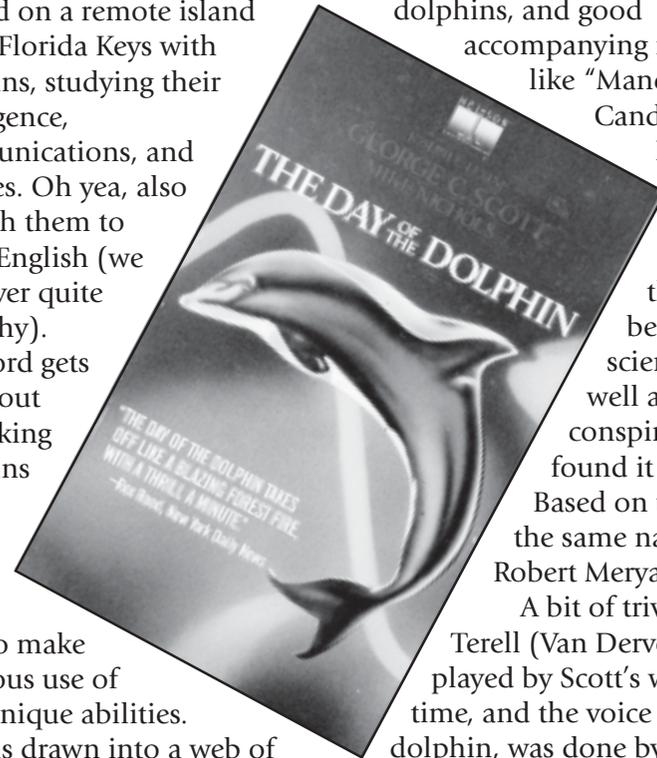
Apes," "Plague Dogs," "Deep Blue

Sea," and "Instinct"

These and about 5000 other

titles are available at Movie Stop

Video, check them out.



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## • Book Review with Katie Brugger •

### *Library: An Unquiet History*, by Matthew Battles

Knowledge is power. If you have ever wondered about the truth of that saying, this history of libraries will confirm it. Mr. Battles, a librarian at the Houghton Library (the rare books library at Harvard University), has written a very engaging book filled with kings and tyrants who knew exactly how dangerous knowledge is, who destroyed the books and libraries of their enemies.

The story, as usual, begins in Mesopotamia (today's Iraq). The literature – poetry, prayers, account books – of Mesopotamia goes back to the third millennium B.C.

Books were clay tablets. As early as 5,000 years ago the first library was established in a temple at the town of Nippur. In the 7<sup>th</sup> century B.C. in the reign of Ashurbanipal II a great library was built in the town of Nineveh which included as many as 25,000 tablets. Mr. Battles writes that Ashurbanipal “ordered the collection not only of omens, incantations, and hymns but of the ancient literatures of the several Mesopotamian languages.” The library seems to have been highly organized; works were tied together in their various tablets and marked with a label to identify their contents. A catalog also existed, recording the titles of works and the number of tablets that comprised them.

The rulers of ancient Egypt were among the first to understand the power of knowledge. “By bringing scholars to Alexandria and inviting them to live and work, at royal expense among an enormous store of books, the Ptolemies made the library into a think tank under the control of the royal house. The strategic implications of a monopoly on knowledge – especially in medicine, engineering, and theology – were not lost on the Ptolemies...The Ptolemies made good on the essentially Alexandrian intuition that knowledge is a resource, a commodity, a form of capital to be acquired and hoarded at the pleasure of the regime.”

I have long believed the legend that the library in Alexandria burned, taking with it the wisdom of the ancients. When Julius Caesar came to

the aid of Cleopatra in her war against Ptolemy XIII in 48 B.C., he burned the ships in Alexandria's harbor so they couldn't be used against him. This, according to the contemporary writings of the Roman historian Seneca, resulted in the library burning and the loss of 40,000 books. But Mr. Battles reports that other writers say that the books that were burned were those in warehouses waiting to be shipped (most books were made of papyrus and Egypt of course was the source of that material, so Egypt was a major producer of books). In addition, at this time the main library was said to hold 700,000 scrolls, so even if 40,000 burned that is not a total loss.

An emperor of China also understood the power of books. At about the same time as the Ptolemies reigned Shi Huangdi consolidated power over a large area of China, began the building of the Great Wall, was buried with 6,000 terra cotta warriors and their horses, and “undertook perhaps the most extensive book burning the world has ever known. His aim was to destroy all Chinese literature, all history, all philosophy written before the founding of his dynasty...Shi Huangdi seems to have realized what the Ptolemies in Egypt had discovered: that a monopoly on intellectual resources was as important to rule as imperial control over the production of rice and silk.”

In response Chinese scholars developed libraries impossible to destroy. For example the Fang shan collection of Buddhist scriptures is carved with characters one inch high on the walls of caves. Not only were they indestructible, it was easy for the faithful to take home copies (rubblings) of the texts.

The Aztecs burned the books of the people they conquered and in turn had their books destroyed by the Spanish.

The Nazis were devoted book burners. The rules for banning books were so nebulous that people burned their own books out of fear that they were unknowingly harboring censored material. The Nazis also stole and destroyed millions of books from libraries in their conquered territories, often shredding the confiscated books

to reuse the paper.

When China's army invaded Tibet, the libraries were destroyed along with the monasteries. During the Bosnian war Serbia destroyed the Bosnian National and University Library in Sarajevo. Witnesses say that the shelling clearly targeted the library. A librarian asserted that the Serb's motive was obvious: “throughout Bosnia libraries, archives, museums and cultural institutions have been targeted for destruction, in an attempt to eliminate the material evidence – books, documents and works of art – that could remind future generations that people of different ethnic and religious traditions once shared a common heritage.” [You can see before and after photographs of the Sarajevo library in *Library: The Drama Within*, photographs by Diane Asseo Griliches (027G).]

Until the 1960s, in many places in the southern U.S. blacks were only allowed to use certain public libraries, greatly reducing their access to knowledge. For example, Georgia had 53 libraries in 1936, only 5 served blacks. Arkansas: 19 libraries, 1 for blacks. Mississippi: 22 libraries, 2 for blacks.

Some of the books that have been banned in the U.S.: *Leaves of Grass*, *A Wrinkle In Time*, *To Kill a Mockingbird*, *Catcher in the Rye*, *Brave New World*, *Huckleberry Finn*, *Lady Chatterley's Lover*, *Naked Lunch*. And today there is a movement to ban the Harry Potter books from schools.

For more information about banned books go to the American Library Association website: [www.ala.org](http://www.ala.org) and click on “our association,” then “offices,” then “intellectual freedom.” (This site is poorly organized considering it's by and for librarians).

George Orwell's dystopia, *1984*, [F. Orwell] warned of the dangers of a government that controlled access to all knowledge: “he who controls the past controls the present, and he who controls the present controls the future.” The protagonist's job entailed altering old newspaper articles to eliminate references to any information that discredited the regime's current position (which was constantly changing).

Have you ever thought about what it means to have public libraries? Every citizen of this country has available to him or her every book ever written (theoretically) for free! Making knowledge universally available is a truly radical concept because education is an equalizer. For example, an educated slave – Nat Turner – led the only slave revolt in the history of U.S. slavery (see William Styron's *Confessions of Nat Turner*) [F. Styron]. This is why most slaves got no education at all.

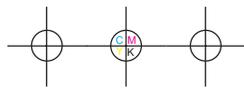
The first person to have the idea of a public library was Julius Caesar. After he was assassinated, two of his friends built the first library following Caesar's wishes, around 39 B.C.

The modern public library has its origins in the mid-1800s in England, a revolutionary time in Europe when the poor were rebelling against the rule of monarchs and the industrial revolution was disrupting traditional society. Many of England's elite felt that access to education would civilize the poor, make them more rational thinkers, and keep them from truly radical action, in other words, overthrowing the government.

Except for a section in the center where Battles goes off on a digression about the nature of libraries that will probably be of interest only to librarians, this book should be enjoyable for everyone who loves books. It's filled with interesting tidbits. For example, libraries flourished in the golden age of Islam. In a library in Cordova Spain in the late 900s “the books numbered between 400,000 and 600,000 – two or three books for every house in the city, and a stunning achievement at a time when even the largest European libraries numbered in the mere hundreds of volumes.” Today the United States Library of Congress holds over one hundred million books in 450 languages!

Public libraries are an integral part of a healthy democracy. Be thankful for your access to the power of knowledge.

Call letter at the Hudson Library is 027B. I am personally thankful that we have such an excellent and dedicated librarian, Mary Lou Worley, to run the Hudson Library.




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• **Cooking on the Plateau** •

**Thea's Perfect Pumpkin Soup**

From Thea's Kitchen  
 copyright 2003 Thea

**Ingredients**

- 3 cups diced, peeled pumpkin
- 6 shallots, chopped
- 8 cups chicken broth
- 2 cups (1 pint) heavy cream
- 1/4 tsp. nutmeg
- salt to taste
- dash of cayenne pepper
- toasted pumpkin seeds, course ground

Combine Pumpkin, shallots and broth. Simmer covered until pumpkin is mushy and soft (approx. 25 minutes) Let cool. Puree in a blender or food processor. Return to pan and stir in cream, nutmeg and salt. Heat on low. Serve with toasted pumpkin seeds sprinkled on top.

I have made this recipe every Thanksgiving for many years now and it has always been the perfect addition to any Thanksgiving meal. I use fresh raw cream, no longer legally available except through private coops.

This is a shame as fresh milk or cream that has not been pasteurized or homogenized still retains the anti-aging, fat soluble vitamins (E, A & D) and the enzymes that help with its digestion.

I feel very blessed to live in a mountain community where raw milk is still available. I also recommend making your own chicken broth from whole organic chickens (including the giblets) as it has become nearly impossible to buy chicken broth that has not been defatted.

Again, whole broth like whole milk contains the anti-aging vitamins and "organic" means that the chickens have not been fed or injected with growth hormones (or antibiotics). So be good to yourself, give thanks for your health for it is indeed your wealth and don't be afraid to spend a little extra money or time to buy organic, or make your food from scratch. Blessings.



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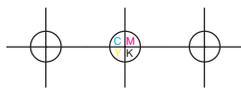
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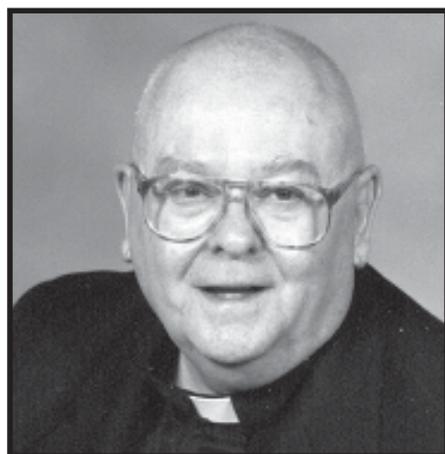
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## ■ Spiritually Speaking ■

### Dealing with the 'End Times'



**Rev. Bill Evans, Priest**

Our Lady of the Mountains Catholic Church

The questions that come to us from this doomsday gospel reading are these: Where will this happen? When will this happen? Will I be saved? Do I have to worry?

Jesus takes up these questions and gives us God's very own answer. Yet, still even Jesus is ambiguous, or so it seems. In the long and short of it all, Jesus himself is really the only answer.

When will these end times happen? What does Jesus say about his? "But of that day or that hour, no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, not the Son, but only the Father." In other words, this seems to be the only piece of heavenly information that God the Father never shared with God the Son.

Therefore, and I am serious here, it is so useless and stupid for all of the various Doomsday preachers to run around and predict the end of time. They do not pay attention to the Sacred Scriptures except to pick out their support for their own very narrow and limited viewpoints. Jesus is quite clear on this matter. No one knows, not even the son of God.

The absurdity of all of this was made so very clear to me just a few short years ago, when certain preachers were predicting the "rapture" at a certain time on a certain day. When it did not happen, they changed the time to the next morning, saying they had made a mistake in their calculations. And when it did not come the next morning, they said they had made a miscalculation and it would happen the next year. What was so absurd about this was first, they predicted it and secondly, some people listen to them and sold their homes and quit their jobs.

Some people even did the same thing in anticipation of the end times coming with the arrival of the new millennium. Little did they know that because of the miscalculations of the medieval monk, Dionysus Exiguus, who established the modern calendar, our new millennium arrived six years early because Brother Dionysus had made a six-year mistake. In other words, the real year 2000

■ See SPIRITUALLY page 12

## ■ Places of Worship on the Plateau ■

### Blue Valley Baptist Church

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

### Buck Creek Baptist Church

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

### Christian Science Services

On the corner of Spring and Third streets  
526-2830

Sunday: Morning Service – 11 a.m.  
Wednesday: Evening Service – 7 p.m.  
Tuesday & Friday: Study room open 2-4 p.m.

### 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  
Sundays: Worship – 10 a.m.; school & primary classes – 11 a.m.; Women's & Men's Org. – noon  
Tuesdays: Women's Org. – 6:30 p.m.; Library – 6-8  
Wednesdays: Boy Scouts of America mtg. – 6:30 p.m.; Young women's activities – 6:30 p.m.

### Clear Creek Baptist Church

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

### Community Bible Church

(Evangelical Presbyterian Church)  
Steven E. Kerhoulas, Pastor, 526-4685  
3645 U.S. 64 east  
Sundays: School – 9:30 a.m.; Worship – 10:45 a.m.  
Tuesdays: Women's Bible Study – 9:45 a.m.  
Wednesdays: Supper – 5:30 p.m.; Bible Study – 6:30  
Thursdays: Guys Sr. High Discipleship – 6 p.m.

### Episcopal Church of the Incarnation

Interim Priest: Stephen Hines, 526-2968  
Sundays: Holy Eucharist – 10:30 a.m.; Adult Class – 10 a.m.; Children's – 11 a.m.  
Mondays: Women's Cursillo Group @ Church – 4a.m.;  
Tuesdays: Men's Cursillo @ church – 8 a.m.  
Wednesdays: Supper and Program @ First Presbyterian Church – 6 p.m.  
Holy Eucharist – 10 a.m.

### First Baptist Church

Dr. Daniel D. Robinson, 526-4153  
Sundays: 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.;  
Student & Adult Prayer – 6:15 p.m., Choir – 7:30

### First Presbyterian Church

Rev. J. Hunter Coleman, Pastor, 526-3175  
Sundays: Worship – 11 a.m. (child care at 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 p.m.

### Highlands Assembly of God

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

### Highlands Seventh-Day Adventist Church

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

### Highlands United Methodist Church

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

### Lutheran Church of the Holy Family – ELCA

Rev. Pam Mitcham, Pastor,  
2152 Dillard Road – 526-9741  
Sundays: Worship/Communion – 10:30 a.m.

### Macedonia Baptist Church

8 miles south of Highlands on N.C. 28 S in Satolah  
Pastor Rusty Wolfrey, (706) 782-8130  
Sundays: School – 10 a.m.; Worship – 11 a.m.;  
Choir – 6 p.m.  
Wednesdays: Bible Study and Youth Mtg. – 7 p.m.

### Mountain Synagogue

St. Cyprian's Episcopal Church, Franklin 369-6871  
Friday: Sept. 12 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.  
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.  
Sunday, Nov. 30: Rev. Monroe Horn will preach at  
10:45 a.m. & 6 p.m.  
At 6 p.m. official lighting of the Community Christmas  
Tree & the singing of carols.

### Shortoff Baptist Church

Pastor Rev. Baker Crane  
Sundays: School – 10 a.m.; Worship – 11 a.m.  
Wednesdays: Prayer & Bible Study – 7 p.m.

### The Church in the Wildwood

Horse Cove Road  
Old-fashioned hymn-singing led by lay people.  
Every Sunday Memorial Day - Labor Day at 7 p.m.

### Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Franklin

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

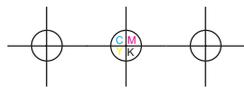
### Westside Baptist Church

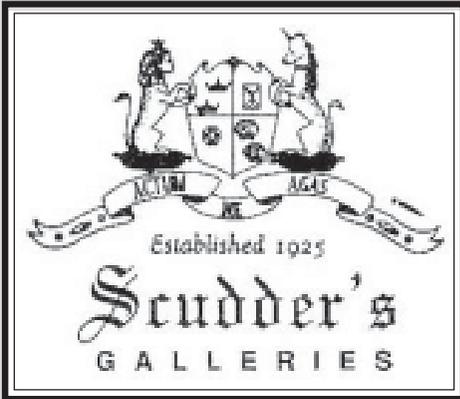
Interim Pastor, Terry Dixon  
Services in the basement of the Peggy Crosby  
Sundays: Fellowship – 11 a.m.; Worship – 11 a.m.

### Whiteside Presbyterian Church in America

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







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### ... SPIRITUALLY from pg. 11

was really in 1994.

All we know for sure is that the end times will come. It may be today, tomorrow, next year, or 50 trillion years from now. If the adage that Jesus will not return until there is peace in Jerusalem, God only knows when it will happen - and that is exactly what Jesus said. It makes no difference whatsoever. Each and every one of us will be called from this life sometime in the near future - for some more near than others. There is no way for us to escape the death of this mortal body.

But why fear? We know there is immortal life after mortal death. We have the Word of God both from the Old Testament and from his very own Son in the New Testament. Why fear it?

If you and I knew for certain that the world would come to an end at 9:07 next Wednesday morning, most of us would be insane with fear waiting for it to happen. God is so very wise in keeping us ignorant of this great happening.

The other question we might have is, "How am I going to survive it? The answer to this question is the only real reason Jesus Christ ever came down here on this earth and that was to teach us how we are going to survive it.

Life is good in spite of all of the bad things that can happen and life should be enjoyed to the fullest in all of the ways that are good. Life is the most precious gift that God has ever given to the human being. Human life is a sacred, blessed gift of the Divine to human beings. All that God created is good and was made for us, Just as the Book of Genesis tells us. All of this good universe was given to us so that we would have a foretaste of the joys of eternal life - just enough, to whet our appetites for the even better things that are to come.

We don't know when the end will get here and neither should we care because for the human being there is no end for us who belong to Jesus Christ - there is no end for those of us who love Jesus Christ - those of us who follow the one true God of love and mercy. Our only duty - our only job is to be ready when the time comes for us on an individual basis. But being ready most certainly does not mean that we can't enjoy all that is good and is given to us in all ways that are good.

Are you saved? Am I saved? The Catholic answer to that question is the same answer we give to the question Am I in a state of grace? If we can say "yes" then all is just fine. If we must answer no then very simply, we had just better get our individual acts together. We have to repent our sins in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

You all know what that is don't you? For those of you who think the confession of sinfulness at mass is sufficient - you are totally mistaken. That is only a confession of your natural state in life and a prayer for forgiveness. To be sure, you must come to the sacrament of reconciliation.

Just appreciate the truth that our own so called individual deaths on the earth is not the end of life

▪ See SPIRITUALLY page 14



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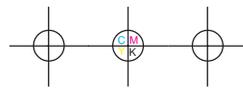
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## • Police & Fire Report •

The following are the Highlands Police Department log entries for the week of Nov. 21-25. The only names are of public officials and/or people who were arrested.

### Nov. 21

- At 10 a.m., officers took a call questioning an article written The Franklin Press and The Highlander.
- At 9 a.m., officers took a animal complaint call from a resident on Holt Knob Road.
- At 6:20 p.m., a motorist was cited for driving without a license or tag at N.C. 106 and Cobb Road.

### Nov. 22

- At 11 p.m., a motorist was cited for driving with an expired tag at N.C. 106 and Holt Road.

### Nov. 23

- At 1:15 a.m., officers were called to Mountain High Lodge where occupants of a room were having a domestic dispute. The couple was later asked to leave the lodge.

- Officers responded to an alarm at a residence on Cullasaja Drive. All was secure.

- At 10:40 a.m., officers were called about construction noise on South Street.

- At 1 p.m., a wallet containing \$7 was found on Main Street and turned into the police.

### Nov. 24

- At 4 p.m., visitors reported losing an envelope of cash containing \$770 somewhere near Falls on Main.

- At 4:05 p.m., officers responded to an alarm at Hudson Library. All was secure.

- At 6:15 p.m., officers delivered an animal complaint summons to a resident.

- At 10 p.m., officers responded to a domestic dispute at a residence on N.C. 106.

The following are the Highlands Fire & Rescue Department log entries for the weeks of Nov. 19-25.

### Nov. 19

- The dept. was called to Cowee Ridge Road where a power line was down. Men stood by while Duke Power took care of the line.

- The dept. responded to a fire alarm at a home on Hickory Hills Road. It was a false alarm.

### Nov. 21

- The dept. responded to a chimney fire in a residence on Clear Creek Road. There was no damage.

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

### Nov. 22

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

### Nov. 24

- The dept. responded to the call of a possible fire at a home on Hickory Hills Road. The "smoke" was steam rising off the roof heated by the sun.

## The Animal Barn

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## Highlands Historical Society

### Christmas Showhouse set for Dec. 5-7



The old Elliot House on Satulah

The showhouse is open Dec. 5-7, Friday through Sunday from 1-5 p.m. Tickets are \$20 and can be purchased at Cyrano's Book Shop, The Chambers Agency or D&J Express Mart anytime after Thanksgiving Day. For more information, call 787-1050.

## ... SPIRITUALLY from page 12

– but rather the beginning of the true life that will never end. If you remember the liturgy tells us in the Preface of the Mass for the dead: "Life is not ended, only changed. Our years on earth are a wonderful gift of the most good God to enable us to choose the infinitely greater gift which is what the loving mercy of the most good God has offered to us. The gift of eternal life. But we must accept this gift that is offered to us. We must choose this gift ourselves. We are here to choose life forever or to choose death forever.

The Lord, in his mercy, is calling on each one of us to be ready when our individual time comes to pass over. We can do nothing about the when or the where of that call, but we can do a whole lot about the state of our relationship with God when the Lord does come for us. We cannot avoid a sudden thrust into eternal life. But we certainly can avoid being unprepared by striving to live in peace with God and with one another.

Let me remind you once again – this does not mean that we must always be on our knees praying to God and that we must take no interest in the good things of our good world that God has given to us. We are entitled by virtue of our baptism into life with Jesus Christ to enjoy all of the good things of this world and also to use them. But not in such a way as to let them hinder us in our passage to the life beyond earth.

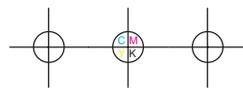
A very practical way to see how we stand in relation to God and the things of this world, is for each of us to ask and answer the question: How would I fare, if I were called to render an account tonight? You must answer that question before God and live your life according to the answer you give. Nothing else is important.

Are you in a state of grace? If so, live in peace and joy. If not, thank God for the chance to get that way. It's all up to you.

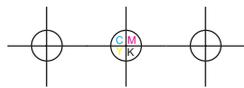
## Girls Clubhouse readies for Thanksgiving



Girls' Clubhouse members, from left, Jenna Shearon, Bobby Joe Talley and Maricia Owens decorated the tables for the town's annual ecumenical Thanksgiving Dinner held at the Rec Park, Nov. 25.







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**Close to Town.** Four bedrooms, 3 ½ baths, large den, living room with stone fireplace, dining room, gourmet kitchen with breakfast area. Screened porch with fireplace. Courtyard rock walled garden with stream waterfall. Close in, town water and sewer, close to Highlands Falls Country Club, over 3,300 sq. ft. with large double garage and storage. Offered at \$1,100,000.



**Desirable Sagee Mountain Location.** This three bedroom, 3 ½ bath (plus den) home features a newly remodeled master bath and new roof. Two story great room with wood paneling and a wall of glass on the back of the house to enjoy the pleasant view. Gentle, almost flat front yard. Two-car garage with guest apartment above. Offered fully furnished at \$1,200,000.



**Cullasaja Club.** Wonderful 4-bedroom, 4 ½ bath is perched on a knoll overlooking a nice babbling creek with a pleasant woodsy setting. Two-car carport, garage. Vaulted open rooms, stone fireplace, walls of glass and plenty of decks with a hot tub to enjoy the serene mountain setting off the private back deck. Lovely landscaped entrance with stone walls lined with rambling roses and mature plantings. Offered furnished at \$975,000. Has a club equity membership available at current rate upon club approval.



**Mirror Lake.** Mirror Lake, waterfall, close to town, and more. Charming 2-bedroom, 2-bath cabin located in Highlands. Sit on the deck or in the living room by the fire and listen to the waterfall while overlooking peaceful Mirror Lake. Very relaxing. \$595,000.



**In Sagee Mountain.** Spectacular long range view, great decks, great house for entertaining in one of Highlands best neighborhoods, Sagee Mountain, with almost 2 acres of woods. Two miles from town. \$1.3 million.



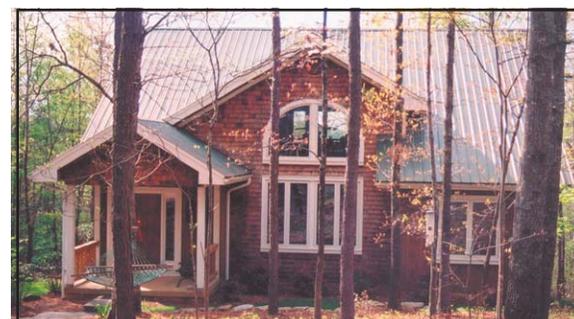
**Charm and Acreage.** Enchanting setting features a lovely pond and oriental gardens on over 1.3 acres. Charming cottage-style home has 3 bedrooms, 3 baths, with wood floor and a fireplace. Cute efficiency for your guests. Offered at \$795,000.



**On Webbmont Road.** This brand new home overlooks the glistening waters of Lake Sequoyah, lot extends into the lake so you can have your own dock for a canoe or small boat. Three bedrooms, 2 baths plus room for expansion in the lower level and spacious decks for outdoor enjoyment. Offered at \$360,000.



**Pinebrook Condominium.** Wonderful 2-bedroom, 2-bath corner unit. Excellent condition and ready to move into. Offered at \$235,000.



**A Great Package.** Located on Windy Hill Road, this charming house sits on a five-acre wooded knoll with a ridgeline view into Georgia. The dwelling has over 2,500 sq. ft. of heated living area plus a garage and large covered porch. Three bedrooms, three baths, with loads of storage. Energy efficient construction with 2x6 walls make getting the utility bills bearable in winter or summer. Wall of windows bring in lots of light to the living spaces that are well laid out and finished with hardwood floors and lofted ceilings. Propane cook-top and freestanding heater will keep you functioning even during power outages. Offered unfurnished and in move in condition at \$495,000.

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