Riverwalk developers seek town’s help

When workmen at Riverwalk subdivision hit a waterline for the second time, developers were issued a third $500 citation for failing to control erosion and sedimentation.

Last week the creek originating on Riverwalk and running on to the Daughtrey’s property was again filled with silt. That stream emptied into the Cullasaja River.

At the Aug. 2 Town Board meeting, owner of Riverwalk Don Chandler said he needed the town’s help concerning the unmarked lines that run through the old subdivision part of the plat.

“The town’s help is needed in the ETJ area...we need accurate records in the city that show water or sewer lines running through there and we need accurate records to work off,” he said.

He said another problem is current use requests are being used as an advantage for the developer in lieu of variances.

Board says no to conditional use requests

At the Aug. 2 Town Board meeting, two conditional use zoning requests were shot down by commissioners on the grounds that conditional use zoning shouldn’t be granted for projects the board wouldn’t normally allow.

“Conditional use zoning should be limited to a proposal development,” said Commissioner Hank Ross. “It should be used as an advantage for the town not as an advantage of the developer.”

Pros & cons raised about antique show

The Highlands Antiques show set for Sept. 29-Oct. 1 at the Civic center is a go, but not necessarily for next year.

At a recent Town Board meeting, commissioners OK’d the show which benefits the Highlands Playhouse and others but outcry from several business owners in town put the issue back on the agenda for the Aug. 2 Town Board meeting.

Operator of Mirror Lake Antiques Stan Cochran was the spokesman against the affair claiming it hurts local antique business owners in particular.

“When this show was in town last year there was his worst week end of the month,” he said. Even though a portion of the gate goes to highlands Playhouse.

Nature’s water park - mountain style

Families frolic at Sliding Rock in Whiteside Cove.

Photo by Josh McClure

Reworking of ETJ area could halt lawsuit

A “new look” at the Extra Territorial Jurisdiction (ETJ) area could stop the lawsuit between the county and the town.

At the July 26 joint Town Board/Planning Board meeting, commissioners learned that if the ETJ areas of Horse Cove and Clear Creek were subtracted from the ETJ area and if the town agreed to keep the county’s appointees seated on the Planning and Zoning boards, the county would drop its lawsuit with the town.

Based on the county’s population figures, two citizens from the ETJ areas should be appointed to both the Planning and Zoning boards. The town contends it should be two on the Planning Board and one on the Zoning Board.

“The point is if the town drops Horse Cove and Clear Creek from the scenario, that would bring its numbers in line with the board’s,” said Commissioner Hank Ross.

Allowed uses in R1 still unclear

After a public hearing on the prohibited uses in the R1 district, commissioners have decided to take another look at the ordinance.

Sabrina Hawkins, owner of the house on Satulah which has been the site of three weddings in the last three years and the subject of complaints from neighbors, asked if she’s supposed to put permanent fencing around the property.

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Dear Editor:

So many letter writers have based their arguments on “how this land is made up of immigrants.” The suggestion has been made to tear down the Statue of Liberty because the people now in question aren’t being treated the same as those who passed through Ellis Island and other ports of entry.

Maybe we should turn to our history books and point out to people like Mr. Lujan why today’s American is not willing to accept this new kind of immigrant any longer.

Back in 1900 when there was a rush from all areas of Europe to come to the United States, people had to get off a ship and stand in a long line in New York and be documented. Some would even get down on their hands and knees and kiss the ground. They made a pledge to uphold the laws and support their new country in good and bad times. They made learning English a primary rule in their new American households and some even changed their names to blend in with their new home.

They had vowed goodbye to their birthplace to give their children a new life and did everything in their power to help their children assimilate into one culture. Nothing was handed to them. No free lunches, no welfare, no labor laws to protect them. All they had were the skills and craftsmanship they had brought with them to trade for a future of prosperity. Most of their children came of age when World War II broke out. My father fought alongside men whose parents had come straight over from Germany, Italy, France and Japan. None of these 1st generation Americans ever gave any thought about what country their parents had come from. They were Americans fighting Hitler, Mussolini and the Emperor of Japan.

They were defending the United States of America as one people. When we liberated France, no one in those villages were looking for the French-American or the German American or the Irish American. The people of France saw only Americans. And we carried one flag that represented one country. Not one of those immigrant sons would have thought about picking up another country’s flag and waving it to represent who they were. It would have been a disgrace to their parents who had sacrificed so much to be here.

These immigrants truly knew what it meant to be an American. They stirred the melting pot into one red, white and blue bowl.

And here we are in 2006 with a new kind of immigrant who wants the same rights and privileges. Only they want to achieve it by playing with a different set of rules, one that includes the entitlement card and a guarantee of being faithful to their mother country. I’m sorry, but that’s not what being an American is all about.

I believe that the immigrants who landed on Ellis Island in the early 1900s deserve better than that for all the toil, hard work and sacrifice in raising future generations to create a land that has become a beacon for those legally searching for a better life. I think they would be appalled that they are being used as an example by those waving foreign country flags.

And for that suggestion about taking down the Statue of Liberty, it happens to mean a lot to the citizens who are voting on the immigration bill. I wouldn’t start talking about dismantling the United States just yet.

Rosemary La Bonte
A Highlands Visitor

Pearlstein the best

Dear Editor,

As a six-month resident of Highlands for the past 20 years, I am prompted to write with regard to the recent issue of general surgical credentialing of Dr. Leslie Pearlstein at H-C Hospital.

As a retired general surgeon who practiced in St. Petersburg, Florida for many years, I can strongly support his appointment to the medical staff of H-C Hospital.

His surgical acumen, skill, and patient-physician relationships have always been of the highest standard of excellence. Moreover, he has always been eager to work with his patients, the medical staff, and the hospital wherever he has practiced to assure the best outcome for all.

To my mind, he is a great medical asset to this community and will go far to settle the recent “troubled waters” of medical care in this area. We are indeed very fortunate to have him here. I would not hesitate to have him care for me or my family. It would be a true favor for us if he chose not to stay. Replacing this quality of a physician is not an easy task.

Dr. Tom H. West
Highlands

Would travel far for Pearlstein’s services

Dear Editor,

I have been a patient of Dr. Leslie Pearlstein for the past 13 years. Without hesitation, I would travel across the country to have Dr. Pearlstein perform my surgery. I have found him to be a skilled surgeon as well as a caring and compassionate doctor. I feel that he has saved my life.

During his time in St. Petersburg he was the doctor that medical professionals would turn to for their own surgeries.

Highlands is fortunate to have such a fine surgeon. I believe this would be the opinion of the thousands of people whose lives he has saved.

Christine Brook
St. Petersburg, FL

Boating the Chattooga

Dear Editor,

Thank you for giving advance notice about the meeting held last week by the U.S. Forest Service to explain the agency’s...
Dr. Pearlstein not leaving Highlands-Cashiers Hospital

Dr. Leslie Pearlstein will stay at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital if the hospital will have him.

That’s the latest concerning the issue.

Last Thursday night, the executive committee and the hospital board voted unanimously not to accept Pearlstein’s voluntary resignation which would have gone into effect Friday, Aug. 28.

Meanwhile, Pearlstein has voluntarily suspended his temporary surgical privileges. He performed three operations prior to last week’s uproar brought on by a letter-to-the-editor that appeared in “The Crossroads Chronicle” that suggested Pearlstein had been involved in lawsuits past and pending. Though he won’t perform surgery, he will continue to see patients at his office at the hospital until the credentialing process is completed.

Still in the works are three reviews—the hospital’s credentialing committee, the medical staff who must OK anyone who comes on board and the board of directors review. If approved on all three fronts, Pearlstein would be granted full surgical and admitting privileges. But know one knows how long that will take.

“Dr. Pearlstein has indicated that he is willing to move forward with the rest of the credentialing process,” said Marketing Director Skip Taylor. “His application still has to go before the credentialing committee, which will make a recommendation to the full medical staff. Finally, the full hospital board will have to vote on whether to grant him full medical privileges.”

Dr. Pearlstein just wants to get to work doing what he does best, take care of people, he said.

President of the hospital, Ken Shull said he expects it to be clear sailing from this point on.

“He’s staying as long as everything goes smoothly and I expect it’s going to happen,” he said. “I think it’s good that he wants to stay and I feel very positive about it.”

Patients and doctors wrote letters-to-the-editor in favor of Pearlstein on page 2 of today’s paper.

... LETTERS continued from page 2

study of whether kayaks, canoes, tubes or any manner of hand-powered boats should be permitted on the 21 miles of the Upper Chattooga river from Slide Rock in Grims hawes down to the Route 28 Bridge.

More than 100 area residents skipped dinner time to attend the meeting, testament to how important the area’s recreation and conservation communities believe this topic to be. It was clear that many in the audience believe the Forest Service should continue to zone these wild and pristine headwaters so as to prohibit boating, as has been the practice for the past 30 years. (Boating of almost all types is regulated and allowed on the 36 miles of the Chattooga below Route 28.)

Unfortunately for those taking either side of this controversial issue, Forest Service personnel, under the divisive format adopted for the meeting, refused to answer any general questions from the public. Rather, folks were shunted off to separate “break-out tables” to try to get answers to the many pressing questions raised by the study.

So, there is yet no cogent and comprehensive rationale given for why the federal government is even considering the idea of permitting some limited boating tests on this part of the river, or how it will protect the Wild and Scenic Chattooga River corridor during such tests. (The whitewater kayak and canoe lobbies are pushing hard for these tests. They are also pushing their case in a federal court lawsuit filed in Gainesville, GA, in hopes of opening the Upper Chattooga to boating immediately, without further study.)

What is clear is that American taxpayers, according to the Forest Service’s own figures, are going to spend more than $1.3 million on the study, with a goodly amount of this public money going to consulting firms that are concentrating their reviews on possible use of the river by boaters and anglers, primarily.

The forest agency, it turns out, also will accept some help from the general public, i.e., all those local hikers, hunters, birdwatchers, photographers, swimmers, students, researchers and conservationists who also enjoy and cherish this fragile and wild resource. In particular, the agency wants the public’s help over the next 12 months in documenting use and abuse of the corridor (counts of vehicles at certain favorite spots, location of resource damage, number of encounters with other members of the public, etc.)

But your readers must act promptly to register to do this, by August 15. This can be accomplished by calling the Highlands Ranger District office, 828.526.3765, or by contacting the study’s project coordinator, John Cleeves, at jclaeves@fs.fed.us.

Please also contact the Forest Service personnel today to give them a piece of your mind on this important issue.

Joseph Gatins
Satolah, GA

For Friends of the Upper Chattooga
The latest ethnic joke floating around America these days is about the two terrorists who meet on the streets of New York. One begins to speak in Arabic and the other says, “Hush, we are in America now, speak Spanish.” What, you’re not laughing?

I am sure when Emma Lazarus wrote the sonnet “The New Colossus” she didn’t envision 12 million illegal Mexican immigrants sneaking into our country. Should we take her poem from the Statue of Liberty?

Nor did Jimmy Carter envision the nightmare he was about to unleash on this nation when he felt sorry for a small group of hungry Cuban citizens huddled at the Peruvian Embassy in Havana.

While ole Jimmy was admitting he once had “lust in his heart,” I was admitting to a different kind of lust for him. He was the worst president and the best ex-president we ever had. Write that down.

Cops don’t make much money (No duh). I was trying to cope with Jimmy’s 18 percent interest rate economy coupled with runaway inflation. Food costs were killing us. How do I feed a wife and three kids on a fixed income? With Jimmy at the helm, I couldn’t. The price of cereal got higher each week and how often can one eat Hamburger Helper and macaroni and cheese? I looked for extra work.

But I could never stay angry at a good ole boy from Georgia if money was the only issue. No, Carter did a lot more to damage our country than just mismanage our national economy. He was responsible for creating and mishandling the infamous Mariel boat lift and later, the less publicized Haitian boat lift. It was to become the beginning of the end for America as we know it.

Without warning, without preparation, without a plan or a budget, this naïve president, with a stroke of his pen, took our immigration laws and trashed them, allowing thousands of Cubans to flood into South Florida in less than a week. If only the first group had been shipped to Plains, GA, things would have been better.

Prosper in 2006! Advertise in Highlands’ Newspaper
The eleven commandments?

Many Christians want to see the Ten Commandments displayed in public buildings, courtrooms, schools, hospitals and the like. I guess they think that if criminals, pagans or atheists are exposed to the Commandments over and over, they will be less likely to commit crimes, worship idols, or not worship at all.

Or maybe they forget that the Commandments were allegedly given by God to Moses and the Hebrews, and want to see it everywhere, ironically, as reassurance that this is truly a Christian nation. Contemporary Hebrews (Jews) don’t care if the Commandments are publicly displayed or not. What most Jews and Christians have in common today, however, is a casual willingness to violate the Ten Commandments with impunity.

They do this in a typically slimy way: interpreting the Commandments so that their behavior can be justified. This has been going on forever and a day, or at least since the day after they were written and received. Legalistic interpretations of the Torah (the first five books of the Hebrew scriptures where the Ten Commandments are found) have been an obsessive preoccupation of Jewish scholars for centuries, taken up by Roman Catholic monks and priests, and nowadays by Protestant televangelist preachers.

Commandment 5, for example, says very simply and directly “Thou shall not kill.” It doesn’t exempt war, or defensive killing, or capital punishment. It doesn’t exempt abortion. All those exemptions are based on interpretations, some as subtle as a whisper and some you can see through with a $2 flashlight.

Commandment 3 states “Observe the Sabbath and keep it holy.” Pretty easy to understand. Never mind the fact that Christians decided that Sunday suited them better. What’s so holy about playing 36 holes of golf, or softball, or polo for that matter? And if the customers are there, keep the store open on Sunday.

And how about the Big One, Commandment 17? “Thou shall have no other gods before me.” Well, there’s Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit, and always in this country, the Mighty Dollar.

Then there’s Commandment 2; “Thou shalt not take the name of your God the Lord in vain.” Except for old ladies’ bridge clubs — and I wouldn’t bet on that anymore — God’s name is plenty taken in vain, 100 times a day on any construction site and somewhat less in men’s clubs and baseball stadiums.

The typical family probably hears it often enough that it no longer presents a theological problem.

Then there’s Commandments 7 and 8. Basically they forbid stealing and lying. I actually wish we could nail these up in Congress and the White House, but their $400-an-hour lawyers could easily find some way around them.

And, of course there’s Commandment 6, “Thou shall not commit adultery.” As we all know from high-publicity escapades by several TV preachers, not to mention your average high-living CEO or beloved Hollywood star, this one is more honored in the breach than in the observance.

I’m DonLeon and that’s MY opinion.
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25 years of meals, events and family at ...on the Verandah

By Susanna Forrester
Reporter

A former skating rink and junk shop is about to celebrate 25 years in Highlands this coming September.

On the Verandah may have had many past lives but its current one has been the most memorable. Since 1981 the restaurant has provided patrons a feast for the taste buds and the eyes with its creative menu and beautiful views of Lake Sequoyah.

“My parents, Marta and Alan Figel, opened ...on the Verandah 25 years ago,” said Marlene Alvarez, the restaurant’s general manager. “Everyone told them it wouldn’t work because it was too far from town.”

The restaurant, located right off U.S. 64 west on the shore of Lake Sequoyah is just a few miles out of town, and has proven its detractors wrong so far. The building, which dates back to 1937, has undergone its share of makeovers, but when the Figels began remodeling they could see its potential. On the Verandah, which has drawn rave reviews from “Southern Living” and “Atlanta Magazine,” has become a staple among Highlands restaurants since then.

“It used to be a speakeasy back in the day,” said Alvarez, who along with her brother, Andrew Figel, has continued the tradition started by their parents so many years ago. “I started working here in 1982. I left for another career, but my heart was always here,” she said.

The restaurant business runs in the Figel family, beginning with Marta and Alan Figel’s first restaurant in Franklin. They later moved to Florida and opened a pizza place there, but “they knew they wanted to come back” to the mountains said Alvarez.

No matter where a member of the Figel family roamed they were always drawn back to Highlands and ...on the Verandah. “Andrew has been here since 1986. He went to school at the University of South Carolina at Columbia to study engineering, but he came back, too, and became executive chef in 1996,” said Alvarez.

Alvarez and her brother continue to try to foster that family atmosphere at the restaurant. “It’s a family-run business, so we treat our staff like family,” said Alvarez. “When we have a really good year we take them on trips to exotic locations.”

The restaurant itself may be an exotic location right inside Highlands’ city limits. The “eclectic menu” often features Thai food like Spicy Thai Coconut Ginger-Shrimp, and always has a large selection of desserts to die for like their Godiva Chocolate Crème Brulée.

Alan Figel’s hot sauces have won several awards and are often included in the dishes on the menu, as well as being available for purchase by customers. A whole wall of the dining room is dedicated to his hot sauce collection, which has grown to 1,200 over the years.

“We try to make sure we stick with the concept of the business,” said Alvarez. “But Andrew and I are really excited because we’re starting to put our own fingerprints on the restaurant.”

Even after a quarter of a century ...on the Verandah is still bursting with the aromas and flavors of creativity. “We’re trying to keep the legacy going but keep...
A confession uttered; a mind eased

Our return home from Mexico began routinely enough. Jorge, our driver, arrived at the Hotel Emporio in Veracruz promptly at 9:15 a.m. He announced the post office, telephone company, and telegraph as we passed. He pointed out the old railroad terminal. A rusted steam engine, a relic of the past, rested nearby on a length of track. Cargo only, no longer any passenger service, he told us. His route differed from the one which the cabbie had used to bring us to town a week earlier. Veracruz hosts a plethora of one-way streets and I reasoned that the road system dictated our circuitous trip. We journeyed over narrow side streets. We passed a bright orange and green stucco building. Jorge identified it as his elementary school. I remembered a city tour of Reykjavik, Iceland years ago. There was not much to showcase that my guide drove by a high school and then pointed out his cousin’s car.

Rain fell, alternating between mist and monsoon. My mood darkened as we descended into a grimy industrial section of town. I hoped for a sign pointing to the airport and wondered what emotions Lizzie and Bull were experiencing in the back seat. The thought of a kidnap entered my mind. As I came to an expression of sympathy. Rain fell, alternating between mist and monsoon. My mood darkened as we descended into a grimy industrial section of town. I hoped for a sign pointing to the airport and wondered what emotions Lizzie and Bull were experiencing in the back seat. The thought of a kidnap entered my mind. As I came to an expression of sympathy.

We passed what looked like a Protestant church. I mentioned that evangelical sects had made significant inroads in Central and South America. Lizzie showed them “dirty” pictures. All of the boys had been between eight and 10-years-old at the time. Could there be any doubt that the confessor had been more sinful than the penitent? Good job at serving Mass today, boys. Would you like a Chicklet or a cerveza? Look at these photos. These beautiful naked women bring glory to the Creator. Why don’t you boys take off your cassocks and get comfortable?

I answered, “I’d kill any son of a bitch who abused my son.” It was close as I came to an expression of sympathy. We rode in silence, his confession apparently complete. A large green and white sign appeared before us, “Aeropuerto.” Ladies and gentlemen, we’re approaching the airport and this completes our tour. Sorry we didn’t have time to visit the first bronze statue of Benito Juarez, the oldest Dairy Queen in Central America, or the first John Deere dealership in Mexico. If you return, perhaps I can show you the cesspool where Mom did the laundry. In the future, we’ll take self guided tours and catch the bus to the airport.

We passed a military air base, hulks of discarded aircraft were visible from the road. The road to the international airport was lined with trees, their trunks painted white to perhaps a height of six feet. The rain increased as we passed under a sign wishing us a good journey. We passed a military air base, hulks of discarded aircraft were visible from the road. The road to the international airport was lined with trees, their trunks painted white to perhaps a height of six feet. The rain increased as we passed under a sign wishing us a good journey.

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might have been different.

Miami became a war zone overnight and I was right in the thick of it. Rapes, robberies and murders doubled and tripled. South Florida police departments lost control of their cities. I was assigned to command a 50-man strike force to combat violent crime where I rightfully earned my title “Mad Dog.” Almost overnight, Miami Beach became the No. 1 crime capital of the world. Thank you, Jimmy, for sinking us in violence.

Castro, a much smarter man than Carter, deliberately dumped hundreds of his prison and insane asylum inmates on us and there was no system in place to sort and control them. They just fit into the mix. One day they were locked up in Cuba and the next they were checking out the hot babes along the ocean. They would simply pluck one from the beach and rape her. I am not making this up.

Policemen died because of Jimmy Carter’s lack of a program to deal with the boat lift. I lost a good friend and good cop to a Marielito crazy. Ordinary Americans, mostly young girls, were being raped and murdered because enforcement was so overwhelmed, we could not protect them. I will spare you the carnage but it was ugly and disgusting.

Immigrants lived in filthy tents behind the Miami Beach dog track and under viaducts along I-95. The stench of urine and defecation filled the air. Garbage was piled high in the streets. Policemen were injured daily. It was a mess….thanks again, Mr. President. In time, the violence became controllable, not because of anything Carter did or good police work, but because the criminal Marielitos and the crazies eventually killed each other off.

Some good, honest, hard working people fled Mariel and America prospered from those people, but at what costs? In time those same Cuban immigrants would join with most Americans to complain about the uncontrollable flow of Haitians and Nicaraguans sneaking into South Florida as well as the millions of illegal Mexicans crossing our border to the West.

It seems we will let the entire world move here if they wish. Congress seems dumbfounded. Are we so naive to think that terrorists are not taking advantage of our porous borders? We have lost it.

Most Americans feel helpless to do anything about this dilemma. While all the focus is now on Mexicans entering illegally, little attention is placed on the steady flow of other Hispanics that continue to sneak into South Florida in droves. If left uncontrolled, we will become a third world country. All the seeds are there.

In the end, I predict a great civil war between the Mexicans and non-Mexican Latinos for control of America. Canada will send troops to their border to keep Anglo-Americans, like me, from fleeing the country.

For sure, it’s not quite what George Washington and Thomas Jefferson had in mind.

Six individuals have successfully completed the New Directors’ Class offered by the Highlands Community Players (HCP). The class has met once a month since January 2006. Topics of study included working with actors and the production team, conducting auditions, organizing the rehearsal period, and blocking for the proscenium stage. Each class participant received a certificate. All six will participate in HCP’s summer production which features the comedy of Neil Simon. Pictured from left, new directors Sue Feldkamp, Annette Coleman, Donna Cochran, Nancy Reeder, Mary Adair Leslie, Sandie Trevathan and class instructor Ronnie Spilton.

... REDMOUNTAIN continued from page 5

Actually, there may be some virtue in hanging the “Ten” everywhere, but I know it wouldn’t change anyone’s behavior.

Including mine, I don’t need anyone to remind me that I am a flawed human being.

But in my mind, among the greatest sins, not specifically mentioned by the Judeo-Christian God in the Commandments, are sanctimony and hypocrisy.

I’m going to nominate them for the 11th Commandment.
Town of Highlands
Scholarship Fund Golf Classic
Monday, August 28, 2006
at the Cullasaja Club

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

_____ $5,000 Diamond Sponsor: (Tee Sign, Program Recognition and 8 Dinner Tickets)
_____ $1,000 Platinum Sponsor: (Tee Sign, Program Recognition and 6 Dinner Tickets)
_____ $500 Gold Sponsor: (Program Recognition and 4 Dinner Tickets)
_____ $300 Patron Sponsor: (Program Recognition and 2 Dinner Tickets)
_____ $150 per Golf Contestant_____ Guest Tickets at $50 per ticket for the Awards Party

There will be ______ Golfers in our group and their names are:
1. ___________________________________________________________________________
   2. ___________________________________________________________________________
   3. ___________________________________________________________________________
   4. ___________________________________________________________________________

Payment for golf must be made to guarantee your registration to play. The first 128 "PAID"
contestants will participate in the event! Golf Contestant donations must be mailed or delivered
to David Cull or Connie Smith at: Cullasaja Club Drive, Highlands, NC 28741 or you may drop your entry and check at Town Hall. Make your checks payable to:
Town of Highlands Scholarship Fund.

Diamond, Platinum, Gold and Patron Sponsor donations can be mailed or delivered to
the Town of Highlands, P. O. Box 460, Highlands, NC 28741 or to David Cull or Connie Smith.
For more information or to make a donation of any kind, contact Helen Simmons at 508-2542.
Golf Contestants may bring guests to the Awards Party by purchasing a ticket at the cost
of $50.

All Donations are Tax Deductible

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LIVE WITH EAGLES
Once you experience the views, you’ll never want to leave. Highlands Cove. It’s that spectacular. A
mountain sanctuary 4,700 feet above the rest of the world. A 430-acre, master-planned residential community offering homesites, single-family homes, cottages and condominium homes. The site selection is exceptional: beautifully wooded, along the golf course, or high up on the mountain tops. The property is gated. There’s an 18-hole golf course. Tennis courts. A fitness center. A charming clubhouse and Peregrine restaurant and bar. Come see us. We promise you a mountain high.

We’re located six miles east of Highlands on Highway 64. For information, visit the sales office adjacent to the entry gate. Or call us: 828-526-8128 or toll free 1-866-220-2209.
Homesites range from $105,000 to $595,000. Single-family homes begin in the low $900,000’s. The Views condominium homes are priced from $695,000. Web site:

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See NOISE page 14

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Noise Ordinance more strict

As development construction increases and Highlands’ roadways get more and more crowded, noise is topping the “nuisance” list for many Highlanders.

At the joint Town Board/Planning Board meeting on July 26, several citizens complained about “jake brakes” on tractor-trailers, road noise as well as construction-related noise.

Jim Ramsdell, a NC 28 south resident, suggested commissioners prohibit the use of “jake brakes” by diesel trucks and post signs accordingly at the town limits. He said resort towns across the nation have taken a stance against such brakes. “Jake brakes are supposed to be used as a safety measure, to reduce speed quickly on steep and winding roads. The roads in the vicinity of town are relatively flat where speeding isn’t an option. There’s no need for ‘jake brakes’ to be used,” he said.

Dr. O’Neal, who lives in Big Pine Acres in the vicinity of the Riverwalk subdivision complained about construction noise at the development. “I come here to relax,” he said. “If I wanted noise I could stay in Miami.” He suggested the town disallow construction noise prior to 8 or 9 in the morning and prohibited work on holidays not just weekends. “This is resort town,” he said.

The project manager for the Riverwalk subdivision said his crews were complying with the town’s ordinance which allows construction activity weekdays from 7 am. to 6 p.m. regardless of holidays. “With all the rain we get around here, we need to get as much done as we can. Keeping us from working just means we will be working that much longer.”

Nevertheless, commissioners voted to allow construction noise starting at 8 a.m. instead of 7 a.m. Work can continue until 6 p.m. They also voted to disallow construction noise on the five Federal holidays - Memorial Day, July 4th, Labor Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Since the town’s noise ordinance was somewhat vague, commissioners also voted to amend it to include much of what is on the books in Jackson County.

“Their’s has been upheld in court,” said Town Attorney Bill Coward.
The town’s noise ordinance now reads:
Loud, Raucous, and Disturbing Noise Prohibited. It shall be unlawful for any person or group of persons, regardless of number, to willfully make, continue or cause to be made or continue any loud, raucous, and disturbing noise, which term shall mean any sound which, because of its volume level, duration, and character annoys, disturbs, injures, or endangers the comfort, health, peace, or safety of reasonable persons of ordinary sensibilities within the im...
...ANTIQUE from page 1
the Playhouse and another nonprofit to be decided by commissioners, there is nothing “nonprofit” about it, he said.

“This is a commercial venture in disguise,” said Cochran. “Money from sales goes to itinerant vendors who don’t pay taxes or rent like we do, to the dealer who gets upwards of $500 per booth and the gate. With the gate representing the least of the proceeds.”

Another concern was the town setting a precedent of allowing profit enterprises disguised as nonprofits to set up shop in the Civic center. “It’s a change of use,” said Cochran. “For 20 years it hasn’t been used for that and I would hate to see that change.”

The opinion or against the antique show is mixed.

Steve Barnwell of The Nest said it brings business to Highlands. “We did very well because of the business from the Cashiers Antique show and I’m looking forward to the Highlands show.”

Al Sudder from Sudder’s Gallery said he’s in the middle.

“The antique show takes money out of local merchants’ pockets, so in that respect I would be against it. But while it does make people more antique conscience, I think it would still have more of a negative than a positive affect.”

An antique business owner who asked needed for the project.”

Buddy Meredith requested conditional use zoning for the “pit” bordering Second, Spring and Helen’s Barn Avenue to build an indoor, climate-controlled storage building.

Since it is unlikely he would be granted needed variances by the Zoning Board, he sought a conditional use permit in the B3 zone.

Though storage facilities are allowed in the B3 zone with a special use permit, due to the topography of the site, the building would actually be 4½ stories with living quarters in the “attic” and public use in the “basement,” neither of which is allowed in B3.

The board denied the request 3 to 1. Amy Patterson was for the idea. Dennis DeWolf was absent.

Meredith asked if the board was against a hotel in the spot. Members said hotels were allowed in B3.

Next, Zeke Sossomon spoke to the board concerning Highlands Suites hotel on the corner of Main and Third streets.

Owner Robert Jordan was seeking to up-zone the lot from B2 to R3 and convert the 28 hotel units into 22 condominiums. The variance sought was on two fronts – multifamily in a B3 zone and allowing 1 1/3 parking spaces per unit rather than the required 1 2/3 parking spaces. Instead of 35 parking spots, only 22 are available, but Sossomon said 28 could be managed.

He also said the project would upgrade the use of the property, increase revenue from ad valorem taxes, decrease the demands of the property on town services, and probably wouldn’t be as “busy” because the condominiums wouldn’t be rented as frequently as hotel rooms.

He said 75% of condominium owners today put their property in a rental program so the occupancy tax would still be a source of revenue.

Nevertheless, the board voted unanimously against the idea. “I don’t think this is a good plan,” said Patterson. “I don’t think we’d get more taxes, we’d lose occupancy tax, we’d lose revenue from services already there and they want a variance for parking. I don’t see how it’s good for the town.”

...USES from page 1
matted in the rental agreement.

Attorney Bill Coward said, “yes.” Coward, who with the Planning Board drafted the amended ordinance, said commercial uses are prohibited in general in the R1 district and though weddings are outlined in the ordinance that word was in the ordinance only as “example and not by way of limitation.”

He feels the amended ordinance is clear and people who come to Highlands are charged with obeying its laws. “Ignorance of the law is no excuse and the responsibility would fall back on you and your lessee,” he said to Hawkins.

Nevertheless, the board believes the ordinance needs to be tweaked further to address uses in the many rentals in town.

...OTV continued from page 7
up with new ideas,” said Alvarez.

Alvarez hopes to extend ...on the Verandah’s family feeling to the Highlands community during the month of September as they celebrate the restaurant’s anniversary. “We’re going to have a party on Sunday, Sept. 17, and everyone is invited to come and have fun with us,” said Alvarez.

Nothing less than a party would do for ...on the Verandah, and the Fiegel family’s accomplishment. “Twenty five years for a restaurant is pretty impressive,” said Alvarez. “We hope to go on for many years to come.”
Summary of July 27 meeting of the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital Board of Directors

To keep the news media, and the public, better informed about Highlands-Cashiers Hospital, we are providing you with a summary of the more significant actions and discussion items coming before the hospital’s board of directors at their most recent meeting (Thursday, July 27).

• The board voted unanimously not to accept the resignation of general surgeon Dr. Leslie Pearlstein and to proceed with the credentialing process. President and CEO Ken Shull reported that the hospital has been engaged in an extensive rechecking of Dr. Pearlstein’s background, professional qualifications, and litigation history, and that the results, when analyzed, clearly paint a positive picture of his professional record. While there have been cases filed against him, Shull said two were settled and dismissed while the others of them were either won or dropped, and should not be a source of concern for either the hospital or its patients.

Shull said that while Dr. Pearlstein has acknowledged making an error on his application, those initially involved in the credentialing process are convinced there was no intent to mislead or to misrepresent his past surgical record. There are still some questions that remain to be answered before credentialing can be finalized, but Shull said the hospital is working with Dr. Pearlstein to complete the process. In the meantime, Dr. Pearlstein has voluntarily suspended his temporary surgical privileges.

• The board heard some good financial news at Thursday’s meeting. June was a positive month for the hospital financially, showing a $75,000 profit before depreciation and prior to the resumption of general surgery.

• June also saw a record number of visits to the hospital’s emergency room. The patient census for the hospital was also up for the month, and the Fidelia Eckerd Living Center has a waiting list.

• Shull reported that both the hospital and the nursing center received high ratings during recent inspections by the Macon County Health Department.

• In a written report submitted to the board, Shull also said the NC Department of Health and Human Services Division of Facility Services recently found that the Eckerd Nursing Center is well below both the state and national averages in incidence of decubitus ulcers (bed sores) and incidents where restraints had to be used to control residents. The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) are pushing the state to reduce both. The Eckerd Nursing Center has a waiting list.

Pianist Robert Henry

Interlude Wed., Aug. 9

Robert Henry, well known international pianist, will give a concert at the Episcopal Church on Wed., Aug. 9 at 2 p.m. It is free and open to all.

Henry, a favorite of Highlands audiences for several years, has appeared at PAC with standing room only. This time he will be joined in a few selections by his 12-year-old protege, Angeline Larivee. She has been declared a musical prodigy and has already won much recognition.

Henry is considered one of, if not the finest young concert pianist on the scene today, and made his New York debut at Carnegie Hall.

Since then he has given concerts at Washington’s Kennedy Center and was chosen by the Atlanta Symphony Conductor Robert Spano, to appear as a soloist on several occasions.

He serves as artist in residence at Georgia State and Kennesaw State Universities, and has been reading MRIs performed at the hospital.
Highlands Community Players presents ‘Good plays well done’

The Highlands Community Players (HCP) will conclude its 12th season with an evening featuring the comedy of America’s playwright extraordinaire Neil Simon. Four new directors bring to life funny and poignant scenes from his Suite comedies.

Donna Cochran directs “Going Home” from London Suite featuring real life mother and daughter, Jill Montana and Jennifer Royce, in mother and daughter roles.

From Plaza Suite, Mary Adair Leslie directs “Visitor from Hollywood,” starring veteran actor David Spivey and newcomer Breta Stroud who play a wry game of cat and mouse.

Annette Coleman directs her husband Wayne Coleman, recently seen in Fiddler on the Roof and I Remember Mama, along with talented Virginia Talbot in a poignant scene from London Suite about a famous British actress and her bisexual husband. Sandie Trevathan is featured in a supporting role.

Physical comedy abounds in “Visitors from Chicago” from California Suite. Two vacationing couples, played by Ronnie Spliton, Courtney Scarbrough, Peggy Fuller, Jenny King, Ginny Harris, Lonnie Busch, Bill Hall, Jim Schulte, Sue Schulte, John Williams, and Jim Gordon.

The sophisticated humor, clever dialogue, and hilarious situations of Simon Suites, presented under the direction of new talent, promise to provide an enjoyable evening for theatergoers. The production is sponsored in part by Warth Construction, Inc.

Opening night is Thursday, Aug. 17 with a reception catered by Pescados following the play. Continuing Friday and Saturday evenings and Sunday matinee, Aug. 18-20, and the following weekend, Thursday, Friday, Saturday evening and Sunday matinee, August 24-27.

Evening performances begin at 8 p.m. and Sunday matinees begin at 2:30 p.m.

The box office opens for season subscribers on Thursday, August 10 and on Monday, August 14 for the general public. Please call: 828-526-8008 for reservations/tickets. All performances will take place at the Martin Lipscomb Performing Arts Center, Chestnut Street in Highlands.

... ANOTHER VIEW continued from page 8

for 50 years? Were we the first? Had memories flooded his mind as he passed his grade school, overwhelmed him and compelled him to speak? And why had he driven past his old school anyway, certainly a serpentine route to our destination? It was something more sinister than a maze of one-way streets. Had he sought relief by confessing to strangers he would never see again? It was clear that he would never trust a priest to hear his story. In the Hispanic world of machismo, he could surely confide in neither family or friends.

Stories of abuse in the American Catholic Church have captured headlines in recent years. The church has paid billions in judgments, settlements, and hush money.

There can be few sins greater than abusing such a position of trust and in such a heinous fashion. In our country at least some of these abuses will be compensated, some of these evil deeds punished.

A few guilty priests will be convicted, a good many more stripped of their ministerial duties and sent to cozy retirement homes for perverts. Still, one has the feeling that many of these wrongs will never be righted.

In Mexico, a shroud of silence will remain forever; an eternal burden will weigh on those who have been defiled.

Such is the power and influence of the church in predominately Catholic Mexico, the ability to shield wrong from the light of justice. I hope that Gorge gained some measure of peace in telling us his story.
Since the last dog wash in support of the Bolivian Mission was so successful, there’s another one on Saturday, Aug. 12 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the First Citizens Bank.

In addition to the dog wash, which includes grooming and conditioner, there will be a hot dog roast as well. You do not need to be a dog wash customer to enjoy the lunch which will be served from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. The meal includes a grilled hot dog, chips and a Coke product. All proceeds will help fund the Mission in 2007.

Also coming up is the Bolivian Auction which will be held at the newly renovated Highlands Country Club on Monday, Sept. 25 from 5:30 p.m. until the last item is auctioned by Al Scudder. The admission donation will be $100. The auction has always been the major fundraiser for the mission which has now brought over $1,000,000 worth of much needed medical supplies to Montero, Bolivia. The Mission has extended to smaller nearby towns supplying an x-ray machine to Portachuelo in addition to free dental care provided by Dr. Fred Rodenbeck and Patricia Kirby who came last year from her job in Switzerland. Call the Highlands United Methodist Church to make reservations: 526-3376.

The main focus of the mission is the foster home which is in the process of doubling in size to be able to care for the older boys in the area. There is a serious problem in Latin America with orphaned and abandoned boys. In many areas these boys are left to fend for themselves on the streets and often fall into a life of crime and delinquency. This foster home is making a huge difference in the boys’ future. Donations can be made to the boys’ college fund and people can become a sponsor for each individual boy.

$1,000 supports a boy for a single year, but as little as $25 can supply clothes for several months.

Journals from last year’s mission are available at the offices of Dr. Rodenbeck and Dr. Baumrucker and at the Methodist Church. To have a copy mailed, call 526-3605. To become a member of the mission team, the cost of the trip to Bolivia is $1,500.

Second dog wash set for Saturday, Aug. 12 at First Citizens Bank to support 2007 Bolivian Mission.

Dog wash and annual auction to support mission in Bolivia...
Tour features homes in Highlands CC

Don’t miss the annual “Tour of Historic Homes” at Highlands Country Club on Saturday, August 5, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m (last van will leave at 3:30 p.m.). Tour participants will be shuttled from the Highlands Recreation Center to the Country Club area. Tickets are available the day of the sale. Tickets are $40 for adults with children admitted free. All proceeds from this tour support the programs of the Highlands Historical Society. Reservations may be made by calling the Historical Society at 787-1050.

Morris Museum featuring Shuptrine

Work of the late Hubert Shuptrine is on display in a solo exhibit at the Morris Museum of Art in Augusta, Ga. With the passing of Hubert Shuptrine on April 7, 2006, the South lost one of its important chroniclers and preservationists. For directions to the museum at 1 Tenth Street, Augusta, Ga., call 770-724-7501.
the five 18-inch pipes that dump water onto the property off U.S. 64 east which rendered their original soil and erosion plan inadequate.

“There is no easement recorded by NC DOT so no one knew about the pipes,” he said. During a rain event, the pipes allegedly dump one million gallons of water on the site.

But Commissioner Hank Ross said anyone used to working in Macon County knows there aren't any easements recorded on roads in Macon County so it was an oversight by the engineer.

However, Ross did say the town should and will help concerning the location of water and sewer lines on the property.

Meanwhile, Zoning Administration Larry Gantenbein said Bronce Pesterfield, engineer on site, supplied a revised soil and erosion control plan this time taking into account the runoff from U.S. 64 east and the large amount of exposed dirt on the site.

Commissioner Herb James said he suspected a big problem was the amount of dirt exposed. “You opened up too much without stabilizing it,” he said.

Mayor Don Mullen said if Highlands wasn’t experiencing a drought, the entire subdivision would be in the river.

Chandler said he was encouraged to rush the project due to the potential rain in Highlands and because 38 prospective buyers are on a waiting list with Signature Properties.

But Commissioner James said his timeline was the problem.

Buck Trott with the Mirror Lake Improvement Assoc., who spoke out against the way the developers were working at a recent Planning Board meeting, said they were quickly trying to remedy the erosion problems on the site and everyone appreciated the work they were doing in that regard. “They are working hard stabilizing embankments, and I commend them on that,” he said. He also said he now understands that Tom Turrentine is no longer involved with the project.

At 4:22 p.m. Friday, July 28, Gantenbein received an email from Tom Turrentine absolving him of anything pertaining to the Riverwalk subdivision.

“He said Riverwalk Highlands LLC’s principal managing partner is Don Chandler and the two minority partners are Sonny Pennington and Bill Turrentine,” said Gantenbein. “He asked that his name be removed from all documents, bills, or correspondence involving the subdivision.”

Previously, Tom and Bill Turrentine were listed on town paperwork concerning the Riverwalk subdivision. Chandler verified that Tom was no longer involved.

Chandler also said he was trying to make a quality development he would be proud to have his name on. “This is the biggest project either Bill or I have been involved in and we think it’s the most important project to the town and will have the biggest impact.”

He said they are trying to do the right thing and have hired Forrest Westall, formerly with DENR but now with McGill & Assoc., to orchestrate subsequent moves involving the environment and water control in the subdivision.
The Macon County Public Health Center recently received several convertible car seats from the Macon County Emergency Management Services. EMS received these seats from the North Carolina Department of Insurance and the North Carolina SafeKids Buckle Up Program. These seats will be distributed to families in Macon County by a couple of programs at MCHP. Shown here is Warren Cabe, EMS Director, presenting Anne Hyder, MCPHC Assistant Health Director, with one of the convertible car seats. Both Cabe and Hyder are members of the Macon County Child Fatality Prevention team. This local team realizes and promotes that correct child passenger safety seat usage is one way to reduce injuries and deaths to children involved in vehicle accidents. For more information on child passenger safety seats, call Kim at 349-2067 or Debbie at 349-2438.

... ETJ continued from page 1

county’s," said Chairman of the Macon
County Commission Allan Bryson. "Which
means an additional member from the ETJ
area wouldn’t be needed on the Zoning
Board so there would be no need to pur-
sue it in court."

The county has appointed Mike Bry-
sen and Mitch Gurganus as ETJ repre-
sentatives to the Planning Board and Tony Potts as ETJ representative to the Zoning Board. However, the county contends that their population figures prove that two ETJ repre-
sentatives should be appointed to the
Zoning Board. The county also wants to
forever appoint the ETJ members to the
town’s boards and for them to stay seated.

The board also received two petitions
from Planning Board member Mitch Gur-
ganus signed by 52 major land owners in
Horse Cove and Clear Creek.

Petitioners say that since neither
Horse Cove nor Clear Creek are outlined
or discussed in the town’s land use plan,
those areas were wrongfully ETJ’d.

"It is our position that the town of
Highlands failed to meet the require-
ments as set out in Article 19, 160a-360 Territori-
al jurisdiction section B," reads the petition.

Petitioners say the town’s reason for
ETJ’ing was to protect the highway corridors;
protect environmentally sensitive areas such
as the watershed of the town’s water sup-
ply; protect the public health and safety
through subdivision regulations to ensure
adequate emergency vehicle access; to guar-
anteed adequate septic drain fields and ade-
quate wells; to identify and qualify areas
for future annexation; to reduce the poten-
tial for high impact development and en-
sure compatible development adjacent to
the town limits through zoning.

They say based on the foregoing state-
ment, there is no basis for the town to ex-
tend the ETJ area into Horse Cove or Clear
Creek. "These two areas are separated from
the town limits by a significant buffer of
National Forest land and the town is not
capable of extending services into these ar-
eas," reads the petition.

The Town Board accepted the petitions
but didn’t act on them.

They will be presented to the county
commission at the Aug. 7 meeting at the
courthouse in Franklin.
Highlands-Cashiers Music Festival ends with three concerts & gala

The final three concerts of the Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival summer session will be held this weekend, Friday, August 4, 8 p.m., in Highlands at the Performing Arts Center and Saturday, August 5, 5 p.m., in Cashiers at the Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd and the Final Gala Sunday, Aug. 6, 5 p.m. in Highlands followed by dinner at Wildcat Cliffs Country Club.

Due to illness, Celylia Arzewski is unable to appear and there will be some change to the program as previously announced. Christopher Rex, cello, and Yasuo Watanabe who both come from well known musical families remain as featured performers. Bach’s Sonata in C Major for solo violin will be replaced by his Sonata in G Major for Solo Cello. Rachmaninoff’s Cello Sonata for Cello and Piano will replace the Shostakovich Sonata in D Minor. The program will douse with Schuman’s Kreisleriana for Solo Piano.

Christopher Rex has been the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra Principal Cello since he joined in 1979, the same year in which he became the first cellist ever to win the string prize in the biennial Young Artists Competition of the National Federation of Music Clubs. He has appeared as recitalist and chamber musician across the nation.

Yasuo Watanabe, the eldest son of Akio Watanabe, a well known conductor, was born in Tokyo, Japan, in 1949. His formal debut in Japan was made in October, 1972, at the Tokyo Bunka Kaikan, performing Brahms Piano Concerto No.2 together with his father. Since then he has appeared with many international orchestras in Japan and Europe. Along with numerous solo recitals, he has also demonstrated his profound knowledge of chamber music. He is now teaching as Professor of the Music Department at the Kurashiki Sakuyou University, and a Lecturer of the Piano section of the Toho Gakuen University of Music.

The summer season ending Final Gala Concert and Dinner will be Sunday, Aug. 6 at 5 p.m. in Highlands Performing Arts Center and Wildcat Cliffs Country Club. One of the most sought after tickets of the summer season, it promises to be an evening of great music and sumptuous dining. Stravinsky’s take on the tale of Faust The Soldier’s Tale with the triumphant Devil’s Dance will open the concert with Laura Ardan, clarinet; Laura Najarian, bassoon; Mark Hughes, trumpet; Stephan Wilson, trombone; Michail Cedulin, percussion; Jun-Ching Lin, violin; Michael Kurth, bass; and Richard Prior, narrator.

The Soldier’s Tale comes from 1918, a lean post-war time when jazz was just beginning to emerge into the mainstream. Stravinsky was broke, deprived of his royalties because of the Revolution, and his other source of income, Diaghilev’s Ballets Russes, was also going through lean times.

Stravinsky invented a new style, pared down to essentials, in melody, rhythm and instrumentation. The Soldier’s Tale is scored for just seven instruments: clarinet, bassoon, cornet, trombone, violin, double bass and percussion. The concert version also features four speaking parts, those of the Devil, the Soldier, a Princess and an unseen Reader. The more commonly heard version features just a narrator – the version heard here.

Bringing a resounding close to the summer season of the Festival will be the original jazz orchestra instrumentation of George Gershwin’s Rhapsody in Blue.

Premiered by Paul Whiteman’s Orchestra with Gershwin himself at the piano, the Festival audience will be treated to the Festival Jazz Orchestra with William Ransom at the piano. Rhapsody in Blue was a watershed moment for Gershwin personally and for music generally.

It instantly transformed the 25-year-old song writer from Tin Pan Alley into a composer of “serious” music, and it introduced the new sounds of jazz into the classical concert hall.

It is no exaggeration to say that Rhapsody in Blue changed the nature of what was thought of as “classical” music forever.

For tickets to the Final Gala or the other concerts call 828.526.9060.
Bel Canto returns

An established Metropolitan Opera tenor will share the stage with a rising young mezzo-soprano at the 14th Annual Bel Canto Recital on Sunday, Sept. 3 at 4 p.m.

In a benefit for the music program in the Highlands School and the permanent art collection in Bascom-Louise Gallery, Roy Cornelius Smith and Megan Roth will fill Martin-Lipscomb Performing Arts Center with beautiful singing.

The program will include highlights from famous operas and musical theatre. They will be accompanied by the master pianist Stephen Dubberly who will be making his 14th appearance in Highlands.

Roy Smith, a native of Big Stone Gap, VA, has been at The Metropolitan Opera since 2002. With a voice that encompasses the leading tenor roles in “Aida,” “La Bohème” and “Carmen” he has been acclaimed in Vienna, Salzburg and Israel.

Megan Roth, whose flair for the stage matches her vocal talent, starred in “The Barber of Seville” at The Brevard Music Center last year.

The recital celebrating fine music for the sake of fine art and music education and performance for Highlands students will be followed by a festive buffet reception at the Highlands Falls Country Club that complements the music that precedes it.

Benefactor tickets that include the recital and the buffet are $150 per person Call 526-5252 for tickets.

Volunteers from Mountain Findings have been busy over the last several days, delivering checks totaling $34,000 to 10 community organizations. The remaining donations will be made over the next few weeks.

This year 24 organizations will receive donations from Mountain Findings. At their annual meeting held in June, volunteers determine how funds will be distributed. They examine how the organization benefits our community, how funds have been utilized or will be utilized and any upcoming specific needs identified by the organization.

Mountain Findings has served the Highlands Community since 1969. Located on Spruce Street, it is, for many, the first place to look for a needed household item. A huge thank you goes to every person who donates household items and also to each person who shops at Mountain Findings.

2006 donations from Mountain Findings totals more than $70,000

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In a benefit for the music program in the Highlands School and the permanent art collection in Bascom-Louise Gallery, Roy Cornelius Smith and Megan Roth will fill Martin-Lipscomb Performing Arts Center with beautiful singing.

The program will include highlights from famous operas and musical theatre. They will be accompanied by the master pianist Stephen Dubberly who will be making his 14th appearance in Highlands.

Roy Smith, a native of Big Stone Gap, VA, has been at The Metropolitan Opera since 2002. With a voice that encompasses the leading tenor roles in “Aida,” “La Bohème” and “Carmen” he has been acclaimed in Vienna, Salzburg and Israel.

Megan Roth, whose flair for the stage matches her vocal talent, starred in “The Barber of Seville” at The Brevard Music Center last year.

The recital celebrating fine music for the sake of fine art and music education and performance for Highlands students will be followed by a festive buffet reception at the Highlands Falls Country Club that complements the music that precedes it.

Benefactor tickets that include the recital and the buffet are $150 per person Call 526-5252 for tickets.

Volunteers from Mountain Findings have been busy over the last several days, delivering checks totaling $34,000 to 10 community organizations. The remaining donations will be made over the next few weeks.

This year 24 organizations will receive donations from Mountain Findings. At their annual meeting held in June, volunteers determine how funds will be distributed. They examine how the organization benefits our community, how funds have been utilized or will be utilized and any upcoming specific needs identified by the organization.

Mountain Findings has served the Highlands Community since 1969. Located on Spruce Street, it is, for many, the first place to look for a needed household item. A huge thank you goes to every person who donates household items and also to each person who shops at Mountain Findings.

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Men have sought from the beginning of time to find the elusive fountain of youth. The early explorers of this great continent of ours were driven by the thought of finding such a fountain. They sought to find a spring that could provide great refreshing cool, crystal clear, life-giving water.

It is true that a beautiful fountain of water can give the impression of an eternal source of life as it sprays upward giving forth its sparkling water, while our lives run their course downward to death. What a contrast: the spring always surging a pure and soft liquid needed to sustain life amid a world filled with death and pollution of all kinds.

Most can understand the desire of the explorers for such a wonderful fountain, a well where we could go and be refreshed and strengthened. What if I could tell you of a better spring than a fountain of youth? A fountain of life that would never stop flowing. One that would continue to flow when circumstances were overwhelming, and stayed pure even when we sinned and soiled ourselves. What if death itself could not stop this spring and even after our lives ended in this world this wonderful spring of life continued to sustain us?

Jesus was resting at a well in Samaria when a woman approached. Jesus asked her to give him water from her pitcher. She was surprised that a Jew would even speak to her and after a brief exchange in which Christ told her of this well of life she said to him, “Sir, give me this water so that I will not be thirsty and have to keep coming here to draw water” (John 4:15). Christ told her she must receive what he alone could give her. “Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water I give him, will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life” (John 4:13). This is indeed water that creates its own spring. It becomes a surging fountain of life in the hearts of all that hear and believe.

Do you have this fountain within your heart? My friend, if you have not received this wonderful life-giving water, then hear these words of life. If you will hear and believe.

**Buck Creek Baptist Church**

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

**Chapel of Sky Valley**

Sky Valley, Georgia

The Right Rev. Dr. John S. Erieking, Pastor
Church: 706-746-2999
Pastor’s residence: 706-746-5770
Sundays: 10 a.m. - Worship
Holy Communion 1st Sunday of the month
Wednesdays: 9 a.m. - Healing and prayer with Holy Communion each service

**Choir of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints**

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

**CHRIST CHURCH**

The Rev. Thomas “Tommy” Allen- 526-2320
Sunday: Holy Communion: 4:30
(Community Bible Church)

Tuesday: Bible Study in Cashiers at noon
Wednesday: Men’s Bible Study at 8 a.m.
(What's First Baptist Church)

Thursday: Morning Prayer at 10:30
(Peggy Crosby Center Rm. 203)
All are Welcome!

**Christian Science Services**

Third and Spring Streets, Highlands, NC
Sundays 11 a.m. and Wednesdays at 7 p.m.
Study Room open Saturdays from 1-3 p.m.

**Clear Creek Baptist Church**

Pastor Everett Brewer
Sundays: School - 10 a.m.; Worship - 11

Prayer - 6:30 p.m.

Evening Service - 1st & 3rd Sunday - 7 p.m.

**Community Bible Church**

(Evangelical Presbyterian Church)
Steven E. Kerhoulas, Senior Pastor
www.cbchighlands.com
526-4688

3645 U.S. 64 E, Highlands
Sundays: 9:30 a.m. Sunday School; 10:45 Worship;

Tuesdays: 10 a.m. Women’s Bible Study

Wednesdays: 5:15 p.m. Students’ Dinner (free for kids in 8th grade and younger);

5:30 p.m. Supper; 5:45 p.m. - 7:15 pm Small Groups for kids Pre-K through 8th; 6:15 pm - 7:15 pm Adult Bible Study

6pm-7pm Choir Practice
• Small Groups are offered for all ages throughout the week, see our website or call for more info.

**Episcopal Church of the Incarnation**

Rev. Brian Sullivan - 526-2968

Sunday: 8 a.m. - Holy Eucharist-Rite I; 8:30 a.m. - Breakfast; 9 a.m. - Sunday School; 9:45 a.m. - Choir Practice; 10:30 a.m. - Children’s Chapel; 10:30 a.m. - Holy Eucharist - Rite II

Monday: 4 p.m. - Women’s cersullo Group; 5:30 p.m. -

Tuesday: 8 a.m. - Men’s Cersullo Group; 9:30 a.m. - Staff Meeting

Wednesday: 2 p.m. - Interlude; 6:30 p.m. - Choir Thursday: 7:30 a.m. - Men’s Cersullo Group Meeting; 10 a.m. - Holy Eucharist with healing; 10:30 a.m. - Daughters of the King Meeting; 10:30 a.m. - Bible Study
On-going
- Angie Jenkins plays Broadway piano at the Old Clayton Inn in Clayton on Fridays and Saturdays for dinner.
- At Bascom-Louise Gallery: Garden Tour Tickets are on sale! Call the gallery and reserve your space. You have five choices this year. Thursday’s Patron’s Party, Friday AM Tour, Friday PM Tour, Saturday AM Tour, Saturday PM Tour. Be sure to mark your choices on your Painting Through the Garden Post Card to reserve your space. Don’t have a card? Call the gallery, 526-4949.
- Shakespeare & Co. bookstore in Highlands Village Square (behind Wolfgang’s) is hosting readings by members of the Highlands Writers Group at a literary happening 3-5 p.m. the last Sunday afternoon in each month during the summer and fall. Refreshments will be served and the public is invited. Call 526-3777.
- At Alaron meets every Wednesday at 10:45 a.m. in the community room of the First Presbyterian Church.
- The Scaly Mountain Women’s Club’s pancake breakfasts the fourth Saturday of each month through October from 7:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.
- Every Friday at 5:30 p.m. at the Inntet Theater in Oak Square on Main Street it’s “Cocktail Hour Theatre.” This unique, stylish, fun theatre event features “real” complimentary cocktails made with premium liquors. They are “served” delicious hors d’oeuvres from each of the “Kitchen” of Let Holley Do the Cooking, or chef Jerry Filer of the Oak Street Cafe. At 6 p.m. sharp everyone gathers around and are thoroughly entertained by sharp, intelligent, clever improvisation. Call 342-9197.
- The “Zachary-Tolbert House” in Cashiers will be open for tours Fridays and Saturdays 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. through the end of October. The House-Trapper-Wright Home and the Museum and Archives are located at 524 N. 4th St., access from the Funeral Home. Special tours or access to the archives may be arranged by calling the Cashiers Historical Society, 288-743-7710.
- Highlands Historic Village is open for tours Fridays and Saturdays 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. through the end of October. The House-Trapper-Wright Home and the Museum and Archives are located at 524 N. 4th St., access from the Funeral Home. Special tours or access to the archives may be arranged by calling the Cashiers Historical Society at 828-787-1050 or by e-mailing highlands@nctv.net.
- New Beginners Clogging class Tuesday 6-7 p.m. at the Sapphire Valley Community Center. Come have lots of fun and exercise. Call 743-7663.
- At Health Tracks at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital will have Osteoporosis prevention exercise classes on Tuesdays and Thursdays of each week from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Free with Health Tracks Membership or $8 for class for non-members. Call Jeanette Fisher at 828-526-1FIT.
- At Health Tracks at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital is offering a total body and muscle-toning workout exercise class at 9 a.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Free with Health Track Membership or $8 for non-members. An advanced class will also be available on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 9 a.m. Contact Health Tracks at 828-526-1FIT.
- At Health Tracks at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital is holding Pilates classes on Mondays and Wednesdays at 6 p.m. Cost of the class is $10 per session or $60 (each) for 10 sessions. Contact Health Tracks at 828-526-1FIT.
- First Saturday September “Happy Hour” an old-fashioned Hymn Sing at Highlands United Methodist Church in the Sanctuary from 5:30-6:30 p.m. Pianist: Tillie Arwood. Song Leader: Carol Shuttleworth.
- Yoga at Highlands Rec Park every Mon. & Wed. beginning June 2. $7 per person or $50 monthly pass.
- A Grief Support Group is held every Tuesday from 10-12 at the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital for anyone who has lost a loved one through death or is dealing with a progressive illness with a loved one. If interested in attending, please contact Helen Moore (Hospice) 528-0727 or Martha Porter (Chaplain at HCH) at 787-1463.
- Every Tuesday Weight Watchers meets at the Highlands Civic Center. Weigh-in is at 5:30. The meeting starts at 6 p.m.
- Every Tuesday evening, Spiritual Cinema Circle at The Instant Theatre Company brought to you by StarPony Productions are at 7 p.m. Visionary, inspiring movies showcased at film festivals around the world are viewed at suggested donation: $5. Beverages and snacks available for purchase.
- Live music nightly at... on the Veranda: 7 p.m. Chad Reed plays Wednesday – Sunday night and Sunday brunch; Angie Jenkins plays Mondays; Paul Scott plays every Tuesday.
- Live piano music with Hal Phillips at Skyline Lodge & Restaurant every Friday and Saturday night and Sunday brunch.
- Live music at Fresers in Helen’s Barn featuring Cy Timmons Wed. through Sat. 5 p.m. until...
- Live music at Cypress Restaurant every Friday at 9:30 p.m.
- Live music at SweeTreats every Friday and Saturday.
- Live music at Wolfgang’s Bistro every Sun. and Mon. it’s Momo on Piano; every Wed. it’s Paul Scott Trio; and every Thurs., Fri it’s Ricky Dean on piano.

Ruby Cinemas
Franklin, NC
Adult – $6; Child – $4
Aug. 4-10
TALLADEGA NIGHTS: THE BALLAD OF RICKY BOBBY rated PG-13
Mon-Fri: (4:20), 7:10, 9:20
Sat & Sun: (2:10), (4:20), 7:10, 9:20
BARNYARD rated PG
Mon-Fri: (4:05), 7:05, 9:05
Sat & Sun: (2:05), (4:05), 7:05, 9:05
MIAMI VICE rated R
Mon-Fri: (4:15), 7:30
Sat & Sun: 7, 9:30
MONSTER HOUSE rated PG
Mon - Fri: (4:15), Sat & Sun: (2:15), (4:15)
PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: DEAD MAN’S CHEST rated PG-13
Last showing: Tues. Aug. 8
Mon - Fri: (4), 7, 9:40
Sat & Sun: (1), (4), 7, 9:40
WORLD TRADE CENTER rated PG-13
Starts Wed. Aug. 9
Mon-Fri: (4:30), 7, 9:30
Sat & Sun: (2), (4:30), 7, 9:30
County Schools sponsor Fill the Bus as a way to ensure that all students have the necessary school supplies to start the new school year. Volunteers are needed to work the event, preferably in two hour shifts or more. If you can volunteer, please call Kelly Pittkin at 524-4250 or email her at kampik@email.com.

• Open House at the Highlands Fire & Rescue Dept. Free fire truck rides and hodogs with all the fixings.

• The 15th annual Siler “Family Meeting” will be held on Saturday, at the Macon Middle School in Franklin. The gathering will begin around 10:30 a.m. with the traditional “potluck lunch” being served at noon. All family and friends of Pilkard and Elizabeth Hartsoe Siler are invited to attend.

• Annual “Tour of Historic Homes” on Saturday, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. (last van will leave at 3:30 p.m.). Tour participants will be shuttled from the Highlands Recreation Center to the Highlands Country Club area to see four unique homes of different age and character. Tickets are available the day of the sale. Reservations may be made by calling the Historical Society at 787-1050.

• Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival, Saturday at 5 p.m. at the Episcopal Church in Cashiers.

• The Highlands Community Players present “Simon & Mates” episodes from the plays of Neil Simon. Call 526-8084 for reservations and ticket information.

Aug. 10
• At Bascom-Louise Gallery: THE GARDEN TOUR at King Mountain.... Bigger, better, bloomier than ever... will be ready for your “oohs and ahhs” and photographs!

Aug. 11
• At Bascom-Louise Gallery, History of Southern art. Guest Speaker Jay Williams of the Morris Museum of Art 1-4 p.m. at PAC downstairs. $15 for CLE members. $25 for others.

Aug. 12
• Zahner Conservation Lecture Series. Connie Barlow will give a talk entitled “Rewilding Torreya Trees to the South.” 7 p.m. at the High Hampton Inn in Cashiers. Admission is free.

Aug. 13
• Audubon Annual Picnic. 5 p.m., Highlands Recreation Center to the Highlands Country Club area. Call 526-2775 for reservations by Sunday, Aug. 6. Cost is $5 and we will furnish drinks and hamburgers. You bring a covered dish.

Aug. 15
• Come and “Meet the Principal” on Tuesday, from noon until 2 p.m. at the Highlands School. This will be a good opportunity for students, parents, school personnel and the community to meet Mr. Brian Jetter, the new principal of the Highlands School. Sponsored by the Highlands School PTO.

Aug. 17-20 & Aug. 24-27
• The Highlands Community Players present “Simon & Mates” episodes from the plays of Neil Simon. Call 526-8084 for reservations and ticket information.

Aug. 17-27
• “Too Kill A Mockingbird” at the Highlands Playhouse. Performances are Tues-Sat. at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m. Call 526-2695.

Aug. 19
• At Bascom-Louise Gallery, Everything You Ever Wanted to Know about Pottery with Pat Taylor. 7 p.m. Free/donation.

Aug. 20
• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a moderate 3.5 mile hike to beautiful Split Rock Cascade on the Chattooga River. Expect some scrambling over rocks and inclines on the trail. Bring a bathing suit for an optional swim at your own risk. Meet at the Highlands Bank of America at 9:30 a.m. or at the Iron Bridge on Bull Pen road at 9:50 a.m. Drive 15 miles round trip. Bring a drink, lunch, and wear sturdy comfortable shoes. Hikes are limited to 20; reservations are required. Call leader Mo Wheeler at 743-9560 or 743-9579.

Aug. 22 - Highlands’ Newspaper - Thursday, Aug. 3, 2006

Coming Soon – The All NEW
674 Chestnut Street, Highlands
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• Upcoming Events •

hind Wolfgang’s), Wine and hors d’oeuvres, meet the artists. 7:30-2021 for more info. • The Bascom-Louise Gallery Guild organizational meeting. Members of our Guild will be the heartbeat of our new facility: hosting events, docenting, socializing, helping hang shows, sending invitations, and serving in all kinds of capacities. Join the dedicated men and women of the Guild who are striving to make Western North Carolina THE destination for lovers of Fine Art. Call the gallery for more information, 526-4949.

Aug. 26 • Audubon Work Day, Highlands Greenway Trail, 9 a.m., Rec Park North Shelter. • The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a moderate 4-mile hike in Panthertown Valley to Blackrock Mountain and Granny Burrell's falls with an elevation change of 500 feet. Meet at the Cashiers Wachovia Bank (in back) at 9:30 a.m. Drive 16 miles round trip. Bring a drink, lunch, and wear sturdy comfortable shoes. Hikes are limited to 20; reservations are required. Call leader Eva Hansen between 6 and 9 p.m. at 743-1611.

Aug. 28 • Town of Highlands Scholarship Fund Classic at the Cullasaja Club. 11 a.m., registration, lunch buffet, practice range open, tee gift distribution; 12:30 p.m. shotgun start scramble; 5-7:30 p.m., cocktails, dinner buffet and awards party.

Aug. 31 • At Bascom-Louise Gallery: Laurence Holden will present a lecture on How To Draw What You Really See at 7 p.m. as an introduction to his week-end workshop. • At Bascom-Louise Gallery, How to Draw What you Really See with Laurence Holden. 7 p.m. Free/ donation.

Sept. 1-2 • At the Bascom-Louise Gallery Fine Art Center: Laurence Holden will be teaching How to Draw What you Really See from Basic to Intermediate to Advanced. $170. ($15 for FRIENDS) 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Sept. 2 • Art & Craft show at The Village Square showcasing local artisans from 10 to 5 p.m. Fine art, folk art, pottery, turned wood and more. Food, music, and public rest room. At Highlands Village Square and Pine St. Park on 5th St. (1/2 block from Main St.), Sponsored by Mill Creek Gallery & Framing; 787-2021 for info.

Sept. 3 • At the PAC: Bel Canto BEAUTIFUL SINGING is the translation of Bel Canto. Roy Smith, Megan Roth and Stephen Dubberly will be performing opera and musical theatre selections 4 p.m., $120.

Sept. 4 • At the Bascom-Louise Gallery Fine Art Center: Children’s Classes starting first and third Wednesdays: Home school — 1 p.m.; Mondays: 3:15-4:15; 2nd-5th grades; Tuesdays: K-1st grades: 3:15-4:15; Wednesdays: 3:15-4:15, 6th-9th grades; Mondays: 1:30-3 p.m.

Sept. 7 • At the Bascom-Louise Gallery Fine Art Center: Mohair Teddy Bears: make a gorgeous teddy bear out of real mohair. Perfect holiday gift for a special child or for yourself. 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; $185. ($150, FRIENDS)

• At the Bascom-Louise Gallery Fine Art Center: Fearless Acrylic Painting with Laurence Holden: six-week class which meets every Thursday 2-4 p.m.

• At the Bascom-Louise Gallery Fine Art Center: Open Studio: Live model for figure drawing 5-7 p.m.

Sept. 8 • At the Bascom-Louise Gallery Fine Art Center: Mohair Teddy Bear, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Sept. 9 • At the Bascom-Louise Gallery Fine Art Center: Tea with the Artist: Donna Rhodes Enjoy tea and treats with Donna Rhodes, Fiber Artist. She will discuss fiber arts and answer questions about the medium and her upcoming class: Beaded Woven Pouch.

Sept. 10-14 • Women’s Wellness Retreat at Old Edwards Inn & Spa presented by The Cleveland Clinic. Call 787-2610 for package details.

Sept. 14 • At the Bascom-Louise Gallery Fine Art Center: Fearless Acrylic Painting with Laurence Holden.

• At...on the Verandah, a special 25th anniversary celebration from noon-6 p.m. Call 828-526-2338 for tickets and reservations.

Sept. 18 • At the Bascom-Louise Gallery Fine Art Center: Beaded Woven Pouch, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Sept. 21 • At the Bascom-Louise Gallery Fine Art Center: Fearless Acrylic Painting with Laurence Holden.

• At the Bascom-Louise Gallery Fine Art Center: Open Studio, 5 a.m.-7 p.m.

Sept. 23 • At the Bascom-Louise Gallery Fine Art Center: Art and Wine Display: regional artists will have their work on exhibit in the gallery prior to the auction (free)

Sept. 26 • Encouragement for the Homeschool Family Conference By Steve & Teri Maxwell at Franklin Covenant Church, 265 Bellevue Park Rd., Franklin. Call Michelle Lovey at 828-349-3463. Pre-registration is greatly appreciated.

Sept. 28 • At the Bascom-Louise Gallery: “Fearless Acrylic Painting” with Laurence Holden.

Sept. 29-Oct. 1 • Second Annual Highlands Antique Show sponsored by the Highlands Playhouse 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Friday and Saturday and noon to 5 p.m. on Sunday at the Highlands Rec Park. Tickets are $10.

450 North 4th Street
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View Visual Tours at www.highlandsproperties.com • Phone 828.526.1717 • Fax 828.526.1711
**HELP WANTED**

**MANICURIST/PIEDICURIST & AESTHETICIANS** - Needed for exclusive private health club in Cashiers. Must be team player. NC license required. Send resume to: P.O. Box 405, Cashiers, NC 28717. 8/31

**HIGHLANDS COUNTRY CLUB** - is looking for a starter, and bag room and driving range personnel. Retirees welcome. Competitive wages, flexible hours, and employee meals. Apply in person 981 Dillard Road, Highlands or call 828-526-2181 for application.

**OLD EDWARDS INN & SPA** - an extraordinary luxury destination spa resort in Highlands, has the following hourly positions available: Night Auditor, Spa Café Cook, Security Officer, Banquet Captain, Maintenance Worker, On-call Banquet Server. In the Spa: Nail Tech, Hair Stylist, Esthetician. Full time, part time, and seasonal positions available. North Carolina license required for spa positions. Excellent benefits, including low cost housing. Apply online at www.oldedwardsinn.com and click on Careers, or stop by 137 South 4th St., Highlands to complete an application. EOE/Drug free workplace.

**BARTENDERS, COCKTAIL SERVERS, AND FOOD SERVERS** - needed for the evening shifts at Highlands Country Club. Experience is a plus, positive attitude is a must. Please apply at 981 Dillard Road, Highlands, or call 828-526-2181 for application.

**PIZZA PLACE OF HIGHLANDS** - seeking mature adults for full time, year round help. Competitive wages. Please apply in person. Must speak and read English.

**PIZZA PLACE OF HIGHLANDS** - looking for a qualified full time, year round night time manager. Pay based on experience. Please apply in person. Must

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