Surgeon Pearlstein resigns from hospital

In what has been called a “blow to the hospital,” surgeon Dr. Leslie Pearlstein has resigned effective Friday, July 28. “However, that may not be the end of the story,” said board member Don Mullen. “The executive committee and the board are in the midst of discussing the matter.”

President of the hospital Ken Shull said Pearlstein’s resignation is a huge step backwards for the hospital and it may make recruitment much harder in the future.

A letter published in the “Crossroads Chronicle” newspaper in Cashiers started the fire leading to Pearlstein’s resignation. “He believes misleading allegations and falsehoods in the letter have affected his ability to establish a good practice here,” said Shull.

*See PEARLSTEIN page 9*

River Walk in citizens’ sights

At what might be the best attended Planning Board meeting in the history of Highlands, citizens angered by environmentally damaging practices at the River Walk development on U.S. 64 east had their say.

“The Turrentine’s assured us this would be the finest project anyone has ever witnessed and they would be good neighbors and it was all big lie,” said Buck Trot with the Mirror Lake Improvement Association (MLIA).

“We are concerned about the noise, the inconvenience to the neighbors and the silt that has poured into the Cullasaja River.”

*See RIVER WALK page 13*

Complaints drive changes to ordinance

At the July 5 Town Board meeting, commissioners sought the Town Attorney’s help to close a loophole in the town ordinance concerning commercial uses of property in an R1 district.

Residents on Satulah have been calling town officials complaining about wedding parties taking place at the old Ron Allen estate on Satulah on a consistent basis.

Town Attorney Bill Coward tweaked the ordinance to close the loophole but the ordinance was also sent to the Planning Board for its suggestions.

Now the ordinance clearly prohibits the short-term rental of the property for the purpose of OELI’s developments I don’t know if we want to start a precedent of changing R2 to R3,” said board member Pat Taylor. “In the other cases I voted in favor of residential over commercial, B3 to R2 and R3 property, but this is not the case.”

Developer Bill Neil is proposing four, four-plex multi-family buildings and one single-family home on 4.4 acres on Harris Lake. Included in the plan is a “Picnic Park” deeded to the town, a greenway trail meandering through the development from the school to Smallwood Avenue and the preservation of most of the trees on the property, he said.

PB says ‘no’ to rezoning of Crisp property

Though every Planning Board member liked the look of the proposed Highlands Park residential development on Harris Lake, the recommendation to the Town Board will be “no.”

“It’s a well thought out plan and though I voted for the Waters property development and for the potential development of the Edwards/Crisp property on Harris Lake was the subject of the July 24 Planning Board meeting.

*See CRISP page 9*
Dear Editor,

This is what I feel about the Town Board’s lack of action concerning recent “developments” at the RiverWalk subdivision.

I have personally spoken to every Town Board member about the noise problem with the construction of the RiverWalk development. They have all assured me that they would “look into the problem.” Well, they are still “looking” as the construction noise continues.

Highlands has an ordinance on the books to remedy this but the Town Administrator has instructed the Police Chief NOT to enforce it until the board gets an opinion from the Town Attorney. I guess our elected and appointed officials do not want to make ANY decisions until the Town Attorney approves.

It is hard for me to believe that a town ordinance which is very specific cannot be enforced until the Town Attorney approves. The Town Board wants ETJ (Extra Territorial Jurisdiction) but they do not want these ordinances to apply to us lesser citizens who live in the county? I am sure that if they were being disturbed at 7 a.m. by the sound of a D-9 Caterpillar cranking up, it might be a different story.

The ordinance reads that work can be done between 7 a.m. and 6 p.m. weekdays but it does not cover holidays. The residents of the Mirror Lake area got a real “wake up” call on the 4th of July with work going from 7 a.m. until 4 p.m. I would think a more reasonable ordinance should read from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. on weekdays with no work on federal holidays. I would encourage residents who are being disturbed by this construction noise to call EVERY Town Board member to express your opinion. You can call Town Hall at 526-9912 to get their phone numbers. Members are Mayor Don Mullen, Herb James, Dennis DeWolf, Alan Marsh, Hank Ross and Dr. Amy Patterson.

Remember, your neighborhood may be next. I’m reminded of the line in a song “They are paving over paradise to build a parking lot.”

The lack of action by town officials is inexcusable.

Dr. Robert E. O’Neil
Highlands and Miami

Rebecca Smallwood Harris is spinning in her grave

Dear Editor,

According to the July 6 issue of the Highlands’ Newspaper, Mr. Bill Nellis suggested that if anyone had an objection to his proposed use of the Harris Lake 4.4 acre site changing it from R2 to R3 multi family zoning he should speak. Since Harris Lake was named for my relative, Rebecca Smallwood Harris, I believe I should speak.

I am concerned about the continuous building that is occurring in Highlands. Even though the town is surrounded by the Natahalah Forest, there always seems to be space for more and more “up scale high end” houses. People love Highlands for the forest and the rhododendrons yet many of these same people and their builders come to Highlands, buy property and the first thing they do is cut the trees and rhododendrons to build an “up scale high end” house. They then play with it for a few years, sell it and move on. I understand there are currently 1000 homes for sale (1000!!!) in the area, I urge you to look at the properties that are included in the Real Estate book available on almost every comer. Do we really need more houses? Perhaps, instead, we should consider a moratorium on such building.

So, what are we doing? We are encouraging builders to build more “up scale high end” residences. We are destroying the land to add more buildings that are used only a few months out of the year. And now we are going to build more houses to surround Harris Lake, the lake closest to downtown, with multi-story structures and parking lots. Why? We already have a multi-story house overlooking Harris Lake, a house designed to be nothing like the architecture of a small mountain community. There is a saying, “just because you can doesn’t mean you should.” Well, just because they could doesn’t mean they should have built such a structure. And just because we can, should we? Should we continue to do things that are not easily undone? We are slowly eating away at this jewel called Highlands.

Mr. Nellis is to be commended for the design of Village Walk. But Village Walk is tucked away and is not downtown on the lake. Why can’t Harris Lake be left as it is, keeping the acreage open for everyone to use rather than being limited to a few “up
I wanted to let you know how much I truly appreciate the support and generosity of the town of Highlands, Sapphire and Cashiers for hosting the Special Operations Adventure Race and Golf Tournament for the Special Operations Warrior Foundation.

For months, the members of the planning committees coordinated many details to make sure the events were top-notch while keeping the focus on raising money for the children of special operations who have lost a parent in a combat mission or training accident.

Because of everyone’s hard work and dedication, I am proud to tell you that these events raised over $60,000 for the college education of some 660 children of fallen special operations personnel.

Without a doubt, the Towns of Highlands, Cashiers and Sapphire has much to be proud of, but I believe it deserves special mention that the people of this area are at the heart of your great towns. Everyone's willingness to support the efforts of the Special Operations Adventure Race and Charity Golf Tournament will be long-remembered by the special operations community and the Warrior Foundation.

Steven L. McLeary
Executive Director

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Box Office hours are Monday-Saturday 10 AM-5 PM.
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An “environment-friendly” herbicide is being sprayed on Japanese Knotweed around Highlands.

Highlands fights invasive plants/pests

By Susanna Forrester
Reporter

Protecting the area’s natural heritage and recognizing the fragility of mountain habitats has become a priority for many citizens in the Highlands area.

Foreign plants and pests have traveled to Highlands and wreaked havoc on native plants and trees beginning with the American chestnut and continuing with the hemlocks. The hemlocks are slowly dying off because of the woolly adelgid, a tiny pest that traveled all the way from Japan, and was first detected in the U.S. in 1924.

“When the chestnuts died, that really changed things,” said Cynthia Strain of the Jackson-Macon Conservation Alliance (JMCA) which is working with Clemson University to save hemlock trees in the area.

“We found the woolly adelgid in 2001 in the Ellicot Rock wilderness area and in Cashiers. We did some research and found out how destructive it is,” said Strain.

The JMCA woolly adelgid program has raised $150,000 from the Highlands and Cashiers area to release predator beetles, known as ladybird beetles, whose only food source is the woolly adelgid. The beetles, which cost about $2.50 each, have been released in the hundreds of thousands but with mixed results so far.

“They’re very costly to rear but they’ve had success in the northeast with them,” said Strain. “We’ve had volunteers monitoring release sites and sending the information to Clemson. Some of the trees look...See PESTS page 17

$60,000 raised at SOAR
In keeping with the current insanity that prevails in Highlands these days, I have established two-hour parking in my driveway. Everyone who is anyone in this town knows that when attending a dinner party, your fanny better be in your car seat on your way home by 9:30 p.m., otherwise you are a scoundrel. There is always that one couple who wants to stay until 9:45 p.m. TA DA…enter the two-hour “personal” parking ordinance. When you arrive for my dinner party, I will make note of your arrival time and give you a slip of paper with the time you have to leave. Don’t make fun, this is serious stuff. I am sure the Town Board will agree with me.

At my last party, one couple had the audacity to get in their car, move it to a different spot in my driveway and demand another two hours. Hmmm, I’m currently working on an alternate ordinance to prevent that from occurring again. At this point, I think the ordinance will read that if they are from the Highlands area or work for a merchant on Main Street, you are out in two hours…..period, end of discussion.

Further, if you are a person who learned I had a dinner party and you weren’t invited, please be aware I have also established a strict ordinance on the number of people who can eat here, based on my current parking spaces. I can feed nine and half people no more. If you’re interested in how I will handle the half person dilemma, call my lawyer.

If you find all of this absurd or laughable, you would be right. Now that ETJ has taken a back seat, waiting for the courts to control our fate, the new hubbub in Highlands is its asinine parking ordinances. Everyone seems to be walking around scratching their heads, and it’s not from lice.

Merchants are watching customers with pockets full of money run out of their stores and to their cars because they are out of parking time. Once they move and can’t find another spot, they take their money to Cashiers. Good thinking, Highlands. Cashiers loves you.

Even more outrageous, how about those same folks with pockets full of money riding by their favorite restaurant and grumbling to themselves about the parking ordinance...

Joining the insanity

Fred Wooldridge
Feedback is encouraged!
email: rappeddown@aol.com

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The muddled Middle East

I write this as the situation in the Middle East is unraveling. There is a real possibility that the war between Israel and Hezbollah could widen and draw in some major participants. I’m thinking specifically of Iran, which seems to be completely under the control of religious fanatics willing to take any risk.

If Iran attacks Israel, the United States would be duty bound to come to Israel’s defense, and a huge war would ensue. This would please Islamic fundamentalists as well as fundamentalist Christians, since both believe that such a conflict is ordained by the prophecy of “the final days.” For the rest of us, it would be a tragic and deadly development.

I have little faith that the bumbling in the Bush administration could handle this situation competently. They haven’t shown any evidence to the contrary. So far, at least, the neo-cons surrounding the president have failed spectacularly in Iraq, and in dealing with North Korea and Iran by diplomatic means.

Israel is determined to destroy Hezbollah, which is financed and armed by Iran. It may even be gunning for Iran itself, hoping the Iranians will enter the conflict. It would give Israel an excuse to attack Iran’s nuclear facilities, and thus eliminate one of the major threats to Israeli survival.

Of course, a wider war is not in America’s interest. We are bogged down in Iraq and don’t have the manpower to spare for a second major front. A widespread war in the Middle East would also disrupt the flow of oil, raising gas prices to even higher levels.

Our government has supported Israel’s right to self-defense, and there is no doubt that the Israelis acted legitimately when their soldiers were kidnapped. But the wholesale bombing of Lebanon, including Beirut and its port cities, seems like an excessive response. It certainly won’t eliminate Hezbollah and is, in fact, guaranteed to recruit new members to its ranks. It may make Israelis feel better about carrying out these acts of vengeance, but it’s a high price to pay. It’s certainly not likely to lead to the release of their soldiers.

Iran has its own underhanded reasons to welcome a major conflict. First of all, it gives them a valid cover to attack Israel, and Allah has privately assured the Ayatolah that he is on their side. Of course, the Christian God has privately assured our president that He is on our side, and the Jewish God has privately assured Israel’s religious minions that He is definitely on their side.

So it gets a little complicated. The gods are either going to have to duke it out, if there are really three different gods. If they’re all the same person, we have to get the real skinny from Him, and not depend on these unreliable messengers.

As is often the case, religion not only complicates matters, but is culpable for much of the mess. Some

*See REDMOUNTAIN page 19

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Appointment times for sales events are on a first come, first served basis... call now for best appointment time!

Round Mountain Falls

*(Restrictions apply)
Isabel Chambers recently donated to the Highlands Historical Society several items relating to Dr. Mary Lapham and her Sanatorium, known as Bug Hill, which thrived from 1908-18 where the Rec Center exists today. Dr. Lapham's medical bag, tea set, and dress are all on display in the Historical Society's Museum, where tours are conducted every Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Visit the past at Historic Village

Robert Ray who produced five hit shows last season for the Highlands Playhouse returns for three weeks only – July 27-Aug. 13 in a brand new Musical Revue, “2 for Broadway” which will also star Highlands’ favorite, Courtenay Collins, who appeared in both “Jerry’s Girls” and “Let the Good Times Roll” last season.

The singing and dancing duo, backed by a 5-piece on stage band recently appeared at The Piccolo Spoleto Festival where they were greeted with nightly standing ovations and rave reviews.

“Charleston Post and Courier” theater critic, Sandy Katz called the show, “a snazzy, jazzy and thoroughly entertaining, polished and professional Broadway-styled musical revue that let the Broadway pedigree of Ray and Collins shine!”

Ms. Katz compared Ray to an elegant looking, dapper dressed Tommy Tune and called Collins a daisy-looking diva whose hot and sexy rendition of “All That Jazz” made use of her gorgeous figure as she shimmied and shook in a strapless gown.

The 90-minute show is broken into four distinct sections. The opening consists of traditional Show Tunes from Chicago, The Producers, Company and Cabaret.

The second section is a salute to the great Broadway composers, Rogers and Hart with such wonderful songs as “My Funny Valentine,” “Johnny One Note,” “Bewitched,” “Ten Cents a Dance,” “The Lady is a Tramp” and “With a Song in My Heart.”

The second act opens with well known songs from “Ain’t Misbehavin’,” “Sophisticated Ladies” and “Smoky Joe’s Café” and closes with four of Ray and Collins’ favorite duets including “You’re the Top” from “ Anything Goes” and “All I Ask of You” from “The Phantom of the Opera.”

This non-stop, whirlwind of a showstopper is great for the entire family and features great singing and dancing as well as some unexpected comedic twists on some well known songs.

For tickets, call the Box Office at 828-526-2695, or stop by in person. Box Office hours are Monday-Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

2 for Broadway’ opens tonight at the Highlands Playhouse

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The tattoo enigma

T he serpent wrapped itself around the sailor’s midsection, coil after constricting coil, its neck coursed across his groin until its head rose from between the seaman’s legs, its flat blue eyes alert, its mouth a gaping urethra. Such was my introduction to tattoos, a verbal not a visual image, a slight embellishment of the description my father offered of the art on a shipmate’s body.

Tattoos were common among servicemen in World War II. First freedom, peer pressure, bravado, unit pride, and just plain drunkenness were only a few of the factors spawning a rash of body art. I’m sure, too, that there were many who wanted to squeeze as much life as possible into the few months before they hit the beaches at Normandy, Tarawa, or Iwo Jima.

“They call me the old man in this bar, sleeves rolled up and showin’ faint blue souvenirs of love and places I have been,” one says “US Navy” and this one says “Darling Mary.”

Now my Mary’s turned to ashes and the ocean’s turned to gin; Hal Ketchum, “I miss my Mary.”

I suggest it was faint blue souvenirs that reawakened my fascination. I was in medical school in Indianapolis. I lived at the VA Hospital and drew blood each morning in exchange for room and board. I didn’t see anything as spectacular as the anaconda described above, but I was drawing blood from the arms, not the belly button. One evening, with nothing better to do, I opened the yellow pages to “tattoo.” Indianapolis has been described as the biggest county seat in the country, and lacks the diversity of San Francisco or New York City, but still I was amazed to find “tattoo removal” the only entry in the entire city of half-a-million people. I think it’s fair to say that body ink had lost its appeal, if only for the moment.

Lizzie and I found ourselves strolling in a seedy section of San Antonio, near the central business district. It must have been 1994. Our wandering carried us to a tattoo parlor. Mustering all of our courage, we went inside, not to get inked, just to see what it was like. We saw the expected freaks, every inch of visible skin inked or pierced. But we also saw two lovely young coeds. They were, we assumed, on a mission of discovery similar to ours. I was shocked and horrified when one sought consultation from the artist in residence, a somewhat dirty, forty-something man with thinning hair and a tank top which revealed much of the canvas that had once been his skin. The young woman wanted a hummingbird to hover perpetually above the flower on her ankle. Yes, it could be done with ease.

“Don’t know the reason, stayed here all season. With nothing to show but this brand new tattoo. But it’s a real beauty, A Mexican cutie, how it got here. I haven’t a clue,”—Jimmy Buffett, “Margaritaville”

Today, tattoos celebrate birth and commemorate death. Barbed wire surrounds massive biceps. Tribal symbols adorn backs and faces. Leopards and tigers claw at thousands of shoulders. Butterflies, dolphins, and flowers are hidden on rarely exposed skin. Elaborate geometric patterns grace the lower backs of many young women. Fraternity brothers ink Greek letters onto their arms.

Intoxication and peer pressure are still frequent contributing factors, but for some skin has become a message board, a canvas, or a means of self expression. A young man, a boy really, a patient, recently told me that he wished to become an anesthesiologist. He had dropped out of high school, but was considering pursuing a GED. The odds against his dreams were so terribly long. He confided that he eagerly awaited his 18th birthday, the age at which time he could get a tattoo. He said that his beloved Dad had died, and he wanted to immortalize him in ink on his forearm. The design included the dates of his father’s birth and death, and his portrait. I told the boy that he faced quite a struggle to reach his goal and that the presentation of a tattoo would only make his quest more difficult. I told him that if I were his Dad, I would hope that he could find another way to honor me. I wish I were his Dad, I would hope that he could find another way to honor me. I wish I had kept my mouth shut.

A short time later I read that one in seven Americans had at least one tattoo. Several months after that I read that one in three American adults had ink and that in the 19 to 25 populatio the number was staggering 40%. The epidemic has returned with greater ferocity than AIDS. I recently conducted a poll in the operating room. Three women were present. Two of them blushed in response to a question about body art. We still see a lot of jailhouse tattoos, love and hate crudely printed on the knuckles. I once saw a stripper with chocolate printed above one...
Evidently, a Google search done by the author of the letter listed past and pending malpractice suits, even though at least four of them were either dismissed or never heard by a court of law, said Shull.

Shull said the hospital went through the proper procedure in researching Pearlstein and even if their search had found the alleged suits involving Pearlstein, it wouldn’t have affected the decision to hire him.

“He has a very good malpractice history, that is, there’s really nothing there,” said Shull. “It’s not that the cases or his record bothered us because they wouldn’t have changed our minds,” he said. “The point is, we did do our due diligence. We did our homework but didn’t get the whole story.”

He said in the future he will Google applicants and in the meantime, he is going to the Dept. of Justice to request an investigation into why information is lacking or not up to date in the National Practitioner’s Database.

He also said in the future the hospital will likely take a more aggressive stance concerning verbal and written allegations concerning employees or applicants.

“The community has been robbed of a good physician,” he said.

Known as a “physician’s physician,” Pearlstein has performed 6,500 to 7,000 surgeries in his career and came highly recommended by everyone and every agency asked.

He came to Highlands from Murphy, N.C., where he was one of four doctors on staff at that hospital. Shull said it’s likely he will return to Florida and a community “that would love to have him back,” he said.

“Do you want to see four ‘Cooper’ like houses on the lake?” asked Gurganus.

The board voted 4 to 3 against conditional zoning. Nellis will return to the Town Board with his request on Aug. 2.

... CRISP from page 1

Place Condominiums.

“We recommended conditional zoning because he was changing B4 to R3 and left the R2 part of the property basically untouched,” said member Clem Patton. “If we recommend conditional zoning for multi-family in this R2 zone on Harris Lake, we are opening the door for people to come in and ask for higher density developments.”

Nellis said the land use plan recommended multi-family complexes within walking distance of down town to promote the village character of Highlands. “In minutes you can walk to restaurants, churches, grocery stores and even a dry cleaner,” he said.

But Chairman Griff Bell said the land use plan says to consider multi-family opportunities on a site-specific basis for B3 and B4 areas, not residential areas.

“The site-specific part was a way for us to make areas better,” he said. “Like the B3 areas on the Dillard Road that are eyesores. Those would be perfect for multi-family because it would make a bad scenario good.”

Sellers of the property, Beth and Mike Crisp and Mozelle Edwards said they would prefer the multi-family scenario with its greenspace and park-like setting to the nine single-family homes which could be built on the property.

Real estate agent Monica Calloway said she has offers to purchase the property and nine huge, single-family homes are planned for on the site—four of them ringing the lake.

“How have you been to Atlanta?” asked Mike Crisp. “Have you seen the houses on West Paces Ferry? That’s what they will look like” But Bell and others on the board said they can’t be waived by what could happen on the property. They have to rule on what is in front of them.

Mitch Gurganus, Mike Bryson and Doug Campbell voted for conditional zoning for multi-family on the grounds that Nellis’s project would be better than the alternative.
Handbook changes, schedule changes, new teachers, classes and coaches

At the July 24 School Board meeting, Interim Principal Larry Brooks presented the amended Highlands School Handbook to members.

“It’s a major overhaul,” he said.

Tardy Policy:
- One day of detention for every unexcused tardy up to 2 in a semester.
- On the third unexcused tardy arrival to school in a semester, high school students will lose parking privileges for the remainder of the semester. The School Resource Officer will collect parking passes from those students and will return them on the first day of the new semester (with no additional cost). On the third unexcused arrival to school in a semester for elementary and middle school students and high school students without parking passes, those students may be assigned 10 days of detention (7:15 - 7:45 a.m. daily).
- For every subsequent unexcused tardy arrival to school, an additional 5 days of detention may be assigned by the principal. This applies to all students.
- On the sixth unexcused tardy in the same semester, the student will be suspended.

The tardy count will begin anew with the start of the new school year.

Drop/Add Procedures
- High school students are permitted to drop courses and add others during the first 10 school days of each semester ONLY.
- Perfect Attendance
- To be considered for perfect attendance, students must meet the following criteria: No absences and no tardies.

Policy: Civility-Conduct of Parents, Other Visitors to Schools, School District Facilities and District Employees

To be considered for perfect attendance, students must meet the following criteria: No absences and no tardies.

Schedule
- The high school schedule is being changed from a straight block to a split block to accommodate the music program.

Periods 1, 2, and 3, will be on the block schedule and 4 and 5 period will be 58-minute classes.

Many of the changes have been patterned from the Franklin High School Student Handbook.

New Teachers
- Eugene Borino, will teach third grade
- Christine Murphy will teach sixth grade

Resignations
- Assistant Principal Mark Thomas has accepted a job in New Orleans but says he’s not shutting the door, “I may end up back here someday,” he said.
- Janet Osteen has resigned her position in the middle school.

Current Vacancies
- Secondary math teacher and assistant principal.

New Class Offering
- European History taught by high school history teacher Mr. Hickman.

Coach Positions
- Kristy Lewis, assistant volleyball coach (volunteer);
- Michelle Munger, assistant girls’ basketball coach (volunteer);
- Noel Buras, assistant basketball coach (volunteer).

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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: www.highlandscove.com.
‘Flea Market/Live Auction’ this weekend

Karen Muns, Faye Bellwood and Adele Hopkins with the Scaly Mountain Women’s Club display some of the Live Auction donations for the Scaly Mountain Women’s Club annual Mountain Marketplace. The auction is at the former ski lodge in Scaly Mountain from 6-8 p.m. on Friday, July 28. On Saturday, July 29 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday, July 30 from 1-4 p.m., the Flea Market portion will be held at the Scaly Community Center on the corner of Buck Knob Road and NC 106. For information or to donate items call 526-9079 or 526-5657.

- Relays for Life -

The MountainTop Relay for Life is Aug. 25-26 in the Cashiers Community Center.

RBC Centura Bank works hard for ‘Relay’

RBC Centura Bank at 225 Franklin Rd. Highlands is sponsoring a used book sale to raise funds for August’s Mountain Top Relay For Life. The books can be viewed and purchased in our lobby Monday thru Friday, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. from now until the Relay event in August. We are also accepting donations of used books from the general public for resale for this cause. Just drop them off in the lobby!

RBC Centura Bank is also sponsoring a raffle for various pieces of merchandise donated to us by merchants such as Bryant Art Glass, Farmer’s Market Exxon ($50 in gas!), The Toy Store, Wholesale Down Comforters, and Bags on Main, and also a $50 U. S. Savings Bond. Tickets are $1 each or 6 for $5. Tickets also sold in the lobby the same hours as the book sale.

Personal trainer donates sessions to Relay

One-hour Session: $75 or two people may share an hour for $50 each. Amy Gibbs received her Master of Physical Therapy from the Medical College of Georgia. She received her Personal Trainer Certification from the National Strength and Conditioning Association. She is currently a Physical Therapist at the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. To set up an appointment, call 706-495-3861 or email: ahgibbs@yahoo.com

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460 Dillard Road in The Great Things! Shopping Plaza

Singers at ITC Sat.

Jon Zachary, JC Honeycutt, Steve Simpson and Lorraine McDonald at Songwriters in the Round, Sat. July 29 at 8 p.m. Call 342-9197 for tickets.

Wednesday’s ‘Interludes’ continue

On Wednesday, Aug. 2, well-known Atlanta organist Timothy Wissler will be featured in the Musical Interlude Concert Series at the First Presbyterian Church. The concert begins at 2 p.m. and will last approximately 45 minutes.

Interlude concerts alternate weekly between the Presbyterian and Episcopal churches every Wednesday and will continue through Aug. 30.

Wissler is organist of the Cathedral of Christ the King in Atlanta. At the Cathedral he accompanies the Cathedral Choir, plays for parish and Episcopal liturgies and conducts the Cathedral Girl, Boy and Handbell Choirs. He has served as a member of the music faculties of Georgia State University and Mercer University Atlanta.

A Pennsylvania native, Timothy Wissler earned the Bachelor of Arts degree at Lebanon Valley College and the Master of Music and Doctor of Musical Arts degrees in organ performance at the University of Michigan. He has performed in the United States, Germany, France and Italy. In addition he has served as adjudicator for local and international organ playing competitions.

Dr. Wissler is a past Dean of the Atlanta Chapter of the American Guild of Organists and served on the Steering Committee for its 1992 National Convention. He is presently Program Chair for the 2007 American Guild of Organists Regional Convention to be held in Atlanta. In 1994 he organized the Atlanta Summer Organ Festival and served on the Organ Selection Committee for the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra’s new concert hall.

Bob Jones Invitational coming up

Once again Highlands will be the site for a reunion of former Walker Cup players from the United States, Great Britain and Ireland. The players will compete in the two-day Bob Jones Invitational tournament at Highlands Country Club on August 11-12.

The annual competition is in its 25th year. The tournament is named after the illustrious Robert Tyre “Bobby” Jones, possibly the most well known—best amateur golfer. Jones preferred to be called Bob rather than Bobby as dubbed by the press early in his golf career. Furthermore this is the only tournament, other than the Masters, that has the distinction of being granted the use of the Bob Jones name, thanks to the generosity of the Jones family.

Bob Jones loved the Highlands area and spent many summers here. He helped to develop the course, designed by Donald Ross which is known today as Highlands Country Club. Jones christened the course by hitting the first ball when it opened in 1928.

After his retirement from amateur golf, Jones only played in exhibition matches to raise money for worthy causes. He even teamed with baseball great Ty Cobb in such a match to raise money for the fledgling hospital in Highlands. Today the Bob Jones Invitational supports local charities and has raised over $2.5 million for the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital Foundation through sponsorships and donations of local participants.

The tournament is free and the public is encouraged to attend to enjoy some excellent golf. On Friday, August 11, play among the Walker Cup golfers will begin at 11 a.m. Then on Saturday, August 12, each Walker Cupper will be joined by a team of four local golfers for a one-day competition, similar to a pro-am tournament with a shotgun start at 9 a.m. However, the Walker Cup Players will combine their two day scores to determine the overall winner. Regardless, there will be lots of good golf both days.

The Walker Cup competition began in 1922 and is named after George Herbert Walker, the maternal grandfather of former President George H.W. Bush and great grandfather of President George W. Bush. Hence the tournament trophy is called the “Walker Cup” which was donated by George Herbert Walker. Bob Jones was selected to play on the Walker Cup five times and served as the captain of the United States team twice.

Singers at ITC Sat.

Jon Zachary, JC Honeycutt, Steve Simpson and Lorraine McDonald at Songwriters in the Round, Sat. July 29 at 8 p.m. Call 342-9197 for tickets.
... RIVER WALK continued from page 1

and Mirror Lake.”

He said MLA has been working for years to clean up the lake and now it’s filling up with silt again.

Bill and Liz Daughtrey, who live on Highland River Drive next to the River Walk subdivision, said the creek that originates on River Walk and runs across their property and into the Cullasaja River has been severely compromised due to silt.

“I don’t want to see heaven destroyed,” said Liz Daughtrey. “I will report this to the State of North Carolina. To see my creek full of silt, it’s just not right.”

Board member Mitch Gurganus said the state gives 14 days to stabilize dirt and could cite the Turrentines for failing to follow their erosion control plan.

Zoning Administrator Larry Gantenbein has fined the Turrentines two $500 fines for allowing silt to leave the property, and last week gave them 14 working days to repair stormwater controls or risk another fine. He also wants a hydrological study done to determine the amount of water entering the subdivision from U.S. 64 east.

Meanwhile, drastic temporary measures must be taken to stop silt from eroding off the property during rains. Gantenbein said they are changing the entrance way into the subdivision which acted like a funnel off U.S. 64, have erected rows of wire-backed silt fences, emptied silt ponds and they should hydro-seed to stabilize the exposed dirt.

He said the numerous silt ponds on the property just can’t handle the amount of silt that pours in after a major rain.

“The problems is they opened up far more dirt than any of us expected,” he said. “They used the Georgia method and opened all the roads at once so they could work on them continuously.”

Due to the terrain and also the rains in the Highlands area, it’s customary to open one road at a time. “That way less dirt is exposed and susceptible to erosion during rain events,” said Gantenbein.

He said the original contractor on the job, who was opening the roads the “mountain” way, was fired because it was taking too long. When the new contractor took over, all the roads were opened, the trees fell and the dirt exposed.

The Daughtreys also said heavy equipment has blocked the entrances into the subdivision more than once, which means EMS trucks couldn’t get to them, if the need should arise.

Fire Chief James Manley has since instructed the Turrentines to leave the entrances open and passable.

Members of the Planning Board said they will recommend the Town Board keep a close eye on the project.

... LETTER continued from page 2

scale high end” multi family houses? Instead of adding buildings we should replant the trees that were removed, trees that would also screen those houses across the lake.

It would be wonderful to see park benches, swings, sand boxes, and picnic pavilions on that piece of land. (How many other parks are there in downtown Highlands where residents and visitors can take a book and a picnic lunch and spend time enjoying a calming vista?) And Rebecca Harris would no longer be spinning in her grave!

If more “upscale high end” houses are desired perhaps the builders and their clients would be happier living in larger towns, where they wouldn’t have to destroy the scenery just to build their private domains.

... ANOTHER VIEW continued from page 8

nipple and white over the other. I don’t remember which was which. I think it was a joke, but I’d hate to get white. Veterans of the Second World War are dyeing at a frightful rate and taking their souvenirs to the grave with them. Misfits and psychopaths continue to display ghastly images. Athletes and actors have joined junkies and jail birds. Students and young professionals and some not so young have chosen this form of expression. Beneath the robes of judges, the gowns of surgeons, and the vestments of priests tattoos must surely abound.

One wonders if a tattoo will beat a woman to the White House, or accompany her. I can’t predict the future and how many people will still treasure their art in a few years, but this old fogy no longer judges people either by the color of their skin, or by its content.
The Thornwell-Pettway Cottage. The “Fourth Cottage,” as this home was originally named, was the fourth residence built at Highlands Estates (the name of the development that evolved into The Highlands Country Club) when it was completed around 1930 by Mr. Clay Moore, an Atlanta attorney. (Some sources date the home to 1928). The home’s interior of pre-blight chestnut paneling offered rustic charm that was derigueur for these first homes. Chestnut bark siding allowed the cottages to blend into the natural habit. Resting atop a hill overlooking the 17th fairway of the new Highlands Country Club, the home offers splendid views of the lake and the course.

The Highlands Historic Village is open for tours Fridays and Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. through the end of October. The House-Trapier-Wright Home and the Museum and Archives are located at 524 N. 4th Street, across from the Bryant Funeral Home. Special tours or access to the archives may be arranged by calling the Highlands Historical Society at 828-787-1050 or by e-mailing highlandshistory@nctv.com.
It’s a summer full of camp fun

By Susanna Forrester

Basketball, swimming, bowling, reptiles, and homemade crafts all equal a fun summer camp. The Rec Park camp at the Highlands Civic Center has all of those things and more for its young participants.

“We let them play in the gym. We have arts and crafts—wall hangings, necklaces, paintings, handprints,” said James Varn, a Rec Park counselor.

The walls of one room are plastered with colorful pint-sized handprints, and tables are already set up with the beginnings of the next craft—a wall hanging made from multicolored felt pieces ready to be glued to a square of burlap.

The basketball gym is overflowing with laughter and bouncing basketballs while the counselors prepare a room for the day’s presentation. A special guest from the Highlands Nature Center will be presenting a slide show for the campers.

In a dark room brimming with eager faces, a presentation entitled “What Could You Do with Tails, Scales, Paws, And Claws?” begins to flash on a dark wall. Bright pictures of birds, fish, and snakes give the presenter the opportunity to teach as well as entertain the crowd of energetic youngsters.

Of course, basketball, crafts, and presentations aren’t the only activities the children participate in. Swimming and playing outside on the jungle gym are also part of the day’s activities.

“Some days we walk to the library,” said Varn. “And we take field trips. Two weeks ago we took a train ride.” Next week they’re taking a trip to the zoo, and last week they went bowling. A lot of new experiences can be had in six weeks at the Rec Park. The camp starts at 8 a.m., though some young campers arrive earlier, and ends at 5 p.m.

Zoning Administrator Larry Gantenbein said owners of the property, Billy and Sabrina Hawkins, have retained the services of an attorney “because they maintain such activity is allowed herein. Activities prohibited by this provision shall include, by way of example and not by way of limitation the following: The use of short-term rental property or the short-term rental of property for weddings, receptions, or other gatherings of more than 20 persons. “Short-term” shall mean, for the purposes of this section only, less than three months.
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Mountaintop Rotary president Jim Mullen and treasurer, Nin Bond
presented a $1,500 check to Gary Wein, executive director of the Highlands
- Cashiers Land Trust, for the Pine Street Park. King Young, a member of
the PSP Steering Committee, said, “It is very important that we raise enough
funds to pay off the note this summer, so we can get started developing
the Park site.” All contributions are welcome, tax-deductible, and payable
to the Land Trust.

‘A Pebble In My Shoe: The Life
and Times of John Shelby Spong’

Writer/director Colin Cox does a brilli-
ant job of making the life of former Epis-
copal Bishop John Shelby Spong into ex-
citing theatre. The play will be performed
Wednesday, Aug. 2 and Thursday, Aug. 3
both at 7 p.m. at PAC.

Presented by Cox's Will and Compa-
y at the Los Angeles Theatre during
Edgifest, the director intersperses the
Bishop's life story with Biblical quotes and
scenes with key characters in Spong's life,
played by three remarkable actors,
Stephen Wolfert, Mike Peebler and Dawn
Stem. Stephen Wolfert plays the bishop.
Peebler plays several roles. Stem plays
Spong's first wife Joan whose long tragic
struggle with acute paranoia ended in her
death from cancer and his second wife
Christine whose warmth and acuity re-
sulted in a remarkable partnership. "Not
every author is in love with his editor,”
says Spong in the preface to his latest book
The Sins of Scripture.

Stephen Wolfert plays the bishop
from his childhood in segregated North
Carolina to a ministry that blossoms in
the civil rights decades of the 1950s and
1960s to a second act in which he fights
for the rights of women to be priests and
for the civil rights of homosexuals to be
ordained as priests in the church and to
have their unions honored.

Wolfert received his MFA in Theatre
from Trinity Rep Conservatory. He creat-
ed and directed the military segments for
Twyla Tharp/Billy Joel’s Tony-award win-
ning Broadway musical “Moving Out.”
He also created the largest touring
Shakespeare Company in New England,
and taught acting and Shakespeare at
Cornell University. Mike Peebler gradu-
ated from Northwestern University and
received his MFA from UCLA.

Mike's professional career includes
many Shakespearean roles as well as film
and television. Dawn Stem holds BS in
Theatre from SUU-E. Her credits include
series regular roles on "Viper," "413 Hope
Street," "Starhunter," a recurring role on
"The Young and Restless", and more than
20 guest star appearances.

Laura Hitchcock, in her Los Angeles
review, observed that Cox infuses the play
with vitality, suspense and impeccable
timing and stagecraft. Vania Ouzonova
has created full costumes that do more
than hint at the many characters played
by Stem and Peebler, despite the incredi-
ibly quick changes required by the show's
pace.

She concluded that the play ends
with barely a hint of Spong's current ac-
tivities which center on his devotion to
an evolving empowering Christianity free
of mythology and fundamentalism. A
man ahead of his time, Spong has lived
to see the times catching up with him.

Reserved seats are available for $25
per ticket. For additional information
contact Everett Tarbox at 828 526-5037
or by e-mail: e.tarbox@1@aol.com.
Donation to help restore complex

Willis Willey, president of the Highlands Community Foundation presented $5,000 to Wiley Sloan, president of the Highlands Historical Society, with a check for $5,000. It will be used toward restoration of the Historic Village including hardscape and landscape and restoration of the House-Trapier-Wright house.

... PESTS continued from page 3

pretty good but a number of them look pretty bad. It’s just not clear yet. There seems to be improvement in some areas and not in others.”

What is clear to many who are involved with the program is that the landscape of the mountains will be altered in ways that cannot yet be measured, including the rivers and the fish that inhabit them. “These rivers are going to be very different,” said Parker Andes, Biltmore Estates’ Director of Horticulture. “They’ll be warmer in the summer and colder in the winter. We can only hope that these beetles being released keep the adelgid down so the hemlocks still survive.”

Though the success of the beetle releases remains to be seen, Strain, like Andes, is hopeful that the program will make a difference for the hemlocks. “A lot of people are treating their trees,” said Strain. “It’s our only hope right now.”

“I think we owe it a shot,” said Andes, who also emphasized the effect the loss of certain trees have had on other species in the past. “One of the reasons passenger pigeons died out was the giant beech forests became farmland,” he said.

The struggle to prevent the hemlocks from going the way of the chestnut has highlighted the struggle to bring the American chestnut back to life. An estimated four billion trees from Maine to Florida were destroyed by chestnut blight starting in 1904 when the disease was brought into New York on imported Japanese chestnut trees.

By the 1930s most of the trees in Western North Carolina were affected. The blight killed off the chestnut, which once ruled forests at heights of 80 to 100 feet, but spared the root system. Now a program to breed American chestnuts with the blight resistant Chinese chestnut is underway and it may offer a rebirth for the ravaged tree.

“I think a program for the chestnut has the greatest possibility for success because the science on it is so good,” said Andes. “The trees have resistance to chestnut blight bred into them. It makes a lot of sense what they’re doing.”

With each introduction of a new foreign plant or pest, the composition of the forest changes and native plants are squeezed out or eliminated. Thus the reason for another fight to stop an invasion in Highlands.

Japanese Knotweed came to the U.S. in the late 19th century, and has been a harsh rival of native plants since then. It’s on the Nature Conservancy’s worst pest list for North Carolina’s mountain region.

The Land Stewards of Highlands, who are partnering with the Town of Highlands, have started an all-out campaign against Knotweed in Highlands, and they seem to be winning the battle against the invasive plant. The program, called “Knockout Knotweed,” was begun this year and the first spraying was completed during the second week of July. An environmentally friendly herbicide was used on public property and rights-of-way around Highlands.

“We’re hopeful that this is a long-term solution to the Japanese Knotweed invasion, but there is no guarantee unless we keep vigilant,” said Mercedes Heller of the Land Stewards. “There is much on private property, and the Land Stewards are appealing to property owners to do something about the invasions. However, some people like the plant and don’t realize the harm it does to the environment.”

Highlands will probably have to spray again next year, since Knotweed has such an extensive root system, but there are already signs that native plants are taking back over where Knotweed once held sway.

“One U.S.4 east, a large area that was infested with Japanese Knotweed is full of native jewelweed and will be beautiful when it blooms in late summer,” said Heller. “She said Highlands is a desirable place to live and visit because of the beauty and biodiversity of flora and fauna and it must be protected.
This week’s performances at Highlands-Cashiers Music Festival

The Festival’s first string quartet in residence 25 years ago, The Alexander String Quartet, also celebrates its 25th Anniversary this year along with the Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival. The Alexander will perform Friday, July 29 at 8 p.m. in Highlands at the Performing Arts Center and Saturday, July 30 at 5 p.m. in Cashiers at the Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd. It has performed in the major music capitals of four continents and secured its standing among the world’s premier ensembles. Widely admired for its interpretations of Beethoven, Mozart, and Shostakovich (all three of whom will appear on the program) the quartet has also established itself as an important advocate of new music through over 25 commissions and numerous premiere performances. The Mozart is one of the six “Haydn Quartets,” a form Mozart hadn’t used since he was 17. After his arrival in Vienna he was stunned by Haydn’s democratization of the form. Haydn had given all four players individual roles and the form had evolved from “background music” to a more complex and expressive one.

Shostakovich’s Fourth String Quartet is one that was written while Stalin was still alive and Shostakovich was composing two kinds of music – one the politically correct scores to satisfy the Soviet officials and the other private, the kind of music he wanted to compose. It was written in 1949 but not performed until 1953 after Stalin’s death. The Beethoven Quartet is one of three that were commissioned by Count Andreas Razumovsky, the Russian ambassador to Vienna asking that a Russian folk theme be incorporated in each. These three quartets are all monumental in scope leading to them being called “symphonic quartets.”

Sunday, July 30, 5 p.m., in Highlands and Monday, July 31, 7 p.m., in Cashiers brings the return of the Serafin String Quartet. The Quartet has recently agreed to a recording project in 2007, featuring commissioned works by award-winning composer, David Laganella. The Serafins interpret and perform the traditional quartet masterworks and regularly program less familiar works from the 18th century to the present. They have championed new works and presented the world premiers of “a fly is in...” by Richard Belcastro (2006), Four Movements for String Quartet by Drew Hemenger (2005), String Quartet by David Laganella (2004), and have frequently performed New York/Wilmington composer, Peter Elkin’s Dance, Dance, Dance (2000). SSQ has been invited to perform a new work by Robert Maggio in 2006-07, as part of their program of all American works.

Mozart’s Quartet in Bb Major (The Hunt) will open the program and is one of the six quartets that have become known as the “Haydn Quartets” as they were dedicated to him and was one of three quartets played for him on the occasion of a visit by his most intimate friends. Ravel’s only string quartet in C Minor by Beethoven was written when his hearing was already deteriorating and he was making every effort to conceal his increasing deafness from even his most intimate friends. Ravel’s only string quartet, written when he was 28 years old, The Quartet in F Major will complete the program.

For more information on these and other upcoming programs call 828.526.9060 or check out our website at hcmusicfestival.org.
and spotting a line a mile long because of limited seating regulations. Cashiers, here they come.

The prevailing question floating around Highlands these days is “why?” Why would politicians create laws that hinder a person’s ability to make a living? If you ask them, they will probably tell you it is an effort to control growth. Like Pavlov’s dog, they have learned to use the “growth” word on its citizens to get them to salivate. So far, it’s working.

Let me give you two old-time sayings from my days as an investigator. They are “hidden agenda” and “follow the money.” Whenever we could not figure out the motives of a person under investigation, we would look for those two things.

I am not saying such is the case with our leaders, but if everything is on the up and up, what harm would there be in looking in that direction? This whole problem could be that Highlands has grown more sophisticated than its leaders and they are stumbling a bit. I pray that is the case. Fortunately for me, I am retired, but if I were losing money because of unexplainable rules and regulations, I would be rabid and on the hunt with a vengeance for the real causes. Oh, retirement is soooooo good.

On a positive note, I have a plan that brings sanity to all this. Are you sitting down? Highlands needs an experiment. From August 1st until August 15th, let’s withdraw all ordinances regarding parking restrictions.

For two weeks, let’s let our restaurants jam as many customers into their premises that our fire ordinances will permit. Let’s cover up the two hour parking signs (there is such a thing as two-week paint) and let everyone, regardless of who they are, park for as long as they wish.

Then, let’s sit back and watch. Will Highlands come apart in chaos? Will angry motorists demand to park on Main Street? Will there be fighting in the streets? Or is it possible that nothing will happen except more money will begin to flow into merchants’ pockets?

Did I mention I have 15-minute parking in my driveway for politicians? Why would politicians create laws that hinder a person’s ability to make a living? If you ask them, they will probably tell you it is an effort to control growth. Like Pavlov’s dog, they have learned to use the “growth” word on its citizens to get them to salivate. So far, it’s working.

When we were about to invade Iraq, Carter said it would be an unjust war, and he has spoken out against it at every opportunity. Bush has had to reinvent justifications for the war over and over again. First it was weapons of mass destruction, then toppling the tyrant Saddam, and always in the background, the mantra about 9/11. As of this article, 41% of the American people still believe the Big Lie that Saddam had something to do with 9/11.

So we have more than 2,500 American men and women slain in Iraq, and countless more wounded, missing a leg or two and worse. For no good reason. I repeat, FOR NO GOOD REASON. The troopers don’t want to know it, the public hates to hear it, but there it is. It has been an utter waste, a folly of enormous dimensions. And the one person who has to bear the most responsibility is our Commander in Chief. As Harry Truman said of the presidency, the Buck Stops Here.

Going back to the current war between Israel and Hezbollah: None of this could have happened if we weren’t mired in a hopeless war in Iraq. So the blame for the present crisis also falls on the president’s shoulders. There’s a lot of buck for a man of such small stature to carry.

... REDMOUNTAIN continued from page 5

Jews actually believe that God promised them all of Palestine, and that’s that. Fundamentalist Christians support this mandate because judgment day and the rapture can’t take place, according to their theology, until the promise is fulfilled.

I don’t know what George Bush believes. He’s cagey about it, and I don’t blame him. In the past, he has declared himself a born-again Christian, but then, so is Jimmy Carter, and they are about as different in their theology as two Christians could be.

When we were about to invade Iraq, Carter said it would be an unjust war, and he has spoken out against it at every opportunity. Bush has had to reinvent justifications for the war over and over again. First it was weapons of mass destruction, then toppling the tyrant Saddam, and always in the background, the mantra about 9/11. As of this article, 41% of the American people still believe the Big Lie that Saddam had something to do with 9/11.

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Be an encourager to your pastor

By Bruce Bunner
Community Bible Church

For over a year now I have been troubled by my former church situation in Connecticut. Our church elders asked the then pastor to leave the church for some fairly shallow reasons, mostly the personal agendas of a vocal controlling few.

The reason that I share this is that I rhetorically query whether some of us insensitive ly quench our pastors’ hearts and calling? Are we letting them take us where God is leading them to take us, or only where we alone want to go? If you study Saint Paul’s letters to the Church at Corinth of his day, you quickly realize that church friction over pastoral leadership is not so uncommon; even 2,000 years later.

Saint Paul founded that early church and then lost it to some self-appointed critics. Nonetheless, Paul labored some seven years to try to bring this church back to spiritual vitality; and during that time he gave us the greatest passage on Christ-like love ever written (1 Corinthians13:); a love among other attributes that is “patient, kind … not self seeking … does not keep a record of wrongs …

I don’t know if the Corinth Church ever responded to Paul’s admonitions? But, despite Paul’s troubles with his critics, he could still write that hopeful verse found in 11 Corinthians14 – “… that you [the Church at Corinth] will come to boast of us [Paul, Timothy, etc.] just as we will boast of you in the Day of the Lord Jesus.”

I write this to encourage each of you to have a servant heart toward your church’s pastors and staff that manifests itself in mutual encouragement, proactive support through prayer and service, and personal financial sacrifice. Wouldn’t Jesus want us to have a ministry in their lives as much as we expect these godly men and women to have in ours? And isn’t it sobering to realize that we too will stand on that day with our pastors before the Lord and answer for our criticisms or personal agendas should they exist?

Consider the parables of Luke 15 – the Lost Sheep; the Lost Coin; and the Lost Son – and reflect upon the response noted by Jesus – “I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who [repents, reconciles, etc.] than over 99 righteous persons who do not need to repent.”

This is another way of saying it is not about us and our agendas, but about our relationship to Christ – or in sum, our conformity to Him.

And how might this become our lifestyle? – I suggest that you take Galatians 2:20 and make it more personal “… I worship; I pray; I serve; and I love; yet it is not I, but Christ Jesus our gracious redeeming restorative loving Lord who worships, prays, serves, and loves in and through me.”

Tell your pastor that you love him and that you want to grow in Christ through his ministry!

• Bruce Bunner is a summer resident of Highlands and is active with the ministry of Campus Crusade for Christ, Inc.
On-going
• Al-Anon 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 Instant 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 either “The Kitchen” of Let Holly Do the Cooking, or by legendary chef Jerry Fifer of the Oak Street Cafe. At 6 p.m. sharp everyone gathers around and are thoroughly entertained by sharp, intelligent, clever improvisation. The antics, jocose and playful Instant Theatre Troupe is deftly given to capricious behavior, thus providing a positive outlook on life for their audiences. Call 342-9197 post haste, your playful side deserves it.
• The “Zachary-Tolbert House” in Cashiers will be open for tours Fridays and Saturdays, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. through October 14. The house is located at 1940 Highway 107 South, two miles south of the Cashiers Crossroads. Special tours and events may be arranged by calling the Cashiers Historical Society. 828-743-7710.
• Highlands Historic Village is open for tours Fridays and Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. through the end of October. The House-Traper-Wright Home and the Museum and Archives are located at 524 N. 4th Street, across from the Funeral Home. Special tours or access to the archives may be arranged by calling the Highlands Historical Society at 828-787-1050 or by e-mailing highlandshistoire@ncvt.com.
• 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 per class for non-members. Call Jeanette Fisher at 828-526-117T.
• 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 $6 for non-members. An advanced class will also be available on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 9 a.m. Contact Health Tracks at 828-526-117T.
• First Saturday August and September “Happy Hour” an old-fashioned Hymn Sing at Highlands United Methodist Church in the Sanctuary from 5:30-6:30 p.m. Pianist: Tillee Anwood. Song Leader: Carol Shuttleworth.
• Yoga at Highlands Rec Park every Mon. & Wed. beginning June 2. $7 per person per class or $50 monthly pass.
• A Grief Support Group is held every Friday 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) 526-0727 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 Star-Pony Productions at 7 p.m. Visionary, inspiring movies showcased at film festivals around the world are viewed.

• Live music nightly at On the Veranda at 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 Fressers in Helen’s Barn. Featuring Cy Timmons Wed. through Sat, 6 p.m. until.
• Live music at Cyprus Restaurant every Friday at 9:30 p.m.
• Live music at SweeTreats every Friday and Saturday.
• Highlands Wine and Cheese Shop: Wine Flights Saturday from 4:30-6:30.
• 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 Rickey Dean on piano.

July 25 & 28
• Trunk Show at Vivace. Designer Jewelry by Julia Richardson, J-Mar Designs. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. both days. Call 526-1880.

July 27-29
• The Scaly Mountain Women’s Club presents The Mountain Market Auction and Boutique.
• “Nature by Night” at the Highlands Nature Center. 9 p.m. Bring your flashlight for a night walk to learn about the adaptations of nocturnal animals through games, activities, and observations. Ages 6 to adult. $2 per person. Advanced registration is required, please call 526-2623.
• Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival, Saturday at 5 p.m. at the Episcopal Church in Cashiers, Festival Concert. Call 526-9080 for ticket information.

See EVENTS page 22

Ruby Cinemas
Franklin, NC
Adult – $6; Child – $4
July 28-Aug. 3
MIAMI VICE rated R
Mon - Fri: (4:30), 7:40
Sat & Sun: (2), (4:30), 7:40
LADY IN THE WATER rated PG-13
Mon - Fri: (4:20), 7:10
Sat & Sun: (4:20), 7:10
MONSTER HOUSE rated PG
Mon - Fri: (4:10), 7:05, 9:10
Sat & Sun: (2:05), (4:10), 7:05, 9:10
YOU, ME AND DUPEE rated PG-13
Mon - Fri: 9:20
Sat & Sun: (2:20), 9:20
PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: DEAD MAN’S CHEST rated PG-13
Mon - Fri: (4), 7, 9:45
Sat & Sun: (1), (4), 7, 9:45
information.

- The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a moderate 3.5-mile hike up Chinchapin Mtn., with an elevation change of 200 feet, for a nice view at the top. An optional extra mile can be added to return by way of Glen Falls. Meet at Highlands Bank of America at 9:30 a.m. Call leader Mo Wheeler at 743-9560 or 743-9579 for reservations.

July 30
- Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival, Sunday at 5 p.m. at PAC, Festival Concert. Call 526-9060 for ticket information.
- Annual Shape Note Singing at the Cashiers United Methodist Church, Sunday from 2 to 5 p.m., song books will be provided. There will be a short introductory session to explain the a cappella shape note system to newcomers. Contact Carl Blozan, 743-1765 for more information.
- The Nantahala Hiking Club will take an easy 1.5-mile hike to Albert Mountain Lookout Tower. Meet at Westgate Plaza in Franklin, opposite Burger King, at 2 p.m. Call leader Kay Coriell at 369-6820 for reservations.

July 31
- Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival, Monday at 7 p.m. at the Episcopal Church in Cashiers, Festival Concert. Call 526-9060 for ticket information.
- At HIARPT Bishop John Shelby Spong (retired) will lecture at the Episcopal Church of the Incarnation at 7 p.m. Spong’s overall topic for these lectures is “Jesus for the Non-Religious: Restoring our Faith in Christ for the 21st century.” Q&A following each lecture.
  
  **Aug. 1**
  - At HIARPT Bishop John Shelby Spong (retired) will lecture at the Episcopal Church of the Incarnation at 7 p.m. Spong’s overall topic for these lectures is “Jesus for the Non-Religious: Restoring our Faith in Christ for the 21st century.” Q&A following each lecture.
  - At HIARPT the play on the life of Bishop John Shelby Spong is being brought to Highlands from Los Angeles for performances at 7 p.m. at the Performing Arts Center. The play, “A Pebble in My Shoe,” was written and is directed by noted playwright, Colin Cox, and chronicles Bishop Spong’s dedication to making religion and God accessible to all people. A contribution to HIARPT of at least $25 per person is necessary for a reserved seat. Seats are limited. Also include, along with the check to HIARPT and the number of tickets requested, a self-addressed stamped envelope. Tickets will be filled on a “first received” basis. Send ticket requests and self-addressed envelope to HIARPT, P. O. Box 2009, Highlands, NC, 28741.
  - **Aug. 3 & 4**
  - **Aug. 3**
    - Women’s Health Series – With Dr. Sue Ritchie Watts will be at The Hen House Friday, July 28 & Saturday, July 29, 10-5 both days, for a Pottery Showing and Signing. On the Corner of 5th & Main, 828-787-2473

**Designer Jewelry by Julia Richardson**

**J-Mar Designs**

**Washington, D.C.**

**TRUNK SHOW**

Fri. July 28 • 10 a.m.- 5 p.m.
Sat. July 29 • 10 a.m.- 5 p.m.

Revival Services at Clear Creek Baptist Church

Nightly at 7 p.m. beginning July 30th.

Evangelist John Campbell will be the guest speaker.

Please Come Worship With Us!
HELP WANTED

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. Apply in person or call Andrew at 828-526-0354.

OLD EDWARDS INN & SPA – is now hiring full-time housekeepers. Competitive wages, flexible hours, and employee meals. Apply in person 981 Dillard Road, Highlands or call 828-526-2181 for application.

FULL-TIME CHEF — Local Fine dining restaurant seeks full-time chef. Must have experience. Excellent wages and great work environment. Apply in person or call Andrew at 828-526-0354.

evening of fun, food and friends hosted by members of the Cullasaja Women’s Outreach will be held on Monday, August 21, 2006. Cocktails and dinner will be served at 14 different houses, with a fun filled dessert finale at the clubhouse. 100% of the proceeds from this event will go to Highlands’ area charities selected by members of the CWO.

August 17
• “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.
• Audubon Annual Picnic, 5 p.m., Highlands Rec Park. Call 526-2775, by August 6, so we’ll have a hamburger for you! Bring a covered dish.
• Audubon Society’s annual picnic at the Highlands Rec Park, Sunday at noon. $5 for drinks and hamburgers. Bring a covered dish. Please call 526-2775 or 787-1387 for reservations.

August 22-26
• MountainTop Relay for Life begins at 5 p.m. at Cashiers Community Center and ends at 7 a.m. the next day.
• “Dine Around the Club,” an unforgettable evening of fun, food and friends hosted by members of the Cullasaja Women’s Outreach will be held on Monday, August 21, 2006. Cocktails and dinner will be served at 14 different houses, with a fun filled dessert finale at the clubhouse. 100% of the proceeds from this event will go to Highlands’ area charities selected by members of the CWO.
• Audubon Work Day, Highlands Greenway Trail, 9 a.m., Rec Park North Shelter.

August 25 & 26
• The 2006 Town of Highlands Scholarship Golf Tournament is Monday at the Cullasaja Country Club.
• Audubon Community Picnic at the Cullasaja Country Club.
• Audubon Annual Picnic, 5 p.m., Highlands Rec Park. Call 526-2775, by August 6, so we’ll have a hamburger for you! Bring a covered dish.
• Bob Jones Invitational at Highlands Country Club.

August 31
• At Bascom-Louise Gallery, How to Draw everything you Ever Wanted to Know about Pottery with Pat Taylor. 7 p.m. Free/donation.
• At Bascom-Louise Gallery, Everything You Ever Wanted to Know about Pottery with Pat Taylor. 7 p.m. Free/donation.

September 1-4
• Encouragement for the Homeschool Family Conference By Steve & Teri Maxwell at Franklin Covenant Church, 265 Belleview Park Rd., Franklin. Call Michelle Loewy at 828-349-3483.

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

September 26
• Encouragement for the Homeschool Family Conference By Steve & Teri Maxwell at Franklin Covenant Church, 265 Belleview Park Rd., Franklin. Call Michelle Loewy at 828-349-3483.

October 1
• Audubon Women’s Wellness Retreat at Old Edwards Inn & Spa presented by The Cleveland Clinic. Call 787-2610 for package details.

October 7
• Audubon Women’s Wellness Retreat at Old Edwards Inn & Spa presented by The Cleveland Clinic. Call 787-2610 for package details.

October 12
• Audubon Women’s Wellness Retreat at Old Edwards Inn & Spa presented by The Cleveland Clinic. Call 787-2610 for package details.

October 17
• Audubon Women’s Wellness Retreat at Old Edwards Inn & Spa presented by The Cleveland Clinic. Call 787-2610 for package details.

October 26
• Encouragement for the Homeschool Family Conference By Steve & Teri Maxwell at Franklin Covenant Church, 265 Belleview Park Rd., Franklin. Call Michelle Loewy at 828-349-3483.

November 1
• Audubon Women’s Wellness Retreat at Old Edwards Inn & Spa presented by The Cleveland Clinic. Call 787-2610 for package details.

November 4-5
• Audubon Women’s Wellness Retreat at Old Edwards Inn & Spa presented by The Cleveland Clinic. Call 787-2610 for package details.
plus, positive attitude a must. Please apply at 981 Dillard Road, Highlands or call for application (828) 526-2181.

SWEET TREATS IN HIGHLANDS – needs Kitchen Prep, Dishwasher, Servers and Counter Help. Come by or call Beth or Bob. 526-9822.

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 speak and read English.

HAPPY PEOPLE WITH SMILING FACES. 3 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. Mon. thru Fri. some Sat. or Sun. Approx. 25 to 30 hours. Call 526-5214.


READY FOR AN EXCITING CHANGE? John Schiffli Real Estate is seeking an Office Administrator for our Main Street office. Our ideal candidate would possess strong interpersonal, administrative, and organizational skills. Duties include answering the telephone, meeting and greeting clients, scheduling appointments, assisting brokers, and performing office functions. Computer skills required. Salary is competitive and commensurate with experience. Please mail your resume to Eleanor Crowe Young, John Schiffli Real Estate, P.O. Box 725, Highlands, NC 28741 or email it to: eleanorcrowe@aol.com. For more information, call Eleanor at (828) 526-5751.

FULL OR PART-TIME RETAIL SALES –Weekends required, no exceptions. Must be responsible, professional appearing, enthusiastic and have retail sales experience. Call The Summer House in Highlands at 828-526-5571.

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GARAGE APT. – $450 per month plus utilities.
Call 787-2423.

HOMES FOR RENT IN HIGHLANDS. 3 bedroom, 2-bath in town. $650 to $1,000 per month. Call 772-215-5896 or email twilkins@oal.com.

APARTMENT – Scaly Mountain. Furnished, one bedroom, laundry, deck microwave (no stove) $300 a month plus utilities. 6 months lease. No smoking, no pets. 526-1552.

VACATION RENTAL – Sapphire/Cashiers: 4 bedroom/3 bath, stone FP, all conveniences (plasma TV, PC, good linens, towels, china, satellite). Gated community/club. Lake access, with horses, kayaks, canoes available. Weekly, monthly and long holiday weekends possible. $900 week, $3000/month. 3 day minimum by/the-weekend.

VACATION RENTAL – The Lodge on Mirror Lake, fish or canoe from dock. Available weekly, monthly, 3-day min. Call 787-2302.

VACATION RENTAL – Sapphire Valley Condo. 2 plus den. Sleeps 6. Fully equipped. All amenities. $800/week. $3,000 per month. Call 677-49535 x239 days - Kevin. 770-704-9926.

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE
80 + ACRES FOR SALE IN HENDERSON COUNTY, NC – By Dupont State Forest (www.dupontforest.com) Offering 18-22 acre tracts. Pasture potential to mountain top vistas. Two cascading spring fed ponds. 1300+ feet along quiet paved state road that leads into forest. Minutes to Historic Hendersonville and Brevard, NC. Land available by Dupont Forest is rarely on the market. Many gorgeous homesites – perfect as a development or estate.


ITEMS FOR SALE

18' TRAVEL TRAILER – One 1990 – 32 ft. and One 1990 – 36 ft. Call 526-2324. Build outs each, full-sized refrigerators, full-sized toilets, one has W/D, complete with screen porches, new wood flooring and carpet. Both are nicely finished. Both in good condition. Can be seen @ Carolina Court. Unit #1 and Unit #22, priced @ $8,000 each or $15,000 for both. Must be removed during the month of November 2006. Contact: Charles Dasher @ 828-526-5939, or carolina court@mac.com.

EXERCISE EQUIPMENT – Weslo “Healthrider.” Barely used. $30 526-3800.

VERMONT CASTINGS WINTER WARM wood burning fireplace insert with ash pan and pan cover, fire screen for door, vent pipe, and owner’s manual. $800.00 Firm. Sold as is where is. Call 828-743-9340 for details.

ANTIQUE FURNITURE; beds, love seats, chairs, tables, lamps, curio cabinets and collectible paperweights, Royal Daltens, Hummels, etc. By appointment only. 828-526-3258.


LAWN BOY MOWER – 2 cycle 21-inch cut, 4-horsepower engine. Good condition. $150. Call 526-1773.

CAR DOLLY – 2004 with electric brakes. $750. Call 526-3470.

WOODCHIPPER – excellent condition. $125 or best offer. Call 526-4749.

SNAPPER SR 333 RIDING MOWER – $350 or best offer. Call 787-1310.

ALL WOOD LARGE (6" TALL X 7" LONG) ENTERTAINMENT CENTER – lighted with stained glass upper doors, wood doors on bottom, has open shelves too, very nice $450 obo, King size bed frame with brass headboard $75 obo, please call 828-389-2226 or after 8pm 828-351-8422.


FULL SIZE WASHER & DRYER – $175 or will trade for stackable. Call 421-7922.

OAK ROCKER – over 100 years old. From E.B. (Ted) Melt Estate in Athens, Ga. All original including leather seat. Call 828-360-0426.

RAINBOW E-SERIES VACUUM CLEANER – excellent condition with all accessories, $925 call Dee 828-389-8823.

SOLID DARK OAK DINETTE CABINET – New – 9 x 7 x 7. 3 glass windows on top. 3 drawers on bottom. 2 bottom doors with keys. Imported from Belgium. Excellent condition. $1,500. Call 369-3250.
The following is the Highlands Police Dept. log entries for the week of July 20-27. Only the names of persons arrested or public officials have been used.

July 20
- At 12:20 p.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident at the Post Office.
- At 6:45 a.m., officers assisted the Sheriff's Dept. with a domestic assault at a residence on Horse Cove Road.
- Officers assisted the Sheriff's Dept. with a two-vehicle accident at Main and Fifth streets where a motorist was cited for making an unsafe movement with his vehicle.
- At 6:30 p.m., a motorist at N. 4th and Hickory streets was cited for speeding 44 mph in a 25 zone.

July 21
- At 6:45 a.m., a motorist was cited for speeding 44 mph in a 25 zone.
- At 2:10 p.m., officers responded to an illegal entry by a motorist.

July 22
- At 6:45 pm., officers assisted the Sheriff's Dept. with a two-vehicle accident at Main and Fifth streets where a motorist was cited for making an unsafe movement with his vehicle.
- At 6:50 p.m., a motorist at N. 4th and Hickory streets was cited for speeding 44 mph in a 25 zone.

July 23
- At 10:35 a.m., officers investigated the theft of flowers and ferns from a yard on Morewood Drive.
- At 9:45 a.m., officers investigated the theft of $1,932 of lawn and patio furniture from a residence on Lower Brushy Face Road.
- At 10:30 p.m., a motorist was cited for expired registration at Main and Second streets.
- At 1:30 p.m., officers investigated the theft of $100,000 of crops and timber from Furniture South.

The following are the Highlands Fire & Rescue Dept. log entries for the week of July 20-27.

July 20
- At 9:30 p.m., the dept. responded to a vehicle fire on N.C. 28.
- At 9:30 p.m., the dept. responded to a mutual aid call from Cashiers. It was cancelled.
- At 9:30 p.m., the dept. responded to a structure fire at a residence on Hummingbird Lane. It was false.
- At 10:30 p.m., the dept. responded to a mutual aid call from Scaly. It was cancelled.
- At 11:30 p.m., the dept. responded to a medical call at a residence on Turtle Pond Road. There was no transport.

July 21
- At 11:30 p.m., the dept. responded to a vehicle fire on Scaly Road. There was no transport.
- At 1:30 a.m., the dept. responded to a medical call at a residence on Lost Trail Road.
- At 7:30 p.m., the dept. responded to a structure fire on Scaly Drive. There was no transport.

July 22
- At 8:30 a.m., the dept. responded to a medical call at a residence on Cotswald Way.

July 24
- At 10:35 a.m., officers investigated the theft of $100,000 of crops and timber from Furniture South.

July 25
- At 10:35 a.m., officers investigated the theft of $1,932 of lawn and patio furniture from a residence on Lower Brushy Face Road.
- At 10:30 p.m., a motorist was cited for expired registration at Main and Second streets.
- At 1:30 p.m., officers investigated the theft of $100,000 of crops and timber from Furniture South.

Bargain Hunters — Attention!
Price reduced $5,000 weekly until sold

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Serious health problems require us to sacrifice our immaculate mountain house in Highlands, North Carolina below the appraised value of $550,000. For “SALE BY OWNER” at the discounted price of $480,000.

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The Club’s amenities include, (Club House for monthly get acquainted parties), a swimming pool, tennis courts, trout pond, and golf courses nearby. Summer temperatures in July and August seldom exceed 75 degrees. It is less than a two hour drive to Atlanta, Asheville N.C., and Greenville S.C. “Guest Suite,” hobby shop, workshop, enclosed garage, and two-car carport. Our charming mountain home is in excellent condition (Owners unique Furnishings will be offered as a separate package,) Realtors Referrals Welcome.

Terms and Conditions:
The $ 5,000 weekly discount will continue until sold. A deposit of 1% will freeze sale for 3 days. The down payment shall then become due. Owners will consider short-term financing. The house will be sold on an “AS IS” basis following the buyer’s inspection. Buyer must qualify for King Mountain Club membership. Owners retain the right to revise, modify or cancel this offer at their discretion.

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2003 DODGE STRATUS – red exterior, gray interior, 30,000 miles, AM/FM cassette, A/C, PW, PS, PB, clean. $8,000 obo 828-526-3277.


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