On-going
• 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. 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 StarPony Productions at 7 p.m. Suggested donation $5. Beverages and snacks available for purchase.
• Live music at Cypress Restaurant every Friday at 9:30 p.m.
• Live music at Buck's Coffee Café every Saturday night from 8-11 p.m.
• Live music at SweeTreats every Saturday.
• Cy Timmons at Fressers in Helen's Barn, Wednesday, Friday & Saturday from 6-9 p.m.
• Highlands Wine and Cheese Shop: Wine Flights Saturday from 4:30-6:30. May 19-20
• Marriage Enrichment from 5-9 p.m. on Friday and 10-12:30 p.m. and 3-4 p.m. on Saturday at CBC. $45 per couple - includes admission to ice cream social and presentation. Featuring Steve & Patti Carpe and Dr. Dennis Swanson. Call 526-4685 for tickets.
• Singer-songwriter Arthur Hancock performing originals at SweeTreats from 7 p.m. until close.
May 21
• WOW! Celebration at the Methodist Church at 315 Main Street. Sunday school at 9:45 a.m., worship at 11 a.m. Come enjoy worship and a meal. Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors.
• Cynthia Stratton will be leading an afternoon photo workshop on Sunday from 2-5 p.m. There will be 2 hours of instruction and an hour of field time at the Biological Station. Cost is $35. Call Cynthia at Mill Creek Gallery & Framing at (828) 767-2021.
• Grateful Heart's Trio in concert, Sunday, at 6:30 p.m. at First Baptist Church Highlands. Call 526-4153.
• Proctors needed for End-of-Grade testing at Highlands School from 8 a.m. until 11 a.m. Please contact Annette Jenkins at the school at 526-2147.
• Bing & Bees as pollinators - a program by Dr. James Costa at The Nature Center at 2 p.m. May 23, 24, 25
• Grateful Heart Trio in concert, Sunday, at 6:30 p.m. at First Baptist Church Highlands. Call 526-4153.
• Bird's be the Bees as pollinators - a program by Dr. James Costa at The Nature Center at 2 p.m.
May 25
• Members are invited to End-of-Grade testing at Highlands School from 8 a.m. until 11 a.m. Please contact Annette Jenkins at the school at 526-2147.
• Marguerite Williams, commissioner of the town of Davidson, N.C., will speak about a small town facing booming growth from nearby Charlotte in her presentation, "Planning for Healthy Growth: From Ideas to Action," 5:30 p.m. at the Conference Center.
• Albion Conservation Lecture Series. Dr. Steve Tilley will give a talk entitled "Discovering Salamander Diversity." 7 p.m. at the Nature Center. It’s free.
• Movie at PAC: "Kilowatt Ours" – A 65-minute movie following filmmaker Jeff Barrie on his 18-month journey across the southeast United States, where more than six tons of coal are burned to generate electricity for the average home annually. Thursday at 7:30 p.m. at PAC. Call 526-9938 ext. 320.

Interim super takes charge

The announcement of an interim Superintendent of Macon County Schools came on the heels of the announcement of Superintendent Dr. Rodney Shotwell accepting a job as Superintendent of Rockingham County Schools.

Shotwell's last day with Macon County is May 31 but as of May 17 he took annual leave to prepare for his new job. Though challenges ahead include leading a larger school system, Shotwell said he’s ready. Rockingham County Schools consist of 25 schools with about 14,000 students.

For the next six months, Shotwell said he will be happy to know the Town Board voted to let the county continue to appoint ETJ members to both the planning and zoning boards and to let those members vote on both town matters and ETJ matters.

“I’ve always considered Highlands to be a community and it would be a good neighborly kind of move to let them continue voting the way they have been,” said Commissioner Amy Patterson.

When ETJ was declared, the county appointed two members to the seven-member Planning Board but no one knew if county appointees would last or if they would be allowed to vote on all issues in the future.

Patterson said it would be best to keep the board the way it is, but to decrease it to seven rather than nine people because a nine-person board is unwieldy.

A split vote board was discussed where the ETJ appointees only vote on ETJ issues but town appointees vote on both. But Patterson said having a split vote on the boards would be cumbersome. “There would be logistical problems about who can vote if the vote were split between town issues and ETJ issues.”

Commissioner Herb James said the ETJ residents would be aggravated with that idea. “Besides, we have three people on the board now from the ETJ area and they all vote on everything.”

Commissioner Hank Ross said he really likes the two ETJ appointees and said things are going very well.

Though the Town Board is reducing the size of the Planning Board to seven members, it wants to keep both Mitch Gurganus and Mike Bryson who were appointed by the county from the ETJ area. The Zoning Board will be made up of five people with the county appointing one person from the ETJ area. That nomination is expected before June 1.

Great Beginnings Teacher Ms. Chalker and Highlands School Vice Principal Mark Thomas coax Ali Sackman and Katie Potts up Fifth Street during the Fun Run. They caught a good case of the giggles when a Highlands citizen spoke her mind during the public comment period.

Told in the past that comments must be comments and not questions, Frieda Bennett, graduate of Highlands School, and veteran teacher of 34 years, posed questions as statements which moved into questions while hitting a collective nerve with the board.

After she spoke, Board of Education Chairman Kevin Corbin responded to her points.

Bennett: There are several things I don’t understand and I have gone to the state board of education in Georgia, South Carolina and North Carolina as well as the board of education legal department to try to understand the jobs of those on the board and how you go about making decisions. I don’t understand the criteria you use to employ superintendents in Macon County. You hired Dr. Shotwell, a man with no superintendent experience when Gene Young, who had served as Assistant Superintendent was here with 30 years experience. He is still here and he would still...
Every 28 minutes a teen becomes pregnant in NC

By James Martin

In less than the length of a sitcom, a teen has become pregnant in North Carolina. Over 18,000 teens became pregnant in North Carolina in 2004. The number of 10-14 year-old girls who became pregnant in the year 2004 could fill over nine school buses. Sixty-three percent of North Carolina high school seniors reported having sexual intercourse at least once. What can be done in North Carolina to help prevent teen pregnancies? May is Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Month and the Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Coalition of North Carolina is urging communities to come together to change the lives of our teens for the better.

In 1991, the first Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Month was held in order to raise awareness among communities of the problem of teen pregnancy in North Carolina. (May was chosen because it is the month of prom and also because a higher number of conceptions occurred during May than any other month.) Since 1991, the teen pregnancy rates in North Carolina have fallen by 34%, but more remains to be done. Some simple steps communities can do to raise awareness are:

- Urges school board to adopt science-based human sexuality curriculums to educate our children on their bodies and the risks involved with sex.
- Encourage parents to speak to their children openly, honestly and early about sex and be ‘askable’. Give your children a place to go to with their questions before they get into trouble.
- Form mentoring groups to give teens good role-models. Popular culture constantly blurs our youth with messages of sexuality. Fight back by taking an active role in a teen’s life.
- Encourage fathers to become involved parents. Boys and girls involved in sports are twice as likely to drop out of school, twice as likely to abuse alcohol or drugs, twice as likely to end up in jail, and nearly four times more likely to need help for emotional or behavioral problems.
- Support your local health department and teen pregnancy prevention group. They can provide you with materials and advice on how to better deal with the issue of teen pregnancy.

For more go to www.appnc.org. The Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Coalition of North Carolina is dedicated to training health educators and communities in ways to better support teen parents and help prevent teen pregnancy.
In his 28 years in the field, Yeager has worked as public school teacher, a coach, college professor, assistant superintendent, superintendent and interim superintendent at various schools in North Carolina, Kentucky and Indiana. An attorney friend in Asheville told him about a possible interim position in Macon County. "I've taken over tough situations before and I'm ready to do what I can," he said during the May 16 Macon County Schools called meeting. "I wasn't looking for work, but I've come out of retirement because I believe in public schools and I think I can help." His wife Janice, a retired certified K-8 school teacher said her husband always puts students first and the system is better for it.

Macon County School board members said Yeager came highly recommended. "We've heard nothing but positive reports," said Tommy Cabe. Susie McCoy said she's grateful that he came out of retirement to share his knowledge.

Donnie Edwards said he will offer good leadership during the time of transition. Tommy Baldwin said he has followed Yeager's career on TV and in the newspapers when he was Superintendent of Buncombe County Schools and later Interim Superintendent of Henderson County Public Schools. "His credentials go back a long way," he said.

Yeager takes over for Shotwell who came to Macon County Schools in July, 2001. During his five-year tenure in Macon County, he was lead administrator for 4,300 students and 735 employees. He was responsible for creating and overseeing the completion of a $23 million construction package to renovate existing buildings and two new elementary schools. "I enjoyed the working relationship with the school board," said Shotwell. "Their vision was always to do what is best for the children of the county, I believe that is why we were successful together."

Technology represented one of the biggest changes in Macon County where during Shotwell's tenure the number of students with access to a computer increased from 85th in the state to 7th in the state.

"Technology changes are evident in our classrooms," said Shotwell. "We are on the verge of connecting to the Bal-sam fiber loop that will give our children an edge in technology. In addition, we have around 85 ACTIVboards in our classrooms to improve the interaction between teachers and students."

Most of all Shotwell said he's proud of what Macon County teachers, principals and school board members have been able to accomplish over the past five years. "Our academic achievement continues to improve each year - this is due to our commitment to delivering the best education possible," he said.

Milestones

Schlarb hits 102

Nellie Schlarb celebrated her 102nd birthday April 28 at the Fidelia Eckerd Living Center. All the residents enjoyed birthday cake and refreshments. We wish Nellie many more happy days ahead.

Obituaries

Dr. Lawrence Lamar Hester, Jr.

Dr. Lawrence Lamar Hester, Jr. died on May 10, 2006 in Highlands, NC. He was born May 23, 1920 in Anderson, SC, the son of Lawrence L. Hester and Carrie Rose McClevey of Mount Carmel, SC. He graduated from the Citadel in 1941 and the Medical College of SC in 1944. He specialized in Obstetrics and Gynecology. He was a WWII Veteran of the U.S. Army serving as section chief of obstetrics and gynecology at Maxwell Field in Alabama from 1946-1948. He was Professor and Chairman of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the Medical University of SC from 1956-1964.

In 1956, at the age of 36, he was the youngest chairman of Ob-Gyn in the country; and before he retired in 1984, he had been a chairman longer than any other chairman of his specialty. He has served as a director of the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology, the American Board of Family Practice and as a member/ officer of some 25 other medical societies.

He was presented with a Doctor of Science Honorary Degree from the Citadel in 1980 and was awarded the Order of the Palmetto in 1986 for his many years of service to the Florence Crittenton Home. Dr. Hester is the author of more than 45 papers and has contributed chapters on obstetrical and gynecological subjects in numerous textbooks. Supporters and friends of Dr. Hester established an endowed chair, the Lawrence L. Hester Chair in Obstetrics and Gynecology, at the Medical University of SC.

Dr. Hester is survived by his wife, Bette, of 58 years, his brother, James Patrick Hester of Mt. Carmel, SC and four children; Barrie Hester Rogers of Greenville, SC; Elizabeth Porcher Hester of San Francisco, CA; Lawrence Lamar Hester III and wife, Emmie of Wayzata, MN and Frances Stuart Hester of Newport, RI; 11 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

A memorial celebration will be held on Thursday, June 1, 2006 at 11 a.m. at St. Luke’s Chapel on the MUSC campus. There will be a private service at the family cemetery at Hester, SC.

Memorials may be sent to “Women’s Health Research Foundation Fund” at the MUSC Health Sciences Foundation, Bryant Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Country Club Properties

Call Pam Taylor, anytime.
(cell) 342-6988, 526-2520 or 526-9027

Buckberry Falls

$695,000

This beautiful home is light and open with ample windows and French doors. The open floorplan allows for easy entertaining with wood floors, two fireplaces, full basement with office and 2-car garage.

19+ wooded acres, several streams, some view lots located about 3 miles from Man Street on the Cashiers Road (just outside the Highlands ETJ). Some roads and utilities included. Price of $2,150,000 includes engineering reports, plans, permits, restrictive covenants and other.
You already think I might be a couple of clicks off center, but hear me out on this one. The more I learn about this crazy world, the more I realize how unfair everything is.

I know, I know, whoever said it was going to be fair. Well that's a cute little thing to say, but this is real scary stuff. I think life should be more better than it is. (Did I just write “more better?”) When you get into the last third of your life, you begin to worry about where you're headed when you croak. Personally, I'm sweating bullets.

To begin with, I can't ever remember asking God, or anyone else for that matter, if I would like to be born. Suddenly I was just here, causing my parents to say, “What have we done?” I was crying because I didn’t like it outside my warm, comfortable floatation device. My parents were crying because I was the product of a cold December night that they were about to pay dearly for, for the next 20 years. It was not fair for any of us.

Was I ever given a choice to be alive? If so, what was the lure for me to say yes? It certainly wasn’t fame and fortune. POW, suddenly, there I was, a living, breathing human being, on planet Earth, doing the best I could with the tools I was given.

Here’s the worse part. If I screwed this up, which I have a propensity to do my religion tells me I’m going to wind up in hell for the remainder of eternity. Do I need this? I’m not sure, but I think eternity is for a very long time. If my religion is correct, hell is not a cool place to wind up, especially if it’s for eternity. How fair is that?

And while I’m on this religion thing, most of us had no choice in that either. Catholics are born Catholics, Jews are born Jews and you can bet that if your Daddy belonged to the First Baptist Church, you do, too. How about the one billion Chinese atheists who don’t believe in God at all? They never chose to be atheists. Their parents were atheists so they are also. At least they don’t have to sweat out the burning, molten lava and pitchforks of hell for eternity thing. Isn’t that fair?

Islamic Jihad radical

See WOOLDRIDGE pg 9
• THE RADICAL MIDDLE •

Becoming an American

A recent Monday saw hundreds of thousands take to the streets for “A Day without Immigrants,” a riff on the Hollywood movie, “A Day without a Mexican.”

The purported reason for the protest was to demonstrate “You can’t get along without us.” Undocumented workers were apparently joined by legal immigrants and supporters.

If there are, as estimated, some 11 million illegal immigrants in the United States, about one in 10, I’m guessing, participated in the marches around the country. The rest were presumably at work, earning money to support their families here and in Central America.

Did we get along without them? Well, for one day we did. No one disputes that the workers, overwhelmingly from Mexico, are a vital part of our labor force, allegedly “doing the work Americans won’t do.”

That is the lie that America’s agribusinesses and contractors want us to believe. The reality is that Americans, mostly poor Blacks and poor Whites, are reluctant to do this kind of work for the miserable wages, and under the often harsh conditions, that illegal immigrants are forced to endure.

African-Americans had their day in the cotton fields and they’re in no hurry to go back. Whites, too, are reluctant to work for $5.25 an hour.

The Bush administration is being squeezed between its corporate sponsors and indignant conservatives who are outraged by our porous borders. States like New Mexico, Arizona and California are being broken by providing health and educational benefits for illegal immigrants and their children.

I took a pretty hard stand in a previous column on immigration, and I still feel pretty much the same, but given the exuberance of the protests I want to add some further thoughts on the topic.

There can be no meaningful comprehensive immigration bill until... See REDMOUNTAN pg 7

HIGHLANDS FINE DINING

Ristorante Padetti
Call 526-4906 — Fine Italian dining since 1953 — 440 Main Street

May hours: Closed Wednesdays
Serving Dinner from 5:30 p.m. • Reservations recommended
Wine Spectator’s “Best of Award of Excellence”

Cyprus
International Cuisine
Dinner: 5-10 nightly
Live Music Fridays at 9:30
Regional Menus & Extensive Wine List
N.C. 106 in Great Things Plaza • 526-4429

...ON THE VERANDAH... Highlands Most Scenic Dining Experience.
Open for dinner every night from 6 p.m.
Sunday Brunch from 11-2 p.m.
Wine Spectator Award Since 1987
828-526-2338
RESERVATIONS SUGGESTED obv1@ontheverandah.com

Fressers eatery
Catering
Private room available
526-4188

Advertise your fine dining establishment here!

Junker Management, Inc.
Concierge Service
Services Offered:
• House Openings/ Closings
• Mobile Auto Detailing
• Personal Shopping
• Grocery Shopping
• Pet Sitting • Helpkeeping
• Property Management Services
• And Much More...

828-369-7464 Office • 828-421-5283 Cell • 828-524-8919 Fax
www.junkermanagement.com

TALK MORE AND SAVE!
INTERNET PHONE STARTING AT $14.99 a MONTH

NORTHLAND CABLE TELEVISION
www.northlandcabletv.com

Advertise in Highlands' Newspaper

Gourmet Food in a Casual Atmosphere
Lunch • Tues.-Sat. 11 a.m.–3 p.m.
Dinner • Thurs.-Sat. 5:30 until
Sunday Brunch 11 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Closed Monday
787-2200 • Two Entrances – from Main St. or Oak St.

Advertise in Highlands' Newspaper

Dr. Alex Redmountain

828-369-7464 Office • 828-421-5283 Cell • 828-524-8919 Fax
www.junkermanagement.com

...A Day without Immigrants...
Proper in 2006!
Advertise in Highlands' Newspaper

Acorns
465 Main Street,
Highlands, North Carolina
European and American Antiques
Gifts and Home Accessories
Designer Women’s Apparel
Jewelry, Handbags and Scarves

Gordon C. Maier
Estate and Fine Jewelry Trunk Show
June 2-3, 2006

828.787.1877
Open year-round
Monday through Saturday
Memorial Day to Labor Day – Open Sundays

www.acornsonline.com

The column resulted from a series of coincidental events, the stars lining up, as they say. I had been thinking about the looming Medicare crisis. Then, last Thursday, NPR carried a story about the allocation of a limited supply of experimental bird flu vaccine. In the event of an epidemic, the government plans to distribute the eight million doses first to makers of vaccine, then to health-care workers. Next in line are the very old and the very young. Not so fast, said a professor from Vanderbilt. The old folks have had their lives. Save the vaccine for those with their lives ahead of rather than behind them.

On Friday, Dr. Redmountain's column suggested the revival of the draft, a call for universal service, universal sacrifice, without loopholes. We've gotten away from the notion of service and sacrifice in this country. It's about what the Petroleum Institute, the tobacco lobby, or AARP can get for their members. Grandma Helen slept over Friday night, and Saturday morning, over coffee, I told her about the government plan for distribution of bird flu vaccine before I could ask her opinion or tell her about the alternative suggestion from Vandy, she said, "That's not right. Young people should get it." Oh! And I signed up for Medicare two weeks ago, so now I have a dog in the fight. The stars are indeed in alignment.

Critical care medicine is a tough job. Beyond the requirement for knowledge of several specialties and considerable technical skill, the hardest part is deciding when to quit, when to go to a family and tell them we are flogging a dead horse, not, of course, in those exact words. Most of my patients were old with some catastrophic illness superimposed on a host of chronic conditions. Those with terminal cancer were easy, a little morphine to keep them comfortable, no heroics. Those with little chance of survival and rotten quality of life before the catastrophe should have been easy, but weren't. That's not the way it works. In American critical care, everybody gets a "full court press" unless we are specifically instructed to relent. I would occasionally be called to the ICU only to find a patient whose living will had been ignored who had been incubated in the emergency room and awaited further insult. It was not uncommon for me to run up a bill of half a million dollars treating a patient. Some survived. Many didn't.

Unfortunately, many of those whom we counted as successes failed to regain their strength, to reclaim any reasonable quality of life, and were dead in a few months.

I don't think a few months of severely limited life are worth a half a million bucks, not with the system in danger of collapse. I didn't think so then either, but lacking a crystal ball, I kept on flogging. We must find the will to ration care. "Rationing" is a scary term, but there it is. It is a path to survival for Medicare. The very old and critically ill with little or no chance of meaningful recovery must be asked to sacrifice the few days or few months that medical technology can purchase, but at extraordinary cost. We can no longer afford the luxury of treating everyone without consideration of cost. If we can ask young people in the prime of their lives to die for the security of the nation, surely we can ask as much from aging citizens with little hope of survival. More than a quarter of Medicare funds are spent in their last year of life. Forty per cent of that, or over 10 percent of all Medicine benefits, is spent for care in the final 30 days of life.

Just as surely as we have a limited stock of bird flu vaccine, Medicare has limited resources. Our health care problem is bigger than Medicare. It cuts across our entire health care delivery system, but that's another column. We can call it prioritization or allocation if those terms are less offensive, but we are talking about how to distribute limited resources, rationing. The keystone must be fairness. Whatever formula we devise must be equally applied to all, with no "get out of death free" cards for the powerful, wealthy, and connected. The final formula should not depend on age alone, but on a combination of factors including age, severity of acute illness, and other chronic illnesses which influence the likelihood of recovery, but with no extra credit for having a son on the hospital board.

See ANOTHER VIEW pg 9
Fun with Dick and Jane

This 2006 comedy and sort of action film, starring Jim Carrey (Lemony Snicket's A Series of Unfortunate Events, Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind, Mask, and about a million more) Tea Leoni (The Family Man, Spanglish, People I Know) and Alec Baldwin (Elizabeth town, The Aviator) as Jack McAllister, the evil boss. Directed by Dean Parisot (Galaxy Quest, Curb Your Enthusiasm), written by Judd Apatow and Nicholas Stoller. Rated PG 13

The Storyline:
Dick and Jane Harper are living the high life. Dick is on the fast track to a vice presidency of a huge multinational company. And he gets it, a great office on the top floor, a title, the recognition (and envy) of his colleagues. The only problem is this great new promotion is in a company, unbeknownst to Dick, that is going to tank in about in about the time it takes to read this sentence.

Yep, company goes Enron, everyone loses their jobs, and see Dick and Jane try to stay afloat. Savings dwindle, they run out of things to sell, Dick competes with all his old compadres for any assistance of his loving wife/wheel man. They stumble across the CFO of the now failed company, and together, they try to right a few wrongs and save the day, by thwarting the plans of the evil boss, and maybe raising enough cash for the back mortgage while staying out of the Big House.

Remakes are always a gamble (the original was a 1977 film starring Jane Fonda and George Segal), and I am not a real big Jim Carrey fan (that never seems to have bothered him) so it was a pleasant surprise that “Fun with Dick and Jane” was well fun.

Carrey did more than his usual rubber faced down character (he actually does have a wider range than that. I was impressed with Truman Show, and Earth Girls are Easy was a work of genius).

Tea Leoni is a strong comedic actress that doesn't mind doing physical humor, which is good, because when all is said and done, it is a Jim Carrey film, so there is plenty of slap stick. Dick as a day laborer with the illegals, Jane as the rather unfortunate participant in a paid medical experiment, some getaway driving by novice suburbanite hold up artists, you've got a fair amount of falling down, smashed heads, montages of their efforts to keep up appearances in the neighborhood after the utilities have been cut off, not on par with the likes off the Marx Brothers or anything, but a good performance all by, good camera work, a somewhat clever script and a lot of good sight gags make this one worth seeing.

A few more tales of suburbanites gone bad are the classic Raising Arizona (and almost everything by the Cohen brothers), Serial Mom (and almost everything by John Waters), Eating Raoul, and Suburbia.

• These titles and more are available at Movie Stop, with over 5,000 titles for sale or rent, stop on by and give a look.

... REDMOUNTAIN continued from page 5

our borders are far more secure than they are today.

Any bill passed now that doesn't address this crucial factor will simply add to the problem. Friends and relatives of illegal immigrants will keep trying to cross the border, multiplying our problems tenfold. Entire villages in Mexico have seen their male populations decimated as one wave of illegals follows another into a perilous journey.

Amnesty at this point would be a foolish reward for criminal activity — and crossing the border illegally is a crime I'm sorry if these immigrants resent being called criminals. Some of them are friends of mine, but political correctness aside they know they've committed a crime. It probably shouldn't be considered a felony, but it's frustrating to have to distort the truth because sometimes it hurts.

Deportation of up to 20 million Hispanic workers is impossible. It is impossible for pragmatic reasons and for political reasons. In other words, we don't have the resources to do it and we would be pilloried as neo-Nazis throughout the world if we did.

If our border with Mexico were secure, permitting almost zero incursions, we could then plan a reasonable amnesty program for those already in the United States. Registration, five years minimum residency beginning from the time of registration, a working knowledge of English and of our state and federal laws. People who commit crimes would continue to be deported.

We owe no less to our legal immigrants (of whom I am one). They obeyed the law, waited their turn, and assimilated into American society.

Which brings me to another point: assimilation still ought to be our cherished goal for these people. Preserving one's culture and language is a good thing as far as it goes. But if one wants to become an American, adopting our culture and language becomes a priority. (Although my parents spoke English poorly when they came here, they insisted we all speak it at home.)

In New York City, where political correctness is orthodoxy, classes are taught in some 15 different languages in the elementary schools. Rather than teaching everyone English until he or she attains some proficiency, they try to please all the immigrants by teaching subject matter in these different tongues. It's madness.

Among the people who are offended by all the bending backwards that's being done for illegal immigrants are — guess who? — our African-American citizens. They are offended by those who compared the illegal immigrants' march to the civil rights protests, and rightly so. They are also offended by the thinly veiled reference to "Americans who won't do the work." They know it usually means them.

If we pass a bill raising the minimum wage to a living wage, we learn to respect all labor equally, from the school maintenance man to the teacher, we will find plenty of people to do the work. A living wage, I believe, is what all of us deserve.
Gardening with Charlie

A rose for all seasons

I love roses, but they can be fussy, hard to grow and prone to insects and diseases. I used to avoid growing them, and then I discovered “landscape” or “modern shrub” roses. This loosely defined group comes in a variety of shapes and sizes, and they all are widely adapted, hardy, pest-free and easy to maintain. Plus, these attractive shrubs flower all season.

Landscape roses are versatile. They can be planted next to the house as foundation shrubs, they fit nicely in a border as a complement to perennials and lilies and other perennials, and they can be grown as an informal hedge to block an unsightly view or your neighbor’s yard. Diane Shifrits, an American Rose Society Master Consulting Rosarian in Michigan, loves to plant landscape roses right in the middle of her front yard.

“I plant different varieties with similar flower colors and heights all together, so by summer it’s all flowers and foliage,” she says. “These are wash-and-wear roses. All I do is give them a little fertilizer and mulch, and they bloom beautifully from spring until fall.”

No matter where you plant them, landscape roses require little attention and provide months of elegant blossoms.

Shrub Rose Selections
Here are some of the best shrub roses I’ve grown in my yard:

• **The Fairy.** This 3-foot-tall shrub produces an abundance of 1-1/2-inch-diameter pink or red flower clusters from early summer until frost. It’s hardy in USDA zones 4 to 9.

• **Rosa rugosa.** These are some of the toughest, most reliable shrub roses. They grow in almost any type of soil, even sand, and thrive in regions as cold as zone 3. Rugosa roses grow about 6 feet tall, with wrinkled foliage and a spreading habit. They produce fragrant white, pink or red flowers, which form beautiful red fruits (hips) in fall. The newer hybrids have the longest blooming time.

• **Flower Carpet.** These low-growing roses stay 1 to 3 feet tall and spread along the ground. They produce white, pink, coral or red flower clusters on dark green, disease-resistant foliage, and are hardy in USDA zones 5 to 10.

• **Bonica.** This 4- to 5-foot-tall, disease-resistant shrub produces an abundance of shell pink roses. It’s hardy to zone 4 and was voted the World’s Favorite Rose in 1997 by the World Federation of Rose Societies.

• **Knock Out.** This 4-foot-tall and wide shrub rose is known for its exceptional resistance to black spot disease and its ability to produce a wealth of pink, red or orange blossoms all summer. It grows well in part sun, doesn’t need deadheading and is hardy in USDA zones 4 to 10.

Landscape Rose Maintenance
Because landscape roses are so carefree, they require little ongoing maintenance. Plant them in full sun on well-drained soil. Keep them watered and apply an annual dose of fertilizer in spring. Prune only to remove dead and diseased wood and to keep the shrubs in bounds.

Charlie Nardozzi, a nationally recognized garden writer, book author, speaker and radio and television personality, has appeared on HGTV, PBS and Discovery Channel television networks. He is the senior horticulturist and spokesperson for the National Gardening Association and Chief Gardening Officer for the Hilton Garden Inn.

All materials courtesy of National Gardening Association

Blood mobile coming May 30 & 31

Highlands-Cashiers Hospital and the Highlands Rotary Club will sponsor their annual spring blood drive May 30 and 31. The bloodmobile will be at First Citizens Bank from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. on Tuesday, May 30. On May 31, the bloodmobile will be at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital from 9 a.m.-noon and from 2:50 p.m. at the Ingles parking lot in Cashiers.
... ANOTHER VIEW continued from page 6

To insure fairness, this decision must be taken out of the hands of patient, family and physician. Neither families nor physicians are very good at making such decisions. Don’t ask me, as a son-in-law to be objective about Grandma Helen, to remember, when she is hospitalized, that not only her life, but the life of Medicare hangs in the balance. Don’t ask me, as a physician, to decide who is to receive heroic care. I might be motivated by compassion, but pride or greed might also lead me to ignore guidelines. I might find the strength to resist demands from a family that “everything possible be done,” but it is easier to yield to their pleas.

I know that there are many who fear the intrusion of government in such private matters. Let me tell you about my Mom. She died just shy of her 83rd birthday. She had lived in a nursing home for five years following a devastating stroke. She had five separate and distinct primary cancers during her life. As her 83rd birthday approached, she was dying from the fifth. She was too weak to pick up a telephone, and had she managed even that, her voice was too weak to be heard. An oncologist convinced my sister that Mom needed a liver biopsy to diagnose the tumor. Mom underwent the painful, expensive, and useless procedure and died before the results returned from the lab. I don’t know about you, but I wish that “Big Brother” had been watching. I’m not talking about an ad for a 70-year-old who suffers a heart attack while working out at the gym. I’m talking about my Mom and others like her, those for whom a peaceful death should be both a duty and a right. In a world with starvation in the face of plenty, the Hemlock society, and genocide in Rwanda, can this idea really be so outrageous?

... WOOLDRIDGE continued from page 4

fundamentalists who blow themselves up get 20 virgins in the afterlife. Having lived in Miami most of my life, I have not met too many virgins, so I can’t really say whether that is a good thing or not but it’s got to be better than pitchforks and molten lava.

Sikhs have it even worse. While I am sweating out hell, they have to be re-born thousands of times until they get it right. If they goof up, they just might be reincarnated as a flea on Osama’s beard. Did Sikhs ever have a choice to be re-born thousands of times? Is it fair for them to have to be put through all of that? At least I only have to do this once…hopefully.

In less than a 100 years, everyone reading this newspaper will be dead.
Donations support Americans orphaned by ‘War on Terror’

This is the fourth year of the Highlands Special Operations Warrior Foundation event. We have three events this year to help raise money to support the foundation. The committee works year round to continue the efforts to give an education to children of fallen special operations personnel. We hope you will share our vision. Imagine the tragedy of a child waking to realize that his parent would not be coming home.

This year the foundation has become part of a unified effort in addressing the need of special operations personnel wounded in the war against terror. To this end, the foundation joined a coalition of non-profit organizations dedicated to assisting the wounded. The Warrior Foundation coordinates with the Special Operations Command to ensure all needs of the wounded special operations personnel are met including providing $2,000 to meet the immediate needs their families face when special operations people are hospitalized.

Please help us with this noble cause. Special operations personnel are from all branches of our services. These children’s parents gave all for our country, now it's our turn to make sure their sacrifices and their children are not forgotten. All the proceeds will be donated to the Warrior Foundation, a non-profit 501©(3) organization with more than 600 children in its program. This year 69 special operations forces casualties were reported.

Those 69 left behind 72 children. If you would like to donate to this cause please send your checks to Warrior Foundation, PO Box 923, Highlands, NC 28741.

We will raffle 2 oriental rugs from Shiraz and 3 leather USA jackets from Jolies. The raffle will start May 1, and the drawing will be June 24 after the race. The cost of the tickets is $2 each or 6 for $5. Tickets are being sold at Shiraz Rugs, Jolies, Macon Bank, Citizens bank, D&J Express Mart, Cashiers BP Station, and most weekends at Bryson Grocery and Oak Street Square. The following events will take place:

- Wednesday, June 21: Golf Tournament at Sapphire Mountain Golf Club, 2 p.m.
- Thursday, June 22: Silent/Live Auction, Conference Center, 5:30 p.m.
- Friday, June 23: Spaghetti Dinner open to the public, Recreation Center, 5:30 p.m.
- Saturday, June 24: SOAR Adventure Race, Elite 7 a.m., Sprint, 8 a.m.

The race will start on Main Street with veterans from four wars, and Mary Beth Brady singing the national anthem.

Our committee is always looking for new members. Anyone interested in volunteering please contact us. If you would like to volunteer for one of the above events, please call Bill or Nancy Horwitz at 526-0224.

**More school mold test results in**

Mold results from the NC Dept. Public Health Division April 4 testing are in. Tape lift samples taken from four areas at Highlands School indicate low to moderate amounts of mold spores, a few hyphae, several types of pollen including pine, unidentified opaque materials, fiberglass, plant hairs, dander, cellulose fibers, plant hairs, carbonates, amorphous debris and starch.

Though health effects from poor indoor environmental quality are real, related illnesses and symptoms vary among inhabitants, said David Lipton, with the state public health division.

“It is difficult to determine the specific cause of symptoms among building occupants because people are continuously exposed to a wide range of chemical substances, biological and physical agents found in normal indoor and outdoor environments,” he said.

Since some people at the school are clearly affected by something, Lipton suggested investigating if water movement is evident in the concrete slab; instituting an aggressive roof maintenance program; prohibit fur-bearing animals in the school; removing soils from the building; purchasing a temperature and relative humidity meter to insure mold can’t live in the environment.

Meanwhile, results from the Air Quality test performed by Certified Indoor Air Group on May 4 in Ms. McClellan’s room are inconclusive. When the machine was put back in the room on Wednesday and results are expected next week.

**Carolina Closet**

Women’s Fashion & Accessories with a Flair!
Stop in & check out our Store – Wide Sale in Wright Square
137 Main St. Highlands
828-526-0100

**Carolina First**

We take your banking personally.

**Carolina Prime Checking Account**

3.63% APY

ON BALANCES GREATER THAN $7,499

Unlimited Check Writing
Free Checks
Free ATM Pay
Free Online Banking
Free Safe Deposit Box
Free Debit Card Issuance

**Junker Management – Services Offered:**

- Pressure Washing
- Painting
- Carpentry
- Landscaping
- Winterizing
- Flagstone
- Property Management Services
- And Much More...

Over 20 yrs Experience
Reliable with References
828-369-7464 Office • 828-421-5283 Cell • 828-524-8919 Fax
www.junkermanagement.com

Prosper in 2006!
Advertise in Highlands’ Newspaper!
Call 526-0782 or email: highlandseditor@aol.com
Wow!

Worship of Welcome
Sunday, May 21
at the Highlands United Methodist Church
315 Main Street • 526-3376
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
11 a.m. Worship Service

Are you looking for...Meaning in life? Inspiring worship?
New friendships? A growing relationship with God? A place to belong?
Join Us!

Each year as spring arrives, Highlands comes to life with the profusion of color and beauty that surrounds us. The annual arrival of the hummingbirds signifies that it is time for our summer residents and visitors to return and bask in this glorious season.

Come share a meal together after worship.
Please join us. We want you to come!

Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors.

Mrs. Hedden’s class won $100 for having the highest percentage of participants at the Fun Run, Saturday, May 6 at Highlands School. Participants included students and their parents.

Highlands Eateries

Buck’s Coffee Cafe
Sun.-Thurs. 7:30 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Fri & Sat. 7:30 a.m. - 11 p.m.
Live music Saturday at 8 p.m

Coffee, tea, wine, pastries, sandwiches
384 Main Street

High Country Cafe
Breakfast & Lunch
7 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Closed Saturday
526-0572
Cashiers Road next to the Community Bible Church

Stop in for slow-cooked BBQ that’ll have you coming back for more.

Pescado’s Burritos
In the middle of 4th St.
Open for lunch
Mon-Fri • 11-3 • 526-9313

Open for lunch Mon-Fri
At 4th & Spring streets...on the hill
526-5916
$10 minimum with credit card

SPORTS PAGE

Sandwich Shoppe
Soups • Salads • Desserts
Loaded Baked Potatoes
Mon.-Sat. 11 a.m.-3 p.m.
Open for its 16th Season
Main Street • 526-3555

Brick Oven Pizza
Made-to-order pizza, calzones & salads.
Open for lunch & dinner
526-4121 Mt. Brook Center

Elementary class gets $100

Mrs. Hedden’s class won $100 for having the highest percentage of participants at the Fun Run, Saturday, May 6 at Highlands School. Participants included students and their parents.

Worship of Welcome
Sunday, May 21
at the Highlands United Methodist Church
315 Main Street • 526-3376
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
11 a.m. Worship Service

Are you looking for...Meaning in life? Inspiring worship?
New friendships? A growing relationship with God? A place to belong?
Join Us!

Each year as spring arrives, Highlands comes to life with the profusion of color and beauty that surrounds us. The annual arrival of the hummingbirds signifies that it is time for our summer residents and visitors to return and bask in this glorious season.

Come share a meal together after worship.
Please join us. We want you to come!

Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors.

Mrs. Hedden’s class won $100 for having the highest percentage of participants at the Fun Run, Saturday, May 6 at Highlands School. Participants included students and their parents.
BOE continued from page 1

serve. You should look at the people available here in Macon County.

Corbin: The method and criteria for selecting Dr. Rodney Shotwell began with us receiving 30-40 applications after which a lengthy interview process narrowed candidates to four then two and finally Shotwell.

Bennett: I don’t understand your criteria for teachers or your process of choice or elimination. Your criteria isn’t what other counties seem to use.

Corbin: Teacher selections are done with site-based interviews. First applications come into the Human Resource Department and they go through a committee and then are considered for interviews. There are typically a huge number of candidates to select from and we look for qualities and characteristics that best fit our needs.

Bennett: I don’t understand your budget. I’ve looked at it and I don’t understand it. I’m educated woman but I don’t understand $50,000 for workshops and staff development and $2,000 for substitute fees or why positions aren’t delineated in the budget. It’s time to explain it to citizens of Macon County. I’m sure they can understand if told.

Corbin: The budget process begins in the spring at the school level and two versions are presented to committee and then a final version is sent to the board of education for approval. It’s a basic revenue and expenditure budget that is carefully audited each year.

Bennett: I don’t understand how choices are made for some positions at the district office when they aren’t advertised. I’ve been told that it’s a lateral move without a pay increase the position doesn’t need to be advertised, but there are several positions in the district office where salaries were increased and they weren’t advertised. Your interpretation of what can and can’t be addressed to the public is not what the state says is admissible especially when public funds are involved.

Corbin: I don’t really know what you are referring to, but it’s personnel matters and the State mandates that personnel files and all contracts are confidential and not subject to public inspection. Nor is anything gathered during employment open to public inspection.

Bennett: Why doesn’t Highlands have a principal? Why aren’t those with advanced degrees who have applied for the job interviewed? I’ve been told that one board of education member can recommend or turn down an individual being considered for hire.

Corbin: As far as a principal in Highlands goes – we have an interim principal and we are re-advertising for the principal position. We got eight or nine applications but we want to advertise further. Selection will ultimately be up to the interim superintendent and he will decide if the selection will go to committee or not. We have four principal openings for the 2006-2007 school year so this isn’t just about Highlands.

Bennett: I don’t understand why some board of education members are so greatly involved in the day-to-day activities in some schools?” asked Bennett.

Corbin: Board of education members are elected by the public and have the right to be as involved or uninvolved as they choose to be.

Bennett: Why are there so many closed sessions? If situations are so important as to merit investigation by outside attorneys – how did it happen in the first place and how is it being resolved? There seems now to be a veil of secrecy concerning the board of education.

Corbin: There have been closed sessions lately due to difficult personnel issues we have had to deal with over the last two months. We are not operating under a veil of secrecy and I resent you suggesting such a thing. We are following state statutes while we work out these issues.

... BOE continued from page 1

Pervious Pavers among friends.

Hey, what’s a few pervious pavers among friends.

Give OEI anything it wants.

I don’t see any other landlord spending millions to make Highlands beautiful.

I’m Don Leon and that’s MY opinion.

Village Square Art & Craft Show Saturday May 27th 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Local artisans Fine art and Folk Art, Pottery, Metalwork, Woodwork, Hooked Rugs, Jewelry and more— over 25 local artisans Music by Sylvia Sammons Food at Fresser’s Public rest rooms Downtown Highlands on 5th Street between Oak and Pine (just one block off Main St.) Call 787-2021 for details.
The newest way to get around

Nancy Hancock of Mountain Glides in Franklin, has been “segwaying” her way around Highlands lately drumming up business for her guided tour business in Franklin. Guided tours come complete with a segway for all. The Segway is a two-wheeled, self-balancing personal transportation device that runs on rechargeable batteries. It is compact enough to maneuver on a pedestrian sidewalk, yet powerful enough to climb hills, and glide you along gravel pathways. As you step up on the Segway, gyroscopes and tilt sensors in the unit monitor a rider’s center of gravity at about 100 times a second. When the rider leans slightly forward, the Segway moves forward, and when the rider leans slightly back it slows, lean back a bit farther and it stops. You steer by turning the handle with your left hand and the machine turns in a 360-degree circle. It’s that easy. It is eco-friendly and quiet. For more information, call 828-349-0506.

Instant Theatre Company offers summer acting sessions for grades 5-12

This summer will prove to be a fun, exciting and incredible learning experience for 20 lucky young people. Jillian Burfete (also known as the Donkey Rider from The Instant Theatre’s successful show Little Entertainments) will lead novice actors in an awesome journey toward performing a “Harold.”

A “Harold” is a complex improvisational technique equivalent to a made-up-on-the-spot three-act play. These special students will learn to create individual characters, build scenes while working toward supporting fellow actors, and how everything connects.

Session One is for grades 5th-7th, starting June 19 through June 30, 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Session Two is for grades 8th - 12th starting July 10 through July 21, 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

The tuition for the two-week session is $175 for 25 hours. Each session is limited to 10 students. Early registration is strongly suggested. Call the Instant Theatre Company at 342-9197 to register or for more information.

The arts are a primary means of educating students to be resourceful, self-disciplined, inventive, self-directed, and to be critical problem solvers.
The Man Who Wouldn’t Disappear

While on mission in Bolivia in March, I encountered a man who made his home on the street corner just down the block from our hotel in Montero. His home was the park bench under one of the large ficus trees growing along this busy street. While I was just walking past the bench where he lay, I noticed his eyes were glassy-looking, his feet and hands were somewhat misshapen. He was not only blind, but he was deaf and mute. Some time ago the man had made this park bench his home. He was almost grotesque to the eye, but what made him even more so was his unwillingness to wear any clothing. The nuns from the convent had made an effort to give him clothing to wear, but he would tear the clothes from his body.

On this hot day the clothes were strewn beside the bench. Only on very cool days would he drape a shirt across his shoulders, leaving the rest of his body exposed to every walker and motorist who traveled down this road. Because his presence was on a main road in town, the community had attempted to make an effort to “relocate” him to a more discreet location in town, placing him on a less-traveled road. Their efforts were futile, as each time he would return to his home – the same park bench on Calle Warnes. Since Montero had no other place for someone such as this, and since their efforts at relocation had been unsuccessful, the community had decided to just let the man be.

Various persons would walk by and give him food and water to drink, and although not ideal for the image of the town, they had allowed him to lie there on the busy main road. They had decided, despite of his brokenness, to still allow him to be a part of their community the best way they could.

Of course, in the USA, we have places to put people who don’t fit. We have developed a very good system for those who don’t belong, who don’t function “normally,” who can’t contribute to society. We have our ways of removing the people with whom we don’t like to deal from our life. But isn’t it interesting that in life, as soon as someone disappears, there is always another and another and another?

Wouldn’t it be easier if those who made us uncomfortable would just disappear? We are very good at determining friends and enemies. We want things black and white, for and against, pro and con, and seek to surround ourselves with people who believe, who think, who act just like we do in a kind of pseudo-community. Any flies in the ointment are to be quickly disposed of. If not, we will change neighborhoods, change churches, change schools, change hospitals.

See SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING pg 18
Upcoming Events

- Every other Tuesday night a film at PAC beginning May 23 at 7:30 p.m. with “Out of Africa.” Refreshments begin at 7 p.m.
- First Saturday June, July, 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. Piano: Tillie Arwood. Song Leader, Carol Shuttleworth.
- On-going programs at the Highlands Nature Center.
- 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 progression illness with a loved one. If interested in attending, please contact Helen Moore (Hospital) 398-0727 or Martha Porter (Chaplain at HCH) at 787-1466.
- Every Tuesday evening, Sweet Treats meets at the Highlands Civic Center for a meeting on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m.
- Registration is now open for the 2006 summer day camps at the Highlands Nature Center. Camps are being offered this year: “Amazing Animals,” “NatureWorks,” “Mountain Explorers,” Jr. Ecologists,” and “WOW!” Each camp runs from Mondays to Fridays. For details, call 526-2623.
- Every Tuesday evening, Spiritual Cinema Circle at The Instant Theatre Company brought to you by StarPony Productions at 7 p.m. Visionary, inspiring movies showcased at film festivals around the world are viewed. Suggested donation: $5. Beverages and snacks available for purchase.
- Live music at Cyrus Restaurant every Friday at 9:30 p.m.
- Live music at Buck’s Coffee Cafe every Saturday night from 8-11 p.m.
- Live music at Sweet Treats every Saturday.
- Live music at Fressers in Helen’s Barn with Cy Timmons, Wed., Fri., & Sat. 6-9 p.m.
- Highlands Wine and Cheese Shop: Wine Flights every Saturday 4:30-6:30.
- A free outdoor screening of “The Sound of Music” will be held Thursday May 18 at dusk at Tasse Shelter on the Little Tennessee River Greenway. The Robert Wise film won five Academy Awards including best picture, director, and score (music by Rodgers and Hammerstein). Set in Austria during WWII, it stars Julie Andrews as Maria, the singing nun turned governess, who brings music back into the lives of the seven Von Trapp children and their father, played by Christopher Plummer. Classic cartoons are shown from 7 p.m. until dusk.
- Marriage Enrichment from 6-9 p.m. on Friday 10-12-30 p.m. and 3-4 p.m. on Saturday at the Ballpark. $45 per couple includes admission to ice cream social and presentation. Featuring Steve & Patti Cappe and Dr. Dennis Swanson. Space is limited. Call 526-4685 for tickets.
- Bartram Day at the Little Tennessee River Greenway Tasse Park & Shelter in Franklin from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Featuring food, speakers and more. For more information, call Dan Pittillo at 828-293-9661.
- Summit School Memorial 5K Classic, 8:30 a.m. at the Summit School parking lot in Cashiers. Entry fee is $15 prior to the race or $20 race day.
- May 21
- WOW! Celebration at Highlands United Methodist Church at 315 Main Street, Sunday School at 9:45 a.m., worship at 11 a.m. Looking for meaning in life, inspiring worship, new friendships, a growing relationship with God, a place to belong? Come enjoy worship and a meal. Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors.
- Cynthia Strain, generally known as the “Highlands Photographer,” will be leading an afternoon photo workshop on Sunday, May 3. There will be 2 hours of instruction and an hour of field time at the Biological Station. The cost is $35. The class will cover both film and digital cameras and is geared toward amateurs or intermediate photographers. Class size is limited to 12. Call Cynthia at Mill Creek Gallery & Framing to reserve your place at (828) 787-2021.
- Grateful Heart’s Trio will be in concert, Sunday, May 3, 6:30 p.m. at First Baptist Church Highlands. The Grateful Heart’s Trio consists of Jerry Bowers, Lyle and Juanita Boyd from Asheville, NC. Jerry has been serving the Lord faithfully for many years. He is a member of Freedom Baptist Church and is retired. For additional information please call 526-4153.
- May 22
- Birds & Bees, etc., as pollinators - a program by Dr. James Costa to be held at The Nature Center at 2 p.m.
- Highlands Audubon Society sponsors a field trip to local hot spots to view breeding birds. Meet at 7 a.m. in the Parking Lot next to Highlands Town Hall to carpool. Questions, Edwin Poole, 526-2775.
- May 23
- Proctors needed for End of Grade testing at Highlands School from 8 a.m. until about 11 a.m. Each testing session requires a proctor. If you are a teacher, please contact Annette Jenkins at Highlands School at 526-2147.
- May 24, 25, 26
- Academic Banquet at Highlands School, Friday at 6 p.m. in the old gym.
- Come hear Marguerite Williams, commissioner of the town of Davidson, N.C., speak about the process and experience of a small town facing booming growth from nearby Charlotte in her presentation, “Planning for Healthy Growth: From Ideas to Action.” Ms. Williams’ slide show and commentary will be held on Thursday at 5:30 p.m. at the Highlands Conference Center.
- Zahnier Conservation Lecture Series. Dr. Steve Tilley will give a talk entitled “Discovering Salamander Diversity” at the Highlands Nature Center. Admission is free.
- Movie at PAC: “Kilowatt Our’s” — Come see this 65 minute movie which follows filmmaker Jeff Barrie on his 18-month journey across the southeast United States, where more than six tons of coal are burned to generate electricity for the average home annually. Leaving the devastation behind, the story makes an uplifting turn, uncovering hope-filled examples of conservation, efficiency and renewable power at work today. Showed sponsored by the Jackson Macon Conservation Alliance on Thursday at 7:30 p.m. at the Performing Arts Center, 507 Chestnut St., Highlands. Call 526-9938 Ext. 320 for more information.
- May 26
- New exhibit at Mill Creek Gallery & Framing from 5-7 p.m. Watercolors by Margaret Pelton and altered images by Carol Rollick. Wine and hors d’oeuvres. Open noon to 5 p.m. Mon. thru Sat.
- May 27
- 3rd Annual “Salamander Meander” at the Highlands Nature Center. 9 a.m., ages 7 - adult. Join herpetologists on a night search to observe some of the area’s amazing salamanders in the wild. Bring rain gear and a flashlight. $5 per person, advanced registration required. Call 526-2623 for more information.
- Mountain Garden Club Native Plant Sale at the Ballpark until noon.
- Dance recital by Candice Ralston Dance Group at 8 p.m. at PAC.
HELP WANTED

BOOKKEEPER – Must be self-motivated with experience in setting up and administrating Accounts Payable and Receivable with QuickBooks Pro. Possess basic bookkeeping and office administrative skills. Perform customer service with vendors and clients on the phone and in person. Experience with Microsoft Office and the internet is also necessary. Non-smoker. Full time, year round. Fax resume to: 828-526-2702 or Mail to: The Summer House, P.O. Box 1088, Highlands, N.C. 28741.

RAINHOUSE PRODUCTIONS – a local multimedia marketing company needs your help! Like working with digital photos? Need some knowledge of digital cameras, jpeg format, computer, websites, internet, burning copies of CDs, microsoft word and real estate. Pay based on experience. Call 787-2342.


FULL OR PART-TIME RETAIL SALES – Weekend required, no exceptions. Must be responsible, professional appearing, enthusiastic and have retail sales experience. Call The Summer House in Highlands at 828-526-5577.

Cafe Cliffs Country Club is located between Highlands and Cashiers off Highway 64. 828-526-2165 wildcliffs@aol.com, 770 Country Club #13, 828-770-4799. Summer House in Highlands at 828-526-5577. Civic and have retail sales experience. Call The Summer House in Highlands at 828-526-5577. Salary depends on experience. Full benefits available after 60 days. Pre-employment substance screening. Call Mary Osmar, 828-526-1301 or apply online through the website, www.hchospital.org.

CLINICAL LABORATORY TECHNOLOGIST OR CLINICAL LABORATORY TECHNICIAN at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital, 11:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. Optional day shift, if available. Generalist with experience to work all areas of Lab. Must have good communication and computer skills. This full-time position offers competitive salary and includes benefits after 60 days. Pre-employment substance screening. Call Mary Osmar, 828-526-1301 or apply online through the website, www.hchospital.org.


GATE AIDE – New position. Wouldn’t it be great to work where you are truly appreciated and rewarded for the care you provide? Wouldn’t it be great to have leaders who are committed to quality care, where the starting salary and differentials are very good, and where excellent, affordable benefits are available? There is such a place – Piedmont Eckerdi Living Center at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital in Highlands, NC! Call Mary Osman, 828-526-1301, for further information.

FOR RENT

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

VACATION RENTAL – The Lodge on Mirror Lake, fish or canoe from dock. Available weekly, monthly, 3-day min. Call 828-342-2302.


THE CHAMBERS AGENCY, REALTORS is now taking rental applications for the following: 3 bedroom, 3 bath home. Fresh interior paint, central oil furnace, 4 mi. to town. Available NOW. $1,200 plus utilities. $1,200 security deposit. Call 526-3717 Tucker or Jeanne Chambers or come by 401 N. Fifth Street.

REAL ESTATE SALES


BY OWNER – Adorable 3 BR/2 BA Cottage with wonderful mountain view. One mile from Main Street. Highways. $267,000. For App. 828-526-1085.

• Classifieds •


THE COACH CLUB, CHESTNUT STREET, HIGHLANDS, NC. Lot #5 Oversized, well landscaped private lot with 10 x 16 coach house and large patio. Located inside private gated 9-site Park in Highlands. One of the finest parks in the country. Truly $257,000. Call 828-526-1029 or 4363 e-mail: bobmanny@brmemc.net.

LOT FOR SALE - Highlands, close to town. 1.5 acre lot with 300-ft. creek front and long view. Only 2.8 miles from Main Street, Highlands. Lots of large rhodies, hardwood trees and Mountain Laurel. Easy building site with community well, telephone, electric and septic in place. Dramatic waterfall at entrance. Community will be gated. Priced to sell @ $279,000. Directions: From Main Street in Highlands, Take N.C. 106 (Dillard Road) south 1.8 miles, turn right on Mountain Laurel Drive, take first left on Moonlight and first right on Falling Water Drive, pause to enjoy the waterfall view. Continue on paved road to intersection, turn right, take next right. Lot sign on property. Call 828-526-9622 or 828-508-9952 (cell).

CONDO FOR SALE BY OWNER. Great 2-bedroom, 2-bath upstairs condo in town. Save gas, walk everywhere! Asking $210,000. Call for details. 526-3671. Brokers protected.

• Highlands Service Directory •

www.danimalscloset.com
Danimalscloset
I Can Sell Your Unused Items on eBay!
Free Pick-up & Value Estimate
Call for an Appointment
P.O. Box 181
Highlands, NC 28741
Dan Garthwaite
(828) 526 - 5484

Carpet Cleaning Extraction & Carpet Installation
Call: Anthony
828-369-0172

Edwards Electrical Service
216 Keener Road
Highlands, N.C. 28741
(828) 526-5147

J & K Cleaning
From laundry to dishes: from bedrooms to bathrooms: no job is too big or small. So give us a call!
References available.
526-4599 421-3931

Prosper in 2006!
Advertise in Highlands’ Newspaper!
Call 526-0782

• Highlands Service Directory •

Runaround Sue Pet Sitting
Sue Laferty
P.O. Box 1991
Highlands, NC 28741
(828) 526-0644
slaferty@aol.com

Runaround Sue Pet Sitting is located on Main Street in Highlands.
Runaround Sue Pet Sitting
• Healthy Homemade Treats
• Birthday Parties
• Pet Photos
• Hand-crocheted Dog Clothing

NBG BUILDERS, INC.
Custom Homes • Remodeling • Additions
Unlimited License • Insured
Bud Neidrauer 526-4780 • 349-9354

The Computer Man!
But you can call me James
Computer Sales
Mail Order Pricing
New & Used
Computer Services
Troubleshooting & Repairs
Installations & Consulting
68 Highlands Plaza • 526-1796 FAX: 526-2936

Edwards Electrical Service
216 Keener Road
Highlands, N.C. 28741
(828) 526-5147

J & K Cleaning
From laundry to dishes: from bedrooms to bathrooms: no job is too big or small. So give us a call!
References available.
526-4599 421-3931

Prosper in 2006!
Advertise in Highlands’ Newspaper!
Call 526-0782
change communities. We guard and protect ourselves and our children from the harshness of the real world. If the naked man would just go away, we could go on with our view of the world, “out of sight, out of mind.”

But the naked man just keeps coming back! In The Gospel of Mark chapter 5, in the country of Gerasenes, Jesus meets a man confined to live in the tombs. The villagers had tried to subdue him by locking him up in shackles and chains, but the chains would not hold him and the people were terrified of his raw strength. Forced to live in the tombs, he suffered outbursts of emotion and would injure himself with stones. The man on the bench who wouldn’t go away, the least of these, is Jesus.

Could it be that the naked man is looking at our own rehearsed, controlled lives, there is something about all of us that cries out to be loved in our real-ness. In a planned community, in a world that encourages masking and hiding, the Christian community called to find common ground, holy ground, with a world wanting to be loved and accepted as they are – even when it challenges our ideas and beliefs about who is acceptable. This is not easy work, because it begins with our own personal heart. When looking at our own rehearsed, controlled lives, there is something about all of us that cries out to be loved in our real-ness.

The message to the man of Gerasenes was “get your sight, out of mind.”

Jesus meets a man of Gerasenes who need to be embraced for their unrehearsed real-ness. In a world that wants to be loved and accepted as they are – even when it challenges our ideas and beliefs about who is acceptable. Many extra including new tires. Great for gat-tion. Has two motors and will cruise at 40 mph.

The man on the bench who wouldn’t go away is us. And, according to the scriptures, the man who wouldn’t go away, the least of these, is Jesus.
• POLICE & FIRE DEPTS. LOG •

The following are the Highlands Police Dept. log entries for the week of May 3-10. Only the names of persons arrested or public officials are used.

May 10
• At 10:20 a.m., injury to property was reported at Rosewood Market where a $4,500 cooler was damaged.
• At 1:55 p.m., $300 worth of household goods were reported missing from a home on Hutchinson Road.

May 11
• At 2:47 p.m., police and the Sheriff's Dept. caught and arrested Wayne Nelson Harris, 29, of Bryson City for stealing a jeep from Highlands Country Club. The theft was broadcasted and Harris was sighted at the Mountain View BP station. A chase ensued and he was stopped on Saunders Road in Franklin. Harris is being held on multiple charges, including felony B&E and littering.

May 12
• At 12:45 p.m., a motorist at U.S. 64 east and Chestnut Street was cited for speeding 43 mph in a 25 zone.
• At 8:40 p.m., a suspicious vehicle was reported outside a home on Cobb Road.
• At 10:44 p.m., a resident on Sequoyah Drive claimed two women tried to take a stone lion from his yard and put it in their car.

May 13
• A motorist as Main and Third streets was cited for driving without a license.
• At 10:50 a.m., a motorist at Main and Second streets was cited for driving without tail lights.
• At 2 p.m., an advertising scam involving ads on benches was reported to police.

May 14
• At 8 a.m., a $200 carved bear was reported missing from the porch of a home on Mosewood Circle.
• At 8:30 a.m., officers responded to an accident in a parking lot on N. 4th Street. There were no injuries.

May 15
• At 9:31 p.m., officers responded to a two-car accident on Main & 4th streets.

Warnings
Over the course of the week, officers issued 7 warning tickets.

The following are the Highlands Fire & Rescue Dept. log entries for the week of May 12-17

May 12
• The dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with a medical call at the Highlands Inn. The victim was transported to the hospital.

May 14
• Over the course of the week, officers issued 7 warning tickets.

The following are the Highlands Police Dept. log entries for the week of May 17-24

May 17
• The dept. responded to a smell of smoke in a residence on Cabe Drive. A fan in the bathroom had burned out.

May 18
• Over the course of the week, officers issued 7 warning tickets.

The following are the Highlands Fire & Rescue Dept. log entries for the week of May 12-17

May 18
• At 9:31 p.m., officers responded to a two-car accident on Main & 4th streets.

May 17
• At 9:31 p.m., officers responded to a two-car accident on Main & 4th streets.

• Over the course of the week, officers issued 7 warning tickets.

The following are the Highlands Fire & Rescue Dept. log entries for the week of May 24-31

May 24
• The dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with a medical call at the Highlands Inn. The victim was transported to the hospital.

May 25
• Over the course of the week, officers issued 7 warning tickets.

The following are the Highlands Police Dept. log entries for the week of May 30-June 6

May 30
• At 10:44 a.m., a motorist at Main and Second streets was cited for driving without tail lights.

May 31
• At 2 p.m., an advertising scam involving ads on benches was reported to police.

June 1
• At 8 a.m., a $200 carved bear was reported missing from the porch of a home on Mosewood Circle.
• At 8:30 a.m., officers responded to an accident in a parking lot on N. 4th Street. There were no injuries.

June 2
• At 9:31 p.m., officers responded to a two-car accident on Main & 4th streets.

Warnings
Over the course of the week, officers issued 7 warning tickets.