On-going
• Every Tuesday evening, Spiritual Cinema Circle at The Instant Theatre Company at 7 pm. Suggested donation $5. Beverages and snacks available for sale.
• Live music at Fressers in Helen’s Barn featuring Cy Timmons Wed., Fri., & Sat., 6-9 p.m.
• Live music at On the Verandah featuring Chad Reed, Fridays and Saturdays from 7-10 pm
• Live music at Cyprus 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.
• Highlands Wine and Cheese Shop: Wine Flights Saturday from 4:30-6:30.

May 25
• Live music on the covered deck at Oak Street Café Thursday night from 9-11. Singer/songwriter Zorki on acoustic guitar.

May 26
• New exhibit Champagne Reception 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
• Live music on the covered deck at Oak Street Café Saturday night from 9-11. Singer/songwriter Zorki on acoustic guitar.
• The jazz, rock and soul sounds of the Trio Lococo at On the Verandah, 9 p.m. to midnight.
• Outdoor art and craft show from 10 a.m. -6 p.m. at Highlands Village Square and the old Post Office site
• Full Pancake Breakfast Saturday from 7:30-10:30 a.m. A full seated breakfast will served at the ski lodge on NC Highway 106 in Scaly Mountain. Cost for adults is $5, $2.50 for children.
• “Salamander Meander” at the Nature Center. 9 p.m., ages 7 - adult. Bring rain gear and a flashlight. $5 per person, advanced registration required. Call 525-2623 for more information.
• Mountain Garden Club Native Plant Sale at the Ball Park 9 a.m. until noon.
• Dance recital by Candice Ralston Dance Group at 8 p.m. at PAC.

May 29
• Memorial Day Cookout, Pool and Hot Tub Party at Skyline Lodge. BBQ, burgers, hotdogs and more. $10 per person.

May 30
• Blood Drive at First Citizens Bank from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Reservations not needed.

May 31
• Blood Drive at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital from 9 a.m. to noon. Reservations not needed.

June 1
• Live music at Buck’s Coffee Café Thursday night from 8-11. Singer/songwriter Zorki on acoustic guitar.
• Zahner Conservation Lecture Series. Dr. David Webster will present “Rats of the Southern Appalachians and the Endangered Species Act.” 7 p.m. at the Highlands Nature Center. It’s free.

Planning Board approves OEI variances

To stay out of court, representatives of both the Old Edwards Hospitality Group and the town have been meeting to see if they can agree on ways to make OEI’s cluster developments satisfactory to all.

At the May 22 Planning Board meeting, OEI attorney Craig Justus said the granting of two variances would enable OEI to “further cluster” the homes planned for both Satulah South and Satulah West.

Justus requested a variance of the right-of-way width of the road within the subdivisions from 40 feet to 18 feet and

See VARIANCES pg 13

See BEHAVIOR pg 22

See NICK’S pg 22

Planning Board finally agrees on ETJ corridor zoning

It took them a while to get started but finally the Planning Board got some work done on the ETJ corridor zoning issue.

At the ETJ Planning Board meeting on May 23, members discussed property along the corridors parcel by parcel.

The result is along the U.S. 64 east and N.C. 106 corridors, zoning labels now alternate between B-5 Mixed Use and Residential with both applied to specific areas.

In most cases, everything that is currently residential will stay residential and everything that is commercial will be zoned B-5 mixed use for the depth of the parcel.

However, on the U.S. 64 corridor,

See ETJ pg 13

New Nick’s makes it over first hurdle

The original Nick’s Restaurant may be gone but it’s far from forgotten and will rise like a phoenix in a new location if all goes as planned — hopefully in time for the leaf season.

At the May 22 Appearance Commission meeting, citizens got a glimpse of the new Nick’s and the commission approved the plans as submitted.

 Much renovation and remodeling inside and out is needed to make the old Patterson house (circa 1920-30) on the corner of First and Main streets into a restaurant, but both owner Gus Lard and potential tenant Nick Moschouris are ready for the task.

Architect Dennis DeWolf and landscape architect Hank Ross plan to introduce a lot of new materials while keeping the historic theme of the building both inside and out.

By Susanna Forrester

By Susanna Forrester

Reporters

Last year 1,655 middle and high school students in Macon County took the Youth Risk Behavior Survey which contains 99 questions related to violence, school safety, alcohol, drugs, and sexual activity.

751 middle school students and 904 high school students participated in the survey whose purpose is “to monitor priority health risk behaviors that contribute markedly to the leading causes of death, disability, and social problems in youth and adults in the United States.”

There were often marked differences in the problems reported by middle school students and high school students. Almost 50 percent of middle school children reported that bullying

See NICK’S pg 22
The meaning of Memorial Day

By William Bathurst

Memorial Day weekend has many meanings for each of us. For some, it is the beginning of summer. For some, it is shopping at the mall. For others, it is a time for games, hiking, biking, swimming or family picnics. But it is Memorial Day that we will observe this next Monday.

Originally, this was Decoration Day. It began after the Civil War. Widowsof Confederate soldiers placed flowers on the graves of the fallen soldiers. It soon became known as Memorial Day as the ceremony spread to villages in both the south and north. Although many claimed to have celebrated the first Memorial Day, Congress awarded that distinction to Waterloo, N.Y., where Union veterans decorated the graves of fallen comrades on May 5, 1866.

In the south, Ladies Memorial Associations were formed to disinter soldiers from distant battlefields and to rebury them with dignity locally. These associations sponsored Confederate Memorial Days which varied in date according to the height of the local flowering season.

In the north, men took the lead. Congress created national military cemeteries such as Arlington on the former estate of Robert E. Lee. More formal observances started in 1868, when General John A. Logan, Commander of the Grand Army of the Republic, called on members of the order to decorate soldiers' graves with flowers on the 30th of May. In 1873, New York made May 30 a legal holiday. By 1891, every Northern state had specified May 30 as a legal holiday.

One of the first major observances became a model. Five thousand people gathered on a beautiful spring day at Arlington. Small American flags decorated each of the 15,000 graves. After patriotic speeches, the band played a dirge while a procession formed, headed by orphans from the Soldiers' and Sailors' Orphan Home. At the tomb of the unknown soldier, the procession halted for prayers and hymns. Then, with cannons booming, the orphans strewn flowers over all the graves.

While there are great many interesting twists and turns to the

Letters to the Editor Policy

We reserve the right to edit submissions. Views expressed are not necessarily those of Highlands’ Newspaper. Please email letters by Monday at 5 p.m. 500-word limit without prior approval.

Bennett vs. School Board

Dear Editor,

Mrs. Bennett’s comments to the school board as reported in the May 18 issue of Highlands’ Newspaper probably were difficult for the school board members to understand. As a longtime friend of Mrs. Bennett, I would like to try to guess as to the source of her concerns and put them in context for the board.

Both her father and brother had many years of distinguished public service to Highlands. They often commented that you had to treat the public’s money as your own. Unfortunately, upon Mrs. Bennett’s arrival at the school board meeting last week, she was presented with the spectacle of our school board tripping over each other to see who could display the most affection toward Dr. Shotwell.

And she was given the explanation that our tax money was spent to settle a lawsuit by someone, concerning the actions of someone. Mrs. Bennett, given her family background of public service, was probably struck by how casually (and cheerfully) our tax money was being spent.

She probably thought that the reactions of the board would have been considerably different if they were dealing with an employee who had caused them personal financial difficulty.

Mrs. Bennett spent many years as a highly successful and dedicated teacher in Highlands. Her classes traditionally ranked among the very best in test scores in the state of North Carolina. With the administrative turmoil in recent years at Highlands School, many of the great teachers she worked with have chosen to relocate or retire. She has watched other co-workers work hard for advanced degrees, only to be refused consideration for district offices. If the recent hires made by the school board had been more successful, perhaps Mrs. Bennett would be less questioning of their criteria.

In the classic American movie, Cool Hand Luke, the warden famously observed, “What we have here is a failure to communicate.” Given the differences in their backgrounds, it is very easy for me to see where Mrs. Bennett would have trouble communicating with this school board.

As a personal note, I fail to see

Highlands’ Newspaper

Highlands’ only locally owned & operated newspaper.

Member N.C. Press Association

FREE every Thursday; circulation 5,000; 100 distribution points

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

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Copy Editor/Proofreader Tom; Circulation/Distribution/Technology - Jim Lewicki

Adobe PDF version at www.HighlandsInfo.com

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

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

See LETTERS pg 3

See FORUM pg 22
John Garrett Warren graduates from Clemson

John, a 2001 Highlands graduate and Golf standout, graduated from Clemson University on Friday, May 12 with a Marketing Degree in Sports Management. John was recently named Assistant Director of Golf for Kanakuk Kamp, Branson, MO. John wants to thank the Town of Highlands, Mountain Garden Club and Carolinas Club Managers Association for Scholarship assistance.

... LETTERS continued from page 3

where this board has earned the right to be condescending or dismissive to Mrs. Bennett.

Ron Leslie, Satolah, Ga

Time to look toward the future

Dear Editor,

The Macon County Board of Education deserves a pat on the back from all of us as they worked their way through a bunch of “sticky wickets” over the past few months. N.C. State Law spells out in specific detail what boards of education can do and cannot do as they deal with personnel issues. Our board of education has conducted the school system and the citizens’ business in a very professional manner.

While some folks wanted to learn all about the so called “juicy gossip,” the Macon County Board of Education had to deal with all the issues in a very lawful and confidential manner.

Under the circumstances it appears that many of the personnel involved have made some intelligent after the fact decisions (whatever those facts are) and the Board of Education has been able to look out for the welfare of the total school system.

Monday morning quarterbacks often like to second-guess decisions without knowing all the facts and/or circumstances. It might be good to quote ole Mark Twain at this juncture. Twain said, “The man holding a wildcat is getting a whole lot more knowledge and experience about holding wildcats than the man across the street watching.”

The interim superintendent, Dr. Frank Yeager, is an outstanding school administrator and Macon County is very fortunate to have him on board to lead the school system until a permanent superintendent is hired.

In the meantime the board of education, school system employees and students need all of our support as we come to the end of this school year and begin making plans for the new year beginning in July.

Bob Poindexter
Franklin

Student golfers enjoy Highlands

Dear Editor,

Last Sunday and Monday, May 7-8, Highlands once again provided 50 young golfers from three different conferences a golfing weekend that they will remember forever. We hosted the NCHSAA West Region Golf Tournament at Highlands Falls Country Club. Thanks to John Spies,

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Moving to Highlands via London

I just bought a book titled “How Not to Get Punched in the Nose While Drinking in an English Pub.” Yes, I am headed for Highlands but have decided to take an indirect route through London. Clothes and boxes are stacked everywhere. The pile next to my bed table is marked “Highlands” and consists of “kick back, who gives a hoot” stuff to wear. On top of the pile are a dozen forgive me notes, made out to people I insulted during the winter, the latest being the police chief.

On the other side of the bedroom is formal wear which I have labeled “snooty stuffed shirt attire” to be worn while on the Queen Mary 2. I have decided not to wear a top hat as they said it was optional. I would feel like Jack Kennedy, who is the only American I have ever seen wear one.

After reading everything and practicing how to act, I now realize the Queen Mary 2 is the most formal and snooty ship sailing the world today. I am convinced that everyone on this ship has their shorts in a permanent wad and for no reason. Do the kitchen help really wear tuxes?

This might be a scary voyage for me so I will do what I can to try to loosen things up a might. (British talk.) The little missus is already terrified of my conduct but I assured her that since there are no ports between New York and London, they will not put us off the ship. She's not so sure.

Anyway, back to the book. It's full of valuable information, like never say “I’ll have a Bloody Mary” to an England bartender, especially with an American accent. You just might wind up with a bloody nose. Better you should order a tomato cocktail. “Bloody” is a dirty word in queen land and the words bloody and Mary should never be used in the same sentence. Those words next to each other are considered treason. Also, it’s not a good idea to hash over the American Revolution and tell the bartender how my ancestors kicked his ancestors’ rear ends. And I plan on not singing “Yankee Doodle”...(British talk.)

Anyway, back to the book. It’s full of valuable information, like never say “I’ll have a Bloody Mary” to an England bartender, especially with an American accent. You just might wind up with a bloody nose. Better you should order a tomato cocktail. “Bloody” is a dirty word in queen land and the words bloody and Mary should never be used in the same sentence. Those words next to each other are considered treason. Also, it’s not a good idea to hash over the American Revolution and tell the bartender how my ancestors kicked his ancestors’ rear ends. And I plan on not singing “Yankee Doodle”...
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Served with choice of roasted maple sweet potatoes or rice pilaf.

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Served with sauteed shrimp, caramelized onions, red and green peppers and a yummy Alfredo sauce on pasta.

Chicken
Mango Chicken
Grilled Chicken topped with mango salsa and choice of rice pilaf or maple sweet potatoes.

Cajun
Red Beans & Rice
Authentic Cajun (not so spicy) red beans on dirty rice with lots of grilled andouille sausage.

Cajun Jambalaya
Tangy (not spicy) rice/veggie casserole topped with choice of grilled chicken or sauteed shrimp and plenty of spicy grilled andouille sausage.

Fish
Fish Fry
Fried shrimp and fish (of the day) served with choice of our famous Appalachian Fries or rice pilaf.

Crab Cake
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Grilled Fish
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Pasta
Italian Basil Pesto Pasta
Choice of Grilled Chicken or Salmon with roasted red peppers, fresh mushrooms and capers topping a generous helping of basil pesto pasta.

Mediterranean Cold Pasta
Choice of Salmon or Grilled Chicken with artichoke hearts, roasted red peppers, Kalamata olives, green olives, fresh parsley and cherry tomatoes sprinkled with Feta cheese and tossed in a special dressing.

We may not be a 5-star restaurant, but we're proud to have earned 3 1/4 stars!
May is Osteoporosis Awareness & Prevention Month!

The month of May is Osteoporosis Awareness and Prevention month. This is the perfect opportunity to assess your bone health and what measures you can take to prevent bone loss and, preferably, increase bone mass and density. There are millions of Americans at risk for bone loss, with women at four times the risk than men. However, men also experience bone loss and the risk for osteoporosis.

Basically, osteoporosis is a disease wherein bones gradually become more fragile and the risk of a fracture increases. It is a “silent disease” in that no symptoms or pain appear until a fracture occurs. The most common and most debilitating fractures occur in the hip region or spine. Hip fractures usually require hospitalization and major surgery, and can result in loss of ability to walk unassisted and permanent disability. Spinal fractures can cause loss of height, chronic back pain, and even deformity.

Many people do not realize that bone is living tissue that can continue to increase in strength and density throughout our lifetime. Up until our mid-30’s, our bodies are very efficient at building bone mass. As a natural part of aging, after our mid-30’s bone mass begins to slowly decline more quickly than it is rebuilt. Women experience an additional acceleration of bone loss after menopause when the production of estrogen ceases.

Maintaining bone mass is essential to provide support for muscle, protect...
Warning: This is the most personal column I've written. It has nothing to do with Iraq, George Bush, incompetence in high places or the self-serving practices of politicians.

Instead, it goes back to a cardinal event in my life 65 years ago. I was about to turn seven on April 13, 1941. I was raised in an upper middle class family in Belgrade, the capital of what was then Yugoslavia, now the capital of Serbia. My father was a lawyer, my mother a wanna-be sophisticate and lady of leisure.

On April 6th of that year, the German Luftwaffe (Air Force) attacked the city I lived in with a furious bombing campaign, intended to deliver maximum damage. The city was pretty much destroyed. My family and I survived.

(I write about this now because April 25th was Holocaust Remembrance Day. I may be the only survivor left in Western North Carolina, and feel some obligation to stir peoples' memories.)

We decided to drive to my grandparents' home in Croatia. On the way we were strafed by German Messerschmitts, had our car requisitioned by the rapidly capitulating Yugoslav Army, and were greeted at the train station by fascist Croats, their arms raised in Nazi salute.

Shortly thereafter we shrewdly witnessed the arrival of the victorious German Army, perfectly symmetrical in their goose-stepping splendor behind polished tanks and armored vehicles. Three officers were quartered in our house. It turned out that that one of them was enthusiastic about Hitler. They warned us to get out of town before the Gestapo (the Nazi secret police) arrived, following on the heels of the army. They had learned we were Jews, and they knew a lot more than we did about the Gestapo and its methods.

"Go to America," one of them said. "It's the only place you'll be safe." Little did we know that it would take us nearly five years to complete that journey — and not all of us made it.

Not much later we went into hiding in the root-and-wine cellar of my grandparents' home. We boarded in Memoriam: The Holocaust, 1933-1945

Dr. Alex Redmountain

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"I've learned in all my years—and it took a while to learn it—that I have to live with all my neighbors. It's time to end this cauldron of discord that adversely affects our lives and the future of our children and grandchildren."

That statement was made by Denmark Groover shortly before his death in 2001. Groover had been a member of the Georgia State Legislature, and in 1956 sponsored a bill to add the Confederate battle flag to the Georgia state flag. Forty-five years later, Groover acknowledged the original segregationist intent of the banner and called for its elimination. Governor George Wallace unfurled the Confederate Battle flag in protest to a 1963 visit by US Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy. In 1962 the all-white South Carolina legislature voted to raise it over the statehouse where it flew until 2000. Each of these moves was in response to court ordered, forced integration. During the South Carolina debate in 2000, state senator Arthur Ravenel referred to the NAACP as the National Association of Retarded People and subsequently apologized to retarded people for linking them to the NAACP. So I can perhaps be forgiven if, when I see the flag on the bumper of a pick up truck or flying in front of a single wide, I believe the motivation is more hate than heritage, more prejudice than pride.

That's my prejudice and it hits a bump in the road last week. I was riding my bike in Rabun Gap when I noticed a small Confederate flag in the Wolfork Baptist church cemetery. I suspected that the flag flew for Bubba, perhaps killed in a motorcycle accident earlier in the week. Bubba carrying his racist views to the grave. I dismounted and walked into the cemetery. I saw another, then another small flag. Eventually I counted eight, springing like mushrooms after a spring rain, each placed beside the grave of a Confederate veteran.

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The stones were worn with age. Some graves had an additional bronze plaque with a bit more information. One of the vets was born in 1809. That made him fifty-two when he left the gap to fight for his state or maybe his country. I wandered around for some time, trying without much success to read the cracked messages on the stones. I wanted to know something more of these men, but there was precious little information available. Name, unit, perhaps rank, and maybe birth and death dates. That was it. There was nothing to tell me what had motivated these men. Maybe it had been a sense that they were more Georgian than American. Maybe they believed deeply in the doctrine of states' rights. Some may have felt family pressure to serve. Others were looking for adventure or a validation of their manhood. Some were no doubt drafted, and simply responded to their nation's call. It is unlikely, in the North Georgia mountains that many would have been willing to die for the right to own slaves.

Their markers told none of the story. I tried to hear voices of their ghosts in the gentle wind, but that day, at least, they were silent. I visited each of the grave sites. Then I walked to the cemetery's border, stopped, turned, came to attention, and saluted. My finger tips rested for a moment against the edge of my bicycle helmet, in the gesture I had learned in my own days of military service. The legacy here was not of hate, but of history, of racism, but of respect, of prejudice, but of pride just like it says on the bumper sticker. These tiny flags flew in no one's face, invited no angry response, displayed as they were in a small rural church yard, on a little traveled back road in north Georgia. Our warriors deserve our respect, even when, in the light of history we recognize the evil of their cause. What was being celebrated here, I came to realize, was valor, sacrifice, determination, freedom. It was a twisted view of freedom, the freedom to enslave others, but we cannot judge the heroes of the Confederacy by the standards of today.

Next week, we celebrate Memorial Day, a day set aside to honor all the dead of all our wars. When I moved to the south almost 18 years ago, I was told that Memorial Day was a “Yankee” day. We are not Yankees or Rebels. We are Americans.

On Monday, a day of picnics, sunburns, and auto races, take a moment to celebrate our unity and to remember our warriors, past and present, Southern and Northern. Let us thank them for their sacrifice, for their service, for their bravery. Let us pray that our gallant warriors will not be wasted, squandered to satisfy corporate greed, a thirst for oil, or in attempt to export American ideology or create an American empire.
The 2003, PG rated Indie Comedy, with a genuine all-star cast: Shirley Jones (Elmer Gantry, Music Man), Cloris Leachman (The Last Picture Show, Young Frankenstein), Louise Fletcher (One Flew Over The Cuckoo’s Nest), Seymour Cassel (The Royal Tenenbaums, Rushmore), Shelley Duvall (The Shining, Popeye), and Ursula Burton (Divine Secrets of the Ya-Ya Sisterhood), Written and directed by Gabrielle Burton, and produced by Five Sisters Productions, a new independent film company, made up of the 5 Burton sisters. Music by Timothy Jones.

The Storyline: Young Theresa, a sainted little girl whom everyone believes is touched by God, lives in Buffalo with her somewhat less than sainted family. One day they experience a windfall of cash. Literally. For reasons unknown, a blizzard of 20 dollar bills falls from the sky. Theresa convinces her bickering family and hangers on that the money is a gift from God, for the purpose of improving their lives and the lives of others. (They don’t take a lot of convincing, they are all a little short on the brass). Years later, Theresa, who has since become a nun, has a vision, that the money was just a loan from God, and now it’s time to pay it back. Hmm...., what seems to be a good way to raise about 30 grand real quick? How about a dance contest? OK, it sounds like a lame idea, but it’s the best they can come up with. The only problem they face is none of them are particularly polished, action film, and there is not much attempt to make the story realistic, but it’s not that kind of a film. It is supposed to be a sweet and cute redemption movie, and for that, it works quite well.

For some similar films, try Millions, Joshua, Because of Winn Dixie, and for warm hearted family film with a twist, the Australian film, The Castle. These and about 5,000 more are available for rent or sale at Movie Stop Video.

Manna from heaven being overly saccharine. The quality of most of the acting is good (Ursula Burton as the character of Theresa is the one weak link, or maybe the others are just that much stronger), the filming is well done, with some simple but neatly done effects. Now, truth be told, some critics have complained about this show, that it is amateurish and a little sappy (Nick Schager of Slant magazine refers to it as “Manna from Heaven is a creakily old-fashioned sordid about Christian selflessness and charity, staged and shot like a Lifetime movie-of-the-week that runs at least an hour too long” but I’ve read his reviews before, and frankly, he’s a pill about almost everything. It does not pretend to be a Hollywood blockbuster; it is definitely not a big budget, highly polished, action film, and there is not much attempt to make the story realistic, but it’s not that kind of a film. It is supposed to be a sweet and cute redemption movie, and for that, it works quite well.

Like most Independent films, this didn’t have much of an advertising, so, while it is a really neat film, most people have not heard about it, even though it has a star-studded cast, including five Oscar and Tony winners. But it is a really clever feel good comedy, intelligently written, well acted, lots of plot twists, some romance, some redemption, and a little bit of cliff hanging. It is not a real fast paced story, but it is cute, without

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The Storyline: Young Theresa, a sainted little girl whom everyone believes is touched by God, lives in Buffalo with her somewhat less than sainted family. One day they experience a windfall of cash. Literally. For reasons unknown, a blizzard of 20 dollar bills falls from the sky. Theresa convinces her bickering family and hangers on that the money is a gift from God, for the purpose of improving their lives and the lives of others. (They don’t take a lot of convincing, they are all a little short on the brass). Years later, Theresa, who has since become a nun, has a vision, that the money was just a loan from God, and now it’s time to pay it back. Hmm...., what seems to be a good way to raise about 30 grand real quick? How about a dance contest? OK, it sounds like a lame idea, but it’s the best they can come up with. The only problem they face is none of them are particularly polished, action film, and there is not much attempt to make the story realistic, but it’s not that kind of a film. It is supposed to be a sweet and cute redemption movie, and for that, it works quite well.

For some similar films, try Millions, Joshua, Because of Winn Dixie, and for warm hearted family film with a twist, the Australian film, The Castle. These and about 5,000 more are available for rent or sale at Movie Stop Video.
I’m ready for the summer celebration season! To kick it off, let’s give a cheer for Memorial Day as a perfect opportunity to show off by preparing a special, star-spangled dessert to take along to a community gathering.

Why star-spangled? Memorial Day brings out the red-white-and-blue in us all, giving us a good reason to gather together. And I love it, because my creative efforts in the kitchen can include fresh summer fruits. Since it’s a patriotic holiday, I look to red and blue berries for sweetly inspired desserts.

Stars and Stripes Cookies start with refrigerated chocolate chip cookie bar dough (an all-American favorite!) rolled out and cut with a star-shaped cookie cutter. These baked stars are frosted with a sweetened cream cheese and decorated with sliced strawberries and blueberries. And to top these flag-waving cookies? An additional shower of chocolate mini-morsels.

Any kid I know loves to wave the red, white and blue!

Short on kitchen time? Give kids some baking fun with new patriotic cookie shapes in the refrigerated section of the supermarket. Place and bake these flag, star and eagle-shaped cookies which come with white icing and red and blue sprinkles included for decorating.

For more easy and delicious summer time recipes visit www.verybestbaking.com.

**Nestlé Toll House Stars and Stripes Cookies**

(Makes about 20 cookies)

1 package (18 ounces) Nestlé Toll House Refrigerated Chocolate Chip Cookie Bar Dough
1 package (8 ounces) cream cheese, softened
1/3 cup granulated sugar

**Tasty flag waving in fashion**

20 fresh, medium strawberries, sliced
3/4 cup fresh blueberries
2 tablespoons Nestlé Toll House Semi-Sweet Chocolate Mini Morsels

PREHEAT oven to 350º F.

ROLL cookie dough to 1/4-inch thickness between two pieces of wax paper. Remove top piece of paper. Cut cookie dough into stars with 3-inch star cookie cutter. Transfer cookies to ungreased baking sheet(s). (If stars are too hard to remove from wax paper, refrigerate rolled dough for 10 minutes.) Roll remaining dough to 1/4-inch thickness; cut out additional stars.

BAKE 10 to 12 minutes or until light golden brown. While hot, reshape and pat edges of each star back into shape with knife. Cool on baking sheet(s) 2 minutes; remove to wire rack(s) to cool completely.

BEAT cream cheese and sugar in small mixer bowl until fluffy. Spread onto cooled cookies. Place strawberry slices onto each cookie pointing outward. Place 5 to 6 blueberries in center of each cookie. Top each cookie with morsels.

**Nutrition Information per Serving:**

- 180 calories; 90 calories from fat; 10g total fat; 5g saturated fat; 25mg cholesterol; 135mg sodium; 23g carbohydrate; .5g fiber; 15g sugars; 2g protein.

up the house, put out the word among trusted gentile neighbors to tell everyone we had fled to Palestine, and settled in for an indeterminate time. The neighbors fed us (there was an abundance of food in rural Croatia.) The cellar was our home and our prison for several months. I dealt with it by pretending it was all a movie in which I was the heroic lead.

After a time, my father managed to flee to western Yugoslavia, which was under relatively benign Italian occupation, saying he would send for the rest of us. When the time arrived, my grandparents wouldn’t leave. They insisted they were too old (in their 50s at the time), that things would settle down after a while, and for my mother and me to go on. Amid many tears, my mother and I boarded the train for Split, where my father was waiting.

Jews were not allowed to travel anywhere. We were supposed to register with the local authorities and await deportation to wherever the Nazis wanted to send us. So my mother and I scurried under cover of night to the train station. My father had bribed the conductor to hide us in an inner compartment. We were on the 2 a.m. to Split, a fairly empty train.

At the very next stop, I heard the jackboots of the SS troopers as they boarded the train. They were checking everyone’s papers, and I knew somehow they were looking for Jews. We could hear their officious voices. An atmosphere of fear preceded them as they approached our compartment. There was a ton of fear inside the compartment as well.

My mother, sensing they were about to look in on us, grabbed me and stood next to me at the wall adjoining the door, our backs against the wall and her hand over my mouth. Our room was dark. We heard someone rattle the handgrip.

“Why is this door locked?” A gruff, demanding German voice.

“Oh, please,” the conductor pleaded, “don’t make me open it.”

“Open it right now! Or you’ll live to regret it!”

Another German voice. “Or die to regret it!”

Lots of basso profundo chuckles. “I’m smuggling some liquor,” said the conductor. “I’m sure we can come to some accommodation.”

At that moment, I noticed a few wooden crates near the door. I heard the lock turn. I held my breath. I was terrified that I would cough and give us away. The door slid open.

The conductor reached in and picked up two cases, and, I imagine, gave them to the troopers. I was beginning to retch, trying to catch my breath and not make a sound. Then the door slid closed again. The lock turned. I heard the thump-thump of the boots receding down the corridor. My mother removed her hand from my mouth, and I gasped for air. Neither of us said a word.

We made it to Split and reunited with my father. Over the next few months, we wended our way to Italy, then Spain, then freedom in Cuba and eventually the United States. Later we learned that my grandparents had been discovered and taken to a concentration camp where they died. So had all my remaining relatives.

I realize again, as I write this, how lucky my parents and I were to get out alive.

So I write this in memory of all those who didn’t make it. And with a fierce determination that all bigotry and ethnic hatred shall be banished from this earth.
... HEALTHY LIVING continued from page 6

vital organs, and act as a reservoir to store calcium in our body. Therefore, taking responsibility for your bone health is a vitally important individual challenge.

Weight-bearing exercise is an essential part of good bone health. This includes walking, jogging, aerobic exercise classes, stair climbing, dancing, and the use of weight equipment to add resistance to specific exercise movements. While walking and jogging provide weight-bearing resistance to the spine and lower body, exercising with weights or resistance bands is essential to maintain upper body muscle mass and bone density. It is important to note that while swimming and bicycling are excellent exercises to improve cardio-respiratory function, they are not weight-bearing activities.

When a person exercises any muscle group in the body, the muscle strengthens in response to the workload. At the same time, the bone beneath the muscle increases in strength and density as a response to the imposed workload.

The best plan for most people is to engage in some type of aerobic exercise such as walking, jogging, or structured exercise classes five times each week for at least thirty minutes. In addition, strength training with free weights or strength training equipment at a gym or club should be performed three times each week on an every other day program.

In addition to weight-bearing exercise, consuming adequate calcium is important. Most women over age fifty need 1500 mg of calcium each day, men require 1000 mg. Most people know that dairy products are an excellent source of calcium. This includes skim milk, low-fat yogurt and low-fat cheeses. Other non-dairy sources of calcium include bony fish such as sardines and salmon, greens, kale and broccoli. However, the non-dairy foods contain much less calcium per serving than the dairy products.

Calcium supplements may be helpful for most adults. However, absorption of supplements is not comparable to the absorption of calcium in foods. Also, some gastrointestinal side effects may occur in some individuals consuming supplements. If you have a history of kidney stones, check with your primary care physician on how to best meet your specific calcium needs.

If you believe you may be at an increased risk for bone loss, please contact your primary care physician for an appointment and assessment of your bone health.

Call now to register for our Next weight management Program starting June 5! Call: 828-526-1FIT

... WOOLDRIDGE continued from page 4

Dandy” or shouting “Go IRA.” I will not be showing my DAR associate member’s card either.

Oh, this is important. If the desk clerk in London asks if she can “knock you up” I won’t smile and say “How you doin’?” Yep, another bloody nose, not from the clerk, but from the little missus. Actually all she was offering was a wake up call. See, I told you this was scary stuff.

I am having a difficult time getting myself to 4000 feet. First it was the new grand kid and a week of ga, ga, ga with “The Jakester.” (That’s what we call him.) Then there was helping my other kid pack every single thing he owns, including his parachute, to take a good paying job overseas. Then, when all that was done, the darn travel agent called and said they are practically giving away cabins on the Queen Mary 2 if we act fast. If you’ll excuse the expression, “What’s a Mother to Do?”

While in London, I am going to attempt to find out why my ancestors got kicked out of England in the early 1700s. The King just labeled them “rogues” and shoved everyone on a ship to America. Not fair. I guess it was better than a prison in Australia. I just looked up the word “rogue” and realize “I am one.”

There are a skillion Woolridge’s over there and research will be tough. They’re like Smith’s in America. Oh, just a side note. Are you aware that people with the name Smith check into motels more than any other name? Is that awesome, or what?

Anyway, I plan to start and finish my research in an English pub. I have my accent down pretty good. Eight thirty is called “half eight” and the “a” is extremely long. I can also say “a pint of Guinness, barkeep, if you please. And be quick about it.” If I say that with an American accent….another bloody nose.

So packing is almost complete. I will wait until I get to London to purchase nose splints.
... VARIANCES continued from page 1

A variance from the centerline radius to 90 feet instead of 150 feet.

“By granting an 18-foot roadway inside the subdivision, we could pick up considerable more green space and by moving the homes closer to the road can make the developments appear even more clustered,” said Justus. Also, there would be more of a buffer area behind the houses at both projects. By granting the centerline radius variance, there the property could be more preserved.

Justus said the problem is rules without variances constrain developers from designing clustered developments.

Though the Town Board will have the final say, the Planning Board approved of the changes, though member Ginger Slaughter was reluctant to vote.

“I still don’t consider this a cluster but it is a much better subdivision,” she said.

Chairman John Cleaveland said this would be the third time the Planning Board is recommending the two OEI projects to the Town Board. “If they make these changes and we pass it, that means the Town Board will look favorably on this,” he asked.

If the variances are granted, there will be more buffer area between adjoining property and more green space within the complexes.

In addition to the increase buffer areas and greenways, OEI has reduced the number of homes at Satulah West from 35 to 30 and produced a “vista effect” from the far side of the complex to the creek.

The Planning Board is recommending the variances be granted. Recently, at the Crunkleton subdivision on N.C. 106, the Town Board granted subdivision variances to preserve the property.

The Town Board will hear the case on June 7.

... ETJ continued from page 1

Jacob’s Well and the Crane property behind it, which extends from U.S. 64 back to Hicks Road next to the Rogers’ Hicks Road property, was given a B-5 designation even though the Crane property is currently residential.

Part of the reason was because members thought a vast piece fronting two major roadways might someday be developed for multi-family use.

From the vicinity of Bryson’s Outdoor Tool to Alexander’s Shop, property was labeled B-5 even though some of the spots appear to be residential.

Members said those who want their property zoned B-5 instead of residential will be directed to request conditional zoning for those areas.

On the N.C. 106 corridor, residential properties across from Long Storage were labeled B-5 because of the existing commercial properties across the street.

Originally the corridor was going to be 200 feet wide but a drive-through by board members Mitch Gurganus, Mike Bryson and Doug Campbell made a 300-foot corridor sound more reasonable and the board agreed.

“A 200-ft. depth for the corridor isn’t reasonable because if the required opaque vegetation buffer is included in the corridor width, there would be less usable land,” said Gurganus.

A 50-foot setback has been designated to include the right-of-way setback from the corridor road and the opaque buffer – all starting from the center of the road, rather than the edge of the roadway as originally discussed.

The board of eight people — with four members on each side — were philosophically opposed to each other’s views. But yet, by the end of the meeting both groups were able to come to a conclusion and formulate a plan mutually agreeable to all.

Club ends year with service & fun

A year of community service ended with more community service but lots of fun too, when The Girls’ Clubhouse traveled to Harrisonburg, VA, May 19-21. The group of 12 stayed at the Massanutten Resort and frolicked long and hard in an indoor waterpark after performing community service work for the town of Harrisonburg.

For three hours the girls weeded three very large flower beds which had been taken over by crab grass and weeds. Donations from the community made the trip a reality. Thanks go to Old Edwards Inn and Spa for its $500 donation, to Signature Properties who collectively donated $650. Thanks specifically to Judy Michaud who consistently supports the club with donations, and her co-workers at Signature, Doug Helms, Ed McDonald and others. The girls also raised money through bake sales and litter pick-up.

Pictured are: Tiffany Billingsley, Kristen Hedden, Shelby Houston, Gabrielle Tilson, Elizabeth Gordon, Christie Owens, Amy Fogle, Paige Baty and Stephanie Puchacz. Chaperones were Kim Lewicki, Megan Lewicki and Claire Frederick both of whom have worked as assistant supervisors of The Girls’ Clubhouse all year.

Photo by Claire Frederick
As the four of us boarded South African Airways flight 210 from Atlanta to Johannesburg several weeks ago, I remembered the raw emotions of saying good-bye to Sara last July. After tearful hugs, our 15-year-old daughter/sister boarded the first of several flights that would take her to King William’s Town, South Africa for the next 11 months. It was then that Sara’s great adventure as a Rotary International Exchange Student began. And as flight 210 left the ground eight months later, our South African adventure was about to begin.

As many of you know from Sara’s previous articles published in Highlands’ Newspaper, the past months have been full of new friends, families, travel, school, sports and other experiences that could only occur 8,500 miles away within South Africa’s Eastern Cape.

During most of that time, our understanding of Sara’s new world was limited to e-mails and occasional phone calls. However, as our flight approached the East London airport, 24 hours after leaving Atlanta, the reality of Sara’s world suddenly seemed much closer.

Having previously lived and worked in Kenya and Sudan, Lisa and I had already formed unspoken opinions of what we were about to encounter. But any expectations of “typical” Third World conditions – crowded poverty, pot-holed roads, and infrastructure in general disrepair – were quickly erased as we stepped off the plane in East London.

More on that later, because, of course, our first priority was to find Sara, who had managed to sidestep security and meet us as soon as we entered the airport terminal. It was a wonderfully joyful occasion that included several of Sara’s host family members who had graciously driven to the airport to join in the American family reunion.

Once we had collected our bags and loaded the rental car we were off, thankfully following close behind one of the other families. The first challenge was to keep the car on the left side of the road. Old driving habits are stubborn things, but we arrived safely in King William’s Town, where we spent the next three days getting acquainted with Sara’s hometown and friends. The town itself is considerably larger than both Highlands and Cashiers combined, but still felt as comfortable as any small town. There was no time allowed for jet-lag as the parties, meals and other gatherings began immediately. And it wasn’t long before we understood how Sara had so quickly and easily fallen in love with this place and its people.

One of the highlights of those first several days was helping to deliver soccer shoes and uniforms to a nearby rural, elementary school. About a dozen kilometers from the center of King William’s Town, the simple school was located at the end of a dirt path just wide enough to accommodate our cars.

Classes had been called off for the day and a grand celebration had been organized in honor of the event. Songs, dances and speeches preceded the soccer deliveries, but it was the smiles and laughter of the children that will hold the greatest memories for us. We share their heartfelt thanks with many of you who helped to make that day possible.

For the following 10 days we traveled the Garden Route, a 700-mile scenic, coastal parkway connecting East London to Cape Town. Along the way we experienced some of the many contrasts of South Africa: game parks and dairy farms, beaches and mountains, vineyards and forests, first class resorts and shanty towns, cosmopolitan cities and rural countryside.

Travel was relatively easy (repeating the mantra “stay left, stay left”) as the roads were in great shape, directions were clear and other drivers were amazingly courteous. Our overnight accommodations included a combination of friends’ homes, thatched-roofed cottages in...
game parks, farm estates and a self-service hostel in Cape Town.

South Africa has been aptly described as “the world within a country.”

Beyond the diversity of its natural beauty, South Africa, like much of the world, has experienced significant political turmoil and unrest. However, when you consider the many trials and tribulations this country has faced along the way, the resilience and integrity of the South African people, white, black and brown, appears to have remained intact. By no means is it a perfect place, but, only 12 years since the end of apartheid, there is much to applaud.

From start to finish this was undoubtedly one of the most memorable trips our family will ever share.

Truthfully, we could have been anywhere in the world with Sara and still have had a terrific time simply being together again as a family.

Sara has grown immensely through this whole experience, and we will be forever grateful to all of Sara’s new family in King William’s Town. The Rotary Exchange program provides an invaluable opportunity for students all over the world, and, certainly in our case, to the rest of the family as well.

And as Sara would end her articles, Cheers!

Reunion in East London Airport, Sara, Hayden and Tucker

Sara Bates is a Highlands Rotary Club Exchange student living this year in King William’s Town, South Africa. She will return to Cashiers and her family this summer.
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The Sorrows of Empire: Militarism, Secrecy, and the End of the Republic, by Chalmers Johnson

The Bush administration is obsessed with secrecy. Investigations are underway against the Washington Post for revealing the existence of secret CIA prisons and The New York Times for revealing secret NSA wiretapping of Americans. The National Archives is redacting documents that have been in the public domain for years, some stretching back to the 1950s.

Mr. Johnson is an expert on the politics and economics of China and Japan and during the Vietnam War was an “outside consultant” to the CIA. In a funny passage in an otherwise very serious book, Mr. Johnson says his conclusion about national intelligence estimates was “the best reason to keep them secret was their utter banality. Perhaps they were so highly classified because it would have been embarrassing to have it known once the ‘conventional’ journalistic passed for strategic thought in the Oval Office.”

Mr. Johnson’s previous book, Blowback, was a bestseller about the unintended consequences of American foreign policy. I believe this book about the future of our country deserves an equally wide audience.

It may seem strange to call an empire we don’t have colonies like Great Britain or subjugated peoples like Rome, Mr. Johnson claims that we are just creating a new kind of empire using military bases as our centers of control. The Defense Department currently acknowledges the existence of 725 military bases in 139 countries—at least one in every 72 countries around the world!

The military has also begun to dominate foreign relations: “Slowly but surely the Department of Defense is obscuring and displacing the Department of State as the primary agency for making and administering foreign policy. We now station innumerable more uniformed military officers than civilian diplomats, aid workers, or environmental specialists in foreign countries—a point not lost on the lands to which they are assigned.” I know a retired Army Colonel, Special Forces, who now travels the world as a military consultant. Recently he told me (and we weren’t talking about this book!) how threadbare the State Department was compared to the Defense Department in terms of its facilities: frayed carpets in offices and relatively few computers.

Mr. Johnson claims that as we have built an empire we have turned into a militaristic nation. I read this book several months ago and have been waiting to publish the review for one reason and another. And now I am glad I waited, because this central premise of the book bothered me when I read it; I felt like this would be seen as typical liberal paranoia by a conservative reader. But events of the last couple of weeks have illustrated the point perfectly. First, a general was nominated for the head of the CIA, and if he is confirmed, every U.S. intelligence agency will be headed by a military man. Second, President Bush has “militarized” the southern border by sending in National Guard troops. It seems like we increasingly believe the military is the solution to every problem.

Another of Johnson’s signs of militarism: military preparedness is the highest priority of the state. Remember the “peace dividend” at the end of the Cold War—the one we never saw? In 2000, “global military spending rose to $796 billion, an increase of 3.1 percent from the previous year. The U.S. accounted for 42 percent of that amount, by far the largest proportion.” The defense budget is 15 percent of federal discretionary spending, and that doesn’t count the “black” programs, the CIA, NSA, Special Forces, and you can be sure there are plenty more. And it’s not enough to actually fight a war—that will cost extra. Right now Iraq and Afghanistan are costing us about $100 billion a year.

Mr. Johnson claims that for many years now a primary goal of U.S. foreign policy has been to ensure the world’s oil stays in American-friendly hands. Why did we invade Iraq? Oil and military bases. The people who claimed that was so back in 2003 were deemed as naive or paranoid, but it is true. I think George Bush and Dick Cheney know this is true, but also know that the world would not accept that as the reason because it would reveal the U.S. as an imperialist aggressor so they made up stories about al Qaeda ties and democracy. This explains why Bush is not afraid of the polls. He has said that in the future his actions in the Mideast will be appreciated, and what I think he means is his policies will have secured the remaining world oil supply for the U.S. and left the other countries begging for our scraps. (The other possibility is he is hastening the Apocalypse.)

Where’s the evidence? Mr. Johnson provides plenty. Here’s a good one. Remember Kosovo, and the humanitarian intervention to save lives? “Kosovo’s Camp Bondsteel, a Brown & Root (Halliburton subsidiary) product... too large and permanent to be disposed of quietly.”

Mr. Johnson also documents the frequent use of the “US military in one of its more traditional and well-established roles: protector of private capitalist interests. As retired Marine Lieutenant General Smedley Butler, winner of two Congressional Medals of Honor, wrote way back in 1933, ‘I spent 33 years and four months in active military service... And during that period I spent more time at the orders of a high-class, muscle-man for big business, for Wall Street, and the bankers... Thus, I helped make Mexico and especially Tampico safe for American oil interests in 1914. I helped make Haiti and Cuba a decent place for the National City Bank boys to collect revenue. I helped in the raping of half a dozen Central American republics for the benefit of Wall Street... In China I helped to see it that Standard Oil went its way unmolested.’"

Now the “war on terror” is a convenient excuse to lock up the oil rights in Iraq and the Caspian Sea region (Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan). “Even if the Caspian Basin is not the El Dorado that some claim, it is the world’s last large, virtually undeveloped oil and gas field that could, for a time, compete with the Persian Gulf in supplying petroleum... Our 1999 war against Serbia, our two wars with Iraq, and our war against the Taliban and al-Qaeda in Afghanistan allowed us to expand our empire of overseas bases into the broad southern Eurasian region stretching from the Balkans in the west to the Chinese border in the east, an oil-rich area that opened up to our imperial dreams after the demise of the Soviet Union. Iran is now the only serious obstacle to our military domination of the whole region.” (my emphasis)

So what are the odds we go to war with Iran?

I have written before about the Project for a New American Century, the group of conservatives (many currently at high levels of the Bush administration) who advocate policies to guarantee the pre-eminence of the U.S. for another hundred years (actually they want to make it forever).

Tom Donnelly was the deputy executive director of the neoconservative Project for a New American Century from 1999 to 2002. Mr. Donnelly contributed a chapter to a book published last year called Getting Ready for a Nuclear-Ready Iran in which he writes that a “nuclear Iran” is a problem not so much because Tehran would employ those weapons or pass them on to terrorist groups, but mainly because of “the constraining effect it threatens to impose upon U.S. strategy for the greater Middle East.” That is, the strategy of controlling the oil.

Tradeports.com’s answer to my question about the odds of war with Iran (from earlier this year):

1:2: Overt Air Strike by the United States or Israel by June 30, 2006.
3:1: Overt Air Strike by the United States or Israel by December 31, 2006.
2:1: Overt Air Strike by the United States or Israel by March 31, 2007.
**Upcoming Events**

- **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. Picknick at Tillie Arwood. Song Leader, Carol Shuttleworth.

- **ongoing**
  - 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 call Helen Moore (Hospice) 526-0727 or Martha Porter (Chaplains 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.**
  - Registration is now open for the 2006 summer day camps at the Highlands Nature Center. Five camps are being offered this year: “Amazing Animals,” “NatureWorks,” “Mountain Explorers,” “Jr. Ecologists,” and “Wow!” Each day will look like, and lots of fun and activities for all ages. See ad below for the 2006 schedule.
  - **Saturday** there will be an outdoor art and craft show from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. at Highlands Village Square and the old Post Office site on 5th and Pine St. Music by Sylvia Sammons and food available by Fresser’s.
  - Pancake Breakfast series sponsored by the Scaly Mountain Women’s Club return on Saturday from 7:30-10:30 a.m. A full seated breakfast will be served at the ski lodge on NC Highway 106 in Scaly Mountain. Juice, pancakes, patty sausage, and bottomless cups of coffee will be served and cooked by club members. Cost for adults is $5, $2.50 for children. Proceeds from the event benefit local scholarships and area charities. The breakfasts are scheduled on the fourth Saturday of the month through October. For additional information call 767-1860.

**Ruby Cinemas**

**Franklin, NC**

- **Adult – $6; Child – $4**
- **May 26-June 1**
  - NEW longer weekday hours
  - **X-MEN: THE LAST STAND**
    - rated PG-13
    - Mon - Fri: (4:15), 7, 9:15
    - Sat & Sun: (2), (4:15), 7, 9:15
  - **THE DA VINCI CODE**
    - rated PG-13
    - Mon - Fri: (4), 6:45, 9:30
    - Sat & Sun: (1:15), (4), 6:45, 9:30
  - **OVER THE HEDGE**
    - rated PG
    - Mon - Fri: (4:10), 7, 10:10
    - Sat & Sun: (2:10), (4:10), 7, 10:10
  - **MISSION IMPOSSIBLE III**
    - rated PG-13
    - Mon - Fri: 9:20
    - Sat & Sun: (2:05), 9:20
  - **POSEIDON**
    - rated PG-13
    - Mon - Fri: (4:20), 7:05
    - Sat & Sun: (4:20), 7:05

**Highlands Nature Center. Admission is free.**

- **June 2-3**
  - At Acom’s Gordon C. Maier Estate & Fine Jewelry Trunk Show. Call 787-1877.
- **June 3**
  - On Saturday, June 3, the Instant Theatre Company kicks off its “Summer Season of Entertainment” with The Wild Hog Band sponsored by the ITC and sponsor Country Club Properties at 8 p.m. at the Performing Arts Center on Chestnut Street. General Admission at the door, no reservations are necessary. $10 for adults; $5 for children 17 and under. The doors open at 7:30 p.m. with general seating. For additional information on ITC shows call 342-9197.
  - Highlands Audubon Society sponsors a field trip to Chestnut Hill and other 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.
  - The varsity girls basketball players will be having a car wash on Saturday in the parking lot of First Citizens bank in Highlands. Proceeds will go toward basketball camp.
  - Campaign Kick-off for the new Fine Art Center will be 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Oak Street Property, the site of the new facility. Festivities will include free food (hot dogs and fixin’s), live music, a preview showing of what the new center will look like, and lots of fun and activities for all ages. Kids will have a make-it-and-take-it art project. Visitors will be able to walk the site and see what’s in store for our 2008 grand opening.
  - ARTtecture Exhibit at the Fine Art Center Oak Street property from 5-7 p.m. The exhibit includes architecturally-related works on loan

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**Pancake Breakfast in Scaly this Saturday**

The popular Pancake Breakfast series sponsored by the Scaly Mountain Women’s Club returns on Saturday (May 27) from 7:30-10:30 a.m. A full seated breakfast will be served at the ski lodge on NC Highway 106 in Scaly Mountain. Juice, pancakes, patty sausage, and bottomless cups of coffee will be served and cooked by club members. Cost for adults is $5, $2.50 for children. Proceeds from the event benefit local scholarships and area charities. The breakfasts are scheduled on the fourth Saturday of the month through October. For additional information call 767-1860.
It's all fleeting.

James 1:9-10

The Rev. Thomas Allen
(Christ Church)

I recently read where Highlands has topped the Forbes list of one of the most expensive and luxurious places to live in the USA. It is no secret that Highlands tends to lend itself to being inhabited by the top five percent income bracket. I’m not sour nor upset about this, but merely making an observation.

Being a clergyman, people often ask me who is my favourite theologian or author. Most of the time I say, “The Man in Black, of course”! This man has never written a systematic theology, a devotional, nor any type of “pick me up” evangelical tract. But I have to say, this Man in Black, Johnny Cash, speaks with a darion voice to what ails the human soul. Addiction, brokenness, adultery, you name it, his wrinkled face sings about the awful reality of death and the vanity of fame. Clutching his guitar and with that all too familiar distinctive sound, Johnny rails against the very fame and fortune that built him and tore him down. I admire a country singer who will cover a Nine Inch Nails song which captures the glory days of his career, images of his youth, and the all too familiar sad ending, “What have I become? My sweetest friend/ Everyone I know goes away/ In the end/ You could have it all/ My empire of dirt/ I will let you down, I will make you hurt.” Captured in the video are images of the crucifixion of Jesus as the penitentiary of his own soul as a man who battled temptation and all the lucrative success which his music gave him. He knew what it was like to live in real guilt and the self-destructive idolatry of an ego. Yet, he connected not only with youth of today, but with all generations. It was through his friendship with Billy Graham that he found the alternative way to live Johnny often described himself, using St. Paul’s phrase, “chief among the sinners”. And even though his music was different, his Christian allegiance was different too. He never fit into the plastic mold of spalda pop Evangelicalism, nor did he find comfort in liberal Christianity. When other Christians down-played sin and sang about addiction, Johnny Cash captures a man who had addiction, brokenness, adultery, you name it, his wrinkled face sings about the awful reality of death and the vanity of fame. Clutching his guitar and with that all too familiar distinctive sound, Johnny rails against the very fame and fortune that built him and tore him down. I admire a country singer who will cover a Nine Inch Nails song which captures the glory days of his career, images of his youth, and the all too familiar sad ending, “What have I become? My sweetest friend/ Everyone I know goes away/ In the end/ You could have it all/ My empire of dirt/ I will let you down, I will make you hurt.” Captured in the video are images of the crucifixion of Jesus as the penitentiary of his own soul as a man who battled temptation and all the lucrative success which his music gave him. He knew what it was like to live in real guilt and the self-destructive idolatry of an ego. Yet, he connected not only with youth of today, but with all generations. It was through his friendship with Billy Graham that he found the alternative way to live Johnny often described himself, using St. Paul’s phrase, “chief among the sinners”. And even though his music was different, his Christian allegiance was different too. He never fit into the plastic mold of spalda pop Evangelicalism, nor did he find comfort in liberal Christianity. When other Christians down-played sin and sang about addiction, Johnny Cash captures a man who had
Two local Highlands School graduates awarded scholarships

Allen Shearl (Class of 2005) and Stephanie McCall (Class of 2006), both graduates of Highlands High School, were awarded scholarships from the North Carolina Association of Rescue and EMS, Inc.

Shearl, the son of John and Lila Shearl, was awarded a $9,000 scholarship. He is majoring in Natural Resources at Western Carolina University.

McCall, who is the daughter of John and Julie McCall, received a $2,000, two year scholarship. She is studying Radiology at Southwestern Community College and plans to continue her studies at Western Carolina University.

The awards are given annually to outstanding high school seniors who have shown scholastic achievement, intellectual ability, and financial need. The program provides $700,000 in scholarships every year to children of eligible members of rescue squads and emergency medical services in North Carolina.

...SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING from page 20

... how happy it is to be with Jesus, he sang about the tyranny of guilt, depression, and the certainty of the coming judgment. He did not capitulate to the temptation of watered down Christianity, and the youth of today respected him for this. They saw an honest man who wrestled with who he was before a holy God and offered a real solution to the predicament of the human condition. He reminded the MTV generation of the very things that haunted him his entire life and he wanted them to know that “It is appointed to man once to die, and after this the judgment.”

Cash can give a lesson to the church today. He didn’t sugarcoat the message of the gospel nor did he market the gospel in the language of today’s teenagers. And yet, they connected with him and he with them.

A self-described “C-minus Christian,” Cash says, “even through the dark times, I always felt like I was bound for the Promised Land, especially singing those songs.” Those songs he was referring to was the old time gospel songs from his mother’s hymnal. There was something in the gospel hymns that gave Cash hope. He saw a God who loved him despite his failings. Even after his conversion, his Christian testimony was of a mixed bag. In his later years, Cash took out an ad in an industry magazine with a photograph of himself extending a middle finger to music executives. “And yet there is something in the Cash appeal to the youth generation that Christians would do well to emulate,” wrote Russell Moore. Johnny never ceased to communicate his struggle with life and never pretended to be a “happy” Christian all the time. I think this is why I resonated with him when I watched him sing on the Grand Ole Opry smashing the light bulbs which adorned the stage. He was intense, angry, and full of shame. It was as if he was stomping on the vanity of success and the vanity which seems to come with it. It was his soul crying out in desperation as temptation looked intently at him. And all of this, he came to the conclusion that God saw in him something worth saving.

One of his final songs before he died was a ghostly tune based on the Book of Revelation. With his Christ haunted deep voice, he sang when all of history would be swallowed up by the hoof beats of the Man on the Whitehorse. “The hairof your arms will all stand up! At the terror of each sip and each sup. Will you partake of that last offered cup? Or disappear into the potter’s ground! When the Man comes around?”

“Its all fleeting,” he told MTV News. “As fame is fleeting, so are all the trappings of fame fleeting: the money, the clothes, the furniture.” As Forbes magazine informed us of the privileged place we live, we must never forget “the empires of dirt, and billions of self-styled emperors marching toward judgment.” In the backdrop of his success, he found the richness of God’s grace, the Father of lights who is never shifting, never eclipsed and is always consistent in His character. Hearing Cash sing the words, “Ye who are weary, come home,” offers the amnesty which our souls are longing for. “Ye who are weary, come home.” These are the words written long ago and are the testimony of the church today. Ye who are weary, come home, and taste the richness of the Cross of Christ.
Highlands School May Day festivities include pie eating contest

As Highlands School days wind to an end for 2006, festivities are planned to help the hours pass quickly. Highlands School senior Claire Frederick was the only girl to compete in the pie-eating contest during the school May Day activities last Friday. Classmates Callie Rawlins, Megan Lewicki, Lucy Herz, and Lara Gibson egg her on. Claire opted for a cherry pie but the winner was David "Buddy" Parrish who swallowed a pumpkin pie. Also pictured competing are Taylor Wavra and Ryan Perkins.

Moscouiris said the new Nick's will be just like the old-style Nick's just a smaller scale. "The menu will be more limited but will feature the most popular items from the original restaurant from over the last 30 years," he said. "Still have a lot of hoops to jump through, but hopefully, this will work out." The proposed 50-seat restaurant requires 20 parking spots and Ross has had to do some creative designing to make it work. But it does.

There will be dining on two levels downstairs for general dining and upstairs for private dining.

Nick’s brother and brother-in-law have opened their own restaurant in Franklin so this time Nick, Patti and their daughter Doni will go it alone. But Nick says that’s no problem. "It will just be the three of us."

The Appearance Commission was just the first step in the process. Next comes the Planning Board and then the Zoning Board for a special use permit – something required of every new restaurant.

Building siding will be wood door trim, fascia, and top handrail will be painted green to match the existing building and the railing spindles on additional porches will be painted white to match what’s there now.

"We'll use farm-type fences and stack-stone walls to keep the farmhouse feel of the property," said Ross. Walkways and decks will also be added for easy movement on the property.

Ross said the new restaurant will be more of a pedestrian location than the old Nick’s on N.C. 28 and Fourth Street.

With that in mind, member Ginger Slaughter suggested a sidewalk along Main where the original Franklin Road roadbed now lies but Ross said he’d like to keep the walkway as it is.

"We would like to maintain the current gravel-grass walkway leading to the building along Main Street," said Ross. "It's actually the original Franklin Road." He said it will help maintain the historical aspects of the project.

Blood drive set for May 3 and May 31

The Highlands-Cashiers Hospital and AnMed Blood Center will sponsor the annual spring blood drive here on May 30 and 31. The bloodmobile will be at the First Citizens Bank in Highlands on Tues., May 30 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Then on Wed., May 31, at the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital from 9 a.m. to noon and at Ingles in Cashiers from 2-5:30 p.m. Reservations are not needed. Potential donors must be 17 years of age, weigh 110 pounds, and be in good health. If you have any questions concerning qualifications, please stop by one of the locations and let the AnMed determine eligibility through their donor screening process.
Duke Intern to learn ‘pastor ropes’ at Highlands United Methodist Church

By Susanna Forrester

Stephanie Wilholt didn’t always want to be in the ministry, but soon after starting a business major she realized helping others was more fulfilling than having financial stability.

22-year-old Wilholt has begun her journey in ministry at Highlands United Methodist Church as a summer intern. She graduated from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 2005 with a degree in Psychology and decided to pursue her interest in ministry at Duke Divinity School. Her interest in ministry was sparked further after she worked in the Eating Disorders Unit at UNC Hospitals.

“I love working with people, talking about theological things, and reading the Bible,” Wilholt said. “I enjoy seeing how at work the Lord is in people’s lives.”

Wilholt said that becoming a minister would give her the chance to study theology and counsel others, which is one of the things she enjoys most about being in ministry.

Wilholt applied for Duke Divinity School’s internship program to gain more experience as she prepares to begin her schooling there in the fall. “I want to have a broader sense of what ministry entails,” she said.

Highlands United Methodist Church has been involved with the Field Education Program at Duke Divinity School since 1996. The church has found the program beneficial to themselves and the students.

“The summer ministry demands in Highlands increase tremendously, and it’s wonderful to have someone on board to help,” said Pastor Eddie Ingram. “It helps us and it’s good for the students who want to get hands-on experience.”

“I’ve done lots of other jobs, but this is totally different from what I’ve grown up with,” said Wilholt.

The internship lasts for 10 weeks, and Wilholt will have the opportunity to experience many different aspects of ministerial work, including youth and children’s ministry. She will also sing in the choir, and “shadow Pastor Ingram” through his daily duties as a minister.

ITC kicks off ‘Summer Season of Entertainment’ with ‘The Wild Hog Band’

The Bluegrass audience is one demanding excellence in every respect. Not only are their tastes for instrumental and vocal precision refined, Bluegrass fans require that their bands play with an unending reverence to tradition and at the same time offer music or originality and definition.

It is only that band that will walk the line between tradition and originality that will ultimately satisfy. Benny Queen, Kelly Smith, Josh Carnes, and Charles Wood are just the group to do it. The Wild Hog Band is a Bluegrass band with a contemporary sound. They play and sing a variety of music, remembering the traditional roots while exploring new horizons.

Over the years the “Wild Hogs” have opened for music legends John Hartford and Doc Watson, just to name couple. Founder and local Bluegrass legend, Benny Queen, plays mandolin, guitar and bass, while singing lead and harmony vocals. Joining Benny on lead and harmony vocals is Josh Williams, who also is equally adept on guitar and mandolin. Veteran Kelly Smith adds impeccable timing and an old-time influence on fiddle and bass. Finally to inject drive to the mix, on Banjo there will be master picker Charles Wood. Charles is the 1999 “Walnut Valley National Banjo Champion” and winner of the “1998 Merlefest Banjo Championship”. Most recently he has won the “Rockygrass Banjo” contest in Lyons, CO, and became the South Carolina state Champion last fall. Charles appeared with Banjo legends Earl Scruggs, Steve Martin, Peter Wernick, and Tony Ellis on Late Night with David Letterman and then in concert with them at the New Yorker Festival in New York City.

This is the Bluegrass Band to fulfill your every music dream. The Instant Theatre Company is proud to be opening their summer season, with the sponsorship of Country Club Properties, by presenting Bluegrass at its best at the Performing Arts Center in Highlands at 8:00 PM Saturday June 3. General Admission at the door, no reservations are necessary. $10 for adults; $5 for children 17 and under. The doors open at 7:30 p.m. with general seating. For additional information on ITC shows call 342-9197. If you love Bluegrass you can’t miss The Wild Hog Band.

From left: Kelly Smith, Josh Carnes, Benny Queen, and Charles Wood are “The Wild Hog Band”

On Saturday, June 3, The Instant Theatre Company kicks off its “Summer Season of Entertainment.” The ITC and sponsor Country Club Properties will bring to the Bluegrass lovers of Highlands a dream come true.

On that night at 8 p.m. at the Performing Arts Center on Chestnut Street, The Wild Hog Band will be set to dazzle.
from the Georgia Museum of Art and works by contemporary architects.

June 4
- The Highlands United Methodist Church will recognize Highlands School graduating seniors in worship on Sunday at 11 a.m.
- Wolfgang’s Restaurant & Wine Bistro the site for the 25th Anniversary Celebration of the Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival from 5-7 p.m. Featuring gourmet dining with wine pairing and entertainment by Chamber Music Festival performers. For reservations, call 526-9260.
- The Center for Life Enrichment opens its 2006 season with a fanfare concert by the regionally renowned Smoky Mountain Brass Band. The public is invited to this celebration at the Performing Arts Center on Saturday at 4 p.m. Tickets are $10 available at the CLE office in the Peggy Crosby Center as well as at the door. After the concert, the audience is invited for wine and cheese to meet the band.
- 25th Anniversary Celebration Hosted by Wolfgang’s On Main on Sunday. Please call 828-526-9060 for reservations. Dinner and Mozart at Wolfgang’s Restaurant & Wine Bistro the same evening also.

June 5
- Highlands School High School Awards Assembly at 8:30 a.m.
- Proctors for End of Course testing from 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. If you are willing to volunteer your time to help proctor one of our tests, please contact Annette Jenkins at the school at 526-2147.

June 7
- The Highlands Chamber of Commerce in conjunction with the Innkeepers Association will host the 2006 innkeepers Tour on Wednesday from 1 to 5 p.m. Each inn will be offering tours, refreshments, and door prizes. Participating inns this year are 4 1/2 Street Inn, Chandler Inn, Colonial Pines Inn, Hampton Inn, Highlands Inn, Highlands Suite Hotel, Inn at Half Mile Farm, the Lodge at Mirror Lake, Main Street Inn, Mitchell’s Lodge & Cottages, Mountain High, Skyline Lodge, and Whiteside Cove Cottages. Directions to each location will be available at the Chamber office beginning Thursday, June 1.

June 8
- Bach @ Bucks Thursday from 8-10 p.m. Buck’s on Main Street, Highlands. Call 526-9260 for ticket information.
- Zahner Conservation Lecture Series. Author Jean Maloof will give a talk entitled “Teaching the Tress: Lessons from the Forest.” Author Jean Maloof will give a talk entitled “Teaching the Tress: Lessons from the Forest.” 7 p.m. at the Highlands Nature Center. Admission is free.

June 9
- Highlands School Senior Scholarship Awards Assembly at 9 a.m.

June 10
- Highlands School graduation ceremony in the new gym at 7 p.m.
- Nature by Night” at the Highlands Nature Center. 9-10:30 p.m., ages 6 - adult. Bring a flashlight to learn about nocturnal animals through a variety of fun activities, games, and observations along the garden trails. $2 per person; advanced registration required. Call 526-2623 for more information.

June 13
- The Birds and Landscape of Western Mexico,” presented by Sandy Anderson, Gray Hawk Nature Center, Sierra Vista, AZ, sponsored by Highlands Audubon Society. Program will be held at the Highlands Civic Center. Join us at 7 p.m. for conversation and refreshments, with the program beginning at 7:30 p.m. For information, contact Edwin Poole, 526-2775.

June 14
- Highlands Audubon Society sponsors a field trip to the Blue Ridge Parkway with Sandy Anderson to view summer resident birds. Meet at 7 a.m. in the Parking Lot next to Highlands Town Hall to carpool. Bring lunch, snacks, and water. Questions, Edwin Poole, 526-2775.

June 15
- Zahner Conservation Lecture Series. Dr. Rob Birregaard will give a talk entitled “Sex & Mice in the City: Barred Owls Come to Town.” 7 p.m. at the Highlands Nature Center. Admission is free.

June 18-23
- North Carolina Trout Unlimited sponsors Rivercourse, a Coldwater Conservation and Fly Fishing Youth Camp at Lake Logan Center in Canton, N.C. for boys and girls ages 14-16. Campers are housed in two-person rooms which have their own bathrooms. Cost is only $495 and financial assistance is available. Contact Dick Heald at 828-654-8725 for information. Reservations are filling up so please act quickly.

June 19
- 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 awe-inspiring 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 Two is for grades 8th - 12th starting June 19 through June 30, 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.

June 22 - July 9
- “Fiddler on the Roof” at the Highlands Playhouse. Performances are Tues.-Sat. at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m. Call 526-2695 for tickets.

June 22
- Zahner Conservation Lecture Series. Author Jean Maloof will give a talk entitled “Michaux and the Lost Shortleaf.” 7 p.m. at the Highlands Nature Center. Admission is free.

June 29
- Zahner Conservation Lecture Series. Dr. Jim Costa will give a talk entitled “The Social Lives of Insects.” 7 p.m. at the Highlands Nature Center. Admission is free.

July 2
- Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival, Sunday at 5 p.m., 1st Presbyterian Church Highlands. Atlanta Sacred Chorale. Call 526-9260 for ticket information.

July 5
- Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival Lecture “A Window on the Creative Soul of Highlands” by Rand Shaffner Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. at PAC. Call 526-9260 for ticket information.

July 6
- Zahner Conservation Lecture Series. Dr. Jill Burfete will give a talk entitled “Understanding the Black Bear.” 7 p.m. at the Highlands Nature Center. Admission is free.

July 7
- Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival, Friday, July 7, 8 p.m. at PAC, Grand Opening Gala and Champaign Reception. Call 526-9260 for ticket information.

July 8
- Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival, Saturday at 5 p.m. at the Episcopal Church in Cashiers. Grand Opening Gala and Champaign Reception. Call 526-9260 for ticket information.

July 9
- Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival, Sunday at 5 p.m. at PAC, Festival Concert. Call 526-9260 for ticket information.

July 10
- 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 Two is for grades 8th - 12th starting June 19 through June 30, 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.

July 11
- Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival, Monday at 7 p.m. at the Episcopal Church in Cashiers, Festival Concert. Call 526-9260 for ticket information.

July 14
- Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival, Sunday at 5 p.m. at PAC, Movie: “Intermezzo.” Call 526-9260 for ticket information.

See UPCOMING EVENTS pg 26.
Outdoor Arts & Crafts Show at Village Square this Saturday

Saturday, May 27, there will be an outdoor art and craft show from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. at Highlands Village Square and the old Post Office site on 5th and Pine St. The art and craft show will feature a broad array of local artisans including: William Whiteside paintings and prints, Tim and Karen Chambers and their funky folk art, jewelry by Madeleine Watt and Donna Tew, and custom portraiture (photographic) by Annell Metsker and more. Music will be provided by Sylvia Sammons who will also be selling her wood work. Fresser's Restaurant in the square will also be open by then, so food and drink will be available for shoppers. Rest rooms will also be available. Photo of work done by Bob Williamson. He is a retired Federal Parole Officer, lives in Clayton, Ga with his wife Marian. He is a self taught woodturner who enjoys digging through friends’ wood piles searching for that perfect piece of wood. Pictured: Natural edge Myrtle burl bowl 3” high by 7” in diameter.

AFTERWARD SWING BY PEREGRINE

One of the nicest things about Highlands Cove is that you don’t have to live here to enjoy all that goes with it. Our many amenities are open to the public, pay as you use. There are 18 holes of spectacular golf where the views are nothing short of inspiring. A clubhouse with a fully stocked golf pro shop. A practice facility that rivals any in the area. And a PGA professional staff.

Discriminating diners will take delight in the carefully crafted cuisine that flows from Peregrine at the Cove. Located in the clubhouse, the atmosphere is relaxed and casually elegant. The menu is classic continental American and entirely handmade. Our chefs are passionate about serving up an excellent dining experience. And the full-service bar will quench any thirst.

Great golf. Fabulous food. Excellent service. Enjoy Highlands Cove today. We’re located six miles east of Highlands on Highway 64. The course is open daily. Call 828-526-4185 for a tee time. Peregrine dining hours are seasonal. Call 828-787-2465 for our dining schedule, reservations or information on special events.

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**Upcoming Events**

**July 12**
- Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival, Wednesday at 8 p.m. at Camp Merriwoode. Call 526-9060 for ticket information.

**July 13-23**
- “Noises Off” at the Highlands Playhouse. Performances are Tues.-Sat. at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m. Call 526-2695 for tickets.

**July 13**
- Zahner Conservation Lecture Series. Bill Le Fevre will give a talk entitled “Botanical Explorations of the Bartrams in the South.” 7:00 p.m. at the Highlands Nature Center. Admission is free.

- Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival, Thursday at 7 p.m. at Wolfgangs’, Mozart @ Wolfgangs.’ Call 526-9060 for ticket information.

**July 14**
- Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival, Friday at 8 p.m. at PAC, Festival Concert. Call 526-9060 for ticket information.

**July 15**
- Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival, Saturday, at 5 p.m. at the Episcopal Church in Cashiers, Festival Concert. Call 526-9060 for ticket information.

**July 16**
- Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival, Sunday at 5 p.m. at PAC, Festival Concert. Call 526-9060 for ticket information.

**July 17**
- Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival, Monday at 7 p.m. at the Episcopal Church in Cashiers, Festival Concert. Call 526-9060 for ticket information.

**July 18**
- Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival, Tuesday from 10a.m. to 2 p.m. at PAC, Lecture: “Chamber Music: An Insider’s View” class by Miles Hoffman. Call 526-9060 for ticket information.

**July 19**
- Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival, Wednesday at 7 p.m. at Wolfgangs’ Mozart @ Wolfgangs.’ Call 526-9060 for ticket information.

**July 20**
- Zahner Conservation Lecture Series. Dr. Andy Methven will give a talk entitled “Cool Fungi of the Highlands Plateau.” 7 p.m. at the Highlands Nature Center. Admission is free.

**July 21**
- Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival, Friday 8 p.m., at PAC, Festival Concert. Call 526-9060 for ticket information.

**July 22**
- Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival, Saturday at 5 p.m. at the Episcopal Church in Cashiers, Festival Concert. Call 526-9060 for ticket information.

**July 23**
- Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival, Sunday at 5 p.m. at PAC, Festival Concert. Call 526-9060 for ticket information.

**July 23-24**
- Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival, Monday at 11 a.m. at the Episcopal Church in Cashiers, Family Concert: “Young Artists from Brevard.” Call 526-9060 for ticket information.

- Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival, Monday at 7 p.m. at the Episcopal Church in Cashiers, Festival Concert. Call 526-9060 for ticket information.

**July 24**
- Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival, Tuesday at 11 a.m. at PAC, Family Concert: “Young Artists from Brevard.” Call 526-9060 for ticket information.

- Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival, Tuesday at 7 p.m. at PAC, Movie: “Immortal Beloved.” Call 526-9060 for ticket information.

- Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival, Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. at the Zachary-Tolbert House in Cashiers Historical House, “Outdoor Picnic Concert,” Smoky Mountain Brass Quintet. Call 526-9060 for tickets.

**July 27-Aug. 13**
- “Give My Regards to Broadway” at the Highlands Playhouse. Performances are Tues.-Sat. at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m. Call 526-2695 for tickets.

**July 27**
- Zahner Conservation Lecture Series. Dr. Kelyn Cadley will give a talk entitled “Spiders: Myths, Facts, and Urban Legends.” 7:00 p.m. at the Highlands Nature Center. It’s free.

**July 28**
- Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival, Friday at 8 p.m. at PAC, Festival Concert. Call 526-9060 for ticket information.

**July 29**
- Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival, Saturday at 5 p.m. at the Episcopal Church in Cashiers, Festival Concert. Call 526-9060 for ticket information.

**July 30**
- Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival, Sunday at 5 p.m. at PAC, Festival Concert. Call 526-9060 for ticket information.

**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.

**Highlands Eateries**

- **Buck’s Coffee Cafe**
  - Down home favorites everyday!
  - Breakfast & Lunch 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.
  - Closed Saturday
  - 526-0572
  - Cashiers Road next to the Community Bible Church

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

- **SWEET TREATS**
  - Full Coffee and Wine Bar
  - Soup, Salad, Sandwich
  - Delectable Desserts
  - Incredible Ice Cream & Yogurt.
  - Wireless Hotspot.
  - Piano Music by Anna Fri. and Sat. Eve.
  - April: 9am-5pm
  - Fri. & Sat. till 8 or later
  - Closed Monday
  - Mountain Brook Center (328) 526-9822

- **HILL TOP GRILL**
  - “Quick Service Not Fast Food!”
  - Hamburgers & Fries
  - Sandwiches & Salads
  - Ice Cream & More!
  - Open for lunch Mon-Fri
  - At 4th & Spring streets...on the hill
  - 526-5916

- **PESCADO’S BURRITOS**
  - In the middle of 4th St.
  - Open for lunch
  - Mon-Fri • 11-3 • 526-9313

- **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

Stop in for slow-cooked BBQ that’ll have you coming back for more.
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CULLASAJA CLUB 4 bed, 4 1/2 bath, walk to clubhouse, spectacular view! Stone Fireplaces, Heartpine Floors, Beautiful Kitchen. $1,585,000.

EQUESTRIAN PARADISE 57 acres, Victorian farmhouse, Spectacular view of Blackrock Mountain, gatehouse, pond & stream. $5,900,000.

HIGHLANDS C.C. Spectacular mountain view! 4 bed, 4 1/2 bath, 2 car garage, New Construction. Offered at $2,995,000.

WILDCAT CLIFFS C.C. 12th fairway, exceptional view. 3 bed, 3 bath, Master w/fireplace. $1,100,000. Additional 1.8+/- acre lot $300,000. Available w/conditions.

COWEE RIDGE 3.2+/- acres, features a pond & spectacular mountain vista. 4 bed, 4.5 bath, 2 bonus rooms & large 2 car garage. Offered at $2,150,000.

EQUESTRIAN PARADISE, 57 acres, Victorian farmhouse. Spectacular view of Blackrock Mountain, gatehouse, pond & stream. $5,900,000.

HIGHLANDS C.C. Spectacular mountain view! 4 bed, 4 1/2 bath, 2 car garage, New Construction. Offered at $2,995,000.

WILDCAT CLIFFS COUNTRY mountain view 4/5 bedrooms, six baths. Massive great room. 2 stone fireplaces, garage, lovely grounds. $799,000.

LITTLE BEAR PEN MOUNTAIN - Mt. View, 2 bed, 2 bath, hardwood floors, stone fireplace, custom kitchen, large deck, covered porches Offered at $749,000.

CONDO, ground level, furnished, 2 bed, 2 bath, screened patio, covered carport. Just off Main Street. Offered at $249,000.

MIRRORMONT, vaulted living, Stone fireplace, wood floors, 3 bed, 3 bath, screened porch and nice studio/ workshop. $310,000. & Decorating Allowance

MIRRORMOND, vaulted living, Stone fireplace, wood floors, 3 bed, 3 bath, screened porch and nice studio/ workshop. $310,000. & Decorating Allowance

MIRRORMONT, vaulted living, Stone fireplace, wood floors, 3 bed, 3 bath, screened porch and nice studio/ workshop. $310,000. & Decorating Allowance

19+/- acre tract, fenced. Small farm house needs full renovation. Pond site roughed out but still needs to be finished. Barn site graded & ready to go. $795,000.

HIDDEN SPRINGS 2 bed, 2 1/2 bath, bonus room. Complete renovation with new kitchen and baths, lovely hickory floors, great deck. Offered $299,000.

MIRROR LAKEFRONT 3 bed, 2 bath, Stone fireplace, hardwood floors, knotty pine paneling, sun rm, private dock. Offered at $685,000.

SAGEE MTN. 3 bed, 2 1/2 baths, guest rm & bath over garage, stone fireplace, Screened porch, generator, garage. Offered at $1,295,000.

SAGEE MTN. 3 bed, 2 1/2 baths, guest rm & bath over garage, stone fireplace, Screened porch, generator, garage. Offered at $1,295,000.

Contemporary Home, 2 bed, 2 1/2 bath plus a loft. Workshop & garage. Vaulted ceilings & large deck. Offered at $429,000.

TWIN FALLS 4 bed, 4.5 bath. Huge timber frame beams, stacked stone fireplace, gourmet kitchen high-end appliances, granite countertops. $1,395,000.

SEQUOYAH CIRCLE, walking distance to lake, 4 bed, 1 bath, new windows & tin roof, nice rear deck & wood burning stove. $279,000.

Satulah Falls. Great Mountain view, 3 bed, 2 bath one level home with beautiful hardwood floors. 1 bed 1 bath detached guest house. Quiet mtn. setting.

REASON FOR AN EXCITING CHANGE? John Schiffl 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 Schiffl Real Estate, P.O. Box 725, Highlands, NC 28741 or email it to: eleanorcrowe@aol.com. For more information, call Eleanor at (828) 526-5750.

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.

RAINFOREST PRODUCTIONS – a local multimedia marketing company needs your help! Like working with digital photos? Need some experience in multimedia marketing? The Multifaceted Art of Photography is looking for an assistant. Duties include photo editing, photo retouching, and basic computer skills. Position offers 15 to 25 hours per week. EOE. Send resume to: Elicko, 35 Gaudet Street, Highlands, NC 28741.

NEW FOR 2006!

FREE By Owner classified ads for items under $1,000. (Excluding Real Estate or Vacation Rentals.)

Otherwise terms are 20 words for $5; $2 for each 10-word increment.

Email copy to highlandseditor@aol.com or FAX to 828-526-8913. Send check to Highlands’ Newspapers, P.O. Box 2703, Highlands, NC 28741 or stop by at 265 Oak St.

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$300 a month plus utilities. 6 months lease. 526-1552.

VACATION RENTAL – Sapphire/Cashiers: 4 bedroom/3 bath, stone FP, all conveniences (plasma TV, PC, good linens, towels, china, sat-tellite). Gated community. Lake access, with horses, kayaks, canoes available. Available, monthly, long and holiday weekends possible. $900 week, $3000/month. 3 day minimum by-the-day/weekend. 770.479.5535 x239 days - kevin. 770-704-9925 even.

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

VACATION RENTAL – Sapphire Valley Con-do. 2-2 plus den. Sleeps 6. Fully equipped. All amenities. $800/wk, $3,000 per month. Call 677-694-5157 or 407-694-5157.

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

BY OWNER – Classic Country Home between Cashiers and Franklin. 4 bed, 3 bath. 4.2 acres perenniel landscaping with waterfall pond. $421,000. No Realtor. Call 828-743-5788.

BY OWNER—SAPPHIRE VALLEY A • See CLASSIFIEDS pg 29

ECKERT LIVING CENTER – Must have B.S. or M.S. degree in Occupational Therapy and current NC Licensure. Requires two years’ experience practicing in area of clinical expertise. Competitive salary. 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.

I.T. NETWORK ADMINISTRATOR AT HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HOSPITAL: This full-time position requires a minimum of 3 years’ network administration experience. Must have knowledgeable in all facets of network administration and have at least a two-year degree in a computer science program. Competitive salary. 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.

COOKS AT HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HOSPITAL: Full-time, year-round employment. 10:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m., various days of the week. Must be able to work weekends and be able to read and speak English. Competitive salary and 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.

DIETARY AIDE AT HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HOSPITAL: Full-time, 10:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m., various days. Must be able to work weekends and be able to read and speak English. 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 a.m. to 7:00 a.m. Optional day shift, if available. Must have good communication and computer skills. Full-time position offers competitive salary and includes full benefits after 60 days. Pre-employment substance screening. Call Mary Osmar, 828-526-1301 or apply online through the website, www.hchospital.org.


C.N.A.S 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 – Fidelia Eckerd Living Center at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital in Highlands, NCI Call Mary Osmar, 828-526-1301, for further information.

APARTMENT – Scaly Mountain. Furnished, one bedroom, laundry, deck microwave (no stove)
unique “Timberpeg” Post and Beam home. Three Levels: Upper level: two bedrooms, full bath and deck. Main level: open living room w/ fireplace, dining room and kitchen, 2 full baths, master bedroom and large deck with spectacular view. Lower level: large family room, w/ fireplace, full bath, laundry room and outside patio. A large 2 car garage, with a fully finished room with bath on 2nd level. A separate roomy workshop all located on approximately +/- 2 acres on a private cul-de-sac. By appointment only 743-2567


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


www.visualtour.com #485252.

THREE BEDROOM – 2 bath ranch home on approx. 3/4 acre. 2 miles from Highlands-Cashiers hospital. $240,000. Will consider offer. Ask for Anna. Country Club Properties 828-526-2520

THE COACH CLUB, CHESTNUT STREET, HIGHLANDS, NC. Lot # 5 Oversized, well land-scaped private lot with 10 X 16 coach house and large patios. 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: bobnancy@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)

• See CLASSIFIEDS pg 30

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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 $20,000. Call for details. 526-3671. Brokers protected.


AKC REGISTERED SHELTIES, Sable Merle & Blue Merle. $300. Call 706-982-9325.

SINGER FEATHER-WEIGHT SEWING MACHINE – in black carrying case with all attachments and many extra bobbins. Model 221 Serial # 182409. $595 or best offer. 828-526-4077.

MAJESTIC FREE-STANDING OPEN-FACED FIREPLACE, Barrel shape on metal pedestal base. White porcelain finish for gas or wood. $875. Call 828-526-4077.

NEW SET OF 18" UNVENTED GAS FIREPLACE – metal, wood and stone. $875. Call 828-526-4077.

FULL SIZE WASHER & DRYER – in black carrying case with all attachments and many extra bobbins. Model 221, wheat pattern. Piece’s price $250. Call 526-4726.

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**Police & Fire Depts. Log**

The following are the Highlands Police Dept. log entries for the week of May 18-24. Only the names of persons arrested or public officials are used.

**May 18**
- At 4 p.m., a resident on Bowery Road was reported missing from a home on Hill Road.

**May 19**
- A little past midnight, two patrons at Cyprus Restaurant got into a disagreement and were communicating threats.
- At 4:20 p.m., officers responded to a complaint from a customer at the Bank of America. The disagreement was solved.

**May 20**
- At 1:49 a.m., officers responded to a complaint of noise on Main Street.
- At 11:40 p.m., officers responded to a complaint of a strange noise in a house. It was unfounded.

**May 21**
- At 4:30 p.m., a resident on Bowery Road reported a case of reckless driving on Bowery Road.

**May 22**
- The dept. responded to an accident on N.C. 106. There was one injury.
- The dept. provided mutual aid to Cashiers. It was cancelled en route.
- The dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with a medical call at a residence on Holly Tree Lane where a child had fallen.

**May 23**
- The dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with a medical call at a residence on Crescent Trail where a construction worker fell. He was transported to the hospital.

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

**May 17**
- The dept. responded to a fire alarm at a residence on Sagee Woods Drive. It was false.

**May 19**
- The dept. responded to an accident on Tree Lane where a child had fallen.

**May 20**
- The dept. responded to a fire alarm at a residence on N.C. 106. There was one injury.

**May 21**
- The dept. provided mutual aid to Cashiers. It was cancelled en route.

**May 22**
- The dept. provided mutual aid to Cashiers. It was cancelled en route.

**May 23**
- The dept. responded to a fire alarm at a residence on Sagee Woods Drive. It was false.