ON-GOING
• Sally Foster Giftwrap Sale to benefit Highlands School. Pick up order sheets at the front office of the school, talk to a student, or go online at www.SallyFoster.com to order use code number: 605265. All orders will be delivered to Highlands School.
• Thursdays at the Barn: If you would like a walking tour of the new property on which will sit our new Fine Art Center, join us any Thursday at 5 p.m. for a personal tour. Meet us at the Crane Stable Barn on Oak Street.
• Every Tuesday evening, Spiritual Cinema Circle at The Instant Theatre company at 7 p.m. Suggested donation: $5. Snacks available for purchase.
• Live music nightly at...on the Verandah at 7 p.m. Chad Reed plays Wednesday - Sunday night and Sunday brunch; Angie Jenkins plays Mondays; Paul Scott plays every Tuesday.
• Live piano music with Hal Phillips at Skyline Lodge & Restaurant every Friday and Saturday night.
• Live music at Fressers in Helen’s Barn, featuring Cy Timmons Wed. through Sat., 6 p.m. until.
• Live music at Cypress Restaurant every Friday at 9:30 p.m.
• Highwinds Wine and Cheese Shop: Wine Flights Saturday from 4:30-6:30.
• Live music at Wolfgang’s Bistro every Sun. and Mon, it’s Momo on Piano; every Wed. it’s Paul Scotts Trio; and every Thurs, & Fri it’s Rickey Dean on piano.

Condo high-rise a maybe on U.S. 64e

A rumor involving the development of a 12- to 14-floor condominium complex going up on 19 acres on U.S. 64 east across from the Community Bible Church has been confirmed.

County Building Inspector Jack Morgan said permits haven’t been issued, but developers have been in contact with him concerning building restrictions on the site. The only restrictions other than building codes involve the watershed which...See CONDOS page 10

Results help chart future at hospital

By Susanna Forrester

Though it’s not the only thing it revealed, the result of October 2005’s survey of residents in the Highlands and Cashiers areas has substantiated a need for more primary care physicians at the Highlands Cashiers Hospital (HCH). “There were no big surprises from the survey,” said Skip Taylor, marketing director of HCH. “We suspected we needed more primary care physicians and that’s one of the things the survey showed. But why people don’t use the primary care physicians here and why they leave the mountain for that service that we don’t know.”

McIntyre-Ross named HS Teacher of the Year

By Susanna Forrester

Macon County school system’s Teacher of the Year banquet was held on Sept. 12 at the Mill Creek Country Club in Franklin. This year, Highlands School Teacher of the Year is high school English teacher Cathy McIntyre-Ross. Macon County’s Teacher of the Year by the Highlands School faculty and staff is a great highlight in my teaching career, and the credit for this honor goes to all of the team work and ongoing support from our faculty and staff,” said McIntyre-Ross. “I feel extremely lucky to work in an environment in which colleagues want to help you and see you succeed.”

McIntyre-Ross graduated from the University of Georgia in Athens with a Bachelor’s Degree in Journalism in 1976. She received her teaching certification from Georgia State University in 1990.

Highlands High School English teacher Catherine McIntyre-Ross with Superintendent Dr. Frank Yeager and Macon County School Board Chairman Kevin Corbin at the banquet Monday night. McIntyre-Ross was named Highlands School Teacher of the Year.

County’s case dismissed

On Wednesday, Superior Court Judge Dennis Winters dismissed the county’s case requesting the right to appoint ETJ members to the town’s planning and zoning boards.

The town had filed a motion to dismiss the county’s case on the grounds that the county didn’t have standing in the suit.

“The judge ruled that the county commission wasn’t a real party of interest in the case,” said County Attorney Rick Moorefield. “But the case is still alive as related to Daniel A. Bryson, as plaintiff, but not as a county.”

Moorefield said the case between the county and the town was never about the right to ETJ “but rather the right of the county to pick the representatives on the boards.”

Members of the Town Board have said in open meetings they would likely let the county continue to appoint the ETJ members to the planning and zoning boards.

Moorefield said an email from Town Administrator Richard Betz dated June 27 only guarantees their appointment for their current three-year term.

Meanwhile, he said the county still has the right to appeal the decision in the Court of Appeals in Raleigh. “That’s up to the County Commission to decide,” he said.

Weekend Weather:

Thursday, Sept. 14, 2006

ON-GOING

• Sally Foster Giftwrap Sale to benefit...
The stop-work order lists failure to properly design and install on-site stormwater controls, continuing failure to properly maintain on-site controls following rain events, failure to implement on the ground many of the stormwater controls required by the Aug. 18 stormwater control plan and recommendations of RiverWalk’s environmental engineers McGill & Associates, failure to protect the buffers along the stream flowing down to and across the Daughtrey property.

Though questions had been raised concerning the legality of RiverWalk developers opening up too much land at one time, Gantenbein said the state’s team seemed more concerned about the size and location of the silt ponds. “They don’t believe the location of the silt ponds on site are big enough to handle the stormwater flow or match the location on the revised erosion control plan delivered by McGill & Associates on Aug. 18,” he said.

Furthermore, the stream that enters the property through a pipe under the old road bed that travels across the property onto the Daughtrey property and into the Cullassaja River has now been classified a perennial stream by the state. “McGill thought it was a ephemeral stream which meant it was basically a channel for stormwater runoff but the presence of microinvertebrae in the stream classify it as a perennial stream,” said Gantenbein. Microinvertebrae are a kind of indicator species that verify that the stream can sustain life and as such must be protected. Perennial streams are protected under state, county and town watershed ordinances and require a 25-foot buffer around them.

Barnett found the presence of caddies flies and mayflies in the stream. “It takes a year for caddies flies to mature if breeding in the water,” said Gantenbein. “So that means there is water in the stream most of the time.”

An ephemeral stream is a stream channel that carries water only during and immediately after periods of rainfall or snowmelt. A perennial stream contains water at all times except during extreme drought.

Since the stream has been classified as a perennial stream, it must be restored and stormwater must be diverted from entering it.

The stop-work order prohibits developers from continuing any infrastructure construction until they come into compliance with the Aug. 18 erosion control plan with changes approved and fully implemented including restoration and buffering of the perennial stream.
50 years but who's counting?

Ann and Luther Turner celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary at a brunch hosted by their children at On The Verandah on September 3, 2006. The couple was married in Macon, GA, on September 1, 1956. Their three children, Lynn, Leigh, and Trey, along with their sons-in-law, Fred and Woody, daughter-in-law, Kimberly, and four grandchildren, Annie, Tyler, Miller, and Sarah Frost, would like to congratulate them on this joyous occasion.

... HOSPITAL continued from page 1

The survey, which was conducted between October and December of 2005, by Diane Jones of Medical Staff Developers from Charleston, SC, surveyed 11,000 property owners from Highlands, Cashiers, Glenville, Scaly Mountain, Sapphire Valley, and Sky Valley to determine their level of satisfaction with the services provided by HCH.

The study generated 1,324 responses, a whopping 12 percent return. “That’s an outstanding return on a survey,” said Taylor.

Most survey participants were full-time and summer residents over the age of 40. Though a majority of those surveyed had used the hospital in the past five years, many still traveled off the mountain for their primary care physician. About 50 percent of residents in the area travel off the mountain for regular medical care, but the survey didn’t ask why.

Thirty percent of full-time residents in Cashiers, Glenville, or Sapphire, and 25 percent of full-time residents in Highlands, Scaly Mountain, or Sky Valley see a primary care physician off the mountain.

“Because of the data received, the community will begin to see concrete changes beginning of 2007,” said Skip Taylor, Marketing Director of HCH. “Now that the survey is in we will hire a strategic consultant who will analyze and verify the data through interviews and then help us develop a strategic plan for the hospital for the next three to five years.”

Taylor said most importantly, the consultant will be one that understands areas like Highlands—Vail, CO, Nantucket, MA, and the Outerbanks of NC—places with a fluctuating population of full-time homeowners, second homeowners, weekend homeowners, daytrippers, and vacationers.

Shull said they opted for an outside consultant to absolutely level the playing field.

“Soliciting the services of an outside consultant is good because there are no politics involved,” said Shull. “They come in with expectations but no answers and work through the process.”

In addition to the consultant, the hospital will involve many people from many areas to help develop the strategic plan including a focus group made up of citizens, doctors, and others. “We will focus on primary issues as outlined in the survey and will use the findings as the basis for the budget, capital budget, funding, hiring, and rounding out of our medical staff,” said Ken Shull, CEO and president of the hospital.

Shull said the hospital is in the process of interviewing several strategic consultant candidates. “From the data, the consultant will tell us who should serve, how we could serve them, what is our market area, and what services are realistic for us to offer.”

Shull said not surprisingly given the age of the Highlands population, cardiology was high on the respondents’ list of valuable hospital services. “The survey suggested many respondents would be happy to
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Kentucky party

Y all come on over if your car will crank.
There are parties for the snooties, parties for the fruities and parties for the beauties, but you would never, in your wildest dreams, think there would be a party for Kentuckians, at least not right here in our little ole town. Anyone who was born, lived or passed through Kentucky at any point in their lives, shows up for Highlands’ very own Kentucky party.

This all started when Paul and Pat Bollinger were sittin’ next to their ice box on their front porch, pickin’ their feet and sippin’ on some good ole Kentucky moonshine. Then Pat, she’s the split-tail of the two, said to ole Paul, “What they say about us Kentuckians just ain’t true. Our eyes are not too close together and we don’t go to family reunions to pick up dates. Let’s have a party so we can see if other folks from the Bluegrass State have eyes close together like ours.” “Good idea, baby cakes, and I can dispel those nasty rumors that my real name is Pauly Bob.”

So last year the first Kentucky party was started at the Bollinger’s shack and only a few of the bravest of us showed up. But it’s been a growin’ since and just last week the number had swelled to almost 50 invited. Not only that, the party moved from the Bollinger shack to the South forty owned by Patty and Commissioner (Mr. Teflon) Alan Marsh.

This thing is now a huge “Who’s Who” hillbilly, slam dunk, you can kiss my grits, shindig. When you first arrive, Peggie (Is that a Kentucky name, or what?) Payne hands you a Mint Julep made from some kind of white fluid with “explosive” marked on the mayonnaise jar. Peggie is an upper crust Kentuckian and actually wore shoes before she started school. By the way, everyone gets to come barefoot if they want, but pet pigs, not washed in the last three days, must be left on the front porch. Under no circumstances are any pigs allowed in the kitchen. Patty runs a first class party.

Anyway, Peggie’s Pa was a real muckety-muck in Lexington and was responsible for a law prohibiting the carrying of ice cream in your pocket. Could Kentucky party

See WOOLDRIDGE page 10
Counter punch

I won't make a practice of responding to readers' letters in this space, but in the last issue there was a long, detailed letter from a Mr. Jack Cota to which I feel I owe an answer.

Without any evidence to back his assertion, he claims that I lack "a historical and geopolitical perspective." I may lack many other qualifications as a political writer, but my summa cum laude degree in international relations from the George Washington University prepared me, I think, precisely for that kind of perspective.

He then lumps me with the Democratic Party (I am an independent, leaning toward left-wing libertarianism) and slanders me as one of an "amalgamation of socialists, environmentalists, wing nuts (7), hardcore anti-capitalists, fellow travelers, etc." I don't know what a wing nut is, but the only one of those terms I cop to is "environmentalist," although I was late in life coming to that awareness.

That's the trouble with a brain hemorrhage. It almost always ends up in name-calling.

He then makes some reference to "the war on terror" being too vague a term, something I would certainly agree with. What's vague about it is the word "war," which hardly describes a relatively permanent campaign which has no specific nation or nations as enemies, is fought without confronting an opponent's army, and is battling against an endless supply of new insurgents. I think what Mr. Cota had in mind was the vagueness of the term "the war on terror," but I lost the thread of his reasoning there.

The catch-phrase of the day, "Islamic fascism," proposed by Secretary Rumsfeld and echoed by the President, is embraced by Mr. Cota as a brand new concept. It isn't, and besides, it's inaccurate. My dictionary defines fascism as "a governmental system led by a dictator having complete power, forcibly oppressing all opposition and criticism, regimenting all industry, commerce, etc., and emphasizing an aggressive nationalism and often racism." That hardly describes the Islamic extremists, but it alarmingly resembles what is happening in our country under George W. Bush, as I have warned previously.

Both Mr. Cota and the President grossly oversimplify our current situation by comparing it to the Hitler years (which I lived through, close-up and personal) and accusing nearly everyone, other than the Bush administration, of promoting appeasement of the terrorists. No one is advocating appeasement, not the Democratic Party and not a single national leader in Europe or Asia. This is strictly some kind of misdirected campaign issue, reminiscent of "The Counterpunch..."

I'm DonLeon and that's MY opinion.
Another September 11 anniversary has passed. “Never forget” became the unofficial mantra of the tragedy, and of course we never did, never will and couldn’t even if we tried. The moment and the day are seared forever into our private and collective memories. I have no desire to forget 9/11, but I wish that we would put it in perspective.

The 40 or 50 years leading up to the event had been tough on America. The world looked very different than it had from our pinnacles of the 1960s when America was the undisputed leader of the world, not just as a military and industrial giant, but also the moral and intellectual standard bearer as well. The rise of the Soviet Union, the assassination of President Kennedy, the erosion of our position as the manufacturing colossus of the planet, popular opposition to and loss of the war in Vietnam, each took a toll. A resurgent Japan proved that we could be bested economically. The resilient Viet Cong proved our vulnerability militarily. The untimely death of a charismatic young president, the introduction of the birth control pill, the war in the Tonkin Gulf, the militancy of feminism, the celebration of homosexuality, the exposure of profound racism, drugs, rock and roll, and Watergate each contributed to a shaken, weakened identity, each eroded the myth of innocence.

Then the breakup of the Soviet Union left us the world’s sole super power. A brief period of Pax Americana followed. Despite major changes in the world, we were once again the undisputed heavy weight champion of the world. Remember the “peace dividend.”

We were Fortress America. Our borders were secure, protected both by the massive oceans which lapped our shores and by God almighty who had anointed us his chosen people. Then came September 11, 2001. Nineteen men, under the guidance of Osama bin Laden and the influence of a radical interpretation of Islam, breached fortress America. They succeeded in bringing down the World Trade Center, denting the Pentagon, and plowing up a field in Pennsylvania. The resulting death toll near 3,000, a minuscule number when compared to the millions world wide who had died from wars, disease, and natural disasters. The numbers meant little. The United States had been attacked, just as surely as if imperial Japan had been resurrected. The audacity of the acts of 9/11 launched the American military just as the beauty of Helen had launched a thousand ships centuries earlier.

The problem in 2001 and today is defining and engaging the enemy. A global war on terror demands no less. Lacking a national adversary, we attacked Afghanistan, which had provided sanctuary and support for bin Laden. We found that driving out the Taliban was as easy as flicking flies from a dinner plate, and just as temporary. Buoyed by the success of our surrogates, a collection of Afghan war lords, and scant loss of American life, we turned to Iraq.

And there we find ourselves today, five years after September 11, 2001.

Loss of American military lives nears the loss of life that day. Iraqi and Afghan losses dwarf our own. Have we won our war? Are we any closer to winning it or has our involvement made us and the world less safe? Has our failure to find and engage our real enemy, to kill instead innocent Arabs, amplified the sense of religious conflict and swelled the number who plot against us, not only in the Middle East, but in southern Asia, in England and Europe, in Canada, and sadly in our own land?

And yet we plod along, dedicating our missteps to the memory of 9/11, claiming that Iraq is the central battle against terror, which ironically, it has become. International cooperation, good police work, technologic advances and some very good luck have prevented, at least for now, a second attack on the homeland. Iraq has provided a killing field to satisfy the blood lust for both our zealots and theirs. Our allies have been less fortunate. It may be inevitable that we will be struck again. I hope not and I pray that we will try instead to identify and reconcile legitimate grievances of our enemies, engage the moderate elements of Islam to arrest the lust for both our zealots and theirs. Our Crusade against Islam, that we respect their culture and their religion, that we stand ready to assist if they choose a path that aligns with our values.

It is only by discrediting the message of extremism and offering an attractive alternative, by proving that ours is not a Crusade against Islam, that we can respect their culture and their religion, that we can stand ready to assist if they choose a path that aligns with our values.

Dr. Henry Salzarulo
Feedback is encouraged. Email: hsalzarulo@aol.com
Bolivian Mission - The foster home

By Dr. John Baumruker
Contributor

The foster home has become the jewel of the mission. Many missionary groups help the hospitals, bring medical doctors to perform operations, as we do, and build homes or churches, but in Montero, no other has a foster home.

During the first few years of the mission, we noted that there were ample orphanages for girls, but none, in Montero for boys. Homeless boys roamed the streets eking out a living shining shoes or asking for handouts. Eventually, most if not all, became thieves just to survive. Many of these boys would turn to drugs, sniffing glue or gasoline or using coca leaves to numb the pain of loneliness and hunger.

One night a plan came to me in the night to build a foster home. This would be a different kind of home from an orphanage as it would have a family as “parents.” The children would learn parenting skills that cannot be taught in an orphanage. Also they would tend to a farm and learn basic skills that would help them as adults. A carpentry shop could be built later to give children a trade if they so desired. An educational fund could be set up to offer college studies to those wanting to become professionals if qualified.

During a visit in January 2001, I brought the concept and $20,000 to purchase land to the leaders of the Rotary Club. I had always been told that doing things in Bolivia would be hard if not impossible due to the graft and corruption, and the lazy spirit of the people. Within ten minutes of the beginning of the discussion, one of the members said, “Let’s ask the mayor. Perhaps he will provide the land for free.” He called him on the cell phone and in a few minutes he appeared. The next day the land was given and we had $20,000 to begin construction. We were already one year ahead of schedule. So much for the lazy spirit, which I have never seen, and the graft getting in the way of progress.

During that year we were able to begin the foundation of the home designed by Paul Schmitt and with an additional infusion of $20,000 the home was completed within a year. A $40,000 Rotary matching grant paid for all the furniture and appliances including a computer and a TV. Now the children, from four years old to 13 have weekly lessons in computer, music, English, swimming, art and soccer. The children only go to school for four hours a day as the city has grown so fast that there is no time or money to provide more schools.

Presently there are 17 young boys living at the home and a second house for the older boys is being constructed to accommodate the older boys on the same property. This will allow a separation of the young from the older boys and bring another family in to help with the enormous task of raising as many as 30 young men at the same time.

The carpentry shop was completed in 2004 and last year I brought a small lathe to the shop to introduce the older boys to the skill of making pens. These pens would be sold in Highlands to help their college fund. The boys were eager to learn and some of the pens were good enough to sell here. Of the 55 pens made by the boys all but 10 have been sold and these will be offered at the Bolivian Auction to be held at the Highlands Country Club Monday, Sept. 25 at 5:30 p.m.

The first pen made and a spectacular pen and pencil set will be in the live auction. These pens are made from beautiful and exotic tropical woods. The wood is harvested from the carpentry shop waste pile so there is no cost aside from the pen inserts. These fine wood instruments sell here from $25 to $60 in gift shops.

Reservations can be made for the auction by calling 526-3605 or the Methodist Church at 526-3376. Only 200 reservations can be accommodated and the price of admission is $100 which includes the dinner and silent auctions.

Pens made by foster boys with exotic wood will be auctioned off at Bolivian Auction to be held at the Highlands Country Club Monday, Sept. 25 at 5:30 p.m.
Flightplan, the 2006 PG-13 suspense/thriller, starring Jodie Foster (from every film in creation from Very Long Engagement back to Bonanza). Peter Sarsgaard (Jarhead, Garden State), and Marlene Lawton as Julia. Directed by Robert Schwentke, written by Peter A. Dowling and Billy Ray (Suspect Zero, Harts War). Original music (very spooky stuff) by James Horner.

The storyline: Kyle Pratt (Foster) has had a rough week, her husband has just died in a fall from a German apartment building, she is transporting a coffin on an international flight, and she has a small child in tow (A good performance by Lawton). She is traveling on one of the largest aircraft in the air to date, one that she coincidentally helped design. As if things weren’t bad enough, her child has gone missing on the plane. After enlisting the aid of the crew and the on board air marshal (Sarsgaard) in searching the craft, things get a bit suspicious. In a Hitchcock type of turn, we start to guess all may not be as it seems, and there might be more than meets the eye to several of the passengers.

A very edgy, claustrophobic thriller, some decent action, with an amazing set. A 250-foot long, two-story mock up of the aircraft, complete with removable ceilings and walls, was constructed for the film, and a good deal of the tension and drama of the story hinges on the fact that 95 percent of the film was shot in something as wide as has a commercial jetliner’s cabin. Jodie Foster does her usual great job, playing the scared but determined character in much the same way as she did in “Panic Room,” and she does start looking a little grim by the time the show is over. The story does have several neat twists and turns as you figure out what really has (and has not) happened. We do get a good dose of flight and flight scenes, bad guys and locked doors, and some things that go kaboom in the night, so what we end up with is a bit Hitchcock and a bit Stephane Saggard. We do get a good sense of the post 9/11 attacks’ impact on attitudes of airline passengers, and there are a few obligatory Middle Easterners tossed in, that of arecourse, suspects even before we have any clear idea of exactly what to be suspicious of. Jodie Foster’s role was originally written for Sean Penn, before a rewrite was done to change the character to a woman, and I think it plays better in this version.

A few more similar films are Lord of War, Red Eye, Silent Hill, The Forgotten. The Lady Vanishes, and Panic Room (also starring Foster). Give them a look.

...TEACHER continued from page 1

Atlanta in 1988. She has been working in education for 16 years.

“The best thing about my job is that I happen to love it,” said McIntyre-Ross. “We all see so many people stuck in jobs that are unfulfilling. I get to make a difference in someone’s life, teach great literature and writing, have fun and challenge my students, and do the most important job in the world. What could be better?”

The process for choosing the Teacher of the Year begins with the individual in the world. What could be better?”

The Macon County Teacher of the Year also progresses to the regional competition which can then lead to the state competition.

The winners are honored at the annual banquet with a plaque, and the county teacher of the year gets $200 from Macon Bank, and $100 for school supplies from the Macon County Academic Foundation. The Macon County Teacher of the Year also progresses to the regional competition which can then lead to the state competition.

Eight other Teacher of the Year awards were presented. Winners are: Debby Stork of Cartoogechaye; Josh Lynch of Cowee; Malisa Cabe of Cullasaja; Pam Owens of East Franklin; Kari Allen of Iota; Susie Ledford of Macon; Jodi Utley of Macon; Kimberly Bateman of Nantahala; and David Yokel of South Macon.

Speaking at the banquet, Superintendent Dr. Frank Yeager said, “We are very proud of all of you. You are the best of the best and we appreciate what you do for the children of this county.”
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Performing Arts Center in Highlands
Vega String Trio
Dean Zuch portraying Beethoven
$10 Adults • $5 Students under 18
For Information, Call
Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival
526-9060

**Redmountain**

continued from page 5

I don’t know what makes Mr. Cota think I oppose taking strong measures against terrorists. Nothing I have ever written, or thought, or said suggests anything like that. My argument with the President, whom I am accused of bashing frequently (true), is that he and his administration are incompetent, thoroughly corrupt, and talk loudly while carrying a broken diminutive stick. He and vice-president Cheney like to act tough, accuse others of cowardice, while obscuring that both were essentially draft dodgers during the Vietnam War.
It seems almost delusional to support this President, as Mr. Cota does, after all the mismanagement of foreign policy, not to mention such domestic disasters as Katrina, the failed Social Security privatization scheme, an ignorant opposition to stem cell research, failure to veto Congressional pork bills, and the Terry Schiavo hysteria. I won’t bother to discuss the explosive fiscal deficit, which has turned even hidebound conservatives against the president.
Mr. Cota credits me (obviously as a negative factor) and Victor Davis Hanson (positive) as influences which led him to write his letter. I had never heard of Mr. Hanson, but after doing some research found out that he is a classicist who has often compared modern times with the days of Sparta and Athens. Some have described him as the worst historian of our times, and most professional historians reject his qualifications and his reasoning. However, it seems, he is held in high esteem by the vice-president, and is known as a steadfast and loyal supporter of the Bush administration. I haven’t read anything by him, but I can see why Mr. Cota would like him. Birds of a feather, I guess.

**Letters**

continued from page 2

although this plant may require another treatment if it recurs.
This eradication effort, solely on public property, deserves
the commendation of the town’s citizens.
Please let the town commissioners and members of the garden clubs know that
you are appreciative of their efforts to solve this problem. They may have prevented Highlands from becoming the “Japanese Knotweed capitol of the world.”
Owners of private property now have
an exceptional opportunity to wipe this pest out of the entire area by eradicating
any that exists on their land. For advice on how to do this you may pick up
printed material at town hall, the Nature Center, or the U.S.F.S. Ranger’s office.
It would be a terrible shame if this pest re-entered the Town’s property from
private land that was not treated. Thanks for your cooperation.

Jim Whitehurst
Highlands

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**LETTERS**

continued from page 2

... REDMOUNTAIN

continued from page 5

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continued from page 2

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**LETTERS**

continued from page 2

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Jim Whitehurst
Highlands
... HOSPITAL continued from page 2

... WOOLDRIDGE continued from page 4

... CONDOS continued from page 1
By Susanna Forrester

The Center for Life Enrichment held a special presentation called “What’s Happening in Lebanon and What It Means to You?” on Wednesday, Aug. 30.

Sandra Mackey, an expert in Middle East affairs who has written numerous books and been a frequent commentator on CNN, ABC, CBS, BBC and NPR, spoke at the Performing Arts Center about the conflict in Lebanon and the war on terror.

“This is a major earthquake in the Middle East that will have many ramifications,” said Mackey. “I think one of the things we need to look at is this situation is not just between the organization of Hezbollah and Israel.”

Mackey, who has traveled extensively throughout Lebanon and other Middle Eastern countries, explained in detail the events leading up to the eruption of violence in Lebanon. She called the igniting incident “not a particularly unusual event.”

Hezbollah, which is a combination of a religious organization, a political organization, and a militia, crossed into an area called Shebaa Farms which is claimed by Lebanon, Syria, and Israel. They captured two Israeli soldiers.

“Israelis have been coming to the decision they wanted to wipe Hezbollah out,” said Mackey. “The gun was cocked and loaded.” The capture just made their decision easier.

Mackey said that Lebanon has always had a fragile government, but it still has the strongest democratic tradition of any other country in the Arab world. “Whether or not the government can survive, we just don’t know,” she said. “Hezbollah has become a big political player in the politics of Lebanon.”

Lebanon used to be a thriving and beautiful country. Beirut was known as the Paris of the East, but it has since been devastated by war. The ambience that the streets and buildings possessed is gone.

Mackey said that Lebanon and Iraq are “the two most similar countries” in the Middle East. They are both divided by religion, sect, and ethnicity. The citizens of both countries identify less with their nation and more with the religion or sect they ascribe to.

“These are really young countries,” said Mackey. “These all came into being around the 1920s. They’re fragile to start with.”

Mackey also pointed out the differences between Lebanon and Iraq. “Lebanon has obviously been more sophisticated than Iraq,” she said. “Lebanon is more westernized. Iraq looks eastward and Lebanon looks westward.”

Lebanon is broken down into several different distinct religious and ethnic groups — the Maronites, a Roman Catholic sect, has predominated in Lebanese government since the early part of the twentieth century; the Muslims, which are divided between the Sunni and the Shi’a; the Druze, whose religion is an offshoot of Islam and Greek philosophy; and non-Lebanese Palestinians.

Hezbollah was created by the Iranian Revolution of 1979 which transformed Shi’ism into a political system. “The Shi’a saw a system where they could achieve social justice,” said Mackey. “Hezbollah provide services to the Shi’a that the Lebanese government has never provided. That is the real appeal of Hezbollah.”

Mackey said that Hezbollah, which become an active political and military force in Lebanon during the 1982 invasion of Lebanon by Israeli forces hunting for Palestinian Liberation fighters, has been “the most effective political organization in Lebanon, and they want to turn Lebanon into an Islamic republic.”

Mackey warned that as a country “our major enemies are not state players.” She said we must abolish the Cold War mentality to operate in the new century. “We are now dealing not with governments, but with groups not afraid to die,” said Mackey.

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Sponsored by the Highlands Playhouse at the Highlands Civic Center
Exclusive Preview Party • Tuesday, September 28 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.
Party Tickets on sale at the Highlands Playhouse Box Office
Show Dates:
Friday, September 29 – 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Saturday, September 30 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Sunday, October 1, noon to 5 p.m.
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We are now open Sundays for dinner 5 to 8 p.m. for the traditional Country Buffet with soup, salad bar, carving, hot meats and vegetables, drinks, and dessert bar for $10.95, just like Sunday lunch.
Dinner Friday and Saturday is the Special Prime Rib Buffet with Angie Jenkins playing Broadway piano until 9 p.m., for your dining pleasure, $13.95.
Big 70’s Karaoke Party Sept 16
Wear 70s costumes. 30 sleeping rooms for guests. Wireless Internet available.

Highlands Falls Country Club gives employees $27,000 in scholarships

Many of the employees at Highlands Falls Country Club are students trying to further their education. Some started working at Highlands Falls while they were still in high school and continued after graduation. For many, it is difficult to pursue their scholastic interests without other support or assistance. Nine years ago, under the guidance of Barbara Estes and with the support of the membership of Highlands Falls Country Club, the HFCC Scholarship Program was formed. Its purpose was to build a fund through member’s financial contributions and designate those funds to employees that met specific parameters to further their undergraduate educations. Selection and management of the scholarship program is performed by the CFWNC (Community Foundation of Western North Carolina) in Asheville, NC through an objective and monitored process and gifts are tax deductible.

In August, the Club held its 9th Annual Scholarship Tournament and Banquet. Josh Roper, a former employee and scholarship recipient, returned to Highlands Falls as a guest speaker for this year’s banquet. In his address to the gathering, Josh said: "Working full time and going to school is difficult enough," said Monika. "I don’t know if it would be possible without the assistance I am receiving through the scholarship program."

Daphne Browning, from Jacksonville University, is a double major in English and Spanish language and literature. She will be involved in an academic program which involves living in Spain for 6 months while working as an English teacher.

Meda Green, from Franklin, NC, is in her third season with Highlands Falls. She is a senior at Jacksonville University. In Jacksonville, FL, majoring in Dance Performance and Sociology. In addition to her daily responsibilities, Meda still found the time to choreograph the entertainment performed by the HFCC employees at the annual Scholarship Banquet.

Kelley Garton, from Greensboro, NC, is in her second season with Highlands Falls. She is a senior at Jacksonville University. In Jacksonville, FL, majoring in Recreational Therapy. "I can't begin to thank the members of Highlands Falls for the exceptional scholarship program and the help it has given my family," says Garton.

Iyali Ruiz graduated from Highlands High School and is now a student at the University of Georgia. Thanks to the college credits she was able to obtain as a senior at Highlands School, Iyali was able to get a head start on her degree in International Business.

Christian Jimenez, is in her second season at Highlands Falls. She is attending Gainesville State College majoring in Psychology.

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Meda Green, Kelley Carton, Iyali Ruiz
 Center gets donation from Mtn. Findings

Highlands Community Child Development Center Scholarship Fund: Children from the 4-5 year old class help Pat Hedden and Bob Wright receive the donation of $4,000 presented by Mary Thompson. Checks totaling $70,000 have been given to various organizations in the Highlands community from Mountain Findings.

Harris named Executive Director of the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital Foundation

Highlands-Cashiers Hospital Foundation announced today the appointment of Russell M. Harris to the position of Executive Director. Harris will be responsible for all the Foundation’s fundraising efforts and will report directly to the Foundation Board of Directors.

“Russell is recognized as an outstanding leader in the field of philanthropy and we are delighted to welcome him to our community. In this assignment he will be responsible for the development and implementation of our fundraising efforts and for ensuring that those efforts are consistent with and supportive of the needs of our hospital,” said Cassandra Manley, chairperson of the Foundation Board.

For the past 10 years, Harris has served as President and CEO of “Partners for a Healthy Community” in Anderson, SC. In 2004 he served as Chairman of the South Carolina Association for Nonprofit Organizations.

At the national level, Harris is completing his term as Southeast Region Director of the Association for Healthcare (AHP) and at the end of this month he will be named a Vice Chairman of AHP.

Developer Nellis heads to TB for ruling

The claim of a contract waiting in the wings to buy the Crisp Harris Lake property on which to build nine structures didn’t sway the Planning Board. Members upheld their previous decision against a multi-family project on the property.

At the Monday, Sept. 11 meeting, the vote was 4-2 (Doug Campbell was absent), against recommending conditional multi-family zoning for the property.

Developer Bill Nellis has one more shot with the Town Board which meets Wednesday, Sept. 20. “I think I have a 50-50 chance,” he said.

The Town Board sent his request back to the Planning Board for a second look but requested Nellis to purchase land needed to meet the built-upon and to decrease density from 16 units to 14 units.

Nellis has done that, but the Planning Board voted against the plan for the same reasons as the first time.

“The purpose of rezoning certain sites multi-family is to make something ugly, pretty, not make something pretty ugly,” said Planning Board Chair Griffin Bell.
Creativity and imagination are the center of Van Tribble's life as evidenced by the intricate needlepoint tapestries and rugs displayed throughout his home. For him rugs are artwork worthy of display not just on the floor but walls, too.

Tribble created each one — a chair cushion in an intricate pattern of yellows and greens, a long blue rug with soft pink flowers stitched down the center, a tapestry of horses in a native American-type pattern. They each have an individual personality that is reflected in Tribble's loving description of them.

Tribble derives his inspiration from "looking at other things, seeing things in magazines" and his own imagination. On his tapestry of horses, Tribble stitched one upside down to catch people's eye. He is not afraid to take chances with his artwork. He doesn't draw out his designs he just begins to work on the canvas and it all comes together.

"I took a course at Furman University about painting on the right side of the brain," said Tribble. "It taught me to look at one spot and concentrate on that and it will all come together."

Tribble began doing needlepoint during a divorce in 1973. He asked his mother to do two pillows for him, and she told him she would do one if he would do the other. "I was hooked," said Tribble.

Tribble points out a rug that he created after looking through a copy of a 1988 National Geographic magazine. A photo of a corner of the oldest carpet in the world caught his attention. The Pazyryk rug, which is on display in St. Petersburg, Russia, was found in Siberia and dates back to 500 B.C.

Tribble began working on the rug, and when he was more than halfway through with it a friend gave him a book with pictures of famous carpets from around the world. A full picture of the Pazyryk rug was displayed in the book. Remarkably, Tribble's creation had the same amount of squares as the Pazyryk. The rug, with its large red, yellow and blue design catches the eye immediately.

"I only do needlepoint for people who do needlepoint," said Tribble, who does not sell his work, "Because they can appreciate it. The tips of my fingers bleed when I do it, because I won't use a thimble."

"I did seat covers for a lawyer in Greenville, SC," said Tribble, displaying photos of delicate seat covers each one done with a different colorful fish on it. "And I stitched a boat for a friend who let me use his yacht."

Each piece Tribble does takes several months. He blocks his work up on his deck with a hose. "I had a good friend in Greenville who showed me how to do my blocking. I take a hose and wet them down and pull them."

Tribble, who is also a hairdresser, has taught others his needlepoint art. "I've taught a lot of men to needlepoint. They love it," he said.

He laughs as he says, "When I lived in Greenville the rumor was I wouldn't do people's hair unless they did needlepoint. Isn't that a hoot?"
HS playing better by the game

Highlands School lost to Rabun-Gap Nacoochee last week, 3-2 but it was a very exciting and close match. Jason Aspinwall runs with the ball. The team lineup this year: Gray Alexander, Nick Kerhoulas, Jason Aspinwall, Alec Schmitt, Darrin Keener, Jake Heffington, Billy Ray Converse, Andrew Watson, Greg Porter, Alex Foltz, Mikey Lica, Ezra Herz, Luke McClellan, Hunter Leffler, Taylor Parrish and Will Mathiowdis.

Photo by Noel Atherton

McKim goes grassroots route to get the word out

By Evan Schmidt
Contributor
The old fashion ‘Sign Painting Party’ and bonfire was the perfect venue for approximately 75 supporters of candidate Ken McKim’s for senate campaign. They enjoyed the food, fun, and doing their part by helping paint colorful Ken McKim campaign signs!

There was a job for everyone. Some helped by stenciling and chalking the signs to get them ready for painting. Others helped by painting McKim’s name in white on the blue 4-foot by 8-foot plywood signs. There were also people who had special jobs, such as the “red paint lady” who put the flash of red on each sign, and the man with the blue paint who covered any errant mark. Once the signs were completed, McKim called all the hungry helpers to enjoy the roasting of hot dogs and marshmallows over the roaring bonfire. The event was a real blast of fun!

McKim took part in the event with paintbrush in hand. He said he was motivated to run for state senate last year. “I had several people come and approach me and encourage me to run for office that were local businessmen and family,” he said. After prayerful consideration, on February 13, 2006, McKim filed with the Republican Party to run for the state senate seat. McKim’s interest in politics started at the age of 15. “I went to an election polling place before I could vote with my parents,” he said. “The election judge started showing me what it was all about, and what they did,” he said. “That night I went with her to the county courthouse to count the votes. And that was my first experience in politics where I really thought it was interesting,” he said.

McKim, who prefers to be called a statesman instead of a politician, says that if he gets elected he would like to propose some new laws for North Carolina including some new immigration and healthcare plans.

“I believe we need some immigration laws in our state to address the illegal immigration challenge that we are facing,” he said. “I believe that we have to address some healthcare issues because we are losing doctors in this state and our costs are skyrocketing.”

Given the fact that McKim comes from a family of 13 children, he understands what it means to have to provide for a family. “I would like the people to know...

*See McKim page 21
Twins selected as 2006 MC ‘March of Dimes’ Ambassador Family

Tonni and Taelor Elkins and their parents (Tony and Darlene) understand firsthand the enormous emotional toll premature birth takes on a family. Tonni weighed only 3 pounds 6 ounces and Taelor weighed 2 pounds 14 ounces at birth, and no one knew if the twins would survive. Both girls did, and now are normal healthy 1½ year olds.

As the 2006 Macon County WalkAmerica Ambassador Family, the Elkins share their story to help the March of Dimes raise money to fight premature birth and its consequences. Tonni, Taelor and their family will be appearing at the 2006 WalkAmerica event on Saturday, Sept. 30 at the Franklin Memorial Park so that everyone in Macon County can learn how participating in WalkAmerica supports March of Dimes research and programs to save babies from premature birth, the leading cause of newborn death in America.

Darlene and Tony urge everyone in Macon County to come out for the walk. “On behalf of Tonni and Taelor we want to invite all the residents of Macon County to join us at the 2006 WalkAmerica and learn about our struggles and the problems of premature birth.”

Tonni and Taelor are two of nearly half a million babies born too soon every year. In North Carolina, one in seven babies (13.6 percent of all live births) were born prematurely in 2003.

Between 1993 and 2003, the rate of infants born preterm in North Carolina increased more than five percent. Some of these babies die, others face lifelong disability. The Elkins’ have become volunteers to help the March of Dimes find answers to why premature birth happens and what can be done to prevent it.

Registration will begin at 9 a.m. and the three-mile walk will start at 10 a.m. Other events that day will include food for walkers, door prizes, karate demonstrations by Danny Antoine’s Karate Academy, music by the Haus Band from the Rathskeller, balloon release, and live radio coverage by WFSC/WNCC.

The 60 children at the center range in age from three months to kindergarten age. Parents working in Highlands have this safe haven for their children with preschool training and daycare, and a range of indoor and outdoor activities. The facility in downtown Highlands is the only fulltime year-round, licensed child care provider in Highlands.

All of us residents, fulltime and seasonal, have reason to invest in all children and the center’s families who provide basic services for Highlands’ quality of life. Mark the date and come and enjoy. Tickets are $100. Donations are welcome. Send reservations and donations to P.O. Box 2601, Highlands, NC, 28741, or call 526-0115.

The Up, Up and Away Gala to benefit the Highlands Community Children’s Development Center will take place at the Culasaja Club on Sept. 30. Enjoy a festive evening with dancing to the music of Reggie & Dees Boys and an open bar.

The featured Giving Balloon Tree will let you use your tax deductible dollars to help the center fulfill its needs. Color-coded balloons will tell you what you provided.

The Up, Up and Away Gala committee from left: Ann Herbert, Bena Bayless, Carolyn Tanner, Gayle Cummings. Not pictured, are Bunny Clarke, Ann Martin, Ruthie Watts, Carol Teem.
Mission of Mercy Dental Clinic in Sylva open for two days in Sept.

The “Mission of Mercy” Dental Clinic will once again be available in Sylva to provide for dental care free of charge to individuals who have dental problems and do not have the financial resources to pay a regular dentist. This clinic will be held on Friday, Sept. 22 and Saturday, Sept. 23 at the Jackson County Community Services Building located at 538 Hospital Road in Sylva.

In 2005, this clinic was offered and approximately 340 patents were treated over the two days. Dr. Steve Slott, DDS of Burlington, N. C. operates this clinic which is jointly sponsored by the Jackson County Health Department and the Blue Ridge Mountain Health Project.

Local dentists and dentists from across North Carolina as well as dental students, hygienists, and dental assistants will be staffing the clinic for these two days. In 2005, there were a total of 52 dental professionals and students who took part in providing the patient care along with 20 volunteers who kept the clinic running smoothly.

On Thursday, Sept. 21 from 3:30-5 p.m. registration will be held for the first 30 persons who come to the Community Services Building in Sylva. On Friday, Sept. 22, registration will begin at 7 a.m. and continue throughout the day and all day Saturday. No advance registration is necessary or available.

This clinic is open to anyone in Western North Carolina who is unable to afford necessary dental care.

If you need further information, please call 586-8994.

Gift wrap on sale

“Sally Foster” wrapping paper and gift items are being offered for sale by all the students at The Highlands School. Anyone interested in purchasing some of these wonderful items can do 1 of the following options:

• Contact a Highlands School student to show you what is available.
• Go on line to SallyFoster.com and enter the code 605265 to place an order and give credit to our school.
• There are extra order forms in the school office.

The sale dates are Tuesday, September 05 thru Monday, Sept. 25. The orders will be delivered to the Highlands School the second week in November. We thank you all in advance for your participation in this very worthy school fundraiser. The Highlands School receives 50% of all sales.

Move up to our mountains — to a sanctuary in the clouds. Highlands Cove is a 430-acre, gated community soaring to 4,700 feet above sea level. And there are a variety of ways to make it your dream come true: exceptional homesites, single-family homes, cottages, and condominiums. But we’re a lot more than a new place to live; we’re a whole new way of living — peaceful, tranquil, rich in nature. Whether your home is nestled in a cool, wooded setting, or offers a panoramic view of the Blue Ridge, you’ll be on top of the world.

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

The Visitor Information Program airs at 7 am, 9 am, 4 pm, 6 pm, 9 pm, and 11 pm.

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Country music at PAC

The Bluegrass group “The Dappled Grays” will appear in concert Friday, Sept. 22 at the Martin-Lipscomb Performing Arts Center at 8 p.m. This highly-acclaimed group has been named Best Bluegrass Group in Atlanta by Creative Loafing Magazine, and was the featured entertainment at FOX 5’s 2006 Peachtree Roadrace. Tickets are $15 each. Seats at PAC are limited so reservations are necessary. Call 526-9047 for reservations.

...on the Verandah celebrates 25 years with food and entertainment, Sept. 17

This year, ...on the Verandah celebrates 25 years offering American fusion fine dining in Highlands’ most scenic setting overlooking Lake Sequoyah. From Sept. 10-16, the nightly menu will reflect classic dishes from the previous 26 seasons. The week culminates in a birthday celebration from noon to 6 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 17. Family owners Marta, Alan, Andrew and Marlene invite everyone to stop by and enjoy the complimentary festivities. There will be live music, featuring Hurricane Creek, and great food throughout the day.

The critically acclaimed restaurant is the proud recipient of the Wine Spectator Award of Excellence since 1987 and Wine Enthusiast Award of Distinction. ...on the Verandah is open seasonally, from mid-March through New Year’s Eve. Reservations for the dinner or Sunday brunch can be made at 828-526-2338 or www.ontheverandah.com

OEI announces holiday packages for 2006

Old Edwards Hospitality Group is pleased to announce Holiday Packages for 2006 at Old Edwards Inn and Spa and The Lodge at Old Edwards Inn. These getaways offer guests the opportunity to relax and reconnect surrounded by holiday splendor in the beauty and serenity of the mountains in wintertime.

Holiday Package Details

The Old Edwards traditions of champagne arrival, gourmet continental breakfast each morning, a welcome amenity and evening turndown and a butter pantry with snacks, fresh fruit and non-alcoholic beverages are standard and come with each guestroom and package at the Inn and Lodge.

Thanksgiving Package (Available November 22nd ~ November 25th)

Come spend Thanksgiving at Old Edwards! Enjoy luxurious accommodations and fine dining while relishing time together with special friends and family. Let the concierge suggest additional delights like High Tea in the Library or a relaxing visit to The Spa to enhance the weekend.

Holiday Escape Package (Available November 27th ~ December 24th)

Escape to the mountains for the special gift of time together and relaxation! From the moment you step into our beaded lobby, a breeze sense of the holiday season will surround you. Settle into luxury with European-inspired accommodations, the finest appointments and enjoy exquisite gourmet cuisine throughout your stay. Find that perfect last minute gift in Acorns. Experience the ritual of afternoon High Tea. When the day is over, rejuvenate with a signature treatment at The Spa.

Have a Holly Jolly Christmas Package (Available December 24th ~ December 26th)

Savor the season with a Highlands Christmas to remember. Settle into a slower pace where fires glow warm, Christmas delights abound and only Santa knows if there will be snow.

Ring in the New Year Package (Available December 30th ~ January 1st)

Whether it’s for renewal or a resolution to spend more time together, join us to celebrate the end of one year and the beginning of the next. Set the tone for your stay with an elegant champagne arrival. Settle into your luxurious accommodations before embarking on a culinary celebration with a special six-course menu in Madison’s on New Year’s Eve.

Upcoming wine dinner at Wolfgang’s

Wolfgang’s Restaurant and Wine Bistro presents Oakville Ranch Vineyards Wine Dinner this Monday, Sept. 18. Paula Kornell, general manager of Oakville Ranch Vineyards is coming from Napa to attend the dinner. Oakville Ranch is known for high quality, premium Merlot, Cabernet Sauvignon and Chardonnays. Oakville Ranch is a boutique winery with very limited productions; usually 2,000-3,000 cases produced annually, all from 100% estate grown fruit.

For 35 years, you’ve loved our silver, porcelain and jewelry...we have furniture, too! 4th Street ...on the hill • 526-2080

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Savor the season with a Highlands Christmas to remember. Settle into a slower pace where fires glow warm, Christmas delights abound and only Santa knows if there will be snow.

Ring in the New Year Package (Available December 30th ~ January 1st)

Whether it’s for renewal or a resolution to spend more time together, join us to celebrate the end of one year and the beginning of the next. Set the tone for your stay with an elegant champagne arrival. Settle into your luxurious accommodations before embarking on a culinary celebration with a special six-course menu in Madison’s on New Year’s Eve.

Upcoming wine dinner at Wolfgang’s

Wolfgang’s Restaurant and Wine Bistro presents Oakville Ranch Vineyards Wine Dinner this Monday, Sept. 18. Paula Kornell, general manager of Oakville Ranch Vineyards is coming from Napa to attend the dinner. Oakville Ranch is known for high quality, premium Merlot, Cabernet Sauvignon and Chardonnays. Oakville Ranch is a boutique winery with very limited productions; usually 2,000-3,000 cases produced annually, all from 100% estate grown fruit.

For 35 years, you’ve loved our silver, porcelain and jewelry...we have furniture, too! 4th Street ...on the hill • 526-2080

OEI announces holiday packages for 2006

Old Edwards Hospitality Group is pleased to announce Holiday Packages for 2006 at Old Edwards Inn and Spa and The Lodge at Old Edwards Inn. These getaways offer guests the opportunity to relax and reconnect surrounded by holiday splendor in the beauty and serenity of the mountains in wintertime.

Holiday Package Details

The Old Edwards traditions of champagne arrival, gourmet continental breakfast each morning, a welcome amenity and evening turndown and a butter pantry with snacks, fresh fruit and non-alcoholic beverages are standard and come with each guestroom and package at the Inn and Lodge.

Thanksgiving Package (Available November 22nd ~ November 25th)

Come spend Thanksgiving at Old Edwards! Enjoy luxurious accommodations and fine dining while relishing time together with special friends and family. Let the concierge suggest additional delights like High Tea in the Library or a relaxing visit to The Spa to enhance the weekend.

Holiday Escape Package (Available November 27th ~ December 24th)

Escape to the mountains for the special gift of time together and relaxation! From the moment you step into our beaded lobby, a breeze sense of the holiday season will surround you. Settle into luxury with European-inspired accommodations, the finest appointments and enjoy exquisite gourmet cuisine throughout your stay. Find that perfect last minute gift in Acorns. Experience the ritual of afternoon High Tea. When the day is over, rejuvenate with a signature treatment at The Spa.

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For 35 years, you’ve loved our silver, porcelain and jewelry...we have furniture, too! 4th Street ...on the hill • 526-2080
Madison’s Restaurant & Wine Garden presents holiday menus

Madison’s Restaurant and Wine Garden, the flagship restaurant of the Old Edwards Inn and Spa is pleased to announce holiday menus for Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year’s Eve 2006. Reservations for Thanksgiving and Christmas Day are available 11 AM - 6 PM. New Year’s Eve dinner will be served from 5:30 to 9 PM. Reservations may be made by calling the restaurant directly at 828.526.5477.

Thanksgiving and Christmas Dinner menus offer guests choices for appetizers, entrees and desserts. Along with the regular dinner menu, on New Year’s Eve Chef Nate Waugaman will present a six-course tasting menu featuring the theme “Tiny Bubbles.” Highlights from the menus include the following: Leek and Celeriac Soup with Crisp Veal Sweetbread; Georgia Caviar Pear and Frisee Salad with Warm Country Ham; Lemon Vinaigrette Acorn Squash and Duck Confit Terrine with Watercress Salad; Deviled Quail Egg Pan Roasted Striped Bass with Salsify Champagne Cream; Grapes, & Wilted Spinach; Slow Roasted Suckling Pig with Braised Red Cabbage Spaetzle, Wilted Mustard Greens; Fresh Sage Scented Loin of Beef with Apple and Pumpkin Hash, Braised Chard, Madeira Sauce; Basted Medallion of Turkey with Cranberry Cornbread Stuffing, Candied Sweet Potatoes and Herbed Giblet Veloute; Pumpkin Praline Pie with Praline Ice Cream, Spiced Rum Sauce; Pecan Mille-Feuille with Pecan Pastry Cream, Vanilla Terrine; or Gala Apple Tart Tatin with Brown Butter Roasted Apple Purée, Cinnamon Ice Cream. $65 per person, plus tax and gratuity; children menu available – $25 per child (under 12), plus tax and gratuity.

Century 21 Mountain Lifestyles names top producers for August

During the month of August, Cathy Garren, managing broker with the Cashiers office was named “Top Listing Agent.” Cathy Garren was awarded the Masters Emerald award for her production in 2005. She was also the Top Listing by Volume and the Top Sales by Volume agent in her office in 2005. Diane Stumm, also with the Cashier office was named “Top Sales Agent.”

Bob Shipp, with the Highlands Office was named “Top Listing Agent” and Gary Garren, managing broker was named “Top Sales Agent.”

Cathy Garren  Diane Stumm  Gary Garren  Bob Shipp

Highlands Eateries

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High Country Cafe
Down home favorites everyday!
Breakfast & Lunch
6:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Sunday through Friday;
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526-0572
Cashiers Road next to the Community Bible Church

Buck’s Coffee Cafe
Open 7 days a week
7:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Coffee, tea, wine, pastries, sandwiches
384 Main Street
Recently, while on vacation, I kept passing these “kiosks” called Oxygen Bars. Finally, after about the third one, I had to stop and ask the attendant what it was. She said you breathe pure, clean oxygen. I looked at the tubing and asked her, “just like at a hospital?” She said yes, but their tubing was prettier (it was fluorescent yellow!). She went on to add that you could get aromatherapy with the oxygen in different flavors. The oxygen is pumped through an aroma of your choice en route to the nose. She shared with me the benefits of this oxygen and how much better it would make me feel.

Upon arriving home, I “googled” Oxygen Bars to see what I could find out. One website indicated “from happy customers to high profit margins, oxygen bars make perfect sense for your company.” An FDA website article indicates that oxygen bars were introduced in the United States in the late 1990s. I guess I’m behind! The article suggests that “oxygen fans tout the benefits of oxygen for reducing stress, increasing energy and alertness, lessening the effects of hangovers, headaches, and sinus problems, and generally relaxing the body.”

I know a better type of oxygen for our lives. My professor, Bill Mallard, at Emory called it ruakh or spirit. In John, chapter 14, Jesus tells us that upon his departure from earth, he will “ask the Father, and he (God) will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever...You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.” Our Advocate is the Holy Spirit. The promise was that the Holy Spirit will come to us and “teach you everything, and remind you of all that I [Jesus] have said to you.” The Holy Spirit is a different kind of breath of fresh air for our lives.

Spirit in the Greek (pneuma) also means breath or wind. The Holy Spirit continues to “breathe” God into our lives and into our world. Like the wind, the Holy Spirit is present and while not seeing the wind itself, we can see the effects of the wind. The Holy Spirit moves and lives in our lives in a way that our faith is lived out through our acts of love. Through our love for others, we see the effects of the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit is God living in our lives and our world forever and ever. The word advocate is also translated comforter, counselor, or helper. While an oxygen bar may give us a temporary feeling of cleansing or relief, a life full of the Holy Spirit will give us a lifetime of comfort and hope. This is a much better “fix” than stopping at an oxygen bar.
DeVille named MC Teacher of the Year

At the Sept. 12 Teacher of the Year Banquet held at the Mill Creek Country Club in Franklin, John DeVille (of the Highlands deVilles) is one of the county’s 10 teachers to be named “Teacher of the Year.” He is Franklin High’s pick. From those 10, a committee selects the county’s Teacher of the Year. DeVille won that title also and will advance to the state regional competition. DeVille graduated from Highlands School in 1980.

... McKim continued from page 15

“that I am a family man, one of a large family, and know what it means to have a family, and know how difficult it is to make ends meet and to keep a family together and provide for a family in this state,” he said. “I would like people to know that I am a businessman, and I think that it’s important that we find people that have to deal with the state and its laws in business because we will be able to provide jobs in different places.”

McKim believes education is an important issue for children, but said the economy affects how parents can raise their children. “The economy, I think, is a very important issue, and it affects children because it affects their parents’ ability to take care of their children and meet their needs.”

You may see some of the signs which were hand-painted last Friday. They are dispersed throughout the westernmost eight counties of North Carolina. They read “McKim for State Senate.”

There is one special sign which has a smiley face in the “o” in the word “for.” There’s a contest to see who notices that sign first! If you see it, call the campaign headquarters and reveal the sign’s location. You could win.....um.....the wonderful feeling of self-achievement!

Male Chorus performs tonight at PAC

The Performing Arts Center’s Male Chorus will present a program of music entitled “Broadway and More” Thursday, Sept. 14 at 8 p.m. Tickets are $10. Seats are limited, so call 526-9047.

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**UPCOMING EVENTS**

- **Yoga Classes** at the Rec Park.3 Monday and Wednesdays. Bring your mat. $7 per person per class or $50 for a monthly pass.
- **Sally Foster Giftwrap Sale** to benefit Highlands School. Pick up order sheets at the front office of the school, talk to a student, or go on line at www.SallyFoster.com to order use code number: 605265. All orders will be delivered to Highlands School.
- **Thursdays at the Barn**: If you would like a walking tour of the new property on which will sit our new Fine Art Center, join us any Thursday at 5 p.m. for a personal tour. Meet us at the Crane Stable Barn on Oak Street.
- **FREE improv classes at Instant Theater on Main Street.** Call the ITC office at 828.526.1687. A new class is forming now. You may also email us at instanttheatre@instanttheatre.org. Come play with us!
- **Mountain Findings** will be open until 6 p.m. each Friday. The normal hours of operation have always been 10 a.m to 4 p.m, Monday through Saturday.
- **New Beginners Clogging class** Tuesday, 6-7 p.m. at the Sapphire Valley Community Center. Come have lots of fun and exercise. Call 743-7663.
- **At Health Tracks at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital** will have Osteoporosis prevention exercise classes on Tuesdays and Thursdays of each week from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Free with Health Tracks Membership or $8 per class for non-members. Call Jeanette Fisher at 828-526-1FIT.
- **At Health Tracks at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital** is offering a total body and muscle-toning workout exercise class at 9 a.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Free with Health Track Membership or $8 for non-members. An advanced class will also be available on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 9 a.m. Contact Health Tracks at 828-526-1FIT.
- **At Health Tracks at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital** is holding Pilates classes on Mondays and Wednesdays at 4 p.m. Cost of the class is $10 per session or $8 (each) for 10 sessions. Contact Health Tracks at 828-526-1FIT.
- **A Grief Support Group is held every Friday from 10-12 at the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital for anyone who has lost a loved one through death or is dealing with a progressive illness with a loved one. If interested in attending, please contact Helen Moore (Hospice) 526-0727 or Martha Porter (Chaplain at HCH) at 787-1463.**
- **Every Tuesday Weight Watchers meets at the Highlands Civic Center. Weigh-in is at 5:30. The meeting starts at 6 p.m.**
- **Every Tuesday evening, Spiritual Cinema Circle at The Instant Theatre Company brought to you by StarPony Productions at 7 p.m. Visionary, inspiring movies showcased at film festivals around the world are viewed. Suggested donation: $5, Bever-

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**The view from Pinchot Development, Lot 4, under construction—**

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For more information, call 828-598-2300 or email jpm@bellouth.net

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**Coming up at Highlands Playhouse**

A musical variety show with heart, “The North Platte Canteen” recalls the days of soldiers and war but also the hope that a few citizens can bring. When the Union Pacific is snowbound, USO performers entertain the canteen workers and some passing soldiers. At the Highlands Playhouse Oct. 5-6 at 8 p.m., Oct. 7 at 2 p.m., Oct. 13-14 at 8 p.m. Oct. 15 at 2 p.m. Tickets available at the box office at 362 Oak Street. Or call 526-2695.

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**At Cyrano’s Book Shop**

**Book Signings • 1-3 p.m.**

- **September 16**
  - Dennis Ackison – Murder at Fontana Dam
  - Paul Gerhardt – Feline Four
  - Tom Smoot – The Edisons of Ft. Myers
  - William Rawlings – Crossword
  - Fred Wooldridge – I’m Moving Back To Mars

- **September 23**
  - Paul Gerhardt – Life As I Slice It
  - Urban Lust – The Covington Series
  - Susan Mason – Silver Service

- **September 28**
  - Carl Smith – Louise’s Burn
  - Dennis Ackison – Silver Service

- **October 12**
  - Susan Mason – Silver Service
  - Dan Garrett – The Covington Series

- **October 14**
  - Joan Medlicott – 11-1, The Covington Series
  - Susan Mason – Silver Service

- **October 21**
  - Carl Smith – Louise’s Burn
  - George Ellison – A Blue Ridge Nature Journal

- **December 16**
  - Carl Smith – Louise’s Burn

390 Main Street • 526-5488
Antiques, antiques, antiques

Last year the Highlands Playhouse Antique Show was held in the new gym at Highlands School. This year it’s at the Civic Center, Sept. 29-Oct. 1

Today Highlands is a year round community. The Highlands Playhouse has brought professional theatrical events to Highlands each summer for 68 seasons, and is now excited to bring the community and its guests the upcoming antiques show. The antique show is a major fundraiser for the Highlands Playhouse, and wants to continue to enhance the appeal of the mountains during the Fall Leaf Season.

Examples of items you will find at the show include American Antique Wicker, Carolina Pottery, rustic lodge and wall hangings, wonderful oriental rugs, antique and estate jewelry, sterling silver, art glass, Majolica, fine linens, antique clocks and music boxes, 18th and 19th century American, English and European furniture and paintings. For those interested in American Civil War items, Christopher Mitchell (expert appraiser on the Antique Roadshow for eight seasons) will be exhibiting a selection of his numerous Confederate and Militia items. Mitchell has been a frequent consultant to museums and auction houses. For a complete list of participating exhibitors, as well as other antique shops in the area, be sure to pick up a show catalogue during the show.

The show will be held the last weekend of September (Friday the 29th, Saturday the 30th and Sunday, October 1st) at the Highlands Civic Center on Hwy 64 E, (known to locals as the recreation center). Hours are 10 a.m. until 7 p.m. Friday, Saturday and Sunday and until 5 p.m. on Sunday. This an event that you and your friends will not want to miss.

This year’s event will host a spectacular Exclusive Preview Party. Thursday evening, Sept. 28 from 6:30 p.m. till 8:30 p.m., black tie optional. A well known restaurant, Rosewood Market, will cater the party. A limited number of preview party tickets are still available through the Highlands Playhouse Box Office at 362 Oak Street, Highlands or Call (828) 526-2695 and reserve you tickets today.

All proceeds benefit the Highlands Playhouse in continuing to bring the Highlands community live professional theatre.

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HELP WANTED
HCC PROPERTY OWNERS’ ASSOCIATION - Accepting applications for administration position at local country club. Seasonal, flexible position (9-10 months) with good benefits. Duties include answering phones, regular interaction with members and vendors and performing general secretarial and clerical duties. Minimum five years experience, good inter personal and communication abilities with PC skills, including Word and Excel required. Graphics and some bookkeeping background a plus. Send resume by fax to 828-526-1951 or mail to General Manager, P.O. Box 707, Highlands NC 28741 9/14.


BUCK’S COFFEE CAFE - Full and part time Counter Help needed for year round employment Please stop by 384 Main Street for a application or call 526-4646 for more information.

SECRETARY-RECEPTIONIST – Accepting applications for a full-time, year round experienced Secretary-Receptionist. Seeking a reliable individual with a pleasant personality to answer phones, and perform general secretarial and clerical duties. Must possess good computer knowledge, and typing skills. Excellent benefits. Send resume by fax to 828-526-9608 or mail to P.O. Box 220 Highlands, NC 28741. Deadline for applications September 15th.

EXPERIENCED CABINET INSTALLER NEEDED – Part time employment. Competitive pay. Willing to work with your schedule. Must be dependable, have tools, transportation. Call (828)526-9202.

FULL TIME MANAGER & PART-TIME HELP – needed for a new up-scale yard shop in Highlands. Call 404-542-2904 or 404-932-6867.

MANICURIST/PEDI-CURIST & AESTHETICIAN – Needed for exclusive private health club in Cashiers. Must be team player. NC license required.

Classifieds

ATILA – following hourly positions available: Night Auditor, Spa attendants – NEEDED – needs part-time cashier 2nd shift 3-7PM Monday thru Friday, Saturday or Sunday 7am - 6pm. Starting $9 per hour. Some benefits. Apply in person. No calls please.

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

HIGHLAND CAFE – now hiring for all positions, on the floor and in the kitchen. EOE. Call 526-0572.

HOUSEKEEPER AT HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HOSPITAL - Full-time, year-round position, Tuesdays through Saturdays. Experience in hospital cleaning is preferred. $12.00 per hour, 30 hours per week. Employment substance screening. Call Mary Osmar, 828-526-1301 or apply online at www.hchospital.org.

HIGH COUNTRY CAFE – seeking a qualified full time, year round night time manager. Pay based on experience. Please apply in person. Must speak and read English.

SCALY MOUNTAIN BP AND GENERAL STORE – needs part-time cashier 2nd shift 3-7PM Monday thru Friday, Saturday or Sunday 7am - 6pm. Starting $9 per hour. Some benefits. Apply in person. No calls please.

SALON MANAGER – Seeking an experienced salon manager for The Lodge on Mirror Lake. Glass panel front doors, 14 ft tall, 8 ft wide doors, 12 ft tall, 6 ft wide glass doors. $925. Call 772-321-9620.

POST RENTING OFFICE/RETAIL SPACE – New building with three 2,200 sq. ft. retail/office units & three 1,600 sq. ft. drive-in storage units. Located in several miles from Highlands- Cashiers resort area. Call 828-526-9202 or mail to P.O. Box 421-3161.


ADORABLE 3 BR/2 BA COTTAGE with wonder ful mountain view. One mile from Main Street. Highlands. $275,000. By Owner. For Appt. Call 828-526-1085. 9/29.


FUTON WITH WOOD FRAME, Oversized single. Falls into a chair. $295. Call 828-501-5853.


VACATION RENTAL – In Sky Valley. 10 miles from Highlands. $500 week, 2/2, Newer, completely furnished. No smoking, no pets. Call 772-215-5896 or email twalinski@aol.com.

HOME FOR RENT IN HIGHLANDS – 3 bedroom, 2 bath chalet on six acres. Great for kids, $1,100 per month annually. Call 772-215-5896 or email twalinski@aol.com.

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE


HIGH AND DOWNTOWN HOUSES CLOSE TO DOWNTOWN – Only 2.8 miles from Main Street. Lots of large hedges, hardwood trees and mountain laurel. Some with creek front, some up to National Forest. All are gentle, easy building sites with community well, TV, PC, good linens, towels, china, satellite. Gated community/club. Access with horses, kayaks, canoes available. Weekly, monthly and long holiday week-ends possible. $100 week, $250/month. 3 day minimum by the-day/weekend. 770-479-5525 x239 days - Kevin, 770-704-9268 eves. vacation rental – The Lodge on Mirror Lake, Fish or canoe from deck. Available weekly, monthly, 3-day min. Call 824-323-2022.

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

ONE OF A Kind – Two bedroom, two bath home close to town- all on one level. Fully Furnished. $1,000 per month, plus utilities/maintenance. $1,000. Security Deposit. All homes require interview, rental application, credit and background check. Please come by The Chambers Agency, 401 N. Fifth St. or call 828-526-3717.

HOME FOR RENT – Newly remodeled farm-style home. 1.5 acres. Completely renovated. $1,500 per month. Call 828-787-1737.


HOME FOR RENT – Newly remodeled farm-style home. 1.5 acres. Completely renovated. $1,400 a month. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, in town. Creekside. Completely renovated. $1,400 a month. $1,200 to $1,300 a month. Call 828-787-1737.

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POLICE & FIRE REPORT

The following is the Highlands Police Dept. log entries for the week of Sept. 7-12.

Only the names of persons arrested or public officials have been used.

Sept. 7

• At 5:25 p.m., Alyson Leigh Baumrucker, 32, of Highlands, was arrested for drunk and disorderly conduct in Wright Square. She was released on bond.

Sept. 8

• At 4:30 p.m., officers responded to a call from Highlands Quick Mart to request motorcycle riders to leave the premises.

• At 11:20 p.m., officers responded to a noise complaint concerning Cyprus Restaurant.

• At 9:50 a.m., a motorist was cited for speeding 45 mph in a 25 zone at U.S. 64 east and Poplar Street.

• At 8:20 a.m., a motorist was cited for speeding 46 mph in a 25 zone at U.S. 64 east and Poplar Street.

• At 5 p.m., a business owner reported receiving harassing phone calls.

Sept. 9

• At 7:50 p.m., officers responded to a noise complaint at a residence on Big Bear Pen Road.

Sept. 10

• At 9:45 a.m., a motorist was cited for speeding 52 mph in a 35 zone on Chocowin Drive.

• At 10:30 a.m., a resident on Hummingbird Circle reported a wash waters coming from the yard probably in July.

Sept. 11

• At 10:40 p.m., a resident on Bowery Road requested help in getting a snake out of her house.

• At 12:50 p.m. Gabriel Bruce Bolick, 23, of Highlands, was arrested for failing to appear at court. He was released on a $500 bond.

• At 1 p.m., a diamond and gold ring with a Tiffany setting valued at $18,400 was reported missing from a residence on Bowery Road.

• At 10:04 p.m., officers were called to a residence on Bowery Road to help get snakes out of the house.

During the week, officers issued four warrant citations.

The following is the Fire & Rescue Dept. log entries for the week of Sept. 5-12.

Sept. 5

• The dept. provided mutual aid for Satolah Fire & Rescue while that department fought a structure fire.

• The dept. responded to an accident on Buck Creek Road but it was out of district and handled by the Cullasaja Fire & Rescue Dept.

Sept. 6

• The dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with a medical call at a residence on Club House Trail. The victim was transported to the hospital.

• The dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with a medical call at a residence on Edward Creek Road. The victim was transported to the hospital.

Sept. 8

• The dept. provided mutual aid to Cashiers. The call was cancelled en route.

• The dept. provided mutual aid to Scaly Mountain concerning an accident between Turtle Pond Road and the view.

Sept. 10

• The dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with a medical call at a residence at First Baptist Church when a woman fainted. The victim was transported to the hospital.

Sept. 11

• The dept. provided mutual aid to Cashiers. The call was cancelled en route.

REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS

Town of Highlands
• 0530751, 386 BONNIE DR, CHAMPION
  • 0501177, 593 HICKORY ST, PARRISH
  • 0501227, 455 DILLARD RD, REESE

KING MTN, DAVISON KATHARINE A, 9/6/2006, $1,010,000.

HIGHLANDS TOWNSHIP
• 0548146, SHORRFF RD NORTON RIDGE, POTTS CLARENCE, 8/18/2006, $0.

RIDGE, POTTS CLARENCE, 8/18/2006, $0.

ARMOR KAREN GAIL, $16,800.

• 0517592, 320 WILDWOOD DR, BAUER BRIAN E, 8/17/2006, $415,000., REID CHARLES R., $251,290.

FLATS TOWNSHIP / SCALY MTN.
• 0600520, ON HWY 106, SIMMONS JOSEPH, 8/18/2006, $28,000., STANNAT MARJORIE, $31,960.

• 0600639, 95 ROCK HILL RD LOT 39 KING MTN, DAVISON KATHARINE A, 9/6/2006, $1,010,000., GUIDO LAWRENCE C., $851,650.

• 0600307, OFF HWY 106 LOT 18 KING MTN, SCHWARTZ HARRY TRUSTEE, 8/29/2006, $88,500., KING MTN CLUB INC, $5,000.

• 066216, 455 EVAHREY RD, BAGWELL STANLEY R, 8/29/2006, $52,000., MARSHALL ROBERT, $27,190.

• 0623925, 32 HUCKLEBERRY HILL RD, RAINBOW W, 8/16/2006, $100,000., LONG POLLY

• 0601177, 593 HICKORY ST, PARRISH ALICE D, 8/25/2006, $0.

• 0501177, 593 HICKORY ST, PARRISH ALICE D, 8/25/2006, $0.

• 0501227, 455 DILLARD RD, REESE CHARLES ALLEN, 8/29/2006, $0.


• 0503770, 278 ZACHARY RD ON ZACARY RD, BURT THEODORE, 8/29/2006, $0.

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