

Highlands' Newspaper FREE

Volume 4, Number 38

Locally Owned & Operated

Thursday, Sept. 21, 2006

On-going

- Free Round Robin Tennis at the Rec Park every morning from 9-noon.

- Yoga Classes at the Rec Park. Mondays 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.

- 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 and Sunday brunch.

- Live music at Fressers in Helen's Barn. featuring Cy Timmons Wed. through Sat., 6 p.m. until.

- Live music at Cyprus Restaurant every Friday at 9:30 p.m.

- Highlands Wine and Cheese Shop: Wine Flights Saturday from 4:30-6:30.

- Live music at Wolfgang's Bistro every Sun. and Mon. it's Momo on Piano; every Wed. it's Paul Scotts Trio; and every Thurs. & Fri it's Rickey Dean on piano.

Sept. 22

- NOTE TIME CHANGE. Bluegrass music at PAC, 7:30 p.m. The Dappled Grays. Tickets are \$15. Seats are limited. Call 526-9047 for reservations.

Sept. 23

- PEO yard sale in Sapphire community, Sat., 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. Lots of excellent houseworn items, furniture, linens, and just stuff. Proceeds from sale go to PEO projects: women's education.

- Signing at Cyrano's Book Shop, from 1-3 p.m., Paul Gerhardt's *Feline Four*.

- Ryder Stevens to speak on "Peace and Reconciliation: A Christian Science Approach" at the Highlands Civic Center at 4 p.m. It's free.

Sept. 25

- Bolivian Auction at the Highlands Country Club on Monday from 5:30 p.m. until the last item is auctioned by Al Scudder. The admission donation will be \$100.

Sept. 26

- PAC Film Series presents "Sliding Doors" at 7:30 p.m. It's free but donations are appreciated.

Sept. 28

- John Corcora, author of "The Teacher Who Couldn't Read," will speak at the Highlands School at 6:30 p.m. in the old gym. This event is open to the public.

- County Commission Candidates Forum, 7:30 p.m. at Tartan Hall at First Presbyterian Church in Franklin.

- Second Annual Highlands Antique Show Preview Party at the Civic Center.

Board OK's multifamily at Harris Lake

The third time was the charm for Developer Bill Nellis.

Despite getting a "no" from the Planning Board two times, the third time Nellis appeared before the Town Board for approval to rezone the 4.4 acres on Harris Lake from R2 to conditional use multifamily, the board voted 3-2 in fa-

vor of the complex.

"I was in favor of this the last time but would have liked it if it was less dense and that's exactly where he went," said Commissioner Dennis DeWolf at the Sept. 20 Town Board meeting. "And the gathering of the buildings together increases the area between

them, allowing for more green space."

Nellis said he didn't think it was possible, but because he was forced to go through the process the project evolved into something much better than the original design.

• See MULTIFAMILY page 16

RiverWalk appealing citations

RiverWalk of Highlands LLC has hired the law firm of Roberts & Stevens of Asheville to represent them in appealing the citations issued by the town.

Attorney William Clarke has filed an appeal with an administrative court to contest the issuance of the citations. To date seven soil erosion citations have been issued, totaling \$3,500.

"This is probably just an opening volley," said Watershed Administrator Larry Gantenbein. "There's probably more at stake than that."

The reason: if someone continually, knowingly or intentionally violates the state's 1973 Pollution and Sedimentation Control Act, which is reflected in Chapter 11 of the Town Code, it is a criminal misdemeanor with a penalty of \$5,000 and/or 90 days in jail, said Gantenbein.

Clarke told Gantenbein he is appealing on the basis that the town was arbitrary and capricious in its issuance of the citations.

Meanwhile, the state is currently reviewing RiverWalk's stormwater control plan. Once officials determine if the math is right - that is, that the silt ponds and other controls are large enough to handle stormwater on the project -- they will advise the town of its decision.

"I am permitted as the local program administrator to do enforcement but certain aspects of the plan are under state control and any decision or interpretation

• See RIVERWALK page 15

Team on the winning side



Photo by Kim Lewicki

On Thursday, Sept. 14, Highlands Girls Varsity Volleyball team played Blue Ridge in a three-game conference match. Highlands won all three games. The next home game is a conference game Thursday, Sept. 21 at 6 p.m. against Nantahala. Danielle Puchacz pops the ball to Toni Schmitt who sent it over the net.

Certain uses prohibited in R1

A home in the residential district of Satulah, which is rented as part of a commercial venture, has spawned a prohibited use ordinance.

At the Sept. 20 Town Board meeting, commissioners voted unanimously to adopt the

ordinance which prohibits commercial activities in the R1 district.

"Under Section 201.10. Prohibited uses: commercial activities are not permitted in the R1 District except as otherwise expressly allowed herein. Activities prohibited by this provision shall include, but way of example and not by way of limitation, the following: the use of short-term rental property or the short-term rental of property for weddings, receptions, or other gatherings of more than 20 persons. 'Short-

• See USES page 11

Inside:

Letters	pg. 2
Wooldridge	pg. 4
Redmountain	pg. 5
Another View	pg. 8
Classifieds	pg. 25
Police & Fire	pg. 26
RE Transactions	pg. 26

High-rise spawns two lawsuits

Some people think a condominium complex in the vicinity of Highlands is a good thing. "Retired people don't want to have to maintain a home and grounds," said one reader in Franklin. Others say such a complex will be good for business.

But the thought of a steel and glass skyscraper on 19.24 acres on U.S. 64 east across from the Community Bible church has others ready to rumble.

But developers say a steel and glass skyscraper is the furthest thing from what they have in mind.

First, they say about 18 acres of the 19+-acre tract known as Old Hemlock Cove will be preserved as will most of the trees and plantings laid out on the property by original owner Henry Wright.

Preliminary plans for the condominium complex include the majority of the footprint of the 10-story, stone and timberframe condominium sitting on property between the David tract and the Old Hemlock Cove tract - a piece recently purchased from Lloyd and Debra Wagner.

Plans include a sewer package plant, an indoor pool and recreation facility, underground parking - all in one complex - and hiking trails meandering throughout the property.

Effluent from the package plant will be recycled to irrigate the property and used as part of the complex's cooling system so it will not return directly into the river.

• See CONDO page 12

Weekend Weather:



• THE PLATEAU'S POSITION •

• LETTERS •

• BIRD'S EYE VIEW •

• LETTERS •

Owning stocks has nothing to do with candidate's platform

Dear Editor,

In a current television campaign advertisement, Charles Taylor tries to tie higher gasoline prices to Heath Shuler because Mr. Shuler owns oil company stocks. This is an irresponsible and misleading ad.

Mr. Shuler, by virtue of owning oil company stocks, has as much influence on gas prices at the pump as I would if I tried to stop the sun from coming up in the east.

If we look at the facts, when Charles Taylor first took office in the US Congress in 1991, the annual average for regular gasoline nationally was \$1.12. So far in 2006, the national average regular gas price for the first nine months is \$2.58. This points out, beyond a shadow of a doubt, how ineffective Charles Taylor has been in Congress for his constituents in North Carolina.

And, if we really want to talk about investments, what about Charles Taylor's Russian bank investments? That's really American patriotism, isn't it?

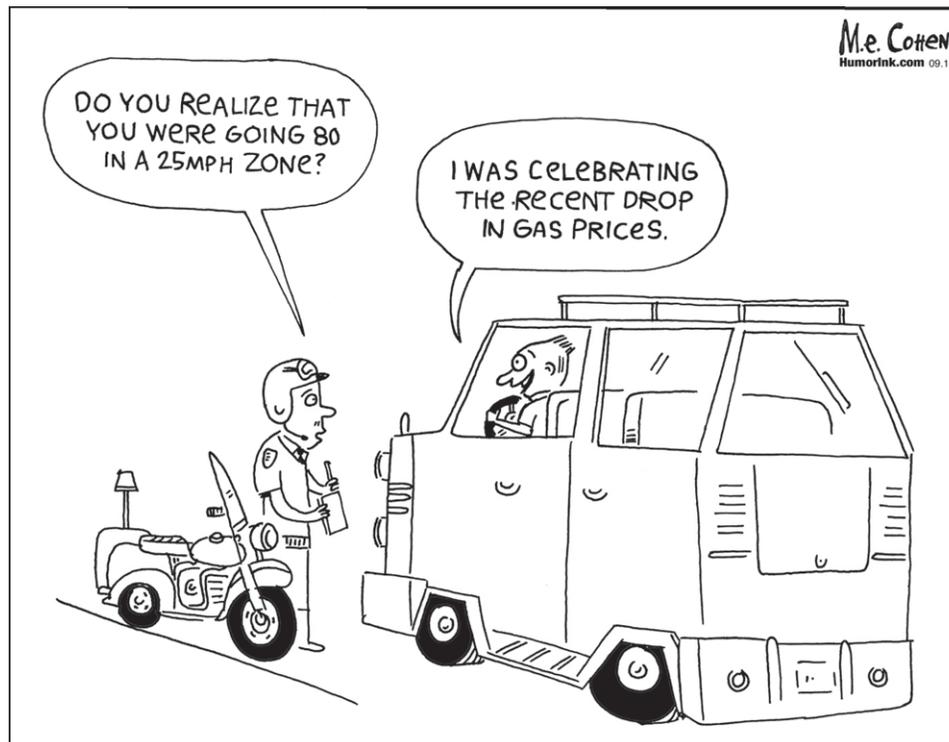
Jim Hartje
Otto

After penalties, mud still in Highlands' lakes and rivers

Dear Editor,

Each week since the first piece of soil was moved by the River Walk developers we have read with alarm the ongoing saga of the penalties levied to the developer for allowing tons of mud to flow into the Cullasaja River and thus to Mirror Lake and Lake Sequoyah. We have never seen Mirror Lake or Lake Sequoyah as muddy as recently.

It's great that the violations performed by the developer have been brought to his attention as well as all of the citizens of Highlands. However, the mud is still there and we will all suffer the consequences of these violations for years to come. This developer is not the only guilty party — it has been going on for years.



People of Highlands, do you realize that Lake Sequoyah is our water source? That Big Creek (the portion of the lake on the north side of the bridge on Highway 64 west) is already so filled with silt that we have a sand bar in the upper end as

well as some water that is only about 1 inch deep? Do you also realize that when vegetation appears above the water line that it is classified as wetlands by the U.S. Corp of Engineers and no one may remove the vegetation?

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.
There is a 500-word limit without prior approval.

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The Lake Sequoyah Improvement Association, the Mirror Lake Improvement Association, along with the Town of Highlands, have been seeking funds for several years from the Federal Government to dredge the lakes with no success. Take a look at Mirror Lake with all of the vegetation where running water used to be present. Also there are many areas of Lake Sequoyah where vegetation is already present and the lakes keep getting smaller and smaller.

What can we do? Will penalties remedy the situation—we doubt it.

In the meantime the mud keeps building up and the grass keeps growing. Are we the only ones worried?

Bill and June Hogue
Highlands

Main-stream media is corporate not political

Dear Editor,

This letter is in response to a Letter-to-the-Editor in the September 7th issue of Highlands' Newspaper by Jack Cota.

Mr. Cota speaks of a common misconception about the mainstream media as having a liberal or Democratic bias. This is simply not true.

As a case in point, when the Bush administration was trying to convince the world that we should attack Iraq over three years ago, there was not one mainstream media source that was arguing against going to war; not the newspapers, magazines, television, or radio. One had to search long and hard for an alternate opinion during that time. The mainstream media has stood by the side of the conservative agenda on the war in Iraq. It's only been recently with the president's falling approval ratings and the hard-to-hide reality of the Iraq War that the mainstream media is finally asking the confrontational questions they should have been asking all along.

I think it's important to realize that the mainstream media is neither conservative nor liberal, Republican or Democrat; it's corporate! Virtually everything in the media that you read, listen to, or watch is going to have a corporate slant. For example, when you have a broadcaster like NBC slanting their reports to make a case for war, one has to understand that NBC is owned by GE who gets money from government war

• See LETTERS page 13

Changes coming due to study

By **Susanna Forrester**
Reporter

A Town of Highlands pay study which suggested salary increases for town employees was adopted by the Town Board.

"The specific recommendations for salary grade increases were adopted on Wednesday, September 6," said Richard Betz, Town Administrator.

The pay study, conducted by Rebecca L. Veazey of the Maps Group, attempted to determine whether the Town of Highlands was competitive enough to maintain its employee base in the coming years. The data suggested that the Town was behind in pay rates compared to other towns and municipalities in western North Carolina.

The survey took into account the populations and salary ranges of other towns such as Boone, Sylva, Franklin, Brevard, Maggie Valley, and Weaverville. The specific salary recommendations were made for the town administrator down to sanitation workers and recreation maintenance workers.

The recommendations for the town administrator position were based on the size of the town staff, the amount of services provided by the town, a comparison to other towns, and the population

of the town. The range for town administrator is about \$48,000 to \$68,000 — the recommendation was \$57,000 to \$85,000; sanitation workers currently make \$17,900 to \$25,300, the recommended pay was \$19,600 to \$29,500; recreation maintenance workers currently receive \$19,700 to \$27,900, the recommendation is \$19,700 to \$29,500.

The pay study also provided a new personnel policy and benefits recommendations to the town. One of the first recommendations was that the town provide training to its supervisors. It recommended that they receive at least 40 hours of supervisory training during the next two to three years.

The study pointed out that "many key staff members were in the boomer generation and eligible for retirement in the next five years." Hence, the town needs to be in a position to offer competitive salaries to gain new employees, since many other towns will be facing the same phenomenon in the coming years.

One of the lowest average salaries compared to other municipalities was for Highlands' police officers. Their current average salary was significantly below the average of competitors with a hiring pay of \$24,000 and a maximum pay of

• See STUDY page 6

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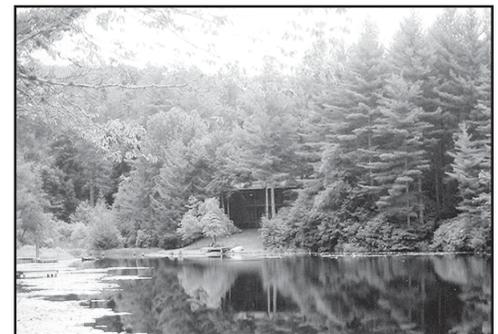
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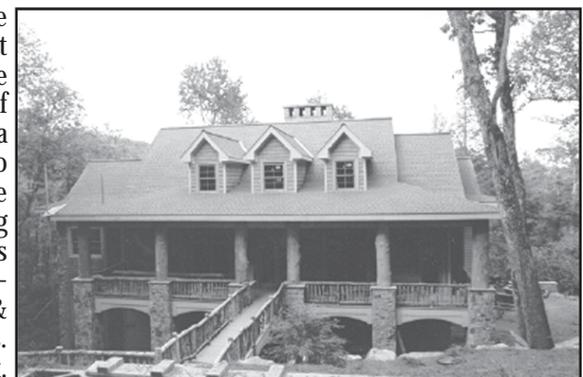
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• LOOKING AT LIFE •

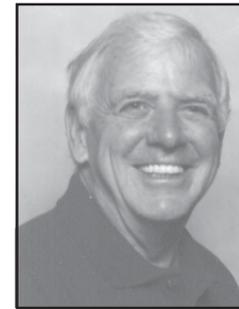
Boneheads in the pool

By the time you finish reading this, you will be certain I didn't make it up. Even convoluted thinkers like me can't come up with such a bizarre story. You will also not know whether to smile or be sad. That's what police stories do to people.

The year was 1962 and our police cars did not have air conditioners or heaters. Hard to believe, I know, but on rare cold nights, we would use the portable spot light placed against our wrists to help keep our blood warm. But this is not about the cold but about September, the hottest month on Miami Beach.

Even though it was almost three in the morning, the temperature on top of the Financial Federal building was flashing "89" with the humidity at 100%. In September, one can stand out on the beach, hold a lit match in the air and watch the flame burn straight up. With no breeze, the ocean is as calm as a lake. Cops just sat in their cars and sweated.

The coolest place in my zone was Flamingo Park. One night, as we pulled



Fred Wooldridge

Feedback
is encouraged!
email:
askfredanything@aol.com

into the park, my partner, Stanley, pointed to a vagrant sleeping on a park bench. "You wanna get court time for tomorrow?" he asked. "Nah, leave him, I already have court tomorrow."

We headed for the water fountain just outside the park pool. There, we found our zone Sergeant, sitting in his squad car sound asleep, head tilted back and mouth wide open. The sound of our engine startled him and he was relieved to find he had not been caught by the shift commander.

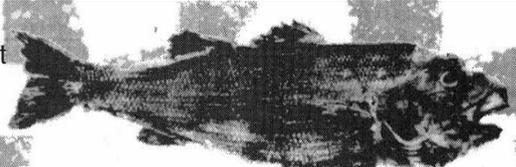
"You guys interested in taking a swim?" he asked, holding up a set of keys. "You have pool keys?" "Yep, I'm dating the pool cashier." He threw the keys into our car window. "Go ahead, it's a quiet night. I'll land-line the dispatcher and put you out of service for an hour. Give me five minutes to reach her."

We unlocked the gate and climbed the stairs to the above ground pool. Since handheld radios for police had not been invented, we turned our car radio to full volume, just in case. The

•See WOOLDRIDGE page 13

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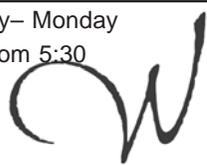
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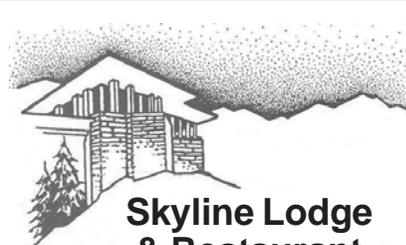
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Israel and the Arabs

Now that the situation on the Lebanese border has calmed down, it may be a good time to examine the historical roots of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict, which has so inflamed the entire Middle East for at least a generation.

Most people think it all began in 1948, with the establishment of the state of Israel. In fact, hostility between Jews and Arabs festered for almost a century before that in the area now known as Palestine and Israel.

For most of the pre-Israel years, a relatively small group of Jewish settlers was continually harassed and assaulted by the much larger Arab population.

To the Arabs, the Jews represented a symbol of the perpetuation of colonialism. For the Jews it was an opportunity to escape the virulent anti-Semitism of Eastern Europe and Russia, and to re-establish a presence in their ancient homeland.

Up to 1947, the entire area was under a British mandate, after having been governed for centuries by various Muslim potentates, including some from the Ottoman Empire.

When the United Nations partitioned Palestine and established the state of Israel, the Arabs rejected the idea, and



**Dr. Alex Redmountain
Feedback
is encouraged!**

**email:
redmountain8@msn.com**

within a year, attacked the fledgling nation en masse, with an alliance that included Trans-Jordan (now Jordan), Egypt, Syria, Lebanon and Iraq. Nevertheless, the Israelis won.

The dispute is complicated by the religious justification that many Arabs and Jews cite for their claim to the land. The Jewish argument is that God promised them the entire Holy Land over 5,000 years ago

while the Arabs maintain that their continuous presence and their sacred mosque in Jerusalem give them pre-eminence over the Israelis.

The recent resurgence of a militant Islam, particularly in Iran — which fully supports Hamas and Hezbollah — has added tinder to the fire of Arab nationalism. The Israelis, of course, feel that their very existence is threatened by countries and movements which have vowed to “wipe Israel off the map.” It looks like an intransigent dispute.

David Hare, a British playwright who spent some time in Israel and Palestine, ironically predicted that several million years from now, when all vertebrate life has been obliterated from the earth, Arab microbes and Israeli microbes will still be fighting each other in the Mideast.

At this point Egypt and Jordan have accepted Israel's right to exist. Lebanon's democratically elected government seemed likely to do so until the most recent war. Neither Hamas (in Palestine) nor Hezbollah (in Lebanon), both of which are client movements of Iran, are likely to agree to Israel's lawful existence.

It is inconceivable that the United States and the European Union would allow Israel to be extinguished. So it

• See REDMOUNTAIN page 17



Let's let 'em build
Highlands Park. I'd
rather look at trees
and a park on Harris
Lake than more of
what's sprouted
there...
a row of
Garage-Ma-Halls!

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MY opinion.

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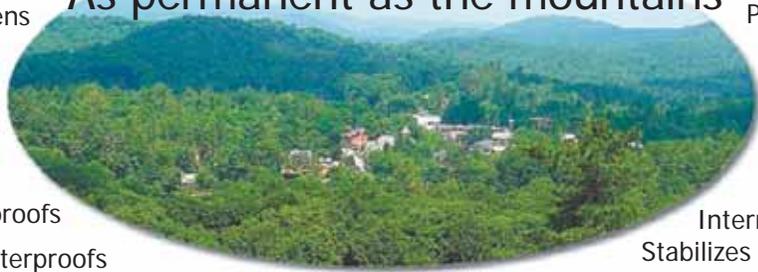
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Girls' Clubhouse begins 10th year of community service



The club has got it – “Highlander Pride” – and as its first project of the year is designing a garden along the back of the old gym. It will be responsible for planting, weeding, watering and maintaining the garden as one of its many community service projects for the 2006-2007 school year. The club welcomes suggestions as to types of plants for the project. Pictured from left are Amanda Barnes, Alex Mouchet, Kristin Hedden, Gabriella Tilson, Elizabeth Gordon, Kristie Owens, Kaylin Billingsley, Sydney Wagner, Jacqueline Reyes and Shelby Houston. Not pictured is Cheyenne Fleszar. Several other girls will return after cheerleading and volleyball are over. The Girls' Clubhouse is a group of middle school girls who do community service once a week throughout the school year. All sixth, seventh and eighth grade girls are welcome. Meetings are held in the cafeteria every Friday school is in session from 3-4:30 p.m. Supervisor is Kim Lewicki.

... STUDY continued from page 2

\$34,000. The average in other areas is a hiring pay of \$26,000 and a maximum pay of \$40,000. The pay study recommended a hiring pay of \$26,300 and a maximum pay of \$39,500.

The study also recommended that the town provide adequate pay raises for employees based on performance, so that employees don't remain “stagnated at the beginning of the range.” The solution provided by the study was a performance matrix to take into account the cost of living and how well the employee was meeting or exceeding the set standards for their job each year.

The study also suggested separating town administrator duties from town clerk duties. “Most towns have a separate administrative support staff member designated as town clerk, who works with the town administrator to prepare the agenda; attends meetings and takes and

prepares minutes; and performs other statutory duties,” said Veazey. “Either of the two administrative assistant positions could take on these functions that are more clerical and would free the town administrator for more managerial tasks as the town grows.”

This way the town administrator could focus on hiring, training, and supervising the town's department heads, as well as handing projects assigned by the board of commissioners, and inquiries from citizens, developers, and visitors.

The study, which delved extensively into classification of employees and policy changes, attempted to bring the town of Highlands into line with the average pay rates and standard policies used by other town governments.

According to the study, Highlands' future depends on its willingness to keep abreast of changing times.



Luke Osteen from Highlands with a group of Guarani Indians building the new school rooms.

Building houses for the Guarani Indians in Bolivia

By Dr. John Baumrucker

The first time I went to Bolivia, my contact was Dr. Dardo Chavez who worked at the Andean Rural Health Clinic. He received his medical education free but had to give two years of community service to the poor. He chose to live with the Guarani Indians for those two years.

These Indians, much like our tribes, had no feeling of land ownership, and when the Europeans came to South America they were displaced from Argentina and Paraguay and wandered about the land, being persecuted along the way. Three groups were placed on 600 hectares of land near Montero, Bolivia.

They built adobe huts with palm frond roofs from the materials readily at hand. Unfortunately, these huts were also home to a bug called the kissing bug that causes Chagas disease. This disease causes heart problems and gastrointestinal disorders which are fatal some 20 to 30 years after infection. Also, there was hardly a week that went by when a child didn't die from diarrhea, as the only source of water was a nearby river. This river also floods every time there is five to six inches of rain which is a common occurrence in the rainy season.

Dr. Chavez brought in a clean water supply using a deep well run by a generator. The generator is only used for the pump and for Sunday service at the church to power the key board and amplifier. He had to wait for groups like ours to help with the housing problem.

Over the years, several mission groups have built homes for the Guarani Indians. We have constructed six homes for the families, and now we are building a medical clinic and enlarging the school from the two-room school house to a four-room school. With the clean water supply,

virtually none of the children die, which is good, but now there is a need for more class rooms. Only time will tell if the incidence of Chagas disease will drop with the new housing, but there is no reason to think that it will not. It is hard to imagine that these serious diseases that really don't affect us here in Highlands cause the life expectancy to be about 45 years in this community.

These are some of the most peaceful people I have ever met, and they have practically nothing. There is no electric power, save the generator, and there is only one pick-up truck for the whole Guarani community of about 600 people. The people survive on faith which is the only thing they have. There is no savings, no store of food if the harvest is bad, and no transportation to go to town to find a better job.

One of the positive aspects of working here is the fact that the chief had his house built almost last instead of first. I respected him for that. I also like the fact that these fine people live on faith alone. They have to live that way, but they seem so much happier than we are. We brought them bibles several years ago. One of the recipients had been in the hospital a few weeks before. He held up his bible to the heavens to give thanks, kissed it and began to cry. This same man helped us build the clinic and school this year.

To continue our help to the Guarani Community, The Highlands Bolivian Mission is holding its main fundraiser on Sept. 25 at the Highlands Country Club. The entrance donation is \$100 for each person, and that amount covers the dinner and both the silent and live auctions. For more information you may call 526-3605 or the Highlands United Methodist Church at 526-3376. Reservations are limited, so please call today.

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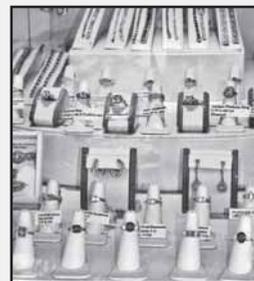
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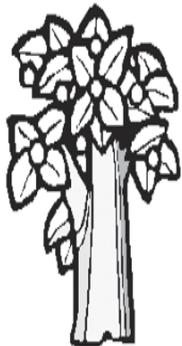
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• ANOTHER VIEW •

In honor of people of genius with a common touch

The tragic death, last week, of environmentalist and entertainer, Steve Irwin evoked grief and shock in his native Australia and beyond. Academic marine biologists were quick to pile on the corpse. Jealousy inspired them to blame the Crocodile Hunter for his own demise. He got too close, or he was harassing the animal, or he was exploiting them. Select one or more from the above list.

Academic scientists frequently detest their populist counterparts, for their fame and their incomes, but mostly for breaking the scientific code of silence and bringing their knowledge in an entertaining, easily digestible manner. Some might call it pabulum.

Of course they simplify it, you academic simpletons. We need it simplified. We don't need to know the DNA sequence of a great white shark to know that he is big and he most definitely is bad. Americans love science demystified.

Quick, name an astronomer! If you answered other than Carl Sagan, apply immediately for you Ph.D. in astrophysics. Otherwise sit back with the rest of us and explore worlds beyond worlds. Learn with the rest of us that the universe is both infinite and expanding. Ponder the question, "Are we alone?" when there are billions and billions of stars out there and many of them are at the center of galaxies with planets being flung around them in eccentric orbits.

Surely among those 10s or hundreds of billions of planets, there must be one with conditions identical to ours, one with just the right mix of heat and cold, carbon dioxide and oxygen in its air, and God, if He is needed. Maybe the carbon dioxide comes after. I don't know. And that's the point. I don't have to know all the details to consider the questions. I don't expect a flood of letters clarifying the interrelationship of oxygen and carbon dioxide.

If I get even one, my answer will be this, "Thanks, but I don't care, and it doesn't make any difference, for this bit alone, I can question what I was taught, can contemplate what might be."

This column was not intended as a



Dr. Henry Salzarulo

Feedback is encouraged.
email:

hsalzarulo@aol.com

eulogy for Steve Irwin or, for that matter a tribute to Carl Sagan. It actually began as an attempt to draw an ethical line between what angry Aussies did to sting rays following Irwin's death, through the wanton destruction of our planet home and her many species, from Montana rancher who views wolves as sneaky, to the Amazon logger, who cares not a whit for habitat for animal or isolated tribesman, but cares a great deal for logs and farmland

and money.

Then with a couple intermediate steps I was going to lead you to the White House door and beyond to the Oval Office, to the conduct of our military and our commitment to the notion of equality for all mankind. I wanted to show that not only George Bush, but those who preceded him and those who are to follow preside over an imperialistic racist nation. I think I could have done it and if I receive three e-mails hsalzarulo@aol.com asking that I try, I will. But get your letters in before Sunday because that is the day I usually write my column for the next week.

The column began as another Bush bashing, but it led me in a better direction. It led me to honor men who have both genius and the common touch. It sent me on a path to glorify knowledge stripped of pretense. I found myself in an Amazon rain forest, crying for our planet, and in a pile of rubble that had been home to an Iraqi family weeping for them. My mind swirls with polar bears adrift, a sightless and limbless veteran and his Arab counterpart, with infinity and intelligent design. It is sometimes best to give an article its head.

And to think, I had planned to outline this column and then add a bit of meat here and there to reach 500 words. Our children sometimes really do know best.

So here's to you Steve, and to you Carl, and to any and all who have taught us, and made the learning fun, to those who would save our planet, and to those teach us humility. Rest well. You have earned it. We will miss you.

• VIDEO GUY •

Mrs. Henderson Presents

The historical comedy/drama, starring the magnificent Dame Judi Dench, who has never done a bad or even OK performance in her life (Pride & Prejudice, Ladies in Lavender, The Chronicles of Riddick, The Last of the Blonde Bombshells), Bob Hoskins, who is not exactly not exactly chopped liver himself (Beyond The Sea, Enemy at the Gates, Brazil, Cotton Club, and about a million more), and Christopher Guest (from the brilliant Best In Show and Waiting for Guffman). Directed by Stephen Frears (High Fidelity, Dirty Pretty Things), and screenplay by Martin Sherman. Original music by George Fenton. Rated R for reasons that will become obvious. Based on the true events of the famous Windmill Theater and very impressive (and impulsive) Laura Henderson.

The Storyline: The recently widowed Mrs. Henderson (Dame Dench) is in need of something to occupy her time, and bridge games, charity work, and shopping are not quite enough. Until she goes shopping for a theater. (It apparently was an impulse purchase. You know how it can happen, you go to the store for milk and bread and while you are there you also pick up a quart of fudge ice cream and a theater).

Having bought a theater, it becomes necessary to get a theater manager. Mr. Vivian Van Damm (Hoskins) and the imperious and unconventional Mrs. Henderson immediately take a dislike to each other that is so profound that it is clear they affect each other a good deal more than they initially realize or wish to admit.

The Windmill (the name of the theater) has some up and down fortunes, until Mrs. Henderson has the idea of, well, adding something to the appeal of the show by taking something away. Following the idea that less is more, Mrs. Henderson suggests that some of the performers need not bother with stopping by the costumer before making a stage entrance, thereby becoming Britain's first officially sanctioned nude (discreetly, now) theater. This has the not unexpected consequence of making it one of Britain's most popular as well, especially with the start of World War II in the wings.

The story follows the fortunes of the theater, the apparently quite accurately represented love/hate relationship between Van Damm and his employer, the ladies of the theater, and of wartime Britain, in a way that includes a good deal of humor, some rather compelling drama, and not a few tears.

Dame Dench is, of course, brilliant in her portrayal of the somewhat stuffy, somewhat iconoclastic Henderson, and the



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chemistry between her and Hoskins is flawless.

This represents just one of the things the Brits have figured out in their cinema that Hollywood has not. It actually is possible for people with gray hair to have a crush on someone, and get a bit jealous. Romance is not just for the young and beautiful fashion model type, at least in the British Isles.

The filming is purposely dark, I suppose to give an historical effect, and it works well during the Blitz scenes.

Almost as an aside, the performance of the stage cast is very sharp, even though it is not always focused. Without a doubt, a must-see for fans of Judi Dench, historical drama, or theatrical history.

More of the same can be found in Ladies in Lavender, Topsy Turvy, Illuminata, Calender Girls, and Importance of Being Earnest, all well worth a look.

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• BOOK REVIEW WITH KATIE BRUGGER •

The Teacher Who Couldn't Read: the true story of a high school instructor who triumphed over his illiteracy by John Corcoran with Carole Carlson

Imagine for a second not being able to read. Of course you wouldn't be reading this newspaper! But you also wouldn't be able to read a street sign, a menu, a telephone bill, the sign on the restroom door. You couldn't surf the internet. You couldn't fill out a job application.

You certainly couldn't be a teacher! Or so you'd think, but the author of this book

proved that wrong. Not only did Mr. Corcoran go to college and become a teacher despite being illiterate, but for years he took advanced classes in the summer at universities across the country!

How could this be possible? How could he pull off such a massive deception? The book tells the story of his life, the struggles and confusion of his early school

years when he realized he was being left behind; then the growing shame and rage. He became the class troublemaker. He also became an expert manipulator. The ingenious schemes he invented to have other people supply him with test answers are mind-boggling. The fact that he broke into professors' offices to steal test answers during college, and got away with it for four years, is unsettling.

He describes his teaching style as innovative and progressive, and from some of the descriptions it sounds like there is truth to that. But he also had his students doing his work, grading tests for example, and a revealing statement made by a former student shows that having Mr. Corcoran for a teacher wasn't all roses.

He began dabbling in real estate and before long gave up teaching. He ran a successful real estate business, always tricking someone else into filling out whatever forms were needed.

The common prejudice is that if you can't read you must be stupid, but Mr. Corcoran is proof that someone can be extremely intelligent and yet not be able to read.

Even though he had a very successful life, the shame of illiteracy never went away, and he was driven by the desperate need to prevent his secret from being revealed. He felt he had to confess his secret to his future wife but he does it in such a way she thinks he just means he doesn't read well. After all he was a teacher at the time.

I'm sure the shame was very real, but I felt I was being driven crazy with the repetition of shame throughout the book. In addition, Mr. Corcoran is always talking about how "literate society" is trying to destroy him, as if all of us literates are out to get him. This seems excessive and became very irritating. For example his real estate business failed for various reasons — recession, high interest rates, overextension — but he blames it on that old bogeyman the literate society: "Wrestling with lawsuits, family tensions, and business failures, I was confronting a monster I thought I had already conquered in my lifelong battle. But that monster, the literate society, was now beating me to the ground."

For most of the book I felt like there had to be someone to blame for his reading problem, surely his parents at least. His father was a teacher! He never read with his son?

It wasn't until I got to the end of the book that I understood it wasn't negligence on the part of his parents or teachers, but a learning disorder. He gave examples of how he used to spell: material was "mattial," precious "prest," physician "phyustion." He couldn't hear and differentiate the sounds that correspond to particular letters. For most of us this is so effortless we can't even imagine having any trouble but if you can't

hear the sometimes subtle differences you'd never be able to make the connections between sounds and letters that is the fundamental association underlying reading.

Mr. Corcoran finally had the courage to admit his illiteracy and get help, and a few years after learning to read produced this book with the help of Ms. Carlson. This book was published in

1994, so the statistics he gives on illiteracy may be out of date, but they are staggering: about 21 percent of adults in this country are functionally illiterate and another 25 percent have low literacy skills, for a total of 46 percent of the population who struggle with reading.

Breta Stroud, the director of the Highlands Literacy Council, says that the combined number for Macon County is currently 51 percent. The Literacy Council is a local organization devoted to improving literacy in our area, offering after-school tutoring for students, English as a Second Language courses, and adult literacy classes. Ms. Stroud has organized a "community read" program, encouraging people in Highlands to read this book as a way to raise awareness of literacy problems. For a copy, call Ms. Stroud at 526-9928, ext. 240.

Mr. Corcoran is coming to Highlands as part of this program, and will speak at the Highlands School on Sept 28 at 6:30. This event is open to the public.

This is ultimately an inspiring story but it has many sad chapters. The main lesson I took away was this: parents, read with your kids. Read to them when they are babies and then have them read to you.

"51% of Macon County citizens can't read. 'A Community Read' program, is encouraging people in Highlands to read this book as a way to raise awareness of literacy problems. If you'd like a copy, call Breta Stroud at 526-9928, ext. 240."

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... USES continued from page 1

Term' shall mean, for the purposes of this section only, less than three months."

Highlands residents can host events in their homes – a home just can't be used as a commercial event venture.

The house in question is owned by the Hawkins, who also own the Hampton Inn and the Highlands Inn. At a previous Town Board meeting, Sabrina Hawkins told the board the home has been the site of only three weddings in the last three years.

"It is quiet most of the time since no one lives there and the property was for sale for some time and the Allen's rarely stayed there after 1995," wrote Hawkins in a letter to the board. "Therefore, when an occasional out-of-town guest occupies the property on the fewer than eight times a year I do rent the house, it becomes a major inconvenience to the neighbors."

Commissioner Dennis DeWolf said he sympathizes with what Hawkins wrote in the letter, but nevertheless "it's a commercial house being rented out in a residential area for the purposes of making income."

Hawkins said she makes it a policy not to rent the home in July, August or October to a large party, with respect to the neighbors. In addition, to eliminate traffic

and parking problems, those using the facility are required to supply transportation to any organized events at the house; and tenants are expected to adhere to Highlands' 11 p.m. noise curfew.

Nina Burke, a member of the Satulah community, said her family has owned her home since 1918 and she is very much in favor of the ordinance.

"My home isn't air-conditioned and it will never be air-conditioned. We sleep with the windows open and enjoy the peace and tranquility of the area," she said.

Another neighbor agreed with Burke, but asked that the board extend the rental period to six months or a year rather than three months.

"There are people who can afford to rent a house for three months for the purpose of using it for a wedding for two days," he said. "The short term aspect of this permits four weddings a year."

But Commissioner Hank Ross said he thought Attorney Bill Coward had drafted a good ordinance and it should be left as it is.

Commissioner Amy Patterson agreed and said if problems arise the board can amend the ordinance.

– Kim Lewicki



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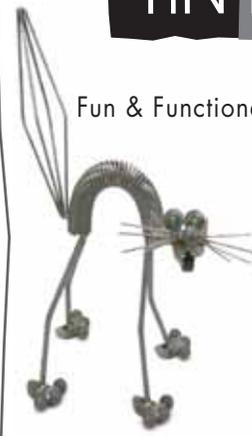
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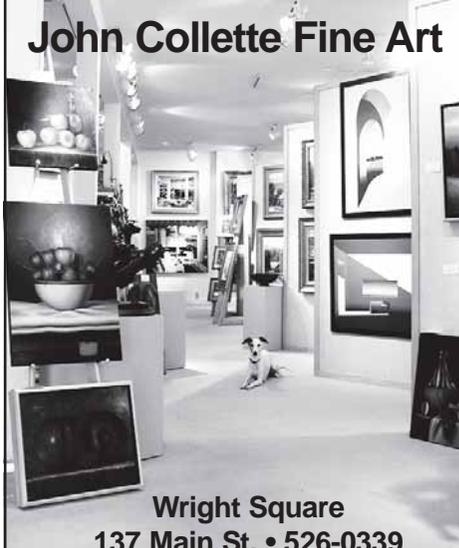
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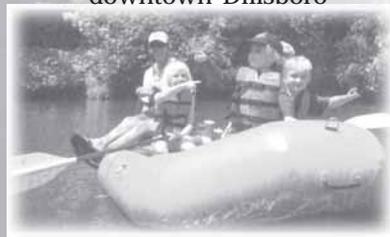


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... CONDO from page 1

Eight to 10 residences are planned for each floor. Developers allege county officials said they'd rather see the condominium complex on the property than 15 to 19 residential homes because it will disturb less land.

The property is in the county outside Highlands ETJ area.

However, working from the premise that the complex's effluent will discharge into the upper portions of the Cullasaja River, Bob Wright, president of the Upper Cullasaja Watershed Asso, (UCWA) has written Kevin Barnett and David Toms, with the state Division of Water Quality (DWQ) to fully understand allowances of such a project in the Big Creek watershed.

"The Town of Highlands public water supply is being potentially threatened by a developer's plan to build a 10-story high-rise condo just north of U.S. 64 east across from the Community Bible Church," reads the letter.

"The property is outside the town's ETJ in Macon County which has no effective subdivision ordinance nor zoning use restrictions in this area. The project is located in

the Big Creek watershed and the town's public water supply watershed. UCWA and numerous concerned citizens in the Highlands-Cashiers area are asking for DWQ's and Macon County's support in finding effective ways to oppose the proposed high-rise condo plan, both locally in the Asheville Region of DENR, and in Raleigh," the letter continues.

"It would appear that the developer will have to provide sewage treatment facilities for a large multifamily building, and therefore, an NPDES discharge permit will be required. I am assuming that a septic system approval is out of the question for a project of this size," wrote Wright.

He said Division of Water Quality's 2002 WARP report for this part of the upper Cullasaja River watershed identified the water quality in Big Creek to be the best water in the entire headwaters watershed. "This project's effluent will not be a positive input to this public water supply

stream," he said.

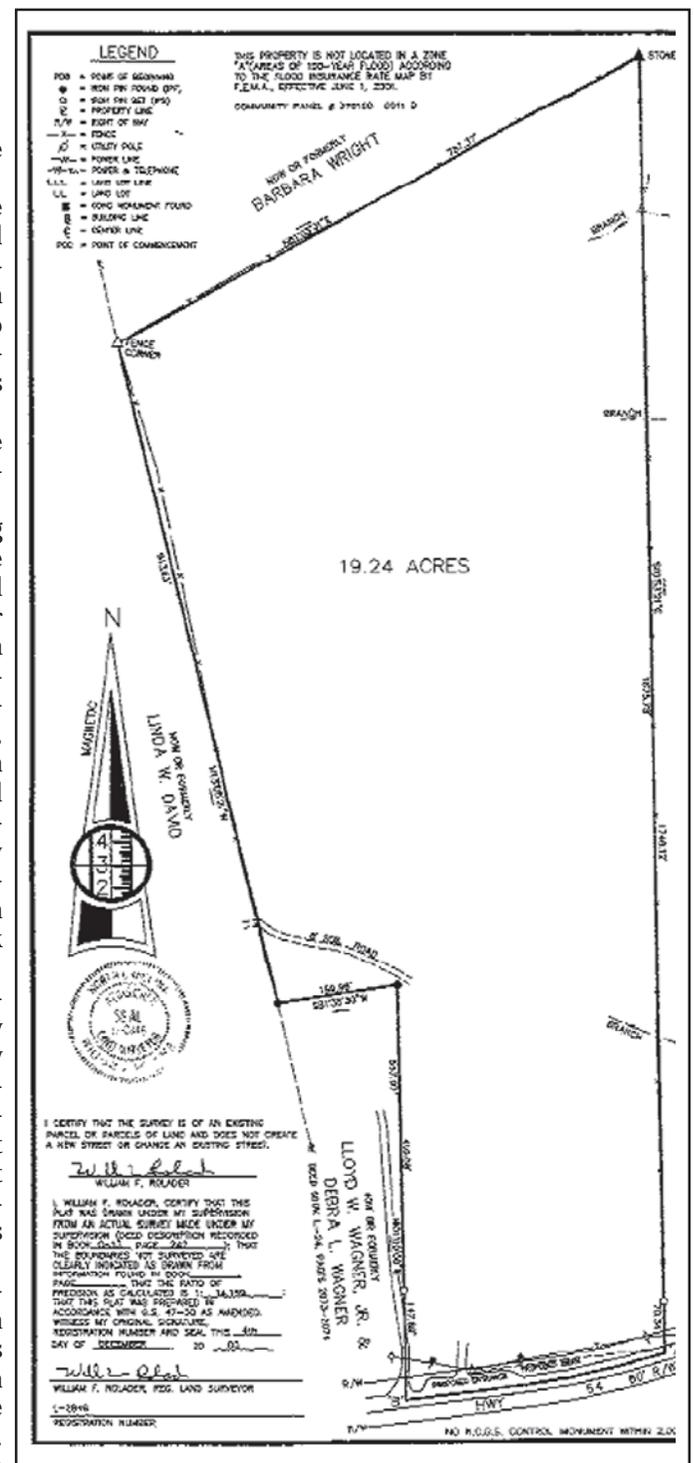
However, developers' say plans don't include discharging effluent into the Cullasaja River.

Wright also says a project of this size will require a significant quantity of ground water to supply potable water to its residents and this will likely have a serious negative impact upon the water supplies of the local communities in the area, including the three large communities east of U.S. 64.

Currently, previous owners of the 19+-acre tract, Linda and Kenton David are suing Old Hemlock Cove Development, LLC, for breach of contract alleging that previously agreed to residential covenant restrictions are not being adhered to by Old Hemlock Cove Development LLC in the sale of the property to developer Bill Shepherd.

The Davids' understanding was that the 19+-acre tract — part of which is adjacent

• See CONDO page 14



... WOOLDRIDGE continued from page 4

water looked so inviting. We stripped down, carefully placing our gun belts and sweaty clothes on a pool bench. Dropping our drawers, we hit the water. It was wonderful.

We had been in the water less than five minutes when we heard the shift commander ask the dispatcher for our location. With our heads bobbing in 10 feet of water, I stared at Stanley in disbelief. "This never happens. What the hell is going on?" The dispatcher started calling for our location. Didn't our Sergeant tell her we were out of service?

Scooping up our clothes, we ran for the car. She called us a third time just as I reached for the microphone, stark naked. I responded, giving our location.

... LETTERS continued from page 2

contracts. The mainstream media is far from being called "hardcore anti-capitalists" as Mr. Cota labels them. They're all about the bottom line like any other corporation.

I'm not sure I understand Mr. Cota's description of the terrorists as "Islamic fascists." I can understand calling them Islamic extremists due to the fact that they demonstrate an extremely conservative, fundamentalist view of Islam, but not fascist. Fascism, back in the days of Hitler and Mussolini, found both of those governments aligning themselves with corporations that gave them unbridled power which they abused. If Mussolini and Hitler had not had the financial backing and persuasion of the corporate world, they would not have gotten as far as they did. Fascism is a one party dictatorship that exhibits forcible suppression of opposition and is heavily influenced by corporations.

Yes, I can, "see the parallels with the 1930s," when Italy and Germany created their fascists regimes. I just don't see it the same way that Mr. Cota sees it. The fascists are the ones running our country right now under the guise of Republicans using words like "freedom and democracy." There has never been a president as closely aligned with corporations as George. W. Bush. Every decision he's made as president has been to help his corporate and political buddies.

I agree with Mr. Cota that, "We are at the brink of moral insanity." Actually, we're already there. When our president sends troops to die in a country that didn't have WMDs, that was not a threat to the U.S., that was not connected to the 911 disaster, and not one of the hijackers were Iraqi, we have to ask ourselves, who's really morally insane? Whether one is for the war or against the war, neither could possible be happy about how it's going, except for those that are profiting from it. I guess that's where the 34% approval rating comes from on how Bush

Dripping wet, I was now scrambling for my underwear while talking with my commander. "Stay right there, 146, I'm only a minute away." We were panic-stricken. We would never get dressed in time. Color us suspended.

Seconds later, the emergency tone sounded on our radio and the dispatcher gave us the call. "Unit 146, a 317, multiple injuries, MacArthur Causeway, ambulance and fire in route." Stanley and I looked at each other, again, in disbelief. "You drive while I get dressed," Stanley ordered. I jumped behind the wheel, still buck naked and pulled out of the park with emergency lights flashing. In less than two minutes we were on the causeway and Stanley

is handling the Iraq war.

The Bush administration's "foreign policy," if that's what you call it, has been a huge disaster! There are no answers to the questions, "When will we know that we've won the war on terror and what specifically does that look like?" In other words, what is our final goal in winning the war on terror? If our government can't answer those questions, then why are we beating our head against the wall? How can you make a plan for war when you don't know what the objectives are? How can any American support a war like that?

As Mr. Cota said, "we have been at war for about five years." In those five years since 9/11, we have lost even more American lives, our civil liberties, our standing in the world community, our unity as a country, our dignity, our taxpayers' money and, oh yeah, our security! So I have to ask Mr. Cota, how's that "war on terror" going for you? Do you feel any safer yet?

Chuck Willhide
Scaly Mountain

was still only half dressed.

We spotted the large white van, engine burning, wrapped around a 100-year-old pine tree. The causeway was littered with dead children, four in all. Everyone had died instantly on impact. The crisis was over. Stanley, wearing shoes with no socks, finished tucking in his shirt and checked the bodies a second time. As fire engines and ambulances arrived, I was able to dress in my car without anyone noticing I had arrived nude.

When all the reports were

completed and the bodies removed, the shift commander pulled Stanley and me aside and said, "I spotted you two boneheads in the pool and prevented your Sergeant from calling the dispatcher. Because he gave you permission to swim, you are not suspended. Don't ever do that again, copy?" "Yes, sir," was all I could muster.

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Walking for cancer – Breast Cancer 3-day -- Oct. 20

On Saturday, Sept. 16, a luncheon-fashion show-auction was held at Wolfgang's on Main in support of the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation walk for cancer.

On October 20, Regina Talley and friend Kim Holcombe "The Gap Girls" are walking 60 miles in three days for cancer. Each woman has to raise \$2,200. The affair at Wolfgang's was one way to raise money. The affair featured outfits from Cabin Casuals which were modeled by Regina and others at the luncheon. Fashioned with the slogan "Life is Good" the attire fits the bill for those determined to walk for, fight for and over-

come breast cancer.

Dr. Patti Wheeler orchestrated the affair and with Mindy and Wolfgang Green supplied the food.

The walk begins at 7 a.m., Oct. 20 at Northpoint Mall in Alpharetta and winds its way through Atlanta. The first two legs of the journey are 24 miles long, the last leg is 12 miles. Each night the women will join thousands of others walking for a cure in a tent city erected along the way.

To help Regina meet her goal go to www.the3day.com (Atlanta) click "donate" to search for her fund-raising page.



Regina Talley with Dr. Patti Wheeler at Wolfgang's.



Kim Holcombe and Regina, both in the health profession, have witnessed the heartbreak of breast cancer. Their practice "walks" include 15-mile stints.

... CONDOS continued from 12

to their property on U.S. 64 — would be developed as a single-family residential subdivision.

Sanders Dupree, managing partner of Old Hemlock Cove LLC, said originally his plans did include a residential subdivision on the property, but they changed.

Though restrictive covenants traditionally follow the land, Dupree claims the restrictions referred to were never filed with the deed when the 19+ acres were sold to Old Hemlock Cove Development LLC in January 15, 2004.

"They are suing for breach of contract but we contend there is no breach," he said "The Davids accepted proceeds from the sale and signed the deed without requiring restrictive covenants to be filed."

He said they discussed restrictive covenants for the then planned residential subdivision similar to those at his Highlands Point subdivision on N.C. 106. "However those covenants haven't been finalized nor filed anywhere because they have changed substantially and continue to change concerning all kinds of things as the subdivision evolves," he said.

But beyond that fact, he said they aren't required because they weren't filed with the deed.

The Davids have filed a Lis Pendens — A legal notice recorded to show pending litigation relating to real property and giving notice that anyone acquiring an interest in said property subsequent to the date of the notice may be bound by the outcome of the litigation — in hopes of making the restrictive covenants stick.

"The nature and purpose of said action is to effect title to real property and to recover damages related to breach of contract and for specific performance for the imposition of restrictive covenants on real property," reads the notice.

• See CONDO page 15

A feature at the Highlands Playhouse Antique Show Sept. 29-Oct. 1 at the Highlands Civic Center ...

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Family starts grassroots recycling program in town

By **Susanna Forrester**
Reporter

When Alex Bronaugh saw the cans that littered the ball field after a ball game he realized there was a need in Highlands for a recycling revolution.

Alex, a nine-year-old Highlands School student, was shocked to see that there weren't any recycling bins available at the town ball field. He and his mom, Tamara Bronaugh, bought two large red plastic garbage cans, cut holes to fit a typical soda can on top and placed one at the ball field and the other at the Highlands Rec Park pool.

The bins were marked with large signs, but at first people were reluctant to use them. After a while, though, Alex's recycling program began to take hold and by the end of the summer Alex and his mom had 1,800 cans collected from both spots.

Now that the summer is ended the ball games have stopped and the community pool has closed for the winter. So Alex and his mom have moved the cans. One is at the Highlands School in the lobby by the drink machines. The other is at Zachary Field on Buck Creek Road.

When the bins are full, Alex and his mom take them to the Buck Creek Recycling Center.

Alex and his mom hope that the recycling spirit takes hold in Highlands. "It's such a beautiful area and it's marred by the presence of litter," said Tamara.



Alex Bronaugh with one of the two can recycling bins in town. One is in the lobby of Highlands School next to the beverage machines and one is at Zachary Field on Buck Creek Road. Photo by Kim Lewicki

... CONDOS continued from page 14

Meanwhile, the transaction between Dupree and Shepherd is closed in escrow awaiting the outcome of the probable cause hearing scheduled for October 23 in Superior Court in Franklin.

Though developers hope the judge will dismiss the case, if it goes to trial and they lose, they said the condominium complex can be built solely on the property between the Davids and Old Hemlock Cove – the Wagner piece — “because there aren't any perceived restrictions on that property,” they said.

The developer said he's rather straddle the footprint of the complex on the Wagner property and part of the Old Hemlock Cove property but doesn't have to if the issue of the restrictive covenants can't be resolved.

Old Hemlock Cove Development LLC, has filed a counterclaim motion to cancel the notice of Lis Pendens and notice of hearing.

“The plaintiffs (Kenton and Linda David) with malice afterthought filed the Notice of Lis Pendens and the application to prevent the sale from going through. But the closing has taken place in escrow; the

funds are in the possession of the settlement agent and the transfer documents have been executed and are in the possession of the settlement agent and the only barrier to recording and disbursing is the Notice of Lis Pendens.”

The counterclaim goes on to say, “Plaintiffs closed, accepted the proceeds of the sale of the subject property, signed the deed and did not require any restrictive covenants to be placed on the subject property.”

Meanwhile, one legal source says there are two trains of thought concerning restrictive covenants. Those that believe item number 20 of a “boiler plate” sales contract takes care of perceived or discussed items such as covenants. “SURVIVAL: If any provision herein contained which by its nature and effect is required to be observed, kept or performed after the closing, it shall survive the closing and remain binding upon and for the benefit of the parties hereto until fully observed, kept or performed.”

The other train of thought is that whatever is required must be filed with the deed at the time of closing. A judge has the final say in the matter. — **Kim Lewicki**

... RIVERWALK continued from page 1

of stormwater effectiveness needs to be done by the Department of Water Quality,” said Gantenbein.

During the walk-through of RiverWalk a week ago, the state determined the stream on the property was perennial and possibly a trout stream, which means that the stream must be restored and those measures approved by DENR, also.

Since the stop work order was issued last week, RiverWalk developers have made remedial repair work on stormwater measures and are implementing revisions recommended by McGill & Assoc. “Everything worked as it should during that rain Monday night,” said Gantenbein. About 1.7

inches of rain fell Monday.

Clarke said RiverWalk might challenge the stop-work order and include it in the appeal but so far the appeal only deals with four of the seven citations.

Interestingly, in October 2001 Attorney Clark represented the Young family in Whiteside Estates Inc. vs. Highlands Cove LLC in which they were awarded damages for recovery, repairing and restoration of their stream and lake.

The courts ruled that significant rainfall caused sediment from Highlands Cove land-disturbing activities to flow into the Young creek and lake impacting the lake water's quality, damaging the creek.

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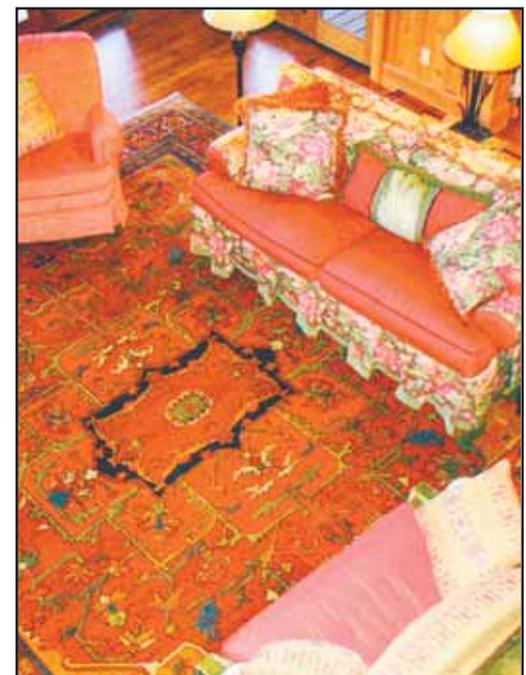
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... MULTIFAMILY continued from page 1

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When he left last month's Town Board meeting, the board asked him to purchase whatever land was needed to meet the built-upon percentage and decrease the number of residential units from 16 to 14.

This he did. There will now be three homes per acre instead of the original four per acre with the built-upon 19.6% where 24% is allowed.

Plus, he listened to suggestions from the Planning Board and by repositioning the two-family building has enlarged the public park to 60-feet deep and saved some historic trees, as well.

He also agreed to move the only single-family home so it will be 60 feet from the water's edge rather than the permitted 30 feet.

Instead of four multifamily buildings with four residences, there will be three buildings with four residences and one building with two residences. The single-family home will sit in the vicinity of the Cooper home.

Commissioner Amy Patterson and Alan Marsh mimicked the Planning Board's opposition. "It is a residential zone and the only reason to change it is to benefit a developer," said Patterson. "I'm looking at the forest and my forest is Highlands. This project will increase traffic, pollution, and

stormwater runoff. This is not a buffer area but a residential area."

Commissioner Marsh said the granting of conditional use zoning is something the town does to get what it wants. "With this, we're giving him what he wants," he said.

Commissioner Patterson also worried about opening the floodgates. "This is not the end of the road. We're going to open up multifamily in R2 areas all over town."

But Mayor Don Mullen and other commissioners said that conditional use zoning can prevent that. "We will look at those cases on an individual basis," he said. "We're not setting a precedent."

Commissioner Herb James has said all along that this scenario was better than the permitted nine single-family homes on the property.

Commissioner Hank Ross agreed. "Nine different homes on ½-acre lots could very well end up being a lot more than the 19.6% built-upon he is proposing."

Next Nellis goes to the Zoning Board where he will request a Special Use Permit for new construction. — **Kim Lewicki**

Town opposes high-rise

At Wednesday's meeting, commissioners agreed to oppose the proposed high-rise condominium project on U.S. 64 east on the grounds that it doesn't match the landuse plan for Highlands.

Mayor Don Mullen said the possibility of the project, which is outside the town's ETJ area, illustrates the need for the county to adopt zoning and landuse regulations.

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... REDMOUNTAIN continued from page 5

seems likely that at some time in the future, Iran and the remaining Arab states will come around. This would force Hezbollah and Hamas to capitulate as well. Until this happens, the conflict will go on, as either cold or hot war. The prospect is not a happy one.

Morally and politically, the United States has no choice but to continue backing Israel. If it expects to win over some of the Arab states, however, not to mention Iran, it will have to come up with a more even-handed policy toward the Palestinians.

Otherwise, we have little to look forward to in the Middle East except months and years of continued hostilities. It doesn't leave the U.S. with any strategically acceptable choices.

Don't Miss the 24th Annual Highlands Arts & Crafts Show, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Highlands Civic Center. Free admission and parking. Breakfast and lunch available. Over 100 vendors. Raffle drawings with prizes, Sponsored by the Highlands Womens Club and the Highlands Recreation Department.



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Art League meeting features 'Small Art...Big Ideas'



"Small Art...Big Ideas" is the name of the exciting program to be presented by Donna Rhodes for the Art League of Highlands monthly meeting on Monday, Sept. 26 at 5:30 p.m. at the Recreation Park in Highlands. She will show how to create small paintings, collages, assemblages, weavings, mixed media cards and more to make stunning little works of art suitable for hanging and perfect for gifts, selling or to just keep!

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Physicians crowd in to hear noted cardiothoracic surgeon

More than 40 retired and active area physicians filled the cafeteria classroom at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital last Saturday to hear one of the region's leading experts speak on advances in surgical versus non-surgical treatment of cardiac disease.

Dr. Robert A. Guyton, chief of the Department of Cardiothoracic Surgery at Emory University Hospital, spoke as part of the ongoing physician seminar program sponsored by the Highlands-Cashiers Senior Physicians group. During his talk, Dr. Guyton contrasted the advantages of available surgical and non-surgical treatments for coronary artery disease, arrhythmia, and other types of cardiovascular problems.

Bypass surgery is still the gold standard for treating multi-vessel coronary artery disease, he told the group, but he conceded that recent innovations in non-surgical procedures such as angioplasty and use of stents have increased the success rates in many patients with only one or two blocked arteries.

And Dr. Guyton said the use of stents, which are implanted using a catheter fed through an artery in the leg, are also proving successful in treating aortic aneurysms in many instances, reducing the need for conventional surgery.

Surgical and non-surgical treatment for severe cases of atrial fibrillation were also covered by Dr. Guyton during the morning's lecture. Atrial fibrillation is the most common form of arrhythmia in people over the age of 60 and is usually managed through medications or cardioversion (using electrical stimulation to re-establish a regular heart beat). However, the irregular beating of the atrium can be so severe in certain cases that surgery or catheter ablation is needed.

The maze procedure is a surgical treatment for atrial fibrillation where small incisions are made in the wall of the atrium to create scar tissue. The scar tissue, which does not conduct electrical activity, blocks the abnormal electrical signals causing the arrhythmia. The scar tissue directs the electrical signals through a controlled path, or maze, to the lower heart chambers (ventricles). Known as ablation, this procedure has been reported to correct atrial fibrillation in a majority of patients who are appropriate candidates.

While the maze procedure has traditionally been done during open-heart surgery, new less invasive techniques utilizing catheterization are now being as well used. A catheter is fed through a vein in the leg and into the heart. Radio waves, freezing, microwaves, or ultrasound energy can then be directed to specific spots to create the necessary scar tissue.

In addition to being the Charles Ross Hatcher, Jr. Professor of Surgery, Dr. Guyton is also director of the Cardiothoracic

Residency Training Program at the Emory University School of Medicine. He has held numerous positions of leadership in national organizations, including serving as president of the Society of Thoracic Surgeons. He has lectured widely and authored or contributed to more than 200 publications within his field.

Saturday's lecture drew positive reviews from attendees.

"It was excellent, up-to-date and very informative," said retired physician Jack Christy of Cashiers. "And it was very well attended. I think this was the most people we've had at any of these seminars."

The Highlands-Cashiers Senior Physicians has held two symposiums each summer for the last several years covering a variety of medical topics. The symposiums are open to both active and retired physicians in the area and there is no charge.

Town OKs new decorations for holiday season

By Susanna Forrester
Reporter

Christmas in Highlands will sparkle even brighter this year thanks to a cooperative effort of the town, the Chamber of Commerce, Old Edwards Spa & Hospitality Group, and Highlands School art teacher Sallie Taylor.

"We've been meeting for quite a few months," said Town Commissioner Hank Ross, the town's representative on the committee. "We're going to replace the current decorations — the old red lantern decorations — with white snowflakes. They'll be 36 of them on poles downtown."

The committee, which also includes Rick Siegel of the Chamber of Commerce, decided to add banner lights to both ends of Main Street. Two more strands of banner lights will be stretched across Hwy. 28 on the hill and on Hwy. 64 at the Rec Park.

"Old Edwards Inn & Hospitality Group has donated the decorations for the very large Town Tree located in front of the Highlands United Methodist Church on Main Street," said Sallie Taylor. "CEO Mario Gomes has a printout/picture of the design that was proposed and accepted by the trustees of the church. It is beautiful."

So far the town has allotted \$18,500 to the project, which will include new colored lights for the maple trees lining Main Street and for the two trees at Town Hall. The town will begin working on the decorations in early November. As is the custom, the lights will be turned on the Saturday after Thanksgiving.

Clinic director joins computer firm

Highlands-Cashiers Hospital is losing its director of clinical services to the high-tech world.

David Taylor, RN, director of Clinical Services at the hospital for the last two years, has resigned to take a position with McKesson Computer Corp. as a clinical analyst. His last day at the hospital will be Sept. 27.

The hospital has named Mary Kay Crandall, RN, as interim director of Clinical Services while it searches for a permanent replacement.

"Dave has done a wonderful job overseeing nursing services for the hospital and we will miss him," said President and CEO Ken Shull. "He will leave us better off than when he came to us."

Nursing services at the hospital have undergone several innovations under Taylor's management, including the implementation of a state-of-the-art bar coding system for administering medications and upgrading the hospital's computerized patient charting system.

And it is those very skills that he will put to work in his new position with McKesson Corp., where he will act as a liaison between clinical personnel in hospitals and the information technology arm of the

company. Taylor says his first duties with the new company will be to work with Oconee Memorial Hospital, in nearby Seneca, SC, while they implement a medication bar coding system similar to the one already in place here. Working for the next several years at Oconee will also reduce the commute for Taylor, who lives in Mountain Rest, SC.

"I'm going to miss Highlands-Cashiers Hospital, but I'm looking forward to the challenges of this new job," said Taylor. "I feel that I have brought the nursing department here to a higher level and I believe that a new clinical director will be in a very good position to take it to a higher level still."

Taylor returned to Highlands-Cashiers Hospital to become Clinical Services director in June, 2004. He had been a nurse and shift supervisor at the hospital for several years prior to taking a position as evening shift nursing supervisor at Oconee back in 1997.

"We are very fortunate to have someone of Mary Kay's ability to fill in until the hospital can find a new director of Clinical Services," said Shull. That search is already under way, he said.

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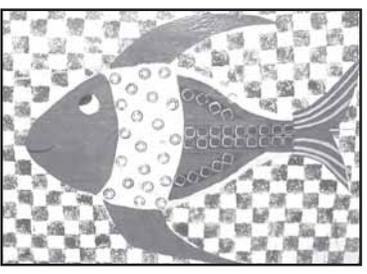
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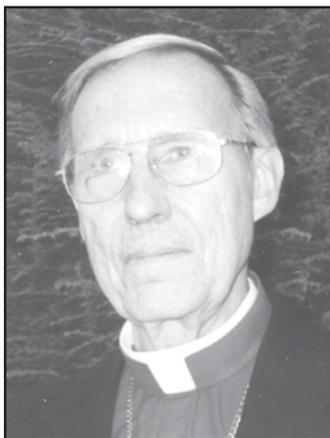
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• SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING •

Fear — and Failure



+The Right Rev. Dr. John S. Erbeling
Chapel of Sky Valley

It would be interesting to know how much we could have done and should have done that we failed to do because we were afraid. We sometimes assume that we are more afraid than others are. But when we are trembling inside ourselves, it is at least a reasonably good guess that the people we have to meet and compete with are trembling inside also.

No mortal ever lived who didn't know the feeling of fear. Our fears change, but they seldom completely disappear. When we are young, we fear some things, and when we are old, we fear others. Sometimes we are afraid of the dark, and sometimes we are afraid of the wolf at the door. But we are fearful of some problem at almost every period of life. Before we have a job, we are afraid we won't be able to get one. And when we have one, we are afraid we won't be able to keep it.

At first we are afraid we can't win. And when we have won once, we are afraid we can't win again.

Before we are married, we are afraid we can't make a home. And when we have a home, we are fearful that we can't continue to keep it up.

In poverty we are afraid we can't provide for our children. In plenty we are afraid that prosperity will spoil them.

Those who don't have what they want are afraid they won't be able to get it. And those who have what they want are afraid they can't keep it.

Some are more fearful than others. Some are better bluffers. Some don't show their fears as much. But it is more than probable that our opponents and competitors and almost all the people we meet have their fears — down deep inside.

But we must learn not to let fear keep us from moving forward. It is no disgrace to be afraid, but it is a disgrace to let our fears defeat us. And if we wait until we aren't afraid of failing, we'll wait a long time before we do anything worth while. We must learn not to let the fear of failure make us fail and not to let our fears make our failures final.

• PLACES OF WORSHIP ON THE PLATEAU •

BLUE VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. Oliver Rice, Pastor (706) 782-3965
Sundays: School – 10 a.m., Worship – 11
Sunday night services every 2nd & 4th Sunday at 7
Wednesdays: Mid-week prayer meeting – 7 p.m.
July 30 – 5th Sunday Singer and Dinner featuring Tommy Brown Family Singers. Followed by worship service and dinner.

BUCK CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

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

CHAPEL OF SKY VALLEY

Sky Valley, Georgia
The Right Rev. Dr. John S. Erbeling, Pastor
Church: 706-746-2999
Pastor's residence: 706-746-5770
Sundays: 10 a.m. – Worship
Holy Communion 1st Sunday of the month
Wednesdays: 9 a.m. Healing and Prayer with Holy Communion each service

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Rai Cammack, Branch President, (828) 369-1627

CHRIST CHURCH

(Anglican)

The Rev. Thomas "Tommy" Allen- 526-2320
Sunday: Holy Communion: 4:30
(Community Bible Church)
Tuesday: Bible Study in Cashiers at noon
Wednesday:
Mens Bible Study at 8 a.m.
(Highlands First Baptist); Christianity Explored in the 21st Century, 7-8 p.m., Bank of America Building 2nd floor.
Thursday: Morning Prayer at 10:30
(Peggy Crosby Center Rm. 203)
All are Welcome!

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE SERVICES

Third and Spring Streets, Highlands, NC
Sundays 11 a.m. and Wednesdays at 7 p.m.
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CLEAR CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Everett Brewer
Sundays: School – 10 a.m.; Worship – 11
Prayer – 6:30 p.m.
Evening Service – 1st & 3rd Sunday -- 7 p.m.

COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH

(Evangelical Presbyterian Church)
Steven E. Kerhoulas, Senior Pastor
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3645 U.S. 64 east, Highlands
Sundays: 9:30 a.m. Sunday School; 10:45 Worship;
Tuesdays: 10 a.m. Womens Bible Study
Wednesdays: 5:15 p.m. Students' Dinner (free for kids in 8th grade and younger);
5:30 p.m. Supper; 5:45 p.m. - 7:15 pm Small Groups for kids
Pre-K through 8th; 6:15 pm - 7:15 pm Adult Bible Study
6pm-7pm Choir Practice
• Small Groups are offered for all ages throughtout the week, see our website or call for more info.

EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE INCARNATION

Rev. Brian Sullivan – 526-2968
Sunday: 8 a.m. – Holy Eucharist-Rite 1; 8:30 a.m. - Breakfast; 9 a.m.. - Sunday School; 9:45 a.m. - Choir Practice; 10:30 a.m. - Childrens Chapel; 10:30 a.m. - Holy Eucharist - Rite II
Monday: 4 p.m. - Womens cursillo Group; 5:30 p.m. - Womens Cursillo Group
Tuesday: 8 a.m. - Mens Cursillo Group; 9:30 a.m. - Staff Meeting
Wednesday: 2 p.m. – Interlude; 6:30 p.m – Choir
Thursday: 7:30 a.m. - Mens Cursillo Group Meeting; 10 a.m. - Holy Eucharist with healing; 10:30 a.m. - Daughters of the King Meeting; 10:30 a.m. – Bible Study

• Sunday Service on Channel 14 Sun. at 10:30 a.m.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Dr. Daniel D. Robinson, 526-4153
Sun.: Worship – 8:15 a.m., 10:45 a.m., 6:30 p.m.; School – 9:30 a.m.; Youth – 6:30 p.m.;
Choir – 7:15
Wednesdays: Dinner – 5:30 p.m.; Team Kids – 6 p.m.; Prayer – 6:15 p.m., Choir – 7:30 p.m.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Rev. J. Hunter Coleman, Pastor, 526-3175
Sun.: Worship – 11 a.m.; Sun.School – 9:30 & 9:45.
Mondays: 8 a.m. – Mens Bible Discussion & Breakfast
Tuesdays: 10 a.m. – Seekers
Wednesdays: Supper – 6 p.m.; Choir – 7 p.m.
Sat: Adventistas del Septimo Dia – 10 a.m. & 5

HIGHLANDS ASSEMBLY OF GOD

Rev. Scott Holland, 524-6026, Sixth Street
Sundays: School – 10 a.m.; Worship – 11
Wednesdays: Prayer & Bible Study – 7

HIGHLANDS 7TH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH

Wednesday evening prayer & Bible Study
Call Lloyd Kidder at 526-9474

HIGHLANDS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Pastors Eddie & Kim Ingram, 526-3376
Sun.: school 9:45 a.m.; Worship 8:30 & 11 a.m.;
5 p.m. Youth Group
Wed: noon – Mens Emmaus Reunion Group; 4:45 – Childrens choir and handbells; 5:30 – Supper; 6 – Adult Handbells; 6:15 – children, youth, & adults studies;
7:15 – Adult choir

(nursery provided for Wed. p.m. activities)

Thurs:12:30 – Womens Bible Study (nursery)

HOLY FAMILY LUTHERAN CHURCH – ELCA

Rev. Delmer Chilton, Pastor,
2152 Dillard Road – 526-9741

Sundays: Worship/Communion – 10:30

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Pastor Jamie Passmore, (706) 782-8130
Sundays: School – 10 a.m.; Worship – 11
Choir – 6 p.m.

Wed: Bible Study and Youth Mtg. – 7 p.m.

MOUNTAIN SYNAGOGUE

St. Cyprians Episcopal Church, Franklin 369-6871
Friday: Sabbath Eve Services at 7 p.m.

For more information, call (706)-745-1842.

OUR LADY OF THE MOUNTAINS CATHOLIC CHURCH

Rev. Tien, Priest
Parish office, 526-2418
Sundays: Mass – 11 a.m.

SCALY MOUNTAIN BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. Clifford Willis
Sundays: School –10 a.m.; Worship –11 a.m. & 7
Wednesdays: Prayer Mtg. – 7 p.m.

SCALY MOUNTAIN CHURCH OF GOD

290 Buck Knob Road; Pastor Alfred Sizemore
Sundays: School – 10 a.m.; Worship – 10:45 a.m.; Evening
Worship – 6 p.m.
Wed: Adult Bible Study & Youth – 7 p.m.
For more information call 526-3212.

SHORTOFF BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Rev. Wayne Price
Sundays: School – 10 a.m.; Worship – 11
Wednesdays: Prayer & Bible Study – 7

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP

Rev. Maureen Killoran (part-time) 526-9769
Sundays: Worship – 11 a.m.

WHITESIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Cashiers, Rev. Sam Forrester, 743-2122
Sundays: School – 10 a.m.; Worship – 11

• UPCOMING EVENTS •

On-going

• Free Round Robin Tennis each morning at the Rec Park from 9 a.m. until noon.

• Yoga Classes at the Rec Park. Mondays 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 am to 4 pm, Monday through Sat-

urday.

• Angie Jenkins on the piano at the Old Clayton Inn in Clayton on Fridays and Saturdays for dinner.

• Shakespeare & Co. bookstore in Highlands Village Square is hosting readings by members of the Highlands Writers Group at a literary happening 3-5 p.m. the last Sunday afternoon in each month during the summer and fall. Refreshments will be served and the public is invited. Call 526-3777.

• Al-Anon meets every Wednesday at 10:45 a.m. in the community room of the First Presbyterian Church.

• The Scaly Mountain Women's Club's pancake breakfasts the fourth Saturday of each month through October from 7:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

• The "Zachary-Tolbert House" in Cashiers will be open for tours Fridays and Saturdays, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. through October 14. The house is located at 1940 Highway 107 S., two miles south of the Cashiers Crossroads. Special tours and events may be arranged by calling the Cashiers Historical Society, 828-743-7710.

• Highlands Historic Village is open for tours

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

• New Beginners Clogging class Tuesday, 6-7 p.m. at the Sapphire Valley Community Center. Come have lots of fun and exercise. Call 743-7663.

• At Health Tracks at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital will have Osteoporosis prevention exercise classes on Tuesdays and Thursdays of each week from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Free with HealthTracks 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 Hos-

pital 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 pm. Visionary, inspiring movies showcased at film festivals around the world are viewed. Suggested donation: \$5, Beverages and 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.

• See CLASSIFIEDS page 22

• REMODELING & DESIGN •

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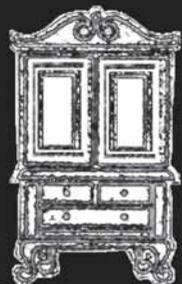


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• UPCOMING EVENTS •

- Live piano music with Hal Phillips at Skyline Lodge & Restaurant every Friday and Saturday night and Sunday brunch.
- Live music at Fressers in Helen's Barn. fea-

turing Cy Timmons Wed. through Sat., 6 p.m. until.

- Live music at Cyprus Restaurant every Friday at 9:30 p.m.

- Highlands Wine and Cheese Shop: Wine Flights Saturday from 4:30-6:30.
- Live music at Wolfgang's Bistro every Sun. and Mon. it's Momo on Piano; every Wed. it's Paul

Scotts Trio; and every Thurs. & Fri it's Rickey Dean on piano.

Through Sept. 17

- The 53rd Macon County Fair will take place in Franklin. The theme for 2006 is "Agriculture: Macon It Happen at the Macon County Fair." Pack up your projects of art work, garden vegetables, baking, canning, photography, sewing, flowers, or other hobbies you may have, and enter them at the fair. ATTENTION! Youth that participated in the Summer Relief Programs, special interest programs, club activities...please locate your projects and enter them in the fair. For more information, call the Macon County Fair at 369-3523.

Sept. 21

- At the Bascom-Louise Gallery Fine Art Center: Fearless Acrylic Painting with Laurence Holden
- At the Bascom-Louise Gallery Fine Art Center: Open Studio, 5 a.m.-7 p.m.

- The Plateau Fly Fishing Club will feature guide Dave Duffy at its meeting to be held at Grace Community Church. Dave's presentation features a slide show describing water types, locations, flies and methods to fish different flies The meeting begins at 7 p.m. and features a raffle for a selection of Dave's flies and the Brookings guided trip. Call 743-2078 for additional information.

- CLE annual meeting, Thursday, 5 p.m. at PAC. A wine and cheese reception will follow the meeting. Ideas and suggestions will be welcomed and an overview of the future plans for CLE will be presented. Members are encouraged to renew their memberships at the meeting, to get an advance mailing of the 2007 brochure in the spring.

Sept. 22

- Bluegrass music at PAC, 7:30 p.m. The Dappled Grays. Tickets are \$15. Seats are limited. Call 526-9047 for reservations. NOTE TIME CHANGE.

Sept. 23

- PEO yard sale in Sapphire community, Sat., 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. Lots of excellent household items, furniture, linens, and just stuff. Proceeds from sale go to PEO projects: women's education.

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At Cyrano's Book Shop Book Signings • 1-3 p.m.

September 23

Paul Gerhardt - *Feline Four*

September 28

Tom Smoot - *The Edisons of Ft. Myers*

October 7

William Rawlings - *Crossword*

October 8

Fred Wooldridge - *I'm Moving Back To Mars*

October 12 • 6-7:30 p.m.

Susan Mason - *Silver Service*

October 14

Joan Medlicott • 11-1, *The Covington Series*

Celia Miles • 11-1, *Mattie's Girl*

Gayden Metcalfe • 3-5, *Being Dead is No Excuse*

October 21

Gerry Soud - *Life As I Slice It*

October 28 • 10 a.m. - noon

George Ellison - *A Blue Ridge Nature Journal*

December 16

Carl Smith - *Lousianna Burn*

390 Main Street • 526-5488

• UPCOMING EVENTS •

• Signing at Cyrano's Book Shop, from 1-3 p.m., Paul Gerhardt's *Feline Four*.

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

• An evening of "Mountain Folk Tales" Saturday at 7 p.m. with playwright and regional folklorist Gary Carden at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship Hall at 85 Sierra Drive in Franklin. A "pie dinner" will be served starting at 6 pm. A \$20 donation is requested. You may purchase tickets by calling (706) 746-9984 or buy them at the Franklin Chamber of Commerce or from UU members.

• Ryder Stevens to speak on "Peace and Reconciliation: A Christian Science Approach" at the Highlands Civic Center at 4 p.m. It's free.

Sept. 25

• Bolivian Auction at the Highlands Country Club on Monday from 5:30 p.m. until the last item is auctioned by Al Scudder. The admission donation will be \$100.

Sept. 26

• PAC Film Series presents "Sliding Doors" at 7:30 p.m. It's free but donations are appreciated.

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

Sept. 28

• John Corcora, author of "The Teacher Who Couldn't Read," will speak at the Highlands School at 6:30 p.m. in the old gym. This event is open to the public.

• County Commission Candidates Forum, 7:30 p.m. at Tartan Hall at First Presbyterian Church in Franklin.

• At the Bascom-Louise Gallery, "Fearless Acrylic Painting" with Laurence Holden.

• Second Annual Highlands Antique Show Preview Party at the Civic Center.

Sept. 29-Oct. 1

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

• At Acorn's Slane and Slane Trunk Show.

Sept. 30

• Up, Up and Away Gala to benefit the Highlands Community Children's Development Center at the Cullasaja Club. Enjoy a festive evening with dining, an open bar and dancing to the music of Reggie & Deas boys. Tickets are \$100. Call 526-0115 for reservations.

• Snake program at the Highlands Nature Center. 7-8 pm, all ages. An educational presentation on regional snakes featuring live animals. Learn species identification, snake natural histories, and some of the misconceptions about them. \$2 per person. Call 526-2623.

Oct. 1

• At the Performing Arts Center, "Beethoven in Blue Jeans," at 6 p.m. Tickets \$10 for adults and \$5 for students under 18. Call 526-9060 for tickets.

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

Oct. 5, 6, 7

• At the Highlands Playhouse, "North Platte

Canteen," Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m., Sunday at 2 p.m. Call 526-2695 for tickets.

Oct. 6

• Bascom-Louise Gallery's Art and Wine Auction, 6 p.m. at The Farm. Tickets are \$150 each. Call 526-4949.

Oct. 7

• "An Inconvenient Truth," Al Gore's controversial film about global warming is showing at The Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Franklin at 85 Sierra Drive, Saturday, Oct. 7 at 7 p.m. Follow the street that runs next to Hardees (Lakeside Drive) for 1.2 miles and turn left onto Sierra Drive. It's free.

Oct. 13, 14, 15

• At the Highlands Playhouse, "North Platte Canteen," Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m., Sunday at 2 p.m. Call 526-2695 for tickets.

Oct. 14

• 24th Annual Highlands Arts & Crafts Show, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Highlands Civic Center. Free admission and parking. Breakfast and lunch available. Over 100 vendors. Raffle drawings with prizes, Sponsored by the Highlands Woman's Club and the Highlands Recreation Department.

Oct. 15

• A musical variety show with heart, "The North Platte Canteen" at the Highlands Playhouse. It recalls the days of soldiers, war and hope. When the Union Pacific is snowbound, USO performers entertain soldiers. 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.

Beginning Oct. 16

• The Power of a Praying Woman, Mondays,

1-3 p.m. by Stormie Omartian (10 week course) at the Cashiers Methodist Church. Call Phyllis Edwards 828-743-9648 for more information.

Oct. 16-21

• At ITC in Oak Square on Main Street, "Sylvia" - a romantic comedy about a marriage and a dog.

Ruby Cinemas

Franklin, NC

Adult - \$6; Child - \$4

Sept. 22-28

FLYBOYS rated PG-13

Mon - Thur (4:30), 7

Fri: (4:30), 7, 9:30

Sat & Sun: (2), (4:30), 7, 9:30

LITTLE MISS SUNSHINE rated R

Mon - Thur: (4:15), 7:10

Fri: (4:15), 7:10, 9:15

Sat & Sun: (2:10), (4:15), 7:10, 9:15

GRIDIRON GANG rated PG-13

Mon - Thur: (4:20), 7:05

Fri: (4:20), 7:05, 9:20

Sat & Sun: (2:05), (4:20), 7:05, 9:20

EVERYONE'S HERO rated G

Mon - Thur: (4:10), 7:10

Fri: (4:10), 7:10, 9:10

Sat & Sun: (2:10), (4:10), 7:10, 9:10



MEADOWS MOUNTAIN REALTY

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CHARMING CABIN IN TOWN



This precious 3 bedroom 3 bath cabin would be the perfect business investment or weekend getaway. Zoned commercial with a great rental history this cabin is a wonderful opportunity. Wood floors throughout, large wood burning stone fireplace, wood beams across the cathedral ceiling, glass faced and wood cabinets in the kitchen with new quality appliances, mountain laurel railed loft overlooking the living area, and creative bathroom sinks add to the old world style of this cozy cabin. Offered at \$499,000 MLS#55487 Visual Tour #619758

WONDERFUL LOG HOME



This one and a half story French country, 3 bedroom home is waiting for you if you desire the appeal of a stroll down main street. Conveniently located to town, this home features formal living room, master on the main level, large kitchen, large front porch with rocking chairs and more. Offered at \$398,000. MLS #59553. Visual Tour #718738

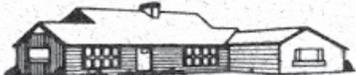
This home has an exceptional view of Harris Lake. This 2 bedroom, 2 bath home has a great loft area that could be used as a third bedroom or function as your home office. The high vaulted ceilings and open living areas complete the cozy rustic floor plan. Offered at \$349,000 MLS#58204

IN-TOWN LOCATION



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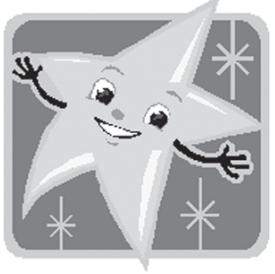
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or FAX to 1-866-212-8913.

Send check to Highlands' Newspaper, P.O. Box 2703, Highlands, NC 28741 or stop by at 265 Oak St.

HELP WANTED

EXPERIENCED PUNCH-OUT WORKER wanted in Highlands area for full-time work. Must have clean driving record and agree to a background check. Company vehicle provided. Vacation and benefits available. References required. Stop by Warth Construction office at 330 Spring Street in Highlands to pick up an application or email your resume to info@warthconstruction.com.

THE CHRISTMAS TREE – Needs weekend help. Call Trish at 526-3687.

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.

EXPERIENCED CABINETRY INSTALLER NEEDED – Part time employment. Competitive pay. Willing to work with your schedule. Must be dependable, have tools, transportation. Call (828)526-9201.

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

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

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

PIZZA PLACE OF HIGHLANDS – looking for a qualified full time, year round night time manager. Pay based on experience. Please apply in person. Must speak and read English.

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

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

EARN WHILE YOU LEARN! ARE YOU INTERESTED IN A NEW CAREER? Become a Certified Nursing Assistant for Fidelia Eckerd Living Center at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. C.N.A. classes will start on Monday, November 27, 2006. Students will be paid while in class Mondays through Fridays for 6 hours a day. Upon graduation, students will become a Certified Nursing Assistant and will receive a substantial increase in pay. Excellent benefit package

after 60 days. Pre-employment substance screening. If interested in joining a dynamic healthcare team, call Judy Miller at 828-526-1317, Mary Osmar at 828-526-1301, or apply online through website, www.hchospital.org.

R.N.S. FOR FIDELIA ECKERD LIVING CENTER AT HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HOSPITAL. All shifts available for PRN staff. Salary range based on years of experience. Pre-employment substance screening. Call Mary Osmar, 828-526-1301 or apply online at www.hchospital.org.

HOUSEKEEPER AT HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HOSPITAL. Full-time position. Tuesdays through Saturdays. Experience in hospital cleaning is preferred. Excellent benefit package available after 60 days' employment. Pre-employment substance screening. Call Mary Osmar, 828-526-1301 or apply online at hchospital.org.

COOK 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 website, www.hchospital.org.

DIETARY AIDES 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 website, www.hchospital.org.

CLINICAL LABORATORY TECHNICIAN AT HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HOSPITAL. This full-time position is for 40 hours per week, Monday through Friday, nights. Must have completed two years of college from an approved program in Medical Technology and possess a credential as an M.L.T. from either ASCP or HEW. Full benefits after 60 days. Pre-employment substance screening. Call Mary Osmar, 828-526-1303 or apply online at www.hchospital.org.

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES MANAGER AT HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HOSPITAL AND FIDELIA ECKERD LIVING CENTER. Experience in management of Housekeeping, Floor Care, and Laundry is preferred as is knowledge of State and Federal regulations. Full benefits available after 60 days. Pre-employment substance screening. Call Mary Osmar, 828-526-1301 or apply online through website, www.hchospital.org.

R.N.S. AT HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HOSPITAL. Positions open in E.R. and on Acute Care (Med Surge). Full-time, 12-hour shifts available for all days, weekday nights, and weekends. Salary range based on years of experience. Pre-employment substance screening. Call Mary Osmar, 828-526-1301.

CNA OR CNA II FOR FIDELIA ECKERD LIVING CENTER AT HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HOSPITAL. Full-time, night shift position for either 32 or 36 hours per week, including every other weekend. Range of pay, depending on number of years' experience, is \$9.50 to \$11.90 per hour. Weekend and shift differentials. Full benefits after 60 days. Pre-employment substance screening. Call Mary Osmar, 828-526-1303 or apply online at www.hchospital.org.

FOR RENT

GARAGE APT. SKYLINE AREA – fully furnished. \$450 a month year round. Plus

utilities. Call 787-2423.

CUTE 3/BED 2/BATH COTTAGE in Mirror lake for rent. Walk to town. \$1500 + utilities monthly. Available mid October. Call 770-977-5692

3 BED, 3 BATH, VIEW HOME, IN KING MOUNTAIN CLUB. Garage, newly refurbished, new kitchen, washer/dryer, other extras. \$1,400 a month plus utilities. Year lease. No smoking/no pets. Unfurnished. Call for appointment. 828-526-5634 or 828-787-1737.

THE CHAMBERS AGENCY, REALTORS HAS YEAR ROUND HOUSING! #1) Two bedroom/one bath upper level apartment just off Main Street. Unfurnished. Call for more details. #2) Small three bedroom/two bath older mountain cottage- close to town. Some furnishings. \$1,000 per month, plus utilities/maintenance. \$1,000. Security Deposit. All homes require interview, rental application, credit and/or background check. Please come by The Chambers Agency, 401 N. Fifth St. or call 828-526-3717

VACATION RENTAL – in Sky Valley. 10 miles from Highlands. \$500/week, 2/2, Newer, completely furnished. No smoking, no pets. Call 772-321-9620.

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

VACATION RENTAL - Sapphire/Cashiers: 4 bedroom/3 bath, stone FP, all conveniences (plasma TV, PC, good linens, towels, china, satellite). Gated community/club. Lake access, with horses, kayaks, canoes available. Weekly, monthly and long holiday weekends possible. \$900 week, \$3,000/month. 3 day minimum by-the-day/weekend. 770-479-5535 x239 days - Kevin. 770-704-9926 eves.

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

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

2-WEEK OPPORTUNITY TO OWN A GORGEOUS, easily buildable 4.96 acre lot in Bear Lake Reserve at wholesale price! Only \$365,000. Call 239-404-6152.

HIGHLANDS IN-TOWN – Creekside, 3 bed, 2 bath, owner relocating. Completely renovated. For sale by owner. \$550,000 OBO Call 828-226-6123.

HIGHLANDS HOME SITES CLOSE TO DOWNTOWN – Only 2.8 miles from Main Street. Lots of large rhodies, hardwood trees and mountain laurel. Some with creek front, some back up to National Forest. All are gentle, easy building sites with community well, telephone, electric and septic in place. Home sites are 1 to 1.5 acres. Dramatic waterfall at entrance. Community will be gated. Price range from \$169,000 to \$329,000. Call 828-526-9622.

BY BUILDER – 4/3, new construction. Executive home. 1.5 acres, bordered by 2 creeks and a pond in a new up-scale subdivision less than 5 minutes from downtown Franklin. \$485K. Call 371-3669.

PRIVATE, WOODED LOT ON HIGH RIDGE – Cashiers area: Sapphire Valley Resort amenities (golf, boating/fishing, swim & tennis, skiing, horseback riding). \$45,900. By owner. Call Eva (404) 819-8300.

STOP RENTING OFFICE/RETAIL SPACE – New building with three 2,200+ sq.ft. retail/office units & three 1,600+ sq.ft. drive-in storage units. Highly visible location (NC 106) near Long Transfer—look for Cyprus billboard. Lots of parking! Bathrooms in ever

unit. Beautiful, secure & affordable. Retail spaces: \$325,000. Storage spaces: \$225,000 Chris Gilbert, OWNER/BROKER, (828)526-2475 or 421-3161

QUAINT – Newly remodeled farm-style home. 1 acre, 2 stories, 3 bed, 1 bath, hardwood & carpet floors. Close to Cashiers area golf courses and Lake Glenville. Quiet neighborhood. Asking \$180,000. Call Linda. Day: 828-743-2948. Evenings: 828-743-2654.

ADORABLE 3 BR/2 BA COTTAGE with wonderful mountain view. One mile from Main Street. Highlands. \$275,000. By Owner. For Appt. 828-526-1085. 9/28

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

ITEMS FOR SALE

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ENGLISH & AMERICAN ANTIQUES – 18th & 20th Century. Private Estate Sale by Appointment only. Call 828-452-4888.

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26" GIRL'S BIKE – Very good condition. \$25. 828-349-3320

2 13X13 CANOPY – never used. Great for picnics, craft show, etc. \$50 each. 828-349-3320.

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EMPIRE GAS VENTED STOVE – Nearly new. Black enamel finish. Originally \$1,600. Asking \$800 OBO. Call 342-2302.

2 TRAVEL TRAILERS – PRICE REDUCED! – One 1990 - 32 ft. and one 1983 - 35 ft. Both with 2 build-outs each, full-sized refrigerators, full-sized toilets, one has W/D, complete with screen porches, new wood flooring and carpet. Both are nicely furnished. Both in good condition. Can be seen @ Carolina Court. Unit #1 and Unit #22, priced @ \$4,000. each. Must be removed during the month of November 2006. Contact: Charles Dasher @ 828-526-5939, or •See CLASSIFIEDS page 26

• CLASSIFIEDS •

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VERMONT CASTINGS WINTERWARM wood burning fireplace insert with ash pan and pan cover, fire screen for door, vent pipe, and owner's manual. \$800. Firm. Sold as is where is. Call 828-743-9340 for details.

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

11-INCH METAL PLATE – handcrafted, drama-scene by Reid & Barton 1975. Title: "Indians Discovery Lewis & Clark" by Charles Russell Limited Edition of 2500 – #1623. Good Condition. \$100. Call 526-1773.

ALL WOOD LARGE (6' TALL X 7' LONG) ENTERTAINMENT CENTER, – lighted with stained glass upper doors, wood doors on bottom, has open shelves too, very nice \$450 obo, King size bed frame with brass headboard \$75 obo, please call 828-369-2223 or after 5pm 828-331-8422.

VACUUM CLEANER – Sears late model with power head. Very good condition. Originally sold for \$295. Will sell for \$149. 828-526-4077.

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.

ETHAN ALLEN HUTCH – Nutmeg color. Two sections. Top, bullnose glass & wood frame doors with two open side shelves on side. Bottom, center 3 drawers with 2 side doors on each side. Enclosed shelves. Top and bottom 6 feet long, 56-inches high and 18-inches wide. Excellent condition. \$998. Call 828-526-4077.

ETHAN ALLEN ROCKING CHAIR – Antique White. \$125. Call 828-526-4077.

PIANO BENCH – with storage in seat. Walnut color. \$75. Call 828-526-4077.

NEW SET OF 18" VENT-FREE GAS FIRE-PLACE LOGS. New — still in the box. \$295. 828-526-4077.

OAK ROCKER, over 100 years old. From E.B. (Ted) Mell Estate in Athens, Ga. All original including leather seat. Call 828-349-4581.

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SOLID DARK OAK DINETTE CABINET. 19"x64"x84". 3 glass windows on top. 3 drawers on bottom. 2 bottom doors with keys. Imported from Belgium. Excellent condition. \$1,500. Call 369-3250.

VEHICLES FOR SALE

1992 FORD 150 PICK-UP TRUCK – Extended cab, with covered top, 100,000 miles. Cherry condition. \$3,500. Call 526-0539.

1993 CADILLAC 60 SPECIAL – 4-door, DeVille chassis, 4.7 V/8, 16 city/24 Hwy. Beautiful Artic white with flawless red leather, ABS Brakes, Air bags, sun roof, Bose CD sound system, new Michelin tires. Two owners, Florida car. Like new. Non smoker. \$4,750. Call 828-787-1563 or cell: 828-200-1563.

2003 DODGE STRATUS – red exterior, gray interior, 30,000 miles, AM/FM cassette, A.C. PW, PS, PB, clean. \$8,000 obo 828-526-3257.

1995 GRAND CHEROKEE LAREDO, loaded, V-8, 4WD, new tires, new brakes, leather, PW, PL, 168K, priced to sell, \$3,900. Cell: 200-0013.

1991 SUBURBAN 3/4 TON, 130K miles, 20K

on Tranny, 350 V8, lift w/wheels & tires, good condition, never off-road, white/blue \$4350. Call 200-0013.

GEM ELECTRIC CAR – Excellent Condition. Has two motors and will cruise at 40 mph. Many extras including new tires. Great for gated communities, golf courses, and senior citizen communities. Asking \$6,500. email gem603@prodigy.net

WANTED

DAHLIAS FOR TRADE – Have a dozen deep purple/burgandy dahlia plants to trade for other colors. Call 787-1310 now to make plans to exchange next spring.

STACKABLE WASHER/DRYER – Call 421-7922.

UNWANTED ITEMS in good condition for a family of five. please call Tony @ 828-779-1765

SERVICES

WILL CLEAN HOUSES – Anyday EXCEPT Thurs, Fri., and Sunday. Retired school system employee. Call Doris Stamey at 524-3249.

FIVE STAR CLEANING & MAINTENANCE – Light and detail cleaning, concierge services, openings and closings, grocery shopping, personal shopping, personal chef and table service, house repairs, improvements: lighting, plumbing, fixtures, tile, drywall repairs and more. Call 828-332-7201.

D.P. PAINTING & PRESSURE WASHING – Interior and exterior painting. Quality Work. References. In business since 1984. Dennis Perkins. 526-3542 or 371-2277.

YARD WORK & PRESSURE WASHING – Yard and property maintenance. Pressure Washing and odd jobs. Call Bruce at 828-369-3168 or 828 371-2766. 8/18

MARTHE CLEANING SERVICES – experienced house cleaner. Houses, Offices, Churches. Will care for elderly, too. Call 828-369-8675. Leave message.

H & D HOUSE CLEANERS – We're the team for minor cleans. Dishes, bed, floors, & baths. Give us a call 'cause we are the Best!' 706-982-1994 or 706-782-0376

SCOTTS CONSTRUCTION 'ME FIX IT' – Decks, roofs, pressure washing, painting, lawn service, small electrical, floors, carpet cleaning, house cleaning! No job too small. 30 yrs. exp. Call David at 828-369-5886 or 828-347-5051.

PAINTING, PRESSURE WASHING – "It's All We Do" Free Next Day estimates. References. Gary miller. Call 526-0722.

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ROADRUNNER DRIVING SERVICE – Serving all Airports. Call Darlene: 524-3265 or Cell (706) 201-7719. 11/2

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DISCOVER ARBONNE – pure Swiss skin care, nutrition and aromatherapy. Learn about the incredible products. Call Darlene Melcher at 526-4685

POLICE & FIRE REPORT

The following is the Highlands Police Dept. log entries for the week of Sept. 13-19. Only the names of persons arrested or public officials have been used.

Sept. 14

- At 8:03 a.m., officers responded to an alarm at Old Edwards Inn. It was false.
- At 2:50 p.m., a motorist at Old Edwards Lane was cited for making an unsafe movement at the site of two-vehicle accident.

Sept. 15

- At 9:10 a.m., officers assisted a motorist on Sherwood Forest Drive.
- At 7:03 p.m., officers responded to a noise complaint concerning RiverWalk Development.

Sept. 17

- At 9:15 p.m., there was a report of a young girl screaming on Sunset Rock. Officers responded and searched the area but didn't find anyone.

Sept. 18

- At 10:05 p.m., officers on patrol found an open door at Highlands School. All was secure. During the week, officers issued two warning tickets.

The following is the Fire & Rescue Dept.

log entries for the week of Sept. 13-19

Sept. 13

- The dept. provided mutual aid to Cashiers two times. The calls were cancelled en route.

Sept. 14

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

Sept. 15

- The dept. was asked to check on a controlled burn on Valentine Lane. It was under control.

Sept. 17

- The dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with a medical call on Mac Wilson Road where a man had fallen off a horse. He was transported to the hospital.

- The dept. responded to an alarm at the Highlands Country Club which was set off by cooking smoke.

Sept. 18

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

Cross heading to court

Debra Ann Cross, 49, of Atlanta, Ga., will appear in District Court in Franklin next week to face charges in connection with thefts and break-ins of several homes at Highlands Country Club that occurred August 2004 through May 2006.

Charges include six counts of felonious breaking and entering, larceny and possession of stolen goods, an additional felony count of larceny and felonious possession of stolen goods, and two counts of misdemeanor larceny and misdemeanor possession of stolen goods.

Cross was processed on Sept. 8 at the Macon County jail and was released the same day on an unsecured \$30,000 bond.

Though next week's probable cause hearing is likely to be continued, the

Highlands Police Department said it's likely Cross will be indicted in Superior Court which meets roughly once every quarter in Franklin.

Cross's arrest is a result of the Highlands Police Department investigation and serving of two search warrants of her homes in Highlands and Atlanta.

"We were able to directly link her to thefts at area homes based on items found in her homes and taken from her when she was first arrested in May," said Highlands Police Captain Todd Ensley.

The investigation continues as residents call the department to report missing household items including art and collectibles. A dollar amount has not been assigned to the value of items recovered.

• REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS •

PIN ID # - ADDRESS – GRANTEE – DATE – SALE – GRANTOR - APPRAISED

Highlands Township

SHARON KEENER, 9/8/2006, \$0., KEENER JOHN H., \$100.

- 0516925, 600 CULLASAJA CLUB DR, PETRIE JUDITH TRUSTEE, 9/7/2006, \$1,150,000., SIKES JEFFREY W., \$703,140.

- 0503279, OFF 1544 LOT 1 & 1/24 INT IN LAKESITE RESERVE, MANNING SHARON KEENER, 9/8/2006, \$0., KEENER JOHN H., \$5,320.

- 0522000, HEDDEN LANE LAKESIDE RESERVE, MANNING

- 0543424, OFF RD 64 LOT 6A WILDWOOD FOREST, CIMARRON BUILDERS INC., 9/11/2006, \$0., CIMARRON HOMES INC., \$70,880.

- 0543430, 48 WILD PINE WAY WILDWOOD FOREST, NORTH AMERICAN EQUITIES GROUP LLC., 9/8/2006, \$450,000., COLEMAN ROBERT W., \$369,250.

