Planning Board to decide about outdoor merchandise

Commissioners can't decide what to do about the display of merchandise outside shops in Highlands.

The issue and the ordinance regulating the display of outdoor merchandise has been discussed at length at Town Board meetings over the past month. Unable to agree on a definition or what to do about the problem, at the Aug. 1 meeting, commissioners agreed to send it to the Planning Board "to see what they think about it," said Commissioner Amy Patterson.

As charged by the Town Board at its July 18 meeting, Town Administrator and Code Enforcement Officer Josh Ward submitted alternate wording to the ordinance in an attempt to alleviate ambiguity.

Betz suggested deleting the phrase "is of such a nature that it ordinarily" from the ordinance that currently reads: "It shall be unlawful for any commercial business to display goods, wares, or merchandise outside the building in which said business is conducted.

• See OUTDOOR page 20

Free firetruck rides Saturday

During Highlands Fire & Rescue Departments annual open house, free firetruck rides and free hot dog plates and drinks will be offered at the firehouse on Oak Street, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Donations accepted. Photo by Kim Lewicki

On-going
• Live music every night at 7:30 p.m. and during brunch on Sunday at ...on the Verandah restaurant.
• Live music at Fressers in Helen's Barn with Cy Timmons Wed-Sat at 6 p.m.
• Hal Phillips at the piano at Skyline Lodge and Restaurant on Flat Mountain Road Fri. & Sat. at 6 p.m.
• Pilates classes with Sandi Trevalhan on Level 1 of the Jane Woodruff Clinic, Mon. and Wed. at 4 p.m. $10 per class.
• Clay Aerobics at the Rec Park, 4-5 p.m., Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays. $5 per class.
• Yoga Classes at the Rec Park, Mondays and Wednesdays at 7:30 a.m. Bring your mat. $7 per person per class or $50 for a monthly pass. Call 526-4340.
• At Health Tracks at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital, various exercise classes. Call Jeanne Folk at 526-626-1717.

Every Monday
• Recreational Bridge 1 p.m. at the Rec Park. $3 per person.

Every Thursday
• At Main Street Inn, Lisa Price piano and vocals in the wine bar 6-9 p.m.
• Every Saturday
• Live music at Cyprus Restaurant in the Dillard Village Shopping Center at 9:30 p.m. $10 cover.

Through Aug. 12
• The Highlands Playhouse, "My Way." Performances are Tuesday-Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sunday matinees are at 2 p.m. Call the box office at 526-2965 for ticket information.

Thursday, Aug. 2
• The free Zahnor Lecture Series held at the Nature Center at 7 p.m. Tom Wessel will present a slide presentation showing how to interpret forest history.

Friday, August 3
• Upward Bound — Bowman Family performing at the FREE Annual Mountain Music Concerts 7:30-9 at Highlands School.

Weekend Weather:
FRI SAT SUN
78.5°F 77.6°F 78.6°F

Changes at Highlands School set for Aug. 27

It may still be summer, but Highlands School administrators are readying for the first day of school Monday, Aug. 27, welcoming new employees and initiating curriculum changes.

New faces include Tracy Austin, who replaces Bill Lanford as the middle school PE teacher. Lanford retired at the end of the 2007 school year. Jim Draheim replaces Terry Bradley as the Assistant Principal at Highlands School. Bradley is now principal of the East Franklin elementary school.

John Gorecki replaces Kristina Kirtner for both the instrumental and choral music program and a new fourth-grade teacher is poised to join the staff if the Macon County School Board agrees. Call the Board office at 526-6265 for ticket information.

Officials say flood plain ordinance crucial

Structural damage due to last week's flash flooding accentuated the dangers of building and living in the floodplains of rivers and streams in Macon County.

"When we think about flooding in Macon County, we generally think about heavy rains associated with the remnants of late-season tropical storms," said Macon County Planning Director Stacy Guffey. "But the flooding and damage from last week's storm shows just how quickly flash-flooding occurs and how little warning we have during those types of storms."

On July 26 at 8:20 p.m., a severe thunderstorm struck the north-central part of Macon County causing isolated flash flooding. The storm was very slow moving and dumped a large amount of rain in isolated areas in a short period of time and spawned damaging lightning.

Alerts broadcasted on radio and television shortly before the storm hit warned of the potential of 2-6 inches of rain falling in the time span of one hour.

When it was over, seven homes in Macon County, mainly in the Cowee community, experienced some damage from flooding with only one experiencing serious damage. A least one private bridge was washed from its foundation. In addition, five structures were struck by lightning and two structures were damaged and

• See SCHOOL page 14

See FLOOD PLAIN page 15

Pine Street Park uses unclear

The Town Board is holding fast to its decision.

A free Labor Day arts and craft festival can’t take place at Pine Street Park because organizer Cynthia Strain can’t provide on-site parking spaces per vendor.

She can’t provide on-site parking because the “park” has no parking. Pine Street has parking, but she isn’t allowed to count those spaces, or use parking at Macon Bank or Bank of America to satisfy the requirement.

• See PINE STREET page 14

FREE
**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

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 with no prior approval.

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Dear Editor,

In response to Dr. Henry Salzarulo’s column “Driving Manners on Mountain Roads,” in the July 26 edition of Highlands’ Newspaper.

I think it is time we give the “flatlanders” a break. I am sure they would love to drive fast, as you do, around the mountain curves leading to and away from Highlands. But they don’t. Perhaps they are more cautious, perhaps they adhere to the posted speed limits, or perhaps they have met a tractor-trailer on the hairpin curves of the Gorge Road. Perhaps they would love to respond to your blinking lights by pulling off the road, but alas, there are no signs telling them that there is a pull-off 50 yards or so down the road around the next curve, and perhaps they don’t see a decent pull-off until they are next to it and they don’t dare slam on breaks to use it — after all they don’t want your blinking lights in their back seat. Those of us who have driven these roads many times know when to expect a pull-off, tourists and other “flatlanders” don’t know those spots.

Instead of using your power to complain to the drivers, why don’t you start a campaign to install informational signs about the location of pull-offs. The cost involved would be saved many times over when you consider the blood pressure medicine you could avoid using. And speaking of informational signs, I would love to see a sign on U.S. 64 at Franklin informing truckers that they are forbidden to drive the Gorge Road at the risk of a fine of $10,000 or some other obscene amount. It is quite interesting to come around the hairpin curves and find a truck blocking the road.

Since you obviously have the “ear” of people in Highlands, use your influence to help both the “flatlanders” and the “long timers,” we would all appreciate your efforts.

Julie Gary
Highlands

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Dear Editor,

In regards to Dr Salzarulo’s column “Driving Manners in the Mountains” in the July 26 issue of this paper, Bravo, kudos, and thank you! And if you’re serious about having those bumper stickers printed, at least 80% of the nursing staff of Highlands-Cashiers Hospital will be waiting in line to buy one!

Most of us come from a considerable distance to work here (despite the high cost of gas, wear and tear on vehicles and so forth) and allow what should be more than adequate time to get to work. Until, that is, we find ourselves behind Hiram Flatlander and his wife Matilda, who slam on their brakes at every turn going uphill! Haven’t these people ever heard of the law of gravity? (Maybe they think the Bushies repealed that along with Habeas Corpus, the right to privacy and 99% of scientific learning.) The simple fact that taking one’s foot off the gas while traveling uphill will cause the vehicle to slow down seems to be beyond their limited comprehension.

As a result, by the time many of us arrive at work, the usual altruistic mindset of our profession has been replaced by a deranged, maddened, overwhelming urge to just kill something! (We call it going “nursal” in the biz!)

Unfortunately, some of the behavior that we, who travel these roads every day, consider rude is attributable to ignorance. On neither U.S. 64 through the gorge nor Buck Creek Road is there any signage to indicate that all of those nice little pull-off areas are intended for slower drivers to “for the love of Mike to please pull off!” And strangers to our community rarely know that Highlands etiquette dictates that, if a car catches up with you from behind, it must mean that driver wants to go faster than you, right? (Yeah, I know it should be obvious. Go figure.)

My suggestion would be this: As a public service, I think both Highlands newspapers should feature a short, but no more than adequate time, reminder of the ad space.

Instead of using your power to complain to the drivers, why don’t you start a campaign to install informational signs about the location of pull-offs. The cost involved would be saved many times over when you consider the international pressure you could avoid using. And speaking of informational signs, I would love to see a sign on U.S. 64 at Franklin informing truckers that they are forbidden to drive the Gorge Road at the risk of a fine of $10,000 or some other obscene amount. It is quite interesting to come around the hairpin curves and find a truck blocking the road.

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• BIRTH •

James Mathew Moore

The Kilwin's family just got bigger

It's a boy! James Mathew Moore was born three weeks early on July 26, 2007, at 12:12 a.m. He weighed in at 7 pounds 10 ounces and was 20 1/4" long. Mother Kay and baby James are home and doing great. James looks forward to getting to know all his family - Dad, Jerry and brother, Davis and sisters Blakely and Anne Marie — and future friends.

James Mathew Moore

... LETTERS continued from page 2

Just 'Bend It Like Beckham'

Dear Editor,

We need to keep as many parking spaces as possible!
We need to keep Pine Street open for the nearby businesses!
We need to keep Pine Street open as a route around congested Main Street!

For the Pine Street Park to be viable, we need to join the two parts together!
I have a possible solution that will give all interested groups most of what they want.

I propose making Pine Street one-way, going from east to west.
I propose moving the eastern portion of Pine Street southwards to be adjacent to the backside of Village Square.
The newly available space north of the relocated street could be joined with the area around the gazebo to create a single, larger Pine Street Park.

If the eastern half of the street were made as narrow as is feasible, more space would be available for the new park.
Parking only on one side of the eastern half could be considered.

On the western end of the street, the width of the street and the amount of parking would not need to be changed.
I believe the street would be more attractive than it is now. The above drawing shows how the street and the combined park might appear.

Don't close Pine Street - just move it!

Larry Brannan
Highlands

... LETTERS continued from page 2
The doorbell rang and my heart jumped in anticipation of our first meeting. I raced for the door, grinning from ear to ear at what I was about to encounter. Somehow I had envisioned a gum chewing smokin' hot babe type that all the wives would be envious of. I pulled open the door and there stood the scariest, fattest, meanest looking lady I had ever laid eyes on. “Hello, my name is Mabel and I am here to give you Bridge lessons.” My beaming smile turned to one of shock. She had blubber in places where most women don’t even have places. Did I mention she was also beauty challenged?

She waddled into our living room and met with our friends who had gathered for our very first lesson. We were all hackers. After one or two pleasantries she sat the eight of us down and interviewed us to see what level we were currently playing. I realized she had no sense of humor when she said, “Anyone can learn bridge if they can count to 13” and I asked, “Can I use my toes?” Everyone laughed except Mabel, who gave me a dirty look. “Am I here to teach bridge or listen to your funnies?” Whoa, what a….

In anticipation of Mabel’s arrival, we had set up two card tables and eight folding metal chairs we swiped...uh, borrowed from our church. Everyone thought Mabel would stand and lecture. Ha, we learned that Mabel does not stand for more than a few minutes in fear her legs would collapse from under her. She plopped herself down on one of the metal chairs and it completely disappeared in blubber. I cringed in fear it would cave in under the load.

“All of you gather around and let me tell you about the rule of 4.” I raced to get my pad and pen. “You don’t have to write this down unless you’re retardad,” she said, looking straight at me as if to suggest I should write it down. “In order to play bridge, you must apply the rule of 4….that means there must always be four persons to play the game. I dropped my pad to the floor. “NO DUH!” I got another dirty look.

Later that evening, I had to sit in the metal chair that Mabel had sat in earlier. After the cards were dealt, I made a perfect card fan as Mabel had instructed. Then, without warning, the chair collapsed from under me and I fell to the floor. I am not making this up. I was lying on my back holding my fan of cards, laughing hysterically. All my friends and the lil’ missus were laughing hysterically. Mabel never cracked a smile. “I don’t think I can teach bridge under these conditions,” Mabel announced and headed for the door. Everyone got serious and we…..I mean I, promised to behave and not laugh anymore, if you can believe that.

The worst part about Mabel was she didn’t realize her size and girth. During play, she would interrupt by reaching across the table to point to a card. This meant she would place about 90 pounds of blubber directly on our cheapo cardboard table. I would cringe in anticipation of its collapse. I whispered to the lil’ missus, “If she falls, we’re all going to court.”

During the next several weeks, Mabel taught us many things about bridge, but the most important thing I learned was to never get on a cruise ship where she was the bridge director. Mabel produced so much body heat that she once broke the air conditioning system on the Crown Princess. Could I make this up?

The most important thing Mabel pointed out to me during my many lessons was that I have a very short attention span. This is a gene deficiency and, according to my psychiatrist, is not correctable. That is why, to this day, the lil’ missus will look at me from across the table, then with her two fingers, point to her eyes and say, “focus, focus, focus.” Don’t they do that with A.D.D. children?

It’s been a half century since Mabel first darkened our living room with her massive body, but I remember her like it was yesterday. Because of her age and weight, I am assuming she has gone to the great bridge game in the sky. If so, I know she’s looking down on me and saying, “Fred, you’re still a hacker!”
Who's in charge of America?

This is a simple question.
Everyone should know the answer.
It goes to the heart of the American experiment in self-government.
In the Declaration of Independence, Thomas Jefferson wrote that "just" government rests on "the consent of the governed." The Constitution put that in writing, in law. But recently, two federal judges have decided that they should run America, not the people.

Federal judges are, of course, not elected and serve for life. The idea that they should decide public issues rather than officials elected for that purpose is an attack on the basis of American government. And yet it happens. Cases in point: Hazleton, PA., and Farmers Branch, Texas.

In both cities, with the overwhelming support of their citizens, the mayor and city councils passed ordinances to discourage local landlords from renting to illegal aliens, and local businesses from hiring illegal aliens. Neither city took on the role of determining who was illegal. Instead, both cities (in different ways) accepted federal definitions of who was an illegal alien.

The federal judge who ruled against Hazleton wrote that local ordinances like this are "preempted by federal law." This is a false conclusion, since the ordinances merely accepted and used the existing federal definitions of who is an illegal alien.

The judge sought to salvage himself from reversal by adding dicta, saying that even if the city's ordinances were not preempted, they violated "the constitutional rights" that the plaintiffs' have "whether they were legal residents or not." This is flatly contrary to prior decisions of the Supreme Court.

The driving force behind the appeal of this case, and an appeal of a similar decision by another federal judge against ordinances of Farmers Branch, Texas, will be future harm to American citizens who live in those towns. There will be more rapes, robberies, assaults and murders of citizens by illegal aliens. There will be more injuries, damage and deaths from illegal aliens driving without licenses, without insurance, and sometimes, while drunk.

The citizens of those, and other towns, which are being overwhelmed by illegal aliens, will rightfully blame this death and destruction on the federal judges who have, so far, stripped the local governments of the power to protect their own citizens. And, protecting the citizens is the first duty of all elected officials, everywhere.

In the meantime, the same dynamic will play out in New Haven, CT. That city started this week issuing special city IDs to illegal aliens, there. These and all other "sanctuary cities" will attract even more illegal aliens. The deaths, injuries and damage, and health, welfare and education costs, inflicted by illegal aliens should and will be blamed on those local officials.

The death rate of Americans from all illegal activities of illegal aliens has consistently been higher than the death rate of Americans in Iraq and all other places around the globe where American servicemen and women "go in harm's way." Local media, who report on local matters, are beginning to catch up with this deadly reality. All Americans are in harm's way, not just the military.

This is not a civics test in the 11th grade asking "Who's in charge of America?" These are real decisions, by real judges, which will lead to real deaths of real citizens. These two decisions by arrogant federal judges should be reversed on appeal.

Furthermore, people who are concerned about the cost and damages from illegal aliens should push the candidates for president to answer two questions:

"Who's in charge of America?" And "Would you appoint federal judges who would steal the right of self-government from cities, states, and the Congress of the United States?"

For more than two decades I have preached the doctrine, like a voice crying in the wilderness, that the judicial appointments of a president may be more important than anything else that he or she does. That's because judges last for life, whereas presidents are gone in eight years, maximum.

Now, citizens of the U.S. are beginning to see the point. Ever since the Kelo case...

Top:
Highlands Playhouse
ANNOUNCES

$5 off ticket prices
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and Talley’s Foley

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Dr. Henry Salzarulo
Feedback is encouraged. email: hsalzarulo@aol.com

ANOTHER VIEW

Rear view mirror talisman

For years, may be as long as there have been rear view mirrors, people have used the support post as a hanger. Maybe not in Connecticut, but around here, for sure. Even in New England, Big Dog donors probably hang their “Reserved Parking” ticket over the mirror. Lizzie won’t let me do even that. She just wants to flash it to the cop in the parking lot.

Oversized fuzzy dice were once a favorite. I don’t see many dice anymore. Dream catchers are very popular and have a central opening for catching dreams, which on dreamless days provide visibility, which is good at 70 miles per hour. I’d hate to look at an onrushing 18-wheeler through a curtain of dyed chicken feathers. I never actually touched the dice, but they looked soft enough, so they are probable no more dangerous than a dream catcher in the event of a sudden deceleration such as contact with a tree or wall. I miss the fuzzy dice the way I miss ’57 Chevys. They recall my youth. I’ll bet they are still available at those super-sized truck stops, the ones with showers and private dining areas for truckers, a complete selection of designer mud flaps, and about 100 diesel pumps.

I don’t know if you have ever smelled one of those little air fresheners that dangle from a string under the mirror. I smelled one once, and once was enough. Bull was a much smaller boy. We had stopped for a milk shake. He was in the front passenger seat, which Lizzie says is impossible narrow space. I called Bull, who had a smaller hand, but a weaker stomach. He denied responsibility and refused to help. Then I sprayed a gallon or so of Febreze into the crack without noticeable improvement. I attached a rag to a coat hanger, changed it frequently and drew it back and forth, the way woodsman used to draw a saw across a tree. I doused the rag in several different cleaning solutions, hoping at least to dilute the ripening milk, if not remove it. I considered asking the dealer to remove the seat. The detail guy hung a “Closed” sign in his window. It is no mystery how he knew I was in the neighborhood.

Finally I bought an air freshener, a piece of pressed cardboard shaped like a pine cone and impregnated with synthetic pine scent, or cinnamon, or something. It seemed innocent enough, as long as it was hermetically sealed in plastic. I was delighted to have an excuse to finally hang something from my mirror without loss of social standing. I opened it. It was at least as bad as the milk shake and burned my eyes, as well. Those things don’t just cover up the smell, they work by destroying the nerves in your nose. I gave up after that. I left the windows down and eventually noticed it less and less, until I convinced myself that the stench was gone. Lizzie routinely corrected me and Bull refused to ride in the car again. He preferred our other vehicle, a beat up Ford F-350 with serious mold issues.

That was the extent of my personal experience with things hanging from mirrors. I admit that I did hang the pine tree, and left it overnight, hoping that the two awful orders would somehow eliminate each other. I still notice rear view mirror art, and have already mentioned dream catchers, which allegedly originated with native Americans, but which I suspect came from China, by way of Stuckeys. Tassels from the high school mortar boards are popular, and when kids start going steady, they let them dangle in perpetual harmony. I don’t think many college graduates use their mirrors to display school pride unless they are South Carolina Game Cocks. I’ve seen bandanas in various colors. Sun glasses are a popular item, although I think they would be more effective if hung over the ears instead of the mirror. I’ve seen ID badges and menus from Italian restaurants. Is there no limit to man’s need to express himself?

Recent immigrants hang rosaries and religious icons. I drove up beside a low-rider pick-up and saw the Virgin Mary swinging under the mirror. “My God,” I thought. “What kind of people would Lynch Jesus’ Mother?” I considered calling 911, and when the dispatcher asked my emergency, shouting “This is supposed to be a Christian nation. They’ve hung the Virgin from a mirror.” The inside of
Like it or not, God is in the scenario

I want to start by saying that what follows is intended to be historical, not philosophical. However, since this is a point-of-view column, the historical facts presented will undoubtedly reflect my POV.

Without being dismissive of the Native American, my story starts with the arrival of Europeans to our shores. They were Englishmen who fled their homeland to escape the confining traditions of the Church of England. First, they went to Holland, and after several years, decided that wasn’t the place to “plant their flag” and set out for America on the Mayflower. So the first settlement consisted of people striving for religious freedom.

As the colonies sorted themselves out, the churches were forming learning institutions. Among them were Harvard (Puritan), William & Mary (Anglican), Yale (Congregational), Columbia (Anglican), Brown (Baptist), Rutgers (Dutch Reformed) and Dartmouth (Congregational). So the beginning of our system of higher education had a strong religious influence.

America’s first step toward independence was the meeting of the First Continental Congress in Philadelphia in 1774. It was opened with prayer which begins, “Our Lord, our Heavenly Father, high and mighty King of Kings, Lord of Lords, who dost reign and from thy throne behold all the dwellers upon the earth, and look down in mercy, we beseech thee, upon these American States who have fled to Thee from the rod of the oppressor, and thrown themselves upon Thy gracious protection, desiring to be henceforth dependent only upon Thee.”

So the first step of the formation of our Federal Government began with prayer.

The Declaration of Independence includes “We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by the Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness…”

As the Constitutional Convention considered the document which would guide our country, Benjamin Franklin said to those assembled, led by George Washington, “I have lived, sir, a long time, and the longer I live, the more convincing proofs I see of this truth: that God governs the affairs of man. And if a sparrow cannot fall to the ground without His notice it is probable that an empire can rise without His aid.”

Every state constitution acknowledges God as the ultimate ruler. The preamble of North Carolina’s Constitution reads, “We the people of the State of North Carolina, grateful to Almighty God, the Sovereign Ruler of Nations, for the preservation of the American Union and the existence of our civil, political and religious liberties, and acknowledging our dependence on Him for the continuance of those blessings to us and our posterity, do, and for the more certain security thereof, and for the better government of this State, ordain and establish this Constitution.

Within the Supreme Court building, where the highest court in the land convenes, The Ten Commandments are displayed in three different settings. Our National Anthem concludes, “Of thus be it ever, when free men shall stand, between their loved home and the war’s desolation; Blest with victory and peace, may the heavn rescued land praise the Pow’r that had made and preserved us a nation! Then to conquer we must, when our cause it is just. And this be our motto, “In God is our trust!” And the star spangled banner in triumph shall wave o’er the land of the free and the home of the brave!”

Abraham Lincoln, concluded his immortal Gettysburg Address, “...that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom and that government of the people, by the people, for the people shall not perish from the earth.” In 1954, Congress liked the phrase “under God” so much they included it in the Pledge of Allegiance. At that time, President Eisenhower said, “In this way, we are reaffirming the transcendence of religious faith in America’s heritage and future. In this way we shall constantly strengthen those spiritual weapons which forever will be our country’s most powerful resource in peace and war.”

So as our country and society is...
I went to the health fair at the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital a couple of weeks ago and, among other things, heard Dr. Patti Wheeler discuss breast cancer prevention. Sure I’ve heard about self-exams and mammograms and how important they are and blah-blah-blah.

Then Dr. Wheeler pulled out a box filled with different size balls and she really got my attention. The balls ranged from a pearl the size of a tiny baby pea to a gold-size marble. The smallest one was an example of the kind of tumor that can be detected in a repeat mammogram, and the largest was an example of the kind of tumor found in women who never have mammograms or do self-tests.

It was obvious the difference in size was life and death, and the difference was also a small amount of preventive care.

I am a firm believer in preventive care. I eat a very healthy diet, I try to keep fit, I have my teeth cleaned twice a year. Yet I couldn’t remember the last time I had had a mammogram. I’m 49; I should have one every year.

And I never do a self-breast exam. Once when my doctor asked me if I did a self-exam I told the truth and said, “No.” She laughed and said that was the only thing I had ever told her the truth — women always answered that question affirmatively and she could tell that most of them were lying.

So I called the hospital and scheduled a mammogram. For you men out there still reading, a mammogram is a strange experience. You stand in front of a device that squeezes your breast like a pancake and you hold your breath while pictures are taken.

When I got to the hospital I discovered I had been eight years since I had last been there. After my mammogram the technician came back into the room with the news that the radiologist had seen something he wanted me to come back for a sonogram.

I felt afraid but mostly I felt mad at myself for being so careless. I also reassured myself that doctors order tests to rule things out, not just to confirm the worst.

The next day I went in for the sonogram. I craned my neck so much to see the monitor the technician turned it so I could watch. Most of the time the screen was filled with what looked like a densely interconnected network of white fibers. But as the technician worked in a specific area, obviously looking for something, all of a sudden a dark circle appeared. Ominously, she clicked on the screen to mark the circle’s boundaries. She moved on and another circle appeared, then another. I looked over at my husband at this point and wordlessly said, “I guess this is it.”

The technician must have sensed my unease because she said, “Just because I am marking them doesn’t necessarily mean something’s wrong.”

Not long after the test I discovered that what she had found were benign cysts, a common feature in breasts. I felt I had been given a reprieve. One thing I know for sure: I won’t be missing another mammogram.

When I left the hospital I also felt like asking every woman I met when her last mammogram was.

Here’s a little information I found at the American Cancer Society website:

From left: pearl is found in a repeat mammogram, BB found in a routine annual mammogram, green bead is the average found in women who regularly practice self-breast exams, silver bell is found in women who sometimes practice self-exam, and the large green marble is found in women who rarely or never do self-exams.

While pictures are taken.

From left: pearl is found in a repeat mammogram, BB found in a routine annual mammogram, green bead is the average found in women who regularly practice self-breast exams, silver bell is found in women who sometimes practice self-exam, and the large green marble is found in women who rarely or never do self-exams.
Dozens of supporters headed to the Bascom-Louise Gallery Monday evening, July 23, to hear Highlands native Reuben Cox speak about his upcoming photography book. Cox is the first recipient of the gallery’s Emerging Artists Grant, and his book, “The Work of Joe Webb,” showcases the extant log homes constructed by the late Webb in Highlands in the 1920s and 30s. The book is being published by the nonprofit Center for American Places, but Cox must raise $20,000-plus to produce the book and offset the cover price. All funds raised for the gallery’s Emerging Artists Grant will go toward the book’s production and design - and are fully tax-deductible. To view Cox’s photography, stop by the gallery. His works are included in the Way Down South: Southern Photography exhibit on display through Aug. 16. For more information on how to support Cox’s book, call the gallery’s business office at (828) 526-0207.

Local's work showcased in book
Recentley the county approved a referendum for a $64 million bond issue which will come to a vote this fall. If it passes with voters approval, this money will be used primarily for educational capital construction projects. Some of the money will be used for recreational uses and that is where Highlands comes in. The Hudson library will benefit with either new construction or major renovation. Three million dollars has been allotted for that purpose. There is also money for a ball field on Buck Creek Road near Highlands. The county elected to go the bond route instead of raising taxes past the revenue neutral rate of 24.5 cents. One way or another these important items must be paid for.

The county commissioners must be commended on the way they went about deciding how much was to be asked for in the bond issuance. They worked long and hard to come up with a number which could be submitted to the public fairly and honestly. We hope the commissioners will continue to strongly consider the real needs of the Highlands community in their decisions. They are many as we too struggle with our many capital improvement projects and probably at some time in the future might also have to consider a bond issue.

The Riverwalk development is making good progress in bringing their difficulties with silt runoff under control. The roads are now completely paved and this will help tremendously. The water drainage under Highway 64 seems to be almost controlled although there is still some work to be done according to our Code Enforcement Officer. The state officials have also watched this closely and we can report that we are now on track to a successful completion of this very controversial silt producing project. Soon the sand bars created in the Cullasaja River from this project will be removed by the developer under the watchful eye of the state authorities and us.

Congratulations go to Highlands School in the hiring of an assistant Principal. Jim Draheim from the Gwinnett County, Ga., school system will be soon coming to Highlands and we welcome him. He is an experienced elementary school teacher who more recently has been an assistant principal in a middle school in Georgia.

I also want to give my thanks to all the area community clubs for supporting the Literacy Council with rounds of golf to support an important activity in our area. Golf packages will be auctioned at the Literacy Council fundraiser on Aug. 15. Most people do not realize how critical literacy training is in adults in our county since almost 50% of the population of Macon County is unable to read past an early elementary level. Breta Stroud is the executive director of the Literacy Council and we thank her for the work and training that goes on there.

Although the paving of the Dillard Road has generally gone very well there is still a good bit of work to be done. Many of the side roads off this main thoroughfare have yet to be smoothed out and the shoulders of the road need major attention. I have called DOT on several occasions regarding these points, and they assure me that soon all will be done. Once the inconveniences of traffic on the Dillard Road are over, we will be glad it was done.

In the meantime, I advise people who are driving on this road to be very cautious as they leave and enter the side roads, and take care especially not to catch your wheels over the shoulder until they are repaired. I have also asked DOT to give strong consideration to railings in many areas of this route that are treacherous with steep drop offs. In the future that should be a construction project which is necessary for the safety of our citizens.

... HIS & HERS from pg 5

(wher the Supreme Court ruled 5-4 that government can take your house to give your property to another private owner), citizens have been outraged about court arrogance and court disregard of the Constitution.

The Hazleton and Farmers Branch court decisions are two more examples of such anti-constitutional thinking. All candidates for president should be asked whether they approve of these decisions. That’s a quick way to assess whether they think citizens and elected officials, or unelected judges, should be in charge in America.

About the Author: John Armor practiced in the US Supreme Court for 33 years. John_Armor@aya.yale.edu He lives in the 11th District of North Carolina.
... CONSERVATIVE POV continued from page 7

around). Things eventually work their way out in a rather dark comic fashion, with strong family bonding, and it just goes to prove the old saying “A friend will help you move, a GOOD friend will help you move a body.”

OK, those familiar with Almodovar’s work will already have known that his work is dark, comic, strange, and impressive. Brilliant cinematography, music artfully woven into the story, and, as most of his stories are woman driven. (Men in his films are always in the minority, and have smaller roles, but in most of the others, they are at least alive). So, while there is some violence and dark content, it is somewhat of a chick flick, some female bonding, some mother-daughter story, some tears, and some real drama, all within the context of the (sometimes grim, sometimes cute) events.

The official selection at the Cannes Film Festival, the film won the Best Screenplay award, award for Best Actress, which was shared by the six stars of the film. In addition, the film received two nominations at the 2006 Golden Globes: Best Actress for Cruz as well as Best Foreign Language Film. Cruz also received Academy Award, BAFTA and Screen Actors Guild Award nominations for Best Actress. More along these lines are Y Tu Mama Tambien, Flower of my Secret, Like a Bride, Pan’s Labyrinth, and Boys on the Verge of a Nervous Breakdown, (sometimes grim, sometimes cute) events.

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The Storyline: Two sisters, Raimunda (Penelope Cruz) and Sole (Lola Dueñas) and Raimunda’s daughter Paula (Yohana Cobo) are back in their home town, tending to their mother’s grave, where they gradually come to the realization that she may not be quite as dead as they had thought (maybe).

After a few encounters with the not-so-departed mom, Sole and her possibly spiritual mom go to work together, in a hair salon, while they begin the discussion of what unfinished business Mom is back to address. Meanwhile, (Almodovar is well known for multiple story lines), Raimunda is busy dealing with a demanding job, raising a teenager, starting a new business, and stashing her husband’s body in the deep freeze (unlike Mom, this is one person who is unambiguously dead). A few more relatives have some troubles and triumphs, and they may (or maybe not) receive some help from a ghost or two. (For a small town, it seems to have more than it’s share of spirits running around). Things eventually work their way out in a rather dark comic fashion, with strong family bonding, and it just goes to prove the old saying “A friend will help you move, a GOOD friend will help you move a body.”

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Vote ‘Fred’ for mayor

Dear Editor,

In regards to Fred Wooldridge’s column “Why I’m Not Running for Mayor,” in the July 19 issue of this paper, both my wife and I enjoyed.

We fully agree with you in regard to prices in Highlands. That’s why Buck Creek Road gets a lot of usage from us as we go to Franklin to shop and eat.

Although we fall within the category of “summer people”, our house has been within our family for more than fifty years, and we well remember when Highlands was a pleasant, relaxing mountain town where the necessities of life could be obtained from a department store or dime store. Tasty meals could be obtained at a reasonable price, and Helen’s Barn or the Galax Theater provided evening entertainment.

I once heard from my parents that a local resident back in the 50’s said of Highlands that it was “tourists in the summer, taters in the winter.” Nowadays, who can afford to order the “taters,” much less find them listed in English on the menu.

Highlands once wasn’t all that pretty, but it had charm. Now it is pretty but has lost its charm.

Although you say that you are not running for mayor, I think I shall cast a shadow vote for you as the shadow mayor of Highlands. I feel that I can do this because the Town of Highlands invoked extraterritorial jurisdiction over my property even though most of the property owners within that area vehemently opposed the measure. The town council did it because they could get away with it under the law, and they are not elected by the residents of the ETJ nor by the votes of non-residents, such as I, who have no voting power. Since a shadow has no substance, and I have no voting substance, I am therefore a shadow person who can cast a shadow vote, and you are my choice for mayor.

Thank you for being outspoken.

Hunt Lewis
Norfolk, VA & Highlands

Ron Paul could be the answer

Dear Editor,

Ronald Reagan once said “protecting the rights of every least individual among us is basically the only excuse the government has for even existing.”

As the current election season continues to barrel forward and the political headlines, the answer is most clearly “no.” At least, not most politicians.

Many North Carolinians have never heard of Ron Paul. The 10-term Congressman and doctor from Lake Jackson, Texas, has delivered over 4,000 infants (never accepting Medicare or Medicaid, but at times doing the work for free instead), is consistently ranked as a Taxpayer’s Best Friend by the National Taxpayers Union, and constantly gives speeches on the House floor concerning the Constitution. He was a close friend of Ronald Reagan (one of the first Congressman to endorse him for the presidency) and Barry Goldwater.

In his more than 30 years in Congress, Ron Paul has not once voted to raise taxes or congressional pay. Of all the current and prospective Republican candidates, no individual more closely resembles the traditional values of the Republican Party, and the constitution, than Paul.

North Carolina Republicans should not feel constrained into having to vote for a pro-choice New Yorker, a Massachusetts Mormon or an Arizona flip-flopper. If the Republican Party is to stand any chance against the big government schemes of Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama, we must select a candidate who closely identifies with our values. What are our traditional values? Looking across history, they are most certainly not wire-tapping, secret prisons, and preemptive wars. The Republican Party gained power with Newt Gingrich to minimize the size of government, lower taxes, encourage free trade, and get the government out of our lives.

Unfortunately, they did the opposite and have paid the price.

It is time to elect someone who represents the political views of Ronald Reagan, Barry Goldwater and Dwight Eisenhower. A patriot who will not put our brave fighting men and women needlessly into harm’s way. A candidate who supports policies of economic growth for the middle class such as lower taxes and minimizing government. A man of outstanding character who has been married to the same woman for fifty years and opposes abortion. A veteran who will secure our borders. This is the type of Reagan Republican we need back in the White House.

I encourage North Carolinians of all parties to take a moment to investigate Ron Paul as a candidate on his website, www.ronpaul2008.com. In this great struggle against terror, amidst the many successes and setbacks, we must remember to lose sight of that which our fighting men and women are dying to protect: individual freedom. If we lose sight of that, the terrorists have most surely accomplished their goals.

We must elect a candidate who will accomplish their goals.

* See LETTERS page 16
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**... PINE STREET continued from page 1**

However, with the Labor Day weekend approaching, commissioners agreed to a temporary solution, the same temporary solution granted for Strain's Memorial Day arts & crafts fair. She can have the fair on Village Square property and house vendors in the square and in the 12 parking spots on Oak and Fifth streets associated with Village Square. Once again, the street will be closed from Pine Street Alley to Fifth Street and vendors will set up tents in the parking spaces.

During the public comment session of the Aug. 1 Town Board meeting, Strain asked the board to consider rezoning Pine Street Park to B-1 — a zone in which parking isn't required of businesses.

"I have been running up against obstacles since I started this," she said. "This is a venue to support our local artists and crafters and this is an issue that's going to come up again and again concerning the use of Pine Street Park."

She said parking requirements were waived for the Chamber of Commerce's culinary event which will cost $95 per ticket. "But I can't have a free arts and crafts show?"

Several merchants both from Village Square and nearby areas spoke in favor of the show at the park or at the very least, at Village Square.

"This brings business to that part of town and it's much needed," said Lloyd Wagner of The Bird Barn.

Tanji Armor, who manages Why Knot Knit in the square said the entire Village Square was behind the idea. "The fair over Memorial Day weekend brought a lot of business to our shops," she said.

Debbie Grossman of Fresser's Express agreed. "This benefits businesses, the town, everyone in the area and it's a lot of fun."

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**... SCHOOL continued from page 1**

con County School Board approves of the appointment at its Aug. 13 meeting.

A major curriculum change will involve the 7th and 8th graders who will have a choice of taking band all year or being in the Wheel — a series of six, six-week classes including Study and Test Taking Skills taught by A. Leatherwood; European Language and Culture taught by Patsy Wilson; Current Affairs taught by Chris Green; Creative Writing taught by Michele Lane; Vocational Arts taught by Dave Cashion; and Strategic Thinking taught by Steve Massey.

Principal Brian Jetter said these mini-courses will be exploratory, hands-on, project-focused classes. "The classes in the Wheel will introduce students to various academic and vocational topics, introduce them to the expectations of high school teachers, and give them interesting and fun assignments through which they can learn," he said.

Students in the sixth grade will be in a computer course the first semester, but they will have the choice of band or the Wheel the second semester, said Jetter.

The school's annual "Open House" is Wednesday, Aug. 22, from 4-6 p.m. Parents and students can meet teachers and administrators, find their rooms and both high school and middle school students can get locker assignments and rent locks for their lockers for $10. "We only allow school-issued locks on lockers," said Jetter.

Highschoolers can also purchase parking places for $25.

The week of Aug. 6 class assignments will be sent home to high school students. Guidance Counselor Tom Jessup will be on campus beginning Monday, Aug. 13 to help highschoolers and parents with scheduling needs and conflicts. "High School students schedule changes will not be made after August 25," said Jetter.

Dismissal this year will be at 2:55 instead of 3 p.m. School starts at 8 a.m.

The first day of school for teachers is Tuesday, Aug. 21.
... FLOOD PLAIN continued from page 1

Three slope movements - like what happened on Peak's Creek during Hurricane Ivan but on a smaller scale - also occurred last Thursday night.

Though no structures were affected, one slope movement affected travel on Leatherman Gap Road. Also, several streets and roads were temporarily blocked or travel was hindered by fallen trees or high water.

“At least five injuries can be attributed to the storm with most being minor,” said Emergency Services Director Warren Cabe. “Residents are reminded that isolated thunderstorms can bring damaging wind, lightning and heavy rainfall. If you live in a flood prone area, you should monitor your local media sources for flash flood watches and warnings during periods of intense rainfall. Although this area has been affected by hurricanes, isolated severe thunderstorms can sometimes produce as much damage as remnants of hurricanes like Frances and Ivan when they pass through the area.”

Last week’s weather event and the subsequent damage highlights the need for a current flood plain map and ordinance, an issue currently before the county commission.

“This event reminds us of how important it is that we have common-sense flood plain regulations that keep homes back from the streams and rivers and above the flood waters,” said Guffey. “The new draft flood plain ordinance that the Watershed Council has produced does just that. It’s designed to protect homeowners in the floodplains and adjacent property owners from flood damage as well as the taxpayers who ultimately bear the burden of providing emergency services and disaster relief.”

Cabe, whose emergency crews experienced the devastation and loss of life at Peak’s Creek first-hand and who responded last Thursday, said people moving into the area don’t know about the dangers of flooding in the mountains.

“Macon County went through a period of years where flooding wasn’t a serious concern but when you look back in history to the late ’60s and early ’70s Macon County was hit by some devastating floods that would be much more serious now due to where people are building homes,” said Cabe. “The more we fill and build near waterways the more we alter the floodways and it is very important that we maintain up-to-date flood plain maps matched with a sensible flood plain ordinance to prevent any unnecessary loss of life or property.”

... LETTERS continued from page 16

‘Fred’ ranting is stupid and foul

Dear Editor,


If you can’t breathe up here in Highlands from November to May, why do you even bother to come up here the other five months and pollute this beautiful mountain air with your stupid foul ranting breath anyway?

Is the Highlands’ Newspaper so desperate to fill its pages that it has to print your nonsense?

I really don’t think that the residents of Highlands should be responsible for providing housing for all the illegal immigrants, mostly Hispanics, that are now bused in from Georgia, or Franklin. Once here they will want more free services and all the rights of citizens, while all the time saving their money so they can go back to Mexico someday.

Oh well, only three more months and you can go breathe somewhere else.

Roger Jensen

... THANK YOU’S continued from page 16

Auction a great success

Dear Editor,

The Scaly Mountain Women’s Club was thrilled with the success of their fourth annual auction and bake sale held Friday, July 20 at the Community Center. With each auction the proceeds have increased - this auction being by far the most successful. The money raised is used for scholarships given to local students as well as donations to many area charities.

Faye Bellwood and Karen Muns, Auction Chairmen, said that the success of the auction can be largely attributed to the generous support of the local business community as well as individuals who support the work of the club. A big thank you goes to Brian Snyder from Clayton for being the auctioneer for four years.

It is with much appreciation that the Scaly Mountain Women’s Club acknowledges the businesses which contributed to the success of the benefit event. A heartfelt thank you goes to the following donors: Bags on Main, Bear Mountain Outfitters, Bedroom & Bath Design, Best of the Bunch Florist, Brick Oven Pizza, Christmas Tree on Hill, Colonel Mustards, Cosper Flowers, Custom House, Cyprus Restaurant, Cyranos Bookshop, Desire, Dry Sink, Dusty Rhodes Superette, Fireside Restaurant, Golden China Restaurant, Highlander, Highlands Newspaper, Highlands Office Supply, Jolie’s of Highlands, Julianna’s, Katy’s on Main, Kelsey House Restaurant, Lakeside Restaurant, Laurel Magazine, Little Flower Shoppe, Log Cabin Restaurant, Middlecreek Barn, Moment in Time Photography, Mountain Heritage Mountainique, Nick’s, Old Edwards Inn, On the Verandah, Paolletti’s Restaurant, Peak Experience, Pizza Place, Pro Nails, Robert A. Tino Gallery, Rosenthal’s, Spoiled Rotten, Stone Lantern, Summer House, Suzette’s Boutique, Sweet Treats, Taylor Barnes Spa/Salon, Tin Roof, Twigs, Village Boutique, Viva, Wift’s End, and Wolfgang’s Restaurant.

The thank you would not be complete without mentioning Cabe Realty in Scaly Mountain. All of the programs for the auction were printed at Cabe Realty by their very capable secretary, Carol Nix. Cabe Realty (Joe and Becky Simmons) are the sponsors of all six of the Scaly Mountain Women’s Club pancake breakfasts. They buy all the supplies, so that every penny of the proceeds from the breakfasts can go to scholarships and other community needs.

The Scaly Mountain Women’s Club could not have done the auction without the donations of the merchants and the publicity so generously given by the Highlands’ Newspaper, The Highlander and the Laurel Magazine. Thank you so much for your continued support.

Betty Bandy
Scaly Mountain

... THANK YOU’S continued from page 16

At the August county commission meeting, commissioners adopted a moratorium on RV park construction in the floodplain, but the proposed ordinance addresses more than just RVs.

“We hope to get the new ordinance on the commission agenda soon,” said Guffey.

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Highlands, NC
Dear Editor,

Walls have a long history in the course of human events, and have served various purposes.

The Roman Emperor Hadrian erected his wall across Britain to keep those rabble-rousing Picts and Scots in check.

The ancient Chinese built one of astonishing length and bulk to discourage the constantly invading barbarians from the North from getting in.

The Communists built a three-part wall through the city of Berlin to keep their people from getting out. (No one wanted to get in.)

The wall between Gaza and Israel was built to keep the Palestinians in and overzealous foreign agitators out.

A wall between Mexico and the U.S. southern border is being discussed to stem the tide of illegal immigrants flooding into this country.

And I am personally considering building an underground wall beneath my garden in an effort (futile, no doubt) to outwit the moles and voles who obviously hold doctorate degrees in perseverance and evasion.

But it is this contemplation of walls that leads me to propose a possible solution to the visual insult of Satulah South viz., a wall. Let’s build a wall all the way around it. It would be an “esthetic” wall, because anything would look better than what we see now. It would not be a wall to keep anybody out. (And, like East Berlin, who would want to get in?) It would be a wall to relieve the aesthetic stress experienced by passers-by.

We could espalier apple trees all along it, or cover it with sweet autumn clematis which would not only improve its looks, but also its smell. We could hire an architect to make it look like an ancient stone viaduct, or maybe an artist could paint a trompe l’oeil mural on it to make it look better than what we see now. It “aesthetic” wall, because anything would look better than what we see now. It would not be a wall to keep anybody out. (And, like East Berlin, who would want to get in?) It would be a wall to relieve the aesthetic stress experienced by passers-by.

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Help me totally eliminate ANY development on 21 acres in the Chattooga Wild & Scenic River areas including the headwaters of Lick Log Creek. Also help me ensure decreased housing density on this knob on Cowee Mountain - visual to so many in Highlands and Cashiers.

www.cowee-chattooga.com

... LETTERS continued from page 13

pursue a humble, defensive foreign policy. One who will bring our fighting men and women home to protect us here, not in Iraq, Afghanistan or Iran.

To quote another great Republican president, Dwight Eisenhower, “Preventive war was an invention of Hitler. Frankly, I would not even listen to anyone seriously that came and talked about such a thing.”

As the only Republican candidate who took that advice seriously and opposed the war in Iraq, let’s give Ron Paul a chance.

Danny Crane
Highlands

Help me ensure decreased housing density on this knob on Cowee Mountain - visual to so many in Highlands and Cashiers.

www.cowee-chattooga.com

Dear Editor,

We would like to thank the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital, CEO Ken Shull, all the physicians, Skip Taylor and the rest of the hospital staff for the wonderful Healthy Living Fair they invited the community to on July 14. It was very evident that a lot of time and energy had gone into preparing for the Fair as it was so well planned and well organized with informative displays, lectures and demonstrations.

Everyone in attendance appeared to be having a good time and gained a lot of knowledge in order to live a healthier lifestyle. Not only were there door prizes and handouts but also samples of lots of healthy refreshments. “Thank you once again to all at the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. For those who didn’t attend the Fair, you don’t know what you missed!”

Judith Chiles and Darlene Scott
Highlands

How blessed we are to live in this community

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We want to graciously thank everyone in the community. Everyone has come together and helped us so much during this trial in our lives. The BBQ benefit was such a blessing.

Thank you to EVERYONE that had a part in it. Jason and I are still overwhelmed by all the love and support.

Thank you for allowing God to use each one of you to bless us in a way we never thought was possible. All things are possible when everyone has such loving and open hearts.

Thank you for being a part of His plan.

Love and God Bless.

Jason and Kelly Woods
Highlands

‘Wellness Fair’ a gift

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... LETTERS continued from page 13

us thing we were looking through the woods, or even at Nick’s old restaurant. The possibilities are endless and should be investigated.

Anyway, it’s just a suggestion.

Alice Nelson
Highlands

• See LETTERS page 15

• Thank You’s •

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• See THANK YOUS page 15
**SPRITITUALLY SPEAKING**

Entertainment or worship?

Todd Struble
Senior Pastor
Highlands United Methodist Church

In his book, “The End of Words,” Richard Lischer – Professor of Preaching at Duke Divinity School – writes about the pitiful condition of many sermons delivered on Sunday mornings. He talks about how he calls the “gospel of technology” and how “light shows, videos, and PowerPoint presentations that accompany the Sunday sermon represent a fundamental lack of confidence in the spoken word of God.”

I once preached what I guess is called a PowerPoint sermon. I spent more hours than I’ve ever spent on a sermon, typing out my necessary points about the devotional life of a Christian on 19 different slides. Using different colored backgrounds for each slide and all those bullet points, I was so proud of myself.

When it came to actually preaching that sermon, however, it bombed. At least I thought it did. It tanked because of a fundamental flaw inherent in PowerPoint preaching as noted by Lischer. “When the brain is asked to multi-task by listening and watching at the same time, it always quits listening.

It’s not just that. The Bible was, first and foremost, intended to be a spoken word. “The Bible witnesses to a complex relationship between God and the world,” writes Lischer, “one that includes ambiguity, suffering, and hope. Its profound questions of meaning cannot be answered by an ordered series of talking points.”

Yeah, how would a preacher use a series of bullet points to speak to David’s prayer for forgiveness or Job’s deep questions of suffering or the Lord’s cry from the cross? Lischer’s question is “What would Martin Luther’s ‘I Have a Dream’ speech look like in PowerPoint?”

The basic problem is that too many go to church today to be entertained. Grand hymns expressing profound theology have been replaced by Jesus jingles which congregations sing until they’re hoarse. Video projectors and screens allow parishioners to sit comfortably in padded folding chairs as they read the points of the pastor’s sermon. Robes and vestments have been replaced by golf shirts and flashy suits so that preachers blend in with the crowd.

Call me “old-fashioned” or “out-of-touch,” but I just cannot find any evidence in the Bible for worship as entertainment. It was some serious business back in those days, what with scrolls of Scripture being unfurled and handled with care and angels hovering in the sanctuary and Psalms sung word-for-word.

Even in those first churches there was a sense of reverence in the Lord’s Supper and Paul reminded the new converts of the need for orderly worship. The worship was supposed to be holy, set-apart from the everyday world. I’m not sure you can achieve that sense of holiness with PowerPoint sermons and Jesus jingles and sipping coffee before you pray.

Do you come to church to be entertained? Or do you come to worship the holiness of the Lord?

**PLACES OF WORSHIP**

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.

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. Erbelding, 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

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints
NC 28 N. and Pine Ridge Rd., (828) 369-8329
Rai Cammack, Branch President, (828) 369-1627

Christ Anglican Church
Rev. Cassady Office - 828-232-2120
Sunday: Holy Communion – 11 a.m.
(Highlands Community Center on U. S. 64 next to the ballfield in Highlands
Monday: Evening Bible Study at 6 p.m.

Women’s weekly Bible study at 2 p.m.
Wednesday: Men’s Bible study at 8 a.m. at First Baptist Church
Pot Luck Lunch last Sunday of each month.

Christian Science Services
Sunday 11 a.m.
Wednesday testimony meeting 7 p.m.
Study room open Tuesday 2-4 p.m.

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)
www.cbchighlands.com • 526-4685
3645 U.S. 64 east, Highlands
Sundays: 9:30 a.m. Sunday School; 10:45 Worship;
Tuesdays: 10 a.m. Women’s Bible Study

Women’s Studies: 6:15 – Adult choir
(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 throughout the week, see our website or call for more info.

Episcopal Church of the Incarnation
Sundays: 8 A.M. Holy Eucharist (Rite I) Chapel
8:30 A.M. - Holy Eucharist (Rite I) Chapel
9:30 A.M. – Breakfast; 9 A.M. - Sunday School
10:30 A.M. Holy Eucharist (Rite II)

Sunday Service on Channel 14 at 10:30 A.M.

Monday: 4 A.M. Women’s Cursillo Group

Tuesday: 8 A.M. Men’s Cursillo Group
4:30 PM. Education for Ministry

Wednesday: 6:30 AM. Choir Practice

Thursday: 10 A.M. Holy Eucharist (Chapel)
10:30 A.M. Daughters of the King

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

First Alliance Church of Franklin
Rev. Mitch Schultz, Pastor • 828-369-7977
Sun. Worship 8:30 & 10:45 a.m.; 6 p.m. (nursery provided)
Sun. school for all ages 9:45 a.m.
Wed. dinner 5 p.m. followed by children’s
Pioneer Club 6 p.m.; Junior & Senior Youth Group 6:30 p.m.;
Adult Bible Study & Prayer Meeting 7 p.m.

Small groups available throughout the week.
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
Mondays: 8 a.m. - Men’s Bible Discussion & Breakfast
Tuesdays: 10 a.m. - Seekers

HIGHLANDS ASSEMBLY OF GOD
Sixth Street
Sundays: School - 10 a.m.; Worship - 11

HIGHLANDS 7TH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH
Wednesday evening prayer & Bible Study
Call Lloyd Kidder at 526-9474

HIGHLANDS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Senior Pastor Todd Struble; Asst. Pastor Mike Harris
526-3376
Sun.: school 9:45 a.m.; Worship 8:30 a.m. & 11 a.m.;
5 p.m. Youth Group
Wed: Supper; 6:15 - children, youth, & adults
(nursery provided for Wed. p.m. activities)
Thurs:12:30 - Women’s Bible Study (nursery)

HOLY FAMILY LUTHERAN CHURCH - ELCA
Chaplain Margaret Howell
2115 3rd & Spring Streets - 526-9741
Sundays: Worship/Communion - 10:30

LITTLE CHURCH OF THE WILDWOOD
Services at the Church in the Wildwood in Horse Cove. Sundays at 7 p.m. through Labor Day. Dress is casual. Old fashioned hymn-sing.

MACEDONIA BAPTIST CHURCH
8 miles south of Highlands on N.C. 28 S in Satolat
Pastor Jamie Passmore, (706) 782-8130
Sundays: School - 10 a.m.; Worship - 11

MOUNTAIN SYNAGOGUE
St. Cyprian’s 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.
Saturday Mass: 4 p.m.
(through last Saturday of October)

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
Creator of Planet Clothing’ at Acorns

On Saturday, Leslie Kassel works with a client during her trunk show of Planet Clothing – Japanese inspired silhouettes with all natural fibers for day and evening wear – at Acorns on Main Street.

Creator of The Good Earth Pottery at Hen House last weekend

Friday and Saturday, potter Richie Watts demonstrated his technique and signed pieces of his dinnerware for patrons at The Hen House on Main Street. Watts molds his clay into a unique, durable, colorful and practical line of dinnerware. Photos by Kim Lewicki
Satulah Village South Town Home Project Moves Forward

By Sara L. Foster

According to Old Edwards Development, LLC, the Satulah Village South Town Homes are ahead of the construction schedule which is a feat in itself on the mountain. Starting the week of August 6, the landscaping plan will begin with over a half of a million dollars to be spent. A berm (bank) will be built along Highway 28. In addition, tall trees and shrubbery will line the property providing privacy and reduce any street noise for residents. “Only the roof lines will be visible from the street,” comments Mario Gomes, CEO of Old Edwards Development.

Over and above the landscaping, the property will include stone retaining walls, water features and driveways with pavers. One only has to look at the other Old Edwards projects to know that Satulah Village South will be an elegant and appropriate addition to Highlands. Owners will enjoy the short walk to downtown with all the dining, shopping and activity options. All cottages are pre-wired for high speed Internet, cable, surround sound and security systems. They will also have the exclusive option of acquiring an Old Edwards Fitness membership that gives them access to the Fitness Center, Spa Amenities Building, Hummingbird Bar and outdoor heated mineral pool.

A show house onsite with interior design by Jean McRae will be available later this fall. Oxford Properties is the real estate firm representing the project. “Several homes are already under contract,” says Carole Oxford.

Oak Street Café

“Fabulous food, excellent service in a casual atmosphere”

Alex Kalinin along with Certified Executive Chef Charles Emrick C.E.C. invites you to experience “the jewel of downtown Highlands” Oak Street Café. With its bistro ambiance, New American Cuisine and “come as you are atmosphere” you are sure to make Oak Street Café a part of your life.

Chef Chuck has just relocated to the area from the Lake George region of NY, along with his wife and four children. “We have for many years wanted to live and raise our family in Western North Carolina, so after meeting Alex and seeing his vision for Oak Street Café, I accepted the position. I knew after my first interview that Oak Street Café was in a prime location with unlimited potential. I arrive at Oak Street Café with 25 years of foodservice experience that combined with Alex’s many years of experience produce a great management team.”

Oak Street has just introduced its summer menu for lunch and dinner and is open seven days a week for lunch and dinner. “When you have excellent service along with fabulous food it produces a winning combination, from all of us to all of you, welcome to Oak Street Café,” — Chef Emrick

Enter from Main Street or Oak Street.
... OUTDOOR continued from page 1

ed, except for merchandise which "is of such a nature that it ordinarily remains out of doors after business hours, such as produce, firewood, fertilizers or garden plants; such merchandise shall in no way obstruct a public walkway required by the North Carolina State Building Code."

But commissioners Dennis DeWolf and Hank Ross both said they didn't mind the display of merchandise outside shops. "I don't have a particular objection to people having elements of their business outside," said DeWolf. "I find the merchandising with price tags on it difficult. Perhaps if we didn't allow pricing and more of a suggestion of what is inside."

Ross said he researched eight towns including Asheville and Waynesville and couldn't find any ordinance prohibiting the display of merchandise outside. "I think merchants should be able to leave it out on their own property," he said.

Mayor Don Mullen agreed saying as long as it didn't obstruct pedestrian traffic he didn't mind either.

Lloyd Wagner, owner of The Bird Barn, who has displayed birdhouses and garden art in front of his shop at Falls on Main, recently had a $2,000 wooden bear stolen from outside his doors and since then brings such items into the store at night and takes them back out the next day.

However, as the ordinance is now interpreted, if merchandise is brought in at night for whatever reason, it can't be brought out the next day.

"Don't cripple the ability of merchants to be creative," said Wagner. "You can't knowingly do that to merchants of this town. If you do, the streets will dry up. Use wisdom in what you do."

He said it's no skin off the back of Town Board members if merchants go to the trouble to move their merchandise in and out each day. "Whether we take it in or out shouldn't be your concern. It's more work for us if we take it in and out."

Town Attorney Bill Coward spoke to the temptation of unguarded merchandise left out over night. Police Chief Bill Harrell said his department wouldn't be able to protect such property and that concerned him. But the mayor said that's a chance the merchants take.

Coward also said the board should decide what it wants and strengthen the language in the ordinance to reflect that.

After much discussion, the entire issue was sent to the Planning Board for review.

... POLITICS continued from page 23

Committee requesting specific changes to the bill and worked with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to make certain this was a Farm Bill for the 21st Century. I was glad to see many of my requests included in the final bill.

Specifically, this Farm Bill will provide a historic $1.5 billion in baseline budget funding dedicated to programs that directly benefit the fruit and vegetable producers across Western North Carolina. For the first time, specialty crops, the crops we grow in Western North Carolina apples, strawberries, blueberries, etc. will directly benefit from the Farm Bill.

Some of this increased funding for specialty growers will come from major additions to Section 32 funding. This program is used by the U.S. Department of Agriculture to purchase a variety of fruit, vegetable and tree nut products from American farmers. This year's Farm Bill contains mandatory HFRP funding of $585 million. This funding will be used to help private forest landowners and conserves.

For our rural communities the Farm Bill included strong economic development programs and will increase access to broadband internet access.

The Farm Bill invests in renewable energy by promoting the development of renewable fuel refineries a key step toward bringing more renewable fuels to market in America.

In addition to the Farm Bill and the 9/11 Commission Recommendations, the House also continued its work on the appropriations bills for Fiscal Year 2008. Two more appropriations bills were passed by the House the Commerce, Justice and Science Appropriations CJS and the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development Appropriations (Trans-HUD).

Both bills provided crucial funding for programs important to all Americans included in the CJS Appropriations bill was $725 million the COPS Program to support local law enforcement agencies, including $100 million for the "COPS on the Beat" hiring program, not funded since 2005. This funding will allow nearly 3,000 new police officers to be put on America's streets.

... OUTDOOR continued from page 1

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Lot 8   Mountain Cove II 4 Bdrm/5 Bth, 2687 sf    NOW $795,000
Lot 12  Crest Lodge      3 Bdrm/2 Bth/Bonus, 2946 sf    NOW $525,000

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Update From Raleigh

By Senator John Snow
50th District of NC

Everyone has a boss. They might be a strict boss, a nice boss, a mean boss, a punctual boss, or a laid back boss. For members of the legislature it was helpful this week to have an understanding boss. By strict definition the state legislature in North Carolina is a “part-time” legislature. This means that the legislature meets three or four days of every week so that the elected membership can continue to work in their regular jobs during the remaining days of the week. The legislature came into session on Monday of this week and looks to be ready to meet on Saturday to take up the state budget.

On Wednesday night an agreement was worked out between House and Senate negotiators about what would be in the final state budget. Thursday was spent working out final details and briefing the membership about what is in the budget. Needless to say, it takes a bit of time to read through the budget and to get it into a position to have it voted upon. However, we are on track to have the budget voted on either this weekend or early next week. Under the rules of the General Assembly the budget must be read or heard on three separated days. The first day the bill is simply read into the record. This means that the reading clerk can simply sit there and read the bill and then it is “read in.” On the second day, the bill is actually debated and then voted on. On the third day, the bill is debated again and If it passes this third time that the bill is engrossed and then sent to the Governor. Logically the bill could be read in on Friday, debated and voted upon on Saturday, and then voted on for a final time on Sunday. Fortunately, someone in the House had the foresight to write into the rules that the House cannot meet on Sunday so we won’t be meeting on that day. This Week - The Budget Agreement, The Landfill Agreement, Starting School, Wrapping Up

The Budget Agreement
You can find more information and the actual bill on the legislature’s website at http://www.ncleg.net

Medicaid Relief and Land Transfer Tax
Under the compromise plan the state would take over the counties’ share of Medicaid bills in exchange for a half penny of their sales tax revenues. Poorer counties, which tend to have higher Medicaid costs as a percentage of their budget, are projected to come out ahead in the deal. This is because Medicaid costs are expected to grow faster than the sales tax revenues. The counties will have the option to raise their sales tax by a quarter penny or their land transfer tax from .2 to .6 percent, but only through a voter referendum. As you know this is the one item that has been hotly debated this year and it could be the reason that some of the members of the General Assembly that would normally vote for the budget do not do so this time.

State Employees
Most state employees would receive a 4 percent raise. Judges, teachers, community college instructors, and university professors would receive a 5 percent raise. Retirees would receive a 2.2 percent cost of living increase.

State Health Plan
It appears that language in the budget will get rid of the traditional indemnity health insurance offered to state employees by the next fiscal year. A PPO plan will take over this health insurance aspect.

Taxes
The combined state and county sales tax rate is set to continue on as it has been at 6.75%. The income tax will decrease for top income tax bracket to 7.75%. The working poor would receive an earned income tax credit worth $45 million that allows for some recipients to receive more in a tax break than they would pay in income taxes, but the break would not exceed their overall tax burden. The state gas tax would be capped at 29.9 cents per gallon.

The Courts
A report I was reading earlier this year had an interesting finding in it. The report stated that the most interaction most people have with state government is through the court system. Be it through being a member of a jury, a traffic citation, or something else, it is the court system which touches more people on a daily basis than any other aspect of state government. For this reason the budget includes $37 million to pay for additional judges, prosecutors and court staff. This money will help to speed up the court process and help get people in and out of this system quicker.

Health Care
The budget provides around $7.3 million to expand government subsidized health insurance for children. Mental Health programs will receive an additional $20.5 million increase this year.

Lottery
The law that sets up how lottery revenues are allocated would be tweaked so that lottery officials can offer bigger prizes on scratch off tickets. This was one of the Governor’s key ideas in trying to get more people playing the lottery. Lottery playing performance has been well below the Governor’s initial projections.

Education
The budget agreement gives $60 million toward an expansion of the Learn and Earn program that provides financial aid to needy students so they can get a bachelor’s degree from a UNC system college without going into debt. In the midst of this the More At Four pre-kindergarten program would expand by $56 million and $37.5 million is provided in an effort to reduce class sizes.

The Landfill Agreement
The Senate passed a bill Friday to overhaul the state’s landfill regulations; days before a one-year ban on new landfill permits is about to expire. The state put a hold on permits last year because lawmakers were worried that privately owned regional landfills proposed in rural counties could make the state one of the nation’s top importers of garbage. The bill approved Friday would add a statewide surcharge on garbage and restrict locations of new landfills. We hope to keep our rural parts of the state free from other state’s trash. However, it looks like this bill is not a done deal. The House is considering a similar bill that extends the moratorium on new permits but gets rid of the proposal for statewide fees.

School Start
In a few years, fewer 4-year-olds will be able to start public kindergarten under a law legislators passed earlier this year. A bill that passed through the Senate earlier
**STATE & FEDERAL POLITICS**

this session has received approval by the House to begin increasing the minimum age at which children can begin school. Many of our teachers have been asking for this bill and numerous studies have shown that children younger than 5 or 6 years old often times hold back their classes from exploring the subject matter that they need.

Wrapping Up

The leadership has announced that Thursday, August 2 will be the last day of this long session. If you have any key legislation that you are working for, this is the week to do something about it.

The word from Washington

By Congressman Heath Shuler
11th District

Last week was an important week for our national security as the House passed the Conference Report for H.R.1, the Implementing the Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act of 2007, which has now gone to the President for his signature to make the bill a law. This conference report for H.R.1 finaly implements the recommendations of the bipartisan 9/11 Commission, which were released three years ago, to better protect America from terrorism. The conference report ensures that first responders have the equipment they need and strengthens efforts to prevent WMD’s from falling into terrorist hands. The measure also requires that all containers that enter the U.S. from foreign ports be scanned to ensure illegal and dangerous cargo is not entering our ports within five years. It also requires that all cargo placed on passenger airplanes receive a security screening within three years. These are common-sense steps that will make our country safer and Democrats and Republicans joined together to pass the conference report, 371-40.

Last week was also an important week for many of the farmers in Western North Carolina as the House of Representatives undertook the reauthorization of what is commonly referred to as the “Farm Bill.” The Farm Bill — officially H.R. 2419 the Farm, Nutrition and Bioenergy Act of 2007 — governs federal farm and food policy and is rewritten every five years. This year’s Farm Bill was remarkable for many reasons because of its promise to all of America’s farmers, its investment in rural economies, its protection of our lands, and its commitment to renewable energy resources. I wrote a letter to the Chairman of the Agriculture Committee.

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LIVE WITH EAGLES

Once you experience the views, you’ll never want to leave. Highlands Cove. It’s that spectacular. A mountain sanctuary 4,700 feet above the rest of the world. A 430-acre, master-planned residential community offering homesites, single-family homes, cottages and condominium homes. The site selection is exceptional: beautifully wooded, along the golf course, or high up on the mountain tops. The property is gated. There’s an 18-hole golf course. Tennis courts. A fitness center. A charming clubhouse and Peregrine at the Cove restaurant and bar. Come see us. We promise you a mountain high.

We’re located six miles east of Highlands on Highway 64. For information, visit the sales office adjacent to the entry gate. Or call us: 828-526-8128 or toll free 1-866-220-2209. Homesites range from $175,000 to $650,000. Single-family homes begin in the low $900,000’s. Condominium homes are priced from $695,000. Web site: www.highlandscove.com.

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On-going

- Live music every night at 7:30 p.m.
- and on Sunday at ... on the...restaurant.
- Nantahala Tennis Association: Meets Monday-Saturday, 9 a.m.
- Visit the Nature Center camps at the Nature Center. Please call
- Lodge and Restaurant on Flat Mountain Barn with Cy Timmons Wed-Sat 6 p.m. until.
- Hal Philips at the piano at Skyline Lodge and Restaurant on Flat Mountain Road Fri. & Sat. at 6 p.m.
- Register for summer's nature day camps at the Nature Center. Please call 526-2623 or visit the Nature Center webpage at www.wcu.edu/nbs.
- NA open meeting every Saturday at 7:30 p.m. of the ACC Satellite Group at the Graves Community Church, 242 Hwy 107 N. in Cashiers. Call 888-764-0365 or go to the website: www.ncmarna.org.
- Recreational Bridge 1 p.m. at the Rec Park. $3 per person.
- Step Aerobics at the Rec Park, 4-5 p.m., Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays. $5 per class.
- Yoga Classes at the Rec Park. Mondays and Wednesdays at 7:30 a.m. Bring your mat. $7 per person per class or $50 for a monthly pass. Call 526-4340.
- 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, various exercise classes. Call Jeanette Fisher at 528-526-1F1T.
- "The Circle of Life" support group continues at the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital at the Jane Woodward room 201. It is designed for anyone who has experienced the loss of a loved one. The group meets 10 a.m. until noon. For more information, call Barbara Buchanan at 526-1402 or Florence Flanagan at 743-2567.
- First Mondays
- Participate in your hospital by joining the Auxiliary of the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. Auxiliary meetings are held the first Monday of each month at 10 a.m. at the hospital.
- Every Monday
- Recreational Bridge 1 p.m. at the Rec Park. $3 per person.
- Every Tuesday
- Highlands Rotary Club meets at noon at the Highlands Conference Center.
- Weight Watchers meets at the Highlands Civic Center. Weigh-in is at 8:30. The meeting starts at 6 p.m.
- Women's Bible Study at 10 a.m. at Community Bible Church. Summer series on 1 & 2 Peter. All women are invited.
- Open Studio Night Figure Drawing: Informal instruction available for beginners. Bring your sketch pad or paint box for a leisurely session of figure drawing/painting. Cost is $12, $10 for "Friends" of the Gallery.
- Tuesdays and Thursdays
- Classical Yoga Beginner Level Class 8:15-9:30 a.m., 464 Carolina Way. Other classes available. Mats and blankets provided. $14 per single/$12 package rate.
- Every Wednesday
- Highlands Mountain Top Rotary Club meets at the Highlands Conference Center at 7:30 a.m.
- Every Third Wednesday
- As part of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Franklin's "Life-Span Learning Curriculum," there are "Wednesday Night Chautauquas" which are media-enhanced study sessions at the UU Fellowship Hall in Franklin. A $5 soup-supper will be served at 5:30 p.m. Study sessions will begin at 6:30 p.m. For more information call 828-524-6777 or 706-746-9964.
- Every Thursday
- At Main Street Inn, Lisa Price piano and vocals in the wine bar 6-9 p.m.
- Al-Anon Meetings, noon in the First Presbyterian Church basement at Fifth & Main Street.
- Every Saturday
- Live music at Cypress Restaurant in the Dillard Village Shopping Center at 9:30 p.m. $10 cover.
- Children’s classes ongoing at Bascom-Louise Gallery – cost is $5 per student. Mondays: For Homeschooers, classes are from 1-3 p.m. For 2nd to 5th graders, classes are from 3:15-4:15 p.m. Tuesdays: classes for pre-school are 11-11:30 a.m.; for kindergarten-1st grade, classes are 3:15-4:15 p.m. and for young adult independent study, classes are from 1-2:30 p.m.; Wednesdays classes are for middle school students from 3:15-4:15 p.m.
- Through Sunday, Aug. 12
- The Highlands Playhouse, “My Way.” Performances are Tuesday-Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sunday matinees are at 2 p.m. Call the Box office at 526-2695 for ticket information.
- Through Tuesday, Aug. 14
- Summer Art Camp is held at Bascom-Louise Gallery. To register, call 526-4949.
- Thursday, Aug. 2
- The free Zahner Lecture Series held at the Nature Center at 7 p.m. features Tom Wessel will present a slide presentation showing how to interpret forest history.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

Annual tour of historic homes transports visitors on journey through time

The Annual Tour of Historic Homes, sponsored by the Highlands Historical Society, will be held Saturday, August 4. This year’s tour offers a glimpse into how several generations, who have all loved Highlands, have lived and vacationed in this special mountain retreat.

General admission of $40 includes three unique homes in the Playmore/Bowery Road Historic District. For an additional fee of $40, this year’s Tour offers the rare opportunity for guests to see “Playmore,” the home built by the Ravenel family in 1879. The Ravenels were one of the first families to summer in Highlands.

...Acclaimed through the generations as Highland’s finest summer house, Playmore has long been a landmark in the mountain landscape. Located at the north end of Wolf Ridge the house offers a commanding view of Horse Cove Valley. In 1914, the J. Blanc Monroe family purchased Playmore and summered there until the property was sold this year to Judy and Bennett Kight. Playmore is still very much in its original state and the Knights are in the midst of lovingly restoring the home. No photography will be allowed inside the house...

The 1920 home of Robert Foreman, overlooking Ravenel Lake, takes you back in time to early Highlands. The home is now owned by Sarah Freeman and Adair Friedman. The upstairs rooms of this 1-1/2 story house were built without timbers. The boards separating the rooms were nailed to one another with no studs between, there being no need to make room for electrical wiring...

Sam Blount’s log cabin, nestled in the trees, is reminiscent of a tree house. It was designed by Mr. Blount and constructed by Tommy Chambers around 1990 using 200-year-old, square-hewn logs from an Amish bank barn from the Lancaster PA area. All timbers, some measuring 12” x 12” x 40”, had to be carried down a 150 yard trail, and all unused material carried out. The structure was built by hand the old fashioned way, as machinery could not be taken down the trail. The house is possibly the most dramatic and unique log structure in Highlands. From the large covered porch one has a magnificent view of Whiteside Mountain...

The Sidney J. McCarty home is located at the corner of Upper Lake and Bowery Roads. This one-story L-shaped granite house was built in the early 1950s by stonemasons Philo Neely and Lawrence Bryson. Present owner Robert Friedman has recently updated the house.

The Tour will run from 10 a.m. with the last shuttle leaving at 3:30 p.m. from the parking lot at Highlands Civic Center (Rec Park). Tickets may be purchased at Country Club Properties, Cyrono’s Web, Baco Bank, Highlands Country Club, or at the Rec Park on the day of the tour.

Funds raised by this event go to support the Historic Village, which is open each Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. throughout the summer.
**Great Performances’ to feature Spirituals**

The Episcopal Church of the Incarnation announces a new music series featuring world-class musicians free and open to the public on Sunday afternoon, Aug 5, at 4 p.m.

This series will present African American artists Bernice Hall, soprano, Darrell McGhee, tenor, and Lawrence Weaver at the piano in a program entitled “The Negro Spiritual” a legacy of overcoming.”

Hall, McGhee and Weaver are renowned African American artists with classical backgrounds as well as varied international opera careers.

Hall holds a bachelor’s and master’s degree in music and has sung leading roles with Capital City Opera, Phoenix Opera and American Opera.

McGhee, a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Morehouse College, has appeared as soloist with the Atlanta Symphony and toured Africa for the State Department appearing before the late Emperor Haile Selassie.

Weaver, also a graduate of Morehouse as well as the University of Michigan, was leading tenor for many years both here and abroad in Fletcher Wolfe’s Atlanta Chamber Opera performances. He later became Wolfe’s assistant director of the Atlanta Boys Choir. Weaver has been heard in Highlands on several occasions in the past and is widely acclaimed for both his pianos playing and singing.

This concert, which will be held at the Episcopal Church of the Incarnation, is part of the commitment by the church’s fine arts committee under the direction of Music Director Fletcher Wolfe to bring to the Highlands area musical artists of the highest caliber for those not able to afford the high ticket prices usually required for such artists.

Earlier in the month they presented Sergio Blazquez, famous opera singer from Germany, at PAC where seats were only $35. Not only was it a sellout crowd, but through the generosity of some patrons, $15,000 was raised to benefit the Highlands-Cashiers Community Care Clinic.

The next Great Performances Concert in September will present Robert Henry, one of America’s finest young concert pianists in a varied program of classical works to be performed on the church’s magnificent Schimmel concert grand piano.

**Coming to PAC ‘The Dappled Grays’**

Coming to PAC on August 4 at 7:30 p.m. is bluegrass band and powerhouse, “The Dappled Grays.”

After the release in 2000 of their first album, “In The Gait,” The Dappled Grays were named Atlanta’s “best bluegrass band” by Creative Loafing Magazine. Now the Dappled Grays are back with new personnel and a whole new approach. Their latest CD “Doin My Job” combines straight-ahead bluegrass, progressive jazz, blues sensibilities and top-flight songwriting with something to delight almost any listener.

Leah Calvert is the powerhouse vocal, mandolin player is Michael Smith, guitarist is Casey Cook and on banjo is Greg Earnest, on bass is Keith Morris.

Tickets are $15 with all proceeds benefiting PAC. Ray and Diane McPhail have sponsored the event. Call 526-9047 for reservations and ticket information.

**Upcoming Events**

**Hwy. 441, Franklin**

**August 3-9**

**THE BOURNE ULTIMATUM**
rated PG-13
Daily: (2), (4:20), 7, 9:20

**UNDERDOG**
rated PG
Daily: (2:10), (4:10), 7:10, 9:10

**THE SIMPSONS MOVIE**
rated PG-13
Daily: (2:15), (4:15), 7:15, 9:15

**I NOW PRONOUNCE YOU CHUCK AND LARRY**
rated PG-13
Daily: (2), (4:05), 7, 9:05

The 2007 Ruby Cinemas Free Summer Kids Movie Program shows at 9:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.
S.C. chef Craig Deihl of the Cypress Lowcountry Grill will lead a cooking class from noon to 2 p.m. The price of the cooking class is $79 per person. Refreshments will be offered at Chef Deihl’s evening book-signing at Cyrano’s Bookshop from 5-7 p.m.

• At Cyrano’s Bookshop, local author William Rawlings will autograph “Crossword” from 1-3 p.m. Also, Chef Deihl will sign copies of “Cypress” from 5-7 p.m.

• The Dappled Grays, Atlanta’s premier bluegrass band will perform at PAC at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are $15 and proceeds will benefit PAC. The concert is sponsored by Ray and Diane McPhail.

• Tour the Fisher Estate gardens 9:45 a.m. until 12:45 p.m. Tickets are $25 and reservations strongly suggested.

• The Episcopal Church of the Incarnation announces a new music series featuring world-class musicians free and open to the public on Sunday at 4 p.m. This series will present African American artists Bernice Hall, soprano, Darrell McGhee, tenor, and Lawrence Weaver at the piano in a program entitled “The Negro Spiritual” a legacy of overcoming.”

• Learn about bats at the Highlands Nature Center at 8 p.m. Cost is $5.

• At noon at the Hambridge Center Rabun Gap, GA, “Woven Textiles of Mary Hambidge and the Weavers of Rabun from the Collection of the Atlanta History Center” – Susan Neill. Free and open to the public. Call Debra on 706.746.7324 or visit our website www.hambridge.org for more details.

• “Go Figure” featuring 15 artists will open at Summit One Gallery on Saturday, Aug. 4 with an Artists’ Opening Reception from 5-7 p.m.

• The Episcopal Church of the Incarnation will benefit the Episcopal Church’s Outreach Programs, available at the church. Call 526-2968 ext. 202 9-4 Mon.-Fri.

• Johnny Webb Band performing at High Country Café. Clogging or square dancing runs from 6:45-7:30 p.m. Concerts run from 7:30-9 at Highlands School old gym at corner of Fifth Street and Pierson Drive. Weekly raffles and luminary sales are available. Funds raised support the American Cancer Society’s “Just for You”; survivors, strugglers, succumbed, servants and spared.

• At noon at the Hambridge Center Rabun Gap, GA, “Creativity in Later Life” – Dr. Eugene Bianchi. Free and open to the public. Call Debra on 706.746.7324 or visit our website www.hambridge.org for more details.

• Live music featuring the JW Band.

On stage at ITC Aug. 16-18 & 21-25

Opening August 16, at the Instant Theatre Company’s Studio on Main, the North Carolina Premiere of My Secret Weapon. This new play by Nashvillesplaywright Carol Caldwell looks at the private lives of recent first ladies. The title of the play originated with Jack Kennedy when he and Jacqueline Kennedy made their first triumphant trip to Europe and he began introducing himself as Jacqueline Kennedy’s husband. He called her “my secret weapon.” Each president has used this sobriquet at one time or another to refer to his own “little woman.”

The setting of the play is the White House. Caldwell has done her homework, and the script is consistent enough with our knowledge of the first ladies lives to be compelling. It is also chock-full of juicy speculation. My Secret Weapon could well be the first contemporary dramatic work exploring the lives of the first ladies in this manner.

Given the public’s perennial fascination with White House affairs, of every kind, theatre going audiences will be mesmerized by this play.

Well known playwright Beth Henley who wrote among many other hit plays, Crimes of the Heart, The Miss Firecracker Contest, Impossible Marriage, has this to say about My Secret Weapon: “This play MUST be seen … it is brilliant, subtle and searing.”

My Secret Weapon plays August 16-18 and 21-25 at 8 p.m. in the ITC’s Studio on Main, 310 Oak Square, Main Street, Highlands. For reservations call box office at 828-342-9197 or www.instanttheatre.org. My Secret Weapon is Sponsored in part by Bill Nellis of Nellis Communities.
at High Country Cafe at 5 p.m. with a spaghetti dinner for $7 continuing with the band, dancing, and an auction. Donations will be accepted for the American Cancer Society. The evening is sponsored by the “Just for You” Relay for Life team. Everyone is invited!

Monday, August 13
- Six-course wine dinner at Wolfgang’s Restaurant & Wine Bistro at 6 p.m. Featuring Oakville Ranch Wintery. Call Leah at 526-3807 for reservations.

Wednesday, Aug. 15
- Loving Literacy Premier Gala. The Highlands Community Players will partner with the Literacy Council to present a special performance of “How the Other Half Loves.” The gala begins with wine and hors d’oeuvres then moves to the hilarious comedy and ends with coffee and dessert and a special drawing. Tickets are $125 per person and all proceeds benefit the Literacy Council. Call 526-9938 for ticket information.

Thursday-Saturday, Aug. 16-18
- The North Carolina Premier of “My Secret Weapon” by Carol Caldwell is at 8 p.m. at the Instant Theater. For reservations and tickets call 828-342-9197.

Thursday-Sun., Aug. 16-19
- How the Other Half Loves, will be held at the Martin-Lipscomb Performing Arts Center (PAC), Chestnut Street, Highlands. Performances will be 7:30 p.m. Thursday-Saturday and 2:30 p.m. on Sunday.

Thursday-Sun., Aug. 16-26
- The Highlands Playhouse, “Talley’s Folly.” Performances are Tuesday-Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sunday matinees are at 2 p.m. Call 526-2695.

Thursday, Aug. 16
- Way Down South: Southern Photography exhibit is held at the Bascomb-Louise Gallery (inside the Hudson Library), school, Covington, and Gregoria and a consortium of outstanding photographers, including Highlands’ own Rebekin Cox. Admission is free. For more information, call (828) 526-4949.

Friday-Sunday, Aug. 17-19
- At Acom’s, Juliska Trunk Show. Juliska’s rich European heritage spans six centuries and combines historic shapes with imaginative new interpretations of glass and ceramic for home decor and tableware.

Friday, August 17
- The ADP1 Alumni luncheon will be at 11:30 a.m. at Wildcat Cliffs Country Club. For more information, call Emily Buskirk at 526-6648.

Saturday-Sunday, Aug. 18-Sept. 2
- 2007 Cashiers Designer Showhouse, two-week event at The Lodges at Millstone, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily, except Sunday, when the House is open noon to 4 p.m. There will be a shuttle from the Cashiers Community Center to the Lodges. Tickets can be purchased before you board a van or at the showhouse for $25.

Saturday, Aug. 18
- At Cyrano’s Bookshop, author Anne Sharpsteen with Vivian Cash sign “I Walk the Line” 1-3 p.m.

Sunday, Aug. 19
- The Nantahala Hiking Club will take an easy two mile hike on the Albert Mountain Trail. Meet at Westgate Plaza in Franklin (opposite Burger King) at 2 p.m. Drive 44 miles round trip. Bring a drink, a snack if you wish, and wear sturdy, comfortable shoes. Hikes are limited to 20; reservations are required. Call leader Kay Coriell, 369-2860, for reservations or more information. Visitors are welcome, but no pets please.

Tuesday-Saturday, Aug. 21-25
- The North Carolina Premier of “My Secret Weapon” by Carol Caldwell is at 8 p.m. at the Instant Theater. For reservations and tickets call 828-342-9197.

Thurs.-Sun., Aug. 23-26
- How the Other Half Loves, at the Performing Arts Center on Chestnut Street, Highlands. Performances will be 7:30 p.m. Thursday-Saturday and 2:30 p.m. on Sunday.

Wednesday, Aug. 22
- Open House at Highlands School from 4-6 p.m. Parents and students can meet teachers and find rooms, meet administrators, HS students can purchase parking places ($25) and rent locks for lockers for $10 – only school issued locks will be accepted for the American Cancer Society. The evening is sponsored by the Highlands Community Players. Call 526-1434.

Thursday, Aug. 23
- Caymus Vineyards Wine dinner at First Presbyterian Church of Highlands. Performances are on Aug. 17, 18, and 19. Pre-registration is required for all screenings. People can sign up by calling the hospital at 526-1434.

Friday, Aug. 24
- The opening night performance is 8 p.m. Refreshments to follow. It’s free but pets please.

Saturday, Aug. 25
- Call 526-9938 for ticket information. Visitors are welcome, but no pets please.

Wednesday, Aug. 29
- How the Other Half Loves is a witty comedy-farce, intertwining the lives of having the homes of two couples on stage at the same time, a situation ripe for sparkling dialogue and physical comedy. Complicated affairs of the heart are going on among the husbands and wives, with a bewildered third couple drawn into the confusion.

Saturday, Aug. 31
- The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a moderate-to-strenuous 4-mile hike to Whiteside Mt. and the Devil’s Courthouse. Meet at 9:30 a.m. at the Exxon station on the Highlands Road in Franklin or at 10:15 a.m. at the Highlands Bank of America. Drive 34 miles round trip. Bring water, lunch, and wear sturdy, comfortable shoes. Hikes are limited to 20; reservations are required. Call leader David Sapin, 369-2860.

See EVENTS page 28

Interlude Series continues

Angie Jenkins and Stell Huie

At 2 p.m. on Wednesday, Aug. 8, First Presbyterian Church’s Summer Concert Series will feature Stell Huiie, baritone, accompanied by Angie Jenkins. The concert will consist of Broadway Show tunes and other popular songs including “Strange in Paradise,” “The Shadow of your Smile,” and Andrew Lloyd Webber’s “The Music of the Night.” Also included will be “Shall We Gather by the River,” “On the Road to Mandalay,” “Autumn Leaves,” and “What a Wonderful World.” Also featured will be bagpiper David Landis who will join Jenkins at the church’s magnificent pipe organ in a rousing rendition of “Highland Cathedral” by D. Martin Roe.

The Interlude Series is presented by First Presbyterian Church of Highlands and is in its ninth season. The free concert will last approximately one hour. Dress is casual so come as you are.

HCPs ‘How the Other Half Loves’

The Highlands Community Players final production of the 2006-2007 season promises to end the season on a high note. How the Other Half Loves is a witty comedy-farce written by Alan Ayckbourn, one of Britain’s most popular playwrights. The play features the ingenious device of having the homes of two couples on stage at the same time, a situation ripe for sparkling dialogue and physical comedy. Complicated affairs of the heart are going on among the husbands and wives, with a bewildered third couple drawn into the confusion.

Fiona and Frank Foster are played by Ronnie Spilton and Highland’s newcomer, David Hoffman. Originally from New York, Ronnie came south to The Catalawork School and recently in Crimes of the Heart and Parallel Lives. Stuart Armor is a seasoned regular to local theater, as he’s involved with acting for about 30 years. Stuart is the owner of Brick Oven Pizza and the Movie Stop.

Marsha Shannon and Rick Segel are Mary and William Detweiler, the unwinding players in the marital woes of the Fosters and Phillips. Marsha was born and raised in Sarasota, FL, where her parents were circus people, working with Ringling Brothers. For the past 19 years, she and her husband have owned and run Lindy’s Gifts in Highlands. Rick Segel and his wife Helene are originally from Atlanta. They own and operate the 4½ Street Inn in Highlands.

The play is directed by Nancy Reeder, who is an educator, storyteller, and member of the Highlands Writers Group. She is being ably assisted by Lee Lyons.

The opening night performance is Thursday, Aug. 16, at 7:30 p.m., followed by a reception. Additional performances are on Aug. 17, 18, and 23-26 at 7:30 p.m., with Sunday matinees on Aug. 19 and 26 at 2:30 p.m.
This Saturday at ITC the Mangsen duo

Appalachian High, now in its second season at The Instant Theatre Co. Studio in Main, presents singer-songwriters Steve Gillette and Cindy Mangsen. According to Sing Out Magazine, “Steve and Cindy have hit on a combination that consistently produces high quality recordings and entertaining stage shows. Their voices and styles meld seamlessly with a gentleness and maturity that is unmatched in the world of folk duos.” Steve and Cindy have been featured on NPR’s “All Things Considered,” and Mountain Stage.

Steve Gillette is best known as a songwriter, with songs recorded by artists from Ian & Sylvia to Garth Brooks, from Jimmy Cricket to John Denver. His song “Darcy Farm” alone has been recorded by more than 100 artists since 1966, most recently by Jimmy Dale Gilmore and Nancy Griffith. Quite literally, he wrote the book on songwriting: Songwriting and the Creative Process. Steve sings in a rich baritone and is a virtuoso on guitar, using a unique fingerpicking style with a flatpick and two fingers. His most recent solo recording, “Texas and Tennessee,” was named one of the Top Ten Folk Albums by Pulse Magazine.

Cindy Mangsen is also a songwriter, but her focus has been on songkeeping. Cindy is a master interpreter of traditional ballads, rich in myth and legend. She plays guitar, concertina, and banjo, and is renowned for her compelling voice, described by one critic as a voice that can warm a New England winter.

Don’t miss this incredible folk duo coming to the Instant Theatre stage located at 310 Main St. (upstairs at Oak Square) on August 4 at 8 p.m. Tickets are $25 and reservations strongly suggested. Call the Instant Theatre box office at 828-342-9197 for reservations and information, or visit www.instanttheatre.org.

The Appalachian High Folk Concert Series is a StarPony production in collaboration with, and hosted by, The Instant Theatre Co. Sponsored by Country Club Properties, Friends of the Highlands Country Library, and Dreamland Dairy.

Dance with Hurricane Creek
Aug. 11 at ITC

The Kings of Rock n’ Roll and Rhythm and Blues, Hurricane Creek are back in the Instant Theatre’s Studio on Main. Prepare to move and groove Saturday August 11 at 8 p.m. in Highlands most popular dance hall. Call early for reservations by calling 828-342-9197.

• UPCOMING EVENTS •

2628, for reservations or more information. Visitors are welcome, but no pets please.

Saturday, Sept. 1
• Breakfast and Bake Sale for the Bolivia Mission at Highlands United Methodist Church at 9 a.m. For information about the fundraisers, please call 526-3605.

Thursday, Sept. 6
• 2007 Studio Dinner Series in artists’ creative environments. Theme: Caribbean cuisine and wines by Tim Lundy of Rosewood Market, part of art sales to benefit Cashiers Fire & Rescue Department. Call 526-2673.

Friday-Sunday, Sept. 7-10
• At Acom’s Coralia Leets Trunk Show.

Bob Jones Invitational
at Highlands Country Club

Once again Highlands will be host to a reunion of former Walker Cup players from the United States, Great Britain and Ireland. The players will compete in a one day Bob Jones Invitational tournament at Highlands Country Club on Aug. 11. The annual competition is in its 26th year. The tournament is named after the illustrious Robert Tyre “Bobby” Jones, possibly the most well known – best amateur golfer. Jones preferred to be called Bob rather than Bobby as dubbed by the press early in his golf career. Furthermore this is the only tournament, other than the Masters, that has the distinction of being granted the use of the Bob Jones name, thanks to the generosity of the Jones family.

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

After his retirement from amateur golf, Jones only played in exhibition matches to raise money for worthy causes. He even teamed with baseball great Ty Cobb in such a match to raise money for the fledging hospital in Highlands. Today the Bob Jones Invitational supports local charities and has raised over $2.6 million for the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital Foundation through sponsorships and donations of local participants.

The tournament is free and the public is encouraged to attend to enjoy some excellent golf. On Saturday, Aug. 11, each Walker Cupper will be joined by a team of four local golfers for a one-day competition, similar to a pro-am with a shotgun start at 9:30 a.m.

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

The 2007 tournament is dedicated to perennial chairman, James O. Watts, III, who died unexpectedly on June 13, 2007, while hiking in his beloved Highlands.

2007 WALKER CUP CONTINGENT

Tommy Aaron - Georgia
Deane Beman - Maine
Nathaniel Crosby - Florida
Bob Dickson - Florida
Doug Fischesser - Indiana
Martty Fleckman - Texas
Vinni Giles - Virginia
Jim Grant - Georgia
Downing Gray - Florida
Charlie Harrison - Georgia
Jim Holtgrieve - Missouri
Joe Inman - Georgia
Stephen Kepler - Georgia
Bob Lewis - Ohio
Jack Lewis - North Carolina
Griff Moody - Georgia
Jim Sorenson - Iowa
Danny Yates - Georgia
Eroica Trio returns for final week of concerts

The final week of concerts for the Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival gets underway with the return of the Eroica Trio.

The two regular season ending concerts, Friday, August 3 at 7 p.m. in Highlands and Saturday, August 4 at 2 p.m. in Cashiers, will showcase the individual talents of the members of the Eroica Trio as they join Festival Artistic Director William Ransom and the Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival Orchestra.

The Eroica Trio will be joined by the festival orchestra in three works:

- Mendelssohn's mature output contains many chamber works, many of which display an emotional intensity some people think lacking in his larger works. For this trio in D minor Mendelssohn unusually took the advice of a fellow composer, Ferdinand Hiller, and rewrote the piano part in a more romantic, "Schumannesque" style, considerably heightening its effect.

- The final piece will be Gershwin's Porgy and Bess in a suite form arranged for piano trio. The opera, originally conceived by Gershwin as an "American folk opera," premiered in New York in the fall of 1935 and featured an entire cast of classically trained African-American singers — a daring and visionary artistic choice at the time. Incorporating a wealth of blues and jazz idioms into the classical art form of opera, Gershwin considered it his finest work, but it was not widely accepted in the United States as a legitimate opera until 1976 when the Houston Grand Opera production of his complete score (followed nine years later by its Metropolitan Opera premiere) established it as an artistic triumph. The work is now considered part of the standard operatic repertoire and is regularly performed internationally.

The concert will be followed by a sumptuous reception and buffet (complete with door prizes) at Wildcat Cliffs Country Club.

For tickets to any of these concerts, please call 828.526.9060.
At Cyranos, a booksigning. Charleston chef leads cooking class and signs cookbook; local author William Rawlings will autograph at Cyranos’s Bookshop on Saturday, Aug. 4.

This Saturday, Aug. 4, from noon-2 p.m., Chef Craig Deihl of the popular Cypress Lowcountry Grille in Charleston leads a cooking class and demonstration at Cyranos Bookshop in Highlands, and then sign copies of his cookbook from 5-7 p.m. at Cyranos’s Bookshop. And William Rawlings, Jr., will sign copies of his mystery, “Crossword,” at Cyranos’s Bookshop on Saturday afternoon, Aug. 4, from 1 to 3 p.m.

Don’t get confused! Cypress in Charleston is named after the tree found in Carolina swamps; Cyprus in Highlands is named for the Mediterranean Island; both dining establishments emphasize a fusion of culinary traditions, with the Charleston restaurant riffing off southern favorites and adding a taste of Asia. Characteristic offerings include Roasted Oysters with Green Tomato-Wasabi Cocktail Sauce and Ginger Soy Butter or Thai-Spiced Short Rib and Lobster With Edamame Shitake Mushrooms. (Of course there are classic dishes such as Chateaubriand or Grilled Swordfish that have become Cypress signatures). Deihl, who attended Johnson and Wales University in Charleston, helped launch Cypress Lowcountry Grille in 2001 and was named executive chef shortly thereafter.

In its review of Cypress Lowcountry Grille, the Charleston Post and Courier noted that Deihl “pumped up the volume on Asian influences in many of the truly delicious dishes. Presentations are stellar and the raw bar selections and wood-burning grill infused ingredients are exceptional.” And the Charleston City Paper said of the Cypress cookbook: “Inside, Cypress goes beyond simple recipes and reads like a high-end manual on how to make good food. It begins with a how-to on stocking the perfect pantry with recipes for Asian condiments, explanations of the different types of salt and how they can be used, and a guide to infused oils and compound butters. [Deihl’s] creativity and resourcefulness as a chef jump off the page.” The price of the cooking class is $79 per person. Refreshments will be offered at Chef Deihl’s evening signing at Cyranos’s. Local author William Rawlings, Jr., will also sign copies of his mystery, “Crossword,” at Cyranos’s Bookshop on Saturday afternoon. The action in “Crossword” includes an actual puzzle — the Sunday New York Times crossword as though your life depended on it and you’ll know how the hero and heroine feel as they attempt to solve a series of clue-laden crossword before the killer strikes again — with Rutherford himself as the intended victim.

But you don’t have to imagine. “Crossword” includes an actual puzzle — which Dr. Rawlings describes as “not too easy and not too hard” — featured in the plot. A physician and life-long resident of Sandersville, Georgia, Dr. Rawlings owns a vacation home in Highlands and contributes travel articles to the Atlanta Journal-Constitution. Aside from “Crossword” and “The Rutherford Cipher,” Rawlings’s other thrillers include “The Lazard Legacy” and “The Tate Revenge” he has almost completed his next book.

Cyranos’s Bookshop is located at 390 Main Street in Highlands, North Carolina. Reservations can be made for the cooking class, and books can be reserved for autographing, by calling (828) 526-5488 or sending an email to cyranos@nctv.com; to learn more about our store please visit www.cyranosbooks.com.

Ticket discount at Playhouse

The Highlands Playhouse is giving the Highlands community a special treat for the remainder of its summer season.

Starting with their Frank Sinatra tribute My Way, ticket prices will be reduced for Friday night performances. through the production of Talley’s Folly, which runs from Aug. 16-26.

Highlands Playhouse General Manager Henry Johnson said that the reason for this discount is “a way of showing our gratitude to the community for all the support they have given the Playhouse over the years.” This offer is only available for Friday night performances and does not include the Playhouse’s October show, Foreve Plaid. For ticket information, the box office is open Monday-Saturday from 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. or call (828) 526-2695.
Make the play for literacy

Purchase your tickets now for Loving Literacy,
A Premiere Gala to benefit the Literacy Council of Highlands.

For 16 years, The Literacy Council of Highlands has provided educational programs to aid residents in improving their quality of life. Their offerings have grown into five programs: After School Tutoring, Adult Literacy Program, Computer Lab Program, GED Program, and ESL.

The Council provides these programs at no cost to over 150 students each year. It receives no federal funding, but instead relies on donations from the community to keep its programs going and growing.

Join the Literacy Council of Highlands and the Highlands Community Players in the fight against illiteracy. Plan to attend the premiere performance of “How the Other Half Loves” on Wednesday, August 15, at the Martin-Lipscomb Performing Arts Center. The gala begins at 6:30 p.m. with wine and hors d’oeuvres by Lyle Holly Do The Cooking. The curtain rises at 7:30 p.m. and after the play, enjoy coffee and dessert prepared by Jan Zehr of Blackberry Hill Bakery and Deli.

Patrons will enjoy a night reminiscent of a Hollywood Academy Award night. Walk down the red carpet, be greeted by paparazzi, and interviewed by the press. After the performance, mingle with the cast, have your photo taken with your favorite star and enjoy the sumptuous desserts.

In addition, ticket holders to Loving Literacy, A Premiere Gala will be eligible to pick up one of six golf packages. Rounds of golf from Highlands Country Club, Highlands Falls Country Club, Cullasaja Club, Wildcat Cliffs Country Club, Highlands Cove and Trillium will be given away in a drawing during the event.

Give someone a helping hand. Make a difference and purchase your ticket today. Individual tickets are $125 and can be purchased by contacting any member of the Literacy Council of Highlands board members: Helene Siegel, Mary Lou Nolan-Bazan, Jere Sewell, Matt Eberz, Farrel Zehr, Susan Smith, Linda Driver, Margorie Fielding, Curt Sears, Bob Tietze or Julie McClellan.

Tickets can also be purchased or donations made at www.highlandsliteracy.org or by calling The Literacy Council of Highlands at (828) 526-9938 at extension 240.

Highlands Playhouse announces two upcoming fundraisers

As the Highlands Playhouse season continues, the Playhouse staff is preparing two fundraisers to benefit the theatre. The first event is a black tie optional dinner on Sunday, Aug. 5 at the Main Street Inn. The night will include a meal, cocktails, and entertainment from the cast of the Playhouse’s current production, My Way, which includes Sinatra impersonators Gabe Russo and Jim Noreas well as actresses Allie Payton and Shannon Webber. Space is limited to the first 50 reservations and tickets are $125 each which include five raffle tickets for the Highlands Playhouse annual Theatre Lover’s Tour. This year’s tour is an eleven-day tour of Sicily.

Another Playhouse fundraiser that is on the way is the third annual Highlands Antique Show. The Antique Show offers wares from renowned antique sellers and houses a vast collection the likes of which can only be seen at such an event. For its third year, the Antique Show will not be held in Highlands, but will take place at the Sapphire Valley Community Center. The antiques show will run from Friday, Sept. 28 through Sunday, Sept. 30. On Friday and Saturday the hours are 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. On Sunday the hours are 12 p.m. – 5 p.m. The day before the Antique Show opens, there will be a black tie optional preview party. The Playhouse is currently selling tickets for the preview party for $75 at the box office. Tickets for the Antique Show go for $10.

Profits from both fundraisers will benefit the Highlands Playhouse, the second oldest performing arts group in Western NC. The Playhouse Theatre was built in 1932 for the Highlands School and has been used by the Playhouse since 1952.

Supporters will generate funds that will help to ensure that the Playhouse will be here for the enjoyment of future generations. For more information call 828-526-2695. Come support the Playhouse and do your part to keep live theatre alive in Highlands.

Two faces of the Middle East’ at CLE

CLE will host NC State Professor Akram Khater for a lecture entitled “Two Faces of the Middle East.” Dr. Khater’s lecture looks into the two faces of a Janus-like Middle East. The first is the now too familiar one of wars and conflict.

Looking to the past, Dr. Akram Khater will endeavor to explain how it is that we find ourselves today at such a sad point in the history of this region. But the second part is about a different place — a human and humanitarian Middle East which we rarely see partly because the cameras hardly ever go there, and partly because it remains an unfulfilled potential. Khater will explore this Middle East as it stands now unexplored and as it can be given the right policies.

Khater is Associate Professor of History at North Carolina State University and Director of International Programs. A native of Lebanon, he holds M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in History from the University of California. His books include Inventing Home: Emigration, Gender and the Making of a Lebanese Middle Class, 1861-1921, and A History of the Middle East: A Sourcebook for the History of the Middle East and North. This lecture will be held at the Performing Arts Center, 507 Chestnut Street in Highlands on Thursday, Aug. 9, from 10-12. The cost is $20 for CLE members, $30 for non-members. To register please call the CLE office at 526-8811.

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  - TIME CLOCK, Acroprint Model 125, and time cards. See Bob at SweeTreats, 526-9822.
- BISTRO TABLES. 21” round (black and white), 2 black chairs. (4 sets @ $125 per set). See Bob at SweeTreats 526-9822.
- DINING ROOM FURNITURE: Very nice. Rectangular with two leaves 6 chairs, 2 with arms. Maple with upholstered seats. $326 all inclusive. 864-972-8525 or call 864-723-4101.
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*See CLASSIFIEDS page 35*
"Go Figure" will open at Summit One Gallery on Saturday, Aug. 4 with an Artists’ Opening Reception from 5-7 p.m.

"Go Figure" features 15 of Summit One's artists who have created new figurative work exploring the human form. Genres range from representational, impressionism, and abstract paintings to sculpture.

Featured artists: Joe Adams, Macon GA; Tom Bluemlien, Fort Mitchell KY; Betty Foy Botts, Atlanta GA; Lonnie Busch, Franklin NC; Mary Lou Carpenter, Atlanta GA; Shari Erickson, Cashiers NC; Brian Hibbard, Greensboro NC; Jon Houglum, Franklin, NC; Mase Lucas, Scaly Mountain NC; Libby Mathews, Lakemont GA; Diane McPhail, Highlands, NC; Toby Penney, Tullahoma TN; Jane Smithers, Cashiers NC; Rosemary Stiefel, Highlands, NC and Wesley Wofford, Cashiers NC.

"Go Figure" covers portraiture, life drawing and other genres in which the human form (the human ‘figure’) is the prime feature or inspiration. Artists have drawn, painted and sculpted the image of the human figure since ancient times. Painters throughout history have painted the portraits of kings, queens, and everyday people just as cavemen used charcoal to create images of themselves on cave walls.

Of all the subjects for art, none is more prevalent than the human figure. The human figure has been depicted in art across all cultures. The diversity of the artists’ styles in “Go Figure” is astounding.

"Go Figure" will continue through August 31. Summit One Gallery is located in “The Galleries” on South Second Street, in Highlands. Call 828-526-2673 or email summitonegallery@verizon.net or visit www.summitonegallery.com

15 area artists collaborate for ‘Go Figure’ showing at Summit One Gallery

Jonathan Golden plays key role in bringing 20th Century Masters of Photography to Highlands

Work on display at Bascom-Louise Gallery through Aug. 16

Jonathan Golden is a passionate man in his work, in his play and in his love for collecting photography.

Golden is a partner in the law firm Arill Golden Gregory, LLP, in Atlanta. Ellis Arnall, former governor of Georgia, founded the firm in the late 1940s.

By the early 1980s, the firm expanded its facilities. That provided the perfect opportunity to establish an art collection to complement the new office interiors. Under the guidance of Peter Morrin, curator of Twentieth Century Art at the High Museum, the firm’s art collection committee decided to focus on three areas: contemporary prints, twentieth century photography and multicultural arts and crafts.

Today, the walls of the firm rival those of a museum. Massive works by Jasper Johns, Roy Lichtenstein, Frank Stella and Andy Warhol provide the perfect scale, quality and dynamics appropriate for large spaces. Smaller corridor sections provide a more intimate setting for personal viewing of photographic works.

Three-dimensional creations are displayed in the more public areas. Over time, photography has become the main focus of the collection, perhaps because of its accessibility and its commentary on daily life both public and private.

Golden, who enjoys spending time at his summer home in Highlands, was instrumental in arranging a loan of several of his firm’s pieces to the Bascom-Louise Gallery’s current exhibit, “Way Down South, Southern Photography.”

The showing is a compelling reflection on Southern history of the past century. Biscuits in the kitchen, tadpoles in a mason jar, peeling paint and paper, moody teens, steamy afternoons, funeral dirges, faded signs, abandoned hopes, pool hall ghosts, historic arrests – all are windows into the past as seen through the eyes of some of the South’s, and the nation’s, most celebrated photographers.

The exhibition is on display through Aug. 16. Admission is free. Hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday. The Bascom-Louise Gallery is located at 554 Main Street, in Highlands. For more information, call (828) 526-4949.
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THE SETUP:
The cube has 27 consecutive numbers in it, arranged in three layers with 9 numbers each. These numbers are arranged in a special pattern: For each layer, the sum of the three numbers in each row, column or diagonal, is 3 times its center number. Eight diagonals connect all 3 layers by running through the center number of the middle layer. Each diagonal contains 3 numbers equaling the total of the three center numbers. One of the diagonals is shown with circles.

THE CHALLENGE:
Start with the three center numbers for each layer and the other numbers given. Now pour a cup of coffee, pick up a pencil and eraser and try to figure out where the other numbers belong.

... ANOTHER VIEW from page 6

The truck looked like the Mexican Consulate, so I thought Homeland Security might be a better call. I wasn’t even sure the United States had the jurisdiction. The truck looked like sovereign Mexican territory. There were flags everywhere. The dash board had been converted to a little altar. Plastic saints rested comfortably on a faded lace table cloth. Mary, I realized was in no danger. She was up there dictating the dash board diorama. Forget the police, the embassy, the FBI, CIA, and CIS. Somebody call an exorcist.

Necklaces and plastic strands, similar to Mardi Gras beads, but cheaper, are “in.” I’d like to pretend that these displays are dangerous, but I think they’re just low brow. The decorations don’t interfere much with visibility or concentration, but they look awful, at least to me. Text messaging while driving, or finishing the newest Harry Potter novel at the wheel, must be far more distracting and dangerous. It’s not necessary to legislate against rear view paraphernalia, but I do wish good people would show better taste. Maybe I could start selling miniature Renoir and Monet reproductions, with strings included, at convenience store checkout counters. We might lightly scold them, nothing overwhelming, a little Iliac or honeydew. That would elevate the state of rear view art. You have my e-mail address for franchising information.

Solutions to #B7Z1C in the July 26 paper

The following is the Highlands Police Dept. log entries for the week of July 24-28. Only the names of persons arrested or public officials have been used.

July 24
• At 3:30 p.m., three citations were issued at the site of an accident at South Street and N.C. 28 where one motorist failed to yield the right of way; the owner of a vehicle allowed someone without a license to drive the vehicle; the driver of the vehicle didn’t have a license.

July 25
• At 3:50 p.m., officers responded to an accident at 4 1/2 and Chestnut streets.

July 27
• At 11:35 a.m., a motorist at U.S. 64 west and Webmont was cited for speeding 57 mph in a 35 zone.

• A motorist at N. 4th and Chestnut streets was cited for speeding 43 mph in a 25 zone.

July 28
• At 7:45 a.m., a motorist at N 4th Street and Foreman Road was cited for speeding 42 mph in a 25 zone.

• At 10:50 a.m., a motorist on Main Street was cited for speeding 40 mph in a 20 zone.

• At 1:20 p.m., Aaron Brooks Thomas, 33 of Highlands, was arrested on an outstanding warrant from Westminster, SC when officers responded to a call of a domestic dispute involving a child in the parking lot of the Post Office on N.C. 28.

July 30
• At 9:30 a.m., a motorist at Mirror Lake and Hicks roads was cited for driving without a license.

During the week officers issued eight warning tickets.

The following is the Highlands Fire & Rescue Dept. log entries for the weeks of July 25-30

July 25
• The dept. responded to a bicycle and car collision on Chestnut Street. There were minor injuries.

July 27
• The dept. responded to an alarm at a residence on Hickory Hill Road. It was cancelled.

July 28
• The dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with a medical call at a residence on Clear Creek Road. There was no transport.

July 29
• The dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with a medical call at a residence on Oak Lane. The victim was transported to the hospital.

July 30
• The dept. provided mutual aid to the Cashiers Fire Dept. The call was cancelled.

July 31
• The dept. responded to a motorcycle accident. It was unfounded.