

Highlands' Newspaper FREE

Volume 5, Number 23

PDF Version – www.HighlandsInfo.com

Thursday, June 7, 2007

- On-going**
- Step Aerobics at the Rec Park, 4-5 p.m., Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays. \$5 per class.
 - At Health Tracks at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital, various exercise classes. Call Jeanette Fisher at 828-526-1FIT.
 - Pilates classes with Sandi Trevathan on Level 1 of the Jane Woodruff Clinic, Mon. and Wed. at 4 p.m. \$10 per class.
- Every Saturday**
- Live music at Fressers in Helen's Barn with Cy Timmons 6 p.m. until.
 - Live music at Cyprus Restaurant in the Dillard Village Shopping Center at 9:30 p.m. \$10 cover toward purchase.
- Every Monday**
- Recreational Bridge 1 p.m. at the Rec Park. \$3 per person.
- Every Tuesday**
- Women's Bible Study at 10 a.m. at Community Bible Church. Summer series on 1 & 2 Peter. All women are invited
- Thursday, June 7**
- Pine Street Park public forum at the Highlands Community Center at 7 p.m.
- Friday & Saturday, June 8-9**
- At Acorn's on Main Street, Jan Barboglio Trunk Show. Individually hand-forged iron home accessories with an Old World feel. For more info call 787-1877
- Friday-Sunday, June 8-10**
- Savannah Ballet "Dare to be Moved" at the Highlands Playhouse at 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday and at 2 p.m. on Sunday. For tickets, call the box office at 526-2695.
- Saturday, June 9**
- At Cyrano's Bookshop, Barbara Brown Taylor will sign "Leaving Church" from 1-3 p.m. Also, James T. Costa will sign "The Other Insect Society" from 3:30-5 p.m.
 - At the Nature Center, Salamander Meander at 9 p.m. Ages 7 to adult. Join herpetologists on a night search to observe some of the area's magnificent salamanders in the wild. Bring rain gear and a flashlight. \$5 per person, advanced registration required due to limited space. Call 526-2623
- Monday & Tuesday, June 11-12**
- Volunteers needed to help teachers at Highlands School with year-end clean up from noon to 2 p.m.
- Monday, June 11**
- HIARPT's free public lecture series begins at 7:30 p.m. in the Jones Room of the Episcopal Church of the Incarnation. Dr. William Dean will present his intellectual autobiography, entitled "Second Thoughts."
- Tuesday, June 12**
- Movies at PAC at 7 p.m. "Meet Joe Black" Refreshments served at 6:30 p.m. It's FREE.
- Thursday, June 14**
- Zahner Conservation Lectures 2007, 7 p.m. at the Nature Center. A reception will follow this lecture "Letting the Land Speak to Us." Kay Byer (Poet Laureate of North Carolina).

County has plans for 'room tax' funds

The county's budget message, which was presented to the commission at its May meeting, lays the groundwork for many changes coming to Macon County.

A change that will affect the Highlands and Franklin Chambers of Commerce, is the Econom-

ic Development Commission's (EDC) recommendation to revise the disbursement of the county's room tax money.

"In addition to continuing its existing programs, the EDC wants to use room tax money to staff a person to assist the EDC and work

with the commissioners to establish a countywide tourism development program," wrote County Manager Sam Greenwood in his budget message. "Existing and consulting and professional costs are to be used to support approved

• See ROOM TAX page 24

Stormwater controls a link to park & Greenway

What do the Pine Street Park, the Greenway and the town's Stormwater Master Plan have to do with each other? Evidently, a lot.

At the June 4 Public Works meeting, committee members hashed out stormwater control priorities as outlined in the "Stormwater Master Plan – 2007" formulated by civil and environmental engineers McGill Associates.

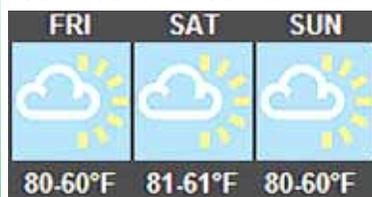
With mandatory state requirements concerning stormwater controls coming down the pike, the master plan serves as a necessary tool for securing Clean Water Management Trust Funds.

The price tag of the 21 projects outlined in the master plan cost anywhere from \$20,000 to \$6 million, so utilizing outside sources of funding is a must. "Most of the projects are huge," said Town Engineer Lamar Nix. "They go way beyond the means of our budget."

Town Administrator Richard Betz said getting the plan was step one in the process. "The next thing The Clean Water Management Trust Fund wants to see is an or-

• See STORMWATER page 11

Weekend Weather:



Valedictorian & Salutatorian of Class of 2007 named



At the Highlands School Award Ceremony, Monday, June 4, Chase Jenkins was named Valedictorian and Lucy Herz was named Salutatorian of the senior class. Jenkins will be attending UNC-Chapel Hill and Herz will be attending Columbia University. With them is Highlands School Principal Brian Jetter.

Photo by Kim Lewicki

Codes amended for ETJ

At Wednesday night's meeting, the Town Board amended the Zoning Ordinance and the Highlands Code to formalize current practices concerning both the structure of the Zoning and Planning boards as they pertain to Extra Territorial Jurisdiction (ETJ) representation and matters before those boards.

"These are technical amendments for determining the formulae verifying what is already in place since ETJ was enacted," said Town Attorney Bill Coward.

First the Zoning Ordinance was amended to say that the board

will consist of five members appointed for three-year terms. All members appointed as representatives of any ETJ area, either for regular or to fill the vacancies of any unexpired term, shall be appointed pursuant to NC G.S. 160A-362."

A point of contention is exactly what the General Statute (G.S. 160A-362) states concerning which entity appoints ETJ members to municipal boards – the county or the town.

The town is in litigation with the county over the matter. The

• See ETJ page 31

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County not releasing rec park funds

The recreation funds promised Highlands at the May Macon County Commission meeting will be held up a bit longer.

At the end of last month's meeting, the commission agreed to release the remaining \$425,000 – not the \$500,000 Highlands expected – with an explanation.

During 2006-2007 budget year, the county allocated \$100,000 for the Pine Street Park and bought property to expand parking at Zachary Field for \$150,000. The amount of \$425,000 is what's left of the \$675,000 in recreational funds earmarked for Highlands.

Meanwhile, since the county and the town "read" the contract regarding the county's disbursement of recreation funds agreed to the winter of 2006 differently, Chairman Charlie Leatherman said no further funds for recreation would be released for Highlands' until the contract is "crystal clear."

Commissioner Jim Davis suggested the confusion might be in the way the contract was drawn up by the previous attorney.

Consequently, Commissioner Leatherman asked County Attorney Lesley Moxley to review the contract and report back to the board.

Since that meeting, Moxley has reviewed the contract and determined it isn't legally binding and instructed the county finance officer to withhold the \$425,000

• See REC PARK page 24

• THE PLATEAU'S POSITION •

• LETTERS •

On dealing with the beast within

Dear Editor,

I am reading "Dealing with the Beast Within, Part 2" in last week's issue of Highlands' Newspaper, written by Nancy Welch. Not only does she take the edge off of a treatment I have not experienced but she is helping me understand what people are going through who are in treatment. Her sense of humor about "the bathroom wall" was an acceptance of what to expect. God Bless you and I look forward to your next article, and of course your way back to good health. I bet you are proud of your straight grey hair! I am.

Marian Beccue
Scaly Mountain

Chamber explains 'Pine Street Park survey

Dear Editor,

The Chamber of Commerce would like to respond to Hillrie Quinn's letter-to-the-editor in the May 31 issue of this paper.

We would like to commend Mr. Quin for making an excellent summation of the options presented at the May 7 public meeting and the Chamber fully supports the Pine Street Park Committee's efforts to seek the community's opinions on the park's design.

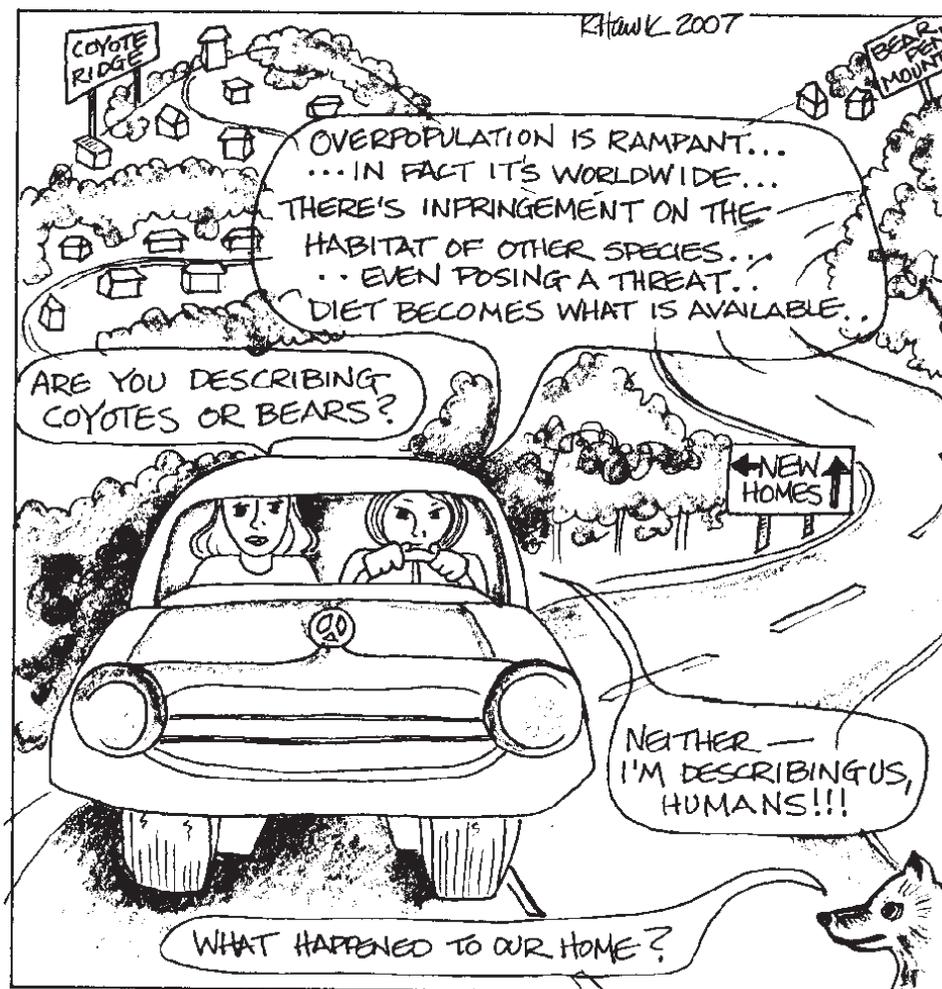
Likewise, the Chamber of Commerce urges everyone interested in the Pine Street Park to attend the second public meeting on Thursday, June 7 at the Highlands Community Building.

Mr. Quin accurately stated that the Chamber surveyed its members about the potential loss of parking spaces that may result from the development of the Pine Street Park. Given the sensitivity of the subject of Highlands' available parking, the Chamber believes it has an obligation to seek its member's opinions on the subject and we did so via a private email survey to the membership. The survey is ongoing and the results are presently incomplete. In addition to the survey question, the notice also included the following: The Chamber strongly encourages everyone to attend the next public Pine Street Park meeting.

Bob Kieltyka
Executive Director
Chamber of Commerce

• See LETTERS page 17

• HAWK'S EYE VIEW •



LETTERS-OF-THANKS

'Fans' thank you

Dear Editor,

We wanted to say what an honor it is to be voted "Fans of the Year" by a group of young adults that we love so much. We thank you for allowing us to be a part of your lives.

To the seniors, we applaud you for outstanding leadership on and off the court and field. We send our love and prayers with you as you begin a new adventure in your life.

To the rising athletes, keep those friends in your hearts and learn from their examples of leadership and dedication.

Thanks for the memories and we're looking forward to the upcoming athletic seasons. We love you.

David and Sammie Leffler
a.k.a. Mr. and Mrs. Fish

Miracles do happen!

Dear Editor,

Not only is it a miracle how fast Jason is recovering, it is a miracle how many people are sending their prayers and support. For those who do not know, Jason Woods was admitted to St. Joseph's Memorial, in Asheville, for 13 days with kidney failure, then transferred to Wake Forest Baptist Hospital in Winston-Salem. He stayed there for only three short weeks, when doctor's were expecting him to be there for three months. Jason is now at home with so much determination to get better, it is inspiring! He still has recovering to do, along with many more trips to the doctor, but I have no doubt that someone is watching over him, and he will be protected throughout the long journey ahead.

On Saturday, June 2, a motorcross race benefit was held for Jason in Fairplay, SC. The turnout was amazing! I want to say thank you, on behalf of Jason and his family, to everyone for their support with this event! All donations were very much appreciated! A special thank you to Lenny Metrick with Bountyland Quick Stop, Henry Hunter with Bryson's Food Store, and Kevin Ledford with Frito-Lay's! You do not know how much your help meant to Jason and his family. Thanks to everyone who continues to show support by leaving donations in the jars around town! Thanks for all donations made through local churches and First Citizen's Bank. Thanks to everyone who continue to keep Jason and his family in your prayers.

For those of you who do not believe,

• See THANK YOUs page 6

LETTERS-TO-THE EDITOR-POLICY

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

Highlands' Newspaper

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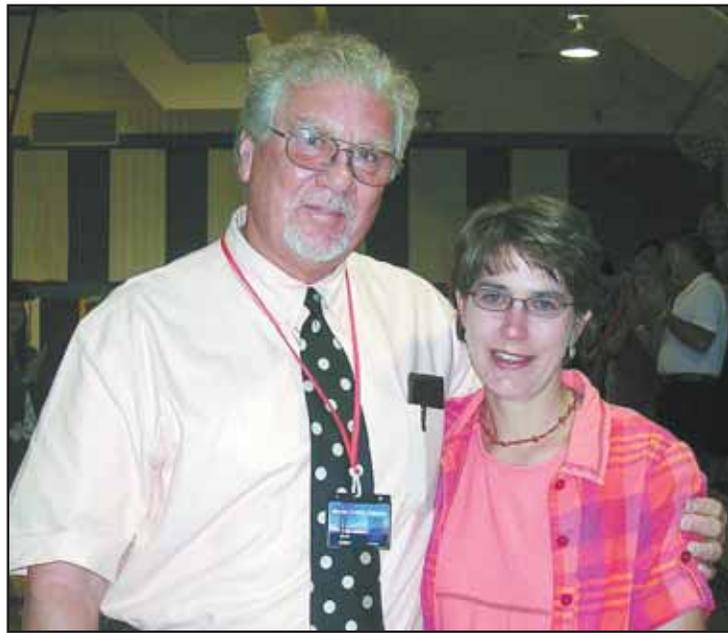


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It's about HS pride and service

At the June 4 Awards Ceremony at Highlands School, Monday morning, the 2007 "Highlander Pride Award" was awarded to senior Craig McCall for going far beyond what was "expected" and for completing what was "asked" and "even more."



Photos by Kim Lewicki

This year's Highlander Service Award" was given to Highlands United Methodist Church Pastor and PTO President Kim Ingram, for being consistently supportive of Highlands School throughout the years. With them is HS Principal Brian Jetter.

• OBITUARY •

Catherine Mozelle Burrell

Mrs. Catherine Mozelle Burrell, 88, of Highlands, NC, died Saturday, June 2, 2007 at the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital.

A native of Macon County, NC, she was a daughter of the late Franklin Ezekial and Martha Elizabeth Picklesimer Chastain. A member of Clear Creek Baptist Church, she was a homemaker. First and foremost she was a mother and grandmother.

She is survived by two daughters, Elaine Tilson and her husband, Jerry, of Highlands, NC and Georgetta Penland Dixon and her husband, Joe, of Pensacola, FL; a sister, Etta Nielson of New Jersey; two grandsons, Jeff Dixon and David Tilson; two granddaughters, Gabrielle Tilson and Jessica Tilson; and two great-grandchildren, Wesley Dixon and Jennifer Dixon.

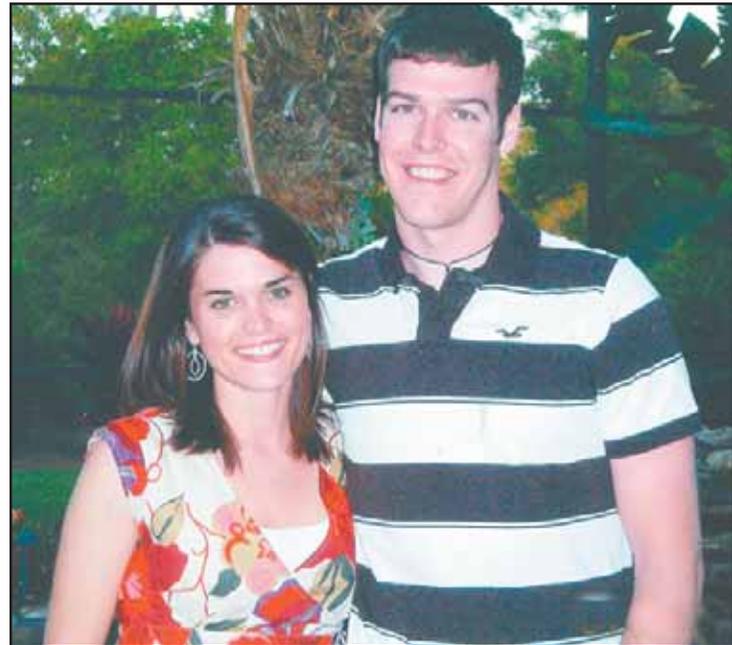
She was preceded in death by her husband, James Shirley Burrell, who died in 2002.

Funeral services were held at 2 p.m. on Tuesday, June 5, 2007 at Clear Creek Baptist Church. Rev. Everette Brewer and Rev. Everette Wilson officiated. Burial was in the Clear Creek Community Cemetery. Pallbearers were Jeff Dixon, David Tilson, Dennis Ivester, Ellis Head, Gary Wilson, and Curt Lane.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Clear Creek Community Cemetery. Bryant Funeral Home was in charge of the arrangements.

• ENGAGEMENT •

Starr-Aspinwall

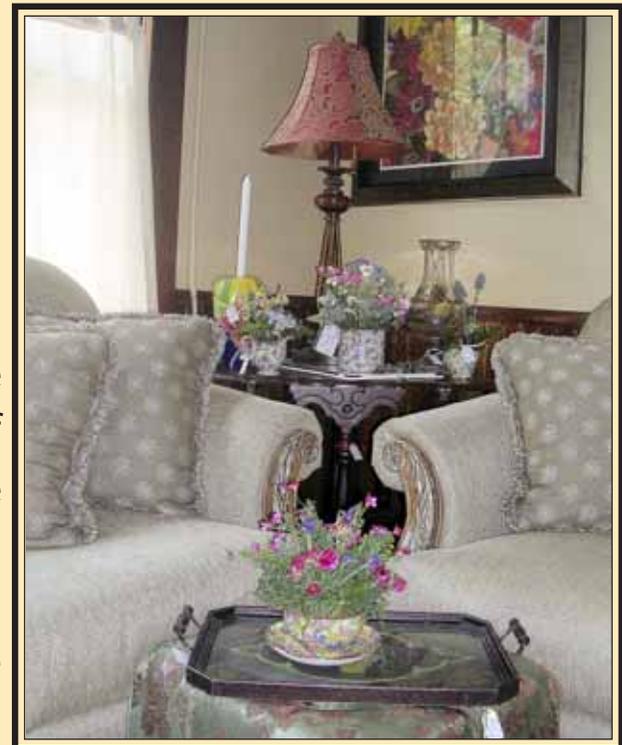


Art and Barby Aspinwall of Highlands announce the engagement of their son, AJ to Jordan Starr of Bowling Green, KY. Jordan is the daughter of Bill and Cindy Starr, AJ and Jordan are both graduates of Carson-Newman College in Johnson City, TN. Jordan is attending graduate school at the University of Kentucky. AJ is employed by Crown Stair in Lexington, KY where they will reside after their marriage on August 11, 2007.

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• LAUGHING AT LIFE •

Sut-Up-A-Ur-Face-A

Dateline – Everywhere in Italy:

You probably already know if you tie Italians' hands behind their backs, they are unable to speak....but did you know if you tape their mouths shut they can still wave their arms about? I found this out the hard way on the fourth day of my visit to Italy when, to get some peace and quiet, I taped my guide's mouth shut. Whoa, can that girl wave her arms. Evidently, the nerve endings that control arm waving operate independently of the tongue nerves. More study is needed.

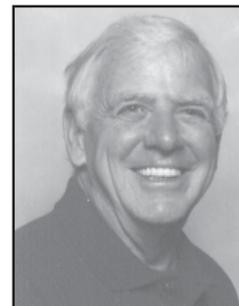
In Rome there are no traffic rules. Even worse, Italians drive around holding their cell phones in one hand while waving the other around as they speak. They steer with their knees. After years of driving like this, little red bumps form. This condition is called "kneesles" and most Italians suffer from it. Could I make this up?

While in Rome, I swung by the Vatican to have a little chit chat with Pope Benedict about the poor manner in which his bishops are handling scoundrel priests. His Holiness learned I was coming and packed his stuff for Brazil, land of naked priests....oops, I mean naked parades. I demanded to see an underling and after much haggling, I was granted an audience with Father Lino Facchinetti, a stubby little guy wearing a brown robe with 14 feet of matching rope belt that did a poor job of holding in his gut. Everyone seems to be eating well at the Vatican.

The good Father was a patient man and listened to my grievances. When I was finished, he put his hand on my shoulder and asked, "Why are you Americans still in Iraq?" Did I mention that Father Facchinetti runs the book store in the basement of the Vatican?

Later, the li'l missus drug me up 551 steps to the top of Saint Peter's dome. Near the top, the stairway narrowed to 18 inches and leaned sharply to the right. The same engineers who designed the Pisa tower may have had a hand in making this staircase. At the top we were greeted by hundreds of Italian pigeons who seemed puzzled at our arrival....then they pooped on us.

This next report is embarrassing, but a reporter's gotta do what he's gotta do. I know some of my regular readers



Fred Wooldridge

Feedback is encouraged!

email:

askfredanything@aol.com

think I am already too tacky but this must be revealed. The word Italy is derived from the Greek word Italia. This word, loosely translated, means "Land of the little penis." I know this to be true because from the north shores of Lake Maggiore to the southern tip of the boot, there are literally thousands of sculptors, statues, tapestries, paintings, etc., of strong virile looking Italian males standing naked exposing their eensy beensy penises. Can you say "eensy beensy Italian

penis" three times real fast. Is that fun or what?

In Verona, not too far from Juliet's balcony, we dined in a small café and right next to our table was a statute of a little boy holding a flower. His penis was about six inches from my left ear....very disconcerting.

I am not sure why this culture is so proud of their male's shortcomings (ha) but during my 16 day trip, I did not see one single "bubba" sculptor in the group. This has given me a much different perspective of seemingly macho male Italians and I find myself feeling sorry for them....even sorrier for the women.

Finally, you already know from a past column that I came to Italy to get a handle on global warming for Al Gore and Chicken Little. You're not going to believe this. Mamma Mia, there are 57 million Italians crammed into an area the size of New Mexico. Add to that several million tourists, 60 trillion pooping pigeons, loads of heavy breathing and you can see why there's a huge cloud of carbon dioxide over this country.

Wait, there's more. Over half the country's Italians are puffing away on cigarettes and the average Italian thinks recycling has something to do with bikes. On a city bus I spoke with a local and asked him about the lack of interest in global warming. He said, "We leave that kind of foolishness for the Americans. By the way, why is your army still in Iraq?"

On my last night in Italy, I sat in my hotel bathroom and wrote on the wall, "Attention Italian women. For a good time, come to America." I couldn't help myself.

Have you read Fred's book, *I'm Moving Back to Mars*?

• REFLECTIONS FROM TURTLE POND •

SpaceTimeLand

Scientists talk of multi-dimensional reality. Religious folk talk about angels or spiritual beings that exist on another plane of existence. Other people talk about higher levels or dimensions of consciousness.

Atheists and skeptics scoff when they hear this talk about a reality or realities separate from the concrete matter we can touch. Where are these other dimensions? Where are these angels? Where is heaven?

Our western philosophical and religious traditions lead us to think that the physical and the spiritual are two completely separate entities. There is the gross material and the ethereal spirit, the sins of the flesh and the purity of the spiritual. We are convinced that if there is something spiritual it can't have any connection to this physical reality, but somehow the realm of the spirit can interact with the physical in some miraculous and inexplicable way.

Scientists have some bizarre theories about other dimensions. For example, string theory, a popular branch of physics, posits 10 or 11 dimensions of spacetime (or 26 or...). *Hyperspace*, a book about string theory, explains that the reason we can't perceive these other dimensions of reality is because they are really, really small — the higher dimensions must be curled up into some tiny space smaller than our measuring devices can detect.

Could there possibly be some other (simpler) explanation?

Flatland: A Romance of Many Dimensions is a short novel published in 1884 by Edwin Abbott. Mr. Abbott provides a very useful way to imagine how other dimensions can exist by creating a two-dimensional society called "Flatland." [Read *Flatland* online: <http://www.alcyone.com/max/lit/flatland/>]

The creatures in Flatland live only in two dimensions of space, like the surface of this newspaper. Their entire universe is in that flat surface.

Flatlanders are different shapes defined by lines: circles, squares, triangles, etc. One of the Flatlanders travels to a new world where there is only one dimension — all the creatures are straight lines — and he sees how these Linelanders can't comprehend him because they only see a part of his dimensionality. They see his



Katie Brugger
k-brugger@hotmail.com

movements as magic. This experience allows Flatlander to see that a great mystery in his life can be explained by the addition of a third dimension to space.

To understand Flatland, try this experiment: Cut a piece of plastic out of a drink bottle, any shape you like. Fill a bowl halfway with water, and drop the plastic on the water so it

floats. The plastic is your Flatlander, and the surface of the water is Flatland.

Now stick your thumb and finger into the water, on either side of Flatlander. Move your thumb and finger together and apart and imagine what Flatlander would think about the movement: "There are two circles (because all he can perceive is what is in his flat plane) moving in a coordinated fashion even though there is no apparent connection between them." If he's scientific, he'll try and come up with a theory; a causal link to explain the coordination.

Now try this: point your index finger and dip it repeatedly into the water, lifting it out of the water each time. What would Flatlander make of this? "A circle is magically appearing and disappearing."

Try a third trick: stick your first and second fingers into the water joined together, now move them apart to form an inverted V. Flatlander will think, "an oval has split into two separate circles that are moving apart and yet are still somehow communicating."

What you can see from this experiment is that the world of three-dimensional space would not be perceivable to Flatlander, even though he is living in it.

The third dimension of space that he cannot perceive is not something *other* than the two that he is familiar with, it is not curled up in some tiny space because he cannot measure it.

In the novel Flatlander can't see the third-dimension because his world-view, which insists there are only two dimensions, screens it out of his consciousness. When he is somehow opened up to the existence of the third-dimension, then it is there to experience just as big and full as the two dimensions he had known before.

I believe that in the same way these higher dimensions are there around us right now, as full and big as the four (three space plus time) that we know.

• See BRUGGER page 17

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... THANK YOUs continued from page 3

Jason is walking proof that miracles do happen!

To Jason, Kelly, Janice, Adam, and Crystal, thank you for showing us all that true faith can help you overcome any obstacle! Love and God Bless,

Mandy Talley
Highlands

• See THANK YOUs page 7

• HIS & HERS •

Food for Thought



Michelle Mead & John Armor
michiemead@aol.com
John_Armor@yale.edu

I have to admit I'm puzzled by the relationship between people and food in this country. Here are a few of my reflections.

Why do people go to "All You Can Eat" buffets, but most of them seem to be on diets?

Wouldn't it make more sense to just limit the amount of food you take in?

In all honesty, I can't say I've had that many marvelous meals at those buffets. Most of the time, the food is either cold or overcooked anyway.

Why do people insist on eating such large portions of meat? I've never lived in another country where you can order a steak by how much it weighs. There's something obscene about seeing someone with a piece of steak which is so huge it is hanging over the side of their plate.

My mother has a wonderful expression for this, which comes from the times when she took us to the zoo, and we saw lions and tigers fed whole carcasses of cows. When she sees someone with an enormous steak on their plate, she leans over, and whispers, "Feeding time at the zoo."

Why can't people correctly pronounce "Worcestershire" sauce? It's not pronounced "War-chester-shire;" it's pronounced "Wooster." Watch British Nigela Lawson on the Food Channel. After all, do we say "Maryland" for Maryland? Of course not! Sometimes things aren't pronounced the way they are spelled. "Houston" is pronounced three different ways, depending on whether it's the town in Texas, the one in Scotland, or the street in New York City. Trust me on this one.

Why do people think that children have to eat different food from adults? When I was growing up, I thought that kids ate what their parents ate. Then I found out that children are supposed to be fed a diet of Chicken McNuggets and French fries. While I didn't enjoy certain foods as much as my parents did, I didn't expect that my mother was going to cook completely different, bland meals for my brother and me. We had to take a small portion of everything which was served, whether we liked it or not. Interestingly enough, there were foods that I grew to like, as my taste developed, such as asparagus

and raw tomatoes. My father used to spoon-feed me coffee with extra sugar and milk, and I loved it. And vegetables? We loved them.

Just watch American TV commercials, where they continue to push the image that children hate vegetables and

you have to either bribe or trick them into eating them. Ridiculous.

Why does food language harp on sin? Sinfully delicious. Death by chocolate. Indulge yourself. Indecently good. John and I were at Kilwin's the other day, and ran into a charming couple who were in line in back of us. "Oh, I'm so bad!" the woman apologized, as she downed her hot fudge sundae. "I'm going to be bad, too" said her husband, "I'm having two scoops!" Give me a break. These people weren't bank robbers; they were eating ice cream, for Pete's sake. I think people should take sin out of the dining room, and put it back into the bedroom, where it belongs.

Why do people insist on calling a *pain au chocolat* a chocolate croissant? A croissant is a French pastry which is crescent shaped. While its origins are not certain, here's the popular story, according to the *Larousse Gastronomique*:

"Croissant...This delicious pastry originated in Budapest in 1686, when the Turks were besieging the city. To reach the centre of the town, they dug underground passages. Bakers, working during the night, heard the noise made by the Turks and gave the alarm. The assailants were repulsed and the bakers who had saved the city were granted the privilege of making a special pastry which had to take the form of a crescent in memory of the emblem on the Ottoman flag."

—*Larousse Gastronomique*, Jenifer Harvey Lang, editor [Crown:New York] 1988 (p. 338)

Try going into a pastry shop in France, and ordering a chocolate croissant. You'd laugh if a foreigner came to this country, and ordered a hot dog by ordering a "long, skinny hamburger." After all, both hot dogs and hamburgers are fast food served in

• See HIS & HER page 17

Fellowship building now a possibility

Dear Editor,

The members of the Clear Creek Baptist Church would like to thank everyone who came to the benefit dinner and singing we had April 28. The money collected is for a fellowship building at our church. We especially want to thank the singers who came - The Dendy Family; Oliver Rice and band; Gene Turpin and the ones who came with him. We also want to give a heartfelt "thank you" to Joe and Judy Geoghagan

who stepped in at the last moment and cooked the BBQ pork. Roger Lee Wilson had planned to cook for us but due to a very serious illness of his nephew Jason Woods, had to be away. Please continue to pray for our church and pray for Jason's recovery.

Clear Creek Baptist Church

•See THANK YOUs page 31

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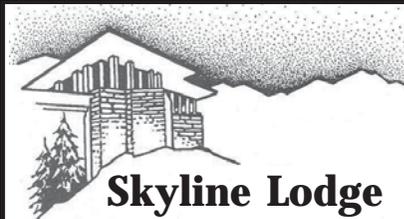
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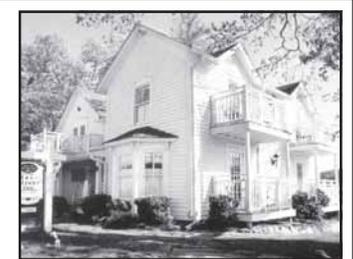
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• ANOTHER VIEW •

Turning my liberal eyes blue

I think of myself as fairly open-minded in most areas. I've accepted disruptions to American industry and American families to create a safer, more just, and prosperous world. I wasn't surprised to find our American Airlines flight from Lima, Peru to Miami, Cuba, excuse me, Miami, FL, was aboard a European made Airbus A-300. The snack bag was labeled Papitas al Hilo, Producto, Peruano. It contained little fried potato sticks that were pretty tasty. A bag of Orville Redenbacher popcorn would have been more welcoming, but I guess that with sky-high fuel prices, outrageous labor costs, and widespread bankruptcies in the airline industry, the company executives have decided against putting microwaves in the seat backs. I'd rather keep my six inches of leg room than compete with an oven, and the flight attendants would probably forbid its use during flight anyway.

I didn't complain that the purser, or is it bursar, spoke with a heavy South American accent. At least, he was trying. I still think of American Airlines as United States of America Airlines or North America Airlines. Pan-American Airlines had its shot and blew it years ago. Still, I was taking it all in stride, liberal independent and devotee of globalization that I am.

Then the flight attendants walked down the aisles passing out U.S. custom declarations, which is standard on flights returning home. What surprised me was that the customs declarations were in Spanish. There were no forms in English aboard. I am impossibly un-bilingual, and even if I were fluent in Spanish, I would have, as a matter of pride, asked for a form in English. The flight attendant told me there were no English forms available, but offered assistance if I was too dumb to figure it out. Lizzie made A's in college Spanish and "Nombre" and "Passporto Numero" aren't all that hard to translate. Nonetheless, I found the situation more than a little annoying.

For years I have been supporting immigration, both legal and illegal. If I've needed a little work done around the house, I've hired without ever demanding a social security card or English fluency. That is only one very small reason that I'll never run for Congress. The main reason is that most of you hate me. For years, I've been telling friends who endorse any of the plans to establish English as the official language of the USA that they are narrow-minded, that such establishment



Dr. Henry Salzarulo

**Feedback is
encouraged.
email:**

hsalzarulo@aol.com

would be only symbolic, and an unhealthy symbol at that.

I've joyfully wallowed around in the great melting pot that is America, celebrating each contribution made by immigrants. My ancestors offered pizza, but I'm equally at home with spring rolls and quesadilla. Immigrants built the railroads and provided the sweat that made American steel. Funny little guys with strange names and odd outfits built America. The first

ones looked strange to native Americans. Later arrivals looked odd to the guys who looked strange to the natives. That's how our country was built. There has always been a new group, eager to do the back breaking, dirty work that no one else wants to do, or do it for wages that more established Americans were unwilling to accept. More recent immigrants have run our giant farms, slaughtered our cattle, trimmed our hedges, changed our babies' diapers, and established a distribution system for illicit drugs that makes Fed Ex green with envy.

I never intended, expected, nor supported establishing English as the official language of the United States of America. I knew that the newcomers would learn to speak English when they tired of putting down shingles in 90-degree heat. The new wave of Mexican immigrants differ from those of the past in that they often continue to think of themselves as Mexican, leave their families at home, and send U.S. dollars south. In that way, they are more like the Spanish conquistadors of the 16th century than the English settlers of the 17th. American dollars and cluster bombs are about the only things we export anymore, The dollars are a welcome and major import to Mexico.

While I was busy defending the rights of immigrants to preserve their cultures and speak their native languages, I expected that we would at least continue to offer English as an alternative on U.S. government publications. Unless I'm sadly mistaken, the customs declaration is an instrument of the United States government. I'm certain that they still print them in English, if for no other reason than that some flights originate in London. I wish they would load a few of the English version on my next flight back home, before I'm forced to learn a second language or rethink some of my most basic beliefs. Of course, if I did re-evaluate my position, you might like me better.



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Club helps with beach reclamation project on service trip

The weekend of May 25-26, The Girls' Clubhouse returned to the place of its inaugural end-of-year service trip 10 years ago – Charleston, S.C.

The club's first Charleston service project that May of 1998 was working with "Meals on Wheels" and members were graduates of Highlands School Class of 2004. This year it worked with the Charleston County Parks & Recreation Department on its Folly Beach reclamation project with its crew from Highlands School grades 6-8.

Over the last few years, Folly Beach on James Island outside of Charleston has eroded away due to frequent storms. Sand has been dredged from the bottom of Charleston Harbor and transported to Folly Beach to rebuild the beach.

Transported with the sand are reef rocks – rough, fossilized stones the size of a quarter on up. Some of the rocks are lying on the surface; others are just beneath the sand.

In response to complaints from beach-goers, who have stubbed their toes or cut their feet on the rocks, volunteers like The Girls' Clubhouse, and the parks department are slowly and deliberately removing them.

On Saturday, May 26, the group of 10 Girls' Clubhouse members gathered on the beach under balmy skies. The project began with an explanation from Karen Nugent, volunteer coordinator with Charleston Parks & Recreation, who explained the reason for the project. In addition to the inconvenience of having the rocks on the beach, she said the parks department wants the rocks removed because they aren't natural to the beach. "If they were meant



to be here, we would leave them," she said. "But since they were transported here, we are removing them."

The girls worked with Karen, picking up the rocks which were all embedded with some kind of sea life fossil. The rocks were put in the blue plastic bins whose contents were emptied into a golf cart bed and dumped on the shores of the Folly River as it empties into the ocean. The rocks, though unwanted on the beach itself, serve as erosion control devices along the river linking the ocean to the Intracoastal waterway running along the back of the Folly Beach Park.

The girls approached the back-breaking task with smiles and diligence, running into the ocean to catch the waves while Karen dumped the rocks at

the river bank.

In between resting at the cottage at James Island Park, shopping in the market in Charleston, enjoying a ghost walk tour, eating dinner at Tommy Condon's on Church Street, and spending most of Sunday at Splash Island, the girls rode bikes all over the park, every spare moment day or night.

All in all it was a great end-of-year service trip and culminated the club's 10th year of year-long service to the Highlands community. The club is made up of middle school girls grades 6-8 welcoming rising sixth-graders each fall.

A very special thanks goes to The Old Edwards Hospitality Group which contributed \$500 toward the trip; Judy Michaud, Colleen Fogel and Michele Muraco all of Meadows



From left are Skylar Wagner, Kristen Hedden, Gabrielle Tilson, Shelby Houston, Kaylyn Billingsley, Lindsay Wagner, Elizabeth Gordon, Amy Fogel, Sydney Wagner and Alex Michaud.

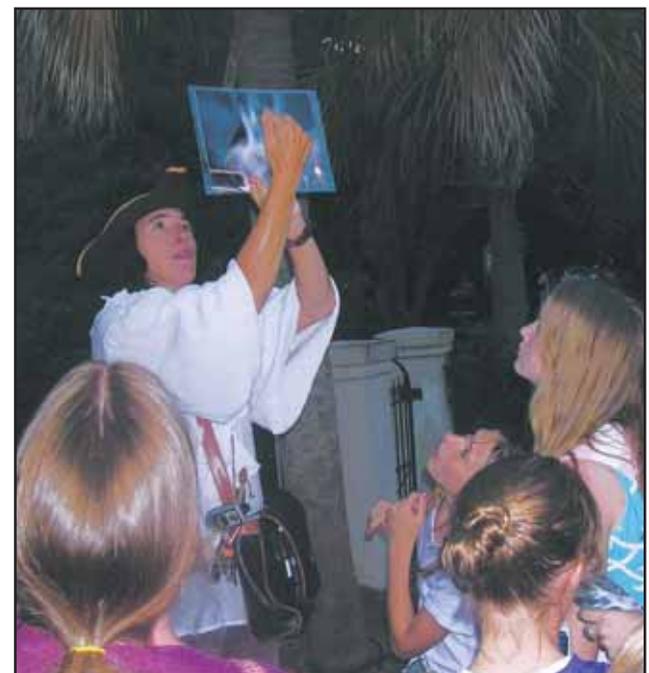
Karen Nugent and Lindsay Wagner carry a bin of reef rocks to the golf cart which was quickly filled. Below, Sydney Wagner displays a reef rock with a fossilized sea shell in it. To the right, the girls watch mesmerized during the ghost walk tour. Below the club poses with chaperone Clara Lewicki on the stairs of the cottage at James Island County Parks.

Photos by Kim Lewicki

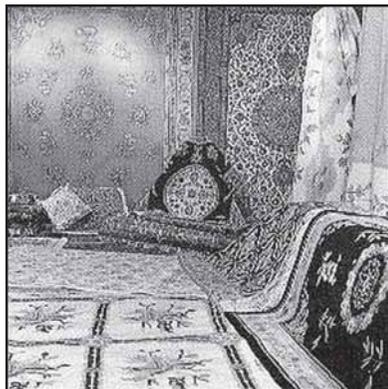


Mountain Realty who together contributed \$500; Ralph Stevens of Jolie's who contributed \$100; Highlands Own Internet Store which contributed \$100; Hillrie Quin who contributed \$100, and Tony and Terri Potts who contributed \$40. Thank you for supporting The Girls' Clubhouse in this way. You made the trip possible.

– Kim Lewicki



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• CONSERVATIVE POV •

It's been a slow news week...

Lately, I've been totally uninspired, which is panic time for one who writes a weekly column. If all else fails, some celebrity will do something stupid that gives me somebody to squawk about; however the best that surfaced this week was Lindsay Lohan's bad girl activities. Since I have no idea who she is or what she did to achieve her celebrity, I feel inadequate to



**Don Swanson
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encouraged. Email
swansonson@dnet.net**

comment on her recent fall from grace.

Just as I was about to call in sick, who should emerge from the slime but our old buddy, Sandy Berger. Now I wouldn't have called Berger a celebrity in his position as National Security Advisor under Bill Clinton. That position deserves more respect than celebrity, perhaps dignitary? But as a result of his unimaginable pilferage of sensitive documents from the National Archives and the scandal that ensued, I believe he has earned celebrity status.

The National Security Advisor serves as the chief advisor to the President on national security issues. The job puts its holder in the most trusted and sensitive position, and to a large extent, holds the safety of all of us in his hands. This requires the most solid and serious of individuals, a person of unimpeachable character. For four years, that person was Sandy Berger.

When Bush was elected, Berger was replaced by Condoleezza Rice, and one would have assumed that we had heard the last of him. Not so fast. To give a little background, in a lesser position during Clinton's first term, in 1994 Berger was ordered to divest himself of an investment in Amoco, which the administration considered a conflict of interest. It was discovered later that he had not sold the stock, claiming he "forgot." He was fined \$23,000 as a civil penalty.

In April, 1996, Berger briefed the Department of Energy (why them I have no idea) that China had acquired the designs of several U. S. nuclear warheads. He failed to inform the President until July, 1997. In 1999, the story came out and a furor followed, culminating in Lamar Alexander's demand that Berger resign. In his own defense, Berger said that a lot of information came across his desk and he didn't think it was important enough to inform the President for

more than a year.

He did not resign and he was not fired.

And now for the culmination (I hope) of his illustrious career. In 2003, while acting as informal foreign policy advisor to John Kerry's campaign, Berger was called to testify before the 9/11 Commission. They wanted to know what he passed along to his successor, Condoleezza

Rice, as to steps taken during his tenure against terrorism.

As you know, prior to his testimony, Berger visited the National Archives and while in a reading room, removed several top-secret documents by putting them in his attaché case, his jacket, his pants and his socks. When initially probed by reporters, he claimed this was accidental. What else would you expect from a "friend of Bill's?" He later came clean (?) by admitting that he actually, with malice aforethought, purposely secreted the documents out of the building, slicing some up and burying others.

Quoting from Wikipedia, "Critics suggest Berger destroyed primary evidence revealing anti-terrorism policies and actions and that his motive was to permanently erase Clinton pre-9/11 mistakes." Then House Speaker Dennis Hastert said "What information could be so embarrassing that a man with decades of experience in handling classified documents would risk being caught pilfering our nation's most sensitive secrets?" My sentiments exactly.

On April 1, 2005, (I hope the date isn't lost on you) Berger pled guilty to a misdemeanor. U. S. attorneys levied a \$10,000 fine and a loss of his security clearance for three years. Wow. The fine was later upped to \$50 G's. As part of his plea agreement, he was to take a polygraph test at the behest of the Justice Department. Hasn't happened yet and I doubt it ever will. Why not, I haven't a clue?

Berger currently said he'd turn in his law license to avoid further examination of this touchy subject. Now, if you or I perpetrated this nefarious deed, we would never again see the light of day. Had Scooter Libby done it, he'd probably have been drawn and quartered. Justice may or may not be blind, but sometimes it sure is hard to understand.

... STORMWATER continued from page 1

dinance to back it up."

Nix agreed. "The ordinance is priority number one. That affects everything else," he said.

Since the town's planning department is swamped, committee members Commissioners Alan Marsh, Hank Ross and Herb James suggested the town contract with McGill Associates to write the stormwater ordinance and matriculate it into the town's existing ordinance.

As part of the stormwater master plan, McGill supplied a stormwater matrix so it would be a matter of inserting established verbiage into the town's ordinance. "If we have the funds to draft the ordinance, let's have McGill do it," said Commissioner James. "There's no reason why we can't outsource this."

As to priority projects, Nix cited Fifth, Laurel and Pine streets – projects in the Mill Creek Basin — as needing immediate attention. "These areas haunt us as far as town hydraulics go," he said.

He also said Plan C for Pine Street Park; the use of greenways as a means of controlling and cleaning stormwater; and the building of parking decks are all inter-related with

aspects of each cited by experts as a means to a viable stormwater control plan. This also means such projects could be funded with Clean Water Management Trust Funds.

Plan C for Pine Street Park involved closing Pine Street to establish a block-long park and rerouting the stream above ground in a meandering fashion through the park. It currently runs through Village Square, and under Pine and Fourth streets until it empties into Mill Creek by Meadows Mountain Realty.

Nix said the park design with the open stream would be the answer to the flooding problem because it would provide a much wider, meandering channel.

"Open channel hydraulics are much better than closed-pipe hydraulics" he said. "It would help matters, plus it's cheaper than putting the stream through a 48-inch pipe under the street and park."

Currently the stream turns at 90-degree angles, which causes stopping-up and flooding problems.

Since the potential loss of parking on Pine Street has some people up in arms, Plan C-A has been devised where the park's border would be at Pine Street Alley instead

of Fourth Street, which would leave about eight parking spaces intact from CK Swan to Fourth Street.

Plan alternatives will be discussed at 5:30 p.m. during the June 7 Pine Street Park Forum at the Highlands Community Building.

Nix said Pine Street Park plans C and C-A play right into McGill's suggestions for stormwater control.. He also said McGill suggests the town consider parking decks rather than devoting additional land to impervious surfaces for parking – a major contributor to rapid stormwater runoff.

"They suggest strategically building parking decks where central runoff can be managed rather than adding more impervious areas," he said.

Commissioner Ross said one idea discussed by the architects designing the new Town Hall complex, is building a parking deck where the ABC store is, which could also serve as a garage for police cars, parking for the Playhouse and possibly public restrooms. It is also land the town already owns.

At its June 6 Town Board meeting, commissioners were agreeable to the idea of outsourcing the writing of the stormwa-

ter ordinance and to budgeting for stormwater projects as is being done for the Town Hall complex and Greenway. – KL

Two CLE classes with openings

Tuesday June 12: "A Highlands Garden Through the Seasons" with Jodie Benson Zahner from 10 a.m. to noon at the Performing Art Center on Chestnut Street. This slide show and discussion of our native flora is limited and there is a small charge of \$30 for non-members.

The following Friday June 15 will feature Philip Morsberger: "Passion for Painting." Also at the PAC from 10-12, Morsberger will display three canvases he is currently working on giving insight into his process. Much of his work is covered in a new book by Christopher Lloyd, surveyor of the "Queen's Painting Collection," discussing Philip's work.

If you would like to take part in either of these classes please phone Mary Myers at the Peggy Crosby Center 526-8811 between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m., Monday through Friday.

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• SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING •

The power of love



**Pastor Kim Ingram
Highlands United
Methodist Church**

Last month I saw a fourth grade class sing the song *Love in Any Language* at the Macon County Talent Show. In my adolescence, I used to listen to Sandy Patti sing it on cassette tape. It is a powerful song because it reminds us that LOVE “pulls us all together, never apart and once we learn to speak it, all the world will hear love in any language fluently spoken here.”

That has been my experience in the five years we have spent in Highlands. Love pulls this community together in a way that unifies and celebrates. It is my Christian belief that the love of God through Jesus Christ lives in our hearts, our minds, and our lives and in our churches, school, businesses, parks, and all of creation in a way that creates unity among our diversity. The love that persons have for one another, for this community, for God’s creation, is what has inspired me and made me too, love Highlands. It is that love that I will miss as we leave to move and serve in Charlotte in a couple of weeks.

Having the opportunity to serve at the Highlands School in the classroom or with the PTO. Serving on the Highlands Community Child Development Center Board, the Highlands Effective Living Program (HELP) Committee, and the Peggy Crosby Center Board. Co-pastoring Highlands United Methodist Church. Living on Cherokee Drive. I have loved being a part of the Highlands Community. Getting to know diverse and interesting people. Making life-time friendships. I will miss greeting you at the post office, the grocery store, or the red light. I will miss the beauty and coolness of the mountains. I will miss the shared nature of raising our children – being a village for them.

In this final column, I encourage you to continue the love that enriches the community and brings everyone together. In the wedding over which I presided on Saturday and again at the baccalaureate service for the Highlands School Class of 2007 on Sunday, the words from 1 Corinthians, chapter 13, were read. These words were not written for a romantic setting nor were they intended as advice to a couple getting married. These words were written for the body of Christ, to learn how to live together, to show how to treat one another: *Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends.* (v. 4-8a)

These words, written to the church at Corinth, and applicable for us today, teach us how to be a community. They teach us a selfless, giving kind of love. A love that doesn’t put our own wants and needs first. It is a love that calls us to be inclusive, welcoming, and outreaching. I encourage you to keep this kind of love first in all of your decisions, your words, your actions, and your relationships.

I will miss you! Thank you for including us in your community and your lives. I pray God’s blessings and peace in the many days ahead.

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Prayer – 6:30 p.m.
Evening Service – 1st & 3rd Sunday -- 7 p.m.

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Wednesdays: 5:15 p.m. Students' Dinner
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5:30 p.m. Supper; 5:45 p.m. - 7:15 pm Small Groups
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Bible Study 6pm-7pm Choir Practice
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Tuesday: 8 A.M.-Men's Cursillo Group; 9:30 A.M-Staff
Meeting; 4:30 P.M.-EFM Meeting
Wednesday: 4 P.M.-Vestry Meeting; 5:30 P.M.-Dinner; 6
P.M. - Program; 6:30 P.M.-Choir Practice
Thursday: 10 A.M.-Holy Eucharist in Chapel; 10:30
A.M.-Daughters of the King
Sunday:
8 A.M.-Holy Eucharist (Rite I) Chapel; 8:30 A.M.-
Breakfast; 9 A.M.-Sunday School ; 9:45 A. M.-Choir
Practice; 10:30 A.M.- Holy Eucharist (Rite II); 5 P.M.
• Sunday Service on Channel 14 Sun. at 10:30 a.m.

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Wed: dinner 5 p.m. followed by childrens
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
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Mondays: 8 a.m. – Men's Bible Discussion & Breakfast
Tuesdays: 10 a.m. – Seekers
Choir – 7

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Wednesdays: Prayer & Bible Study – 7

HIGHLANDS 7TH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH
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HIGHLANDS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Pastors Eddie & Kim Ingram, 526-3376
Sun.: school 9:45 a.m.; Worship 8:30 a.m. & 11 a.m.;
5 p.m. Youth Group
Wed: noon – Men's Emmaus Reunion Group; 4:45 –
Children's choir and handbells; 5:30 – Supper; 6 –
Adult Handbells; 6:15 – children, youth, & adults
studies;
7:15 – Adult choir
(nursery provided for Wed. p.m. activities)
Thurs:12:30 – Women's Bible Study (nursery)

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

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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

Public airs views about county 2007-2008 budget at public hearing

Following a four-hour work session on Sunday, June 3 where the Macon County Commission hashed over budget appropriations for schools, teacher supplements, the fire tax and the sheriff department, commissioners heard what the public had to say at a hearing Monday night.

Those who usually attend the monthly commission meetings filed into courtroom A at the courthouse and said their peace about undesignated fund balances in the county and school budgets, as well as the school budget as a whole, the reality of revenue neutral budgets, ad valorem and fire district taxes, and the proposed one percent land transfer tax.

"It's very interesting that the very same people holding up the 25-cent signs at previous meetings are here complaining about taxes after we established the rate at 24.5 cents, saying we're spending too much money," said Macon County Commissioner Jim Davis.

He said the commission has been working very hard on the budget and doesn't spend the public treasury irresponsibly.

The first at the podium was Superintendent Dan Brigman who said he was there to clarify the requested operational budget for the schools.

He said since the school system hasn't been 100% budgeted since 2003-2004, projects have had to be carried over to subsequent years. "For three years, the capital outlay budget has been a status-quo budget. Without full funding, something had to be carried over and we have had to use money to cover that period."

Brigman said the school system is requesting 3.76% increase to compensate for last year's loss and even with that the annual increase is only 5.99%.

Another issue was the request for an increase to teacher supplements. It's no secret that Macon County falls behind other counties in the state in that category.

"Supplements help us maintain a high-quality staff and gives us a little bit of a competitive edge," said Brigman.

Teacher Darlene McDowell gave an impassioned talk about the life and responsibilities of teachers. "If you don't put money into education, you will end up paying more in welfare and social services later," she said. "We should be recognized as the professionals we are and we should be paid for the work we do."

Bob Leavry questioned the school system's budget saying it should be cut and that the undesignated fund balance should be used. He said Macon County Schools' graduation rate of just 62% is not something the county should be proud of. He also suggested paying bonuses to attract math and science teachers and to consider merit pay for teachers instead of a standard pay increase.

Commission Chairman Charlie Leatherman, who is a math teacher at Macon Mid-

dle School, said it's true that America's education system is in crisis. "Somewhere between Head Start and No Child Left Behind something has gone very, very wrong, but it's not a Macon County problem, it's a national problem." He said he believes Macon County has one of the finest school systems in the state if not the country.

Commissioner Ronnie Beale said they are trying to do the right thing by the schools and that teachers have become psychologists, social workers, and nurses. "Combine all those salaries and you're just getting close to what a teacher should be making," he said.

Commissioner Simpson said schools and the county's children are the number one priority. "The county has always taken care of the schools and we won't let our children down," he said.

John Cleaveland from Highlands said the commissioners set a good tax rate on one hand but then took it back with the land transfer tax.

"The real estate market isn't as active as it used to be. Adding another tax makes no sense. You say it's to fund infrastructure, but the people paying this transfer tax don't get much for their tax dollar from Macon County. Their kids don't go to school here. About the only thing they get is use of the land fill and most of them have to cart their garbage there themselves."

He beseeched the commission to rethink the transfer tax. "Real Estate can't carry everything in this county. We don't want people to start thinking about going somewhere else."

Chairman Leatherman said the transfer tax isn't a done deal. "All we did was sign a resolution in support of it, asking that all 100 counties be allowed to have the same tax the six counties down east have. The people still have the power and they will decide with a referendum," he said.

However he said the one percent transfer tax would reduce the county's property taxes by 6-8 cents yearly. "That will result in a reduction in property taxes for citizens who don't do anything except just live here," he said.

Cleaveland also said Macon County is in the greatest prosperity it has ever known so it just doesn't make sense to talk about a \$70 million bond. "The good times aren't going to last forever and when it turns it will be a long slide down," he said. "You need to fund our needs, not our wants. Think about what this is going to cost us."

Commissioners will vote on 2007-2008 budget at the June 18 commission meeting at 6 p.m.

- Kim Lewicki

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Duke Energy Carolinas seeks first base rate increase since 1991

• Town of Highlands wholesale rates not affected at this time •

Duke Energy Carolinas last Friday asked for permission to increase revenues from all its North Carolina customers. In the proposal, Nantahala Area residential customers will see an average increase of 6.2 percent, or about \$5.40 on a typical monthly bill (using 1,000 kWh).

The Nantahala Area has approximately 70,000 customers in the far western NC counties of Cherokee, Clay, Graham, Jackson, Macon, and Swain that are served by Duke Energy.

The requested rate increase, filed with the North Carolina Utilities Commission varies by customer class.

Upon approval, residential customers would move to the new rates effective January 1, 2008. Existing general service and industrial customers will be transitioned to Duke Energy Carolinas' rate schedules over time. Duke Energy has proposed average rate increases for general service and industrial customers in the remainder of their

North Carolina service area of 2 percent or less. Duke expects an answer "sometime very late this year."

Town Administrator Richard Betz said Highlands' town attorneys in Washington, who handle its power issues, confirmed that the increase discussed in this announcement will not affect Highlands' wholesale power rates. "Nor is there a rate increase proposed for the 2007-2008 budget," he said.

Ellen Ruff, president of Duke Energy Carolinas said the proposed rate increase will help ensure Duke Energy Carolinas' ability to provide safe, reliable and economic electric service to our customers while adding to and modernizing the electric infrastructure we need to support North Carolina's continued growth.

Such modernization will require significant capital expenditures over the next several years. Duke Energy Carolinas believes the rate increase is essential for the company to maintain a strong financial profile and

attract the capital necessary for these large-scale projects.

Customers have seen increases in their bills over the years as they use more electricity and as annual adjustments are made for fuel costs. However, this is the first proposed change in Duke base rates in 16 years.

Costs other than fuel are recovered through base rates. Since 1990, the company has invested more than \$9 billion in power plants and equipment to serve customers in the Carolinas without asking for an increase in those rates.

The company has held the line on electric prices primarily by reducing operating and maintenance expenses, increasing system efficiency and adding revenue from new customers. However, today the utility's costs continue to rise and exceed growth in customer revenue.

"While the price of just about everything has gone up, Duke Energy Carolinas' base rates have not changed since 1991 and are more than 27 percent below the national average," said Ruff. "Even with the requested increase, our prices will still be very competitive and lower than they were 16 years ago, when adjusted for inflation," she said.

In the rate review, Duke Energy Caroli-

nas will also address the manner in which the cost of service is assigned to various customer classes. Currently, some customer groups bear a greater share of that cost than is appropriate. The proposed new rates attempt to address that by allocating a larger portion of this proposed increase to certain customer classes.

Duke Energy Corp., one of the largest electric power companies in the United States, supplies and delivers energy to approximately 3.9 million U.S. customers. The company has nearly 37,000 megawatts of electric generating capacity in the Midwest and the Carolinas, and natural gas distribution services in Ohio and Kentucky. In addition, Duke Energy has more than 4,000 megawatts of electric generation in Latin America, and is a joint-venture partner in a U.S. real estate company.

Duke Energy's Carolinas operations include nuclear, coal-fired, natural gas and hydroelectric generation. That diverse fuel mix provides nearly 21,000 megawatts of safe, reliable and competitively priced electricity to more than 2.3 million electric customers in a 24,000-square-mile service area in North and South Carolina.

Bill would expand 'sex ed' topics

By Susanna Hearn
Reporter

Recent presentations by Franklin High School students regarding sexual education at local schools have highlighted problems with the current Abstinence-Until-Marriage (AUM) curriculum and the rate of teen pregnancies in Macon County.

"I am aware of 16 pregnant students at Franklin High School this year," said Dan Brigman, Macon County School Superintendent. "This number is slightly up from the 13 in our area last year. Sexual activity definitely occurs among members of our community, including our school-aged population."

New House Bill 879 would make sexual education in North Carolina comprehensive. Sexual Education would still be abstinence-based while educating students preventing sexually transmitted diseases and pregnancy if they choose to be sexually active.

According to statistics from the Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention website, 63 percent of NC teens have had sex by the time they reach their senior year of high school, and NC ranks ninth in the nation for the highest teen pregnancy rate.

"We cover a wide array of topics throughout the grade levels regarding our current Abstinence-based Sex Education program, including risks involved with sexual activity," said Brigman.

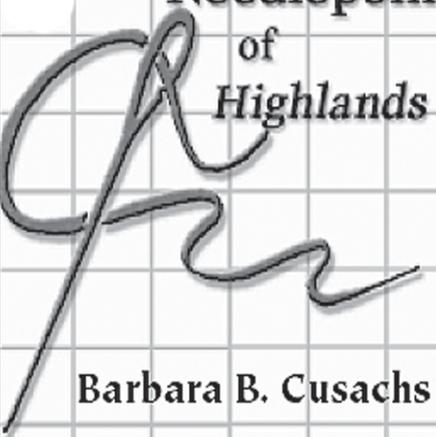
The current program evaluates how a mutually faithful monogamous heterosexual relationship in the context of marriage is the best lifelong means of avoiding sexually transmitted diseases including HIV/AIDS while also comparing and contrasting methods of contraception, their effectiveness and failure rates, and the risks associated with different methods of contraception as a means of preventing STDs.

Still proponents of HB 879 believe that the Abstinence-Until-Marriage program fails to accurately address all the issues pertaining to sexual education. According to Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention the success of AUM programs is based on opinions and not actual sexual behavior, and is not actually responsible for the drop in teen pregnancy rates which have been falling since 1990.

"Educating our youth about the risks and potential outcomes of risky behavior should be a collaborative effort and involve the home (parents/guardians) as well as the local churches," said Brigman.

HB 879 would allow parents to opt their children out of sexuality education if they prefer, and it would not jeopardize Federal Abstinence funding. North Carolina receives \$1.4 million annually in Title V abstinence education funds, and under HB 879 NC could continue to receive these funds.

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Highlands School High School Awards Assembly -- June 4

Perfect Attendance:

These students have been present everyday and have had no more than 3 tardies for the 2006-2007 school year. Thomas Forrester, Eric Chen, Alex Hedden, Jessi Johnson, Allison Winn

Honor Roll Recognition:

The following students have made all A's during the first 5 six-weeks of school: Amanda Bruce, Ashley Dickey, Brice Jenkins, Kate Marie Parks, Casey Jenkins, Kyle Lassiter, Brittany Dryman, Chase Jenkins

The following students have made all A's and B's during the first 5 six-weeks of school: Katie Durham, Shelby Johnson, Beverly Nix, Andrew Billingsley, William Edwards, Alex Hedden, Carolyn Hornsby, Luke McClellan, Matt McClellan, Griselda Sanchez, Jessica Dryman, Katie Pierce, Greg Porter, Taylor Stinson, Sally Wheeler, Sara Bates, Amanda Chambers, Nick Kerhoulas, Pamela Potts, Sara Vanderbilt

Extra-Curricular Awards:

12TH Grade Class Officers: President, Angela Sanchez, Vice President, Lara Gibson, Secretary/Treasurer, Sara Bates

11TH Grade Class Officers: President, Sally Wheeler, Vice President, Greg Porter, Treasurer, Jessica Dryman

10TH Grade Class Officers: President, Matt McClellan, Vice President, Andrew Billingsley, Secretary, Ezra Herz, Treasurer, Will Edwards

9TH Grade Class Officers: President, Brice Jenkins, Vice President, Jessi Johnson, Secretary, Eli Dryman, Treasurer, Beverly Nix

Student Government Officers: President: Lucy Herz; Vice President: Chase Jenkin, Secretary/Treasurer, Sara Bates

Beta Club Awards: President, Eric Chen, Vice-President, Lucy Herz, Secretary, Allison Winn, Treasurer, Lara Gibson

Interact Club: President, Allison Winn
HS Band Award: Lucy Herz

Yearbook Staff Seniors: Jason Aspinwall, Jacob Bowers, Lara Gibson, Darin Keener, Angela Sanchez, Alec Schmitt
Junior Marshals: These are selected based on highest academic average in prescribed courses: Kyle Lassiter (chief marshal), Sally Wheeler, Katie Pierce, Michael Grabe, Jessica Dryman, Greg Porter, Taylor Stinson

Valedictorian: Chase Jenkins

Salutatorian: Lucy Herz

NC Scholars – (an overall B average in prescribed courses) Sara Bates, Eric Chen, Lara Gibson, Lucy Herz, Chase Jenkins, Angela Sanchez, Allison Winn

Senior Honor Students: (Beta Club members) Kelli Baer, Amanda Chambers, Eric Chen, Brittany Dryman, Lara Gibson, Lucy Herz, Chase Jenkins, Nick Kerhoulas, Pamela Potts

Classroom Academic Recognition:

Chemistry: Kyle Lassiter

Earth Environmental Science: Brice Jenkins



Highlands School seniors Class of 2007

Physical Science: Krystal Cutshaw

Biology: Brittany Dryman

William Gilbert Prize in Physics: Eric Chen

Honorable Mention for the Physics Award: Lucy Herz, Chase Jenkins

Linus Pauling Prize in Chemistry:

Kyle Lassiter

Mathematics:

Technical Math I (1st Semester): Maricia Owens

Technical Math I (2nd Semester): Krystal Cutshaw

Technical Math II: Bobbi Jo Talley

Geometry (1st Semester): Kate-Marie Parks

Geometry (2nd Semester): Brice Jenkins

Algebra I: Brice Jenkins

Algebra II (1st Semester): Jessica Dryman

Algebra II (2nd Semester): Carolyn Hornsby

Advanced Functions and Modeling: Lara Gibson

Precalculus: Kyle Lassiter

Calculus I: Chase Jenkins, Kyle Lassiter

AP Calculus II: Eric Chen

English I Honors: Kate-Marie Parks

English II Honors: Carolyn Hornsby, Casey Jenkins, Luke McClellan, Matt McClellan

English III: Bailey Buck

English III Honors: Amanda Parmelee

English IV: Brittany Dryman

English IV Honors (1st Semester): Allison Winn

English IV Honors (2nd Semester): Kelli Baer

World History: Brittany Dryman

World History Honors: Brice Jenkins, Kate-Marie Parks

Civics: Alex Hedden, Zach Raborn

U.S. History College Prep: Kaylie Buras, Jake Heffington

U.S. History Honors: Sara Bates, Jessica Dryman, Michael Grabe, Greg Porter

European History: Kyle Lassiter

Current Events: Ashley Dickey

Sociology: Taylor Stinson

French I: Eric Chen, Casey Jenkins

French II: Eric Chen, Casey Jenkins

French III: Lucy Herz, Chase Jenkins

French Art Award: Sara Bates

French Drama Award: Lucy Herz, Chase Jenkins, Nick Kerhoulas

Spanish I: Jake Heffington

Lifetime Activities: Will Edwards

Computer Applications I (5th Period):

Amanda Bruce

Computer Applications I (Block):

Ashley Dickey, Kate-Marie Parks

Computer Applications II: Sally Wheeler

Accounting I: Thomas Forrester

e-Commerce I: JT Schandolph

Foods I: Griselda Sanchez

Foods II: Carly Alexander

Teen Living: Sarah Hedden

Apparel Development I: Leticia Reyes

Construction I: Kyle Lassiter

Construction II: Craig McCall

Fundamentals of Technology: Kyle Lassiter, Katie Pierce

Drafting I: Will Edwards, Alex Hedden

Drafting II: Thomas Forrester

Drafting III: Adam Chandler

Art I: Amanda Bruce, Brice Jenkins

Art II: Matt McClellan

Art III: Toni Schmitt

Art IV: Sara Bates

Ceramics: Taylor Stinson

Department Awards

Social Studies: Chase Jenkins

Math: Lucy Herz

Art: Eric Chen

Music: Casey Jenkins

French: Lucy Herz, Chase Jenkins

Family and Consumer Science: Lauren Dalton

Business: Krystal Cutshaw

Other Awards

Wendy's High School Heisman National Nominees: In Recognition of Outstanding Achievements in Scholarship, Athletics, and Citizenship: Jason Aspinwall, Allison Winn

Woodman of the World for Excellence in American History: Jacob Bowers

NC Council of the Social Studies' Outstanding Senior Award for outstanding achievement in Social Studies: Lucy Herz

Brevard College Book Award: Taylor Stinson

PTO Honor Roll Award: Jessica Dryman, Alex Hedden

New Century Scholars: James Miller, Jeff Potts

The following awards are nominated and voted on by the Highlands School Faculty and Staff.

- **The Highlander Service Award** is awarded to the community individual, club or organization that has consistently been supportive of Highlands School throughout the years: Kim Ingram

- **The Highlander Pride Award** goes to a senior that has gone far beyond what was "expected" and completed what was "asked" and "even more." This award recognizes examples of Highlands' School Best. Part of the award reads as follows: "For those who give of themselves with Highlander Pride for the betterment of Highlands School: Craig McCall.

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Barbara Brown Taylor & James Costa to sign at Cyranos on Saturday, June 9

Barbara Brown Taylor, author of "Leaving Church: A Memoir of Faith" will meet customers and sign copies of her book at Cyranos's Bookshop on Saturday, June 9, from 1-3 p.m.; while James T. Costa — whose signing was postponed from last week — will sign copies of "The Other Insect Societies" from 3:30-5 p.m. Dr. Costa is the executive director of the Highlands Biological Station. His fascinating and beautifully illustrated book examines the social behavior of those insects beyond the bees, ants and wasps which usually get all the attention.

The Rev. Brown was the rector of Grace-Calvary Episcopal Church in Clarksville, Ga., and is now the Butman Professor of Religion at Piedmont College. Reviews and interviews in the Atlanta Journal-Constitution, the New York Times, National Public Radio's "Fresh Air" and other media have helped make "Leaving Church" a publishing phenomenon. In the Dallas Morning News critic Lauren Miller wrote, "I loved this book. Her beautiful, absorbing memoir will bless countless readers, helping us see God in the church, and out in the world, and in small interstices in between."

"Leaving Church" chronicles Taylor's life-long spiritual quest and eventual crisis:

After five years leading a parish — the one thing she most wanted to do in this world — Taylor realized she was depressed, that her role as priest was all consuming, suffocating her own relationship with God: "To be a priest is to suspect that there is always something more urgent that you should be doing, no matter what you are doing, and to make peace with the fact that the work will never get done." In Clarksville she led a very, very small civil-rights march past angry Ku Klux Klan members and also learned how to post bond for wayward church members, lead an intervention, hide a woman from her violent husband, visit death row and "close the eyes on a dead body." But she also shared in the joys of weddings and baptisms and the more secular rituals of small-town life. In the end, Barbara Brown Taylor left her church, not the priesthood — and she kept her faith in God. "Committing myself to the task of becoming fully human is saving my life now . . . there is more than one way to do this . . . [but] because I am a Christian, I do it by imitating Christ."

Cyranos's Bookshop is on Main Street in Highlands. Books can be reserved for autographing by calling (828) 526-5488 or sending an e-mail to cyranos@nctv.com.

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... HOSPITAL continued from page 19

other hand, there is no success without physician leadership," he added.

Kaufman said a quick comparison of the charges for treating several key diagnoses at this and several surrounding hospitals showed that rates here may be well below average. "You are a real bar-

gain. I hope your patients know that."

Over the course of the next several months the board will take a more in-depth look at operational trends, the hospital's charge structure, its current mission statement, and other key factors, as it begins to draft a new strategic plan.

... HIS & HER continued from page 6

a bun! You don't like the "pain" in *pain au chocolat*? It just means "bread." Hey, we live in the country of Death by Chocolate! And we're squeamish about pain?

What's with calling a filet mignon, a "petite steak?" Steak is masculine, not feminine. It's "un steak," not "une steak," so if you must insist on the French version, it's "un petit steak." Better still, why don't just call it a small steak?

Someone asked me how to say "doggie bag" in French. We don't have them. In France, the emphasis is on quality, not quantity. When I first moved to New York, I ordered a deli sandwich which was so huge, I took it home. I got five meals out of it, including the first one in the deli.

... BRUGGER continued from page 5

Many scientists don't seem to realize that sometimes when you can't measure something, it's not that it doesn't exist or that it is really, really small; sometimes it means that you are asking the wrong questions or using the wrong equipment.

Think of some of the strange things scientists have been talking about in recent years: Subatomic particles blinking in and out of existence — like your finger dipping in and out of the

French meals are based on having several small courses, not one huge heaping plate full of food. And if you don't finish your food, you just leave it in your plate, you don't haul it home.

It's nice to sit around with John these days, sharing meals. It sure makes a pleasant change from those lonely weekends in New York. Do you know what a *ménage à trois* is for a single woman in New York? Her and Ben & Jerry.

• About the Author: Michelle A. Mead is a writer and translator who grew up in Waynesboro, Virginia, before wasting her youth and good looks in Baltimore, Sydney, Paris, and New York. She is a member of the Highlands Writers Group.

water. Particles splitting and maintaining a link as they travel to opposite corners of the universe — your fingers moving apart into a V.

Maybe we're only seeing a tiny part of the whole picture.

Maybe the world of the spirit isn't some place foreign to the physical world; maybe it's here and now surrounding us if we just had the eyes to see.

... LETTERS continued from page 2

Excercise saved me!

Dear Editor,

I would like to say I woke up and saw the light. But until a 14-year-old dog and a hike up Sunset Rock for the environment, I was clueless. I just was not listening even though the call was awfully loud. I can be rather deaf at times.

What happened? That 14-year-old dog passed me up on the road to Sunset Rock. That dad gum dog told me it was time I did more exercise than sitting at my beloved computer. I do thank Don Mullen for his kindness in saying it was probably because I'd just come back from the bottom lands. Highlands has a thoughtful mayor and probably a doctor with instincts that this gal might fall right over!

I used to be quite active in my much younger years. I'm heading for the Big 6-0 at the end of the year. Somewhere along the way, I became allergic to sweat. That's right. Those big drops that cascade down the back of my neck just thinking about exercise. Any more and I'm headed to the shower...to rest.

I'd like to give my thanks to Highlands-Cashiers Hospital and Health Tracks. I've seen the articles in the paper in the past but I was sure they weren't for me. It took a dog and a walk to convince me otherwise. So how am I getting past the sweat part? I'm taking their twice-a-week class for those with osteoporosis, either here or coming down the pike. It's a weight-bearing class and we go at our own speed. We just choose lesser weights at first. Don't get me wrong, I'm not a gung ho exerciser yet. The best words I like are "Rest" (Susanna and her sunny attitude) and "Good Job" (Erin). These gals have lots of patience!

Teri Bauer
Highlands

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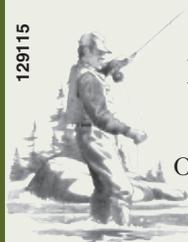
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MC Healthy Carolinians review health assessment

Developing a volunteer medical clinic, addressing obesity and supporting families are among the priorities identified in a new comprehensive health care assessment completed by Healthy Carolinians of Macon County (HCMC) and reviewed at the group's annual meeting May 22 at Macon Bank Corporate Offices.

HCMC is a public-private partnership focused on improving health and safety for Macon County residents. President Barbara McRae convened the annual meeting and told the group of more than 60 of the important opportunities that have been identified by the health care assessment process.

"An assessment is like many snapshots of the community taken over a long period of time," said Bill Stiles of Stiles Healthcare Strategy, Inc., who presented at the meeting. Stiles served as a consultant to HCMC and facilitated development of the assessment over a 10-month period. The assessment involved community interviews, focus groups, a survey of 460 households and review of secondary research from state,

regional and national sources.

Among the findings of the assessment are:

- Lack of insurance is major barrier to health care. Those without insurance are less likely to see a doctor, be screened for common diseases and treated for chronic ailments like diabetes and hypertension.

- Among those participating in the survey, 9% delayed getting medical care and 10% delayed getting a prescription because they could not afford it.

- That obesity is a major problem in the county, especially among young adults. The HCMC study found that 39% of those 25 years old to 34 are obese.

- Access to mental health services is difficult. About 17% of Macon families have had difficulty accessing help for mental health or substance abuse problems. A lack of local treatment options is the main reason for the access problem.

Parents and youth have very different perspectives on youth behavior and experiences. For example, 16% of parents report their child has been bullied by

another child, but 39% percent of middle school students say they have been bullied. Only 11% of parents worry about their children using alcohol, but as many as 46% of middle school students report experience drinking.

While some findings define problems, others describe the quality of life in Macon County. For example:

- 90% of residents rate quality of life here as good to excellent.

- 93% of workers say they are happy in their jobs.

- 95% of elderly — those over age 75 — feel they have adequate transportation to get where they want to go.

- Children have wide access to medical care; 96% of children have seen a doctor or health care professional in the past year.

The full assessment report will be made available to the public in early July.

"As with our past research and reports, we will place the new comprehensive health care assessment on the county web site and make its findings available to any interested

• See HEALTHY page 23

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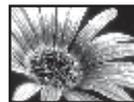
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Communities should get behind hospital, consultant says

Highlands-Cashiers Hospital may be the most unusual, most challenging hospital in the country to manage, a nationally known consultant told hospital board members this past Thursday.

Nathan S. Kaufman, of Kaufman Strategic Advisors, LLC, of San Diego, CA, said he has worked with hospitals and healthcare companies across the country, both small community owned facilities and huge corporate behemoths. "Yours is one of the most difficult, if not the most difficult, hospital to understand and manage that I've ever come across," he said during a day-long planning retreat held Thursday at The Mountain Conference Center in Highlands.

Kaufman, who has 25 years experience in healthcare management, was hired by the board earlier this year to help the hospital develop a strategic plan. He is an acknowledged expert in the fields of peak performance of hospitals and physician groups, hospital strategy, physician compensation, integrated delivery systems, managed care, joint ventures and dispute resolution. In addition to being a noted lecturer and author, he serves on a number of advisory and editorial boards, and has appeared many times as an expert witness in healthcare arbitration cases.

For the past six weeks he and his staff have been pouring over financial data, demographic figures, and utilization trends to come up with a "bird's eye" view of the hospital's situation. At times, Kaufman seemed genuinely astonished that a hospital exists here at all, much less one with such an extensive physician community.

At a time when there is a national physician shortage, when small hospitals are closing all over the country, and when many others are in a downward spiral, Kaufman said, "It's amazing to me that you've been able to recruit and retain the physicians you have. It's a miracle you have a radiologist up here, for example, when there are many larger hospitals that can't even find a full-time radiologist."

This area is fortunate to even have a hospital, given a year-round population of only about 8,000, he added. Kaufman said it usually requires a year-round population of 20,000 to 30,000 to support even a small hospital, and many of those are struggling.

"This is as difficult a situation to manage as any place I've ever seen," he added.

Board member Julian Franklin pointed out that past boards have always understood that having a hospital here re-

quired major financial support in the form of donations from the community. Kaufman agreed, saying that a major for-profit corporation such as HCA would certainly never consider starting a hospital under this circumstance. "Having a hospital in an area of only 8,000 year-round residents is a 'dog that won't hunt.'"

He said he was dumbfounded to learn the extent of the controversy that has surrounded the hospital over the past two years.

"I don't usually editorialize, but the level of dissension that has occurred in your market is crazy," he said. "It's vitally important that everyone in your communities get behind the hospital if they expect to have a hospital here in the future."

And he had a dire warning. "If the community doesn't get behind the hospital, then the job (of keeping the hospital viable) is going to be just too difficult to sustain."

Outside management companies aren't the answer, Kaufman said, adding, "They don't have any magic bullets." He said the hospital is already doing many of the things a management company would do, such as group purchasing of supplies. And he called the effort the hospital has made to hold down costs, par-

ticularly salaries, "heroic." But after reviewing the hospital's finances for the last several years, Kaufman said that cost cutting in this particular case is not the answer. "You aren't going to be able to shrink your way into profitability."

"This is a hard hospital to figure out. I don't think that the professional hospital management companies have any experience or quick fixes for a hospital such as Highland-Cashiers."

Pressures throughout the health care industry are creating friction between hospitals and their physicians all over the country, he said, and the traditional hospital-physician relationship is no longer sustainable. For one thing, more and more physicians are leaving independent private practice and working directly for hospitals. He said it is more important than ever for hospitals and physicians to work together, not only to improve patient care, but to improve efficiency and productivity. Kaufman told the group that little good can happen in health care without both money and physician leadership.

"There are times when it's necessary to make certain physicians unhappy. You can't view the success of the hospital just in terms of physician happiness. On the

•See HOSPITAL page 17



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Clear Creek Baptist
Church
The Week of
June 24
Beginning Sunday,
June 24 at 7 p.m.

Leadership Highlands Class of 2006-2007 graduates



The Leadership Highlands graduation party was held at the Main Street Inn.

By K. E. Evans

It was a gorgeous balmy evening when the Leadership Highlands class of 2006-2007, Chamber members, Leadership Highlands board members and alumni met at the Main Street Inn for a final farewell: The Graduation Celebration.

Eleanor Crowe-Young was nominated and has accepted the three-year term as the Leadership Highlands Representative for the class of 2006-2007. Robin Armstrong-Neil was elected Member-at-Large for our class.

Each Leadership Class selects a project that has a positive impact on the community. We decided on two. One project is dedicated to the entity, "Leadership Highlands." While participating in the Christmas Parade our class felt that it was time for "product identity:" a Leadership Highlands logo. Ronnie Stilton recommended local graphic artist and writer, Lonnie Busch. Lonnie generously offered his vast talent to this complex project. With the help and expertise of class member Lorna Alexander a sophisticated timeless logo was created for our class and more importantly for future leadership class recognition.

Highlands is a destination that is growing rapidly and as we went through the year our class was presented with many opportunities and project possibilities that would make a significant contribution to the community. After much thought and deliberation our class unanimously decided that we could best serve our community by supplying an additional treatment room to the Community Care Clinic. The need is tremendous. The clinic is a non-profit organization that believes everyone in our community deserves basic affordable health care. It is open one evening a week. It is staffed by volunteers and has been operating above capacity since its doors opened. Our project is to fully finish an existing (presently unusable) treatment room so that quality medical services can be provided in a timely fashion to those who are in need.

What we learned this year was invaluable. Eleven, very diverse, talented, leaders, successful each in their own right, came together. We learned from a challenging, complex educational program that gave tremendous insight into the heart and soul of our community. But, what we learned from each other might possibly have more intrinsic long-term value. Leadership Highlands became an experience of personal growth that extended beyond our individual comfort zones in a program well worth our commitment, hard work and time.

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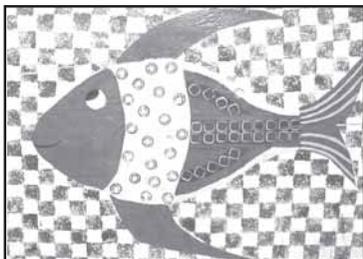
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• TOWN-WIDE PERFORMING ARTS NEWS •

Savannah ballet company coming to the Playhouse July 8-10

For the first time in its 69 seasons, Highlands Playhouse will host the Contemporary Ballet Theatre of Savannah, June 8-10 when they will unveil "Dare to be Moved," a dynamic, creative and high-energy production with a large range of original choreography.

The premiere marks the culmination of two years' effort by the Playhouse Board to stage ballet in Highlands.

"It's rare to find a ballet company that works at this time of year," said Playhouse general manager Henry Johnson. "Most companies go into hibernation in the spring and summer."

The CBT's artistic director James Atkinson developed "Dare to be Moved" as a blending of contemporary and powerful classical dance. Atkinson's choreography keeps the bodies in motion, creating movement and utilizing space in manners unusual to the classical stage. The level of technicality and physical demands of the movement are every bit as breathtaking and exhilarating as the classical genre. The production features dancers from around the United States.

The production will include "Le Spectre de la Rose" with music by Carl Maria von Weber. This performance tells the story of a young girl who, returning from her first ball, falls asleep in her chair. "Flummoxed Zeiram," with music by Michael Brook, is a pure contemporary ballet with a twist to it. "Medea," is a new production of Euripides' classic story of love, jealousy, revenge and death, set to music by Samuel Barber.

The Playhouse will host the ballet at 8 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, June 8th and 9th, and 2 p.m. Sunday, June 10th. The

Week-long summer theater classes at Highlands Playhouse July 10 and 21

Children's Theatre Classes will be held at the Highlands Playhouse July 10-14 and July 17-21 with a performance on Saturday July 22, 2007. The classes are for ages 6-15. Hours are 9 a.m.-12 noon for ages 6-10 and 1-4 p.m. for ages 11-15. Cost is \$150 for the two week session. It will be a fun filled opportunity for the children to experience improvisation, scene work, characterization, learn some of the behind the scenes of theatre and even create their own special projects. Call the Highlands Playhouse Box Office at 828-526-2695 for registration.

performance is sponsored by Schmitt Building Contractors Inc. For information or to reserve tickets, call the box office at (828) 526-2695.

The ballet marks the beginning of an ambitious season for the Playhouse, which will follow with Cole Porter's "Kiss Me Kate," performed from June 21 through July 8..

The production is a musical within a musical, just as its source material, Shakespeare's "The Taming of the Shrew," is a play within a play. This gives its battle-of-the-sexes plot the opportunity to construct elaborate Chinese box of missed cues, mistaken identities and thrown bric-a-brac.

The Playhouse's 2007 season continues with Neil Simon's "Laughter on the Twenty-Third Floor," "My Way: A Frank Sinatra Tribute," "Talley's Folly," and "Forever Plaid."

PAC gears up for a busy summer, launches new website

The Martin-Lipscomb Performing Arts Center (PAC) is planning a busy summer of programs sponsored by PAC as well as other not for profit organizations.

To help the public keep up to date with all its events, PAC has launched a new web site: www.highlandsp Performingartscenter.org.

A complete listing of all public events at the Center is available at the site at the Events page. Also available is a way to order tickets to PAC events. PAC is located at 507 Chestnut Street in Highlands.

On Saturday, June 23 at 7:30 p.m. PAC presents its 5th annual Jazz at the PAC jazz concert featuring New York guitarist Pete McCann. McCann is returning to Highlands by popular demand. Tickets for the concert, which also features outstanding local jazz musicians, are \$15. Tickets can be purchased by calling 828-526-9047 or at the door.

Other Highlands' favorites returning this summer are Robert Ray and Courtney Collins. They return to Highlands for their third consecutive summer in a new musical revue – "Jukebox Journey," under the sponsorship of the Performing Arts Center.

Performances will play every Saturday night in July at 5 p.m. and 8 p.m. Tickets are \$25 and can be purchased by calling 526-9047 or at the door.

The show will feature a stage band, Ray and Collins plus guest performers each week singing many of America's best loved hits – everything from "Sentimental Journey" and "In the Mood" to "Respect" and "Natural Woman." The show will feature music made famous by Carole King, Ray Charles, Lou Rawls and Dolly Parton. Ray plans to close the show with a rousing "Gospel Finale."

• ART GALLERIES •



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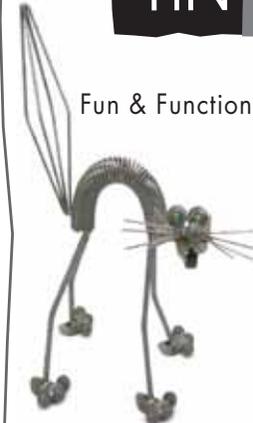
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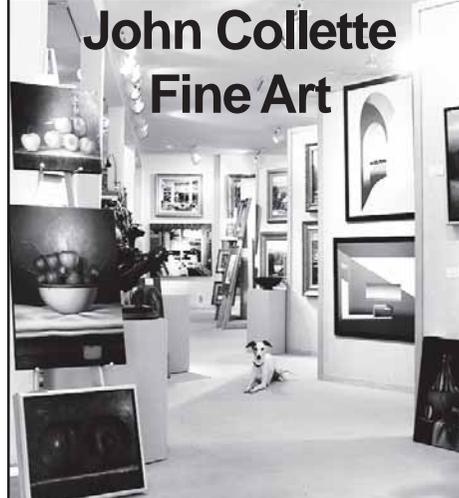
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Or drop by the Stone Lantern.

• BUSINESS NEWS •

Morning Rotary club growing



The members of Highlands MountainTop Rotary welcome Victoria Ingate, to their morning club. Victoria and husband Matthew are the owners of Peak Experience on the Dillard Road. Pictured are Dixie Barton and Victoria Ingate.

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Holy Communion
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Assistant at All Saint's Anglican
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Sunday, June 24, 11 a.m.

The Rev. Gene Mallard
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on Highway 64 next to the ballpark.
For more information, call the
Christ Anglican Church office at 526-2320
Visitors and friends are welcome!

OEI announces May Service Champion Awards and Dept. of the Month

Old Edwards Hospitality Group is pleased to announce Service Champions for May 2007 and Department. These recognition programs are utilized to reward and recognize associates who go above and beyond the call of duty to meet and exceed the resort guest's expectations.

Throughout the year, associates are nominated for the Service Champion Program. Each month, associates are recognized at an appreciation gathering. Associates with the most qualifying nominations are awarded gold, silver and bronze awards with monetary prize equivalents of \$250, \$100 and \$50 respectively. At the end of the year, three Champions are selected from these recipients and prizes are awarded in the gold (\$1000), silver (\$500) and bronze (\$250) categories.

At the monthly Associate Appreciation gathering the following awards were given:

May 2007 Service Champions:

- Lawren Tucker, Madison's and Banquets, Bronze
- Tim Hanson, Maintenance, Silver
- Danny Chastain, Maintenance, Gold

"By setting goals and rewarding the staff members regularly, we encourage positive motivation and set a standard for excellence that is not only attainable, it becomes second nature." said Mario Gomes, OEI chief executive officer and general Manager. "This level of service is what sets us apart as the award-winning property that we have become."

Additionally, Gomes announced the Maintenance Department as "Department of the Month" for May 2007.

... HEALTHY continued from page 18

individual or group," said Kathy McGaha, HCMC Executive Director. "We hope others in the community will use this information to support their own efforts to improve our community."

In the months ahead leaders of HCMC will be working to organize responses to issues and priorities identified in the assessment.

HCMC volunteers are also available to present the assessment and its findings to interested groups in the county.

• BUSINESS NEWS •

Old Edwards Inn and spa bronze sponsor for Highlands Culinary Weekend 2007

Old Edwards Inn and Spa is pleased to announce its bronze-level sponsorship of Highlands' Culinary Weekend 2007. Highlands will become "Cooking Central" during this first annual culinary festival scheduled to take place Thursday, November 8 through Sunday, November 11. This community-wide event will highlight Highlands' majestic mountain location, boundless activities, appealing accommodations, unique retail shops, and extraordinary cuisine.

In conjunction with the festival, Old Edwards Inn and Spa will host two very special events.

Patz & Hall Wine Dinner at The Farm at Old Edwards Inn

Old Edwards Executive Chef, Bill Heubel will prepare a six-course gourmet dinner to go along with premium selections of Patz & Hall wines. Sourcing from the finest vineyards in the Napa Valley, Russian River Valley, Mendocino County, Sonoma Coast and Santa Lucia Highlands in Monterey County, Patz & Hall is renowned for award-winning Chardonnay and Pinot Noir. *Wine Spectator* magazine voted Patz & Hall Pinot Noir in the top "30 Hottest Reds" in December 2006. Friday, November 9, 2007. 6 p.m. reception, 6:30 p.m. dinner. \$169 per person, inclusive of tax and gratuity. This event is anticipated to sell out very quickly. Please call 828.787.2604 for reservations or more information.

Laurent-Perrier Champagne and Neuhaus Chocolate Pairing Seminar

This celebratory event pairs two delicious favorites symbolizing luxury and nobility — fine Laurent-Perrier Champagne and Neuhaus Belgian chocolates. Laurent-Perrier is one the world's most esteemed

Champagne houses with a lineage that traces back some 200 years. Neuhaus Belgian Chocolates was established in 1857 and is best known for divine pralines among other confections. This event is being held in conjunction with Highlands' own Chocolate Bear. Friday, Nov. 9, 2007 at 2 p.m. \$50 per person inclusive – or five event vouchers. For reservations and information for this event, please contact the Highlands Visitor Center at 828.526.5847.

Packages including three nights deluxe accommodations and the wine dinner for two are available at Old Edwards Inn and Spa priced at \$1,119 inclusive of tax and gratuity. For package reservations please call 828.787.2604.

About the Culinary Festival:

The event is an opportunity to showcase all that Highlands has to offer visitors, seasonal homeowners, and year-round residents. The inaugural event will commence on Thursday evening with an Opening Reception Celebration. Throughout the weekend, Highlands' area restaurants, accommodations, and merchants will partner to present instructional culinary courses/classes, tastings, and an assortment of activities.

On Friday and Saturday nights various restaurants will host specialty dinners featuring classic menus, wine pairings, and guest chef dinners.

The Highlands Area Chamber of Commerce is the presenting sponsor of Culinary Weekend 2007. Other sponsors include: WNC Magazine, Lakeside Restaurant, On the Verandah, Oxford Properties, Fressers Eatery, Harry Norman Realtors, The Instant Theatre Company and The Old Rangoon.

For more information call 866-526-5841 or 828-526-5841.

Fressers Express now open for the season



Fressers Express in Village Square at Fifth and Oak streets, is open Monday through Saturday at 11 a.m. For more information on Fressers Express call 526-8867. For information on Fressers Eatery in Helen's Barn call 526-8847.

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... ROOM TAX continued from page 1

development of a commercial park around the airport and to continue to work with existing industry and incubator programs.”

Currently the only two entities receiving room tax proceeds – the three percent tax collected from visitors who stay in bed and breakfasts, inns, hotels, motels, camps sites and vacation rental homes – is the Franklin and Highlands Chambers of Commerce.

With the EDC requesting some of it, the county is considering putting the money in a pool and allowing organizations to apply for it on a project-by-project basis. Recently, commissioners have noted the lack of room tax proceeds going to the Nantahala community which is developing rapidly.

“This idea has already been agreed to in theory,” said Greenwood. “Once the budget is adopted, the details will be fleshed out.”

He said the county could disburse the funds in two ways. Commissioners may opt to allocate each chamber a limited portion of the room tax money and then allocate the rest to other organizations on a project by project basis or opt to require the chambers to apply for allocations from the centralized pool like everyone else.

Greenwood said the commission fully expects the Franklin and Highlands Chambers to balk at the idea but in recent years, municipalities and organizations other than chambers of commerce have been legally utilizing the room tax proceeds as

outlined in Senate Bill 948 across Western North Carolina.

The NC State Legislature adopted Senate Bill 948 June 1985 and Macon County passed a resolution October 1986 authorizing the disbursement of a portion of the county occupancy tax collected to the chambers.

Because the rules regarding the disbursement of the funds are broad – “With the understanding that this money is to be used as the law states for the promotion of travel and tourism” – recently, in other areas of the state, the funds have been used to bolster infrastructure, parks, greenways

... REC PARK continued from page 1

until a proper contract is written for last year and subsequent years.

Furthermore, due to potential changes in the big picture for Macon County recreation, more questions are likely to arise.

Funding for the recommendations of the Master Recreation Study, which were accepted by the Board of Commission, isn't in the budget, but can easily be accommodated, said Greenwood.

The Recreation Commission report suggests the merger of all three recreation programs in Franklin, Highlands and Nantahala with the addition of one staff position funded from within existing budgets.

“However, the process of establishing a unified recreation commission will have

and visitor centers – all under the umbrella of promoting and sustaining tourism.

In its annual “tax fund audit” dated June 30, 2006, the Highlands Area Chamber of Commerce shows receiving \$251,577 in room tax money.

During fiscal year 2005-2006, the chamber showed expenses in lump sums – \$73,907 spent on general and administrative costs; \$103,300 spent on visitor center operations; \$11,398 spent on promotions and events; and \$53,858 spent for grants and advertising partnerships. Greenwood said in comparison, it appears very little revenue is derived from membership dues. The audit for 2006-2007 hasn't been presented, yet.

– **Kim Lewicki**

to be started before the consolidation is complete,” wrote Greenwood.

In the proposed Macon County's 2007-2008 budget funding for recreation in Highlands allows for either the continued \$500,000 through a contract between the county and Highlands, or a merger into the countywide comprehensive program recommended last year. However, the final installment for the Pine Street Park funding is included in the county budget.

The subject will likely be addressed during a yet-to-be-announced combined county/town meeting. The next MC Commission meeting is Monday, June 18 at the courthouse in Franklin.

– **Kim Lewicki**

Highlands role in landfill upgrade still unknown

The county needs to know whether the town intends to pay for the municipal garbage transfer station upgrade at the Rich Gap Landfill by the end of July.

MC Solid Waste Director Chris Stahl said the county has drawn up two plans concerning the landfill on Rich Gap Road – both of which satisfy new state regulations concerning the transferring and carting of solid waste.

One addresses a construction and demolition (C&D) transfer station because the C&D component of the landfill will be closed, and the other addresses a co-mingling transfer station for both C&D and municipal solid waste (MSW).

The problem?

The town doesn't want to foot the \$475,000 bill to upgrade the landfill to accommodate its MSW needs. But the county thinks it should foot the bill because the town is using the county landfill to offload its waste which the town then pays the county to cart down the mountain to the main landfill.

At a recent commission meeting, Stahl said in the long run, paying to upgrade the MSW aspect of the landfill will be less expensive for the town. “It is going to have to buy more garbage trucks and hire more people, because they will be carting garbage

down the mountain to the main landfill themselves everyday which will cost more in manhours, wear and tear on vehicles, and fuel.”

Town Engineer Lamar Nix said garbage trucks cost upward of \$200,000.

During the budget message at the May 30 Town Board meeting, Town Administrator Richard Betz said solid waste rates would not increase this year, because they were increased last year to generate enough revenue for Sanitation Department operations.

“However, the county has said due to changes in new DENR regulations, changes will have to be made to the Highlands C&D landfill which has been used as a transfer station by the town for years,” said Betz. “The county is required to fund a C&D-only transfer station for \$688,000 and the commercial waste from the town must either be deposited in a “co-mingled transfer station” at the combined cost of “\$1,164,000 or hauled by the town to the MC landfill near Franklin.”

By “commercial waste” Betz was referring to both the residential and commercial garbage the town picks up and deposits at the landfill. “Sanitation” is considered one of the town's enterprise funds from which it sees revenue.

Betz said he put the \$475,000 as an expenditure in the town's sanitation department budget for 2007-2008, pending the town's decision on the matter, or pending negotiations between the town and the county.

If the town opts to pay for the co-mingling component to handle its MSW, then it will be funded by an appropriation from general fund investments.

The town wants a “sit-down” with the county to discuss this and other aspects of their relationship. A date has yet to be set.

Vacation Bible School at HUMC

All children ages 2 through rising sixth-graders are invited to the Methodist Church's Vacation Bible School, *Lift Off! Soaring to New Heights with God.*

The action begins Sunday, June 24 and ends Thursday, June 28 from 5:30-8 p.m. Each lesson will be supported with Bible stories, science activities, songs, crafts, and games.

A child-friendly meal will be served each night at 5 p.m.

There will be an adult Bible study each night at 6 p.m. Please call 526-3376.

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• UPCOMING EVENTS •

On-going

• Registration has begun for this summer's nature day camps at the Highlands Nature Center. Please call 526-2623 or visit the Nature Center webpage at www.wcu.edu/hbs.

• 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.ncmana.org.

• Pilates classes with Sandi Trevathan on Level 1 of the Jane Woodruff Clinic, Mon. and Wed. at 4 p.m. \$10 per class.

• 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.

• 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 Fish-

er at 828-526-1FIT.

• A Grief Support Group is held every Friday from 10-12 at the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital for anyone who has lost a loved one through death or is dealing with a progressive illness with a loved one. If interested in attending, please contact Helen Moore (Hospice) 526-0727 or Martha Porter (Chaplain at HCH) at 787-1463.

Every Saturday

• Live music at Fressers in Helen's Barn with Cy Timmons 6 p.m. until.

• Live music at Cyprus 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 Homeschoolers, 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.

First Mondays

• Be more informed and 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

• Weight Watchers meets at the Highlands Civic Center. Weigh-in is at 5:30. 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.

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.

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.

Friday & Saturday, June 8-9

• At Acorn's on Main Street, Jan Barboglio Trunk Show. Individually hand-forged iron home accessories with an Old World feel. For more info call 787-1877

Friday-Sunday, June 8-10

• Savannah Ballet, "Dare to be Moved" at the Highlands Playhouse at 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday and at 2 p.m. on Sunday. To reserve tickets, call the box office at 526-2695.

Saturday, June 9

• At Cyrano's Bookshop, Barbara Brown Taylor will sign "Leaving Church" from 1-3 p.m. and James T. Costas will sign "The Other Insect Society" from

3:30-5 p.m.

• At the Nature Center, Salamander Meander at 9 p.m. Ages 7 to adult. Join herpetologists on a night search to observe some of the area's magnificent salamanders in the wild. Bring rain gear and a flashlight. \$5 per person, advanced registration required due to limited space. Call 526-2623

• Free PHOTOGRAPHY WORKSHOP for kids. The Arts Council will present "Picture This," a free creativity workshop for elementary school-aged children, on ART9 a.m. till noon, at Big Bear Shelter by Wesley's Playground on the Greenway in Franklin. Contact the Arts Council of Macon County for details, 524-7683 or arts4all@dnet.net.

Monday-Saturday, June 11-16

• "Personal Views," an exhibit featuring the photography of the late Bud Uffelman, along with works by other area photographers, will be on display June 11-16, in the new Macon County Public Library, 819 Siler Road in Franklin. This program is sponsored by the Arts Council of Macon County, supported by a Grassroots Arts Program grant from the North Carolina Arts Council, a state agency. Contact the Council for details, 524-7683 or arts4all@dnet.net.

Monday, June 11

• HIARPT's free public lecture series begins at 7:30 p.m. in the Jones Room of the Episcopal Church of the Incarnation. William Dean, Ph.D., professor emeritus of theology at Liff School of Religion in Denver, will present his intellectual autobiography, entitled "Second Thoughts." Dr. Dean's presentation begins HIARPT's academic seminar which will focus on the interface of religion and the secular in American philosophical and religious thought. The remainder of the seminar is closed.

Tuesday, June 12

• Movies at PAC at 7 p.m. "Meet Joe Black" Refreshments served at 6:30 p.m. It's FREE.

Thursday, June 14

• Zahner Conservation Lectures 2007, 7 p.m. at The Highlands Nature Center: 930 Horse Cove Road. A reception will follow this lecture Letting the Land Speak to Us. Kay Byer (Poet Laureate of North Carolina).

• Summer Edventure Camp Parent Night.. All parents who have enrolled children in the Summer Edventure Camp are required to attend a mandatory Parent Night at 7 p.m. in the Cartoogechaye School gym. At this meeting, parents will be given more information regarding the camp schedule, a camper shirt, list of items your child will need to bring daily, and procedures and parental responsibilities. Parents are reminded that all tuition and birth certificates, immunization records, health insurance information and photos are due by Thursday, June 7, at the Macon County School Central Office located at 1202 Old Murphy Road. Macon County Schools reserves the right to offer the summer Camper slot to other interested parties on the waiting list if the full tuition is not received by June 7. Registration fees are not refundable for any reason.

Friday, June 15

• At CLE, "Philip Morseberger: Passion for Painting" at the Performing Arts Center from 10 a.m. to noon. \$20 for members. \$30 for nonmembers. Call 526-8811.

Saturday, June 16 to Saturday, July 14

A "Baskets at the Bascom" exhibit will be held at the Bascom-Louise Gallery in Highlands from June 16 to July 14. This is the gallery's first national show featuring the NBO (National Basket Organization). Baskets from all over the nation will be on display, from Nantucket to Appalachian to Avant-garde. A free exhibit opening will be June 16 from 5 to 7 p.m. For information, call 526-4949.

Monday, June 18 to Tuesday, Aug. 14

• Summer Art Camp is held at Bascom-Louise Gallery in Highlands from June. To register, call 526-4949.

Sat. & Sun., June 16 & 17

• Medicinal Plants of Summer Weekend Seminar at the Foxfire Center, in Mountain City, GA. Seminar times 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday. Cost for the weekend is \$180. To register, or for more information, call 706-746-5485 or visit www.botanologos.com. On-site accommodations are available.

Saturday, June 16

• At the Instant Theater, Sue Wilkinson in Concert Saturday at 8 p.m. Call the ITC Box Office at (828) 342-9197 to reserve your tickets

• Smoky Mountain Beekeepers will hold an advanced beekeeping school from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. featuring Robin Mountain, president of the Kentucky Beekeepers Association. Basic bee biology and queen rearing will be covered, and the session will include a hands-on grafting session in the main gymnasium at SCC's Swain County Center, 60 Almond Road, off U.S. 1974 west of Bryson City. Lunch will be provided. The charge is \$10, payable by cash or check. Call the N.C. Cooperative Extension Service by noon on June 14 at 586-4009 to register.

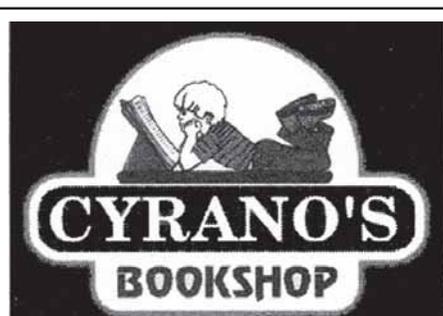
• At Wolfgang's on Main, cooking demonstration and luncheon with Nathalie Dupree from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Call Cyrano's Bookshop for reservations, 526-5488.

• The Nantahala Hiking Club will offer two hikes on the Georgia Bartram Trail near Clayton GA. The first hike is a moderate 4-miles to Martin Creek Falls. The second hike, for those who wish to continue, is an 8-mile strenuous hike, with a side trail up Pinnacle Mountain for an outstanding view, with an elevation change of 1800 feet. Meet at Westgate Plaza in Franklin (opposite Burger King) at 9 a.m. or call leader for an alternate meeting place. Drive 30 miles round trip. Bring a drink, lunch, and wear sturdy comfortable shoes. Hikes are limited to 20 people; reservations are required. Call leader Doug Deane, 864-718-9265, for reservations or more information. Visitors are welcome but no pets please.

• The Nantahala Hiking will take a strenuous 8-9 mile hike to Windy Falls on the Horsepasture River, an awesome, rarely visited waterfall, with the option of exploring a small cave, 40 – 50 feet long, near the falls. The elevation change is 600-700 feet; parts of the trail are rough and unmaintained, definitely not for those with health problems. Meet at the Cashiers Wachovia Bank (in back) at 9:30 a.m. Drive 30 miles round trip. Bring a drink, lunch, and wear sturdy comfortable shoes. Hikes are limited to 20 people; reservations are required. Call leaders Mike and Susan Kettles at 743-1079, for reservations or more information. Visitors are welcome but no pets please.

Sunday, June 17

• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take an easy 2-mile hike on the Little Rock Branch Trail in the Standing Indian area. Meet at Westgate Plaza in



390 Main Street • 526-5488

Upcoming Book Signings

June 9

• 1-3 p.m.
Barbara Brown Taylor
"Leaving Church"

June 16

• 5-7 p.m.
Natalie Dupree
"Shrimp and Grits"

Ms. Dupree will hold a cooking class at Wolfgang's on Main earlier the same day.

June 23

• 5-7 p.m.
Jack Bass
"Strom"

June 23

• 12:30-2
Bill Alexander
"Biltmore Nursery:
A Botanical Legacy"

• 2:30-4:30
Ann Ross
"Miss Julia Strikes Again"

June 30

• 1-3 p.m.
Don Brown
"Treason"

• 5-7 p.m.
Gayden Metcalfe

"Somebody is Going to Die if Lilly Beth
Doesn't Catch that Bouquet"

July 7

• 1-3 p.m.
Charles Martin

• UPCOMING EVENTS •

Last chance to see 'Parallel Lives,' really



Back by popular demand!! "Parallel Lives" by the Highlands Community Players at the Instant Theater Company will be presented for four more performances. Friday and Saturday, June 22 and 23 and Wednesday and Thursday, July 11 & 12. This is your last chance to see the sell-out production of "Parallel Lives" by Mo Gafney and Kathy Nijimy. Directed by Mary Adair Leslie. Call 828.342.9197 for reservations. Pictured are Katie Cochran and Breta Stroud as "Supreme Beings" deciding how to set up and arrange the world order.

Franklin (opposite Burger King) at 2 p.m. Bring a drink, a snack if you wish, and wear sturdy comfortable shoes. Drive 28-miles round trip. Hikes are limited to 20 people; reservations are required. Call leader Kay Coriell, 369-6820, for reservations or more information. Visitors are welcome, but no pets please.

Monday, June 18

- Wine Dinner at Wolfgang's on Main at 6 p.m. Featuring Domaine Serene Winery with Michelle Farkas, East Coast Sales Manager. Call 526-3807.

Wednesday, June 20

- A partnership between The Village Green and Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust brings a series of lectures and outdoor experiences to the Cashiers Library at 6:30 p.m. Peter Lundberg, commissioned sculptor for the Village Green.

- 2007 Studio Dinner Series in artists' creative environments. Theme: High Up Down Under at Artist Diane McPhail's at 6 p.m. New Zealand cuisine catered by Let Holly Do the Cooking, wines by Highlands Wine and Cheese, part of art sales to benefit Highlands Community Child Development Center. Call Summit One Gallery for reservations at 526-2673.

June 21-July 8

- At The Highlands Playhouse, Cole Porter's "Kiss Me Kate," performed from June 21 through July 8. To reserve tickets, call the box office at (828) 526-2695.

Wed & Thurs, June 20, 21

- At the Instant Theatre, Carpe Noctum Theatre. For more info and tickets call 342-9197

Thursday, June 21

- SOAR Silent Live Auction to benefit Special Operations Warrior Foundation. Held at the Highlands Conference Center. Live music, refreshments, and food donated by Wolfgang's on Main. For more

information contact Nancy at 526-0224.

Thursday, June 21

- 2007 Studio Dinner Series in artists' creative environments. Theme: East of the Sun, West of the Moon at Artist Rosemary Stiefel's at 6 p.m. Euro-Asian cuisine catered by Let Holly Do the Cooking, wines by Highlands Wine and Cheese, part of art sales to benefit the Highlands Land Trust. Call Summit One Gallery for reservations at 526-2673.

- Zahner Conservation Lectures 2007, 7 p.m. at The Highlands Nature Center: 930 Horse Cove Road. A reception will follow this lecture Left Brain, Right Brain: Plants in the Arts and Sciences. Peter White (Professor of Biology & Director of the North Carolina Botanical Garden, UNC at Chapel Hill)

Saturday & Sunday, June 23 & 24

- Paws on Parade — a two-day-fun-filled summer event for the family and the family dog. Paws on Parade will be held Saturday, June 23, in Sapphire Valley Resort. Family lunches will be available at the Four Seasons Grill on the ski slopes. Any organization or business who is dog-related and would like to have a booth may call 743-1683

Saturday, June 23

- The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a moderate-to-strenuous 6-mile hike to the lower falls of Middlecreek. Hikers should bring along shoes (and a small towel) to wade across the creek. Meet at 10 a.m. at the first overlook on GA highway 246, about 5 miles coming up from Dillard toward Highlands. Drive 3-miles round trip. Bring a drink, lunch, and wear sturdy comfortable shoes. Hikes are limited to 20 people; reservations are required. Call leader Virginia Talbot, 526-4904, for reservations or more information. Visitors are welcome but no pets please.

Sunday, June 24 & Monday, June 25

- The Highlands Community Players will be holding auditions at the Martin-Lipscomb Performing Arts Center for their summer production, "How the Other Half Loves," on Sunday at 2 p.m. and Monday at 6 p.m. Three men and three women are needed, ages 30 - 60. Scripts are available at the Highlands, Cashiers, and Franklin Libraries. For information call Director, Nancy Reeder 828-369-1927.

Sunday, June 24

- Week long Vacation Bible School at Highlands United Methodist Church featuring "Lift Off! Soaring to New Heights with God" Call 526-3376.

- Week long Vacation Bible School at Clear Creek Baptist Church.

Tuesday, June 26

- Movies at PAC at 7 p.m. "Lake House." Refreshments served at 6:30 p.m. It's FREE.

- "An Innocent Consequence," a virtual journey to Africa with Beth Moore as she shares her visit to the Orphans of Kenya. Our Lady of the Mountains Catholic Church, North Fifth Street, Highlands. If you like, bring a dish to share at 5:30 p.m. Slide presentation begins at 6:15 p.m.

Wednesday, June 27

- "Owl Prowl" at the Highlands Nature Center. 7:30 p.m., all ages. In collaboration with the Highlands Plateau Audubon Society. Come to our amphitheater for a presentation by the Carolina Raptor Center featuring live owls, then stay for a night hike to look for owls in the wild. Bring your flashlight. Free, but contributions to CRC are appreciated. Call 526-2623.

- At CLE, "Hand Papermaking" with Sara Morgan Wingfield at her studio from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Meet at the Civic Center at 9 a.m. to carpool to the studio. \$25 for members. \$35 for nonmembers. Call 526-8811.

Thursday, June 28

- Lambert Bridge Vineyards Wine dinner at OEI's The Farm. Each dinner is \$169 per person, inclusive of tax and gratuity. Reception begins at 6 p.m. and guests will be seated for dinner at 6:30 p.m. Seating is limited, and advance reservations are required. Call 828-787-2604.

- Zahner Conservation Lectures 2007, 7 p.m. at The Highlands Nature Center: 930 Horse Cove Road. A reception will follow this lecture What Has Been Lost; What Must Be Saved: A Writer's Views on Environmental Issues in Southern Appalachia. Ron Rash (Author, James Still Award by the Fellowship of Southern Writers 2005).

- At CLE, "How Highlands Works" with Town Administrator Richard Betz at Town Hall from 10 a.m. to noon. It's Free. Call 526-8811.

Friday & Saturday, June 29 & 30

- At the Instant Theater, Al Ernst - All You Can Laugh Comedy Buffet. Call the ITC Box Office at (828) 342-9197 to reserve your tickets

Friday, June 29

- At CLE, "The Heiresses: American Royalty" with Rick Hutto at the Performing Arts Center from 10 a.m. to noon. \$20 for members. \$30 for nonmembers. Call 526-8811.

June 30-July 7

- 2007 Highlands Show House at Tug Wa Ridge, ca. 1920. All proceeds to benefit the children's programs at Bascom-Louise Gallery, Carpe Diem Farms, Cashiers-Highlands Humane Society, Community Care Clinic of Highlands-Cashiers, Highlands Playhouse. Hours are Mon-Sat 10 a.m.

to 5 p.m. and noon-5 p.m. on Sundays.

July 14

- At the Highlands Nature Center. "Snakes of the Highlands Region" at the Highlands Nature Center. 7 - 8:30 pm, all ages. Come for an educational program about local snake species featuring live animals. Learn snake identification, natural histories, and common misconceptions about them. \$2 per person. Call 526-2623

June 30-July 31

- At Summit One Gallery at its new location on South Second Street and Helen's Barn Ave., exhibit "Hudson River Valley School Revisited" featuring artist Ron Williams.

Saturday, June 30

- The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a moderate 4-mile hike to Lower Whitewater Falls from the Bad Creek Reservoir parking area, with an elevation change of 500 feet. Meet at the Cashiers Wachovia Bank (in back) at 10 a.m. Drive 44 miles round trip. Bring water, lunch, and wear sturdy shoes. Call leaders Mike and Susan Kettles, 743-1079, for reservations

- Special sports physical clinic for school athletic programs are being held at the Macon County Public Health Center in Franklin. The clinics are open to rising 7th grade -12th grade students who plan to participate in school athletics anytime during the 2007-2008 school year. Appointments are required and may be scheduled at the Macon County Public Health Center by calling 349-2081. There will be a charge of \$10 for the physical and all proceeds will go to the Schools' Athletic Fund.

- Land Trust Day is a special day when businesses who partner with Land Trusts donate a percentage of their sales to the Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust. In exchange the Land Trust promotes each business. For more information, call Julie Schott with the Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust at 526-9936 ext. 254.

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AT WORLD'S END rated PG-13

Daily: (2), 5, 8

SHREK 3 rated PG

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SALES - FULL OR PART TIME - Seasonal, weekend required. Previous sales or customer service experienced preferred. Must be professional. Non-smoking environment. Call the Summer House at 828-526-5577.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT NEEDED - Stephen L. Lucas CPA, PA has an opening for an Administrative Assistant to support our growing public accounting and business consulting practice based in Highlands, N.C. Position responsibilities would include receptionist and secretarial duties. Qualified person would have good people skills, practical computer experience including Microsoft Word, Excel, Microsoft Outlook. For more information and to schedule an interview, please call 828-526-2399 or send or email a resume to: P.O. Box 1357, Highlands, NC, 28741, bob.starkey@lucascpa.com

WE ARE CURRENTLY HIRING FOR A PART TIME TELLER AT OUR HIGHLANDS OFFICE! A high school diploma or GED is required, in addition to a minimum of 6 months of experience in a Teller or other cash handling, sales position. Candidates must have effective written and verbal communication skills, good computer skills, and a friendly, courteous and professional demeanor. First Citizens Bank offers excellent salaries and a comprehensive benefits program. Apply online at: www.firstcitizens.com/careers. Refer to the Job ID # when applying. EOE/AA

THE PROPERTY OWNERS' ASSOCIATION OF HIGHLANDS COUNTRY CLUB is looking for a utility/handyman to assist in maintaining the roads including culvert cleaning, weed-eating, and trash removal. General handyman skills are also required for minor home repairs. Seasonal/ part-time position with flexible hours. Great for semi-retired person. Call Sylvia at 526-8286 to schedule an interview.

LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE FOREMAN - for Highlands area company. Duties include overseeing and maintenance for high-end properties. Chance to grow with company including bonuses and retirement. (828) 526-8953.

LOCAL FINE DINING RESTAURANT seeks full time prep/line cook and full time food runner/servers' assistant. Excellent work environment. Competitive wages and benefits. To apply, call Andrew or Marlene at 828-526-0354.

NICK'S RESTAURANT - Now open at new location on Main Street, taking applications for waitstaff lunch and dinner. Also lunch line cooks. Experience only. Call 526-2706. 6/7

SOCIAL WORKER AT HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HOSPITAL AND FIDELIA ECKERD LIVING CENTER. Full-time position, various days. Responsibilities include the admission and discharge planning for the nursing home residents and the swing bed patients, along with documentation to support all state requirements. Bachelors degree required. A minimum of 1 years experience in a long term care or hospital setting preferred. Full benefits after 60 days. Pre-employment substance screening. Call Mandy Talley, 828-526-1301 or apply online at www.hchospital.org.

STAFF RADIOLOGIC TECHNOLOGIST AT HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HOSPITAL. Full-time position, 7pm to 7am with rotating schedule. Qualified candidates must be registered by the ARRT or be registry eligible. CT experience helpful. Full benefits after 60 days. Pre-employment substance screening. Call Mandy Talley, 828-526-1301 or apply online at www.hchospital.org.

NUCLEAR MEDICINE TECH AT HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HOSPITAL. Full-time, Monday through Friday position. Must be ARRT certified. Previous experience preferred. Call rotation required. Full benefits after 60 days. Pre-employment substance screening. Call Mandy Talley, 828-526-1301 or apply online at www.hchospital.org.

FOOD SERVICE PRODUCTION SUPERVISOR AT HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HOSPITAL AND FIDELIA ECKERD LIVING CENTER. Full-time position. Experience in institutional/food service environment with knowledge of therapeutic diets, food safety and sanitation guidelines preferred. Good communication, organizational, and leadership skills a must. Full benefits after 60 days. Pre-employment substance screening. Call Mandy Talley, 828-526-1301 or apply online at www.hchospital.org.

HOUSEKEEPER AT HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HOSPITAL AND FIDELIA ECKERD LIVING CENTER. PRN and Full-time position available. Various days, alternate weekends. Responsibilities include cleaning patient and non-patient care areas, linen service, waste removal, sharps container removal and adhering to Infection Control/Sanitation functions and maintenance. Full benefits after 60 days to full-time employees. Pre-employment substance screening. Call Mandy Talley, 828-526-1301 or apply online at www.hchospital.org.

CNA OR CNA II IN ACUTE CARE. Full-time, 12 hour shifts. Our NEW WAGE SCALE for CNA's is \$11.00 to \$14.40 per hour, and you also receive shift and weekend differentials. Full benefits after 60 days. Pre-employment substance screening. Call Mandy Talley, 828-526-1301 or apply online at www.hchospital.org.

RN'S AT HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HOSPITAL AND FIDELIA ECKERD LIVING CENTER. Full, Part-time and PRN positions available for 12 hour day and night shifts. Excellent wage scale, with shift and weekend differentials. Full benefits available after 60 days of full-time employment. We are now offering part-time employees, working at least 24 hours a week, medical insurance. Pre-employment screening required. Call Mandy Talley at 828-526-1301 or apply online at www.hchospital.org.

COOKS AND DIETARY AIDES AT HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HOSPITAL. Various shifts and days available. Must be able to work weekends and be able to read and speak English. Salary depends on experience. Full benefits available after 60 days of full-time employment. We are now offering part-time employees, working at least 24 hours a week, medical

insurance. Pre-employment screening required. Call Mandy Talley at 828-526-1301 or apply online at www.hchospital.org.

CNA OR CNA II We have available Full, Part-time, and PRN positions at the Fidelia Eckerd Living Center for day and night shifts. Our NEW WAGE SCALE for CNA's is \$11 to \$14.40 per hour, and you also receive shift and weekend differentials. Full benefits after 60 days to full-time employees. We are now offering part-time employees, working at least 24 hours a week, medical insurance. Pre-employment substance screening. Call Mandy Talley, 828-526-1301 or apply online at www.hchospital.org.

FOR RENT

TWO-STORY APARTMENT FOR RENT ON CHENEY LANE - 3 minutes from Highlands. One-year lease agreement. Recent renovation. Fully furnished. Two-bed, 2 baths; extra large closets. Kitchen with dishwasher and new Jenn-Aire cookstove; many kitchen cabinets. Washer/dryer; dining area; living room; cable and telephone connection. Native stone fireplace. \$1,000 per month includes water, sewer, electricity. Single-family. References required. No pets, no smoking. Call Jim at 1-770-789-2489.

WAREHOUSE SPACE AVAILABLE FOR RENT. 1,100 - 1,800 sq. ft. bays with large overhead rolling doors. Rent is \$500-\$600 a month. Located one mile from the crossroads in Cashiers off 107 S. For More information please call Josh Barber 828-743-0077.

NEW SPACES FOR LEASE IN HIGH TRAFFIC LOCATION - Lease now for the 2007 season in Highlands Plaza. 600 sq ft - 8,000 sq ft available in new lower level or 1,200 sq ft on main level near Bryson's. Call 864-630-0808 today to lease your space in "The Most Visited Location In Highlands."

2 BEDROOM, 2 BATH DREAM CABIN! 5 minutes from Highlands in Scaly Mtn. New appliances, new carpet, with amazing view! Stone/Wood Cabin with carport and separate workshop and wonderful landscaped property! \$825 per month. Annual Lease. Call 423-894-9566

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

BEAUTIFUL CHALET for you in downtown Highlands. Two blocks off downtown Main St. Wonderful wide porch for entertaining on Highlands Creek. Beautiful new tongue-n-grove in kitchen and bath. 2 bd/1 full bath. 1500 sq ft with additional 900 sq ft basement for your office or storage needs. Beautiful brand new furniture, new carpet, new wood floors in kitchen. Fireplace. Awesome location. 1 year lease, negotiable. \$1395. (772) 631-2602 or (772) 919-2384.

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

PINE GROVE TOWNHOUSE CASHIERS. Two bedrooms two and 1/2 bath. Walking distance to crossroads, restaurants and shopping. Large deck overlooking green lawn \$229,000. Call Manuel de Juan 828-743-1021. Owner broker. Visual tour at www.pixelitvideos.com/townhome

LOT FOR SALE: Lot #8 Osage. This is almost 1 acre (.94+ acres). Lot has complete road system, 10 gallon well and Macon County septic permit. Don't miss chance! Rocky Knob fees of ONLY \$100 a YEAR! Call Chris Gilbert Broker/Owner (828)421 3161. Reduced \$109,000. Ready to build.

LOTS - Exclusive RiverRock, Tuckasegee Village: 2.1 acre Lot 48, great building site, adjoins horse farm. \$364,900; and THE premier view Lot 34, best view lot development. \$799,900 Call HUTCH (706) 831-0892 owner/agent.

DEVELOPER CLOSE-OUT. Commercial purchase/rental: Last unit! 2,300+-sq ft unit/NC 106. Retail unit has 1,600+-sq ft on the main level with hardwood floors/700sq ft loft. Unit has separate meter, heat pump and 3ton A/C. Call Jim Tate (828) 371-0773. Owner/broker Chris Gilbert. Reduced to \$349,000 or rent to own.

FIX 'R' UPPER - 2,500 sq. ft home. 2-3 decks. 2-3 bed/baths. New furnace. Walk to hospital. Interior unfinished...must have imagination. Make offer. Call 828-200-9333.

MOTOR COACH SITE - Private, luxury motor coach site available for purchase. Downtown Highlands. Corner of Fifth St. and Chestnut St. Gated, restricted. Call 828-526-5333.

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

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

YARD SALE

FRIDAY & SATURDAY, JUNE 8 & 9 at Petrone's Barn on Buck Creek Road, 4 miles past the Short-Off Church. Rain or Shine. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Antiques, Collectibles and junk.

ITEMS FOR SALE

HP 1350 THREE-IN-ONE PRINTER/COPIER - in Box - \$69. Call, 526-2713

QUEEN SLEEPER SOFA - matching chair, end tables & 2 lamps. \$250. Call 526-3397.

CHINA CABINETS desk, rope-bed, trunk framed artwork, quilts, and more. Call 828-526-3836.

2003 AIRSTREAM TRAVEL TRAILER - 30' Classic with rear island queen, walk-thru bath, and dinette. Excellent condition, \$45K. (828) 526-5939.

ANTIQUE BEAMS, FLOORING AND STRUCTURES: Hand hewn beams in oak and yellow pine. Beautiful material, large faces. \$3.50-\$4 per board foot. Original, reclaimed white and yellow pine flooring, random wide widths (6-16") \$6/board ft. Also selling entire log and timber frame structures. 215-529-7637 (www.jcwoodworking.info)

BEAUTIFUL FLOORING: Wormy white oak flooring, resawn, milled and ready to lay w/ t&g, 6-12" widths, \$8/sq. ft. 215-529-7637

RANGE, DISHWASHER AND REFRIGERATOR - white, Kenmore. Like new. Call 828-342-6838.

LOG CABIN KIT - 32 x 24 8 1/2 inch yellow Pine logs. Walls only. \$9,999. Call 526-0241.

KING BR SET (includes mattress/box spring, frame, dresser, mirror, night stand, headboard) \$450; 4 Firestone tires (LT225/75R16) good tread \$125; Ethan Allen Hutch \$125; Queen mattress set (w/frame) \$175. Call: 526-2671.

TIME CLOCK, Acroprint Model 125, and time cards. See Bob at SweetTreats, 526-9822.

BISTRO TABLES, 21" round (black and white), 2 black chairs. (4 sets @ \$125 per set). See Bob at SweetTreats 526-9822.

DINING ROOM FURNITURE. Very nice. Rect-

• CLASSIFIEDS •

angular with two leaves 6 chairs, 2 with arms. Maple with upholstered seats. \$326 all inclusive. 864-972-8525 or cell 864-723-4101

HILTI TE 805 DEMOLITION HAMMER. New. Case & 4 bits. \$500. 828-526-2700 or 828-421-7886

JENNY LIND BABY BED – light stain, excellent condition, mattress, all linens, originally \$375 asking \$225. Call 526-0498.

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HEAVY BRASS ELECTRIC HANGING FIXTURE – Six green, glass panels, 4 feet of matching chain. 22-inch diameter. \$975. Call 526-1773.

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

VEHICLES FOR SALE

1997 LINCOLN TOWN CAR – white with every option. Call Dan for details. Cell: 342-6640. Home: 526-2888.

1999 CAMARO – New tires, low mileage, 5-speed, 6-cylinder, excellent condition. Call 828-369-3619.

2001 JAGUAR S-TYPE 4.0 – Excellent condition. 98K miles. Still under warranty. \$15,000. Call 828-243-6447.

ANTIQUE 1926 MODEL T FORD TOURING CAR – Fully restored. Needs a new starter. Selling for health reasons. \$15,000 but will discount cost of starter and ignition work. Great car and lots of fun. Call Horace Duncan at 526-3760.

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

1991 SUBURBAN 3/4 TON, 130K miles, 20K on Tranny, 350 V8, lift w/wheels & tires, good condition, never off-road, white/blue \$4350. Call 200-0013.

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CAREGIVER/COMPANION – I do live-ins with seniors, housekeeping, meals, personal and medical care, errands, appointments, travel, all at reasonable rates. Lots of experience. For more information, call Joanne at 706-282-0021. 6/28

SHIPPING SERVICES - STORK'S WRAP, PACK & SHIP UPS Ground & Next Day Air services and large furniture shipping available. Packing services and/or supplies. Gift wrapping and fax services. 323 Hwy 107 N., Cashiers, NC (1/2 mile from crossroads) (828) 743-3222

HOUSE CLEANING & ERRAND RUNNING – References available. Call 524-3261.

NEED YOUR HOME CLEANED? Call Charlotte at Letson Enterprise for a free estimate. 828-369-9127 or Bill at 828-421-0971.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY -- THE REAL ESTATE BOOK – North America's largest and most successful "Homes For Sale" magazine, is offering the chance to be an Independent Distributor of the Cashiers-Highlands area. This market meets the criteria of our 400 successful territories. Comprehensive training, on-going support help ensure success. Candidate should possess strong sales skills, customer support and follow-up. No franchise fees or royalties. Initial start-up and working capital required. Contact Tar Truitt at 770-962-7220, ext. 24608 or email ttruitt@trcb.com for more information.

PERSONAL COMPANION/CAREGIVER Whatever your needs may be we can help. References available (828)421-5940,(828) 399-1749.

PERSONAL CARETAKER – Run errands, clean house, buy groceries, Transport to appointments. References available. Call Cheryl. 828-421-6685.

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

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

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828 371-2766. 8/18

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Sculpturing of 'The Green'



A sculpture by New York artist John Clement was installed this week at Sculpture on the Green in Cashiers. John is one of the four artists chosen for the first round of permanent installations within The Village Green. In addition to this 12-foot tall sculpture he is lending the park another temporary piece. The Grand Opening Celebration is June 23 from 1-4 with The Smokey Mountain Brass Band, food from Hovan Gourmet, with childrens activities, and an opportunity to meet the artists.

A salute to our fallen Special Operations heroes

This year the Highlands SOAR committee has worked diligently to honor these heroes. These "quiet professionals" have given the ultimate sacrifice in the name of freedom. The foundation provides grants (not loans) to the children of fallen heroes for a college education. They also provide support and assistance to special operations personnel severely wounded in the global war against terrorism

It is important to remind our military that their community supports their efforts, and if they lose their lives fighting for our freedom, they know the Warrior Foundation is here to provide for their children's education and family counseling.

In 2006, the foundation provided \$600,000 to some 109 students enrolled in colleges and universities across the country. We hope the community will continue to support this worthy cause. There are three events this year.

Special Operations Warrior Golf Tournament

June 19, Shotgun Start 1 p.m. at the Sapphire Mountain Golf Club Individual Player, \$100, Teams of 4, Format: Captions Choice Bag Lunch, Tee Bags, and Dinner

Prizes:

1st, 2nd, and 3rd Place, Longest Drive Closest to the Pin

Call Tom Zellers, SMGC Pro 743-1174 to register
Silent and Live Auction

June 21, 5 p.m.

Highlands Conference Center
Tickets \$35 at the door

Food donated by Wolfgang's on Main
Music by Hurricane Creek

Wine Tasting by Highlands Wine & Cheese

Many great treasures to bid on. Golf packages from all private country clubs, Movado watches for men and woman, fine dining at area restaurants, fine art, baseball autographed by Axel Rodriguez, golf hat autographed by Phil Michelson.

Special Operations Adventure Race

June 23, 2007

Elite Race Start: 7 a.m.

Sprint Race Start: 8 a.m.

Mary Beth Brody will sing the National Anthem

Come and cheer the racers on!

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Roto-Rooter Plumbing & Drain Cleaning of Highlands and Cashiers now offers septic tank pumping, drain field cleaning and septic field location.

"We will locate, excavate and pump it!"

Think your drainfield needs replacing?

The majority of drainfield problems occur due to build up in the drain lines. Roto-Rooter can clean lines, saving you thousands of dollars when compared to replacing lines.

Call Drew or Dan for a free and honest estimate.

We look forward to hearing from you!

• POLICE & FIRE •

The following is the Highlands Police Dept. log entries for the week of May 30-June 4. Only the names of persons arrested or public officials have been used.

May 30

- A motorist at N.C. 106 and Dog Mountain Road was cited for speeding 52 mph in a 35 zone..

June 1

- At 14:15 p.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident on Main Street where motorist were trying to maneuver in and out of parking spaces.

June 2

- At 8:10 p.m., a motorist at N.C. 106 and Mountain Club Drive was cited for speeding 58 mph in a 35 zone.

June 4

- At 11 a.m., nuisance dogs were reported at a residence on Satulah Ridge Road.

- At noon, officers responded to an accident at NGB Builders on U.S. 64 west where an RV hit the building.

The following is the Highlands Fire & Rescue Dept. log entries for the weeks of May 30 to June 3

May 30

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

June 1

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

- The dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with a medical call at a residence on N.C. 106. The victim was transported to the hospital.

June 2

- The dept. provided mutual aid to the Cashiers Fire Department. It was cancelled en route.

June 3

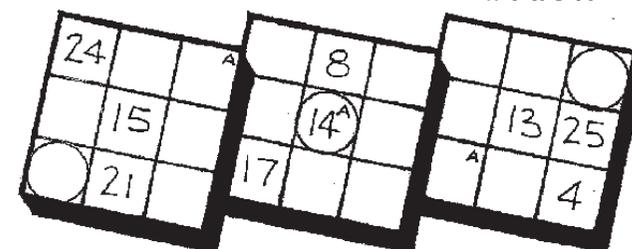
- The dept. responded to a rescue call when a woman broke her leg when she slipped on some rocks at the bottom of Glen Falls Trail. EMS carried her out to the Blue Valley Road and transported her to the hospital.

June 4

- The dept. provided a mutual aid call to Scaly-Sky Valley Fire Dept. They stood by while a fire alarm was investigated. There was no problem found.

PseudoCube[©]

#AN4F



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 equalling the total of the three center numbers. One of the diagonals is shown with circles.

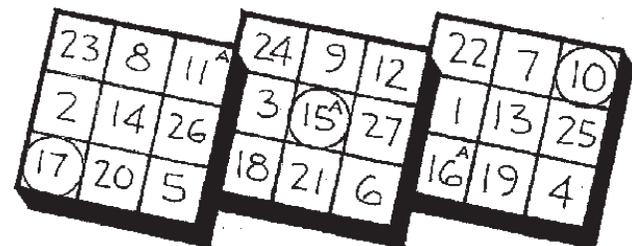
THE CHALLENGE:

Start with the three center numbers for each layer and two other numbers. Now pour a cup of coffee, pick up a pencil and eraser and try to figure out where the other 22 numbers belong. Good Luck!

The first correct solution emailed earns a coupon for a FREE cup of coffee from Buck's Coffee Cafe on Main Street.

Email: pseudocube8@aol.com

Solution to #AN4E in the May 31 paper



... ETJ continued from page 1

town contends that it can appoint and the county says it can appoint.

"This part touches upon the question of who appoints the representatives," said Coward. "In 50 counties the counties appoint and in the other 50 towns appoint. We are not here tonight to make that decision; that will be handled as per state law."

Allan Bryson, past county commission chairman, who is named in the lawsuit between the county and town concerning ETJ representation, said it's the "black letter law that the counties get to appoint ETJ members to boards.

"With 50 percent of them doing it, that means it's up to the counties to make appointments, not the towns. Of course, this is part of the contention between you and I at this time," he said.

The board voted 4 to 1 to amend the Zoning Ordinance with the above verbiage. Commissioner Hank Ross voted against the motion.

The second part of the amendment dealt with the formula to determine the number of ETJ representatives appointed to the Zoning and Planning boards.

"Areas regulated by ETJ shall have proportional representation on the planning and zoning board of adjustment...in compliance with NC G.S. 160A-362 which requires the town to provide a means of proportional representation based on population for residents of the ETJ area to be regulated...as follows:

"...Based on Macon County's 911 emergencies management data referred to as (X) and average number of residents per dwelling within the ETJ area based upon the latest federal decennial census (A);

"...And based on the number of residential dwellings within the corporate limits of the town determined by the Macon County 911 emergency data (Y) and the latest federal census (B);

"...The appropriate percentage of representatives on the boards shall be determined by the following formula $XA/(XA+YB)$;

"...The percentage shall then be multiplied by the total number of members on each board to determine proportional representation, respectively."

The Highlands Code was also amended to formalize the town's practice of allowing all members – those from in town and those from within the ETJ – to vote on all matters regardless of vicinity, as follows:

"Members appointed of any ETJ area shall have equal rights, privileges and duties with other members regard-

less of whether the issues before the boards are in town or within the ETJ area."

"That statement makes what's been going on official," said Coward. "If it were not in the code, then the ETJ representatives on the boards couldn't vote on subjects in town."

The board voted 3 to 2 to amend the Town Code to include the verbiage. Commissioner Ross and Commissioner Alan Marsh opposed the motion.

Bryson went on record saying that the board's May 16 decision to remove ETJ resident Doug Campbell from the Planning Board and replace him with ETJ member Thomas Craig was not right.

At that meeting, Commissioner Herb James voted against the motion to replace Campbell.

... THANK YOUs continued from page 7

Support for center has been tremendous

Dear Editor,

Sometimes, it's simply astounding to watch the Highlands-Cashiers community come together in support and enthusiasm over a major new effort. And that's exactly what happened on Saturday, May 26, at the groundbreaking party for the Bascom-Louise Gallery's new visual art center.

We were amazed at the number of people that poured onto the grounds of our new facility, cheering us on in our endeavor to build something that will help transform the future of art in this region.

We humbly thank you, the community, for being there and for helping us grow.

We deeply thank Mayor Don Mullen, the Town of Highlands and each member of the Town Board for supporting this project, and particularly for their attendance at this event.

We thank Buck Trott, that quintessential fixture of Highlands, for organizing the participation of a number of dignitaries at the groundbreaking ceremony. So many politicians attended, from Sen. John Snow and Rep. Phil Haire to local commissioners. It made a special day even more special.

We thank the local media for strong coverage of this important event.

And most importantly, we thank Pat Buchanan, event dynamo, for organizing the best community party we've seen.

We have a lot of work to do before our facility opens

in summer 2008. Rest assured, however, that by the end of next season, the region will have a brand new, ecologically sensitive, historically based visual art center that will further establish these mountains as a Mecca for the arts. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

The Board of
The Fine Art Center/Bascom-Louise Gallery

Mountain Garden Club says 'thanks'

Dear Editor,

We would like to thank the community for its support of the 2007 Mountain Garden Club's plant sale. We were blessed with beautiful weather, eager customers and many wonderful plants contributed by generous residents. A special thank you to the town for the use of the ballfield and the The Chambers Agency for letting us house the plants before the sale. Also thanks to Dick Wertzler, Highlands Lawn & Garden, and Buddy Dean for their help and faithfulness though the years. We'd also like to thank the local media for coverage of the event.

We hope to see all of you again next Memorial Day weekend. Thank you.

Jacki Hills and Carol Strunk, co-chairs
Mountain Garden Club

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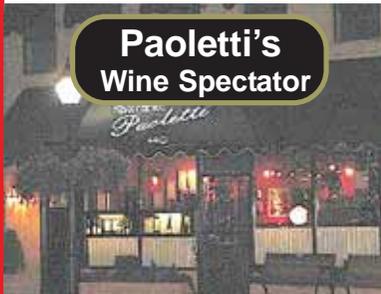
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MovieStop
Wayah Insurance

Historic Village
Meadows Mtn. Realty



Paoletti's Wine Spectator



Wolfgang's Wine Spectator



Madison's Wine Spectator

Highlands Lodging
Old Edwards Inn
Main Street Inn
Skyline Lodge
The Lodge

Gates Nursery
On The Verandah
Wine Spectator

MAIN STREET INN
Dinner Buffet
Breakfast Buffet

Dusty's Market
"We Cut The Best Steaks In Town"

Cyprus
Taylor Barns
Best Bunch
Dillard Village
Retail Space Avail.
Call: 770-622-3050

Exxon
ATM
Bank

Don Leon
#1 NAILS
Carolina Eyes
Country Club Prop

Fressers Restaurant

Bryson's Foods
Gourmet Wines
Cheeses
Meats
Produce

Post Office

Real-Time Weather & WebCam

Newspaper
Breakfast & Dinner
Main St Inn
Instant Theatre

Drug Store
Hardware
Reeves Ace

Summit One Art Gallery

Images
Warth

Chintz Antiques
Mirror Lake Antiques

Shifaz Rugs
Methodist

Kilwins
Buck's

Rest Rooms

PlayHouse
Police
ABC

Town Hall

Phillips 66
Fibber Magee's
Mt Findings

Brick Oven
MovieStop
Wayah Insurance

Historic Village
Meadows Mtn. Realty

Maple St.
OAK ST.

Chintz Antiques
Mirror Lake Antiques

Shifaz Rugs
Methodist

Kilwins
Buck's

Rest Rooms

PlayHouse
Police
ABC

Town Hall

ATM
Bank
ATM

ATM
Bank
ATM

All Seasons
Mill Crk Gallery
Needle Point

Schmitt

Drug Store
Cafe 460
PRO NAILS

Old Edwards Inn & Spa
Acorns

Child Care

Old Edwards Inn & Spa
Acorns

Child Care

Jackson Madeleine & Basket Works

HillTop Grill
The Lodge

Rib Shack
Cleaners

Highlands School K-12

Chambers Realty & Vacation Rentals

Mt Fresh Foods

Hudson Library
Bascom-Louise Gallery

Mt Fresh Foods

FALLS ON MAIN
Cabin Casuals
Century 21
Creative Concepts

Highlands' Newspaper
#1 In Local Readership
7,500 Wk. - 30,000 Mo.

Cabin Casuals
"Life is Good" and Casual Resortwear for all ages
The Falls on Main
828-526-3320

DINING	Shopping	Real Estate
1 Cyprus	1 Acorns	1 Buyer's
2 Golden China	2 AnnaWear	2 Century 21
3 Madison's	3 Bear Mt. Outfit.	3 Chambers
4 Main St. Inn	4 Bungalow	4 Cleaveland
5 On Verandah	5 Chocolate Bear	5 Country Club
6 Paoletti	6 Dry Sink	6 Meadows Mtn.
7 Pescado's	7 Raspberry Fizz	Galleries
8 Rib Shack	8 Silver Eagle	1 Collette
9 SportsPage	9 Stone Lantern	2 Elephant's Foot
10 Wolfgang's	10 Village Kids	3 Tino Gallery
11	11 Wholesale Down	4 Summit One

The Farm & Highlands C.C.
1 Mile Hwy. 106

Summer House & Tin Roof
2 Miles Hwy. 106

Manley's Auto Service
J&J Lawn & Landscaping
<<< 1 Mile Hwy. 28s