

Highlands' Newspaper

Volume 5, Number 40

PDF Version - www.HighlandsInfo.com

Thursday, Oct. 4, 2007

FREE

Note:
• The Oct. 8 HS soccer match against Hayesville has been changed to Oct. 18 at 7 p.m.

On-going
• Live music every night at 7:30 p.m. and during brunch on Sunday at ...on the Verandah restaurant.
• Live music at Fressers in Helen's Barn with Cy Timmons Wed-Sat 6 p.m. until.
• Hal Philips at the piano at Skyline Lodge and Restaurant Fri. & Sat. at 6 p.m.
• Step Aerobics at the Rec Park, 4-5 p.m., Mon., Wed., Thurs.. \$5 per class.
• At Health Tracks at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital, various exercise classes. Call Jeanette Fisher at 828-526-1FIT.

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

Every Wednesday
• "The Bible Tells Me So" at 6:15 p.m. at the Highlands United Methodist Church. at 6:15 and will last approximately one hour.

Every Thursday
• At Main Street Inn, Lisa Price piano and vocals in the wine bar 6-9 p.m.
• Women's Bible Study at 9:30 am - 11:45 am at Community Bible Church. Beth Moore's Believing God.

Every Saturday
• Live music at Cypress Restaurant in the Dillard Village Shopping Center at 9:30 p.m.
• Children's classes ongoing at Bascom-Louise Gallery - cost is \$5 per student.

Thurs.-Sunday, Oct. 4-7
• Broadway Melodies 8 p.m. Thurs. through Sat. and a Sun. matinee at 2 p.m. at Highlands Playhouse. Call 526-2695

Tuesday, Oct. 2
• The film "A Good Year" at PAC at 7:30 p.m. Free but donations are accepted.

Friday, Oct. 5
• Bascom-Louise Gallery Collect Spirits Auction at The Farm. Call (828) 526-0732.

Saturday, Oct. 6
• 90th birthday party for Opal Lee Allsep Hedden 3 p.m. in the Methodist Church Fellowship Hall.

• Hurricane Creek Fall Fling Dance at the Instant Theatre Company at 8 p.m. call 828 342-9197.

• The 2nd Annual Scaly Mountain Turkey Shoot at the Scaly Mtn. Volunteer Fire Station on Hale Ridge Road 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

• Book signings at Cyran's Book Shop. Noon to 2-p.m. photographer West Freeman will autograph "The French Quarter of New Orleans" and from 2-4 p.m., author Karen White will autograph "Learning to Breathe."

Monday, Oct. 8
• The Peggy Crosby Center Golf Classic hosted by the Old Edwards Inn & Spa 9 a.m. at the MountainTop Golf and Lake Club in Cashiers. Cost is \$250 per person, or \$1,000 per team. Call 526-9938, ext. 410 to sign up.
• Bolivian Auction and dinner at Highlands Country Club to benefit the Bolivian Mission. Admission: \$125.

By Skip Taylor

Highlands-Cashiers Hospital

General surgery will soon be available again at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital.

The hospital announced this week that a board-certified Atlanta surgeon will open a practice

here Nov. 5 in association with the hospital.

F. Augustus "Gus" Dozier, MD, FACS, who already has a North Carolina medical license, was credentialed by a unanimous vote of the hospital's medical staff last week. Hospital board mem-

bers gave their final stamp of approval to the deal at their regular meeting on Thursday.

While Dozier will be employed exclusively by the hospital here, he will spend every other week in residence here, and return

• See HOSPITAL page 17

ATM kiosk pinpoints board's frustration

Construction of the RBC Centura ATM kiosk has Appearance Commission members questioning the overall process of approval for projects that go before the town's various boards.

When the RBC Centura ATM project went to the Appearance Commission last month, it tabled its recommendation pending more information. When it went to the Zoning Board, it was approved.

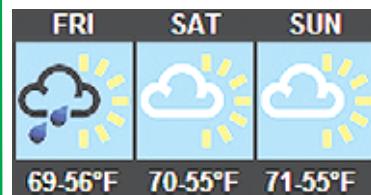
"The Zoning Board knew we had major problems with this and they went ahead and approved it anyway," said Commission Chair Rick Siegel. "It looks like another billboard and no one told us it was going to be yellow and blue."

Pat Taylor said the problem is the commission never got a three-dimensional rendering or anything on the kiosk.

Though the appearance commission didn't submit formal recommendations to the Planning or Zoning boards, except to say it wanted information on colors, lighting, screening, foliage, and a

• See FRUSTRATION page 19

Weekend Weather:



'V' for victory!



JT Schandolph during the Blue Ridge game Wednesday, Sept. 26. Highlands beat Blue Ridge 7-1. On Monday, Oct. 1 Highlands played Swain on their home turf and won xx to 5-0. The next three home games are Monday, Oct. 15 at 6 p.m. against Murphy; Wednesday, Oct. 17 at 5 p.m. against Tallulah Falls and Thursday, Oct. 18 against Hayesville at 7 p.m.

Photo by Noel Atherton

Bond subject of forum

None of the public forums conducted by the Macon County board of education or the board of commissioners have been well attended – but that may not be a bad thing.

"Either people don't care or they've already made up their minds," said Macon County Manager Sam Greenwood.

There will be six questions on the Nov. 6 ballot – five related to

the bond issuance and one about the Land Transfer Tax.

The total bond issuance is for \$64 million, which will only happen if all of the questions on the ballot about the bond get a "yes" vote.

The school bond question totaling \$42.1 million would build two new schools, renovate and expand another and construct

• See BOND page 27

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Trail leads to outdoor classroom

When the Town Board said yes to the first new segment of the Greenway Trail, it said yes to a lot of things.

At the Wednesday Town Board meeting, commissioners learned that allowing a five-foot wide combination mulch/boardwalk through Old Highlands Park property will link Highlands School to the greenway.

To satisfy the built-upon requirement of three units per acre at the site on Harris Lake, Bill Nellis, who is developing the Old Highlands Park condominium complex on Harris Lake, had to buy a parcel of land between the Lacy tract owned by the Land Trust and Old Highlands Park.

Hillrie Quin, with the Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust, said if the Town Board allowed Nellis to set up a conservation easement with the Land Trust across his property, a new segment of the Greenway Trail and an outdoor classroom for the school and the community could be constructed.

"We've talked to the principal at Highlands School and he is very excited about the concept," said Quin. "It's something that could be used by all ages and all classes."

Since the ordinances dealing with giving land to the Greenway aren't drawn up yet, and since buying the extra property and leaving it undeveloped was part of Nellis's original conditional use

• See TRAIL page 18

• THE PLATEAU'S POSITION •

• FORUM •

Evidence shows land transfer tax doesn't negatively impact growth, housing or economic development.

From the NC Association of County Commissioners

Counties across North Carolina are reeling from high Medicaid costs and increasing public school capital needs due to the state's rapidly growing population. As a result, counties are turning their attention to additional revenue sources to help keep up with these demands. A Land Transfer Tax or a local sales tax are two revenue options open to county commissions.

The 2007 State Appropriations Act (H1473) provides counties with the authority to levy either a land transfer tax (up to 0.4 percent) or a local sales tax (0.25 percent), following approval in a non-binding advisory referendum. H1473 creates two new articles under G.S. 105 — Article 60 for the local option land transfer tax (H1473 SECTION 31.17.(a)), and Article 46 for the local option $\frac{1}{4}$ cent sales tax (H1473 SECTION 31.17.(b)).

Despite the claims to the contrary from the N.C. Association of Realtors, the land transfer tax has not negatively impacted growth, the cost of housing or economic development in the six counties that have the tax. Those six counties Camden, Chowan, Currituck, Dare, Pasquotank and Perquimans have levied a 1 percent Land Transfer tax since the 1980s, using the proceeds primarily for capital projects.

When is the earliest the land transfer tax will become effective if the Board of County Commissioners levies the land transfer tax via resolution following a referendum during November 2007.

Jan. 1, 2008 so long as the resolution levying the tax is adopted in November 2007. The tax may become effective only on the first day in a calendar month in the resolution levying the tax which may not be earlier than the first day of the second succeeding calendar month after the resolution is adopted.

The Land Transfer Tax is considered
• See NCACC page 24

• LETTERS •

NOTE: Last week, prior to the publication of "BOE says no to SIATech charter" in the Sept. 27 edition of Highlands' Newspaper, we gave both SIATech and its East Coast representative Monica Bomengen a chance to comment.

Bomengen's comment came via email Thursday, Sept. 27 after the paper was published.

SIATech rep responds

Dear Editor,

Thank you for the free publicity! Now I have the opportunity to print corrections in all the legitimate news outlets.

First lesson of instituting positive systemic change — create a sense of urgency (Harvard Business School).

Bomengen's corollary — get the local fishwrapper to do it for you for free.

That's why I don't provide comments and press releases except to legitimate media.

It's really not worth going up against me. I always win, eventually. Always. And what I do, I do for the neediest kids. Their lives are not throwaway.

But keep trying if you want — it's been very helpful to my cause.

Check the competition's upcoming editions.

Monica Bomengen
Highlands

Soldiers are the best of us

Dear Editor,

Perhaps Ms. Brugger should return to staying "away from politics". Your treatise on "Soldier Gods" in the Sept. 27 issue of Highlands' Newspaper was more drivel than I could tolerate in a single sitting.

When did "soldiers become Gods" in this country? When they put down their plows and pens and picked up a rifle to defend your right to spew all the negative, politically correct swill you desire.

When did soldiers become Gods? To a thinking person, they became not Gods, but the best of us, when they understood that freedom is not free. If no-one cares about our life, liberty, and pursuit of happiness, it will be lost, to tyranny, hegemony or worse.

If I were you I might consider a situation where you are waiting in your burka for the soldier gods to liberate you from an oppressive tyranny and hope they hadn't been loyal readers of your column. By the way, since you are probably too young to remember; John Kerry and his good friend Jane Fonda were meeting with our enemies in Paris while we were at war, and he should have been tried for treason, rather than merely

• See LETTERS page 42

LETTERS-TO-THE EDITOR-POLICY

We reserve the right to reject or 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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• FORUM •

Macon's government needs no extra funding; JLF analyzes impact of land transfer tax hike

From the John Locke Foundation

Macon County voters should consider the millions of dollars their local government has overcollected or spent on non-essential items in recent years. A new John Locke Foundation Regional Brief shows Macon County government has \$21.6 million available to spend on high-priority government functions.

Taxpayers can read the brief before they consider allowing the county government to raise the local real estate transfer tax from 0.2 percent to 0.6 percent. "Macon County commissioners are asking voters to approve a 200 percent increase in the real estate transfer tax November 6," said Dr. Michael Sanera, JLF Research Director and Local Government Analyst. "The higher tax would apply to the sale price of all property, including new and existing homes. When a home is sold for \$200,000, the homeowner would pay a transfer tax of \$1,200. If approved, the transfer tax is expected to increase county revenues by about \$819,000 per year."

This year the General Assembly gave every county a chance to raise either the local sales tax or the real estate transfer tax. The new tax options were part of a deal involving the state relieving counties of local Medicaid expenses. The deal also called on counties to forfeit a half-cent of local sales tax.

Counties cannot raise the taxes without a local referendum. Macon and about one-third of the rest of North Carolina's counties are asking taxpayers for the right to raise their taxes, Sanera said. A JLF research team is analyzing the potential impact in each county. Working with Sanera are Joseph Coletti, JLF Fiscal Policy Analyst; Terry Stoops, JLF Education Policy Analyst; and Justin Coates, JLF Research Intern.

"Even though Macon and other counties were forced to give up some revenue as part of the Medicaid deal, they benefit from another part of the

• See JLF page 24

• MILESTONES •



Ryan Bryson with his family and friends in Victory Lane at Toccoa Motors Speedway.

Bryson is Points Champion

Ryan Bryson, of Bryson Motorsports, celebrated in victory lane after a well deserved win on Saturday, Sept. 22 in his crate late model car in Toccoa, GA. He also took home a trophy for winning 2nd half points championship. He has had a great season and will travel to Glencoe, AL. on Oct. 5-6 to race 50 laps in the crate late model national grand championship. Thanksgiving weekend, Nov. 23-24, Fastrak will team with Toccoa Motor Speedway for a two-night show.

This year he has raced at Travelers Rest Speedway in Travelers Rest, S.C., Hartwell Speedway in Hartwell, GA, Sugar Creek Speedway in Blue Ridge, GA., Toccoa Motors Speedway in Toccoa, GA and East Alabama Speedway in Phenix City, AL.

He would like to thank B&S Haulers, Bryson Grading and Trucking and all his friends and family for supporting him throughout the year. This was a great way to end the season with a win and points championship.

Opal Hedden turns 90

Opal Lee Allsep Hedden, wife of the late Wilbur R. Hedden,Jr., turned 90 years old on Oct.4.

All friends and family are invited to join in a celebration with her on Sat., Oct.6 at 3 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall of the Highlands United Methodist Church on Main Street

- From the children of Opal and Wilbur Hedden



Opal Hedden



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This unique antique log cabin was built in 2005 but looks like it has always been nestled next to the river. gated entrance, security system, custom lighting, extra large closets, 3 stacked stone fireplaces, loft in one of the bedrooms, commercial grade stove with pot filler, large tree house deck with views to the river, custom draperies, beautiful landscaping, and cedar shake roof. \$1,995,000



In town home within walking distance to Main Street. Land is adjacent to the Highlands Land Trust for great privacy. 2 BR 2 BA plus a huge loft, granite kitchen and covered deck with fireplace. Large stone fireplace in the vaulted great room and on the screened porch. Wonderful kitchen with nice appliances. Finished 2 car garage and on a nearly level wooded lot. \$495,000



Totally remodeled and all on one level, this craftsman style home features a large vaulted great room with a stone fireplace, vaulted kitchen and dining area, 3 BR 2 BA with generous closets, stucco finish walls in the guest bath, and lavish master bath. Large yard for the children or pets to play in plus a 2 car garage. All this and a wonderful winter view of Shortoff Mountain. Priced to sell! \$449,000



The "Owl Wood" is an adorable old Highlands cottage. The separate "Owlette" has 1/2 bath and bedroom/ playroom. It could be used as a guest cottage or studio. The home is walking distance to Main Street, neighbor to Highlands Biological Center, and tucked into an old growth rhododendron wooded lot with lots of charm and privacy. \$645,000



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• LAUGHINGAT LIFE •

Weasels and other assorted pond scum

No, no, no, this is not about our U.S. Congressmen, it's about people even worse than them.

Of all the assignments I had while I was a police officer, the one thing they never made me do was work the "rat squad." Yes, I got to do all the rest and I consider myself fortunate to be alive and retired. Just ask the li'l missus who knows much more than she should.

In case you're not familiar with cop lingo, the "rat squad" consists of police officers assigned to catch crooked cops. It's not that I was pro bad cop, I wasn't. I just found it distasteful to arrest a policeman, especially the ones with little kids. I would have done anything to avoid doing that. Since my leaders knew my feelings, I happily avoided the assignment. Fortunately, I made it through my entire career without busting a cop. In fact, I served 28 years without even giving an officer a traffic ticket. I did put several in taxis and kept their car keys overnight but that's another story. I know some will disagree with that conduct, but I am proud of what I was.

Part of the reason for this attitude is my total disrespect for informants which I refer to as pond scum. I developed this hatred for informants while attending Catholic school. (Sure, blame the Catholics.) If you have read my book then you know how scary life was for an out of control kid like me back in the day. The informants were always the girls who took great pleasure in ratting me out. This, of course, was followed by torture, which the sisters called discipline. The girls were the worse kind of pond scum because they didn't do it for money but for the sheer pleasure of seeing me hang by my thumbs from the coat rack.

By the time I joined the police department I found that girls had more pleasurable attributes than just finking out everyone. I dropped my shields...a little. Then, as fate would have it, I was assigned to the narcotics unit where I spent the next 10 years of my life, four of them undercover, working with pond scum. The lifeblood of any narcotics unit is its network of informants. This dug up old wounds.

I wasn't there very long before I found

that my fellow narc officers also hated informants. In the more naïve world of everyday living, one might think highly of a person who dedicates his life to turning in drug dealers, but don't get witnesses and informants mixed up. Witnesses are everyday citizens who happen across a crime and tell the police. Informants, who are drug dealers themselves, have sinister motives, like eliminating competition, making money or getting light sentences.

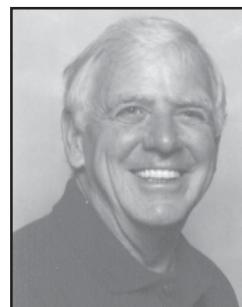
Here's how it works in the world of weasels and pond scum. A drug dealer gets busted and agrees to turn in three of his buddies for a lighter sentence. Of the three guys he's turning in, two of them are already your informants turning in other pond scum buddies for money. After they get busted, they must now work for free or face heavier sentences. You need a scorecard to keep up. I showered often.

Also, an informant will sell dope to a buyer, then rush to the cops and turn him in for money. This way he gets money from both ends, the cops and the buyers. But if the buyer is an undercover narc, things get messy and not only does he have to give the money back but now has to work for free. (A little circus music, please!) Occasionally someone actually goes to jail, but in most cases "Get out of jail" cards are issued to get the bigger dealers.

This all may sound meaningless but it isn't. I once bought a nickel bag (A \$5 "hit" back in the seventies.) of heroin and 30 non-stop hours later, through the use of "rolling over" informants, confiscated 12 million dollars in heroin and put six big time dealers in the slammer, making it all worthwhile.

This all brings me back to pond scum Carol Meeks who must be working for a drug cartel somewhere. She's the butt ugly babe who ratted me out in the 5th grade for throwing a snowball in the classroom, hitting Julie Cochran right between the eyes. I just know the sisters paid her for that information.

Going home? Read Fred's column all year at:
[http://www.highlandsinfo.com/
newspaperdownload.htm](http://www.highlandsinfo.com/newspaperdownload.htm)



Fred Wooldridge

•
Feedback
is encouraged!
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• ANOTHER VIEW •

What's the harm?

When Lizzie told me, I said, "You've got to be joking," but of course I knew she wasn't. I've lived in America for 66 years and I've become accustomed to the absurd.

In case you missed it, a nursing home in Mahopac, NY banned the donation of free sweets, including doughnuts, to the home's residents. I said a nursing home, not a nursery. The suggestion that it is never too late to learn good nutritional habits has never been taken so literally.

I can't think of a good reason to deprive seniors of what must be one of their few pleasures. I've been in nursing homes. My Mom spent the last few years of her life in one that was run by the Society of Friends (Quakers), and was said to be as good or better than any. Mom had few pleasures. She loved to shop and the home had a small trading post which sold few items except lap throws. So Mom bought lap throws. She kept several in her room, gave them as gifts, and I suspect threw some away, just to create an excuse to buy more. Mom would have loved a Krispy Kreme counter at Friends Center. I know the euphemisms, assisted living and retirement centers. The sad fact is that for the most part we are talking about human warehouses, for aging people with only death to look forward to for release.

What is the administrator of Mahopac thinking? Maybe he should ban shuffle board because his few ambulatory residents might fall and break their hips during a spirited game. Come to think of it, a canasta game might damage a senior's eyes unless the lighting is perfect. Better to ban the game. I'm sure that the ban's author had his heart in the right place. It's where he had his head that concerns me.

A resident of the home, and former union official, did what union men do. He printed some sandwich boards and organized a sidewalk demonstration. Good for him. Maybe a retired stock broker will buy the remaining pastries



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

in hopes a sharp increase in price will follow a precipitous fall in supply. Maybe the ban will motivate the residents, get their long dormant juices flowing again. That would make for a good week in Mahopac, but next week and the week after, the doughnuts will still be banned.

A doctor who orders a victim of terminal lung cancer to stop smoking is a fool. Perhaps the patient who complies has something to prove, a final battle to win, a vicious enemy to vanquish. More likely, he is a greater fool than his doctor. Nobody lives forever. Few would want to, even if they could. One of life's great gifts is ready acceptance of death. I have met so many old people who are bored and exhausted, who have outlived spouses, friends, and family, who look forward to life's final chapter. I'm not talking about depression, but rather about completion.

Why would a nursing home administrator ban free doughnuts? Surely not to encourage people like me to ridicule his devotion to duty. Maybe he is trying to divert the free goodies to the local police force. Law enforcement fondness for doughnuts is not apocryphal. I'm confident that the inhabitants of the home would willingly share, if only an officer would stay and visit for a few minutes while he ate.

Residents correctly protested that dietary decisions belong to them, not to the administrator. A woman commented that she was 86, not eight. The basic question is not about the elderly ruining their health with doughnuts, but about treating the elderly like children who are not to be trusted to make their own decisions. Adult children forget that treating an aging parent in this manner threatens his independence and erodes his dignity. A nursing home administrator is paid to run the facility, not its inhabitants.

Death by Krispy Kreme? What a lovely way to go!

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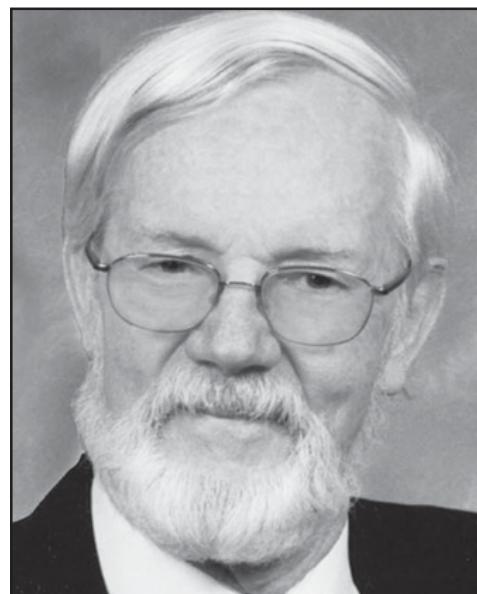
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Candidates answer question 2 in six-week lineup

This is question two of six questions asked of the six candidates running for three seats on the Town of Highlands Board. Answers to questions will appear in each issue through Nov. 1.

Question #2: Do you feel relations between the town government and county governments need mending and if so, how would you start?

Larry Brannan – We in Highlands have had and continue to have problems in our relationship with Macon County government. Past and current issues include: Apparent abuse (of us and their elected offices) when the county sued our town concerning ETI; Past due money owed to Highlands relative to the infamous "Memo of Understanding;" Fairness in property revaluation and the fight to make the process 'revenue neutral', the questionable appointment of a particular person to a position interfacing with Highlands town government; the takeover of our recreation facilities; the seemingly large difference in pri-



Larry Brannan

orities for almost everything; the necessity, accuracy and detailed intent of the proposed bond referendums; and most importantly, the perception that we in the High-

lands area get very little from the county relative to the taxes they take from us.

Now, are we ready to sit down and talk nice with the people that run Macon County government? Well, we should be and it is necessary that we do so. We may consider some to be rascals (or worse). But, like it or not, those rascals are our rascals. The tensions and perceptions of unfair treatment between a 'small' town that is not the county seat and the county are not unusual. We need and depend on each other. It is in the interest of all of us to work through our differences to find the best solutions for the town and the county. The town of Highlands has about 880 registered voters. The estimated population of Macon County is 34,500. From the county government's viewpoint, 880 people out of 34,500, possibly appears to be a relatively small number and our needs and wants may not rate very high priorities - even though the Highlands district probably provides a disproportionately high amount of the tax income for the county.

Certainly we have some issues and

plans to resolve. However, we do not have to roll over and accept what the county offers. But, Macon County officials should not be seen as our adversaries. Let's talk, cajole and negotiate. Let's apply whatever pressure we can to get the best deal with the county for each issue. Publicity in all local papers is quite useful. It seemed to make a difference during the recent property revaluation and possibly influenced the acquiescence to the 'tax revenue neutral' demand. Also, I suspect they would like to have voters in the Highlands district look favorably on all those bond referendums (back door tax increase?).

As with any negotiation, the first thing we in Highlands should do is to figure out exactly what is best for Highlands for each issue. Then we will know what to work towards and whether we are on track to achieve it. The negotiations process could be made a little easier if we start with the points of agreement we currently share with the county. Then we can work, one by one, on each item where viewpoints and priori-

• See CANDIDATES page 7

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... CANDIDATES continued from page 6

ties diverge. It seems that we have little choice but to make the relationship work the best that we can. Perhaps, after the next election of county officials, the relationship could improve.



Dennis DeWolf

• **DeWolf** – Unfortunately, our town government has historically been at odds with the county government which is not unusual any more than the county government is at odds with the state legislature, etc. up the chain of control of the “purse” strings and vacillating policies. In my mind the only effective way to help create understanding and mutual respect is to get to know the county commissioners as individuals and attempt to create understanding with each on a one to one basis. There are no assurances, of course, that consistent agreement on common issues will happen but at least each can better understand why there is disagreement on one issue vs. another.

In fact I believe the relations between the town government and county government are gradually improving one step at a time as we are continuing to see the county take serious planning actions in regard to subdivision regulations, height restrictions, recreation, etc. which was unheard of only a few years ago. In some areas they are in fact beginning to supersede our own efforts to manage growth which to me is a positive step forward for both of us. I see the evolution of their deliberations that begins to set the stage for more common ground between the town and the county that is potentially less encumbered with “baggage” of unsettled arguments of the past that tend to bog down progress in communication between the boards.

We had a chance to have a combined meeting with the county board several months ago that got foiled by miscommunication within their board. Ironically it happened after I attended a normal month-

ly meeting of their board and requested that we try to meet twice a year if possible. That meeting has been rescheduled to happen this week with a limited agenda set by the county for discussion. I’m hopeful and optimistic that progress can be made.



John “Buz” Dotson

Highlands' Newspaper - Thursday, Oct. 4, 2007 - Page 7

• **Dotson** – Yes, I do think the relationship between the Town and the County is strained. But I also believe the Town of Highlands and Macon County can indeed work toward the best interests of each other. There should be plenty of

common ground to be found and the best way to get that started is to have open and ongoing dialogue and a representative at county commission meetings. To achieve a better relationship, an effort by all parties needs to be made.

• **Drake** – Yes, I believe there are problems between the Town government and the County government.

What I see and hear from other citizens of Highlands is that the Town Board only shows interest in what the county government is doing when it directly affects the town of Highlands. I believe anything the county government does affects our town.

There’s an old saying “Out of sight out of mind.” In other words, someone from Highlands’s town government needs to be visible at all county board meetings and call a joint meeting when a decision might be made that would take money out of the pockets of the people of Highlands and send it down the mountain never to return.

If I am elected to the Town Board, I will ask the Mayor to promote the idea that someone from Highlands government attend each and every county board meeting. This should be the mayor, commissioner, or even the town administrator.

• See CANDIDATES page 13

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• REFLECTIONS FROM TURTLE POND •

What is Natural?



Katie Brugger
k-brugger@hotmail.com

A few weeks ago I wrote a column in which I claimed that human beings are part of nature. A reader wrote a letter in response in which he asserted that humans were perhaps a part of nature but that many things they did were decidedly unnatural. I thought I'd respond because I think there is interesting philosophical material here.

Many years ago I spent an evening discussing the origins of humankind with a liberal Christian, and as we delved into her beliefs it became clear that she believed simultaneously in evolution and the Garden of Eden. She had no doubt that life had evolved on this planet through billions of years; that humans are part of the great chain of being; yet at the same time she believed that God had at some point reached out and set humankind apart. Like in Michelangelo's famous Sistine Chapel painting, God had stretched out a metaphorical hand and touched an "Adam" at some pivotal point in human development, and that touch was what made us human.

So we tried to find when this auspicious moment might have taken place. Was it when humankind started walking on two legs? That seemed silly. How about when we developed language? But lots of animals communicate. Perhaps it was when we invented toolmaking? No, that's not uniquely human either.

The more we looked the more ridiculous the whole proposition became. There was no moment at which humans were set apart by God. Of course my friend's thinking was based on the belief that humans had been separated from nature by God because we were special and meant for a higher purpose.

Many people think of humans as separate from nature not because we are special but because we are wicked and bad. We are unnatural and do unnatural things.

What does "nature" mean? My Webster's Universal Dictionary gives lots of definitions for the word. The first few define nature as "the material world, esp. as...existing independently of human activities." But the definitions go on to include these: "the universe, with all its phenomena" and "the sum total of the forces at work throughout the universe."

This larger, deeper meaning of the word "nature" is what I am referring to. How could human beings be separate from this? We are part of the universe are we not? We are subject to the laws and

forces which govern the material world are we not? Everything we create—the nuclear waste that poisoned the land around Chernobyl—is really just the material world rearranged and concentrated. We cannot create anything from outside the material world. We cannot create anything outside the laws and forces of physics.

If you believe humans to be outside of nature, then, as I asked my friend about God, just exactly when did this switch from natural to unnatural occur? Were we natural when we lived as hunter-gatherers? Was it the invention of agriculture and the resulting development of "civilization" that separated us from nature? Maybe it's our technology that makes us unnatural? So was it the invention of the steam engine, or learning to forge bronze, or inventing the wheel?

Once again, the attempt to find the line that separates humans from the natural world makes it clear that the line never existed in the first place—it is an imaginary boundary created by us.

One night I was contemplating one of the horrific battles of the Civil War, wondering how soldiers kept charging even though they knew it was suicide, and it occurred to me that we humans have an inordinately high opinion of our level of consciousness. This is what I wrote that night:

We consistently overestimate our level of consciousness.

We consistently underestimate our level of unconsciousness.

Somebody said, "The search for the missing link between the animal kingdom and humankind has been going on for a long time, but we have now found it. The missing link between animals and the truly humane being is us."

The way the world looks, right now in 2007, is how evolving hairless apes barely out of the trees act in the early phases of the development of the mind. We are acting completely naturally in everything we do, from the symphonies of Beethoven to dropping atomic bombs.

In my original article I said that my argument against calling humans "unnatural" was philosophical. More accurately it might be called theological, because it is based on my beliefs about what the universe is.

I think there is nothing but God. The universe is an aspect of the totality of God. [Google panentheism].

Everything we see is God manifested
• See BRUGGER page 12

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• HIS & HERs •

Like Water for Just about Anything

Some of you may remember *Like Water for Chocolate*, the best-selling Mexican novel, and the movie made of it. It was written by Laura Esquivel, who spun a romantic, mystical tale about a young woman who discovered that her cooking has magical effects.

Up here on our mountain, I, too, am discovering magical effects — of water, or rather the lack of it. Last year, our spring went dry, and John swore it was a fluke. So, this summer, I watched the health of our spring with avid curiosity. "Bet you \$10 it runs dry," I said, with a touch of my old New York City skepticism. "Lady, you've got yourself a deal," he replied. Yes, dear readers. I got my 10 bucks.

First, the pump went wonky. Drew, our own personal Knight in Shining Armor, came to the rescue. Pump fixed, we held our collective breaths. By mid-summer, we were doing laundry in Dillard, at the Piggly Wiggly strip mall. I practiced my minimal Spanish with the laborers who shared the machines. Showers were at John's aunt's house, blessed with a genuine well. I ran the dishwasher every two-three days. You don't want to know how often we flushed the toilets. It was *Green Acres* meets *Little House on the Prairie*, with a bit of *Animal House* thrown in for good measure.

Now don't think I'm one of those spoiled city girls, who has never had to deal with such events. In Paris, we went two weeks without water. Our downstairs neighbor, Madame Suspène, had sprung a leak, or rather her plumbing had. We learned a secret of French plumbing — that most people don't go to a licensed plumber, which meant that on every floor, in every apartment, the majority of the plumbing was jerry-rigged, and nothing was standard or regulation. Any plumbing disaster involving several different floors meant coping with an infinite variety of mismatched pipes and sockets. Fortunately, only the center apartments were affected. Unfortunately, we had a center apartment.

We managed as best we could, but one day I was desperate for a long, hot bath. "I'm going to try to bum a bath from one of the neighbors!" I said with forced jocularity. "But you can't!" replied my reserved British husband. "Watch me!" I retorted. I grabbed my towel, shampoo, and a bar of soap, and set off down the stairs. I knocked at the door of a neighbor, whom I had only seen briefly in the staircase. We were on "Bonjou, Madame," and polite nodding terms only. So, you can imagine how surprised my neighbor was to find herself face-to-face



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

with a lady clad in a bathrobe, toting her bath implements. I blurted out my request. She stared at me in stunned silence, then said "Une minute," and closed the door. I stood there, confused. Shortly after, the door opened, and she welcomed me into her apartment, showing me to the bathroom. In the brief time I'd waited on her doorstep, she had put classical music on the stereo, and filled the bathroom with lit candles. I had one of the most elegant baths in my life, compliments of a neighbor I barely knew. People would love to think that this event caused the ice to break between us. *Mais non.* We continued to greet each other with a nod of the head, and "*Bonjour, Madame.*"

Of course, John and I had water problems before, 35 years ago, when we were building our houseboat in Baltimore harbor. We had no water for days, followed by cold water only for two weeks. Ever showered in cold water? Trust me. It wakes you up more than you ever want to be woken up. And don't believe those people who tell you that showering in cold water stops you from thinking about sex. It just means that when you think about it, it makes you really, really cranky.

Flash forward to my 12 years in Midtown Manhattan, when we regularly had the water shut off for repairs, usually during the day, but sometimes for longer. A road repair crew cut through the phone lines once, leaving us with no telephone service for 10 days. And who can forget the August 15th blackout which gave me several more great stories AND an "I survived the August 15th blackout" T-shirt? You know you're a New Yorker when you get the event plus the T-shirt for bragging rights.

Through all of these minor *contretemps*, I have tried to cope with the spirit which I assume pioneer women

had as they bounced around in covered wagons, trying to refrain themselves from swatting their children with a frying pan at each "Are we there yet?"

Fortunately, we have water once more. Keep your fingers crossed. Hopefully, next summer, you won't see me at the post office with a sign which reads "Will work for water." But if you do, don't worry. I bring my own shampoo.

• 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. Michelle is a member of the Highlands Writers Group. She enjoys long meals and short showers.



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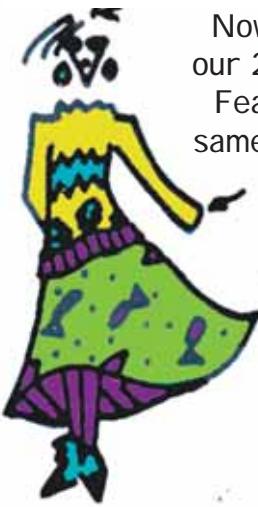
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• COACH'S CORNER •

Welcome to my fantasy



Ryan Potts
tryanpotts@hotmail.com

I have come to a terrible realization, a sudden epiphany about my life that I never thought possible. It was never meant to be this way, and I never expected such a change to occur in my life so quickly...so suddenly. I must say that I was simply not prepared, and now my wife is in shock, because she never expected this of me...although she had to have seen it coming at some point.

I came to acknowledge this change on Sunday, when what was supposed to be a lazy day relaxing at home (the Saints had a bye week, so there would be no need for "medicine" at the Potts' household) turned into a frantic quest for knowledge, knowledge that, once acquired, would then set me to contemplating, adding, figuring and then hoping. It was then that I (with the help of my lovely wife, who puts up with me for reasons thus unknown) discovered my horrific transformation...I am now a fantasy football dork.

It all started innocently enough, as one of my colleagues invited me to join a free fantasy football league with a couple of other folks. I was cautious at first, never having played before, but I figured that it would be a fun thing to help me get adjusted in a new community.

The first two weeks of the season I got absolutely lambasted by my opponents -- it was extremely embarrassing, and my competitive side began to slowly take over. I then found myself staring ever so frighteningly at the edge of fantasy football hysteria, pondering whether or not it was worth it to jump in or remain helpless on the outside as my colleagues mocked my performance (or lack thereof) on Sundays. It was then that the competitive beast took over as I overhauled my entire defense and then made the necessary decisions at wide receiver and quarterback. It was then that I sat back in gleeful anticipation of a Sunday in which I would finally have some sweet, sweet success.

Of course, success would have to wait, as I spent Sunday watching in horror as Marc Bulger looked like a complete and utter disaster against the Dallas defense. How is it possible not to

score a touchdown when you have Torry Holt, Ike Bruce and Drew Bennett at WR? I flipped away from the Dallas-St. Louis game with the knowledge that not only do I have to brutally injure Marc Bulger in his sleep, but I also am now convinced that Wade Phillips hates me. After all, what moron would not run Marion Barber when he is averaging over 4 yards a carry and instead run Julius

Jones, who can't break tackles and is slower than Phil Fulmer going through a buffet line?

My transformation into fantasy dork was complete around mid-afternoon, as I watched the Carolina Panthers refuse to throw the ball to Steve Smith (only the best WR in football), and then when they did throw it to him he dropped a TD pass.

As my wife looked on, I began to rant and rave and continue to blurt out inappropriate rhetorical questions like "Do you think the police could find out if I hired a plane to fly over David Carr's house with a banner telling him to throw the @#\$*(@* ball to Steve Smith?" and "How long before John Fox ends up sucking the life out of a college football program just like Dave Wannstedt?" And the sad part about this whole thing is -- I am not a fan of any of these teams, and yet I am rooting for them to succeed!

I'm starting Steve Smith next week for the simple fact that he is playing against the Saints defense -- you know, the one that is so Charmin soft that our secondary needs to invite Smith over to dinner on Saturday before the game so that they can actually see what Smith's face looks like instead of the back of his jersey that they will be watching run to the painted area on the field (otherwise known as the "end zone," something that as a Saints fan I have little knowledge of).

And thus ends my tragic story. One comprised of metamorphosis, determination and humiliation -- as I have now joined the legions of fantasy dorks that I once mocked with delight. I'm not sure that I will ever be the same after this season, but I can guarantee you that I will be feeling a lot better next Monday if I can just squeeze a couple of TD's out of Marc (expletive deleted) Bulger.

• CONSERVATIVE POV •

Are YOU ready for Hillarycare 2.0?

I have been reluctant to take on the health care crisis. I couldn't get my arms around the subject and I didn't know why. The issue seemed to have an abstract nature and my straight-line mind doesn't do well in that environment. Finally it hit me: we don't have a health care crisis. Who do you know that doesn't have access to health care? For Pete's sake, there is a Federal law that prohibits denying health care because of the inability to pay.

Let me quote the opening of a long statement Hillary issued on Sept. 18: "I want to start by telling you about Judy Rose, who I met last month in Dubuque along with her husband John. Back in 2001, John lost his job of 30 years when the plant where he worked closed with just one day's notice. And so, Judy and John lost not only John's job, they lost their health insurance. A couple of months later, Judy was diagnosed with breast cancer.

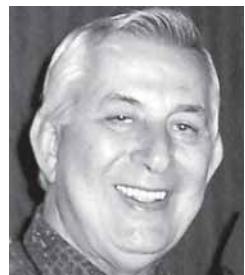
Thankfully a special government program started during my husband's administration took care of her treatment and she recovered. But then, in 2003, John had a heart attack. He spent hours in surgery and was in the intensive care unit. Fortunately, he survived, but when the bills came, their luck ran out. The costs of John's care were so high, they had to sell the home they lived in for 30 years."

Let's analyze Hillary's story. Judy got breast cancer, was treated and recovered.

John had a heart attack, was operated on and survived, evidently sufficiently to meet Hillary four years later. Sounds like a happy outcome to me. So where is the Health Care crisis? Two serious needs met by the best healthcare system on Earth. This was not a health care matter, it was a financial matter.

We are constantly being bombarded by dishonest information regarding the health care issue, just as most of the politically driven blather is these days. We are constantly told that it's just not right that 47 million Americans are without health care. Well, bull. They aren't without health care, they are without health care insurance.

We have been accused of having short memories when it comes to political matters. Do we need to be reminded of Hillary's total failure the first time around when hubby Bill turned her loose on solving the health care issue in his first term? She was accused of holding clandestine meetings, bypassing



Don Swanson
Feedback is encouraged. Email
swandonson@dnet.net

congressional protocol, being heavy-handed, using coercive tactics and otherwise being obtuse. She says she's learned from her past mistakes.

Well, we should all have learned from her past mistakes. Rather than me trying to understand and explain her new initiative, American Health Choices Plan, let Fox News' website do the research: "Clinton's plan builds on the existing employer-based system of

coverage. People who receive insurance through the workplace could continue to do so; businesses in turn would be required to offer insurance to employees, or contribute to a government-run pool that would help pay for those not covered. Clinton would also offer a tax subsidy to small businesses to help them afford the cost of providing coverage to their workers.

For individuals and families who are not covered by employers or whose employer-based coverage is inadequate, Clinton would offer expanded versions of two existing government programs: Medicare, and the health insurance plan offered to federal employees. Consumers could choose between either government-run program, but aides stress that no new federal bureaucracy would be created under the Clinton plan."

Well then, who is going to ride herd on the various elements of her plan? Hillary is a Socialist, and everything she does works to make the United States a socialist nation. A Giuliani spokesperson said "Clinton's latest health scheme includes more government mandates, expensive federal subsidies and more big bureaucracy – in short, a prescription for an increase in wait times, a decrease in patient care and tax hikes to pay for it all."

"Hillary care continues to be bad medicine," said Republican Mitt Romney, who introduced universal health care while Governor of Massachusetts. "It's government in Washington as opposed to states. It's government plans as opposed to private plans. It's raising taxes as opposed to holding taxes level. It's not the right course for solving our health care problems."

The curious thing about Hillary's American Health Choices Plan is it doesn't give you a choice to opt out. If the government can coerce you to subscribe to their plan, what's next? Health care is not a right unless you are a socialist.

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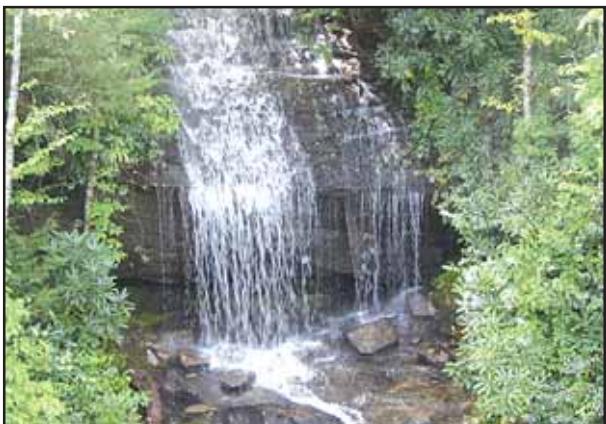
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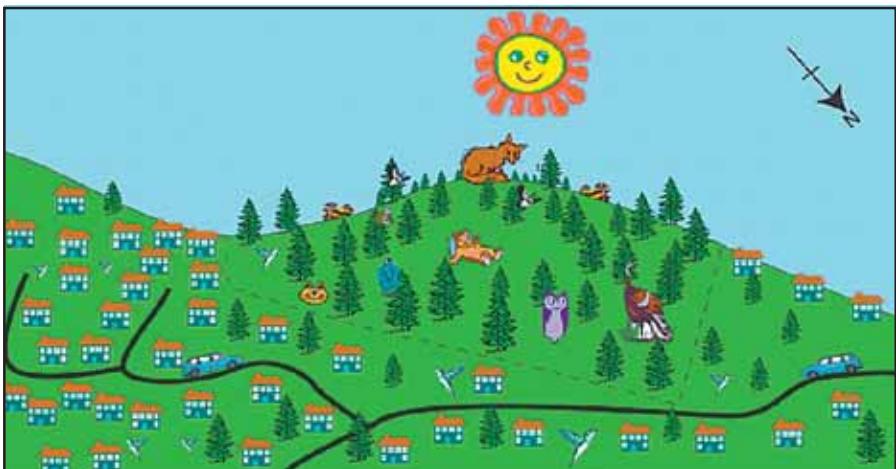
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• VIDEO GUY •

Zodiac

The 2007 thriller/procedural/true crime film directed by David Fincher ("Fight Club," "Alien3" and "Seven"), starring Jake Gyllenhaal (*Brokeback Mountain*, *Jarhead*), Mark Ruffalo (*Rumor Has It*, *All the King's Men*), and Robert Downey, Jr (*A Guide to Recognizing Your Saints*, *A Scanner Darkly*), based on the book by Robert Graysmith. Rated R for violence.

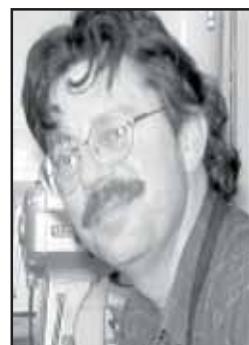
The Storyline: The story begins on July 4, 1969, when a serial killer, already active, begins writing letters to the San Francisco Chronicle, among other papers, taunting the police about his crimes (and freaking out Southern California in the process)

Paul Avery (Robert Downey Jr.) is the top crime beat reporter covering the murders for the Chronicle who receives some of the letters. Robert Graysmith (Gyllenhaal) is a political cartoonist with reasons of his own for wanting to decipher some of the notes.

San Francisco police detectives Dave Toschi (Mark Ruffalo) and his partner Bill Armstrong (Anthony Edwards) start with a routine murder investigation, and work into an obsession as more deaths (possibly totaling 12) and more time occur. It does follow (accurately) the events that unfolded during Zodiac's murder spree, and apparently also accurately portrays the impact on the police officers and reporters that followed the case for over 10 years and more, and then continues on to follow the efforts of Graysmith as he develops a book about the murders and the process of the investigation.

Closer in spirit to a police procedural than a gory serial-killer flick, though not without some pretty gruesome scenes, the story is gripping, creepy, dramatic, and actually has some humor (or at least lighter moments, if not actually humor). *Zodiac* tells the story of the men and women who were involved in the hunt for the killer, rather than the story of the killer himself. Well done, dark in filming as well as storyline, accompanied by a creepy/funny period sound track (but I've always found Donovan and Johny Mathis a little creepy anyway). Apparently very accurate in the portrayal of the events, and the story ends with some follow up information about several of the principals, including the suspect the police investigated most seriously (Arthur Leigh Allen) in this still unsolved case.

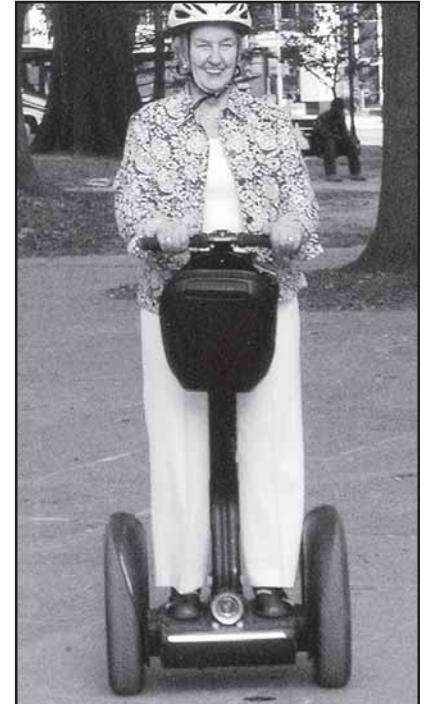
Several more along these lines, some



**Stuart of
The Movie Stop**

true crime and some fiction, are *Along Came a Spider*, *Double Jeopardy*, *To Die For*, *The Professional*, *Seven*, *Monster*, and the brilliant dark comedy true crime thriller, *Fargo*. These and about 5,000 other titles, for rent and sale, can be found at Movie Stop Video, stop on by and give them a look.

Segwaying about



Highlander Jan Weaver, vacationing with her daughter in Washington, D.C., toured the Capitol area on a Segway.

**...BRUGGER continued
from page 8**

in form. As Alan Watts wrote, "Matter is spirit named." In other words, not only do I believe that the line between humans and nature is an illusion, I believe the line between matter and spirit is also an illusion. There is only One.

Boundaries and lines cause problems. Perhaps a big part of the reason we are trashing the Earth is exactly because we think we are separate from nature. When and if we get in touch with our profound unity with all of creation we will understand how to live in harmony with our fellow natural beings.

Brownies 'bridge' at Thorn Park



On Monday, Sept. 24, Highlands Girl Scouts Troop 219 had its bridging ceremony of Brownies to Juniors at the Thorn Park bridge on Mirror Lake. Ten girls followed Ivy Satterwhit, Junior Scout escort, over the bridge. Anne Marie Crowe, Emily Crowe, Abby Gilbert, Courtney Henry, Adriann McCall, Amber Reese, Maddie Schandolph, Salem Stuart, Allie Wilkes, and Stella Wilson crossed over from Brownies to Girl Scouts.

Photo by Patce Thornton

... CANDIDATES continued from page 7



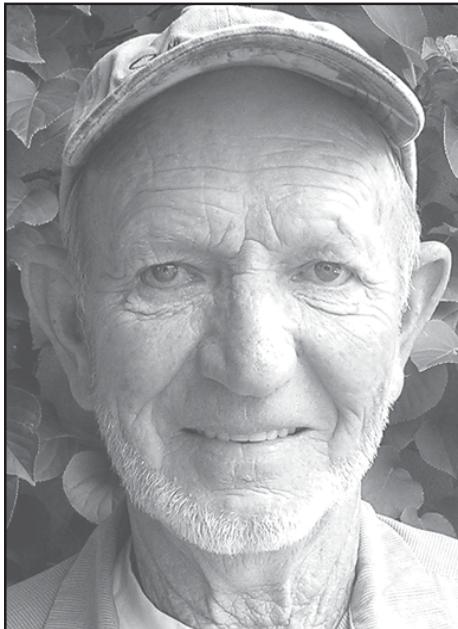
Alan Marsh

• Marsh

The Town Board has a meeting set for Oct. 4 with the Macon County Commission. I do not feel I can comment until after the meeting.

• Rogers:

I feel that the relations between the town and county government do not necessarily need mending, but they do have definite room for improvement. For the town to stay really involved with the county commissioners, we need a Highlands representative to attend the county board meetings. This will not only give us



Larry Rogers

representation, but it will also show that Highlands has a strong commitment to teamwork and would be willing to discuss a positive direction for the county, as a whole. We must also keep our minds open to the fact that the county does have a large responsibility to fulfill, not only the needs and wants of Highlands, but also for the needs of the communities that make up Macon County. I'm not saying that we should be ignored, but if we don't all work together to some extent, things might not ever get accomplished.



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Health Dept. promoting 'clean hands'



The Macon County Public Health Center and the Macon County Fair joined together to prevent any possible disease transmission from animals during the recent fair. At places where human-animal contact occurs, proper hand cleaning practices are important to reduce possible disease transmission. Hand sanitizer dispensing units were placed around the 2007 fair grounds to get young and old to sanitize their hands, especially after petting animals or before eating. Shown here are first-graders Samantha Ashe and Thomas Hollifield using one of the hand sanitizing stations visited the lambs at the fair.

Public input on managing recreation uses on the Chattooga River wanted

U.S. Forest Service officials are requesting public input on a revised set of preliminary alternatives for future management of recreation uses on the upper section of the Chattooga Wild and Scenic River. The alternatives respond to public comments on six preliminary alternatives the agency released on August 14, 2007.

"The public reaction to our six preliminary alternatives was incredible," said Sumter National Forest Supervisor Jerome Thomas. "We received more than 1,200 responses from people across the country providing us with suggestions on how to manage this precious resource, some of which included very specific and helpful recommendations on how to refine the alternatives."

The agency's revised set of alternatives removes private property, located south of Grimshaws Bridge in North Carolina, from further consideration in its environmental assessment.

"Given that the issue of navigability and the rights of the public with respect to this section of the Chattooga in North Carolina has not been adjudicated by a

court of law, any preliminary alternatives which contain this river segment will be eliminated from detailed consideration in the environmental assessment," said Thomas.

In response to public comments, the Forest Service has revised five of the six original preliminary alternatives and has developed three new preliminary alternatives, all of which exclude the private property in North Carolina. In addition, all of the preliminary boating alternatives reiterate that commercial boating will not be allowed above the Highway 28 bridge.

"We have always maintained that, regardless of our decision, commercial boating will not be allowed above the Highway 28 bridge," said Thomas. "Because we received so many comments on this issue, we felt the need to remind the public that only self-guided, non-commercial boating is being considered in this analysis."

The revised package of preliminary alternatives can be obtained by visiting the Sumter National Forest website at <http://www.fs.fed.us/r8/fms>. Hard copies of the package also are available upon request.

Highlands Cubscout Pack 207 goes to Covington, GA



Pack 207 participated at Rocket Mania at Bert Adams Scout Reservation in Covington, GA, Sept. 21-23. The following Cub Scouts attended: Joey Harris, Chase Harris, John Murphy, Philip Murphy, Seth Satterwhite, Cole Satterwhite, Adam Schiffli, Carter Potts, Kenan Lewis, Alex Bronaugh, Craig Dalton, Taylor Schmitt, Johnny Lupoli and Christian Trevathan. Brothers or sisters in attendance: Timmy Bronaugh, Grace Ann Harris and Ivy Satterwhite. The boys constructed and launched rockets all day long and participated in various activities as they worked to earn badges.

Photo by Patce Thornton

Grab your partner and 'Dolci' doe

By Fred Wooldridge

There's a new incentive to join the Highlands Falls Country Club and it's not square dancing. In fact there's no music involved but instead you can hear a pin drop in the room as the performance begins.

You will need a partner if you intend to hang out with ACBL's new bridge director, Teri Dolci, and her students. Teri is the club's new bridge teacher/director and she has both beginner and advanced players on the edge of their chairs, eager to learn.

Teri is a gregarious gal whose enthusiasm for the game is contagious and makes learning bridge fun. All summer, Teri has conducted Monday morning duplicate bridge classes for those who didn't know a slam from a pass. Then each Friday morning, those more familiar with the game sought out her knowledge. Teri is not only eager to teach but enjoys the fellowship with her students and feels strongly about wanting to share her love of the game with everyone. She



Teri Dolci

loves people and that makes bridge exciting.

Wait, there's more. Each Tuesday evening she conducts a duplicate bridge game for any club member brave enough to attend. This is a sanctioned

ACBL game with all scores recorded and reported. This requires Teri to spend long hours at her computer recording and tabulating the numbers. When everyone wakes on Wednesday morning, there's an email waiting for them with how they did.

All of Teri's hard work came to a head on Tuesday evening, Sept. 25 when both beginners and advanced assembled on the club's dance floor (no, not for square dancing)

to honor Teri and her hard work. With wine glasses held high and Bananas Foster on everyone's breath, Teri was presented with gifts from her happy students. Teri, who usually has a lot to say, was almost speechless. Was that a tear I saw in the corner of her eye?

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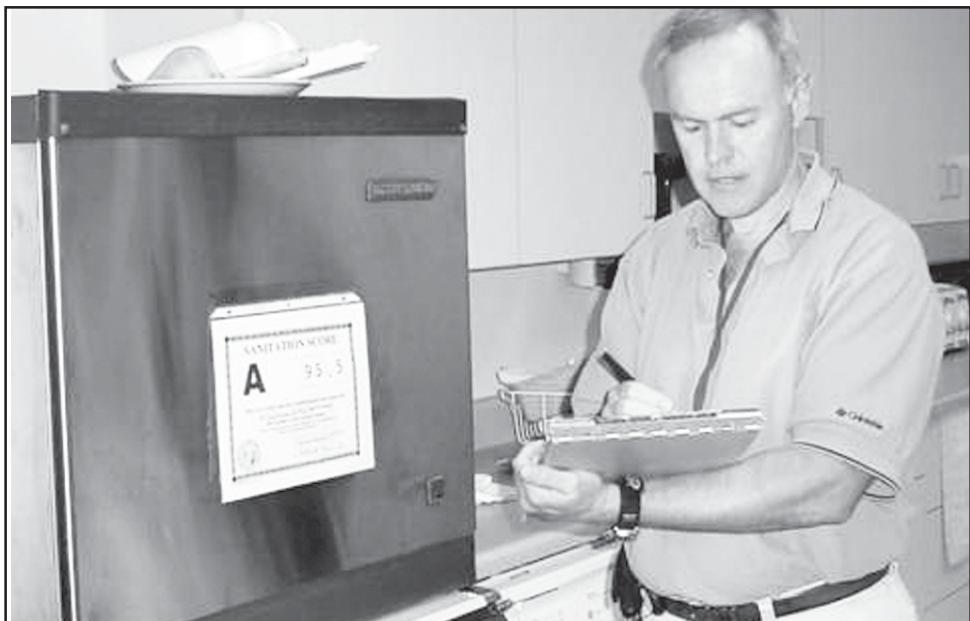
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Pat Muse, RS with the Macon County Public Health Center is one of the county's registered sanitarians who will begin risk-based food service inspections this year. Food service establishment will now have their inspection schedules determined by the risk category they fall into for transmission of food-borne illnesses; with higher risk establishments receiving more frequent inspections. Food service establishments in NC currently receive letter grades to inform the public of their compliance with food safety measures.

County inspectors focus on food-borne illness risk factors

The Macon County Public Health Center is focusing their food service inspections on those establishments with the highest potential risk and with violations that are more likely to contribute to food-borne illness, following a change last month in the North Carolina rules governing the sanitation of food service establishments.

Local health departments began assessing facilities using the new process, which changed the frequency of inspections, on Aug. 1.

"The change in inspection frequency means establishments will be inspected anywhere from once a year up to four times a year, but the difference is that those inspected more frequently pose a greater potential risk to public health," said Barry Patterson, Environmental Health Supervisor at the Macon County Public Health Center. "The fact is the more food service staff handles, prepares, cooks, stores and reheats food, the more likely it is for food to become contaminated."

Previously, environmental health specialists were required to conduct a minimum of four inspections for each retail food service establishment annually. Under the new inspection protocol, each food service establishment will be evaluated and assigned a risk category based on the type of food and amount of food preparation conducted in the facility.

North Carolina's Food Protection Branch has developed the following risk-based categories, which local health inspectors will use to identify minimum inspection schedules for food service facilities in their respective areas.

- Risk Category 1 – These facilities will be inspected a minimum of once a year and include food service establishments that prepare only non-potentially hazardous foods. An example of a Category 1 facility includes some drink stands.

- Risk Category 2 – These facilities will be inspected a minimum of two times a year and include food service establishments that cook and cool no more than two potentially hazardous foods (those foods that pose a greater risk to public health) received in a ready-to-cook form. Examples of Category 2 facilities include pushcarts, some grocery delis and pizza establishments.

- Risk Category 3 – These facilities will be inspected a minimum of three times a year and apply to food service establishments that cook and cool no more than three potentially hazardous foods. Examples of Category 3 facilities include meat markets and some sub shops.

- Risk Category 4 – These facilities will be inspected a minimum of four times a year and apply to food service establishments that cook and cool an unlimited number of potentially hazardous foods. Examples of Category 4 facilities include full service restaurants, nursing homes, school facilities serving preschool-aged children and caterers.

Patterson added "All food service establishments are still subject to unannounced inspections at any time during hours of operation" and emphasized that the health department "will be responsive to complaints from the public and on the alert for any food handling activities which might change the risk factors."

... HOSPITAL continued from page 1

Highlands' Newspaper - Thursday, Oct. 4, 2007 - Page 17



F. Augustus "Gus" Dozier

to Atlanta on the off weeks to be with family. He is a single parent and his children wish to finish school in Atlanta.

Hospital officials say that schedule will be adequate to handle most non-emergency surgeries. And Dozier will be on 24-hour call for emergency surgeries during the week he is in Highlands, including those weekends.

"This arrangement means we will be able to meet the surgical needs of the vast majority of our patients," said hospital President and CEO Ken Shull. "However, we are continuing our search for a second general surgeon so we will be able to provide emergency surgical coverage a full 52 weeks a year. This relationship with Dr. Dozier will continue even after we have found another surgeon – whether that second surgeon turns out to be full- or part-time."

In the meantime, Shull said the hospital has made arrangements with a surgical group in Sylva to provide backup coverage, should emergency cases requiring surgery occur during the off weeks. Historically, less than five percent of surgical cases the hospital sees are true emergencies.

"Gus Dozier is a highly-qualified, experienced senior surgeon and we are pleased to have him as an essential part of our medical community," said Board Chairman Bud Smith. "And we remain optimistic that we will find another surgeon of this caliber to complement Dr. Dozier."

Shull said that search is "full speed ahead." Another candidate visited the hospital just last week.

Hospital officials have been close to signing a general surgeon on several occasions, only to have those candidates decide to stay where they were or choose another location, added Smith. "We've been very close. The hospital has been among the top two choices of several different candidates."

The hospital has considered more than 50 potential general surgeons, but Shull said many did not seem to be a good fit for the hospital or the area it serves. "The hospital has very high professional standards. Physicians must be board-certified and have undergone their residency training in Unit-

ed States. Additionally we are looking for a surgeon who is experienced and comfortable working solo," said Shull. "While we are looking for a more senior surgeon, we are not interested in recruiting someone who might be running away from past problems. All of this narrows the field considerably."

Dozier met all of the hospital's objectives, he said.

Dr. Dozier grew up in Atlanta and graduated from the Georgia Institute of Technology, before going on to earn his medical degree from the Medical College of Georgia in Augusta, GA, finishing in 1974. He completed his residency in general surgery at Atlanta's Georgia Baptist Medical Center and affiliated hospitals in 1979.

Since entering private practice in the greater Atlanta area, he has been associated with several different group practices. Most recently he was president of Surgical Specialists of Greater Atlanta, PC. He is a member of the medical staffs of several Atlanta hospitals, including Atlanta Medical Center, where he was chief of general surgery and a member of the surgical residency teaching staff. He was chosen surgical attending physician of the year there in 1998. He is also on the active staff of Crawford W. Long Hospital, which is part of the Emory healthcare system, and has courtesy privileges at St. Joseph's Hospital. He remains an Assistant Clinical professor of Surgery at the Medical College of Georgia.

A former Commander in the US Naval Reserve, Dr. Dozier is certified by the American Board of Surgery and is a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons. He has undergone additional certification in laser and laparoscopy, as well as postgraduate study in diseases of the liver and pancreas, trauma and critical care, and gastrointestinal surgery.

Fact sheet on Dr. Gus Dozier

- Fred Augustus Dozier, MD, FACS, earned his undergraduate degree from Georgia Tech, where he was a member of the Alpha Tau Omega fraternity.

- He attended the Medical College of Georgia in Augusta, GA, earning his medical degree in 1974.

- He completed his residency in general surgery at Atlanta's Georgia Baptist Medical Center and affiliated hospitals.

- Since completing his residency in 1979, he has been in private practice in Atlanta.

- During his 28 years of private practice in that area, he has been associated with several different group practices. Most recently he was president of Surgical Specialists of Greater Atlanta, PC, a group practice covering general, oncologic, laparoscopic, trauma surgery and critical care.

- He is a member of the medical staff at several Atlanta hospitals, including Atlanta Medical Center, where he was chief of general surgery and a member of the surgical residency teaching staff.

- He was chosen surgical attending physician of the Year in 1998.

- He is also on the active staff of Crawford W. Long Hospital, which is part of the Emory healthcare system, and has courtesy privileges at St. Joseph's Hospital.

- In the past he has also been associated with Kennestone at Windy Hill in Marietta, and Northside Hospital.

- He remains an Assistant Clinical Professor of Surgery at the Medical College of Georgia, and has participated in, or co-authored, several professional publications.

- A native of Albuquerque, NM, he is a former Commander in the US Naval Reserve.

- Dr. Dozier is certified by the American Board of Surgery and is a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons.

- He has undergone additional certification in laser and laparoscopy, as well as postgraduate study in diseases of the liver and pancreas, trauma and critical care, and gastrointestinal surgery.

- He is licensed in Georgia, Tennessee and North Carolina.

- He is 63 and has seven children (ages 17-41)

- His interests include running, skiing, camping and reading.

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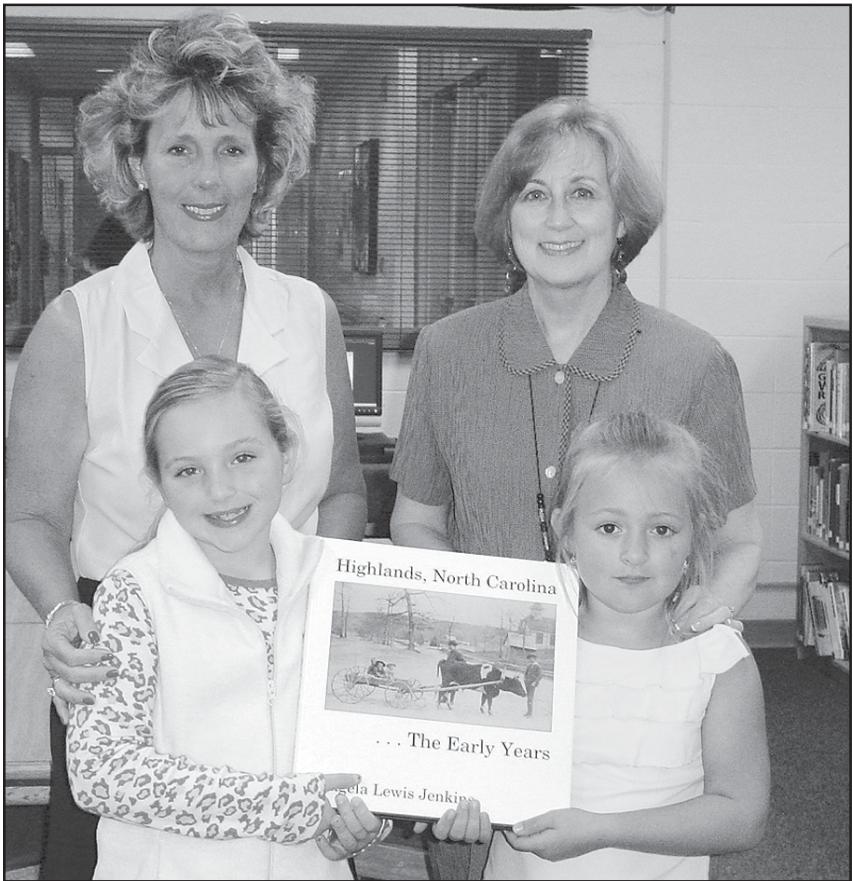
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On Tuesday, Oct. 2, Angela Lewis Jenkins and her two granddaughters Analyse Crook and Brianna Jenkins, presented Carol Bowen, Highlands School Media Center Director, with a copy of her new book, "Highlands, North Carolina...The Early Years" for inclusion in the school library.

... GREENWAY continued from page 1



The white line which leads from S. Fifth Street to the circular outdoor classroom on the Lacy Tract, is a proposed trail. It goes down the center of the extra tract purchased by Bill Nellis to satisfy the built-upon requirements for Old Highlands Park condominium complex on Harris Lake.

permit with the town, special permission was necessary.

"Once an ordinance is passed guaranteeing that property owners' built-upon ratios won't suffer if they give up a part of their property for the Greenway, we won't have to come before the Town Board," said Quin.

At the Oct. 8 Planning Board meeting, members will begin working on ordinances as they apply to the Greenway.

Commissioners voted unanimously to allow the easement and the exemption to Nellis's conditional use permit for the Greenway Trail and easement.

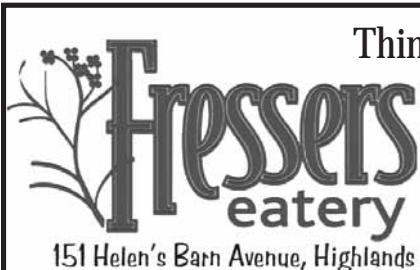
Nellis has agreed to donate up to \$20,000 for construction of the path and the Greenway committee has requested \$100,000 a year from the town for construction but the cost of the project isn't known yet.

The proposed route from S. Fifth Street through the Nellis property and onto the Lacy Tract where an outdoor classroom will be constructed will be presented to the Land Trust board Oct. 13.

"If we also get their approval we will be ready to develop accurate cost estimates and hopefully begin construction in 2008," said Quin.

- Kim Lewicki

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... FRUSTRATION continued from page 1

depiction of overall look and design, the project was sent on to the Zoning Board where it was approved.

However, the Zoning Board did make note of the appearance commission's concerns.

"They did request them to lower the lights and the wattage," said Thomas Craig.

But members of the zoning board, including Tony Potts of Macon Bank, said a bank would naturally want to use its logo colors – blue and gold for RBC Centura – and screening and foliage around the kiosk wasn't reasonable. "That would be a security risk," he said.

At Monday night's Appearance Commission meeting, Pat Taylor submitted a sketch of what the kiosk could have looked liked with an open, roof-covered shelter. "They could have included plantings and a roof structure that matches the roof structure of the bank. It's unfortunate that the town's process didn't work," he said. "If we don't have what we need to make a decision, then other boards shouldn't make a decision."

Discussion segued to Highlands Storage and Highlands Plaza — projects the appearance commission claims didn't end up as depicted on the plans approved by its members.

However, Taylor did say the appearance of Highlands Storage does look good now that battens have been fixed between boards on the building. "It does look like rough board and batten, but the buffer is gone," he said.

Slaughter said "cloud-like" designs on the plan that were supposed to represent plantings weren't enough to indicate what was actually going to be planted.

Bucky Meredith, owner of Highlands Storage, said his project is in compliance with the plan submitted to the Appearance Commission and the town's subsequent boards.

"I believe I have left as much buffer frontage as reasonably viable including the natural foliage to the left of the cabin and everything to the right of the driveway," he said.

Members once again voiced concern

about the Highlands Plaza "facelift" which ended up with a greater percentage of stucco on the building than allowed by the zoning ordinance, they said. They are also concerned about the color which didn't match the initial depiction submitted to them or subsequent boards.

"We need to approach Al Bolt about this," said Craig. "Let's not wait for him to come to us."

Siegel said neither Bolt nor his mother, Margaret Mitchell, were happy with the end-product and were going to address it once "the season" is over.

But Bolt said Wednesday, that no one has contacted him about the project, and he and his mother are very, very pleased with the end product.

"Someone needs to contact me because I'm not aware of any problems," he said. "We think the complex looks 1000% better than before and can't understand why someone thinks there are problems with it."

He said initially his mother wasn't happy with the color on the stucco, which turned out several shades lighter than what

they picked. But they've decided not to change it, said Bolt.

The Appearance Commission is going to approach Interim Planner Richard Betz to see if Code Enforcement Officer Josh Ward can verify that plans submitted to boards end up the way they are supposed to on site. Betz wasn't at the Appearance Commission meeting.

In the end, the commission agreed to write a letter to RBC Centura to indicate its disappointment with the overall appearance of the ATM machine, the only free-standing ATM in Highlands.

"We should say that we are disappointed in the end-result and feel it could be enhanced to fit in with the character of Highlands in materials and colors," said Pat Taylor.

"Yes, let's show them a way out, said Slaughter.

Susan Gorski, RBC Centura bank manager said no one from the Appearance Commission has contacted her since the ATM has been installed. "The Zoning Board issued our Special Use Permit, we obtained

• See FRUSTRATION page 25

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THE EPITOME OF MOUNTAIN COTTAGE CHARM; partially furnished with collector antiques; located on 1 1/2 lots in the Mirror Lake area; both mountain views and lake views; screened porch and open deck to enjoy mountain sunsets; canning kitchen downstairs; perennial flower garden; tree house for grandchildren; total renovation in 2002. Offered at \$598,000. mls #59065



THE ULTIMATE COTTAGE, 3 bedroom, 3 bath suites. 3 fireplaces. 2 living areas on main level plus a playroom. 4th bedroom and bath downstairs. Beautiful wooded and fenced lot, circular driveway. 2 car garage. Beautifully and fully furnished. New baths and new kitchen with stainless and granite. Deeded access to Lake Sequoyah with a dock. Offered at \$695,000. mls #63199



HIGHLANDS MOUNTAIN CLUB. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. This attractive condominium was recently remodeled and a screened porch added. A nice stone facing fireplace is the focal point of a large great room which is open and airy. The freshly painted walls are very pleasing colors. Almost all of the appliances are new. Offered at \$282,500. mls #62844



HIGHLANDS VIEW. Affordable home with a mountain view are hard to find these days, don't miss seeing this one. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths with a bonus room. Vaulted living room with fireplace, deck, lower level bonus room. Paved access and only minutes from town. Offered at \$299,000. mls #60760



APPLE LAKE AREA Sit on the new Adirondack covered deck and watch through the trees as sun sparkles off the lake from this 3 bedroom, 2 bath home. This house is move-in ready after an extensive remodel, including beautiful wood floors, granite countertops and more! Just 5 minutes from town, come and enjoy the quiet neighborhood with access to fish and canoe on the lake. Offered at \$439,000. mls #62656



MIRROR LAKE ROAD. Great year-round or summer home features a nice yard and one car garage. Three bedrooms, three baths, cathedral ceiling in living room has wood floors. Nice office and loads of storage and an extra lot. A great walk to the lake location. Offered at \$474,000. mls #59746



FOXFIRE. Great location is convenient to both Highlands and Cashiers. Level access with a 2 car garage. Large open great room plan with split bedrooms on the main level and upper loft bedroom with bath. A spectacular view for the price. Offered at \$1,295,000. mls#60517



HIGHLANDS VIEW. Oh, what a view! from this brand new 3 bedroom, 3 bath that has an additional family room. Good quality finishes include wood floors, granite counter tops and tile baths make this an exceptional buy for the asking price of \$379,900. mls #60511



MOUNTAIN MOORINGS. 3 bedroom, 2 bath townhouse, a good location close to town. End unit, good privacy, usable backyard and storage below. Offered at \$239,000.

• SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING •

How about a hike?



Rev. Cass & Audie Daly

My wife, Audie, and I have just recently moved to the Cashiers/Highlands area and the above question was one of the first "invitations" that I received. This is, of course, such a wonderful place to hike; simply full of beautiful mountain trails. This got me thinking about being on a path.

As a priest, I have been blessed to walk with others on a path; a path of spirituality; a distinctly Christian path. On such a path we look for a spirituality of life itself. As Christian pilgrims, or hikers, we strive to travel to "everyday Christianity". We try to establish a spiritual pattern and pathway for our lives of prayer, thought and action.

"Everyday Christianity" means our being spiritually active rather than passive. It also requires us, as we go on this journey, to be more than we have to be – becoming proactive in sharing Our Lord's message of peace, joy and love in our conversations, in our correspondence, in our worship and in our daily "give and take" with others. It means being conscious of being on this path with purpose.

Usually when we think about a path, we think externally; a way through the woods, the dunes or the hills. Yet, I believe, there is a path within each of us. Sometimes it is hard to see. It might be overgrown or dimly lit or barely familiar. But, the path is still there. In our prayers and study, we look down the path a little further, a little deeper; a little beyond ourselves.

As we travel down our particular spiritual path we are also aware that it is a shared path. As Christians, we know that we share the path with all who were, all who are and all who are to come; in other words, with the Body of Christ. On our Christian path, in our shared commonality, we also reach out. We reach out to help others onto the path for the first time or, perhaps, back onto the path once again. On our Christian path, we are humbly aware of the need to do things for others; to care for any for whom we might be a help. In doing so, we are blessed as well.

As Christians, we have been given a path. It is a spiritual path that was defined by Jesus Christ, delineated by the Holy Scriptures and illuminated by the Holy Spirit. We believe that our path is distinctly Christian (meaning "of Christ"). It is there, in the woods, for all to see and explore. This path of our souls is a journey of both love and obedience; conformity and harmony. We try to love as Christ loved us. We are obedient to the Word as we best can be. We attempt to conform our lives into a Christian pattern. And, we strive for harmony of spirit both within and without.

And, with God's help, we stay on the path that leads us back home.

How about a hike?

• PLACES OF WORSHIP •

BLUE VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. Oliver Rice, Pastor (706) 782-3965

Sundays: School – 10 a.m., Worship – 11

Sunday night services every 2nd & 4th Sunday at 7

Wednesdays: Mid-week prayer meeting – 7 p.m.

BUCK CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

Sundays: School – 10 a.m.; Worship – 11

First Saturday: Singing at 7:30 p.m.

CHAPEL OF SKY VALLEY

Sky Valley, Georgia

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Church: 706-746-2999

Pastor's residence: 706-746-5770

Sundays: 10 a.m. – Worship

Holy Communion 1st Sunday of the month

Wednesdays: 9 a.m. Healing and Prayer with Holy Communion each service

CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS

NC 28 N. and Pine Ridge Rd., (828) 369-8329

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

CHRIST ANGLICAN CHURCH

Rev. Cass Daly • Office – 526-2320

Sunday: Holy Communion -- 11 a.m.

(Highlands Community Center on U.S. 64 next to the ballfield in Highlands

Monday: Evening Bible Study at 6 p.m.

Wednesday: Men's Bible study at 8 a.m. at First Baptist Church

Pot Luck Lunch last Sunday of each month.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE SERVICES

3rd & Spring Streets

Sunday 11 a.m.

Wednesday testimony meeting 7 p.m.

Study room open Tuesday 2-4 p.m.

CLEAR CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Everett Brewer

Sundays: School – 10 a.m.; Worship – 11

Prayer – 6:30 p.m.

Evening Service – 1st & 3rd Sunday – 7 p.m.

COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH

www.cbchighlands.com • 526-4685

3645 U.S. 64 east, Highlands

Sundays: 9:30 a.m. Sunday School; 10:45 Worship; 6:30 p.m. High School Group

Wednesdays: 5:30 p.m. Supper (free for kids 8th grade and under); 6:15 p.m., Adult Bible Study; 6:30 p.m. programs for students.

Thursdays: 9:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study

EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE INCARNATION

The Rev. Brian Sullivan – Rector: 526-2968

Sunday: 8 A.M. - Holy Eucharist (Rite I) Chapel

8:30 A.M. - Breakfast; 9 A.M. - Sunday School

10:30 A.M. Holy Eucharist (Rite II); Evening Prayer in the Chapel 5:30 p.m.

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

Monday: 4 P.M. Women's Cursillo Group

Tuesday: 8 A.M. Men's Cursillo Group

4:30 P.M. Education for Ministry

Wednesday: 6:30 P.M. Choir Practice

Thursday: 10 A.M. Holy Eucharist (Chapel)

10:30 A.M. Daughters of the King

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

FIRST ALLIANCE CHURCH OF FRANKLIN

Rev. Mitch Schultz, Pastor • 828-369-7977

Sun. Worship 8:30 & 10:45 a.m.; 6: p.m.

(nursery provided)

Sun. school for all ages 9:45 a.m.

Wed: dinner 5 p.m. followed by children's

Pioneer Club 6 p.m.; Jr & Sr 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 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. Mark Kayser, Interim Pastor

Dr. Don Mullen, Associate Pastor 526-3175

Sun.: Worship – 11 a.m.; Sun. School – 9:30 & 9:45.

Mondays: 8 a.m. – Men's Bible Discussion & Breakfast Tuesdays: 10 a.m. – Seekers

Choir – 7

HIGHLANDS ASSEMBLY OF GOD

Sixth Street

Sundays: School – 10 a.m.; Worship – 11

Wednesdays: Prayer & Bible Study – 7

HIGHLANDS 7TH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH

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

HIGHLANDS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Senior Pastor Todd Struble; Asst. Pastor Mike Harris 526-3376

Sun.: school 9:45 a.m.; Worship 8:30 a.m. & 11 a.m.; 5 p.m. Youth Group

Wed: Supper; 6; 6:15 – children, youth, & adults studies; 6:15 – Adult choir

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

Thurs: 12:30 – Women's Bible Study (nursery)

HOLY FAMILY LUTHERAN CHURCH – ELCA

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

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St. Cyprian's Episcopal Church, Franklin 369-6871

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

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Rev. Tien, Priest

Parish office, 526-2418

Sundays: Mass – 11 a.m.

Saturday Mass: 4 p.m.

(through last Saturday of October)

SCALY MOUNTAIN BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. Clifford Willis

Sundays: School – 10 a.m.; Worship – 11 a.m. & 7

Wednesdays: Prayer Mtg. – 7 p.m.

SCALY MOUNTAIN CHURCH OF GOD

290 Buck Knob Road; Pastor Alfred Sizemore

Sundays: School – 10 a.m.; Worship – 10:45 a.m.; Evening Worship – 6 p.m.

Wed: Adult Bible Study & Youth – 7 p.m.

For more information call 526-3212.

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Pastor Rev. Wayne Price

Sundays: School – 10 a.m.; Worship – 11

Wednesdays: Prayer & Bible Study – 7

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Jimmy Sherard with the birds at a blue bird house on the golf course.

The history of the Wildcat Cliffs Country Club blue bird houses

By Jimmy Sherard

In 1990, I placed 15 bluebird boxes on Wildcat Cliffs Country Club golf course, 1,000 yards apart, as recommended, five to eight feet high. Many said you will never get any bluebirds at this altitude. Then, Colonel Robertson, a friend from Atlanta, who was retired army encouraged me to be patient.

He said, "You provide the nesting place and they will come. It may take several years."

It took six.

Col. Robertson made a box for his yard, then for his neighbors. His neighborhood was soon full of bluebirds. He then made many more and gave them to the Campfire Girls to sell in other neighborhoods.

Campfire Girls are very similar to Girl Scouts. Junior Campfire Girls were known as the Bluebirds.

Next was the Cherokee Golf Course, followed by several other courses, so now our courses in Atlanta are sanctuaries for these beautiful birds.

My dream for Wildcat is running behind schedule, but I haven't given up hope. One of our members, Irby Moore, became interested in the project. He lived in the villa overlooking #14 (Jaws). Because of his ongoing interest, I installed a box behind his house so he could see it from his kitchen window and his breezeway. It was on the edge of the drive to the other villas next to the telephone pole. The most unlikely location, but

would give him the enjoyment of seeing the Carolina Chickadees and Tufted Titmouse go in and out as they used the boxes.

One day he excitedly insisted I come by after my golf game. He had a surprise for me. I was prepared to tell him the birds in his box were chickadees, but it was a great day. They were our first family of bluebirds. I later discovered a nesting in the box between #1 and #9 fairways.

Over the next six years we had several other families. Then, unfortunately, the Peregrine Falcons were introduced on the ridge. Our bluebirds, along with brown thrashers, cardinals and others disappeared.

The past six years only a few nestings of chickadees, titmouse and a few flying squirrels have used our boxes. Last year, Dr. Jim Rogers, a member at Wildcat Cliffs suggested we use bluebird boxes as 150 yard markers. The box on #16 was one of the most popular choices for the bluebirds in our earlier years.

Happy Days! There are five blue eggs in this box now, which appears to be the second nesting. Hopefully, these will survive and attract more. Consider placing a specifically designed bluebird box in your yard and encourage a neighbor. In a few years, Highlands and Cashiers may also be a bluebird sanctuary.



... LETTERS continued from page 42

life...." (Volume 11, p. 226). The verses which follow immediately (Col 3: 22-25) instruct slaves on how they are to behave toward their masters – are we to follow these as a model as well? Why would one be pertinent and not the other? Further commentary on this passage from The Interpreter's Bible notes that "modern ideals of the freedom and rights of women stem directly from the Christian gospel. Paul wrote to those ... in a social system where women had no rights as they are understood today. There is little evidence that he questioned that system, or could then conceive of a society so radically different from anything that he knew Nonetheless, the Christian principle of reverence for persons as persons, which has inspired the social advance that we know, is implicit in the Christian view of life and explicit in Paul's own teaching: 'There is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus (Gal 3:28)". (Volume 11, pp 225-226)

Rev. Forrester ignores the context of the verse from Colossians within the whole letter, the culture and perspective of the writer, the audience, and biblical scholarship regarding interpretation of scripture. He also uses a "patchwork" approach to scripture, taking a verse from here and another from there to form an argument or advance a perspective, when in reality each verse deserves to be understood within its own context. We believe that such an approach to scripture not only lacks respect for the complexity of the Bible and the extensive study it has inspired, but also lacks pastoral sensitivity to the possible misuse of scripture to reinforce inequitable relationships and, in some cases, justify domestic violence.

Finally, leaving the arena of scripture, we come to the territory of "women's lib." Rev. Forrester speaks of this movement with caustic tones and concludes that "this is not what God intended for women when He created them." This "women's lib" has won women the right to vote, has opened doors to education and employment, has seen women ordained to the ministry, hold public office, and fly a space shuttle. We think God created women to develop and fulfill all their potential – and that 'women's lib" has been a significant factor in removing barriers to that fulfillment.

The personal tragedies and losses which may accompany divorce, sexually transmitted diseases, unplanned pregnancies, and abortion are certainly not the product of "women's lib" or of women's choices alone. Men participate in all the circumstances which create these difficult life events and decisions.

The writer seems to be very clear about what is in the mind of God regarding order in the world and in families. We believe that humility before an impenetrable mystery is more faithful,

and that all persons – ALL PERSONS – regardless of gender, race, marital status, sexual orientation – are equally valued members of God's creation.

Rev. Dr. Martha Porter
Highlands

This response is submitted with the support of:

Rev. Dr. Peter Ray, Mildred M. Toussaint, Ph.D., Helen Moore, Karen Faulk Jackson, Peggy Smith, Neil Martin, Ray McPhail, Diane McPhail, D. Min., Nancy Tarbox, Patsy Penney, Mary Wetzel, Elinor Metzger, Helen Andersen, Pat Boyd

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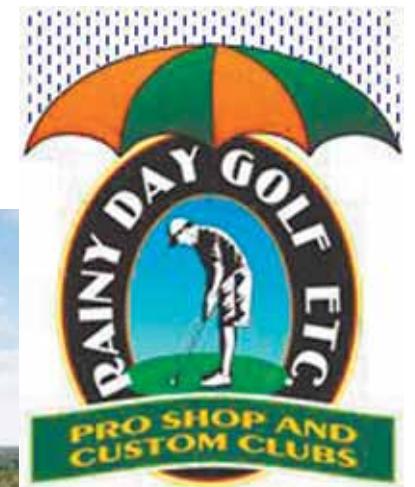
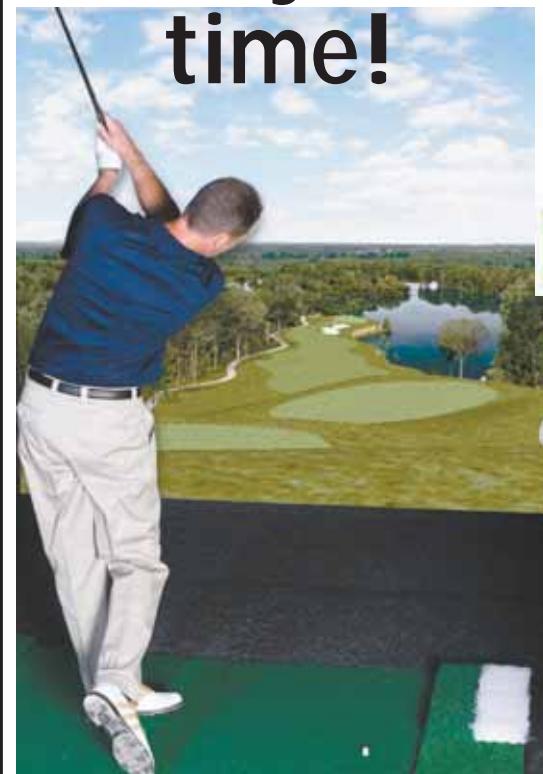
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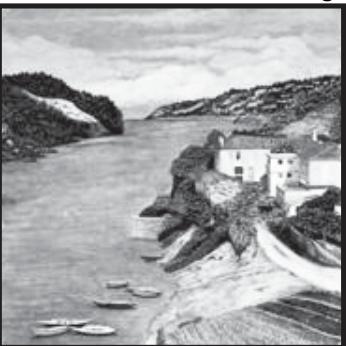
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... NCACC continued from page 2

a revenue option for the counties of North Carolina.

The N.C. Association of County Commissioners believes counties need a land transfer tax because:

A land transfer tax provides another revenue stream for counties to ease pressure on rising property taxes so that long-time residents who do not plan on selling – many of whom are retired and living on fixed incomes – can better afford to stay in their homes.

A land transfer tax provides targeted revenues to areas that are experiencing high growth so that they can be better prepared to meet the infrastructure needs, such as schools, roads, and water and sewer service, being caused by growth.

Six counties in North Carolina – Camden, Chowan, Currituck, Dare, Pasquotank and Perquimans – already have a land transfer tax and have experienced no negative effects from it.

All six of those counties rank among the top 45 in the state in county education spending per pupil based on 2006-2007 budgets.

The N.C. Association of Realtors (NCAR) on May 9 released its own

study of the impact of the land transfer tax on the six counties which have had it since the 1980s. The NCAR report focuses exclusively on 2006 housing data and only on Currituck and Dare counties, which have experienced phenomenal increases in housing costs in recent years totally unrelated to the imposition of the land transfer tax more than 20 years ago.

The information reported in the N.C. Association of County Commissioners (NCACC) policy brief examined the housing data from the time the land transfer taxes were implemented in the various counties through date collected in Census 2000.

In reality, this date reflects a truer picture of a housing market unaffected by the recent housing boom that has inflated home prices in many of North Carolina's hot spots.

The fact remains that according to the U.S. Census Bureau, for the first 10-15 years following implementation of the transfer tax, housing remained affordable in each of the six original counties with the tax.

According to the Tax Foundation, 36 states already have a statewide or local land transfer tax in place.

By the numbers:

- \$10 billion – School capital needs identified for the next five years.
- \$3 billion – County Medicaid services match for the next five years assuming no state relief.
- \$848 million – Amount counties are budgeted to spend on school capital needs in 2006-2007.
- \$775 million – Estimated annual revenues from a 1 percent land transfer tax. Macon Counties is .4 percent.
- \$126 million – Projected county share from the state lottery for 2006-2007.

• 64.9 percent of county property tax revenues (\$3.09 billion) budgeted for education for 2006-2007.

• 8.9 percent of county property tax revenues (\$426 million) budgeted for Medicaid services for 2006-2007.

The tax applies to regular property sales regardless of profit or loss:

- Exchange of property whether exchange is for money, real estate, personal property, or any other consideration.
- Deeds from nonprofit or religious organizations
- Leases or memorandum of leases that are for a term of additional years or have an option to renew the lease beyond 10 years.

• Leases or a memorandum of lease that are for substantially the property and parties of a previous lease and when the term of the new lease added to the term of the old lease exceeds 10 years.

The tax doesn't apply to:

- Deeds of gift

• Deeds to mortgage through foreclosure or in lieu of foreclosure

• Deeds from local, state or federal government

• Certain leases with a term of less than 10 years

• Transfer in which no consideration is paid or due consideration of inducement, something of value given in return of a performance or promise of performance of another.

• Transfers by operation of law, by will, by intestacy, merger or consolidation.

• To record a deed, one must present either a copy of the sales contract for the property or a completed Affidavit of Consideration of Value with the sales price. The value taxed includes the amount of any lien or encumbrance remaining on the property at the time of the sale.

... JLJ continued from page 2

deal called the 'hold harmless' provision," Sanera said. "It guarantees that Macon County will have at least \$500,000 in additional funds that can be used to meet other county needs."

That \$500,000 is just one piece of Macon County's \$21.6 million in funds available for high-priority government functions. Macon County government already has cash reserves of \$18.8 million, Sanera said. "That's more than 37 percent of the county's annual budget, far more than the 8 percent cash reserve the state requires," he said. "The county could meet the state requirement and still have \$14.7 million to help with existing government needs or to provide much-needed tax cuts."

Macon County's budget numbers also show the county has no problem coping with growth, Sanera said. "Between 2001 and 2006, county per capita revenues increased by 2.4 percent after adjusting for inflation," he said. "Population growth has been paying for itself because real county revenues are growing at a faster rate than population. New county residents are contributing more than their fair share of county revenues."

If county government had confined its budget increases to the rate of inflation plus population growth since 2001, the county would have collected \$4.3 million less revenue in 2006 than it actually collected, Sanera said. "This amount could — and should — be returned to the taxpayers."

The report offers recommendations for Macon County to address its projected student enrollment growth. The report also draws attention to county

• See JLJ page 26



Earle Mauldin, Chairman of the Bob Jones Tournament Committee, presented a check in the amount of \$100,000 to Hoyt Andres, treasurer of the foundation. Pictured from left is Club Administrator Martha Betz, Bill Gaston a member of the committee and chairman of the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital Foundation, Andres, and committee member Anne Bailey. Other members of the committee not present for the photo were, Wayne Beckner, Allen Hardin, Jim Santo, Dr. Martin Teem, Jim Santo and Walter Wattles, chairman emeritus.

Bob Jones Tournament nets hospital foundation \$100,000

2007 marked the 26th Annual Bob Jones Invitational Golf Tournament hosted by Highlands Country Club and played for benefit of the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital Foundation. This year's tournament was played on Aug. 11, 2007, in memory of long time chairman James O. Watts, III, who died unexpectedly on June 13, 2007.

Played in honor of immortal golfer Bobby Jones, the invitational featured Walker Cup players.

Every two years, the best amateur golfers in the United States compete with those from Great Britain and Ireland in team play for the coveted Walker Cup, with play alternating between here and overseas.

It all began in 1922, when the first match was played in this country. In an effort to get international play started, George Herbert Walker, a prominent golfer of the time, donated an "International Challenge Trophy."

The press termed the trophy the "Walker Cup" in honor of the donor, who happened to be former President George Bush's maternal grandfather, and President George W. Bush's great-grandfather. Bobby Jones was selected to play on five Walker Cup teams and chosen twice to serve as team captain. In nine individual matches, he was undefeated.

Proceeds to the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital Foundation have exceeded the \$2.7 million dollar mark.

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Friday and Saturday
October 12 - 13
10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

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... FRUSTRATION continued from page 19

our Building permit, and proceeded according to the plans that were submitted by our contractor to the Zoning Board," she said.

The town's Appearance Commission and Planning Board are advisory boards

whose recommendations both to the Zoning Board of Adjustment and the Town Board may factor into the ultimate approval of a project, but don't have to.

- Kim Lewicki

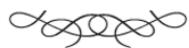
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• ASK A NURSE •

Do I need to take vitamins?

By Rota Krape, RN

Throughout human history the leading causes of death have been infection and trauma. Modern medicine has scored significant victories against both. The major causes of ill health and death now are the chronic degenerative diseases such as coronary artery disease, arthritis, osteoporosis, Alzheimer's, cancer, and many others.

Modern medicine is practiced as crisis management: wait until the diagnosis and then start treatment. But by the time symptoms of disease appear, the damage has been done and drugs cannot "fix" the problem, they can only mask the symptoms.

All the chronic diseases have long latency periods before symptoms ever appear. These diseases start years before symptoms ever appear. So it follows that people who look healthy may actually be pre ill.

Genetic risk factors are known for all the chronic degenerative diseases. However, one person with the risk factor may get that disease while another one will not. Why? It's all about life style- exercise, smoking and nutrition.

All your tissues in your body are in a constant state of flux- the rate of decay and the rate of repair are running parallel. However, if the rate of decay is only slightly faster, there is a net loss of healthy tissue and pre illness sets in. It grows every day until clinical signs finally emerge and you seek help. In many cases this increased rate of decay is due to multiple micronutrient depletion.

Many national surveys (the biggest of which is the US Department of Agriculture continuing survey of food intakes) reveal that malnutrition is common in developed countries. Not only are most of us malnourished in RDA (recommended daily allowances) but also in micronutrients such as essential fatty acids, fiber, xanthophylls, flavanoids, biotin, to name just a few.

The prevalence of multiple micronutrient depletion is due to several factors.

1. We were designed to live very active lives and to consume 3,000-4,000 calories a day. Now we are no longer hunter-gatherers and we live sedentary lives and require fewer calories. When we eat less, we consume fewer micronutrients.

2. Most processed food (which most Americans consume) is depleted in micronutrients. Processed foods are anything that nature does not provide.

3. Many soils are low in key minerals due to over intensive farming. Plants or animals raised in these areas are also depleted.

There is now considerable evidence in multiple reports from WHO and other bodies that malnutrition is a major cause of chronic disease.

Now what? Since the majority of us cannot consume all the micronutrients we need even if we eat a healthy diet, what can we do? The obvious answer is to take supplements.

But again, there is a problem. Not all supplements are created equal and some are just a waste of money. How do you choose?

- Any supplement that is "one a day" cannot provide you with adequate micronutrients.

- Any supplement that cannot guarantee 100% bioavailability is a waste of your money.

- You need to make sure that you do not overdose.

Here is what some leading researchers recommend:

1. Vitamins and minerals in a delivery system technology for enhanced absorption

2. An antioxidant spectrum (26) which protects against free radical damage

3. Anti-aging phytonutrients, including lutein and lycopene, to protect DNA and support healthy aging

4. Seven Omega-3s from ultra pure pharmaceutical grade fish oil to promote heart, brain, and joint health

5. Live probiotics which ensure delivery into the intestine.

Will taking quality supplements guarantee a healthy, long life? No, but if you take top quality supplements, exercise, eat natural products, and don't smoke you are much less apt to succumb to any chronic disease.

... JLJ continued from
page 24

government's questionable spending practices, Sanera said.

"A land-transfer tax increase at this time would only encourage more wasteful and inefficient spending," he added. "County voters need to demand that the county live within the taxpayers' means. This Regional Brief has outlined ways for Macon County to find plenty of money to meet its needs."

The John Locke Foundation's Regional Brief, "Macon County Doesn't Need a Land-Transfer Tax Increase," is available at the JLJ web site. For more information, please contact Sanera at (919) 828-3876 or msanera@johnlocke.org. To arrange an interview, contact Mitch Kokai at (919) 306-8736 or mkokai@johnlocke.org.

... BOND continued from page 1

water and sewer infrastructure;

The Public Buildings Bond for \$6.5 million will be used to purchase land and build a new EMS Building for \$700,000, and buy land and build a new Senior Services Center for \$5.8 million;

The Community College Bond of \$3 million will be a county match to a state grant Southwestern Community College has requested to expand its Macon Campus on Siler road;

The Parks & Recreation Facilities Bond for \$9.4 million will expand facilities county-wide by constructing more fields in North and South Macon at school campuses for community use, at the Buck Creek fields in Highlands, in Nantahala where a combination rec center and library is planned and on Siler Road in Franklin where the RecPlex is planned.

The final bond question for \$3 million will help expand the library in Highlands.

At the Thursday, Oct. 18 forum on the bond held at the Franklin High School Fine Art Center, each bond issuance representative spoke passionately about how the commitment from the county and its citizen will bring up to date and supply needed services.

But the subject that evoked the most discussion was the proposed RecPlex.

Opposition came mostly from the Morris family and their employees of the Franklin Fitness Center who believe the county's move to open a RecPlex will directly compete with the fitness center, threatening its existence.

Seth Adams, Franklin recreation director, said the difference is that the RecPlex is a recreation center but the Franklin Fitness Center is different so the programming at the RecPlex may not be as intense or as structured as that at a fitness center.

Commissioner Charlie Leatherman said he can't ensure that the RecPlex won't compete with the Franklin Fitness Center in some way, "but it certainly isn't the county's intent to shut anyone down." "We don't want to be viewed as the WalMart of government," he said.

Adams said there will be some fees associated with use at the RecPlex but if 3,000 people join, the recreation commission is hoping to keep the fees to about \$20 per month.

Those against the RecPlex and the Parks & Recreation Bond in general cite the cost to the county and its citizens and question the figures the recreation commission has been given as to construction, maintenance and operation.

All the talk about money caused Bobby Kppers, a teacher at Franklin High School to have his say.

"I've heard so much talk about money I just want to puke," he said. "I grew up here and when I left for college the rec park was just opening. Twenty-five years later I came back to the same facilities I graduated from. We didn't have soccer or swimming all we had was little league baseball

when they built the rec park. We don't have the same situations we have today. I know money is important and you should know that I have no dog in this fight, but if you don't fix this for the community, fix it for our kids, then someone else will fix it and it's going to cost us a lot more money in the end. We need vision," he said.

Recreation Commission Chairman Matt Bullis said the county can either pay now or later when the effects of obesity, teen pregnancies and drug use in its youth come to fruition. "We have to give the youth someplace to go and something to do. They have to be active," said Bullis. "We're not looking for this to be a money maker but to supply much needed recreation needs for all county citizens -- youth and adults."

Proposed at the RecPlex is an indoor 8-lane competition swimming pool; an indoor water park; two racquetball courts; two basketball courts; an indoor walking track; an exercise/aerobics room and a childcare room.

Possible programming includes exercise classes in aerobics, kickboxing, pilates, yoga, spinning; water aerobics and water walking; male & co-ed volleyball; after school programs; adult basketball; and youth and adult sanctioned tournaments for softball, baseball and basketball.

It all comes down to money and that's what people are most concerned about.

Regardless of how many questions get the "yes" vote, all of the bond issuances must be issued within seven years.

"The Macon County Commission will prioritize the projects, but it's likely the 5-6 school and East Franklin School will come first," said Greenwood. "After that, possibly the RecPlex."

He said it's very difficult to predict the exact cost to the tax rate at this point because no one knows which if any of the bond issuances will pass. "Also, we've estimated high using a percentage rate of 5.5% but the Feds just lower the interest rate $\frac{1}{2}$ point and it may decreased another $\frac{1}{4}$ by the end of November," he said.

Whatever passes, the first batch of bonds will be sold February 2008 with the first payment to begin with fiscal year 2008-2009.

Using the Public Building bond of \$6.5 million as an example, Greenwood said the first payment will add two-tenths of a cent to the current tax rate, with the second payment — the highest in the succession of payments — adding six-tenths of a cent to the current tax rate.

"The amount will change each year and will decline as the principal is paid back," he said. "The payment percentage is computed on a declining principal basis."

The reality will depend on which bond issuances pass and which ones are issued first. Greenwood said the county went high on everything — interest rate and project costs across the board — just to be safe.

— Kim Lewicki

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Monday, Oct. 8 at
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Sayne Feria



Jenny Coram



Alex Michaud



Kalyn Billingsley



Juliann Buras

• UPCOMING EVENTS •

On-going

• Live music every night at 7:30 p.m. and during brunch on Sunday at ...on the Verandah restaurant.

• Nantahala Tennis Association: Meets Monday-Saturday, 9 a.m. -noon for Round Robin at Highlands Recreation Park. All levels of play welcome.

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

• Hal Philips at the piano at Skyline Lodge and Restaurant on Flat Mountain Road Fri. & Sat. at 6 p.m.

• Live music with Angie Jenkins, Friday and Saturday nights at Old Clayton Inn on Main Street in Clayton.

• NA open meeting every Saturday at 7:30 p.m. of the ACC Satelite Group at the Graves Community Church, 242 Hwy 107 N. in Cashiers. Call 888-764-0365 or go to the website: www.ncmana.org.

• Step Aerobics at the Rec Park, 4-5 p.m., Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays. \$5 per class.

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

• At Health Tracks at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital, various exercise classes. Call Jeanette Fisher at 828-526-1FIT.

• "The Circle of Life" support group continues at the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital at the Jane Woodward room 201. It is designed for anyone who has experienced the loss of a loved one. The group meets 10 a.m. until noon. For more information, call Barbara Buchanan at 526-1402 or Florence Flanagan at 743-2567.

First Mondays

• Participate in your hospital by joining the Auxiliary of the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. Auxiliary meetings are held the first Monday of each month at 10 a.m. at the hospital.

Every Monday

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

Every Tuesday

• Highlands Rotary Club meets at noon at the Highlands Conference Center.

• Weight Watchers meets at the Highlands Civic Center. Weigh-in is at 5:30. The meeting starts at 6 p.m.

• 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 Wednesday

• "The Bible Tells Me So" at 6:15 p.m. at the Highlands United Methodist Church. The assigned readings for each week are taken from the book,

"The Bible Tells Me So: uses and abuses of Holy Scripture" by Jim Hill

• See EVENTS page 32

HCP's season subscriptions available now



Members of the cast of "Raindrop Waltz" rehearse for the Oct. 18-21 and Oct. 25-28 performances.

For the past 12 years the Highlands Community Players (HCP) has brought the Highlands - Cashiers' area quality entertainment at an affordable ticket price; striving to live up to their motto: Good plays, well done.

HCP has become a significant source in Southwest NC for the best in drama, comedy, mystery, and next summer adding a musical comedy to the season.

The 2007-08 Season:

Oct. 18-21/Oct 25-28, 2007 *The Raindrop Waltz* a drama written by Gary Carden and directed by Virginia Talbot.

Feb 28, 29/March 1, 2, 7, 8, 9, 2008 *Lend Me a Tenor* a comedy written by Ken Ludwig and directed by Annette Coleman.

May 8-11/May 15-18 2008, *The Last Night of Ballyhoo*, a comedy/drama written by Alfred Uhry and directed by Mary Adair Leslie.

And Aug 21-24/Aug 28-31, 2008 *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*, a musical comedy by Stephen Sondheim, Burt Shevelove and Larry Gelbart, directed by Ronnie Spilton.

This year, after much discussion, the HCP Board decided to hold the individual ticket price at \$15 except for the musical, *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*. Because of the additional cost of this undertaking those tickets will be \$25. With a season subscription priced at \$55, subscribers will still receive one play free as they did last year. Season subscribers also get the first opportunity to reserve seats.

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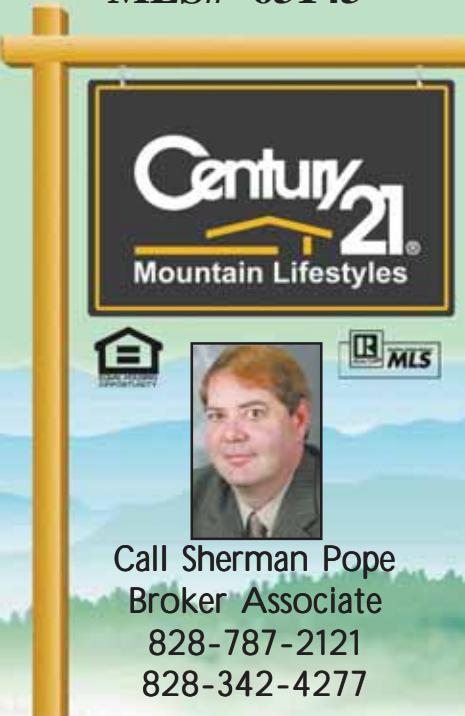
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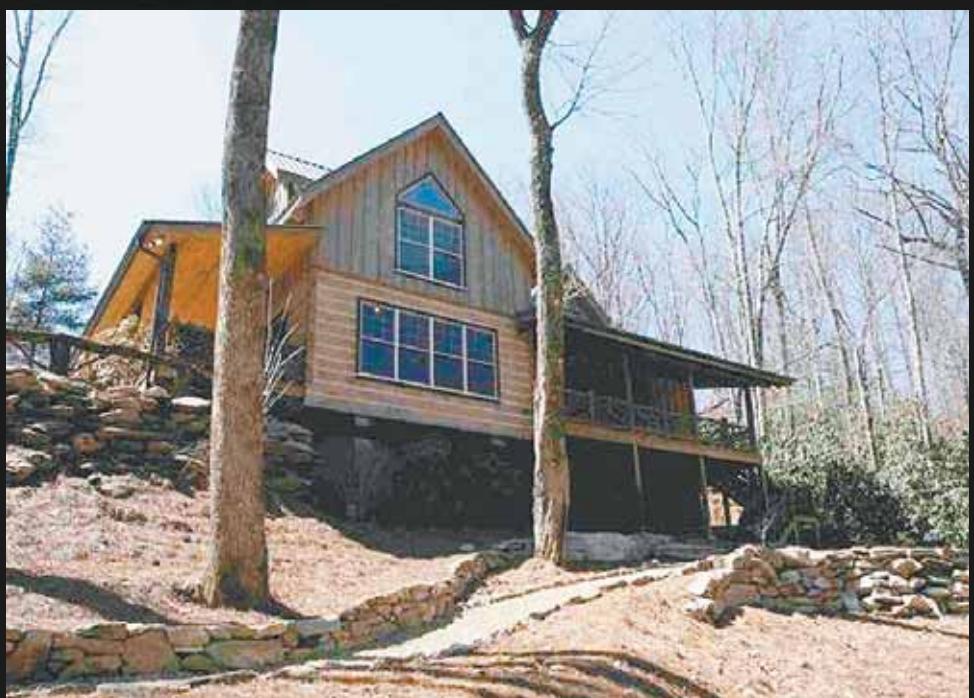
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Left: Walk to downtown Highlands from this new log home with lots of charm. Three bedrooms, 3 baths, hand-hewn logs, two-story rock fireplace, Pine floors, professional landscaping, outdoor fire pit. Can have additional privacy or build additional homes on adjoining 3 acres. Offered for \$849,000 with additional land also available.

Right: Former home of Highlands premier contractor Deadeye Potts. Wormy chestnut in living room, some hardwood under carpet. Wonderful pond in backyard with deck overlooking it. Private location, yet very close in. Downstairs basement area could be finished into more bedrooms and living space. Extensively remodeled in recent years. 2 bedrooms, 2 baths. Pond, privacy, excellent construction, in-town. Unoccupied and easy to show. Reduced 50K from 998,000 to 948,000



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Major legislation passed last week

By Congressman Heath Shuler

Last week was a busy one in the House of Representatives. Major legislation was passed that will provide health care coverage to millions of American children and to fix flaws in our nation's insurance programs. Additionally, I introduced legislation to help restore rights to parents to decide what their children are watching.

The State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) was created by Congress in 1997 to provide health care coverage for children of parents who earned too much to qualify for Medicaid care, but whose jobs did not offer health insurance or did not earn enough to afford private insurance. The program, a partnership between states and the federal government, was extremely successful and won praise from Republican and Democratic governors alike. SCHIP's original authorization was set to expire this year, however, and the program needed to be reauthorized by Congress to continue.

The bipartisan bill that was brought forward and passed both the House and Senate provides that reauthorization for SCHIP for five years and preserves the coverage for all 6.6 million American children currently covered by the program – including over 196,000 kids in North Carolina.

The bill also provides resources to the States so they can enroll more children who are already eligible in the program, an estimated 3.8 million American children. The bill does not expand the SCHIP program, rather it helps states reach more of their children. In North Carolina we will be able to enroll an additional 116,000 children in the program.

The bipartisan SCHIP reauthorization also improves the health care coverage our children receive, ensuring dental and mental health coverage.

The bill is fully paid for by an increase in the federal tobacco excise tax. Our Nation has nearly 47 million citizens living without the health insurance they deserve — of those, millions are children. I believe it is morally unacceptable for us, as a Nation, to allow these children to live without the ability to see a doctor when they are sick. When given the choice between keeping the cost of cigarettes low and providing health care for our children, I will choose our children.

I had voted against the original House version of this legislation, because it contained cuts to Medicare A and B that I thought were unnecessary. Those concerns were addressed in this final bill as

Medicare funding was protected.

The SCHIP legislation passed the House and Senate with overwhelming bipartisan support, 265-159 in the House and 67-29 in the Senate. The bill is now awaiting the President to act, either signing it into law or vetoing it.

The second major piece of legislation we passed was H.R. 3121, the Flood Insurance Reform and Modernization Act of 2007. This bill also passed with strong support from both parties, 263-146.

The bill was designed to strengthen a number of weaknesses in the Flood Insurance Program that had been exposed by the historic 2005 hurricane season. The Flood Insurance Reform and Modernization Act will update the program for the 21st Century by phasing out unnecessary subsidies, encouraging broader participation in the program, and increasing financial accountability.

Last week I also joined with Congressman Walter Jones, a Republican from the eastern shore of North Carolina, to introduce the Family Friendly Flights Act. This bill is designed to ensure that parents have the ability to choose what movies their children are seeing.

The bill is in response to the growing trend of airlines showing films on overhead, main cabin screens that have been rated "R" by the Motion Picture Association of America. These are films filled with violence and other graphic images that children under the age of 17 would not be able to see in a movie theater. However, the airlines are showing these films to captive audiences, including small children, on cross-country flights. It is unreasonable to ask parents to force their children to fly with their head down or attempt to divert their child's attention for the duration of a flight. As a parent of two small children, I believe that parents should be the ones deciding what their children see, not the airlines.

This bill does not affect personal DVD players or the seat back screens a plane may have, it only addresses the main cabin screens. We are simply asking the airlines be good corporate citizens, just like for movie theater owners are, and not allow young children to see these violent, often "R" rated films.

Last week we also received the exciting news that an agreement has been officially reached that will allow a Veterans Affairs clinic to open in Franklin, NC by late spring 2008. The VA clinic will be placed in a building donated by General F.P. Bodenheimer. The building is expected to be renovated and serving area veterans by April or May 2008.

The agreement between General Bodenheimer and the VA will allow the clinic to exist in the donated building for the next 20 years.

The opening of this clinic will ensure that veterans across Western North Carolina have convenient access to the health care they have earned.

On behalf of all the residents of Western North Carolina I would like to offer my thanks to General Bodenheimer for this tremendous donation. He is a leader in every sense of the word.

The House is in session Monday through Thursday this week and is expected to debate bills on increasing governmental accountability and to develop our Nation's infrastructure.

• OBITUARY •

Rosella Lucille McGraw Sergi

Rosella Lucille McGraw Sergi, age 80, of Highlands, NC died Saturday, September 29, 2007 at the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital.

Mrs. Sergi was born in Lewis County, KY the daughter of the late Willard and Rosa Valley Reynolds McGraw. She was married to James Patrick Sergi who died August 9, 1974.

Mrs. Sergi was a retired sales clerk for K & B Drugstore in New Orleans. Lucille was a member of Liberty Baptist Church in Cowee Valley, NC where she was a former Sunday School teacher and was a member of the Women's Group.

She is survived by two daughters, Gina Cantell of Dillard, GA and Mary Jo Gatti of Spring, TX; a son, James Michael Sergi of Freeport, NY; eight grandchildren, Michael Sergi, Nichols Sergi, Melinda Sergi, Laura Sergi, Carl Gatti, Melissa Gatti, Crane Cantrell and Rosa Cantrell.

Memorial services will be announced at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, a memorial may be made to the Highlands -Cashiers Hospital Foundation, c/o FELC Activities, PO Box 742, Highlands, NC 28741 or to the Macon County Humane Society, PO Box 81/851 Lake Emory Road, Franklin, NC 28744.

Bryant Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

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ALL ARE WELCOME!

• BUSINESS NEWS •

Saturday, Oct. 6, two signings at Cyrano's – a photographer and an author

Both photographer West Freeman and novelist Karen White will autograph at Cyrano's Bookshop on Saturday afternoon, Oct. 6. West Freeman, a native of New Orleans and frequent visitor to Highlands, is an architectural photographer whose work has been featured in Architectural Digest and Southern Accents magazines.

His striking images in "The French Quarter of New Orleans" and "Majesty of the Mississippi Delta" (both with text by Jim Frasier) are remarkable portraits of historic structures.

Exterior and interior shots of 18th-century townhouses, 19th-century churches and 20th century public buildings show

how the colonial French and Spanish merchants, American settlers, enslaved and free black residents and their descendants lived.

The colonnaded splendor of plantations in the Mississippi-Yazoo Delta, the elegant wrought-iron galleries of Creole homes in the quarter and the hushed atmosphere in church aisles are captured in Freeman's photographs.

But the bustling restaurants and hotels, intimate museums and homes of the famous that visitors to the Crescent City and the Delta remember from their trips are here, too, with architectural information and colorful, dramatic histories and anecdotes provided by Fraiser.

If you haven't yet been lucky enough to experience New Orleans' most historic district or Mississippi's rich riverlands, these two beautiful books prove wonderful, rich guides. Mr. Freeman will sign his books between noon and 2 p.m. on Oct. 6.

Novelist Karen White has a New Orleans connection, too — she graduated from Tulane. White now lives near Atlanta, and some of her seven novels are set in Georgia, though her latest, "Learning to Breathe," takes place in small-town Louisi-

ana.

The main character is Brenna O'Brien, owner of an historic movie theater and the only one of five sisters who is not yet married.

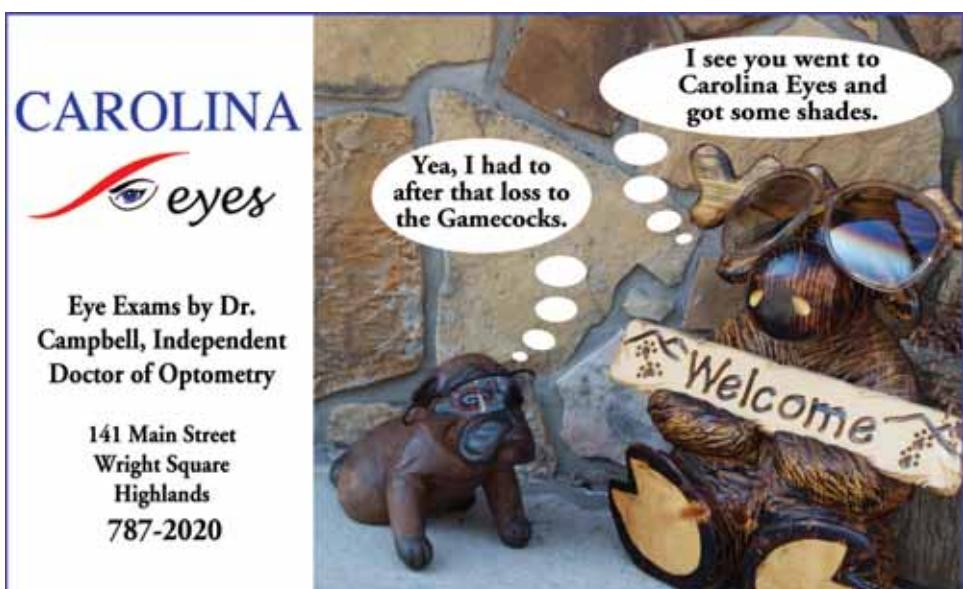
White describes her work as "grit lit — southern women's fiction" and compares it to "Steel Magnolias," laugh-while-you-cry fiction, with a little bit of a love story, a little bit of mystery, but the focus is on a woman and her journey through life."

"Pieces of the Heart," another of White's eight novels, is set in the North Carolina mountains, and will be of particular interest to local readers; "The Color of Light" is centered on Pawley's Island, S.C.

Ms. White's fiction is addictive, and Cyrano's co-owner Clair Simpson is her newest fan, having read most of her books during the past week. Ms. White will autograph at Cyrano's from 2-4 p.m. on Oct. 6.

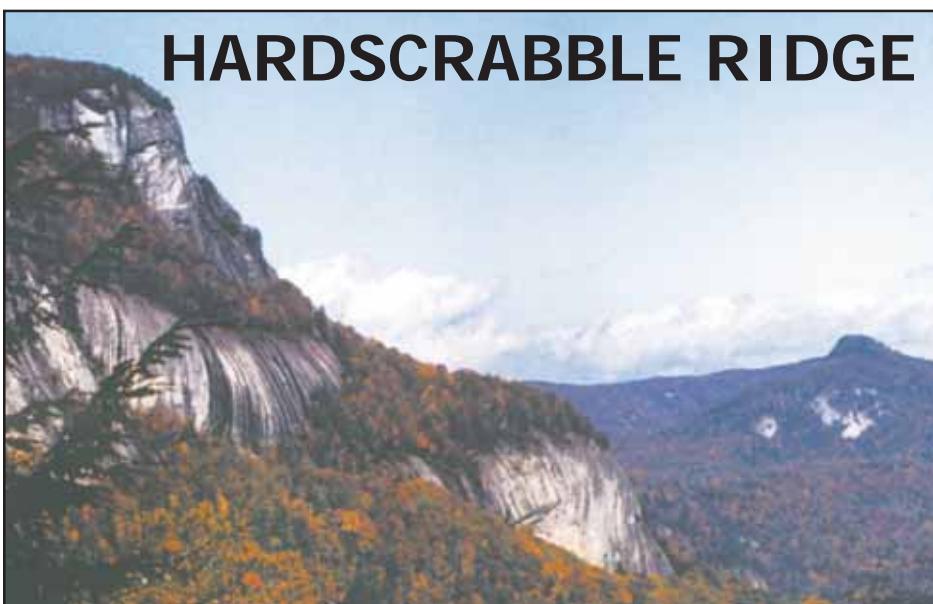
Cyrano's Bookshop is located at 390 Main Street in Highlands, North Carolina. Books can be reserved for autographing by calling (828) 526-5488 or sending an email to cyranos@nctv.com.

To learn more about our store please visit www.cyranosbooks.com.

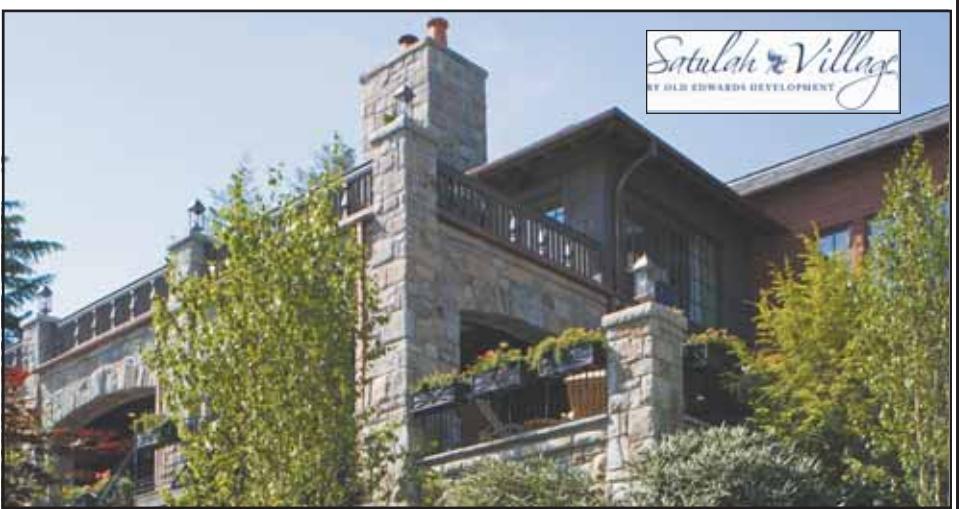


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• BUSINESS NEWS •

Founder of Morris Museum of Art talks of changing from small local enterprise to regional art center with Bascom-Louise Gallery



Members of the Bascom-Louise Gallery gathered Saturday at the Performing Art Center to hear Billy Morris, founder of the Morris Museum in Augusta, Ga. The Bascom-Louise Gallery is changing from a small enterprise into a major, multi-purpose regional art center, and Morris spoke to members about how his museum was able to transform into an acclaimed arts institution that has become an authority on Southern art. Above, Morris talks about his museum's permanent collection. Below, Morris, left, chats with Bob Fisher, center, art center chairman, and member Duncan Greenlee at the after-lecture party. For more information on the Bascom-Louise Gallery or how to become a member, call (828) 526-0207.



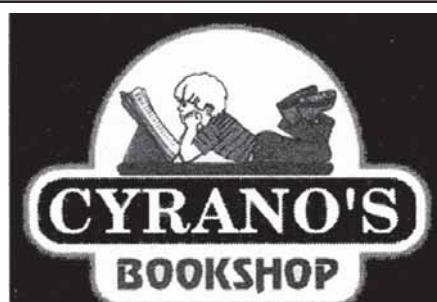
Highlands Playhouse
SUMMER SEASON
2007

Broadway Melodies
at Highlands Playhouse
Oct. 4-7
&
Oct. 11-14

Performances are Tuesday - Saturday at 8 p.m., Sunday Matinees at 2 p.m.
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Upcoming Book Signings

October 6
West Freeman
"The French Quarter of New Orleans"
noon-2 p.m.
Karen White
"Learning to Breathe"
2-4 p.m.
October 13
Sandra Brown
"Play Dirty"
noon-3 p.m.
Anne Sharpsteen with Vivian Cash
"I Walk the Line"

Ruby Cinemas

Hwy. 441, Franklin
524-2076

Oct. 5-11

THE SEEKER:
THE DARK IS RISING rated PG
Mon - Fri: (4:10), 7:10, 9:10
Sat & Sun: (2:10), (4:10), 7:10, 9:10

THE GAME PLAN
rated PG
Mon - Fri: (4:05), 7:05, 9:05
Sat & Sun: (2:05), (4:05), 7:05, 9:05

THE KINGDOM
rated R
Mon - Fri: (4:20), 7, 9:20
Sat & Sun: (2), (4:20), 7, 9:20

RESIDENT EVIL: EXTINCTION
rated R
Mon - Fri: 7:15
Sat & Sun: (2:15), 7:15

3:10 TO YUMA
rated R
Daily: (4:15), 9:15

• UPCOMING EVENTS •

New set designer for HCP's first play of the season

A brand new special effect for the Highlands Community Players will be used during their first play of the new season, "The Raindrop Waltz" by Gary Carden, a drama set in the southern Appalachian Mountains. With the help of set designer Kathy (Kat) Evans, a translucent diffusion cloth known as a scrim will allow the presentation of characters from the past that now exist only in the imagination of the play's main character.

Also on stage in Kathy's design is a small mountain cabin, a doctor's office that will later be converted into another location in the story, and a mural of Blue Ridge Mountains fading into the distance.

Originally from Pennsylvania, Kathy Evans now lives in a cabin herself. She's been a fulltime resident of Highlands since 2003 when she purchased her 200-year-old log cabin. She has, however, been coming to Highlands for almost 20 years visiting in her family home in Highlands Falls Country Club.

Kathy holds a degree in Art Education from the Moore College of Art in Philadelphia and studied cinematography at West Chester University. She taught art classes in Highlands at the Bascom-Louise Gallery and most recently created the "environment" for the Beetle Ball fund-

and Rand Cheadle. This book is currently out-of-print so copies of each reading assignment will be handed out each week. The study will meet in the Fellowship Hall — beginning promptly at 6:15 and will last approximately one hour.

- Highlands MountainTop Rotary Club meets at the Highlands Conference Center at 7:30 a.m.

Every Third Wednesday

- Study sessions at the Universal Unitarian Fellowship Hall in Franklin. A \$5 soup-supper will be served at 5:30 p.m. Study sessions will begin at 6:30 p.m. For more information call 828-524-6777 or 706-746-9964.

Every Thursday



Virginia Talbot and Kathy Evans discuss the effects of the material.

ater she worked as crew, designed sets and props for productions such as "The Taming of the Shrew," "Kiss Me Kate," and "Our Town."

Kathy Evans heads up the Highlands Community Players' hard-working set construction team that usually includes Bill Hall, Jim Schulte, Dave Fouser, Fritz Toussaint, Bob Trevathan, Bill Rethorst, Bill Reynolds, Jodie and Caroline Cook, Paul Black, and David Rohrer.

Subscriptions for the Community Players upcoming season are now on sale. Call 526-8084 and leave a message to request subscription information. "The Raindrop Waltz" opens Oct. 18 and runs Thursday – Sunday through Oct. 28 at the Martin-Lipscomb Performing Arts Center in Highlands. Individual tickets for this first play go on sale on Saturday, Oct. 13.

- At Main Street Inn, Lisa Price piano and vocals in the wine bar 6-9 p.m.
- Al-Anon Meetings, noon in the First Presbyterian Church basement at Fifth & Main Street.

- Women's Bible Study at 9:30 am - 11:45 am at Community Bible Church. Beth Moore's **Believing God**. All women are invited.

Every Saturday

- Live music at Cypress Restaurant in the Dillard Village Shopping Center at 9:30 p.m. \$10 cover.
- Children's classes ongoing at Bascom-Louise Gallery – cost is \$5 per student.

Every Friday

- The Girls' Clubhouse meets in the

school cafeteria 3-4:30 p.m. All 6-8 grade girls are welcome. Come have fun while serving others. For more information, call Kim Lewicki 526-0782.

Through Thursday, Oct. 18

- 2007 Macon County Basketball registration. There are four age divisions this year: 6-7 year olds, 8-9 year olds, 10-12 year olds, and 13-16 year olds. Fees this year are as follows: \$35 for the first child, \$30 for the second child, \$25 for the third, and so forth. Applications can be picked up and dropped off at the Highlands Recreation Department. For further information contact Rebecca R. Shuler at 828-526-8425.

Thurs.-Sunday, Oct. 4-7

- Broadway Melodies is a foot tapping, sing-a-long musical tribute to the songs and women of Broadway who capture our hearts. Just a few of the wonderful songs you will hear are "Some People" Gypsy, "I Can't Say No" Oklahoma, "The Wiz and I" Wicked, and "Sun In the Morning" Annie Get Your Gun, along with others from Les Miserables, Company, Cabaret, I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change, and Follies. To reserve tickets in advance please call the box office from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday at 526-2695. Showtimes are 8 p.m. Thursday through Saturday and a Sunday Matinee at 2 p.m.

Tuesday, Oct. 2

- The film "A Good Year" showing at PAC as part of its film festival at 7:30 p.m. Refreshments are at 7 p.m. The movie is free but donations are accepted.

Thursday, Oct. 4

- Public forum on Macon County School System Building Plan 7-8 p.m., at East Franklin Elementary School gym. Driving questions and aims to be addressed: What are our *Priorities* with-in the school system Facilities Plan? Why did we establish these *Priorities*? How will the *Plan* be carried out? Provide an opportunity for all stakeholders to provide the district leadership and Board of Education with feedback regarding the Plan.

Friday, Oct. 5

- Collect Spirits Auction at Fine Art Center.

Saturday, Oct. 6

- 90th birthday party for Opal Lee Allsep Hedden, wife of the late Wilbur R. Hedden, Jr., 3 p.m. in the Highlands United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall. All friends and family are invited to join in the celebration.

- Hurricane Creek Fall Fling Dance at the Instant Theatre Company at 8 p.m. call 828 342-9197 starting Oct. 1.

- The Second Annual Scaly Mountain Turkey Shoot at the site of the new Scaly Mountain Volunteer Fire Station on Hale Ridge Road, just off of NC Highway 106. There is no admission for these full days of old-fashioned Fall fun that will benefit the Scaly Mountain Community Association LLC which is overseeing the ongoing restoration of the Historic Scaly School House on Buck Knob Road. For additional information call Huskey at 787-1860.

- Harvest Bazaar at the Lodge in Sky Valley, GA, sponsored by the Women of the Chapel Sky Valley. There will be antiques, kitchen items, home-

'Hurricane Creek' at ITC on Oct. 6



The weather is getting cooler and the leaves are starting their changes. The Instant Theatre Company is bringing in the Fall with Hurricane Creek on Saturday, October 6, for a Fall Dance. The festivities will be heard and experienced at the Studio on Main, Main Street, Oak Square in Highlands starting at 8PM. 828-342-9197 for information.

• UPCOMING EVENTS •

baked goods, gifts for children and pets, white elephant collectibles, holiday decorations and more.

- Book signings at Cyrano's Book Shop. Noon to 2-p.m. photographer West Freeman will autograph "The French Quarter of New Orleans" and from 2-4 p.m., author Karen White will autograph "Learning to Breathe."

Sunday, Oct. 7

- The Nantahala Hiking Club will take an easy 2-mile hike to the viewpoint on Pickens Nose with great views into Georgia and the valley of the Little Tennessee River. Meet at Westgate Plaza in Franklin (opposite Burger King) at 2 p.m. Drive 40 miles round trip. Bring water, a snack if you wish, and wear sturdy, comfortable shoes. Hikes are limited to 20. Call leader Kay Coriell, 369-6820, for reservations or more information. Visitors are welcome, but no pets please.

Monday, Oct. 8

- The Peggy Crosby Center Golf



There is a low rumble being heard across the nation. As the rumble grows louder, it becomes a chuckle, turning into laughter as it gets closer and closer.

The sound is being made by the stand up comedians that have been invited to The Instant Theatre Company's Comedy Festival. For two weekends on October 18, 19, 20, 25, 26, and 27th laughter and joy will fill the Studio on Main in Oak Square on Main Street in Highlands.

Seminars on Stand up Comedy for young and old, stand up comedy shows with no two shows alike, the "Music Dude" Benny Skyn, and live radio broadcasts from Main Street are some of the gems you can experience. The Instant Theatre Company Comedy Festival is being hosted by Al Ernst and his EMan Nation of Comedy. I doesn't get any funnier than this. Make your reservations now by calling 828-342-9197.

Classic hosted by the Old Edwards Inn & Spa 9 a.m. at the MountainTop Golf and Lake Club in Cashiers. Cost is \$250 per person, or \$1,000 per team. Call 526-9938, ext. 410 to sign up.

- Bolivian Auction and dinner at Highlands Country Club to benefit the Bolivian Mission. Admission: \$125.

For information about the fundraisers, please call 526-3605.

Tuesday, Oct. 9

- Bagpipe & drum concert 7 p.m. at the Sapphire Valley Community Center. Traditional and "not-so" traditional tunes as done on the Great Highland Bagpipes and Drums. *Music, a wee bit of history and a skirl of humor!* \$5. 743-7663

- Public forums on Macon County School System Building Plan 7-8 p.m., at Franklin High School gym. Driving questions and aims to be addressed: What are our *Priorities* within the school system Facilities Plan? Why did we establish these *Priorities*? How will the *Plan* be carried out? Provide an opportunity for all stakeholders to provide the district leadership and Board of Education with feedback regarding the Plan.

Wednesday, Oct. 10

- Karaoke Party with FLO at the Sapphire Valley Community Center at 7 p.m. 743-7663

Thursday-Saturday, Oct. 11-13

- 'Pattern, Rhythm, Beat, Measure, and Breath in Nature, Art, and Self...' The title is a mouthful, but it's also a bountiful platterful of ideas, techniques, exercises and processes that will make your artwork sparkle and zing. Laurence Holden, master of mixed media will offer this class at the Bascom-Louise Gallery on Oct. 11-13, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. "Pattern, rhythm, beat, measure and breath are the most essential elements in both art and life," said Donna Rhodes, the gallery's education director. "They are the alchemical elements that make us all kith and kin on this blue green planet. Join Laurence on a studio exploration of just how these elements can enliven our art and our vision of the world around us and within us." All levels of expertise are welcome. The cost is \$200 (\$165 for members of the gallery). Call (828) 526-4949, 4#, for more information.

Wednesday, Oct. 10

- High Mountain Squares will dance this Wednesday night 7- 9 p.m. at the Macon County Community Building on Georgia Rd (441S). The callers will be Bob & Lorrie Morrison from Duluth, GA. We dance Modern Western Style square dancing. All visitors are welcome. For more information call: 349-0905, 369-8344.

Thurs.-Sunday, Oct. 11-14

• See EVENTS page 36

Bid absentee for items in art center's Art & Wine Auction



This Janet Whitehead painting is one of 72 items up for bid at the Art & Wine Auction.

For the first time ever, Highlands residents don't have to be present at the Art & Wine Auction to bid on the many fabulous items available. People can bid absentee, Christie's-style.

The event will take place on Oct. 5 at The Farm of Old Edwards Inn. All proceeds will benefit the Bascom-Louise Gallery, Highlands' nonprofit art center.

"You don't have to buy a seat at the dinner to bid, which is great, since we are just about sold out," said Walter Wingfield, co-chair of the event with Charlotte Merry. "All you have to do is get an absentee form and return it to us the day before the event. We'll make sure your bids are entered. It'll be just like you're there."

This year's items are sure to create a bidding frenzy, organizers said. Lots range from beautiful artwork and high-quality wines to a host of specialty items, such as a week at Sea Island, a hand-carved jade necklace, a diamond bracelet, and even a Bichon Frise puppy.

To bid absentee, stop by the gallery (inside the Hudson Library) to pick up a form and take a look at the items up for bid, or call (828) 526-0732 to request a form. Absentee bids will be accepted until 4 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 4, and forms can be dropped off at the gallery or faxed to (828) 526-0277.

Items and artwork will be on display at the Bascom-Louise Gallery through Oct. 2. The community is invited to come by and take a look at the

offerings Tuesdays through Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

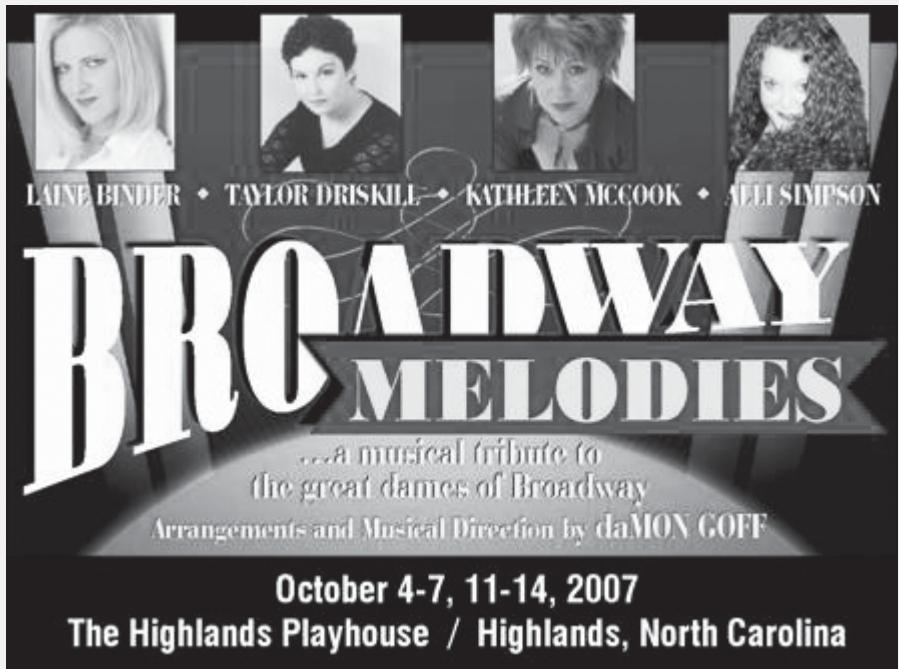
For more information, call (828) 526-0732.

A sampling of the 72 items up for bid:

- Oil painting by Valerie Lennon, "The Pleasure of Your Company"
- "Mother and Child" painting by Rosemary Stiefel
- One week in September at the Fishers' Sea Island house
- "Cocktails in the Clouds" buffet at Marsha and Jim Meadows' house
- 2004 Around the World mixed case of wines
- An 8-week-old Bichon Frise puppy
- Golf lessons for two at exclusive Mountain Lake Golf School in Lake Wales, Fla.
- Pottery pieces by Matthew and Sid Luck
- Four days at The Chateau, one of Highlands' more elaborate mountaintop spreads
- Custom-designed diamond bracelet by Drake's Diamond Gallery
- A week on the Mediterranean aboard the luxurious Seabourn Legend
- Chocolate fox-trimmed capelet by McCulley's with accompanying antique jade necklace from Stone Lantern
- 1900's vintage Persian rug
- 1985 Opus One signed by Robert Mondavi and Baron Philippe de Rothschild
- A week at St. Simon's Island

• UPCOMING EVENTS •

It's 'Broadway Melodies' instead of 'Forever Plaid' at Highlands Playhouse Oct. 4-7 & Oct. 11-14



Broadway Melodies is a foot tapping, sing-a-long musical tribute to the songs and women of Broadway who capture our hearts.

Just a few of the wonderful songs you will hear are "Some People" Gypsy, "I Can't Say No" Oklahoma, "The Wiz and I" Wicked, and "Sun In the Morning" Annie Get Your Gun, along with others from Les Misérables, Company, Cabaret, I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change, and Follies.

We know you will enjoy this fun loving and entertaining evening with four talented female singers and musi-

cians to delight your ears and eyes.

Please join us at Highlands Playhouse on October 4th through the 7th and 11th through the 14th to enjoy Broadway Melodies.

To reserve tickets in advance please call the box office from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday at 526.2695.

Tickets are also available one hour in advance at the box office the day of the show. Showtimes are 8 p.m. Thursday through Saturday and a Sunday Matinee at 2 p.m.

• Broadway Melodies is a foot tapping, sing-a-long musical tribute to the songs and women of Broadway who capture our hearts. Just a few of the wonderful songs you will hear are "Some People" Gypsy, "I Can't Say No" Oklahoma, "The Wiz and I" Wicked, and "Sun In the Morning" Annie Get Your Gun, along with others from Les Misérables, Company, Cabaret, I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change, and Follies. To reserve tickets in advance please call the box office from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday at 526.2695. Tickets are also available one hour in advance at the box office the day of the show. Showtimes are 8 p.m. Thursday through Saturday and a Sunday Matinee at 2 p.m.

Thursday, Oct. 11

- Public forums on Macon County

School System Building Plan 7-8 p.m., at lotla Elementary School gym. Driving questions and aims to be addressed: What are our *Priorities* within the school system Facilities Plan? Why did we establish these *Priorities*? How will the *Plan* be carried out? Provide an opportunity for all stakeholders to provide the district leadership and Board of Education with feedback regarding the plan.

• The Western Mountains Reading Council will meet at the Franklin Library at 4:30 p.m. The program will be on N.C. Live

Friday & Saturday, Oct. 12-13

• Folk Art craft show "Don't Count Your Chickens" featuring items for home, garden, body and soul. 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the Highlands Community Center on U.S. 64 east.

Friday-Sunday, Oct. 12-14

• At Acorn's, Mary Louise/Bijoux de Mer Trunk Show. Mary Louise's exclusive line of 18k gold jewelry has a distinctively feminine flair. Bijoux de Mer or Jewels of the Sea, specializes in pearls and precious stones.

Saturday, Oct. 13

• Yard Sale at Highlands School to benefit the Junior-Senior Prom.

• Guatemala Mission Trip Fundraiser at Toxaway Community Center at 6:30 p.m. Come for fellowship and fun and help raise money for this year's mission trip. The event will include a lasagna dinner, live entertainment, clogging, baked goods and an auction for items and services. For more information call Dan Smith at 743-7917.

• At Main Street Inn and Cyrano's Bookshop, Dinner and Walking Ghost Tour, with Stephanie Burt Williams author of "Haunted Hills." \$45 per person includes four-course gourmet dinner. Cash bar at 6:30 p.m. and dinner at 7 p.m. Reservations required. Call 828-5626-2590 or 800-213-9142.

• 25th Annual Highlands Arts & Crafts Show, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Highlands Civic Center, Highway 64 East, Highlands. Free admission and parking. More than 100 vendors - four raffle drawings with prizes donated by popular artists - sponsored by the Highlands Woman's Club and the Highlands Recreation Department.

• At Cyrano's Bookshop, author Sandra Brown signing "Play Dirty" 1-3 p.m.

• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a moderate 6-mile hike to the potholes on the upper Chattooga River. Meet at the Highlands Bank of America at 10:00 or call leader for an alternate meeting place on Whiteside Cove road if coming from Cashiers. Bring water, lunch, and wear sturdy, comfortable shoes. Drive 15 miles round trip. Hikes are limited to 20. Call leader Virginia Talbot, 526-4904, for reservations or more information. Visitors are welcome, but no pets please.

• At Main Street Inn and Cyrano's Bookshop, Dinner and Walking Ghost Tour, with Stephanie Burt Williams author of "Haunted Hills." \$45 per person includes four-course gourmet dinner. Cash bar at 6:30 p.m. and dinner at 7 p.m. Reservations required. Call 828-5626-2590 or 900-213-9142.

• Mark your calendar for the Jackson-Macon Conservation Alliance Fall Forest Fest. Gather a couple of friends and call J-MCA at 828-526-9938 ext. 320 to reserve your table for a night of great food, fun, door prizes, raffles and entertainment at the beautiful Highlands Falls Country Club.

• Hamburger grill-out and bonfire AMBURGER GRILL-OUT and

BONFIRE at the Sapphire Valley Community Center at 5:30 p.m. weather permitting. 743-7663.

• Ballroom Dance at the Sapphire Valley Community Center with live music by Minor Adjustment at 7 p.m. Light appetizers, BYOB mixers. 743-7663

Tuesday-Saturday, Oct. 16-20

• At Bascom-Louise Gallery, "Artist's Photo Reference," taught by internationally known color pencil painter Gary Greene, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Class begins with a photographic field trip, followed by a return to the classroom. All levels of expertise are welcome. The cost is \$350 (\$315 for art center members). For more information, call Bascom-Louise Gallery at (828) 526-4949, ext. 4

Tuesday, Oct. 16

• Public forums on Macon County School System Building Plan 7-8 p.m., at Macon Middle School media center. Driving questions and aims to be addressed: What are our *Priorities* within the school system Facilities Plan? Why did we establish these *Priorities*? How will the *Plan* be carried out? Provide an opportunity for all stakeholders to provide the district leadership and Board of Education with feedback regarding the Plan.

• Leadership Highlands is sponsoring a "Candidate's Forum" at the Highlands Community Center from 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Thursday-Sunday, Oct. 18-21

• Highlands Community Players production "The Raindrop Waltz" at PAC. 8 p.m. or 2:30 p.m. on Sunday. Call 526-8084 for tickets.

Thursday-Saturday, Oct. 18-20

• The Instant Theatre Company's Comedy Festival featuring funny man Al Ernst and other national stand-up comedians with music by Benny Skyn. Call 828 342-9197 for more info beginning Oct. 1.

Thursday, Oct. 18

• Steele/Shooting Star Vineyards Wine dinner at OEI's The Farm. Each dinner is \$169 per person, inclusive of tax and gratuity. Call 828-787-2604.

• Public forums on Macon County School System Building Plan 7-8 p.m., at Nantahala School gym. An opportunity for all stakeholders to provide the district leadership and Board of Education with feedback regarding the Plan.

Friday & Saturday, Oct. 20-21

• Art League of Highlands "Fall Colors Fine Art Show" at the Civic Center Recreation Park in Highlands, NC, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Fine original art, jewelry, photography and much more by over 40 artists. Art activities for kids both days in the Children's Art

• UPCOMING EVENTS •

Room. Free admission. Door prizes. For information call Karen Taylor at 828-526-2177 or Dottie Bruce at 828-743-7673.

Saturday, Oct. 20

• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a 3.5 mile moderate hike from the upper Whitewater Falls to the Bad Creek Reservoir parking area. There will be some scrambling over roots and rocks, but great views of the falls and in the gorge below. Meet at the Cashiers Wachovia Bank (in back) at 10:00 a.m. Drive 40 miles round trip. Bring water, lunch, and wear sturdy, comfortable shoes. Hikes are limited to 20. Call leaders Mike and Susan Kettles, 743-1079, for reservations or more information. Visitors are welcome, but no pets please.

• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a moderate-to-strenuous 4.5 mile hike from Wayah Crest to Sawmill Gap on the Appalachian and Bartram trails with an elevation gain of 1,000 feet and great views. Drive 25 miles with a short

car shuttle. Meet at Westgate Plaza in Franklin (opposite Burger King) at 9:30 a.m. Bring water, lunch, and wear sturdy, comfortable shoes. Hikes are limited to 20. Call leader Bill Van Horn, 369-1983, for reservations or more information. Visitors are welcome, but no pets please.

• REACH Of Macon County's Motorcycle Poker Run features a 70 mile colorful trip through some of Western North Carolina's most beautiful scenery. A hand is \$25 with additional hands available for \$10. The run begins at Franklin Ford on US 441 N of Franklin, between 8:30 am and 10 am. The run proceeds from Franklin Ford to downtown Franklin, then out NC 28N to the intersection of US 19. The run turns left at the intersection and goes to the Intersection of US 19 and the Wayah Road. Riders follow the Wayah Road to the intersection of Old US 64 W and the ride concludes at REACH's Meadow Lark Farm on Old US 64 W. Registration begins at 8:30

'Fall Colors Fine Art Show' Oct. 20 & 21



Bonnie Adams always makes a big splash with the kids when she demonstrates how she does Chinese sume-i brush painting during the Art League of Highlands Fall Colors Fine Art Show. The upcoming event is October 20 and 21 at the Recreation Park in Highlands.

The Art League of Highlands Fall Colors Fine Art Show will be an event showcasing the original art work of over 50 artists.

The gymnasium at the Recreation Park in Highlands is the perfect place to house so many creative people.

Some of the artists will be demonstrating their working methods and are happy to share their techniques with as-

piring artists.

The dates are Oct. 20 and 21 from 10-5. Encouraging the young is one of the Art League's primary focuses so the Children's Art Room and "Hallway Hat Rack Show" will be in full swing during the show.

Admission is free and door prizes will be given.

Crafted, grown, canned or sewn... find it at Highlands Craft Show Oct. 13



The 25th annual Highlands craft show is Oct. 13 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Highlands Civic Center. One hundred vendors are scheduled to set up their booths and be ready to entice visitors to buy their wares.

For 25 years, people have come to this very special one-day event knowing that it is the best place to find one-of-a-kind gifts, unique pieces of art, delicious foods and condiments, exotic jewelry, and handmade wood and metal pieces.

Each year there are more applicants to participate than space allows, assuring you that each booth offers the best, top quality and highly desirable merchandise. This is an event loved by both exhibitors and visitors in part, because it is all under the roof of the Civic Center and protected from inclement weather.

a.m. and closes at 10 am. For additional information or advance registration, call 828-369-0854

Sunday, Oct. 21

• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take an easy-to-moderate 2-mile hike on a pretty loop trail around Lake Chatuge and up a small mountain in Jack Rabbit Mt. State Park in Georgia. Meet at Westgate Plaza in Franklin (opposite Burger King) at 2:00 p.m. Drive 55 miles round trip. Bring water, a snack if you wish, and wear sturdy, comfortable shoes. Hikes are limited to 20. Call leader Kay Coriell, 369-6820, for reservations or more information. Visitors are welcome, but no pets please.

Tuesday, Oct. 23

Four lucky raffle tickets owners will win one of the beautiful donated raffle items. Raffle tickets are \$1 each or \$5 for six and can be purchased the day of the craft show.

All raffle proceeds go to payment of the mortgage on the building where Fibbers is located.

To be raffled this year are: a beautiful fall floral piece created by Nancy Ostema of Cosper Flowers; a basket of delicious jams, jellies, pickles and other homemade treats prepared by Jodie Zoellner and Martha Hawthorne; a hand-made quilt "Mountain Primitive" made by Mary Lou Dendy; a delightfully charming birdhouse made by George and Sue Ann Smith. Admission and parking are free. Craft items to be given away at this year's crafts show. You do not have to be present to win.

Admission and parking are free.

• Public forms on Macon County School System Building Plan 7-8 p.m., at South Macon Elementary School gym. Driving questions and aims to be addressed: What are our *Priorities* within the school system Facilities Plan? Why did we establish these *Priorities*? How will the *Plan* be carried out? Provide an opportunity for all stakeholders to provide the district leadership and Board of Education with feedback regarding the plan.

• N.C. Christian Women's Connection dinner with fashion show, music by Fashionable Melodies and speaker Mary Moore speaking on "Finding Peach in the Ashes of My Expectation"

• See EVENTS page 38

• UPCOMING EVENTS •

at 6:30 p.m. at the Community Building in Franklin. Call Georgann at 369-9117 by noon Oct. 18 for reservations.

• Highlands is sponsoring a "Candidates' Forum" at the Highlands Community Center from 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Thursday & Friday, Oct. 25-26

• The Instant Theatre Company's Comedy Festival featuring funny man Al Ernst and other national stand-up comedians with music by Benny Skyn. call 828 342-9197 for tickets.

Friday-Sunday, Oct. 26-28

• Highlands Community Players production "The Raindrop Waltz" at PAC. 8 p.m. or 2:30 p.m. on Sunday. Call 526-8084 for tickets.

Saturday, Oct. 27

• Highlands School Fun Run at 10 a.m.

• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take an easy-to-moderate 3-mile hike from Albert Mt. to Betty Creek. Meet at Westgate Plaza in Franklin (oppo-

site Burger King) at 8 a.m. Drive 35 miles round trip. Bring water, lunch, a hiking stick, and wear sturdy, comfortable shoes. Hikes are limited to 20. Call leader George Gover, 349-1509, for information. No pets please.

Wednesday, Oct. 31

• At Instant Theatre Company Hurricane Creek Halloween Dance. Call 828 342-9197 for tickets beginning Oct. 1.

Thursday-Sunday, Nov. 8-11

• The Chamber of Commerce presents "Cooking Central" at the First Annual Highlands Culinary Weekend. Highlands area restaurants, accommodations, and merchants will partner to present instructional culinary courses/classes, tastings, and outdoor activities. Call 866-526-5841 or 526-5841.

Sunday, Dec. 2

• East Coast Girls Volleyball showcase for 9th-12th grade girls at the Greensboro Sportsplex from noon-4 p.m. \$40 per player before Nov. 5; \$60 per

player thereafter. Call Lucky Dog Volleyball at 877.665.6661

Saturday, Dec. 8

• The Highlands Community Christian Chorale Christmas Concert is at 4 p.m. at the Highlands United Methodist Church.

Sunday, Dec. 9

• The Highlands Community Christian Chorale Christmas Concert is a 7 p.m. at the Highlands United Methodist Church.

April 20-30

• Highlands United Methodist Church trip to the Holy Land Trip: A minimum of 24 people is needed to make this trip happen. Think seriously about this opportunity to walk where Jesus walked. It truly is a life-changing pilgrimage that encourages your faith and answers long-standing questions you've had about the Bible. Please speak with Pastor Mike or Pastor Todd for more details.

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 828-526-0782

HELP WANTED

GALLERY SHOP MANAGER - sought for Bascom-Louise Gallery. Full-time. Retail experience a must; management experience preferred. Email cover and resume to jconnor_bascomlouise@verizon.net

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRIES at Highlands United Methodist Church. Responsibilities include overseeing music for worship services, directing the adult choir in Wednesday night rehearsals and Sunday services, supervising handbell choirs, and developing children's and youth music programs. Baccalaureate degree in music and/or commensurate experience in choral conducting required, as well as strong interpersonal skills and the ability to work closely with staff members and volunteers. Submit resumes to humc@dnet.net. Or PO Box 1959, Highlands, NC 28741.

DENTAL ASSISTANT POSITION - with the Macon County Public Health Center. Salary starting at \$21,288 annual, plus benefits. Please apply to the NC Employment Security Commission. Application Deadline: September 19, 2007.

HIGHLANDS FALLS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION MANAGER - Position involves overseeing office administrative activities, operation and maintenance of water and sewer utilities systems, roads, landscaping, security, and new and renovation home construction. Submit resume and three references to hfcasearch@yahoo.com or by mail to HFCA Search Committee, PO Box 128, Highlands NC 28741.

EVENING SERVER - Good wages, friendly work environment. Apply in person at Skyline Lodge & Restaurant or call 828 526-2121.

COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH is currently accepting resumes for a full-time office position. Computer skills, people skills and creative abilities are needed. Call for more info 526-4685.

WESTERN CAROLINA UNIVERSI-

TY'S programs in elementary education, special education, birth-kindergarten, psychology and educational leadership are developing adjunct professor pools for teaching in the region. Master's degree in the discipline area is required, doctorate preferred. Send vita to Amelia Schlott, 220 Killian, Western Carolina University, Cullowhee, NC 28723. Western Carolina University is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT - needed for Fine Art Center/Bascom-Louise Gallery in Highlands. Email resumes to: jconnor_bascomlouise@verizon.net.

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT - needed for Fine Art Center/Bascom-Louise Gallery in Highlands. Email resumes to: jconnor_bascomlouise@verizon.net.

CHESTNUT HILL - Apply in person at 64 Clubhouse Trail or call 828-526-5251 for to apply for cook, waitstaff, courtesy officers, or a medication assistant/resident assistant in a 26-bed assistant living area. Please apply in person at 64 Clubhouse Trail, Highlands, NC, or call for an appointment at (828) 526-5251.

EARN WHILE YOU LEARN! Are you interested in a new career? Become a Certified Nursing Assistant for Highlands-Cashiers Hospital and Fidelia Eckerd Living Center. C.N.A. classes will start on Wednesday, November 7, 2007. Students will be paid while in class Mondays through Fridays for 6 hours a day. Upon graduation and successful completion of the exam, students will become a Certified Nursing Assistant and will receive a substantial increase in pay. Excellent benefit package after 30 days. Pre-employment substance screening. If interested in joining a dynamic healthcare team, call Robbin Houston at 828-526-1317, Mandy Talley at 828-526-1301, or apply online through our website at www.hchospital.org.

CNA OR CNA II AT HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HOSPITAL AND FIDELIA ECKERD LIVING CENTER. Full-time, Part-time, and PRN positions for day and night shifts. Our wage scale is \$11.00 to \$14.40 per hour, and you also receive shift and weekend differentials. Full benefits, or the option to opt out of benefits for an increase in pay, available after 30 days of employment. Pre-employment substance screening. Call Mandy Talley, 828-526-1301 or apply online at www.hchospital.org.

RN OR LPN NEEDED AT A PHYSICIANS' OFFICE WITH HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HOSPITAL. Full-time, Monday-Friday position. Requires experience working in a clinic or physicians' office. Cardiology background preferred. Good communication, organizational, and computer skills a must. Full benefits, or the option to opt out of benefits for an increase in pay, available after 30 days of employ-

ment. Pre-employment screening required. Call Mandy Talley at 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, or the option to opt out of benefits for an increase in pay, available after 30 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, or the option to opt out of benefits for an increase in pay, available after 30 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.

LOST

BLACK LONG-HAIRED CAT. Last seen near Oak and Main streets. Call Ellie at 526-5764.

WORK WANTED

LOOKING FOR A HOUSEKEEPER?

Call: Manuela at 526-9586 (Highlands) Raquel Dugan at 524-4052 (Franklin) also, Experienced Truck Driver Seeks Full Time Employment: Please call 828-524-4052, or call the International Friendship Center to see how we can help! 828-526-9938 x 290.

YARD SALES

FRIDAY, SATURDAY & SUNDAY

OCT. 5-7 - 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Fri. & Sat. and noon-4 on Sun. Tons of Stuff. 70 South Old Walhalla Road off N.C. 28. 1.3 miles south of the post office.

FRIDAY & SATURDAY OCT. 5 & 6

Antiques, China, Silver, Furniture, Linens. 615 Horsecove Road. main at Leonard streets. 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

SATURDAY OCT. 6

- Large Pine Table and 8 chairs, Bamboo Roll Top desk, books, frames, miscellaneous. Take Hicks Road to Mirrormont to Bonnie, to 174 Dolly Lane on top. 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. rain or shine.

SATURDAY, OCT. 6

- 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. SVMA 2007 Yard Sale. The Sapphire Valley Yard Sale is being conducted specifically for the benefit of the members of

SVMA and its property owners' associations to offer the usual items found at garage sales and a community setting with a large potential attendance. Please pick up applications at the SV Community Center. 743.7663. The event will be held on the SV Athletic Field.

SATURDAY, OCT. 13 - Yard Sale at Highlands School to benefit the Junior-Senior Prom.

FOR RENT

COTTAGE FOR RENT - 1BR, 1BA in town @ Chestnut Cottages. Private, screen porch, Heat/AC, FP, extra sleeping loft, furnished or unfurnished. 6 month lease - \$850. monthly plus utilities.

SKY VALLEY RESORT - 2 bed/2 bath with fireplace. Completely furnished. \$900/month inclusive with utilities, cable, phone and more. Available Oct. 1-June 15. Call 706-746-0256.

HOUSE FOR SALE WITH "RENT TO BUY" OPTION - In town. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, 2 decks. \$975/month. Sales Price: \$259,000. Ownership arrangement negotiable. Call Jimmy at 970-819-3815.

COMMERCIAL - Warehouse, 1,000 sq. ft. Cashiers Road. Call 526-4154.

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.

VACATION RENTAL

HIGHLANDS COUNTRY CLUB - Sorry, golf and club privileges not available. \$2,495 a week. Call 912-230-7202.

CUTE 3 BED/2 BATH Mirror lake home \$1,350-\$1,550 + utilities a month, less than mile from Main Street. Call 770-977-5692

THE LODGE ON MIRROR LAKE - Fish or canoe from deck. Available weekly, monthly, 3-day min. Call 828-342-2302.

ON LAKE SEQUOYAH - Three master suites with jetted tubs and showers, sleeping nook with private bath, 4 fireplaces, 2 living areas, newly renovated. Private dock with canoe and firepit. Call 828-342-2302.

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

LOT — COWEE RIDGE ROAD, Highlands (off Hwy. 64). 4,500 ft. elevation. Great views, Two acres. Southern exposure. 4 bedroom septic installed, community water, paved road, gated community. \$300,000 Firm. Call 478-741-8818. FSBO.

LOOKING FOR LAND? We are lo-

• See CLASSIFIEDS page 40

• CLASSIFIEDS •

cated only 3 miles from Main Street Highlands. Take Hwy.106 south toward Dillard go 1.8 miles just past the signs for Glenn Falls turn right on Mountain Laurel Dr., take the first left (Moonlight) 100' and turn right at our entrance on Falling Water Dr. There are two waterfalls as you enter the property but the drought has made them just a trickle. Our home sites are one to one and a half acres and afford a good deal of privacy. The land is very gentle, you can easily walk in this neighborhood, and there are mature hard woods, with lots of Rhodies and Mountain Laurel. We are off the main road enough so it is nice and quiet-no road noise. The property is protected by the North Carolina Planned Community covenants and is designed to protect your value and maximize the enjoyment of your community. Home values range from \$850,000 to \$1,800,000 - home sites start at \$179,000. Broker protected 7% - owner financing available for more info 828-526-9622

COACH CLUB HIGHLANDS NC – Chestnut Street. Gated Motor Coach resort lot in town Very nice 200 sq. ft. Lindal Cedar Coach House. Fully Landscaped with Extensive patio area. Outdoor kitchen, gas fire pit, overlooking 85 ft of stream Rare find. 828-787-1014 or 352-258-4187

CREEK IS FREE! – With the purchase of one or both of these wooded parcels, just off Highway 28 in the NE Georgia mountains within 15 minutes of Highlands. 1.09 acres and/or 1.10 acres on a county-maintained road. Serious inquiries only. Please call 864-710-4577 for information.

LAND – North Carolina Mountains: At Lake Toxaway Lot and 1/2 Beautifully Landscaped with Stone Work and Plantings Yearly Fees \$350. \$120,000. 863-651-1411

IN TOWN – 3 bedroom, 2 bath, stream, large level yard. Easy walk to Main Street. \$450,000, by owner. Call 828-226-6123.

HOUSE FOR SALE (ISLAMORADA, FLORIDA) – Two bedroom, one and ½ bath conch house for sale at Mile Marker 86, near Founders Park on Oceanside. House sits on a 8,520 square foot lot in a great subdivision with a public boat ramp on the next street over. Founders Park, which is across the street, has a park with a boat ramp, marina, pool, beach, tennis courts, etc. Great deal — owner moving out of state. \$475,000. Call 305-852-4369 for more info.

OCEAN FRONT – Beautiful home in Surf City, N.C. zoned residential/commercial. Walk to pier and town. 7-bed, 4 full baths. Separate apartment. Good rental income. Call 919-340-2280.

LAKEFRONT ACRE IN SCALY – \$25,000 OBO. Details. P.O. Box 260789, Pembroke Pines, FL, 33026.

COMMERCIAL FOR SALE – Log cabin at crossroads in Cashiers for sale or lease. Call 526-4154.

COMMERCIAL FOR SALE – 3 acres. U.S. 64 frontage, cashiers Road. 2 acres, 3 warehouses, good income. Call 526-4154.

HOUSE FOR SALE – HFCC 2 story split, 3/2, large lot, lake, golf course, mountain views, membership available but optional. \$795,000. Call 526-4154.

LAND BY OWNER – 3/4 acre lot. Close to Toan. Very, very, level building lot. Community water available. \$79,000. Call Ginger at 828-526-4959.

OCEANFRONT LOT KEY LARGO, FLORIDA – Cleared, buildable with all services. Last unimproved lot in Silver Shores subdivision. \$599,900. For information and photos call Frank (954) 964-7649 or email ft442@bellsouth.net.

NC. OTTO, 38 ACRES 10 miles from Georgia State line, high elevation, big views, driveway and homesite cleared call owner, 770-952-9100

NEW HOME/CHALET – 10 minutes from town off Turtle Pond Road. 2/1 with loft, .897 acres, 1,177 sq. ft. \$189,000. Call Ty at 828-577-9261.

IN TOWN — 3/2.5 log home. The cottages lakeside at Harris Lake. Less than 2 years old. \$329,000. Call Ty at 828-577-9261.

PINE GROVE TOWNHOUSE CASHIERS. Two bedrooms two and ½ 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

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.

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.

ITEMS FOR SALE

COMPLETE SET: XM RADIO, Automobile unit, Home Boom Box, Remote Home Antenna by DELPHI over \$200 value for \$85.00. Call 526-2713

LATE KENMORE FLOOR MODEL VACUUM 5.0 power with 2-motor systems. \$149. Call 526-4077.

TWO DAHON PORTABLE FOLDING BICYCLES, 6-speed. Like new. Kryponite lock. \$275 for both. Call 743-5593.

MEDICAL LIFT CHAIR – Used one week. Paid \$615, asking \$500. 526-5558.

ANTIQUE CHERRY DINING TABLE from Estate Sale. Double drop-leaf. Rope carved legs. Seats 4-10 people Extends to 4x10 ft \$2,200. obo 828-787-1515

LARGE BIRDCAGE – 2 1/2 feet high by 1 foot 3 inches wide by 1 foot 2 inches deep. With feeders. \$40. Call 526-9245.

DOG KENNEL 10' x 10' x 6', heavy gauge chainlink. Like New. \$175, was \$270. call 828.389.2722 Hayesville, NC

DELUXE VENTED GAS heater high btu, slightly used, \$100. 524-6038.

CUSTOM DECK SET – Painted aluminum Love seat & club chair with laminated waverly cushions. \$125. Call 526-1078.

MAHOGHANY CHINA CLOSET, 6-ft plus, mirror back, 4 glass shelves. Must see. Call 787-2307.

BERNHARDT CHERRY DESK, mint condition. Paid \$4,000; sell \$1500. Call 404-354-7463.

CERAMIC KILN. 230V, 20A, dual control up to 2300°F. Interior 20" high, 18" diameter. Almost new. \$500. 828/787-2177.

USED PLAYSTATION 2 – With 10 games (Star Wars, Battlefront II, Lego Star Wars, Spiderman 2 and more) – Includes memory card, controllers, and other accessories. Asking \$350 or OBO. Call Gardner at 526-3008.

ANTIQUE SLOT MACHINES – 25c 1933 mills "war eagle" \$2,800; 10c mills 777 "special award" \$2,400. Mint condition. 828-862-3363.

ARMOIRE & DRESSOR W/ 3 WAY MIRROR, Light Maple color. Excellent condition. \$600 for both or will sell separately. 526-9107.

VANITY TOP SINK – 22"x37" with 4" back splash cream color, \$59. Call 526-4077.

NEW SHOWER DOOR – Still in box. 27" wide, gold color. Call 526-4077.

FARM HOUSE STYLE PINE TOP COUNTRY TABLE with white-washed legs, 6 chairs with white-washed legs. Best offer over \$700. Call 526-1597.

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

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

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

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

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

DINING ROOM FURNITURE. Very nice. Rectangular with two leaves 6 chairs, 2 with arms. Maple with upholstered seats. \$326 all inclusive. 864-972-8525 or cell 864-723-4101

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

SLEEPER SOFA – Neutral Plaid. Like New. \$145. Call 864-972-8525.

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

RECREATIONAL VEHICLE FOR SALE – 2002 Discovery – 38P Cat 338 HP. Immaculate. Double Slide. Smoke/pet free. Original owner. All options Electric awnings. W/D. Six new batteries. Extended warranty. Brake Pro. 28,000 miles. \$105,000. Call 743-5593.

1984 TOYOTA COROLLA - 200,000 miles runs good/great gas mileage \$550 obo. Call 526-4741

1991 HONDA PRELUDE – 190K miles. Runs Good. Looks Good. \$800. Call 200-9824.

2006 SUZUKI DR 200SE MOTORCYCLE – 29 miles, only, perfect condition, 1-cylinder, 4-stoke, 199cc. \$3,000. Call 828-342-6789 or home at 828-526-5507.

HANDICAPPED VAN – Dodge Grand Caravan, wheelchair accessible, automatic ramp, hand controls, 43,900 miles, \$16,000.00 526-9769.

1966 MUSTANG – 2-door coupe. \$12,000. Call 828-883-4214.

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

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.

SERVICES

CAREGIVER – Mature lady will do assisted living in your home. Quality care

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for all your needs. Also, house and pet care. Clear background and driving record. Call 706-282-0021 for more information.

HOUSE SITTER AVAILABLE – NC writer with excellent local references, seeking opportunity to stay in Highlands for the winter. Responsible, quiet, handy. Some caretaking -- no problem! 828-743-9530 or 917-584-7673.

HOME CARETAKER – Live in position wanted. Will repair and remodel your home while you're away this winter. Experienced in home repair and landscaping. References available. Call Jim Martineau at 828-743-2273 or cell: 413-584-1911.

CUTTING EDGE TREE SERVICE – "Let us go out on a Limb for You." We specialize in tree removal, trimming, Lot/View clearing, under brushing and stump grinding. Quality work and Fully insured. For Free Estimate call 524-1309 or 421-2905.

SPIC AND SPAN CLEANERS – looking for part-time cleaners to clean banks in Highlands and Cashiers. Call 828-691-6353.

TREE SERVICE – From view clearing to the most complicated tree removal, under brushing, stump removal/grinding/brush chipping/hauling and storm cleanup. For good quality, dependable services, fully insured, give us a call at 828-526-2251.

HEMLOCK WOOLLY ADELGID TREATMENT – By J&J Lawn and Landscaping services. NC Licensed Applicator, Highlands, NC 828-526-2251.

J&J LAWN AND LANDSCAPING SERVICES – complete lawn and landscaping service, spring cleanup, gutter cleaning, under-brushing, tree removal, lot clearing, storm cleanup, rockwork, retaining walls, flowerbeds, firewood. 828-526-2251.

CLOCK REPAIR & RESTORATION – Antique or modern. Call to discuss your repair needs. Visit my website at www.oldclockrepari.com or call Joseph McGahee at 706-754-9631 or email to mcgaheeclockshop@yahoo.com – 9/13

PAINTING & PRESSURE CLEANING – Decks and homes, senior discounts. Call the "Fussy Painter for Fussy People." ATM Painting. Insured. Alan Davies. Call 828-577-9262.

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.

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

FIVE STAR CLEANING & MAINTENANCE – Light and detail cleaning. Call 828-332-7201.

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

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

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

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

C&C CONTRACTING – We Get It Done — Small or Large – Remodeling, decks, doors, windows or the whole house! Call Art Doughty at 828-508-1360 Workmen's Comp, General Liability, References

HIGHLANDS SHUTTLE SERVICE – Atlanta Airport Shuttle. Drive - Away • Auto Delivery. All Out-of-Town Trips Driving Services. Call 526-8078.

MARK'S SEDAN DRIVING SERVICE – All airports – Atlanta, Asheville, scenic tours, parks, special occasions, restaurant trips, auto delivery. Town Car. Call 828-524-0424 or cell (239)-292-3623. 10/25

LEGAL NOTICES

**NOTICE OF THE
NOVEMBER 6, 2007
MUNICIPAL ELECTION,
COUNTY WIDE BOND REFERENDUM
& LEVY OF LAND TRANSFER TAX
REFERENDUM**

The Municipal Election, County Wide Bond Referendum and Levy of Land Transfer Tax Referendum will be held on Tuesday, November 6, 2007. The **Town of Franklin** ballot will have the following items: **Mayor, Alderman, Bond Referendums and Levy of Land Transfer Tax Referendum**. The **Town of Highlands** ballot will have the following items: **Town Commissioners, Mixed and Malt Beverage, Bond Referendums and Levy of Land Transfer Tax Referendum**. Polls will be open from 6:30 a.m. until 7:30 p.m. The polling places will be located at:

North Franklin - **SCC (this building is located beside the Macon County Courthouse.)**

• South Franklin – The **OLD** Library.

• East Franklin – East Franklin Elementary School. (Behind Hardee's)

- Iotla – Iotla Elementary School.

- Union – Macon County Community Building- located across from the Whistle Stop Mall.

- Millshoal – Holly Springs Community Building.

- Ellijay – Cullasaja Elementary School.

- Sugarfork – Pine Grove Community Building.

- Highlands – Highlands Civic Center.

- Flats – Scaly Mountain Community Center.

- Smithbridge – Otto Community Building located above Otto Fire Department.

- Cartoogechaye – The **OLD** Cartoogechaye Elementary School. **Located on Hwy 64 West.**

- Burningtown – Burningtown Community Building. Located **behind Burningtown Baptist Church**.

- Cowee – Cowee Elementary School.

Absentee ballots are allowed. Requests for an **absentee ballot must be made in writing** and received in the Macon County Board of Elections office by 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 30, 2007. Requests may also be done in person at the Macon County Board of Elections for the Absentee Ballot to be mailed. Absentee Ballots are required to be mailed. Ab-

sentee voting begins on Monday September 17, 2007. All voted Absentee ballots must be received by 5:00 p.m. on Monday, November 5, 2007.

One-Stop Voting will be held in the Board of Elections Office beginning **Thursday, October 18th**. The Board of Elections is located in the Macon County Courthouse, Room 127A which is on the 1st floor of the Courthouse. **Office hours are Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.** In addition to regular office hours, the office will be open on **Saturday, October 20th, Saturday, October 27th**, and the last day of One-Stop voting will be on **Saturday, November 3, 2007**. For One-Stop voting on **Saturday's** the office hours will be from **8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.** If you do not vote early you will be required to go to your polling place on **Election Day**.

All residents of Macon County who are registered to vote with Macon County Board of Elections may vote in this election. All residents who are registered to vote in the Town Election may vote on all issues. County residents may vote on Bond Referendum's. Last day to register to vote is Friday, October 12, 2007. A person may register at the Board of Election Office or may register by mail.

**For additional information contact
the Macon County Board of Elections
at 828-349-2034.**

Sara Waldrop, Chairman
Macon County Board of Elections
10/11

• REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS •

HIGHLANDS

• 0546641, VIEW POINT RD LOT 4 DASHER PROPERTY, LINES RAYFIELD, 8/16/2007, \$310,000., DASHER WILLIAM B III, \$145,410.

• 0546642, 170 VIEW POINT RD LOT 3 DASHER PROPERTY, LINES RAYFIELD, 8/16/2007, \$310,000., DASHER WILLIAM B III, \$237110.

• 1441416 274, FOREMAN RD PARCEL A, WALSH THOMAS, 8/31/2007, \$0., WALSH THOMAS, \$697,480

FLATS TOWNSHIP / SCALY MTN.

• 0649669, THOMAS RD OFF HWY 106, BEZDEK JAMES LEWIS, 8/8/2007, \$0., MILLARD WARNE R JR, \$39,020.

• 0649746, BUCK KNOB RD ON RD 1622, BEAVERS STUART, 8/22/2007, \$104,000., CORAM JENNINGS B, \$129,110.

- 0600073, 705 CHASTAIN RD,

WELDEN KATHRYN F, 8/23/2007, \$117,000., BROWN CAMELLA, \$119,780.

• 0600080, 58 OSAGE LN LOT 1, BOOS EDWARD G, 8/31/2007, \$0., BOOS EDWARD G, \$270,090.

• 0600524, 655 CHASTAIN RD, WELDEN KATHRYN F, 8/23/2007, \$0., WELDEN KATHRYN F, \$109,490.

• 0600602, OFF 106 LOT 60 KING MTN, KING MOUNTAIN DEVELOPMENT LLC, 8/29/2007, \$125,000., FORTSON JACK O, \$100,000.

• 0635802, ON HWY 106 ON HWY 106, BATES ALAN M, 8/10/2007, \$600,000., KNECHT HAROLD C JR, \$76,500.

• 0642807, HWY 106 TRACT 2, FREEMAN PROPERTIES LLC, 8/17/2007, DAIGREPONT PATSY ANN, \$94,500.

• 0847799, EVANS CREEK RD S R 1639, HEMBREE MARTHA P, 8/17/2007, \$0., HEMBREE MARTHA P, \$133,330.

... LETTERS continued from page 2

discharged dis-honorably, which would be common knowledge if his good friend Jimmy Carter hadn't given all the traitors a blanket amnesty.

You would do well to educate yourself with something other than the New York Times and People Magazine before you opine in print. Seriously,

Colette Clark
Highlands

RecPlex not needed in Macon County

Dear Editor,

The city of Waynesville owns the recreational facility on which Macon's proposed RecPlex is based. For the fiscal year 2006, the last year that audited figures are available, the results for the Waynesville facility are revealed:

Rec. Dept. fees	\$566,536
Rec. Dept. expenses	<u>1,415,510</u>
Net deficit	(\$848,974)

We know that all the revenue doesn't

come from membership to the recreational facility. There are charges for athletic leagues to use other town facilities and there are other sources of revenue, the amount of which is unknown. We know also that all expenses are not attributable to the operation of the recreation facility.

Let's assume that of the \$566,536, the rec facility produces \$550,000 of revenues. Let's further assume that of the \$1,415,510 in expenses, \$1,350,000 is attributable to the rec facility. This would leave the town with a net deficit of \$800,000 per year related to the activity on which Macon is basing their proposed RecPlex.

Waynesville is located in a county, Haywood, with a population of about 56,500 compared to Macon's 32,500. The Waynesville facility has been operating for about 10 years, and one would assume that their market penetration has matured to its fullest. The anticipated revenue from the Macon RecPlex is impossible to compute since, at this moment, the fee structure has not been resolved. If it were calculated on the most recent fee idea, i.e. half the Waynesville rate, and membership reached its max immediately, the anticipated revenue would be \$157,000.

On the expense side, there are estimates Macon's would be somewhat less than Waynesville's and there are estimates that it would be somewhat more than Waynesville's. The one number we know is the reality of Waynesville's 2006 expenses of approximately \$1,350,000. Putting all the assumptions together, it is reasonable to conclude that Macon's annual deficit would be about \$1,200,000.

At a cost of \$6,500,000, which appears to be ridiculously low, at an assumed interest rate, provided by the Macon finance office, of 5.5%, the annual debt service would be about \$535,000. It appears that the RecPlex as proposed would cost Macon taxpayers about \$1,735,000 annually.

Those publicly speaking for the facility appear to be high school swim team members and landowners with property that would appreciate with increased traffic on Siler Road. If the principal beneficiaries of a new facility would be young swimmers, build the pool on the school campus where the people who need the pool spend their time and call it what it would be, a school pool.

Let those who say they need a place for young people to practice basketball use the existing school facilities and the three new ones which will result in new school construction projects.

Let those who want to play racquetball join the Franklin Fitness Center where the courts go largely unused.

Don Swanson
Franklin

Problem with 'The Place of a Wife'

Dear Editor,

As a wife, mother, and professional woman, I have a real problem with the bold and rather arrogant statements made about "The Place of a Wife" particularly in relation to Women's Lib. While I am not a biblical scholar, clergy or even particularly religious, I do have a deep and unyielding need to stay connected to my own spirituality.....which I interpret daily, if not hourly, as my connection to God.

I find the statement "don't believe the lie of women's lib" incredibly arrogant....as though anyone who has NOT walked in those shoes would know lie or truth! There are many things people have said and will continue to say about women's lib. The Reverend Forrester seems to have formulated quite a list, and I am sure, as a shepherd, has followers.

However, nothing is mentioned about the numerous women who through Women's Lib have found the courage to move out into the world as viable and productive individuals in society at large...while continuing to maintain the incredible tasks of wife, mother, and keeper of the home.

As a Marriage and Family Therapist, my personal and profession experience has been that women, in feeling and having the support of the women's liberation movement, have developed a TRUE not false, sense of self-esteem and self-love. The fact that the women's movement has happened certainly must speak to the fact women have not been the "first concern" as a wife, or otherwise. Women who have the courage, and are willing to take risks both internally and externally, sometimes at a painful cost, have the opportunity to grow immensely, both personally and spiritually.

What a gift that woman's authenticity is for her children, and all that know her.

Karen Faulk Jackson
Highlands

A response to Rev. Sam Forrester

Dear Editor,

The perspective on family life elaborated in the "Spiritually Speaking" column of September 13, focusing on Colossians 3:18, can, and should be, addressed on a number of levels.

First, from the perspective of biblical scholarship expressed in the classic commentary of The Interpreter's Bible, it is noted that these verses do not make "...any great advance ...toward the formulation of a Christian ideal of family

•See LETTERS page 23

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• POLICE & FIRE •

The following is the Highlands Police Dept. log entries for the week of Sept. 20-28. Only the names of persons arrested, issued a Class-3 misdemeanor, or public officials have been used.

Sept. 20

• At 5:40 p.m., Southern Hands in Wright Square reported additional objects stolen from the store -- \$130 worth of arts and collectibles. Last week a \$300 wine cork was reported taken..

Sept. 25

• A motorist on U.S. 64 west was cited for speeding 54 mph in a 35 zone.

- At 11:50 a.m., a motorist on NC 28 was cited for speeding 51 mph in a 35 zone.

Sept. 28

• A motorist at U.S. 64 west and Webbmont was cited for speeding 51 mph in a 35 zone..

- During the week officers issued 1 warning ticket.

The following is the Highlands Fire & Rescue Dept. log entries for the week of Sept. 26-29

Sept. 26

• The dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with a medical call at a residence on Chowan Drive. The patient was transported

ed to the hospital.

• The dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with a medical call at a residence on N. 5th Street. The patient was transported to the hospital.

• The dept. responded to a tractor-trailer accident on NC 106. The driver was transported to the hospital.

Sept. 27

• The dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with a medical call at a residence on Big Bear Pen. The patient was transported to the hospital.

• The dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with a medical call at a business on Main Street. The patient was transported to the hospital.

• The dept. responded to a mo-

torcycle accident on U.S. 64 east. The driver was transported to the hospital.

Sept. 28

• The dept. responded to an alarm at Drake's Diamond Gallery. It was false.

• The dept. responded to an alarm at a residence at Oseroga. It was false..

• The dept. responded to an accident at Big Bear Pen involving a state truck. The driver was transported to the hospital.

Sept. 29

• The dept. responded twice to a fire alarm at a residence on Lower Brushy Face.

NOTE:

The dept. requests that all citizens display their 9-1-1 numbers at their residents. To know where to put them, call 526-3645.

• THANK YOU •

Gorge Road Clean-up

The Chamber of Commerce as sponsors extends a sincere thank you to the organizations and individual volunteers who contributed to a very successful Gorge Road litter sweep on Saturday, Sept. 15.

In all 27 volunteers swept up 540 lbs. of litter from the roadside.

Special thanks is extended to our local newspapers, radio station WHLC and Heart of the High Country (Channel 14) for publicity, the Highlands Rotary Club/Interact Club, Mountain Top Rotary, Mirror Lake Improvement Association and Audubon Society for their members' participation.

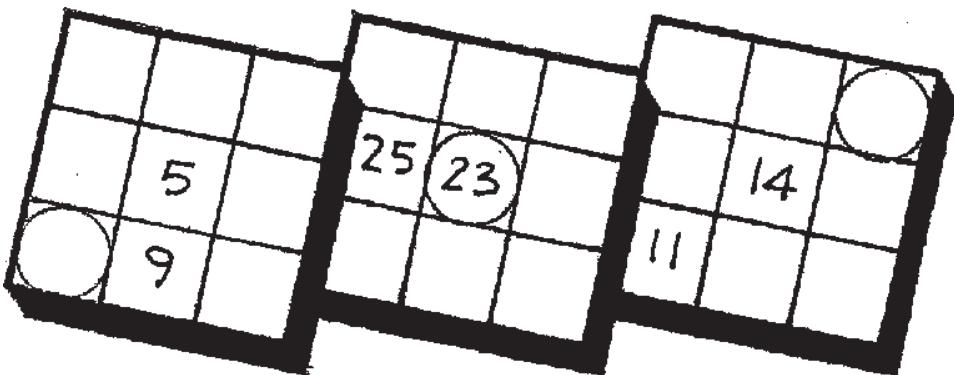
Recognition is also extended to Jack Philpot and Lambert Chandler for their organizational assistance, the Highlands Police and Macon County Sheriff's Departments for patrolling, and the USFS rangers who did a great job collecting and disposing of the trash bags.

Following the clean up volunteers, attired in their "I bagged the Gorge" T-shirts, enjoyed lunch at the Chamber generously donated by Mountain Fresh. If you see these volunteers in their T-shirts around town, please thank them for their effort.

**Bob Kieltyka
Highlands Area Chamber of
Commerce**

PseudoCube[©]

#BN3D – Level of Difficulty – Hard



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.

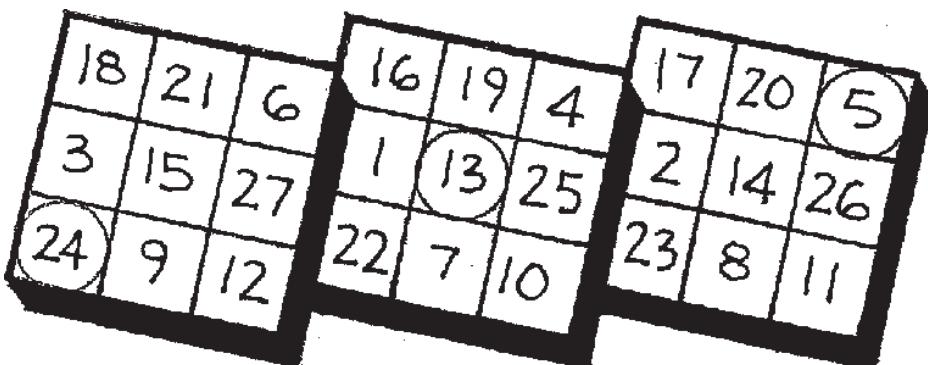
THE CHALLENGE:

Start with the three center numbers for each layer and the other numbers given. Now pour a cup of coffee, pick up a pencil and eraser and try to figure out where the other numbers belong. 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 #AZ1C in the Sept. 27 paper



Representative Heath Shuler announced that an agreement has been reached that will allow a Veterans Affairs clinic to open in Franklin, NC by late spring 2008. The VA clinic will be placed in a building donated by General F.P. Bodenheimer. The building is expected to be renovated and serving area veterans by April or May 2008.

The agreement between General Bodenheimer and the VA will allow the clinic to exist in the donated building for the next 20 years.

"I am extremely pleased that an agreement has finally been reached to open this much needed clinic. The veterans of Western North Carolina deserve to have accessible health care close to their homes. This clinic in Franklin will provide that access," said Rep. Shuler. "On behalf of all the residents of Western North Carolina I would like to offer my thanks to General Bodenheimer for this tremendous donation. He is a leader in every sense of the word."

General Bodenheimer was excited that the agreement had finally been signed. "I am so pleased that after many years of hard work by veterans and people within this community we have finally come to a resolution. The opening of this clinic will mean that our veterans will have easier access to the health care they deserve."

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5 Main St. Inn	5 Dry Sink	5 John Schiffli
6 On Verandah	6 Elephant's Foot	6 Meadows Mtn.
7 Paoletti	7 Raspberry Fizz	7 Real Estate
8 Pescado's	8 Silver Eagle	8 galleries
9 Rib Shack	9 Stone Lantern	9 Bryant Art Glass
10 Skyline Lodge	10 Village Kids	10 Tino Gallery
11 Wolfgang's	11 Wholesale Down	11 Twigs

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