

Highlands' Newspaper FREE

Volume 6, Number 21

PDF Version – www.HighlandsInfo.com

Thursday, May 22, 2008

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

• At the Nature Center, Animal Feeding Time 11 a.m.-noon, all ages welcome: Come and observe what each of the Nature Center's animals eat and learn how they feed.

Tuesdays
 • At the Nature Center, Family Nature Activity 3-4 p.m., ages 4 and up: Activities vary, but may include critter searches, discovery walks, or nature games \$1 per person.

Wednesdays
 • At the Nature Center, Nature Show & Tell/Storytime 2:30-3 p.m., all ages: Come for a nature lesson based around a children's storybook using items from the Nature Center.

• Men's interdenominational Bible Study at 8:30 a.m. at First Baptist Church.

Thursdays
 • At the Nature Center, Zahner Conservation Lecture Series 7 p.m., 12 and up: An evening seminar series featuring leading scientists, historians, writers and artists on a variety of environmental topics (schedule available at www.wcu.edu/hbs).

Fridays
 • At the Nature Center, Botanical Garden Tour 10:30-11:30 a.m., all ages: A guided walk through the Highlands Botanical Garden, featuring the native plants of the region.

Friday & Saturday
 • Live music at The Rib Shack every Friday and Saturday night from 7-10 p.m.

Saturdays
 • At the Nature Center, Featured Creature 11:30-noon, all ages: come and learn more about one of the Nature Center's live animals up close.

• Children's classes ongoing at Bascom-Louise Gallery – cost is \$5 per student.

Sundays
 • Old-fashioned hymn-sing at the Little Church of the Wildwood at 7 p.m. Call Kay Ward at 743-5009 for more information. Dress is casual.

Through June
 • At the Book Worm in the basement of The Peggy Crosby Center, most hard cover books are \$1. The Book Worm is open Wednesday-Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Friday, May 23
 • Storyteller, folklorist and playwright Gary Carden will provide an evening of entertainment at the PAC on Chestnut Street at 8 p.m. Tickets to "A Night with Gary Carden" are \$15 each at the PAC. Charge by phone: (828) 526-9047.

Saturday & Sunday, May 24-25
 • More than 30 crafters and artists selling their work at the upcoming Village Square Art & Craft show in the Pine Street Park and the Highlands Village Square. The show will feature folk art, fine art, metal work, wood

work, pottery and more. Call 828-787-2021 for more information.

Saturday, May 24
 • Peace Jones performing at Cyprus Restaurant on N.C. 106 at 9 p.m. No charge!

• Mountain Garden Club Plant Sale Saturday, from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m., at the Baseball Park on the corner of Highway 64 East (North 4th Street) and Hickory Street. Rain date is Sunday, May 25, from 1 p.m. until 4 p.m.

• The Highlands Playhouse auction on Saturday at 7 p.m. Don't miss the fun and bargains of a lifetime! Donations for the auction are gladly being accepted. Call Dianne Ray at 743-5625 or 404-510-2175.

• Old-Fashioned Bridge Pull at the site of The Bascom's new art campus, on Oak Street 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.. The event is a free community celebration where people can watch as a team of oxen pull the covered bridge to its new location over the creek. Refreshments and T-shirts will be available.

• Pet adoption at Whiskers on Main Street 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

• Pancake Breakfast 7:30-10:30 a.m. in the historic Scaly School House, NC Highway 106 and Buck Knob Road in downtown Scaly. Cost is \$5 for adults and \$2.50 for children.

• Bake Sale by the Moccasin Precinct voters of the Satolah community in front of Bryson's Food Store Saturday at 9 a.m.

• At Summit One Gallery, "Always Red" Saturday with an Artist's Reception from 5-7 pm. Summit One Gallery, South Second Street.

Sunday, May 25
 • Dedication and ribbon cutting of the Bug Hill Cottage at 2 p.m. at the Historic Village next to the Civic Center.

Week of May 26
 • The Town has designated the week as Spring Cleanup Week this year. Call Town to have stuff picked up at 526-2118 during business hours, 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Tuesday, May 27
 • Highlands-Cashiers Hospital and AnMed will conduct a blood drive at First Citizens Bank on US 64 East on Tuesday from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m.

Wednesday, May 28
 • Highlands-Cashiers Hospital and AnMed will conduct a blood drive at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital on Wednesday from 9 until 11:30 a.m. and at the Albert Carlton Library on Grouse Point Road in Cashiers from 1-5:30 p.m. on Wednesday afternoon.

Weekend Weather:

FRI	SAT	SUN
		
67-48°F	70-50°F	72-51°F

Search begins for Manager

Though the board decided not to adopt a "Resolution of Intent" concerning changing Highlands' form of government Wednesday night, it did agree to adopt it later and to begin searching for a Town Manager.

As directed at the May 7 Town

Board meeting, Town Attorney Bill Coward presented a "Resolution of Intent" to change the town's form of government with the instruction that once its adopted, the board must schedule a public hearing on the matter within 45

• See MANAGER page 18

Town Board considers budget requests

Results of the budget work session Wednesday night means the town's budget can be finalized and presented next Wednesday night, May 28.

Tending to nonprofit requests took up much of the work session with the board finally agreeing to appropriate \$12,000 more in 2008-2009 than the \$50,000 nonprofit cap initiated in 2000.

This year, five nonprofits requested funding.

The Hudson Library asked for \$120,000 over a three year period beginning with \$40,000 for 2008-2009. The money will be used to finance upcoming renovations in anticipation of The Bascom moving out of the building.

The Highlands Historical Society requested \$4,400 for storm windows, which will ultimately reduce heating costs.

The Highlands Community Child Development Center asked for \$10,000 to resurface its parking lot which was constructed with pervious pavers that have not held up as well as hoped.

The Veterans Memorial of Macon County requested \$25,000 to help fund the monument in Franklin.

The Community Care Clinic requested \$9,445 for computer equipment and software.

Commissioner Amy Patterson opened the discussion defining
 • See BUDGET page 21

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Titans win first place



The traveling Lady Titan champions of the Tiger Tussle tournament played at Rosman, NC this past weekend and placed first. The team won all of its games by an average of 34 points per game. Back row from left: Toni Schmitt (Coach), Brett Lamb (Head Coach), Ellie Parton (Town's Co.), Grace Rogers (Rabun Co.), Marlee McCall (Highlands), Jenna Harris (Hiwassee Dam), Jennifer Warner (Coach). Middle row from left: Rabun Wright (Rabun Co.), Nikki Winn (Town's Co.), Brie Schmitt (Highlands), Stephanie Smart (Highlands), Jennifer Savage (Rabun Co.), Bethany Wright (Rabun Co.). Front row from left: Cole Lamb, Taylor Buras (Highlands). "It has been great to see how girls from four different schools have learned to play together in such a short period of time. They are such a pleasure to coach," said Coach Lamb.

Subdivision ordinance close to adoption by commission

After years of work between the county's Planning Board and the commission, a final draft of the long-awaited Subdivision Ordinance was accepted at the county commission meeting May 12.

Commissioners were reluctant to adopt the ordinance, which has already undergone one public hearing, due to concerns voiced

by property owners.

The purpose of the ordinance is to establish procedures and standards for the development and subdivision of land within Macon County. It is further designed to promote the orderly growth and development for the coordination of roads and high-

• See SUBDIVISION page 13

• THE PLATEAU'S POSITION •

• LETTERS •

Support the Mountain Landscape Initiative (MLI)

Dear Editor,

In response to the letter last week by Norm Roberts I have to ask, does Mr. Roberts ever participate constructively in any effort to make Macon County an even better place to live? All I have ever seen and heard him do in the past 10 years is complain about every effort or proposed regulation that represents some aspect of the common good for most Macon County citizens. His speeches and letters have only one theme - individual property rights should trump government regulation.

Don't get me wrong. Macon County is my home, but I came from the largest city in the United States (Houston, Texas) that still has no zoning or land use planning. I DO understand the importance of individual rights. I also know that my freedom to do whatever I choose STOPS the moment my choices start to impact my neighbors or other citizens in an unwanted way. Cooperative group efforts like the Mountain Landscapes Initiative that openly invite all citizens and stakeholder groups to the table to discuss common concerns are worth the effort and should be supported. Rather than to complain and accuse from afar, wouldn't it be better if Mr. Roberts participate in the process with other interested citizens?

While I am not overly optimistic about the success of voluntary, regional efforts like MLI, I am participating in some of the sessions at WCU because it is important for us to voice our opinions and to contribute our ideas in a constructive way. However, it takes some personal time and effort - more than is required to write a letter to complain about the process. The other thing that appears to be challenging for Mr. Roberts is that in order to be heard, one has to also listen to the other citizens and stakeholder groups that have different ideas for maintaining and improving our mountain region.

In his letter, Mr. Roberts falsely claims that "environmental groups or non-government offices like Land Trust for The Little Tennessee" will be "drafting laws that affect us. What happened to the peoples voice concept?" The implication that the groups named in his letter are

• HAWK'S EYE VIEW •



somehow third party outsiders not comprised of local and regional citizens that support these organizations shows how little he really understands about these groups? Of course. By the way, Mr. Roberts speaks for a special interest group also. And, as stated clearly by MLI Communications Director Ben Brown in response, elected officials, groups, and interested citizens are invited to participate in the public discussions at WCU, Cashiers, and Cowee. MLI's product will be recommendations and planning tools - not laws.

So, my challenge to Mr. Roberts is this. If you are concerned about the outcome of MLI why not participate and be a part of the effort? Any interested citizen can participate. It's an open process called "democracy."

Bob Wright
Highlands and Macon County
• See article on page 17

A salute to Salzarulo who urges action

Dear Editor,

I just wanted to drop you a note and tell you how powerful Dr. Salzarulo's columns have been for the past two issues.

I was so moved by the most recent, that I quoted him in last week's sermon.

The recent natural catastrophies and his article have made me determined to do something to help and hopefully convince my congregation to do the same. We are a tiny congregation — we worship on average between eight and 20 souls on Sunday.

They are mostly retired folks on fixed incomes (few live in Highlands — they drive in from Dillard, Franklin and Cashiers) but I know we can do SOMETHING! Lutheran World Relief is one of the top rated organizations in the world — 100% of donations go to those in need.

I just wanted all to know how marvelous his articles are. Keep 'em coming!

Yours in Christ,
Margaret Howell, Chaplain

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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• OBITUARIES •

William David Wannamaker

William David Wannamaker died on Sunday, May 11, 2008, in the Highland-Cashiers Hospital in Highlands, North Carolina after a long battle with cancer. He passed peacefully with his family at his side.

Bill was born on February 29, 1928, to Herbert Lee and Pauline Taylor Wannamaker of 5 Halsey Street, Charleston, South Carolina. After graduating from Charleston High School, Bill attended the University of Kentucky, where he received a degree in mechanical engineering. While playing football for Coach Paul "Bear" Bryant, he was twice named All-American SEC. The Kentucky Wildcats were the National Champions in 1950, the SEC Champions in 1950, and the Sugar Bowl Champions in 1951. Bill was awarded the honorary distinction of "Kentucky Colonel."

After graduating from college in 1951, Bill enlisted in the United States Air Force with the rank of Second Lieutenant. He was assigned to the West Point Military Academy in West Point, New York, where he coached football with Vince Lombardi. While at West Point, Bill met his future bride, Ann Collette Rauner of Fort Montgomery, New York. Ann and Bill were married in the West Point Chapel on April 25, 1953. Upon the completion of his military service, Bill turned down an offer to play professional football with the New York Giants to accept a job with the General Electric Corporation.



During the course of his 35-year career with General Electric, Bill worked in many of the corporation's divisions and received numerous awards for his innovative contributions to the manufacturing process. Bill finished his tenure with General Electric as the Manager of Manufacturing at the company's Neutron Devices Plant in Largo, Florida, and retired on December 31, 1986.

Upon retirement, Ann and Bill built a home in Tarpon Springs, Florida, where they lived for the next 15 years. Bill remained very active in his retirement: he was an avid gardener, he enjoyed all sports, and he and his wife traveled extensively. Five years ago, Ann and Bill left Florida and built a home in Sapphire, N.C.

Bill leaves behind his wife Ann, of 55 years; their five children: William David, Jr. of San Francisco, California; Andrew Lee of Pendleton, Kentucky; Paul Taylor of Clearwater, Florida; Kelly Wannamaker Brown of Newville, Pennsylvania; and Claire Wannamaker Flowers of Holiday, Florida; and two grandchildren, Ethan Lee Wannamaker and Annie Katherine Wannamaker.

A memorial Mass will be held on June 2, 2008 at 11 a.m. at St. Jude's Church in Sapphire Valley, North Carolina. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to St. Jude's Church.

Bryant-Grant Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Margaret Bowdon Verdin

Mrs. Margaret Bowdon Verdin, 84, of Highlands, NC and Lyon Mt., New York, died on May 15, 2008 in the Fidelia Eckerd Living Center, Highlands, NC.

Born on October 4, 1923 in Alexandria, LA, the former Margaret Louise Bowdon was a graduate of Bolton High School and earned her BS degree in dietetics from Louisiana State University. On August 28, 1948, she married the Rev. Douglas F. Verdin of Dobbs Ferry, NY in the First United Methodist Church of Alexandria. An active and life-long member of the United Methodist Church, Mrs. Verdin devoted her life to numerous church and community activities, while her husband served churches in Edenville, Hartsdale and Rockville Centre, NY and in Westport, Simsbury and Rowayton, CT.

Mrs. Verdin was the daughter of former Mayor of Alexandria, William George Bowdon, and Mary Louise Bowdon. She was predeceased by her husband in 1998, her youngest daughter, Elizabeth Verdin Slocumb in 1993 and by her brothers, former Mayor of Alexandria, William George Bow-



don Jr. and Thomas James Bowdon.

Mrs. Verdin is survived by her children, Douglas F. Verdin Jr. of Gaithersburg, MD and Kathryn Verdin Henning of Rabun Gap, GA; five grandchildren, Eric Bowdon Henning of Newport, RI, Brian Frederick Henning of Syracuse, NY, Kristin Margaret Henning of Rabun Gap, GA, Joshua Robert Slocumb of Gaithersburg, MD and Colin Slocumb of Clarksburg, MD; two great-grand children, Taylor Bowdon Henning and Sydney Jane Henning, two cousins; Dr. Henry Middleton of Arcadia, LA and Rev. Henry Bowdon of

Lake Charles, LA and a sister-in-law, Marelda Bowdon of Shreveport, LA.

A Memorial service will be held on Sunday, June 8 at 11:30 a.m. in the Lyon Mountain United Methodist Church. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to the Lyon Mt. United Methodist Church, Lyon Mt, NY 12952 or The Alzheimer's Foundation of America. The Bryant-Grant Funeral Home in Franklin, NC is in charge of arrangements.

• See OBITUARIES page 5

Neige
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• **LAUGHING AT LIFE** •

The Blubber Car

This brilliant idea came from a fellow Highlander who just might be more of a sick puppy than I am.

As disgusting as this might seem, I want you to follow along and obey my commands. Honest, it isn't going to hurt but it might be a little scary.

Wait until dark and then stand in front of a full length mirror with your clothes on. Make sure the lights are on bright so you can see how attractive you look in your outfit. Then have an assistant turn off the lights. While in the dark, strip down to your birthday suit and say "go." That's the prearranged signal to turn the lights back on.

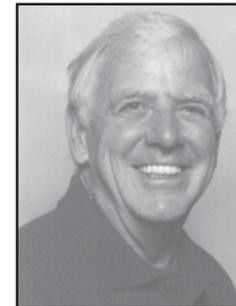
Is that horrible or what? Now turn sideways and look again. Is that even more horrible? No sucking in the tummy or throwing out the chest. Now have your assistant give you a hand mirror and turn your back to the full length mirror and have a look at your giant tush and elephant legs. Now shake your body and watch how the blubber moves from side to side. **YUCK!**

Don't become depressed. Even though you are sinfully disgusting, there are others out there worse than you. Do this! Go to the mall and park your oversized butt on a bench and people-watch. In less time than it takes to eat a large Hershey Bar, someone will pass by who is fatter than you. There, don't you feel better?

We have all been told that the good ole U.S. is the most obese nation in the world. For fat folks, there's kind of a subtle warm feeling in knowing that. I guess misery does love company. Imagine how bad you would feel if you were the only fat toad in your town.

Anyway, fret not, slobs of America, help is on the way. Scientists are working overtime on a project that converts body fat to combustible fuel. The Arabs and personal trainers are sweating bullets.

Here's how it works. You swing by the new experimental "Lipo. Lab." and tell the attendant how much fat you would like to have sucked from your body using standard liposuction methods. As much as you might be tempted, be careful not to overdo it. Now here's the best part. The lab pays



Fred Wooldridge

• **Feedback is encouraged!**
email:

askfredanything@aol.com

you for your fat so you walk out of the place looking pretty skinny with money in your pocket.

You rush out and eat an entire chocolate cake to celebrate your new look. In less than a month, you will be ready to be sucked again and the process repeats itself. The money you receive from the body fat can be used to buy combo meals at MacDonald's, etc.

What does "Lipo. Lab" do with the millions of pounds of body fat sucked out each day? They convert it to combustible fuel. The fat is placed into giant emulsifiers and when the switch is thrown, the emulsifiers place the blubber under intense heat and pressure, similar to what the dinosaurs had to endure after they died and were turned into oil. Body fat + heat + pressure mean more chocolate cake for you.

Actually, we can have our cake and drive it later. Restaurant menus will not only give us the price of each item, it will tell us how many miles we can drive per serving. This will encourage everyone to eat only the fat laden foods. What more could we fat, lazy Americans ask for? Once the system is in place and "Lipo. Lab." stations are on every block, gasoline prices will plummet.

People will drive the new Blubber Car with fill-up stations offering the new fuel. They will also offer discounts on fat foods we can eat while the attendant fills your tank with fuel that could be the fat sucked from your legs last week.

The opportunities are endless. I'm getting excited! At death, not only will people donate their organs to science, they will donate their fat cells to "Lipo. Lab." with the proceeds going to their favorite charity, like MacDonald House.

Currently I'm doing the math. If one Big Mac gives me 25 miles of fuel, how many burgers do I have to eat to get from Florida to Highlands this spring? Hmmm, I think it comes out to be 28 of those babies. I better get started.

• *Does Fred eat quiche? To find out, read his book, I'm Moving back to the Mars*

• THE VIEW FROM HERE •

Where have all the leaders gone?

I think it is pretty apparent that I support Senator Obama for the presidency. I'm not asking you to follow my lead. My declared preference doesn't amount to an "endorsement." I don't have nearly enough influence to endorse anyone. I just think it is time for a change, and more importantly, time for change. They are not the same.

My brother once told me that every few years we, the American voters, should throw out one set of bums and replace them with another set of bums. His belief that it was important to dislodge elected officials before they became too firmly attached to the federal nipple. He also believed that the federal ship should stay somewhere close to the middle of the river, avoiding veering sharply either to the right or the left. I don't think he ever envisioned the ship of state being stuck in the ice of partisan bickering, greed, self interest, and powerful lobbies. That is why I think it is time not just for a change, but for change.

I hope that Senator Obama is up to the task, the job of bringing the American people, and more importantly our elected decision makers, together in the quest to battle the pressing problems of our time. We must deal with the threat of Islamic radicalism with more than American flag lapel pins and a mighty military. We must recognize the threat to our society of dependence on fossil fuels in general and imported fossil fuel in particular. Until someone other than oil companies disputes the existence of global climate change, we must assume that it is real and act to protect our planet.

The rich nations of the earth must act together to improve conditions in the poor nations. We must deal with health, poverty, malnutrition, and illiteracy both at home and abroad. Add environmental protection and job creation and you've assembled a pretty daunting list, one which you may choose to expand or reduce. Our plate is so full that I don't see how we can squeeze in constitutional amendments to protect the flag or define marriage, which is pretty much the position I took on Brussels sprouts as a kid.

While Senator Obama has inspired people around the country, law makers are unmoved. The same pep talk that motivates a high school basketball team bores an NBA team of crusty veterans. Legislators must understand that it is in their self interest to deal with the



Dr. Henry Salzarulo

Feedback is encouraged.
email:

hsalzarulo@aol.com

nation's interests. They must believe that if they don't get on board, they might just be forced out of Washington, DC and back to Nebraska. I think that Obama is the only guy with even a chance to accomplish that almost impossible task.

Can he mobilize the population to lead our leaders? Some days I think he is a leader who can do exactly that. Other days I'm not so sure. When Obama tries to show he's tough, that he can stand toe to toe and

be as nasty and petty as his opponents, I get pretty dispirited. At those times he seems so much like a politician, which I keep trying to forget he is. Recently he has been warning of a third Bush term and I want to shout, "Senator, our Constitution limits a person to two terms. You know that. Play fair. We distrust politicians in this country, but we are starved for leadership."

• OBITUARIES •

Charles Michael (Mike) Baty

Charles Michael (Mike) Baty, 67, of Miami, FL, and Highlands, N.C., died on Sunday, May 18 of cancer.

He is survived by his wife, Lyla, of 47 years and his children, Krystal (Darrel) Perdomo of Margate, FL, Jewell (Stefano) Fanfani, and Charles Michael Baty Jr., of Miami, FL, Bryan & Brad Baty of Orlando, FL and his beloved granddaughters Cristina & Fabiana Fanfani of Miami and Valentina Fanfani of San Francisco, CA; his mother, Esther Baty; sister, Shirley Brockway; sister-in-laws, Melindo (Woodrow) Wilson, Marie Reese of Highlands, N.C.; and sister-in-law Dorothy Snodgrass of Omaha, NE; as well as nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his father Roliver Baty.

He worked in electronics and enjoyed Nascar racing and football (Dolphins and Hurricanes) with his sons.

A memorial service was held Thursday, May 22 at Van Orsdel Funeral Home in Florida at 7 p.m.

Burial will be in Highlands, N.C., around July 4. Donations may be made to the University of Miami, Sylvster Cancer Center, P.O. Box 016960 (M867), Miami, FL 33136.

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Saturday: 9am-Brunch; 11am-Lunch; 4:30-Dinner
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• REFLECTIONS FROM TURTLE POND •

Last Child in the Woods

Last weekend I attended the dedication of the Highlands Plateau as an important bird area by the Audubon Society. It was a wonderful event, but as I looked around at the attendees I had the same thought I have had many times in the last couple of years while attending environmental events: Where are the young people?



Katie Brugger
k-brugger@hotmail.com

In the group of 40-50 people, there was only one or two under 40. I spoke with Karen Fernandez, director of development with Audubon North Carolina, and she told me that this was a growing concern nationwide. Karen brought up the book *Last Child in the Woods: Saving our Children from Nature-deficit Disorder*, by Richard Louv [155.4L], which I wrote about earlier this year.

Mr. Louv wrote this book because he was concerned that modern children spend almost no time outdoors. "I interviewed nearly 3,000 children and parents across the country...I often think of a wonderfully honest comment made by Paul, a fourth-grader in San Diego: 'I like to play indoors because that's where all the electric outlets are.'"

One reason children don't play outside anymore is fear — fear of abductions (the numbers of which are greatly exaggerated) and fear of accidents, liability issues, etc.

Families are spending less time going to parks. Surprisingly, attendance has been dropping at some of the biggest national parks in the West. Yosemite visitor numbers are down 16% since 1996, and attendance at Carlsbad Caverns has dropped by nearly half since the late 1980s.

Louv catalogues many of the consequences of this lack of time spent in nature. First, outdoor activities are good for our health, both physical and mental. "Based on previous studies, we can definitely say that the best predictor of preschool children's physical activity is simply being outdoors, and that an indoor, sedentary childhood is linked to mental-health problems," says James Sallis, director of the Active Living Research Program for the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

In addition, research has shown

that time spent in nature can help with Attention Deficit Disorder. Louv theorizes that "If it's true that nature therapy reduces the symptoms of ADHD, then the converse may also be true: ADHD may be a set of symptoms aggravated by lack of exposure to nature. By this line of thinking, many children may benefit from medications, but the

real disorder is less in the child than it is in the imposed, artificial environment. Viewed from this angle, the society that has disengaged the child from nature is most certainly disordered, if well-meaning. To take nature and natural play away from children may be tantamount to withholding oxygen."

Second, children spending less time outdoors could have a profound impact on the future of environmentalism and on the future numbers of naturalists: Thomas Tanner, professor of environmental studies at Iowa State University conducted a survey in 1978 of



environmentalists, asking what had led them to activism. "Far and away the most frequently cited influence was childhood experience of natural, rural, or other relatively pristine habitats," said Tanner. Louv commented, "Since then studies of environmental activists from Kentucky to Norway indi-

cate that childhood experiences are important for later environmental activism." (For more on this, see Culture Artist on page 16.)

When my family was visiting last fall I was thrilled to find out my five-year-old niece was fascinated with spiders. My computer's wallpaper at the time was a photograph I had taken of a crab spider on an Angelica flower and she excitedly requested a printout. Her birthday came along soon after I read this book and I was motivated to buy her a present that would support her interest in bugs. (Child's microscope and bug viewer from the Discovery Store website.)

If you have children, or your grandkids are going to visit this summer, the Highlands Nature Center has wonderful programs. There are free short programs like "Nature Show and Tell" and "Featured Creature," and day camps for

See BRUGGER on page 38

• CONSERVATIVE POV •

Culture shock indeed

The Mrs. and I made our annual pilgrimage to Washington DC recently and it was interesting to say the least. We drove because I wanted to stop in Blacksburg, VA on the way back since the #1 Miami Hurricanes were playing VA Tech over the weekend. We stayed at a nice hotel in rural VA, paid under \$100 for a real good room. The wireless internet worked well, the TV had a great range of channels and the beds were fine. An all around a satisfactory experience.

We prepared for the culture shock ahead.

For the life of me, I can't explain it, but I insist on making a wrong turn going into DC, which I did, as usual. It propelled us into a vortex of confusion and unscheduled sightseeing, circling the city center. Thank God for the Washington Monument or we would still be exploring Georgetown, viewing the Pentagon from every angle and crossing the Potomac every six minutes.

Ultimately, we arrived at the Hyatt Regency Capitol Hill and I found myself face to face with the dreaded culture shock. The face was that of a very young man who was obviously Other-American. My suspicions were confirmed when he tried in vain to converse with me. Now, I've got all sorts of failing organs, but my ears are just fine, quite large and they stick out for maximum efficiency. I could not figure out what this fellow was talking about. I wish I hadn't sought out his boss for clarification since he informed I could use valet parking for \$41 per day. I asked what my options were and he just smiled and shrugged.

Our room was OK (not as nice as the previous night's) and it had certain extras not mentioned on their website. Our 5th floor room faced the street and looked down on a very active taxi stand, which created a constant symphony of horns honking and cabbies hollering. Another bonus was the world's busiest fire station directly across the street, and I mean directly. About every 15 minutes, engines would leave the house with sirens blaring to warn the cabbies to get out of the way or perish.

The conference we were attending was really well done. The speakers included Sen. Sam Brownback and Con. Roy Blunt, both of whom are men of sterling character and excellent



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

speakers. There were many more speakers on various current topics but my favorite was former Cong. Bob McEwen. He explained a principal that should be very apparent, but we don't think of it in these terms.

If we earn \$100 and have total discretion over spending it, we have total freedom.

We probably like the feeling so much we work extra hard because we would

have the chance to become wealthy. But reality sets in, and we understand that government needs to be funded, so let's say we pay a total of 25% of our income in taxes, leaving us 75% of what we earn to pay our bills and enjoy life. That seems OK, so we still work hard so that we are free to live comfortably.

Well, we didn't quite make it to reality. Depending how much we make, where we live and other circumstances of our life, the fact is we pay between 40%-60% of what we earn in taxes; Federal income, State income, some pay local income, property tax, sales tax, imbedded excise taxes, etc. As a result, we are much less free to live our lives as we would like, because governments have our money to spend and every penny they spend diminishes our freedom.

Some people are willing to give up their freedom for some of the things the collective "government" feels the need to provide. Others think they can fend for themselves, but have no choice than to pay their taxes or go to jail. Those that do the work pay for those who won't, and the incentive for them to "bust it" diminishes with each percentage point their taxes increase, and their freedom is diminished along with it.

While we're not there quite yet, if the upcoming election goes strongly Democrat,

many will be looking at paying 75% of their earnings in taxes. The strongest will find a way around it, perhaps moving offshore. They will strive for freedom, and find it, one way or the other. Many others will throw in the towel and coast as most in "Old Europe" do now.

Eventually, if taxation goes to 100%, the condition of the people is known as slavery. The government makes all your decisions and you work for them.

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• HIS & HERS •

King George wears a black robe

The critical question in the 4-3 decision of the California Supreme Court to require homosexual marriages in that state is not whether that is a better policy. It is, who should decide that question? The majority said that this was a "good" policy, and they would therefore require it. The minority said that the court had no business making that decision.



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

Back up a little bit. Like almost all states, California had a statute which defined marriage as involving "one man and one woman." Not two men. Not one man and four women. Not a man, a woman, and a sheep dog. Just one man and one woman. There was no doubt that the people of California approved of that law, because they passed it in a referendum in 2000 with an approval rate of 61.4%

This is not to suggest that states without the referendum (half of them) less express the will of their citizens when their elected representatives pass such laws on their behalf. Legislators, after all, face the voters in elections. And if the voters are really unhappy with what their legislators have done, they can summarily retire them from public office.

Back up a little more. What were we taught in civics class in the 10th or 11th grade? The government of the United States has three branches: legislative, executive and judicial. Each have specific purposes. None are supposed to steal ("usurp" was the old-fashioned word) the functions of the other two. And each had "checks and balances" against the others in case the others got out of line.

What was the function of the legislative branch? Let's not always see the same hands. Yes, Sally? "The function of Congress is to write the laws on behalf of the people." Very good. Now if you live in California, what is the function of its legislature? "California's legislature writes the laws for the people of California." Good, Sally.

What is the function of the judicial branch? Yes, Johnny? "The judges are supposed to enforce the laws when people break them." That's part of the answer. The other part is what's called the "civil" law. To provide damages for citizens who've been harmed by other citizens.

Back up a lot. Why does the United States of America exist in the first place? Yes, Tommy Jefferson? "King George of England was a tyrant. But government derives its just powers from the consent of the governed. I wrote that in my copy

book." Very good, Tommy. Save that. You might have a use for those words in 1776.

Why do federal judges and most state judges not face elections? This one is a toughie. Yes, Jimmy Madison? "Judges are appointed for life and don't face elections so they will have the independence to decide each case as it requires. But

judges should never inject their personal opinions into their decisions." Good, Jimmy.

Tommy, no need to be so vigorous in waving your hand. I see you. Go ahead. "The federal judges are the most dangerous branch because when they seize power that belongs to the other branches, they will never give it up." Tommy, your logical abilities are far beyond the average 12-year-old. Hold that thought. There's going to be a United States of America some day, and in a couple centuries, the citizens may need to consider what you just said.

No state has passed a statute permitting homosexual marriages. Two states, Massachusetts and California, now have that provision because a one-judge majority on their highest courts, forced the issue and rewrote the laws. So far, the Massachusetts legislature has prevented a citizen petition to restore its marital law from going on the ballot. In California, such a petition will go on its ballot this fall, to write the subject into the California Constitution and put it beyond the reach of its Supreme Court.

Some might think it trivial to reduce such an important subject to a teacher in a class of 12-year-olds. But the subject really is so simple that a young child can understand it. It only becomes complicated when sophists get a hold of it, whether they are lawyers who disrespect the Constitution and the will of the people, or worse, lawyers in black robes who sit on the bench and disrespect the Constitution and the people.

Read what the Declaration of Independence says about the abuses from King George III. Ask yourself whether we are any better off if the same type of abuses are caused by American judges who wear black robes and carry gavels rather than crowns. I say we're back to square one. What do you say, Tommy? Jimmy?

• About the Author: John Armor has spent almost 40 years working with all branches of the federal government, plus state and local officials. He lives and works on a mountaintop in Highlands, NC. John_Armor@aya.yale.edu



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• FROM MY PERSPECTIVE •

Town doings

During recent Public Works committee meetings and Town board meetings, there has been discussion about adding trees to the downtown Main Street area between 3rd and 5th streets. This could add considerable beauty to the downtown area and could be done without sacrificing any parking spaces down the middle of Main Street. Commissioner Hank Ross suggested this possibility and I wholeheartedly agreed with his proposal. Parking is precious on Main Street and any way to improve both appearance and preserve parking would increase the beauty of our already great town. However, we certainly welcome comments from the public on the possibility of making this happen. The ordinance creating a bird



Mayor Don Mullen

sanctuary in Highlands probably set a record for speed of creation. Within three weeks after it was proposed to the board by Dr. Doug Landwehr of the Audubon Society it was written and approved by the Town board unanimously. It shall henceforth be unlawful for any person to hunt, kill, trap or otherwise take any protected birds within the

town limits except pursuant to a permit issued by the North Carolina Resources Commission. However, it is lawful to take any birds classified as pests under the NC Pest Control Act of 1955 or the NC Pesticide Law of 1971. The penalty for violation of this ordinance will be \$100.

We were happy to work with the Audubon Society to make this happen. I might add that we encourage all residents

• See MULLEN page 38

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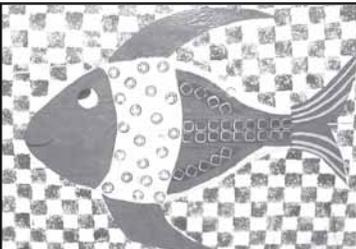
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• COOKING ON THE PLATEAU •

Memorial Day Flavors

Showcase the flavors of summer with this centerpiece on a dessert buffet. Red, White & Blueberry Torte is a patriotic treat bursting with chocolate morsels: The cake-like bottom is layered with a fluffy cream cheese and whipped topping mixture and decorated with colorful seasonal fruit. Blueberries and strawberries on the field of white make a festive statement for Memorial Day.

• Sweet temptations and inspired summer dessert ideas can be found at www.VeryBestBaking.com.

Red, White & Blueberry Torte

Makes 8 to 10 servings

3/4 cup granulated sugar
6 tablespoons butter or margarine
1 tablespoon water
1 1/2 cups (9-ounces) Nestlé Toll House Semi-Sweet Chocolate

Morsels, divided

1 teaspoon vanilla extract, *divided*
2 large eggs
2/3 cup all-purpose flour
1/4 teaspoon baking soda
1/4 teaspoon salt

1 package (8 ounces) cream cheese, room temperature

2 tablespoons granulated sugar

1/2 of an 8-ounce container frozen

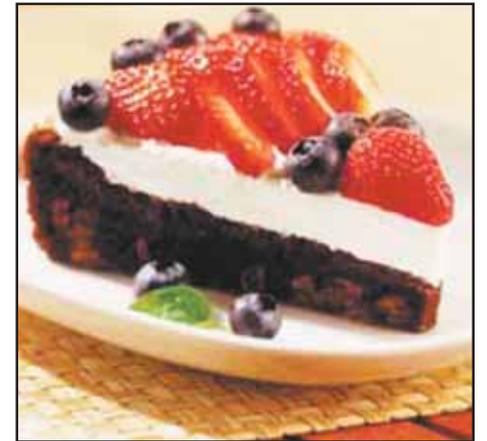
light whipped topping, thawed

2 cups sliced strawberries

1/4 cup fresh blueberries

PREHEAT oven to 350° F. Line 9-inch-round cake pan with wax paper; grease paper.

COMBINE 3/4 cup sugar, butter and water in small, *heavy-duty* saucepan. Bring to a boil, stirring constantly; remove from heat. Add 3/4 cup morsels; stir until smooth. Stir in 1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract. Add eggs, one at a time, stirring well after each



addition. Add flour, baking soda and salt; stir until well blended. Stir in *remaining* 3/4 cup morsels. Pour into prepared cake pan.

BAKE for 20 to 25 minutes or until wooden pick inserted in center comes out slightly sticky.

Cool in pan for 15 minutes. Invert torte onto wire rack; remove wax paper. Turn right side up; cool completely. BEAT cream cheese, 2 tablespoons sugar and *remaining* 1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract in small mixer bowl until creamy. Stir in whipped topping. Spread over torte; top with berries. Refrigerate until ready to serve.

Grilled Onion Cheeseburgers

Total preparation and cooking time: 35 to 45 minutes

2 pounds ground beef
2 tablespoons chopped fresh thyme
1 tablespoon minced garlic
2 large yellow or white onions, cut

into

1/2-inch thick slices

1 to 2 tablespoons vegetable or olive

oil

Salt and pepper to taste

4 white or whole wheat hamburger buns, or Kaiser rolls, split

3 ounces crumbled or shredded cheese (such as blue cheese, smoked mozzarella, goat cheese, feta)

Combine ground beef, thyme and garlic in medium bowl, mixing lightly but thoroughly. Lightly shape into eight 1/2-inch thick patties. Brush both sides of onion slices with oil.

Place patties and onion slices on grid over medium, ash-covered coals. Grill patties, uncovered, 11 to 13 minutes to medium (160° F) doneness until no longer pink in center and juices show no pink



color, turning occasionally. Grill onions 15 to 20 minutes or until tender, turning occasionally and brushing with oil. Season patties with salt and pepper, as desired.

Top burgers with desired cheese about 1 minute before removing from grill.

Place cheese-topped burgers on bottom of each bun and top with 1/2 of grilled onions. Close sandwiches. Makes 4 servings.

Cook's Tip: Any type of sliced cheese may also be used to top burgers, including Cheddar, Swiss, provolone or Gouda.

• ANOTHER POV •

An economy crisis?

There is no problem in the economy. What we've heard isn't as serious as they lead us to believe.

To my point, since 2001 college education costs have risen just over 60 percent. The cost of family health insurance is only up 78 percent. Gas has risen a 107 percent but the median household income, adjusted for inflation, has declined only \$962.

Yes, two million Americans may be at risk of foreclosure as their home loans adjust to higher rates, far beyond their ability to pay. But isn't that really a personal issue?

CompUSA and Starbucks are both closing 100 of their stores, but on the plus side CompUSA it will keep 121 open, and we don't really care about Starbucks because we have Bucks. On a larger scale the national budget has moved from a surplus to a debt of over \$3 trillion, and some would think that is a problem. Although it took 42 presidents 224 years to run up a trillion dollars of foreign debt, this doubling of the debt is possibly more a function of timing than mismanagement.

I ask you, what's the big deal?

Well, I think the "deal" is big and may be getting bigger.

The Fed keeps lowering rates and pretty soon will be giving money away, the stock market doesn't know where to go, the dollar is sinking, and 241 mortgage lenders in this country have gone out of business, quit doing mortgages or are "seriously gasping for air." Since we have lost so many manufacturing companies to the overseas markets real estate (along with construction) is one of, if not the leading driver of the American economy, so the loss of so many mortgage companies is a serious cause for concern.

Locally the real estate market is struggling to reach 50% of the sales volume of the same time last year. I know of retailers making layoffs, B&Bs that are not full when they were last year, and retailers that are "major dollars" lower in sales today than the same point last year. Although I don't have real numbers for this, but just looking around town there seems to be a real decrease in the number of people in town these days. Is it the price of fuel, or just the lack of spending capital that is keeping people home?

Some aren't hurting for spending capital, enter Exxon and Mr. Angelo Mozilo. Mozilo, the CEO of the failed Countrywide Financial and the reported



Matthew G. Eberz
Feedback is encouraged!
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architect of the sub-prime mortgage fiasco, personally made over 200 million dollars over the past two years. He sold \$127 million in his company stock just before his company foreclosed on 90,000 mortgages, laid off 11,400 employees, reported a loss of \$704 million, and showed its first annual loss in 30 years.

Bank of America has since purchased Countrywide and Mozilo will get \$77.5 million buy out. Exxon made more money last

year than any company in history and received equally record tax breaks. There is something seriously wrong with the system when a company can lose hundreds of millions while the executives get rewarded with mega buyouts, and oil companies get tax breaks while profits soar.

I was in line the other day at the gas pump waiting my turn when in front of me was this large pickup truck with the name of a small, local construction company on the side. This very large "manly looking man" was standing in front of the pump, wallet in hand just staring at the final cost of the fill up. The pump had long since stopped filling and he was just looking; he looked at the price, then his wallet, then the price again. There was such a look of despair on his face that I thought this giant of a man was going to cry. As he walked by me after paying his bill there was an obvious lack energy in his step.

Amidst the downturn in the economy and the obvious adverse affect on the local economy and our businesses, one would expect there would be a commensurate decrease in generosity in their contributions to the needy.

But here in Highlands there is strange behavior occurring. Lakeside Restaurant for example is offering portions of one night's revenue each week to a local charity, Oak Street Café is offering the same to the Highlands Playhouse, the Laurel Magazine and Highlands' Newspaper gives free advertising to local charities, Gates Nursery and other local merchants gave proceeds from Mother's Day and Easter flower sales to causes, a church gave the revenue from a concert, the Rotary sponsored Internet reading instruction, sponsors are signing up for the Literacy Gala in August, the Humane Society fundraiser, and I haven't even mentioned ...on the Veranda, Fressers, Blackberry Hill and the rest of businesses and citizens that have opened their wallets without pause.

•See ANOTHER POV page 14

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• GARDENING ON THE PLATEAU •

The Perfect Plant for Sun and Shade

By **Carla Gates**
Gates Nursery

When it comes to finding the perfect plants for your gardening needs, it's not always a breeze. The amazing summer climate that Highlands offers also presents another problem when it comes time for planting annuals. What will bloom all summer long with very little sunlight? That is the million dollar question! Partial sun and shade... we have a lot of it here in Highlands. But not to worry, we have your solution.

While we have the ever popular impatiens, not everyone is satisfied with this shade-loving annual. My suggestion for partial shade to full sun is the even more popular begonia. Originating in China, India, South Africa and South America, the begonia has over 1,500 species throughout the world. Most people are familiar with the wax begonia used for bedding plants in landscapes. Hardy and continuous blooming throughout the summer, these begonias are not restricted to partial shade...they can tolerate full sun as well.

Wax begonias with bronze foliage do better in the sun than the green leaf variety. They withstand drought and heat better than the other varieties of begonias. They do prefer moist, well drained fertile soil. The wax begonia grows between 8 and 18 inches tall and wide. Red, pink and white are the colors offered by this variety.

The tuberous rigor begonia is my personal favorite. While gardeners are fascinated by the new varieties and forms, the classics have graced porches and gardens for years. Resembling a small rose, the double bloom rigor is a showstopper perfect for window boxes, containers, hanging baskets and garden beds and can grow up to 2 feet tall and wide. Available in many different colors, this is truly an amazing landscape plant. Requiring only dappled sunlight but also withstanding morning or afternoon sun, this is by far our best selling annual. Pair these beauties with ivy, ferns, and a shade loving caladium and you have the perfect partial sun/shade collection. Make sure not to over water these begonias. Keeping them slightly moist and well fertilized will keep them happy until our first frost and keep your garden or containers looking picture perfect! The begonia family by no means stops here. Visit us to see Southern Living's 2003 Annual of the Year, the Dragon Wing Begonia.

Taking intense heat and sun, these begonias are drought resistant (to a point) and require very little maintenance. Jim Tate of Tate Landscaping chooses these begonias year after year for the planters in downtown Highlands for just this reason. Whether you have several hours of sun a day or the slightest bit, we have a begonia for you!



Rigor Begonias

... SUBDIVISION continued from page 1

ways and other public facilities. It is also designed to provide the county and local government agencies and officials with information regarding land development taking place in the county.

At Monday night's meeting, County Planner Stacy Guffey said time constraints have been altered in the current ordinance and common questions have been answered.

"The questions with answers and ex-

amples have actually been incorporated into the ordinance as you requested," said County Attorney Lesley Moxley.

Four common questions plagued the finality of the ordinance.

• Will the ordinance allow me to give land to my children?

The answer: Yes. Under N. C. law, the transfer of land will not be covered by the subdivision regulations as long as it is a gift, not a sale, and it is not being given for de-

velopment. Also, when the gift is made, it should not involve dedicating a new street or changing an existing street.

In other words, you can give land to whomever you wish, whether it is a family member or not, under the above circumstances, without having to get approval from the county.

• What does the ordinance say about me breaking off one lot from my land and selling it to someone in my family?

The answer: The ordinance will apply

to the sale of a parcel, tract or lot smaller than 10 acres. It allows you to sell off one parcel from your land in a given year. This is called an "incidental subdivision" under the ordinance.

In other words, let's say you have 15 acres and you want to sell a 4-acre parcel to your daughter. The sale of the 4-acre parcel will be tracked for a year. You will be able to sell another lot out of your original 15 acres one year later without getting

• See SUBDIVISION page 17

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• VIDEO GUY •

Death at a Funeral

The 2007 dark, dark British comedy, starring Matthew Macfadyen (Enigma), Keeley Hawes, Andy Nyman, Ewen Bremner (Snatch, Scorpion King) Daisy Donovan (Millions), and the incredibly versatile Peter Dinklage (Underdog, 13 Moons, Tip Toes). Written by Dean Craig (Snatch, Pearl Harbor and directed by the brilliant Frank Oz (Little Shop of Horrors, In & Out, Dirty Rotten Scoundrels, The Score). Rated R for language and some thematic elements.



Stuart Armor

said all that, there are some very clever and some surprisingly redeeming moments, and the bulk of the cast is best known in British cinema for doing more dramatic pieces. But Frank Oz, one of my favorite directors is not known for that at all, with him it's all about the ridiculously sublime.

The Storyline: Daniel and Robert have had a hard day. Their father has just died, and the family is having a tough time with the funeral, but things are about to go from bad to much, much worse. We all know how things happen at large family events, a little sibling rivalry, a few cross generational misunderstandings, a mis-delivered casket, misplaced hallucinogenics illicit affairs with dwarfs, a few more bodies than are usually found at a funeral, regular things that pop up in all families, don't you know.

OK, this is not a story for highlighting the finer points of human nature, but for those who appreciate the more comics elements about dysfunction, this is a winner. No question that some of the humor (OK, most of the humor) is a bit sophomoric, but the ensemble cast works flawlessly, leaving no cheap laugh undone, no pratfall unfelled (unfallen?), and more than a little slapstick. Having

For those who embrace the Dark Side (of comedy, any way) some more in this vein are Drowning Mona, Nurse Betsy, Novocain, Very Annie Mary, and Bubba Ho Tep, and of course, Frank Oz's own musical/romantic/space alien/comic/horror/classic, Little Shop Of Horrors. These and about 5000 other titles are available at Movie Stop Video, stop on by and take a look.

... ANOTHER POV
continued from page 11

Their generosity seems very inconsistent with such difficult times — or is it? So what are we going to do about the state of the economy? I say change it with your vote this election and hope the rest of the country does the same. What are we going to do about the people of Highlands? I say we thank them with a loud voice and hope the rest of the country is listening. This country is facing an economic crisis. Next week I will express Another POV.

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• COACH'S CORNER •

Spygate: Are we done yet?

While the 2008 Democratic primary has obtained the official title of "longest and most drawn out and overexposed story in recent media history," the sports world has seen the so-called "Spygate" controversy linger like a waiter at a Mexican restaurant. (More chips?)



Ryan Potts
tryanpotts@hotmail.com

Quick recap for those of you that are living like Eric Rudolph and just happened to pick up this paper whilst unwrapping fish.

The New England Patriots taped other teams signals during games (illegal) and then lied about doing it. The Patriots were caught and fined by the NFL and penalized their first round draft pick in this year's NFL draft. This normally, while newsworthy, would be a mere ripple on the radar, except that the Patriots have won three Super Bowls in recent years and have the reputation for being more intelligent than their opponents. The taping controversy has brought about questions as to the extent of the advantage gained by the Patriots illegal taping practices.

One of the reasons that this story has gained so much traction is due to the involvement of Pennsylvania senator Arlen Specter, who has taken a primary role in the controversy. Senator Specter, an Eagles fan, has expressed concern that the Patriot's tactics gave them an unfair advantage during the NFL Playoffs and perhaps even the Super Bowl.

Also concerning Senator Specter is the somewhat lackadaisical manner in which NFL commissioner Roger Goodell has handled the controversy. Goodell destroyed the tapes in question after they were handed over to the NFL, which raises doubts about the content of the tapes and how much that the Patriots could have benefitted from them.

The person who actually filmed the games for the Patriots, Matt Walsh, was interviewed by the commissioner and the commissioner claimed that there was no new evidence to support anything beyond the original punishment. Goodell claims that Spygate is now over, and that the NFL needs to put it behind them. Many observers disagree, particularly due to the reaction of Patriots coach Bill Belichick.

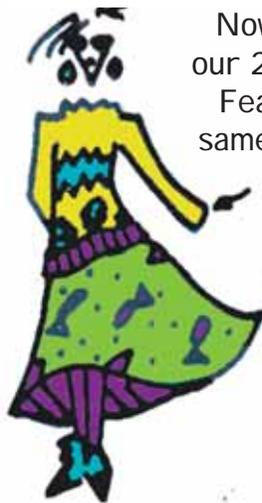
Belichick's reputation has taken the biggest hit due to this controversy. An eminently unlikeable man to begin with, Belichick has come full circle during the past ten years. In Cleveland he was fired for being cold, calculating and inaccessible-in addition to his poor record. In New England he was able to turn things around and build a dynasty and re-introduce himself to the

league as a super genius. Now the Spygate controversy has confirmed early reports of Belichick's personality and motivation. Belichick has been relatively unapologetic for his role in taping games, and has thrown Matt Walsh under the bus to the media, claiming that he was fired for incompetence and questioning his integrity. Of all of the shady characters in this steaming pile of cow flop, Belichick has been the one who has drawn the most disgust from both journalists and fans alike.

We can only hope that this long, drawn out mess will be over soon (I'm referring to Spygate, not this column) and we can get back to the normal gambling, strip clubs and baby mommas that are prevalent in the normal NFL off-season.

I also hope that the commissioner of the NFL will in the future be more forthcoming with evidence rather than trying to sweep things under the proverbial rug. With the tremendous popularity of the NFL in America and abroad, it is better to bite the bullet and offer everything than run the risk of another lengthy scandal that will tarnish the sports' reputation any further.

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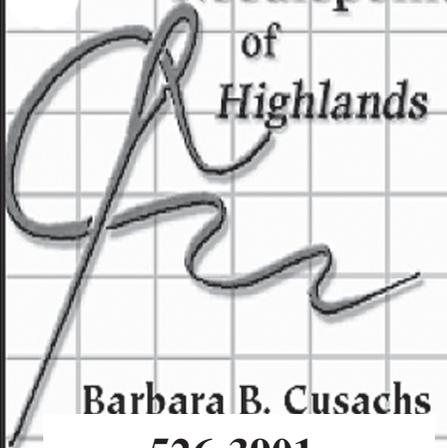
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• CULTURE ARTIST •

Nature Deficit Disorder

By Chuck Hall

If you grew up in a rural environment like I did, you probably remember the joys of playing in the woods. Building forts, taking hikes or collecting plants not only allows children an opportunity for fresh air, it also stimulates their imagination and curiosity. But as video games and television become more important in the lives of our children, they have less and less time to spend in nature.

Author Richard Louv thinks that our children are suffering from Nature Deficit Disorder. In Louv's book, *Last Child in the Woods: Saving Our Children from Nature Deficit Disorder* (2005, Algonquin Books), he argues that kids are so plugged into television and video games that they've lost their connection to the natural world. Louv believes that the hunter/gatherer is still very much a part of our collective psyche, and that people need nature in order to develop fully as human beings.

While video games and television may have some educational purposes, they do not allow for full use of the senses. The sights, sounds, smells and textures of the woods allow children to experience the world in ways that video games cannot. There is a growing body of evidence that children with Sensory Processing Disorder (SPD), a disorder in which children misinterpret signals from their senses, may benefit from sensory integration training. SPD can lead to symptoms like lack of coordination, difficulty in concentrating, and behavioral problems.

A growing body of evidence suggests that allowing children to experience nature stimulates all of the senses, and therefore facilitates sensory integration, decreasing symptoms of SPD.

Parents may be fearful of visiting state or national parks, due to perceived dangers of abduction or assault, but those fears are probably exaggerated and exacerbated by the media. John Winters supervises 350 safety officers for the Department of Natural Resources. These safety officers are the uniformed rangers who oversee 96 state parks and recreation areas and 600 boating access sites. According to Ranger Winters, of about 1,000 incident reports that visitors filed with rangers last year, just 16 were technically classified as assaults. Compare that to the estimated 10,000 annual assaults that occur in homes, towns, and city streets, and you can easily see that the

woods are a far safer place to be!

You don't have to take the kids to Yosemite to reap the benefits of nature. Most cities and towns have parks. You can even find nature in your back yard. An Ecotherapy exercise I do with my children in therapy is called 'A Closer Look.' I mark out a six-foot in diameter circle on the ground, then have them sit in it with a notebook and record what they see inside that circle for fifteen minutes. Many tell stories of insects interacting. Others describe blades of grass or leaves in great detail. Some talk about the wind and the sun. In every case, they use their imagination to examine the world around them more closely.

The opportunities to help your children overcome 'Nature Deficit Disorder' abound. The possibilities are only as limited as your imagination, so teach your kids to put down the X-Box and explore the world around them!

Chuck Hall's latest book, Green Circles: A Sustainable Journey from the Cradle to the Grave, is now available at the Culture Artist Web site at www.cultureartist.org. You may contact Chuck by email at: chuck@cultureartist.org.

**What is a
'Culture Artist?'**

Deep Ecology is the principle that humanity cannot be separated from the environment; that human beings and nature are one and the same. Somewhere along the way, humankind seems to have forgotten that we aren't separate from nature.

Since our culture at present revolves more around material wealth and accumulation than family, friends and the environment around us, some of us feel that we need to modify our culture to make room for nature; to return to our roots.

Those of us who use the principles of Deep Ecology to make cultural change are artists working with the medium of culture itself: we are Culture Artists, working to change the world for the better.

County planner explains MLI to League and community

By Sally Hansen
Reporter

Town Planner Stacey Guffey was the speaker at the May League of Women Voters meeting where he presented information about the Mountain Landscapes Initiative (MLI).

The purpose of the MLI is to figure out how to encourage local economic growth while at the same time protecting the natural assets that draw people to the region.

It has three stages: the first began last November and culminated six months later with ten meetings during the month of April in the seven westernmost counties of North Carolina (known as Region A) and the Qualla Boundary.

The second phase is the "charrette" currently underway at WCU, and the third stage will be the completion and implementation of a Toolbox of guidelines for responsible growth in our region.

Guffey described a charrette as "The quickest and best method for developing a consensus while achieving quality in design." It is used when compromise is necessary to bring about change in a short time, and it is not authored by a select few: community involvement plays a big role.

According to Guffey, the charrette is a process where there will be specific meetings for specific issues and groups, such as developers, real estate agents and members of local government. All meetings are open to the public. At the end of each day there will be a "pin-up" session where the day's work will be on display for the public to view and also to provide feedback.

"The only way for the charrette to be successful is if folks on opposite sides of an issue are at the same table," Guffey said.

Guffey said that the first phase of the MLI included lots of input from community members. Interviews have taken place since November of last year, and many of them have been compiled in the video entitled "Seeking Balance in the Mountains." This video was shown at the League meeting.

The Community Foundation of Western North Carolina has been involved in the MLI from the beginning, and has donated \$100,000 to get the project started. Guffey said that a total of \$300,000 has currently been raised for the Initiative. Other sponsors include the North Carolina Rural Center, United Community Bank, the Murphy Power Board, Blue Ridge Electric EMC, Duke Energy, McGill Associates, and the Cashiers Vision Council.

For more information, visit the following websites:

www.mountainlandscapesnc.org,
www.cfwnc.org and www.regiona.org

After five months of interviews and Community Forums the most frequently mentioned hopes and concerns of citizens in the seven westernmost counties of North Carolina concerning MLI fell into the following 10 question groups.

These questions shaped the meeting topics for the charrette and will be directly addressed in the contents of "Tool Box" guidelines for responsible planning and development in the mountains.

1. How can mountainside and ridgetop development be done responsibly, safely, and in a visually sensitive way?

2. How can new development respect the character of local landscapes?

3. How can water quality be protected?

4. How can the region's natural beauty and open space be protected?

5. How can quality jobs be created and sustained?

6. How can quality, affordable housing be created?

7. How can the region's infrastructure keep up with the rate of growth?

8. How can farmland and local markets for food be protected and enhanced?

9. How can natural resources be protected?

10. How can growing communities remain respectful of local cultural heritage?

(copied and pasted from website: <http://www.mountainlandscapesnc.org>)

... SUBDIVISION continued from page 13

county approval. After a year, the 4-acre parcel will also be eligible for subdivision. These kinds of divisions are called "incidental subdivisions."

• If I have 100 acres and want to subdivide it into 10 equal lots, does this fall under the subdivision ordinance?

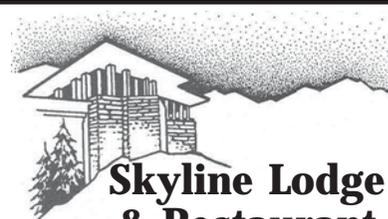
The answer: No. The lots would be 10 acres in size. Under N.C. law, lots 10 acres or greater are exempt from subdivision regulations.

• Upon my death my will mandates that my land be divided among my heirs. Will that fall under the subdivision ordinance?

The answer: No. N.C. law exempts the division of land among heirs upon the death of a predecessor.

A complete copy of the proposed ordinance is on the Macon County website.

There will be a subdivision ordinance public hearing, Monday, June 2 at 6 p.m. in the courthouse boardroom. If accepted the ordinance will be adopted at the June 9 Macon County Commission meeting.



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... **MANAGER** continued from page 1

days. With the budget still in the works – including a special budget meeting, a public hearing and another meeting for its final adoption on the books – the board decided to postpone adoption of the resolution, for time's sake.

Besides the fact that the next 45 days are filled with budget meetings and hearings, commissioners want to give seasonal residents time to return.

"If we wait until August, more people will be back," said Commissioner Amy Patterson. "There might be public outcry against this, we just don't know."

The resolution reads: Whereas the Council-Manager form of government is authorized and appropriate for municipalities such as the Town of Highlands, which provides a high level and number of municipal services to its citizens, has more than 25 regular employees, and has experienced

substantial growth in recent years; and whereas the Board of Commissioners of the Town has carefully considered the needs of the Town and the relative advantages and disadvantages of each form of government for municipalities; and whereas the Board of Commissioners has determined that the Council-Manager form of government would best suit the need of the Town of Highlands, now, therefore, the Board of Commissioners of the Town of Highlands hereby adopts the following resolution: The ordinance to be considered shall be an

amendment to the Charter of the Town of Highlands to provide for the Council-Manager form of governments as allowed by N.C.G.S. 160A-101 (9) (b).

The adoption was postponed, however, with Town Administrator Richard Betz's last day set for March 1, 2009, the board agreed to both contact a consultant to help with a Town Manager search and to also begin searching for candidates immediately.

"Richard is leaving in March and we
•See MANAGER page 20

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• SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING •

Poverty, Faith/Reason and Roadblocks



Rev. Brian Sullivan
Episcopal Church of the Incarnation

Lately I have been contemplating the poor. It has become a part of my life in a way that I never expected. If you read my last article, you know I visited Haiti not long ago. I described this experience as creating a whole new filing system to describe poverty.

Since that time, I have been researching why such a place exists on this planet. In my research about Haiti, I have discovered that absolute poverty exists in places like Peru, Chiapas, Rwanda, prisons, and the inner-cities of America. These examples have reminded me of the unique capacity all humans have for both reason and faith. In order to change anything on this planet, these two things MUST act together. Unfortunately, much of the world believes you can either have one or the other. Not only is this not true, it is the very logic that has created the current system that creates absolute poverty, which is polarization.

Whether it is Muslim against Jew, Al Qaeda against America, Democrat against Republican, or Christian liberal against Christian conservative, someone is asking you to take a stand on one side or the other. In doing so, you perpetuate the very problem you believe you are escaping. This is where faith becomes the third way, or in this case, the middle way. By choosing faith, all of us has available the power that unites the world. Having faith in God actually puts us in touch with the very force that created the world, which is love.

I am not talking about the warm, fuzzy feelings that we all experience when falling in love. I am not talking about some neo-liberal love that accepts everything as long as it doesn't hurt anyone or anything. I am talking about a radical love that acknowledges the oneness of all things. Thus, faith in God is faith in a love that brings everything together as one. It is a faith that demands the use of reason to acknowledge that there is an inequality in the world. It is a reason that observes that the power of some is gained by the oppression of others. This is true in any society across the world, whether it is capitalist, communist, or religious.

However, as people of faith, we must reason that love is the only salvation in the world. As Christians, this love became tangible and dwelt among us in the person of Jesus. We believe in a person that demands we create a world that stresses unity as a commodity, equality as an economy, and fairness as a financial market. As Christians, we can no longer understand our life as preserving power and wealth, but as sharing the love that makes us all one.

As you look around at the world, I hope you will be-

•See SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING page 28

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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.

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: Dinner 5 p.m.-6 p.m.; 6 p.m. programs
for all students; 6:15 p.m., Adult Bible Study
Thursdays: Women's Bible Study 10 a.m.

EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE INCARNATION

The Rev. Brian Sullivan - Rector: 526-2968
Sunday: Breakfast; 9 A.M. - Sunday School
10:30 A.M. Holy Eucharist (Rite II)
Sunday Service on Channel 14 at 10:30 A.M.
Monday: 4 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, Parish Associate 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 UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

Sun.: school 9:45 a.m.; Worship 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

Chaplain Margaret Howell
2152 Dillard Road - 526-9741
Sundays: Sunday School 9:30 a.m.; Adult discussion
group 9:30 a.m.; Worship/Communion - 10:30
HEALING SERVICE on the 5th Sunday of the month.

LITTLE CHURCH OF THE WILDWOOD

Services at the Church in the Wildwood in
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MACEDONIA BAPTIST CHURCH

8 miles south of Highlands on N.C. 28 S in Satolah
Pastor Jamie Passmore, (706) 782-8130
Sundays: School - 10 a.m.; Worship - 11
Choir - 6 p.m.

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

MOUNTAIN SYNAGOGUE

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

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

OUR LADY OF THE MOUNTAINS CATHOLIC CHURCH

Rev. Tien, Priest

Parish office, 526-2418

Sundays: Mass - 11 a.m.

Saturday Mass: 4 p.m.

(through last Saturday of October)

SCALY MOUNTAIN BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. Clifford Willis

Sundays: School - 10 a.m.; Worship - 11 a.m. & 7
Wednesdays: Prayer & Bible Study - 7 p.m.

SCALY MOUNTAIN CHURCH OF GOD

290 Buck Knob Road; Pastor Alfred Sizemore
Sundays: School - 10 a.m.; Worship - 10:45 a.m.;
Evening Worship - 6 p.m.

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

For more information call 526-3212.

SHORTOFF BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Rev. Wayne Price

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

Wednesdays: Prayer & Bible Study - 7

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Sundays: Worship - 11 a.m.

WHITESIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

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... **MANAGER** continued
from page 18

need at least a four month overlap," said Mayor Don Mullen.

The board agreed to put the Resolution of Intent on the July 2 agenda which means the public hearing could be mid-August.

After the public hearing, the board can take action at the next regularly scheduled Town Board meeting which begins the town government's transformation.

- **Kim Lewicki**

Playhouse auction on Saturday

On Saturday, May 24, the Highlands Playhouse is hosting an auction at 7 p.m. All items up for bid will be available for inspection from 6 p.m. until the start of the auction, and there will be soft drinks, wine, and light hors d'oeuvres during the preview hour.

Auctioneer Dodie Allen of Dodie's Auction House in Sylva will be presiding. There will be custom jewelry designed by Anthony Alexander, a Magnavox TV, Hungarian Porcelain, two pieces of original artwork from Bryant Art Glass, some interesting pieces of furniture, a beautiful hammock from Brazil, miscellaneous box lots, and many other one-of-a-kind items.

Come meet the new owners of The Bird Barn, Michael and Cathi Mead!

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... BUDGET continued from page 1

ing her stance which was to fund requests that actually help people.

"I have nothing against the Veterans Memorial or the Historical Society, but I would rather fund something that helps people rather than remembers them and I think the Historical Society is a great thing but it's only \$4,000 and they could probably come up with that."

Initially, she was for fully funding the library and Community Care Clinic's requests but didn't think the town should pay to fix the HCCDC parking lot.

Mayor Don Mullen said the older he gets the more important it becomes to remember.

"Remembrances are important," he said. "From whence we came, so I think the Veterans Memorial and the Historical Society are important things to fund."

Commissioner Buz Dotson said the county should pick up the tab for the library since the county commission has said it will fund for Highlands what it funds for Franklin.

He said at the April MC Commission meeting he and Commissioner Larry Rogers were told that the commission was in consensus about funding the Hudson Library renovation and expansion but the issue was never discussed in open session nor

was a vote taken.

Commissioner Hank Ross said he thought it was important for Highlands to show support of the Veterans Memorial and agreed that the county should foot some of the library request.

In the end the board instructed Town Administrator Richard Betz to budget \$62,000 — \$35,000 for the library, \$4,000 for the Historical Society, \$5,000 for HC-CDC, \$8,000 for the Community Care Clinic and \$10,000 for the Veterans Memorial.

The 2008-2009 major capital project for the upcoming year is the Harris Lake Sewer Project for \$1.65 million.

Budget requests from other agencies to the town include \$500,000 for recreation funding from Macon County; \$14,230 from Jackson County for fire protection; and \$10,000 from the Chamber of Commerce to help fund the cost of operating a public restroom.

The town has five capital reserve funds totaling \$2.795 million whose earnings come from CDs, sewer connection fees, and water and electric fees.

The board agreed to continue building two relatively new funds – the Town Hall Reserve which has \$230,000 in it and the Lake Remediation Reserve which has

\$150,000. Next year's budget will increase those reserves to \$345,000 and \$300,000, respectively.

Other major expenditures include new positions at the Town Hall and Rec Park, the clearing of the cemetery, the parking study, sidewalks, GIS equipment, pole change-outs and a new vehicle for the electric department totaling \$850,000.

Ongoing environmental expenditures include \$200,000 for siltation in Big Creek, stormwater projects and the greenway.

At a special meeting May 28, Betz will present the budget. There will be a public hearing on the budget June 25 which gives the public time to review it and it will be adopted June 30.

– Kim Lewicki



7328 Dillard Rd Scaly Mountain NC 28775 828-526-2475

Cabe Realty is pleased to introduce their newest broker Ann Billingsley James. Ann was born and raised in Scaly Mountain and many of you may know her from Highlands School or Osage Farms. Ann will be a great asset to Cabe because she is local and is extremely familiar with the area. Cabe Realty's office is located next to the post office in downtown Scaly. Feel free to come in anytime to talk with Ann about any of your real estate needs.

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• HOME & HEARTH ON THE PLATEAU •

Stop These Ants from Marching

A certain breed of ants is “marching” through the American South and beyond. These aren’t the common ants of the popular children’s counting song, however. These are red imported fire ants, whose destructiveness to humans in their path is the stuff of a science fiction horror film.

Termed “fire ants” because their bite burns and blisters, these insects are about a quarter of an inch long and reddish brown to black in color. They have two pairs of wings, elbowed antennae, and a narrow “waist” between the abdomen and thorax. When they bite into human skin, they first use their pinching mandibles, or jaws, to hold on before delivering the sting. And they swarm and all sting at once so it’s not like getting stung by a bee – you’re being stung by many ants.

In addition to burning and blistering, the bite of a fire ant also causes nausea, vomiting, disorientation, dizziness, asthma, and shock. Fire ants first entered the United States aboard cargo ships from tropical South America in the late 1930s. Since then, they have been reported as far north as Delaware and as far west as California. Today, fire ants infest 16 states, including Georgia, Texas, Florida, Oklahoma, Nevada, Alabama, Louisiana, North and South Carolinas, New Mexico, Tennessee, and Arizona. Fire ants not only hurt and kill humans, but also pets, livestock, and wildlife. They can chew through electrical equipment. Huge mounds of fire ants have been known to cause roadways to collapse.

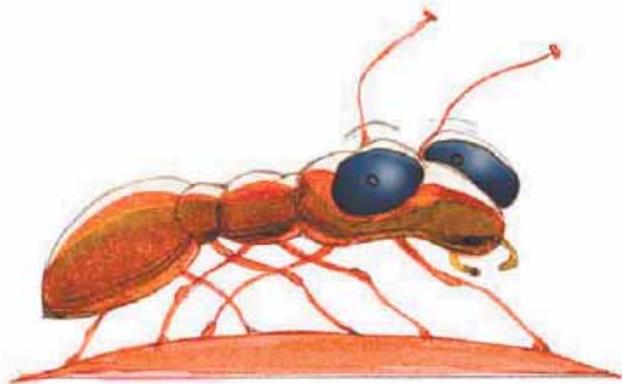
The most effective treatment for fire ants requires a two-step approach, which provides both short and long-term control.

Step 1. First, broadcast Indoxacarb bait insecticide over the entire yard for control of mounds in as little as two weeks. A bait is a product containing food and insecticide, which the worker ants take back with them to the colony to share with the queen and other ants. The more ants that eat the bait, the fewer ants you have! This product is best applied when you can see ants foraging near a mound.

Step 2. For year-long control, take the second step and broadcast fipronil granules. Any remaining fire ants will also pick up fipronil—undetected—and carry it back to the mound. The insecticide is then picked up by other colony members through grooming, feeding, and general contact and, ultimately, delivered to the queen. Fire ants absorb the fipronil and die.

However, not all fire ants in the colony die. Survivors leave the mound and look for new places to infest. That’s why it’s important to not only treat your home and yard, but also encourage your neighbors to do the same. Experts say the most effective programs continue for years, as a lapse in treatment is an invitation for fire ants to return. Indoxacarb bait and fipronil granules are best applied using a broadcast or drop spreader across your lawn and applied near troublesome mounds. When applied correctly, fipronil requires only one application and lasts the entire season. Both products are available at many lawn and garden centers. For more information, visit www.gardentech.com or talk about your fire ant experiences on the Fire RANT! blog, <http://fireants.blog.com>.

• All materials courtesy of GardenTech and Family Features



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She's all about 'freestyle' dancing with her dogs

By Sally Hanson
Reporter

"Imagine you are a dog. You live in a world where you don't speak the language, where you never know what's going to make the person you love most angry with you, and where it seems like almost everything you do is wrong. Then one day, music starts to play. Your person is laughing all the time and wants you to play with her. You get treats for everything you do! You are reminded of the carefree days when you were a puppy, rolling and chasing and spinning and bowing, and the best part is that the person you love most in the world is doing it with you, and you are never wrong. That's what freestyle is to a dog." Quote from "Let's Dance! A Beginner's Guide to Dancing With Your Dog" by Donna Ball

As a dog owner and trainer since 1988, Donna Ball is no stranger to both the hard work and satisfying payoff which result from coexisting with dogs. Ball has worked with dogs in several different capacities over her career, including canine agility, pet therapy and owning and operating the Pet Coach Canine Academy in Mountain City, GA. In 2001, she founded a canine musical freestyle group called the Dixie Dancing Dogs.

"Canine Musical Freestyle is a choreographed routine performed to music by a dog and a handler, in which each member of the performing team contributes equally and harmoniously to the overall result," Ball said.

She formed the group to provide an outlet for her released assistance-dog-in-training, a Golden Retriever called Glitter. Ball is a volunteer puppy raiser for Canine Companions for Independence, "a national organization that provides assistance dogs to the disabled at no charge. All CCI puppies are born in Santa Rosa, California,

and shipped to volunteer puppy raisers around the country," she said.

The Dixie Dancing Dogs started out with just a few members who also had released CCI puppies like Glitter. Now it includes over 15 handlers in four states, and members' dogs have more than 50 competitive titles collectively.

"Freestyle is a demonstration of bonding and trust between a dog and his handler that is illustrated by smoothly flowing and precisely timed movements to music," Ball said.

Ball currently shares her home with four dogs: a rough collie (Kodi), two golden retrievers (Destiny and Glitter) and a border collie (Rhythm and Blues).

"I got my first performance dog, Tsalagi Dakota Legend (Kodi), in 2000, and he subsequently went on to win almost a dozen titles in agility and canine musical freestyle," she said. Kodi also



Ball with one of her four dancing companions.

holds the titles of Versatility Champion Excellent and Herding Instinct Tested, as well as being a working therapy dog who specializes in entertaining children.

Destiny Written in the Stars (Destiny) is a Canine Good Citizen and holds the title of W-FDX/MF-HTM, which means she earned a ranking of excellent in musical freestyle with heelwork to music. She also was the first dog in Georgia to receive a title from the World Canine Freestyle Organization.

"Destiny was the first dog I trained purely for freestyle," Ball said. "She has been dancing since she was nine months old and has been featured on television, both here and abroad, and in multiple newspapers and magazines. She lives to dance!"

Glitter came into Ball's life when she was eight weeks old through CCI. "Glitter was prepared for life as an assistance dog until she was released from the program at



age 16 months for thunder phobia. Now she is a certified therapy dog and shows great promise on the dance floor."

•See DANCING page 38

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A Salute to Our Fallen Special Operations Heroes

The SOAR committee of the Highlands Plateau is hosting its 6th Annual SOAR Events to once again raise money for the Special Operations Warrior Foundation and the children of fallen Army, Navy, Air Force and Marine Corps special operations personnel.

We sincerely hope that you share our vision of educating these children of fallen heroes-and letting these children know there are caring people who want them to succeed in life.

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

In the year 2007 the foundation provided \$800,000 to some 109 students enrolled in colleges and universities across the country. There are 800 children in the program — and 120 enrolled in colleges and universities across the country.

We hope the community will continue to support this worthy cause.

There are three events this year:

Silent and Live Auction

Sponsored by Ray and Diane McPhail

June 12, 2008 at 5:30 p.m.

at the Highlands Conference Center

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Special Operations Adventure Race

June 14, 2008

Race starts at 5th & Main

Elite Race Start: 7 a.m.

Sprint Race Start: 8 a.m.

Mary Beth Brody will sing the National Anthem

Come and cheer the racers on!

Special Operations Warrior Golf Tournament

June 16, 2008

Registration 11 a.m.- Shotgun Start noon at the

Burlingame Country Club of Sapphire Lakes

Individual Player \$100,

Teams of 4

Format: Captions Choice

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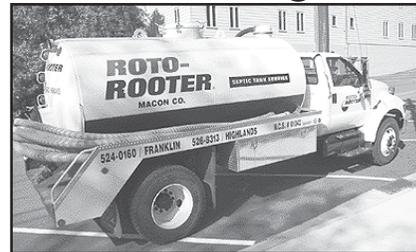
All proceeds will benefit the Special Operations Warrior Foundation, a 501(c)3 non profit organization.

Hospital veteran employees recognized



Highlands-Cashiers Hospital honored veteran employees last week who reached various milestones of service. To show the facility's appreciation, the hospital held a special luncheon where each recipient was presented with a gift certificate. The luncheon was one of a number of activities held to celebrate National Hospital Week (May 11-17). Receiving awards were (L-R) Ava Emory (10 yrs.), Ellen Brawley (15 yrs.), Ruth Ann McDonald (5 yrs.), Donette Stewart (15 yrs.), Frank Leslie (20 yrs.), Mildred Anderson (5 yrs.), Pat Hargis (5 yrs.), Melva McCall (5 yrs.), Arline Roman (5yrs.), Rita Garland (10 yrs.), Shannon Deshane (5 yrs), Sheri Lieker-O'Brien (5 yrs.), Martha Wood (5 yrs.), Laura Ammons (20 yrs.). Those receiving five-year awards who were not available for the photo were Michael Daiken, Ami Keener, Liane Koenig, Cynthia Harris, Sandra Parker, Dale West, Sandra Waltzek. Other 10-year award recipients were Virginia Frady and Jennifer Forrester. Fifteen-year recipients were Jung Pillifant, Alan Frederick, and Monica Crook.

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HIGHLANDS MOUNTAIN CLUB. 2 bed, 2 bath. 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. Freshly painted walls are very pleasing colors. Almost new appliances are. \$282,500. mls #62844



Featherstone 9-A Located in the Featherstone Subdivision (Gibson Road) about 9 miles from Highlands on the Franklin Road in the Cullasaja Community are these wonderful Post and Beam Homes that have been crafted by Goshen Timberframe homes and then custom finished by the current owners to make your Heart Sing! 9A features a meadow & pond view in the foreground, with a vista of layered mountains in the distance and good privacy on 2.7 acres. 3 bedrooms 3 and 1/2 baths. Custom kitchen, antiqued floors, fireplace in living room and on covered porch. Full unfinished lower level is roughed in for expansion. Top Quality finishes make this a must see. Offered at \$ 949,500.00A



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EXCEPTIONAL MOUNTAIN VIEW. 4 bedrooms, three bath and two half bath home located in a gated community between Highlands and Cashiers. The craftsmanship with hand picked woods from Maine to South Carolina is fantastic! There are North American Cherry cabinets with antiques glass inserts in the kitchen along with granite countertops and stainless GE appliances. There is a fireplace on both levels. The wood floors are made of solid red oak tongue & groove. Master bedroom is on the main level & the master bath has heated tile floors. Generator & a water reservoir with pump. Furnished \$1295,000.00. mls #63329



HIGHLANDS FALLS COUNTRY CLUB. 3 bed, 2 baths with garage. Private deck with fantastic view of 18th green, club lake & mountains beyond. \$710,000. mls #63198



Featherstone 9-B features a nice babbling stream and 2.5 acres. 3 bedrooms 4 1/2 baths, plus a lower level Guest/entertainment suite. Same top quality finishes with all the extras! Offered at \$825,000.00 Both homes are shown by appointment only.



MIRROR LAKE this home has vaulted tongue and groove ceiling in great room. Stone fireplace and beautiful wood floors. Professionally decorated, landscaped and well cared for. Completely furnished 2 bedroom 2 bath, all you need is your toothbrush. \$459,000. mls #65195



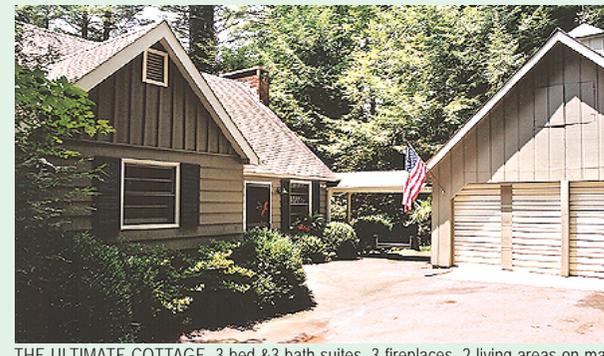
FAMILY LOG CABIN - restored & expanded 1930's log cabin on 1.2+/- acres with old barn, mountainside stream & small pond with additional large pond potential, garden spot, abundant flora, 2 bed, 2 1/2 baths, claw-footed tub, office or den, loft, great rm., dining room, early mid 90's septic & well, preserved antiquity in log walls, foundation stones in fireplace, and both ceiling and floor joists. From Highlands or Franklin, a 20 minute drive to Goldmine. \$525,000. mls #59927



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APPLE LAKE AREA. Sit on the new Adirondack covered deck and watch through the trees as sun sparkles off the lake from this 3 bed, 2 bath home. Move-in ready after an extensive remodel, beautiful wood floors, granite countertops a& more! Just 5 minutes from town, come & enjoy the quiet neighborhood with access to fish & canoe on the lake. \$415,000. mls #62656



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

Life On The Mountain Has Its Privileges



Get To Know Gastroenterologist Richard F. Carter, MD, FACP

Living in our community has its privileges – friendly people and nature at its best. Now there's another privilege to living in our community – the professional care of board-certified and highly trained gastroenterologist **Richard R. Carter, MD, FACP**.

Now on staff at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital and practicing with full-time general surgeons F. Augustus Dozier, MD, FACS, and William J. Noell, Jr., MD, FACS, at **Mountain Medical & Surgical Group**, Dr. Carter is board certified in internal medicine and gastroenterology. He completed medical school, internship, residency and fellowship training at the Medical College of Virginia. During his fellowship in Gastroenterology, he was a lead instructor of the G.I. Division.

Dr. Carter was on staff for six years at the renowned Greenbrier Clinic in White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia, before spending 15 years in private practice, primarily in LaGrange, Georgia. For more than 10 years, he served as Chief of Gastroenterology at West Georgia Medical Center in LaGrange.

A Fellow of the American College of Physicians, Dr. Carter is trained in the most advanced procedures and technologies to diagnose and treat a range of gastrointestinal conditions. **To schedule an appointment with Dr. Carter, call (828) 526-2371.**

Conditions Treated Include:

- Abdominal Pain
- Crohn's Disease
- Colonoscopy and EGD Procedures
- Diverticulitis
- Esophageal Disorders
- Gastroesophageal Reflux
- Gastrointestinal Bleeding
- Gallstones
- Heartburn
- Hepatitis
- Hemorrhoids
- Irritable Bowel Syndrome
- Liver Disease
- Pancreatitis
- Swallowing Disorders
- Ulcerative Colitis
- Ulcers



MOUNTAIN MEDICAL & SURGICAL GROUP

209 Hospital Drive
(Suite 104/Jane Woodruff Clinic)
Highlands, NC 28741
(828) 526-2371



Richard F. Carter,
MD, FACP
Gastroenterology



F. Augustus Dozier,
MD, FACS
General Surgery



William J. Noell, Jr.,
MD, FACS
General Surgery

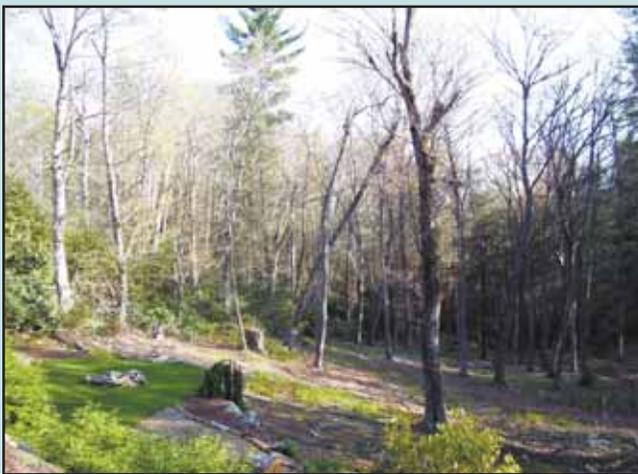
Need A Physician? Call (828) 526-1DOC or (828) 526-1362

THE SHOPS AT KETTLEROCK



This commercial complex features easy access, ample parking, and is right on NC 106. There are only four (3) 1,575+ -sq. ft. units available for purchase at \$314,900 or by monthly lease. They are being sold/leased complete, but can be customized to fit you needs!

WALK TO DOWNTOWN HIGHLANDS FROM THIS LOT!



Lot can be subdivided at 1 Acres each. Subject to zoning and approval of the city of Highlands. Spetic is available and so is water. A creek runs right through this property and a pond could easily be added!



Call Chris Gilbert
828-526-5296 or 828-421-3161
email: info@carolinamountainbrokers.com
www.carolinamountainbrokers.com



The Lodge at Mirror Lake
Bed & Biscuit
or
Your Private Vacation Rental
Home for
Couples or Small Groups



828-342-2302

www.thelodgeonmirrorlake.com

... SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING continued from page 19

come attune to the fact that poverty exists everywhere, even here in Highlands. I hope you will also not miss the oppression it takes to create such poverty. It is no different here than it is in any place you may never visit. The big difference between the poverty here and poverty there is that you can put your faith and reason to action towards the poverty here.

If you need a glimpse of this poverty, stop at any road block in Macon County. You can usually find these road blocks on roads heading from the wealthy areas of the county to the less wealthy areas. At these roadblocks you will see the face of the powerless returning home to their families after a hard days work. Why? It is because someone observed a problem, judged the solution, and finally took a stand. Of course, that person has the power to take action.

Today you have an opportunity to embrace the most unique quality you possess as a human — reason and faith. Today you have an opportunity to express the love that God has given the world. And as a Christian, it is a love that demands our observation, judgment and action on the side of the powerless, the downtrodden, and the poor.



Exclusive Buyer's Agents

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Buyers 100%
of the Time!

Come on by and let us put our
negotiation skills and local market
knowledge to work for you today!

Buyer's Real Estate of
Highlands • Cashiers

Highlands
223 S. 4th Street
(Top of the Hill)
526-0988
Toll Free 866-526-0988

Cashiers
142 Hwy 107 South
(Formerly Olde Home Place)
743-3231
Toll Free 888-254-3231

• BUSINESS NEWS •

AnMed Blood Center commends Hospital



The AnMed Blood Center recently presented Highlands-Cashiers Hospital with its 2008 award in the hospital division for its participation in efforts to raise blood during the preceding 12 months. The hospital, which has won the award several times before, has worked closely with AnMed for nearly 30 years to be sure area patients have access to a safe, quickly available supply of blood and blood products. Dr. Ronald Biscopink, pathologist with AnMed, (center left) presented the award to hospital CEO Ken Shull (center right), and to the hospital's Laboratory Department, represented by Manager Ann Greenlee and Assistant Manager Dan Rogers. "While it's wonderful for the hospital to receive this award, it really should go to all of those area residents who come out several times a year to donate blood," Shull said later. "Without them all of our efforts would be wasted." There are AnMed Blood Drives at First Citizens Bank, Tues., May 27 from 10-6 and on Wed., May 28 at the hospital from 9-11:30 and the Cashiers Library from 1-6:30 p.m.

<p>Cashiers 828-743-7999 866-480-7653</p>	<p>www.highlandscashiersrealestate.com</p>	<p>Highlands 828-787-2121 866-407-2121</p>
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Secluded and private in Scaly



Very attractive secluded and private modular home in Scaly Mountain that has been beautifully decorated by the artist owners. Home has great flow to it. Large eat-in kitchen, living room and master open to large deck across back of home. The home joins the old Browns Lake in Scaly. Good fishing lake. Geat value for the area and to break into the market. \$375,000 Jerry Hudson 787-2121 MLS #65383

Sadlon & Associates construction

Tim Sadlon, of Sadlon & Associates, has been constructing fine custom homes in the Highlands, Cashiers, and surrounding areas since 1992. A graduate of the University of Florida, Tim has been active in Residential and Commercial construction since 1983. As his clients will attest, Tim possesses a comprehensive understanding of the planning, design, and construction phases of a project.

In fact, Sadlon & Associates, Inc. is truly passionate about what they do. Their goal is for the client to experience the "joy" of building a fine custom home - and to develop a longstanding relationship built on trust and integrity. This is achieved through dedication to the project and the client, years of experience in the industry, along with a seamless line of communication from start to finish.

According to Tim, Sadlon & Associates, Inc. has made a commitment to always achieving the highest level of craftsmanship

and attention to detail.

"We have been told for years by our clients that there is a difference between us and a lot of contractors," he states. "It is noticeable in such simple factors as job-site cleanliness, professionalism of employees, and a serious commitment to clients. These are things they recognize when they walk through the door of one of our projects."

He adds, "I welcome anyone the opportunity to walk through one of our completed projects so that they can experience the differences themselves."

Current projects under construction include custom homes in Mountain Top Golf and Lake Club in Cashiers, as well as Highlands Cove.

Please contact Sadlon & Associates, Inc. for a complimentary copy of their quality, four-color portfolio and DVD. You may reach Tim Sadlon personally at 828-421-1115 or e-mail him at: tim@sadlonandassociates.com.

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129 Main Street (Wright Square)
Highlands, NC 28741

828-526-9999

www.highlandscncproperty.com

• UPCOMING EVENTS •

On-going

• Oak Street Café is donating a portion of its revenues to the Playhouse from meals purchased prior to show time. Park your car, have a meal, then walk across the street to the Playhouse produc-

Storyteller Carden to do one-man show at PAC on Friday, May 23



Storyteller, folklorist and playwright Gary Carden will provide an evening of entertainment at the Martin-Lipscomb Performing Arts Center on Chestnut Street May 23 at 8 p.m. Carden's homespun humor mixed with pathos delighted the audiences who saw him in the Highlands Community Players' production of his play, "Raindrop Waltz," that the board of directors of PAC decided to invite him back for a full evening of him alone.

Carden grew up in Sylva, NC under the care of his grandparents and he draws upon that background to teach about mountain life — with humor and respect. Kathryn Stripling Byer, Poet Laureate of North Carolina, has said, "Gary Carden is an American original. A storyteller, a playwright, and a fiction writer. He can turn his voice to whatever needs commentary or a poet's vision. In many ways he is our own Garrison Keillor, creator of our own Appalachian Home Companion. He can hold an audience in his hands and bring it to tears or to roll-in-the-aisle laughter. You can't find this sort of magic often. We are lucky to have Gary Carden among us."

Carden has been granted numerous awards, including the University of North Carolina Award in Drama, the North Carolina Arts Council Playwright's Award, the Appalachian Writers Association Book of the Year Award for "Mason Jars in the Flood," and the North Carolina Language and Life Award for preservation of mountain heritage.

Tickets to "A Night with Gary Carden" are \$15 each and are available now at the Performing Arts Center. Charge by phone: (828) 526-9047.

tion!

• Book Sale at the Jackson County Library. Bargains galore can be found at the Friends of the Library Used Bookstore which is located at 536 West Main Street in downtown Sylva. All bargain books have been priced at 2 for 50 cents and 2 for 25 cents. The pricing is effective immediately. All the profits from the Friends of the Library Bookstore go to support the Jackson County Public Library.

• The Highlands Playhouse is taking reservations for "Always Patsy Cline," Thurs.-Sun., June 19-July 6; "On Golden Pond," Thurs.-Sun., July 10-20; "70th Anniversary Diamond Review," Thurs.-Sun., July 24-Aug. 10; and "Inherit the Wind" Thurs.-Sun., Aug. 14-31. Please call 828-526-2695 or write or PO Box 896, Highlands, NC 28741.

• Highlands Playhouse is taking reservations for its annual Children's Theatre Mond-Fri., July 7-18, taught by instructors with extensive experience in theatre education 9 a.m. to noon for ages 6-10, and 1-4 p.m. for ages 11-16. Please call 828-526-2695 or write or PO Box 896, Highlands, NC 28741.

• Register now for the 2008 summer nature day camps at the Highlands Nature Center. Five different camps are offered: "WOW! – a World of Wonder" (ages 4-6), "Amazing Animals" (ages 7-10), "NatureWorks" (ages 7-11), "Mountain Explorers" (ages 10-14), and "Junior Ecologists" (ages 11-15). Some camps are offered more than once during the summer. Sessions run from Tuesday to Friday each week. For complete schedules, costs, and other information, please call 828-526-2623 or visit www.wcu.edu/hbs.

• Yoga at the Rec Park, 7:30 a.m. Monday and Wednesdays. Call 526-4340 for information.

• Yoga in the bottom floor of Jane Woodruff Building. 10:30 a.m. Thursdays. Call 526-4340.

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

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

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

• "The Circle of Life" support group continues at the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital at the Jane Woodward room 201, 10 a.m. until noon. 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.

Mondays

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

• At the Nature Center, Animal Feeding Time 11 a.m.-noon, all ages welcome: Come and observe what each of the Nature Center's animals eat and learn how they feed.

Tuesdays

• At the Nature Center, Family Na-

ture Activity 3-4 p.m., ages 4 and up: Activities vary, but may include critter searches, discovery walks, or nature games \$1 per person.

• 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.

Wednesdays

• At the Nature Center, Nature Show & Tell/Storytime 2:30-3 p.m., all ages: Come for a nature lesson based around a children's storybook using items from the Nature Center.

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

• Men's interdenominational Bible Study at 8:30 a.m. at First Baptist Church.

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.

1st & 3rd Thursdays

• The local affiliate of NAMI NC (National Alliance on Mental Illness), NAMI Appalachian South, meets from 7-9 p.m. at the Family Restoration Center, 1095 Wiley Brown Road, Franklin. NAMI offers peer support, education, and advocacy for individuals suffering from serious mental illness and their families and loved ones. Contact Ann Nandrea 369-7385, Carole Light 524-9769 or Mary Ann Widenhouse 524-1355 for more information.

Thursdays

• At the Nature Center, Zahner Conservation Lecture Series 7 p.m., 12 and up: An evening seminar series featuring leading scientists, historians, writers and artists on a variety of environmental topics (schedule available at www.wcu.edu/hbs).

Fridays

• At the Nature Center, Botanical Garden Tour 10:30-11:30 a.m., all ages: A guided walk through the Highlands Botanical Garden, featuring the native plants of the region.

Friday & Saturday

• Live music at The Rib Shack every Friday and Saturday night from 7-10 p.m.

Saturdays

• At the Nature Center, Featured Creature 11:30-noon, all ages: come and learn more about one of the Nature Center's live animals up close.

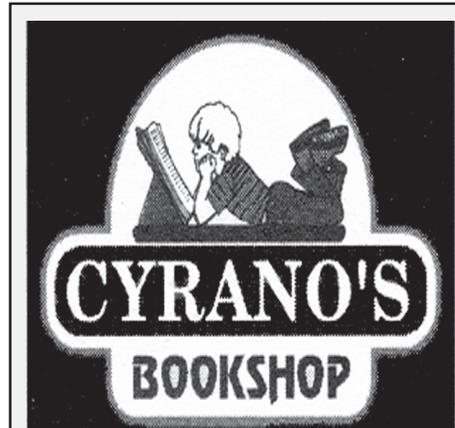
• Live music at Cyprus Restaurant at 9:30 p.m.

• Children's classes ongoing at Bascom-Louise Gallery – cost is \$5 per student.

Sundays

• Old-fashioned hymn-sing at the Little Church of the Wildwood at 7 p.m. Call Kay Ward at 743-5009 for more information. Dress is casual.

• See EVENTS page 32



390 Main Street • 526-5488

Upcoming Book Signings

May 31

1-3 pm

Roland Mesnier

All the Presidents' Pastries

May 31

3-5 pm

Melanie Bowles

Hoof Prints

June 19

3-5 pm

Sandra Mackey

Mirror of the Arab World

June 28

1-3 pm

David Bajo

The 351 Books of Irma Acuri

July 26

1-3 pm

Charles Martin

author of

Chasing Fireflies,

When Crickets Cry, May

August 9

1-3 pm

Charles F. Price

Nor the Battle to the Stron



YOU HAVE BEEN COMING HERE FOR YEARS...NOW YOU CAN HAVE YOUR MOUNTAIN VIEW!

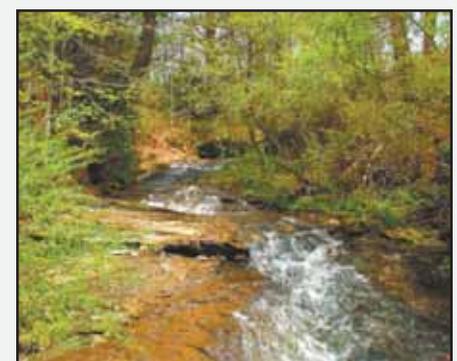
Outstanding acreage between Highlands and Franklin Off Highway 64 (N.C. Scenic Byway)! Established development with upscale homes. Elevation over 3,000' with beautiful view of surrounding mountains and valley. Septic Permits on file. Acreage starting at \$39,000 with driveways and clearing. Call Lorri for details.



BEAUTIFUL SCALY MOUNTAIN PRIVATE LAKE

With Panoramic View of Scaly Mountain. Over 3500 feet elevation, Cascading waterfall, natural springs, Lakefront building sites with over 800' on lake. 13.5 +/- acres \$895,000.

Call Lorri Bell (828) 226-2154 or Rita Houston (828) 421-4433 for details.



Lorri Bell

828-226-2154 or 828-524-1059

email: lorribell@dnet.net

website: www.onamountainview.com

• UPCOMING EVENTS •

Monday-Saturday, through May 31

• Summer Courses offered at the Highlands Biological Station. Biology of Plethodontid Salamanders. For program descriptions and informa-

tion about costs, academic credit, instructors, and prerequisites for our summer courses and workshops visit <http://www.wcu.edu/hbs/currentycourses.htm> or call the Highlands Biolog-

ical Station at (828) 526-2602.

Through June

• At the Book Worm in the basement of The Peggy Crosby Center, most hard cover books are \$1. The Book Worm is open Wednesday-Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Through Thursday, June 12

• Dovetail and Nail: Southern Furniture Exhibition is held at The Bascom. Admission is free. A members-only opening reception will be held May 10; to become a member, call The Bascom at (828) 526-4949. Art center hours are Tuesday to Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is free.

Thursday, May 22

• The American Cancer Society will host a Kick Off celebration for the 2008 Relay For Life of Mountain Top on Thursday at Grace Community Church on Highway 107 N. in Cashiers. This fun-filled event will be exciting for all ages!. The 2008 'Carnival of Hope' theme will be complete with barbecue, music, face-painting, clowns and more!

Friday, May 23

• Storyteller, folklorist and playwright Gary Carden will provide an evening of entertainment at the Martin-Lipscomb Performing Arts Center on Chestnut Street at 8 p.m. Carden's homespun humor mixed with pathos delighted the audiences who saw him in the Highlands Community Players' production of his play, "Raindrop Waltz," that the board of directors of PAC decided to invite him back for a full evening of him alone. Tickets to "A Night with Gary Carden" are \$15 each and are available now at the Performing Arts Center. Charge by phone: (828) 526-9047 or by a visit to www.highlandsp Performing Arts Center.org.

Saturday & Sunday, May 24-25

• More than 30 crafters and artists selling their work at the up-coming Village Square Art & Craft show in the Pine Street Park and the Highlands Village Square. The show will feature folk art, fine art, metal work, wood work, pottery and more. Call 828-787-2021 for more information.

Saturday, May 24

• Mountain Garden Club Plant Sale Saturday, from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m., at the Baseball Park on the corner of Highway 64 East (North 4th Street) and Hickory Street, in Highlands. The rain date is Sunday, May 25, from 1 p.m. until 4 p.m. Come early for the best pick at this once a year sale!

• The Highlands Playhouse is hosting an auction on Saturday at 7 p.m. All items up for bid will be available for inspection from 6 p.m. until the start of the auction, and there will be soft drinks, wine, and light hors d'oeuvres during the preview hour. Auctioneer Dodie Allen of Dodie's Auction House in Sylva will be presiding. There will be custom jewelry designed by Anthony Alexander, a Magnavox TV, Hungarian Porcelain, two pieces of original artwork from Bryant Art Glass, some interesting pieces of furniture, a beautiful hammock from Brazil, miscellaneous box lots, and many other one-of-a-kind items. Don't miss the fun and bargains of a lifetime! Donations for the auction are gladly being accepted. Call Dianne Ray at 828-743-5625 or 404-510-2175. See you there!

• Old-Fashioned Bridge Pull will be held at the site of The Bascom's new art campus on Oak Street. The event is a free community celebration where people can watch as a team of oxen pull the covered bridge to its new location over the creek. Re-

freshments and T-shirts will be available. For information, call (828) 526-4949 or visit www.thebascom.org.

• Pet adoption at Whiskers on Main Street 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sponsored by Castaway Critter Pet Rescue organization of Murphy, N.C.

• A Pancake Breakfast, sponsored by the Scaly Mountain Women's Club. Guests served from 7:30-10:30 a.m. by club members at tables set in the historic Scaly School House, NC Highway 106 and Buck Knob Road in downtown Scaly. Cost is \$5 for adults and \$2.50 for children. You may also order takeout. Proceeds from the events provide scholarships for local students of all ages who wish to continue their post-secondary education in an academic setting or trade school.

• The Moccasin Precinct voters of the Satolah community, will be having a bake sale in front of Bryson's Food Store Saturday at 9 a.m.

• At Summit One Gallery, "Always Red" opens Saturday with an Artist's Reception from 5-7 pm. The exhibition continues through June 25. Summit One Gallery, South Second Street, in "The Galleries," Highlands NC 828.526.2673. summitonegallery@verizon.net www.summitonegallery.com

Sunday, May 25

• Dedication and ribbon cutting of the Bug Hill Cottage at 2 p.m. at the Historic Village next to the Civic Center. There'll be an "appearance" by Dr. Mary Lapham, owner-operator of the sanitorium where the cottage was used in the treatment of tu-

Through June 25 at Summit One Gallery



"Always Red" by Jane Smithers is set to open Saturday, May 24th at Summit One Gallery. A world of color and expression has opened her life to the opportunities for learning and growth. Palette knives, rich texture, brilliant colored oil paints, and the endless possibilities afforded by large canvases have provided the venue for a wonderful adventure for Smithers.

"I make the subject my own by singling out what means the most to me. That element is then "staggered" and the painting is pushed just beyond realism."

Watercolor journaling sets the foundation for her final oils and allows her to capture the essence of spontaneous moments in her life. These studies are then transformed into Tonal Impressionism images by boldly building up color and texture in oils with palette knives. Tonal impressionism was first defined in the Venetian style of titian and tintoretto, in the 16th century. Quite simply, compositions are developed during the actual painting stage with no formal under drawing.

The subject is therefore painted as it is seen and responded to emotionally by the artist. By not filling in lines with paint, there is a freedom to look at tones,

shades and values. The use of hard, soft and lost edges creates the illusion of forms and space. Color and mood are manipulated for their own sake. Impasto, the bold, loose application of oils is key to creating form and texture.

Aspects of her personal history are much like some of the impressionists: being self taught and having chosen art relatively late in life. This new purpose is a journey in itself and the art has become a source of faith and spirituality- an awakening to new levels of consciousness.

Jane says, "My decade old pilgrimage into the world of art has defined my destiny and led me on a circuitous journey. It has transformed me as well as my circumstance. I have constructed an independent identity- an adventurer by choice! This is my way of grasping reality and my perpetual quest to know myself."

"Always Red" opens at Summit One Gallery, Saturday, May 24th with an Artist's Reception from 5-7pm. The exhibition continues through June 25th. Summit One Gallery, South Second Street, in "The Galleries", Highlands NC 828.526.2673,

Ruby Cinemas

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Showing May 22-28

INDIANA JONES AND THE KINGDOM OF CRYSTAL SKULL

rated PG-13

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

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

CHRONICLES OF NARNIA: PRINCE CASPIAN rated PG

Mon - Fri: (4), 7:30

Sat & Sun: (1), (4), 7:30

IRON MAN rated PG-13

Mon - Fri: (4:30), 7:10, 9:30

Sat & Sun: (2:10), (4:30), 7:10, 9:30

SPEED RACER rated PG

Mon - Fri: (4:15)

Sat & Sun: (1:30), (4:15)

WHAT HAPPENS IN VEGAS

rated PG-13

Mon - Fri: 7:15, 9:15

Sat & Sun: 7:15, 9:15

• UPCOMING EVENTS •

berculosis patients. No admission. Park at the Civic Center.

Week of May 26

• The Town has designated the week as Spring Cleanup Week this year. Residents may arrange for the collection of white goods, such as old washing machines or refrigerators, during that week by calling the Town Office at 526-2118 during business hours, 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Tuesday, May 27

• Free Take Charge of Your Health Lecture Series at Cashiers Chiropractic at Laurel Terrace. Men only: "Andopause, disturbing symptoms" from 6-7 p.m. Please call to register: in Cashiers at 828-743-9070 or in Highlands at 828-526-3709.

• Highlands-Cashiers Hospital and AnMed will conduct a blood drive at First Citizens Bank on US

64 East on Tuesday from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m.

Wednesday, May 28

• The Village Nature Series is a free summer-time lecture series co-hosted by Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust & Village Green. "New Perspectives of Old Forests" with Will Blozan. Everyone is welcome. Lectures are held at the Albert Carlton Library in Cashiers. Lectures begin at 6:30 PM. Refreshments follow. There is no charge but donations are graciously accepted. Call HCLT for info: 526.1111.

• Highlands-Cashiers Hospital and AnMed will conduct a blood drive at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital on Wednesday from 9 until 11:30 a.m. and at the Albert Carlton Library on Grouse Point Road in Cashiers from 1-5:30 p.m. on Wednesday afternoon.

Annual plant sale at ballpark May 24



On Saturday, the Mountain Garden Club Plant Sale Saturday, from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m., at the Baseball Park on the corner of Highway 64 East (North 4th Street) and Hickory Street, in Highlands. The rain date is Sunday, May 25, from 1 p.m. until 4 p.m. Come early for the best pick at this once a year sale!

Annual art & craft show Saturday & Sunday at 5th & Pine streets



Famous columnist and wife sighted at last year's Village Square Art & Craft show.

This Saturday and Sunday, May 24 & 25, more than 30 crafters and artists selling their work at the up-coming Village Square Art & Craft show in the Pine Street Park and the Highlands Village Square. The show will feature folk art, fine 4art, metal work, wood work, pottery and more. There will be food available at Fressers in Village Square. Call 828-787-2021 for more information.

Yum, pancakes at the Scaly School House on Buck Knob Road on Saturday morning



The first Pancake Breakfast of the season, sponsored by the Scaly Mountain Womens Club is Saturday, May 24. Guests served from 7:30-10:30 a.m. by club members at tables set in the historic Scaly School House, NC Highway 106 and Buck Knob Road in downtown Scaly. Cost is \$5 for adults and \$2.50 for children. You may also order takeout. Proceeds from the events provide scholarships for local students of all ages who wish to continue their post-secondary education in an academic setting or trade school.

• High Mountain Squares will dance this Wednesday night at the Macon County Community Building from 7-9 p.m. Hoyle Grose from Asheville, NC will be the caller. We dance Western Style Square Dancing, main/stream and plus levels. Everyone is welcome. For information call 828-349-0905, 828-369-8344, 706-782-0943.

Tuesday & Wednesday, May 29-30

• Collective Spirits Wine Festival to benefit The Bascom art center will be held at Highlands Country Club. Collective Spirits begins on May 29, at 6:30 p.m. with the tasting of carefully chosen international and domestic wines, plus piano music and culinary stations. It continues on May 30 at 11 a.m. with a buffet brunch, sparkling wine tasting and lecture. At 1 p.m. the live auction begins, delivered by well-known auctioneer Dennis Hall. For tickets or information on becoming an event patron, call The Bascom at (828) 526-4949 or email info@thebascom.org.

Thursday, May 29

• Mirror Lake Improvement Association meeting 7:30 p.m. at the Civic Center.

Friday, May 30

• Lakeside Restaurant present Delia Viader Wine Dinner at 7 p.m. Begin the evening with a Meet & Greet with Owner/Winemaker, Delia Viader. Enjoy 5 current release varietals of Viader Wines perfectly paired with Lakeside Specialties! \$125 per person plus tax and gratuity. Reservations Required. Call 828-526-9419.

• Hurricane Creek returns to The Instant Theatre Company's Studio on Main. The swinging six bring home the classic rock n'roll and rhythm and blues that will make your spirits soar and feet fly. The dance is on Friday May 30 from 8-10:30 p.m. \$10 for adults over 18, children and students \$5. Refreshments are available for purchase.

• "Replica of a Presidential State Dinner," a five-course wine dinner at Fressers Eatery at 6:30 p.m. featuring dessert by Roland Mesnier, legendary White House Pastry Chef. \$150 per person, plus tax and gratuity. Call Fressers at 526-4188 for reservations.

Saturday, May 31

• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a moderate 6 mile hike on the GA Bartram Trail from Warwoman Dell to the Pinnacle, passing two waterfalls along the way. Meet at Westgate Plaza in Franklin, opposite Burger King, at 9 a.m. Drive 16 miles round trip. Hikers from Highlands or Cashiers call leader for alternate meeting place. Bring a drink, lunch, and wear sturdy comfortable shoes. Hikes are limited to 20. Call leader, Gail Lehman, 524-5298, for reservations or more information. Visitors are welcome but no pets please.

• At the Nature Center, the 5th Annual Salamander Meander, 9 p.m. - until, ages 7 to adult: A night search for some of the area's magnificent salamanders in the wild (advanced registration required, \$5/person).

• A "Washington Tea Party" from 2:30-4:30 p.m., at the Performing Art Center featuring a lecture, demonstration and tea with Roland Mesnier, legendary White House Pastry Chef. \$75 per person. Call Fressers at 526-4188 for reservations.

• "All the Presidents' Pastries" at 6:30 at the Performing Arts Center featuring a photo essay and lecture followed by a champagne and dessert reception and book signing. \$85 per person. Call Fressers at 526-4188 for reservations.

Sunday, June 1

• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take two hikes, mostly downhill, in the Wayah Bald area. Hike

• UPCOMING EVENTS •

Oxen 'Bridge Pull' to set bridge entrance to The Bascom on Saturday, May 24



On Saturday, there will be an old-fashioned "Bridge Pull" will be held at the site of The Bascom's new art campus, on Oak Street. The event is a free community celebration where people can watch as a team of oxen pull the covered bridge to its new location over the creek. Refreshments and T-shirts will be available. For information, call (828) 526-4949 or visit www.thebascom.org.

1, from Wayah Bald to Wayah Crest, is a 4.2 mile easy-to moderate hike. Hike 2, from Wilson Lick Ranger Station to Wayah Crest, is an easy 1.5 mile hike. Meet at Westgate Plaza in Franklin (opposite Burger King) at 2 p.m. Drive 35 miles round trip. Bring a drink, a snack if you wish, and wear sturdy comfortable shoes. Hikes are limited to 20 people. Call leader Kay Coriell, 369-6820, for reservations or more information. Visitors are welcome, but no pets please.

• Christ Anglican Church of Highlands/Cashiers and Community Bible Church series of concerts, Sundays at CBC at 2:30. Love offerings will be given to noted agencies. Gregory Broughton – a concert of Spirituals & Gospel music benefiting The Emergency Council.

• The Center for Life Enrichment (CLE) will have their season opening concert and preview party at the Performing Arts Center (PAC) on Sunday, June 1st from 3 to 4:30 p.m. and is free to attend. The Smoky Mountain Brass Band open the season. The director of the band is Dr. John Entzi, who is also the Director of Bands at UNC Asheville. Dr. Entzi received his doctorate in trumpet performance at the University of South Carolina. To reach CLE about the 60 courses it will present this season, call 526-8811 or email us clehighlands@yahoo.com. For more information about CLE and its programs, go to our website at www.clehighlands.org.

Monday-Saturday, June 2-14

• Summer Courses offered at the Highlands Biological Station. Mammals of the Southern Appalachian Mountains For program descriptions and information about costs, academic credit, instructors, and prerequisites for our summer courses and workshops visit <http://www.wcu.edu/hbs/currentcourses.htm> or call the Highlands Biologi-

cal Station at (828) 526-2602.

Thursday, June 5

• At Highland School at 6:30 p.m., a community meeting for middle and high school students, parents and concerned citizens concerning youth driving under the influence, teen suicide and other issues.

Saturday, June 7

• For National Trail Day (June 7) the Nantahala Hiking Club will take a moderate 4.5 mile hike on a national trail — the NC Bartram Trail — ascending Scaly Mtn. and descending to Tessentee Campground with an elevation change of 1,000 feet. Drive 15 miles round trip with car shuttle. Meet at the Scaly Mtn. post office on Hwy. 106 at 9:30 a.m. Bring a drink, lunch, and wear sturdy comfortable shoes. Hikes are limited to 20. Call leader Virginia Talbot, 526-4904, for reservations or more information. Visitors are welcome but no pets please.

• The plateau's second annual Land Trust Day! Treat yourself to a day of shopping and dining for a great cause. When you support your local participating businesses you will be contributing to Highlands-Cashier Land Trust's mission to "save the places we all love." Participating businesses to be announced. Contact HCLT for more info: 526.1111, Julie.hitrust@earthlink.net, www.hicashlt.org.

Sunday, June 8

• HCP's auditions for "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum," at PAC at 2 p.m. The performance is Aug. 20-30.

Monday, June 9

• HCP's auditions for "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum," at PAC at 5 p.m. The performance is Aug. 20-30.

Wed.-Sat., June 11-14

• At The Instant Theater, "The Return of Herbert Bracewell" by Andrew Johns at 8 p.m. This delightful, nostalgic tale which takes place on a New Years Eve during the first decade of the 20th century, costars the exciting, new acting team of David Milford and Madeleine Davis, and is directed by Ralph Stevens. Milford and Davis appeared together at the ITC in last season's performance piece of The Diaries of Adam and Eve by Mark Twain, and this April in David Rambo's new play about global warming. For reservations please call the ITC box office at 828-342-9197. Advance reservations are \$20. At the door tickets are \$25

Thursday, June 12

• Join friends of Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust for "Birding with the Audubon Society" This moderate hike includes a trail lunch by the waterfalls. Contact HCLT by June 11 to sign up & for info: 526.1111, Julie.hitrust@earthlink.net.

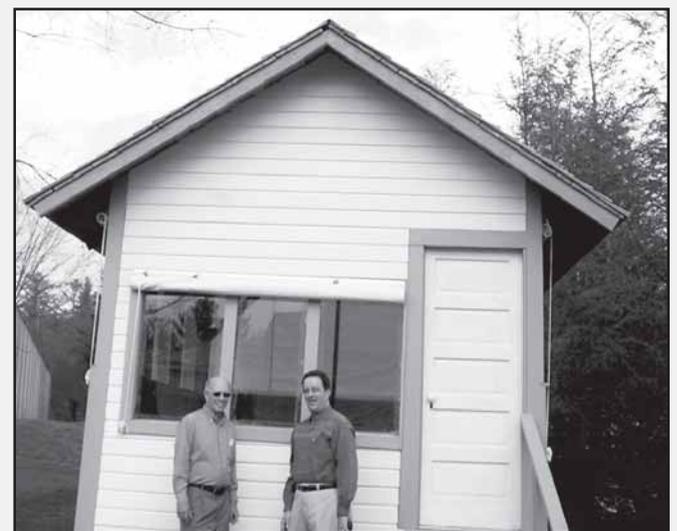
• The growing international problem of human

trafficking will be the focus of a community education forum at the Franklin First United Methodist Church 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. It is sponsored by the Zonta Club of Franklin, REACH of Macon County and the 30th Judicial District Alliance Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault. The forum is open to the public at no cost.

Saturday, June 14

• The Nantahala Hiking Club will hike the unofficial Bartram Trail in South Carolina, from the state line at Hwy. 28 to Hwy. 107, including parts of the Chattooga River Trail and the SC Foothills Trail. The hike, rated moderate, is 6.9 miles in length with a number of ups and downs along the way. Drive 60 miles round trip. Meet at the Highlands Bank of America at 9 a.m. Hikers coming from Franklin or Cashiers, call the leader for carpool and driving information. Bring a drink, lunch, and wear sturdy comfortable shoes. Hikes are limited to 20. Call leader Doug Deane, 864-718-9265.

Historical Society opens 'Bug Hill' cottage during Sunday ceremony



At 2 p.m. Sunday, May 25, Mayor Don Mullen will cut a ribbon to welcome visitors of the Highlands Historic Village to a glimpse into what Highlanders called a "Bug Hill" Cottage when Highlands was the site of a tuberculosis sanatorium. The facility was operated by Dr. Mary Lapham, a banker from Michigan who came to Highlands in her late 30s in 1893. She soon recognized the need for local medical care and enrolled in medical school in Philadelphia at age 40, then went to Vienna and Switzerland for advanced study in the Swiss method of treating tuberculosis, a contagious disease that killed many people at that time.

The cottage to be opened Sunday has been restored as nearly as possible to its original appearance as documented by photographer Henry Scadin. The restoration was made possible by grants from the Friends of Mountain History and the Community Foundation of Western North Carolina, and by donations from members of the Historical Society.

After completion of her medical training Dr. Lapham returned to Highlands and in 1908 erected a sanatorium for the treatment of TB at the

present location of the Highlands Civic Center next-door to the Historic Village. The sanatorium consisted of a three-story house used for the infirmary, doctors' offices, a kitchen and dining room, and medical equipment including an X-ray machine. In 1918 fire consumed the building. There were also 60 open-air cottages like the one pictured above. Each cottage had a wooden floor and roof, but the sides were canvas and were designed so patients could sleep exposed to the clear mountain air and sunshine. The complex was called "Bug Hill" by townsfolk. It provided employment for people in the laundry and kitchen, and in patient care.

At this Sunday's ribbon-cutting ceremony, there will be a visit from "Dr. Lapham," who will tell her story and that of "Bug Hill." Then, in commemoration of Memorial Day, Angie Jenkins will play patriotic music on an antique pump organ while attendees sing. The event is open to the public free of charge. Afterwards the Bug Hill Cottage, along with the Prince House and the Historical Museum, will be open for visitors every Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. until the end of October.

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HELP WANTED

SCALY MOUNTAIN OUTDOOR CENTER –

Now hiring, cooks, dishwashers, wait staff and general help. Call Brenda at 526-3737.

PART-TIME RECEPTIONIST/SECRETARY

– The Episcopal Church of the Incarnation is looking for a part-time receptionist (Monday, Wednesday, Friday 9 am-1 pm). If you are interested, please submit resumes to PO Box 729 Highlands, NC 28741.

RN NEEDED for upscale retirement community. Oversee health care needs of 26 assisted living residents, including supervising CNAs and med techs. Good public relations and customer service skills needed. Apply in person at Chestnut Hill, 64 Clubhouse Trail, Highlands, NC. Or email your resume to admin@chestnuthillslc.com. Drug screening and background check. EOE. 4/17

WHY KNOT KNIT HIGHLANDS is seeking a manager for its knitting retail shop. Must be courteous, dependable and know how to knit. For more info, contact: Beki at #404-542-2904.

COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH is accepting resumes for an Office Assistant. Computer skills, people skills and creative abilities are required. 828-526-4685 or office@cbchighlands.com

THE INTERNATIONAL FRIENDSHIP CENTER OF HIGHLANDS, NC is seeking part time administrative assistant starting May 1, 2008. Ap-

plicant must have both written and oral Spanish knowledge, must be motivated and work well with others. Basic computer skills are necessary. Additional training will be given once applicant begins. For more information please call Jill at 828-526-9938 x 290.

INPATIENT CODER/CLERK NEEDED AT HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HOSPITAL. – Full-Time, day shift. Must possess RHIT or CCS certification or working towards certification plus 2 years coding experience in a n Acute Care hospital. Knowledge in Long Term Care and Swingbed coding helpful. Must have strong technical skills and self motivation. 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 Human Resources at 828-526-1301 or apply online at www.hchospital.org.

COOK AND DIETARY AIDE 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. Pre-employment screening required. Call Mandy Talley at 828-526-1301 or apply online at www.hchospital.org.

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 Tuesday, May 27, 2008. 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, or apply online through our website at www.hchospital.org.

PLANT OPERATIONS MANAGER is need at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. There will be an overall responsibility for the physical and equipment maintenance operation for all facilities owned and operated by HCH. Four years experience in hospital maintenance with a working knowledge of methods and techniques used in electrical, mechanical, and building maintenance. A minimum of two years in hospital safety management with a working knowledge of current JCAHO standards. C-Well Certification is preferred. Effective leadership and management skills are important. Full-Time, Monday through Friday position. Must be able to take call. 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 Human Resources at 828-526-1301 or apply online at www.hchospital.org.

RNS 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 week-

end 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 Human Resources at 828-526-1301 or apply online at www.hchospital.org.

DIRECTOR OF NURSING is needed in the beautiful mountains of Western North Carolina. Experienced nurse leader for a 24-bed Critical Access Hospital, responsible for managing a budget, quality of patient care, customer satisfaction, and the oversight of management for the Acute Care Unit (Med/Surg), ER, OR, PACU and GI Lab, Hospice, and Cardio-Pulmonary. Must be able to provide leadership for managers and staff, and conduct recruitment and retention activities. Masters degree with a background in nursing leadership required. This position reports directly to the CEO/President of Highlands-Cashiers Hospital, working closely with the QA Nurse Manager and the VP of Operations. Full benefits, or the option to opt out of benefits for an increase in pay, available after 30 days of full-time employment. Pre-employment screening required. Call Human Resources at 828-526-1301 or apply online at www.hchospital.org.

CNA OR CNA II at Fidelia Eckerd Living Center. Full-time, positions for 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 Human Resources, 828-526-1301 or apply online at www.hchospital.org.

LOST & FOUND

CANOE FOUND IN MIRROR LAKE. Call 828-506-0308 for details.

CANOE FOUND IN LAKE SEQUOYAH. Call 526-5721.

YARD SALES

SAT. MAY 24TH, 9 A.M.-UNTIL. 75 Hickory Dr. (off Buck Creek to Shortoff in Highlands Springs & Falls) Furniture, household items, linens, clothes, tools.

3-FAMILY SALE, SATURDAY, MAY 24, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. No presales. 165 Hickory Drive. Highlands Springs and Falls. Office equipment, household items, framed prints, furniture, exercise equipment...much more. Directions: Buck Creek Road to Shortoff Mountain Road. Turn right on Chestnut, right on Hickory. 3rd house on right.

SATURDAY, MAY 24 – HIGHLANDS PLAYHOUSE AUCTION AT 6 P.M. Preview Hour includes wine, and hors d'oeuvres. Auction starts at 7:00pm. Sampling of articles: Hungarian Porcelain, crystal, furniture, TV, mixed box lots.

WORK WANTED

MALE HOME HEALTH AIDE – Available for days or night shift. 11 years experience. Call Desmond. 828-421-3714. 5/22

RETAIL SPACE FOR RENT

UNIQUE COMMERCIAL OPPORTUNITY on Main St Highlands. 800 sq ft retail/office space just in time for the season. Space includes bath & kitchen. Call for details 526-3363.

PRIME OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT – 800 sq. ft., air-conditioned, heated, plenty of parking. Call 526-5673.

IN-TOWN COMMERCIAL SPACE WITH OPTIONAL LIVING SPACE FOR RENT. Charming and supremely convenient commercial building in high traffic district. One block off main, Walking distance to Main Street shopping at Old Edwards Inn. Loft apartment above commercial space. Commercial space \$1,700/month. Loft \$850/month. Call today to schedule a showing! 828-526-2769. Ask for Ralph.

UNIQUE COMMERCIAL OPPORTUNITY ON MAIN ST HIGHLANDS. 800 sq ft retail/office space just in time for the season. Space includes bath & kitchen. Call for details 526-3363.

RETAIL SPACE FOR LEASE, Hearthstone Center on busy Hwy 64 beside the old Hardee's, 2,052 sq ft, High visibility, Plenty of parking, Great retail location ready to be occupied, central heat & air, carpet, excellent condition, Busy shopping center, Call 828-243-2939 or 828-743-9454 for more information.

RETAIL/OFFICE SPACE - 800 - 3,000 Sq Ft. Located in Highlands Plaza. Entrances on Hwy. 28 & 106. Great Visibility. High Traffic. Abundant Parking. Reasonable Terms. Best location in town. Call 864-630-0808 for info.

RESIDENTIAL FOR RENT

NEW LODGE STYLE HOME – 3Bed/3.5Bath in Holly Forest, all community amenities included, Minimum 3 month rental, \$2650 a month 813-972-2111. 6/26

3BR, 2BA COTTAGE NEAR MIRROR LAKE – In town. \$1250 per month. Very clean. 770-722-5654

1 BEDROOM, Living Room, Kitchen, Patio,. 6-month lease. Utilities included except phone. 1 month's security deposit. \$650 a month. Call 526-2679.

IN-TOWN 2/2 FULLY FURNISHED CONDO. LR, DR, sun room, w/d. Rent in line with length of lease. Call 828-421-2144.

NEW 3 BED PLUS LOFT/3.5 BATH Log home in Cashiers with view from decks, main level incl. master furnished. \$1,900/month. Call 813-972-2111 5/15

ROOMMATE WANTED – separate living room, bedroom and bathroom. \$700/month utilities included except phone. Call 828-342-0157.

ONE BR/ONE BATH FURNISHED APARTMENT close to town including all utilities except phone. \$750. Contact Tucker or Jeannie Chambers, The Chambers Agency, REALTORS. 828-526-3717.

1BED/1BATH 900sq.ft. \$825/month includes utilities. \$300 deposit. Unfurnished. Non-smoker preferred. Walking distance to town. (828)526-9494

ON MIRROR LAKE – Charming 3 bed, 2

ESTATE SALE

Antique dealers, designer are downsizing their personal collections - 40 years of collecting. From 4 homes to 1! Antiques furniture, silver, paintings, dishes, linens, Oriental rugs, fine china, crystal, figurines, beds, outhouse, antler accessories.....

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COTTAGE FOR RENT - 1BR, 1BA in town @ Chestnut Cottages. Private, screen porch, Heat/AC, FP, extra sleeping loft, furnished or unfurnished. 6 month lease - \$750. monthly plus utilities. Call 526-1684.

VACATION RENTAL

4 BEDROOMS, 2.5 BATHS, LONG RANGE VIEW. Sleeps 9, Immaculate, Newly Remodeled, \$875/week. Lower rates for 4 persons or less. See photos at <http://vrbo.com/181808.305-458-0033.6/5>

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

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

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

RV LOT FOR SALE - Lot 1 The Coach Club. Class A Resort. Downtown Highlands. 200 sq. ft. cedar coach house, landscaped, outdoor kitchen, gas fire pit, overlooking stream. Live the Highlands life. See Terryhallhomes.com click on RV lot. Call

828-787-1014 or 352-258-4187. 6/26

WALK TO TOWN - .75 acre off Hicks Rd in Mirror Lake. Beautifully wooded hillside elevation. Water, Electric and driveway. Make an Offer. Call 828-200-9334. 5/29

RV SITES FOR RENT OR LEASE IN-TOWN. Walk to Main Street. Call for details. (828)526-1684.

REDUCED FROM \$459,000 to \$399,000. NEW CONSTRUCTION WITH LONG RANGE VIEW - 3 Bedrooms, 2 Baths, Cathedral Ceilings, Stone Fireplace, Hardwood Floors, Granite Kitchen, Buck Creek area, \$399,000 firm. (305) 458-0033. 6/5

LAND FOR SALE - By owners. Unrestricted, 64+ acres. Close to Highlands. 360-degree view. Level pastures. 2 bed house and highway frontage. Call 828-526-2879. 5/29.

HOUSE FOR SALE IN WEST PALM BEACH, FLORIDA. 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath in adorable, quiet neighborhood 2 miles from ocean and Palm Beach Island and 5 miles from downtown. \$450,000. Call 561-379-9151. 7/31

ITEMS FOR SALE

STUFF FOR FREE - 5-section sofa, (2 reclining ends), blue. Nice condition; 8-piece white metal deck furniture, glass top and cushions; two-leaf wooden coffee table; 2 5-ft. shelving units, like

new. Call 706-746-0011.

BEAUTIFUL AND COMFORTABLE NEW WOODEN ROCKER with slatted seat in Oak finish. \$85. Call 526-4340 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

UPSCALE PINE COMPUTER ARMOIRE - paid \$1,500. Asking \$400. Like new. 58" x 78" Call 404-314-4909 or 526-0545.

BEAUTIFUL BLACK WICKER SOFA - for porch. Custom cushions. like new. 98" \$400. Call 404-314-4909 or 526-0545.

8-PIECE BED ENSEMBLE - California King multi-color reversible comforter, 2 king shams, bed skirt, quilted matching throw, 4 decorative pillows. \$30. Call 526-9966.

20-PIECE WROUGHT IRON PATIO SET WITH COORDINATING SUNBRELLA FABRICS. Table, 4 chairs, 6 side chairs, love seat, coffee table, 2 chaises, accent tables. Priced separately. Call 526-9966.

JENN-AIRE - DOWN DRAFT COOK TOP. Like New., Take Out. Originally \$585. Asking \$125. Call 743-7878.

AB LOUNGE - New, taken out of box, but never used. \$60. 526-9107.

SACRIFICE. BEAUTIFUL DIAMOND RING - Center stone. VS1, 3.24kt, .60kt baget side diamonds in 14kt. gold. Call 828-526-5684. Leave message. 5/15

FREE DINING ROOM TABLE, Glass Top, 6 chairs. White. Call 526-5910

DUMP TRAILER - 12 ft. hydraulic. \$1,200. Call 526-5910.

ANTIQUE FURNITURE: Medallion Back Sofa, Louis XV substyle. \$300. Matching Lady's and Gentleman's Chairs, \$400 set. Rocking Chair, Lincoln Type, upholstered. \$175. Sold separately or all for \$750. Call Sandy at 369-6263.

FRENCH HORN Recently overhauled Conn 6-D double, excellent condition \$1,500. 828-526-2905 leave message

GREEN PRINT VELOUR SWIVEL ROCKER, new, \$250; blue stripe club chair w/ottoman, like new, \$175; large pine armoire, like new, \$200; Simms X-large waders w/attached boots, bought at Highland Hiker, used 3 times, \$250. Call Beatrice or Dennis at 743-5600.

OFFICE DESK FOR SALE. 30x60, dark oak finish, 6 drawers. \$150. Call Sandy at 369-6263 or 524-7350.

JEEP RIMS - 17-inch aluminum factory rims off 2005 Jeep Liberty 4x4. Brand new! Complete set of 4 \$800. Valued at \$265 each. Call 706-982-2254.

BARELY USED 30GB ZUNE VIDEO MP3 PLAYER. Comes with leather case. \$150 or best offer. Call Davis at 828-526-9152 for more information.

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dles included. \$500 for both. Call Lisa at 770-842-3784.

THREE "HOUSE OF DENMARK" BOOK-CASES – walnut, 3' x 6', containing TV, tape player, turn table, radio/CD. Sold as an entertainment unit including 2 Advent speakers. \$550. Call 526-9273.

MISC. ITEMS – Play Station 2 \$75; Old Walt Disney movies (never opened); Indoor plants; Girls' bicycle; Collectible Basketball Cards (never opened). Call 526-9123.

POOL TABLE – Peter Vitalie 8' x 50" pool table, burl wood rails, upgrades leather pockets, new upgraded felt – oak in color – \$3,400. Table located in Cashiers, Call 770-313-0899.

BARBOUR COAT Burghley Duster. \$350. Call 526-9027.

MASSEY FERGUSON DIESEL DELUXE 35 WITH POWER STEERING. Completely rebuilt, repainted, new tires. Includes scrape blade, and an 8,000 lbs. tandem axle trailer. Sharp Package! \$6,000. Call (828)526-1684 and leave message.

ANTIQUA ORNATE WALNUT Victorian gold velvet sofa and blue chair. Call 369-0498 and leave message.

BEAMS, FLOORING AND ENTIRE STRUCTURES: HAND HEWN BEAMS. Beautiful material, large faces, \$3.50-\$4.50 per board foot. Wormy white oak flooring (milled w/ a t&g), 6-12" widths, \$8 per ft. Original, reclaimed white and yellow pine flooring, random wide widths (6-16") \$6/ board ft. Wide barn siding, \$3/ft. Also historic log cabins and barns ready to reassemble. 215-529-7637. Delivery available.

DINING ROOM TABLE & 8 CHAIRS – (7 w/ o leaves) Great for Mountain Home. Nearly New. Good Condition. Leather & Upholstered chairs. \$1,000. Call Linda at 526-1517.

ANTIQUA CHERRY DINING TABLE from Estate Sale. Double drop-leaf. Rope carved legs. Seats 4-10 people Extends to 4x10 ft \$1,500 obo 828-787-1515

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.

ANTIQUA 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.icwoodworking.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.

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.

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6533. 5/29

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... BRUGGER continued from page 6

children ranging in age from 4-15 that combine fun with learning about the natural world. The HNC's director, Patrick Brannon, spoke at the Audubon event. He said he felt very strongly about the need for educa-

tion about the natural world: "In the end we will conserve only what we love, we will love only what we understand, and we will understand only what we are taught."

Mr. Louv ends his book on a positive note,

with some fascinating ideas for transforming cities into natural habitats. He mentions a book by Timothy Beatley, *Green Urbanism: Learning from European Cities*. "Beatley describes an astonishing array of Euro-

pean green-city designs: cities with half the land areas devoted to forest, green space, and agriculture; cities that have not only preserved nearby nature, but reclaimed some inner-city areas for woods, meadows, and streams. These neighborhoods are both denser and more livable than

our own. Nature, even a suggestion of wildness, is within walking distance of most residences. In contrast to the 'historic opposition of things urban and natural,' he writes, green cities 'are fundamentally embedded in a natural environment. They can, moreover, be re-envisioned to

operate and function in natural ways—they can be restorative, re-nourishing and replenishing of nature."

Betty Fisher gave me this book to read, and I enjoyed it so much I gave it to the Hudson Library so others in the community can enjoy it also.

... MULLEN continued from page 9

to keep their cats inside to avoid loss of birds from these predators. I hate to call the cats of any of you predators, but to birds they are. It is important that we attempt to protect all the wild life in our very special part of the country. Let me once again remind folks not to feed the bears or any other wild animals with the exception of the birds. Feeding our four-legged friends only makes them dependent on humans and increases

their aggressiveness into neighborhoods.

The Town has also completed and signed our agreement with the North Carolina Department of Transportation regarding the take over and maintenance of Hickory Hill, Chowan and Cullasaja roads and the paving of these roads will be done using existing "maintenance" right-of-ways. We have been told that this will be done before July but the exact

date has not been set. We will certainly let everyone involved know the exact date when the NCDOT has informed us. I thank all those who live in those areas for their cooperation in this great project as we continue to improve the area and protect our lakes.

Once again welcome to those people who are returning from warmer climates. We look forward to a great spring, summer and fall together.

... DANCING continued from page 24

The most recent addition to Ball's pack is a blue merle border collie named Rhythm and Blues. "I was looking for a border collie to train in agility and free-style and fell in love with Rhythm despite the fact that his foster family assured me he had far too many fear issues to ever be a performance dog," she said.

Rhythm came from Carolina Border Collie Rescue in May of 2006, and Ball said they did struggle with his fear and shyness for almost three months. "Now he is the most accomplished therapy dog in my pack, and he has dance moves none of the other dogs can touch!" she said.

Ball also has volunteered her time to teach obedience classes at animal shelters since 1992, including the Boggs Mountain Humane Shelter. "Everyone who adopts a dog from Boggs Mountain get a coupon for one free training session with me," she said.

She is also the author of over 80 novels. "My latest are the Raine Stockton mystery series which are

set in the mountains of Western North Carolina. In March of next year my newest book will be released, *A Year on Ladybug Farm*, which was inspired by my adventures in moving to Rabun County and restoring the 100-year-old barn in which I now live."

The Dixie Dancing Dogs spend a lot of time performing at fundraisers and charity events throughout the year. These include the annual Athens Run for the Dogs to benefit Canine Companions for Independence held every September; the Trot for the Cure to benefit canine cancer research in Charleston, SC, each January; Pawfest held in Lawrenceville, GA in May to raise money for the Gwinnett County Humane Society; and the Fur Ball for the Troup County Humane Society in La Grange, GA held annually in August.

When not performing as a group, individual members often dance with their dogs at fundraisers and charity events such as Relay for Life. They also visit nursing homes, hospitals and

schools. Because the handlers are spread out in Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Alabama, it can be difficult for everyone to get together at each practice session, and the group meets twice a month in two different locations to make it easier for members to meet and practice at least once a month.

On June 7 the Dogs will perform at the "Hoedown for Hounds" benefit for the Boggs Mountain Humane Shelter, which is being held at the Lake Rabun Pavilion. Tickets are \$50 per person or two for \$75, and include a chuckwagon dinner with steak, baked potatoes and salad. There will be live and silent auctions as well as a \$10,000 raffle. The event starts at 6 p.m.

"The beauty of this sport is that it is just as much fun learning as it is performing, and there is room for everyone along the way," Ball said. The Dixie Dancing Dogs are occasionally available to perform at events throughout the year. For more information, visit www.thepetcoach.net.



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POLICE , FIRE & SHERIFF LOGS

The following is the Highlands Police Dept. log entries for May 10-19. Only the names of persons arrested, issued a Class-3 misdemeanor, or public officials have been used.

May 10

- Officers responded to a two-vehicle accident on Main Street.
- At 11:30 p.m., Christopher Scott Storm, 59, of Scaly Mountain was arrested for possession of a fictitious dealer plate on his vehicle, resisting arrest and possession of less than a 1/2 oz. of marijuana when he was stopped on Spring street for displaying an altered Florida temporary tag.

May 14

- At 7 a.m., scaffolding valued at \$300 was reported missing from a construction site on North Street.
- At 7:30 a.m., a motorist on Hicks Road was stopped for driving without a license.
- At 9:37 p.m., a motorist was cited for driving while drinking an alcoholic beverage on N.C. 106.

May 15

- At 10:17 a.m., a motorist was cited on Oak Street for displaying a fictitious registration.
- At 11:46 a.m., a motorist on N.C. 106 was cited for exceeding a safe speed.
- At 5:10 p.m., Duncan Oil on N. 4th Street reported a gas drive-off of \$61.96.

May 19

- At 11:45 a.m., Michele Brass Andrews, 47, of Lake Toxaway, N.C., was arrested for DWI and cited for careless and reckless driving on N.C. 106.

- At 8:42 p.m., officers responded to a call of loud music coming from Old Creek Lodge Circle. The party was disbanded.

During the week, officers responded to one alarm and issued 3 warning tickets.

The following is the Highlands Fire & Rescue Dept. log entries for the week of May 15-20.

May 15

- The dept. responded to an two vehicle accident. There were no injuries.

May 16

- The dept. responded to a CO₂ alarm activation at a residence on Hicks Road.

May 18

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

May 20

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

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

The following is the Sheriff Dept. log entries for the week of May 9-17.

May 9

- At 10:30 a.m., deputies responded to a call of real property damage to a gate valued at \$18,000 on Sweetwater Farm Road.

May 16

- At 8:30 a.m., deputies responded to a call of a motor vehicle theft in Scaly.

May 17

- Deputies responded to an alarm at a residence on Garnet Rock Trail. All was secure.

'Child Safety Day' - May 31

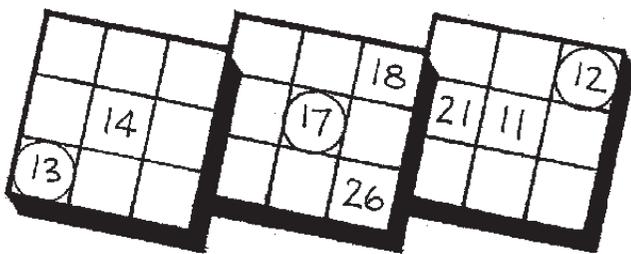
On May 31, the Highlands Police Department and the Highlands Fire & Rescue Department will present "Child Safety Day" at Highlands School.

Activities will include a bicycle rodeo, carseat inspections, fingerprinting and the Fire Safety Trailer.

During the event and after, the departments will be accepting new and gently used bicycle helmets and child booster seats.

• FUN & GAMES •

PseudoCube[©]



#DN2E - Level of Difficulty - Moderate

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.

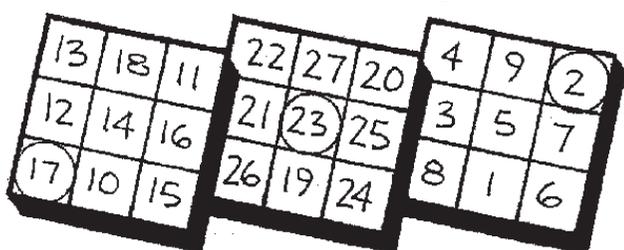
THE CHALLENGE:

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!

Email: pseudocube8@aol.com.

Feedback encouraged!

Solution to #BN1E in May 15 issue



N-Cryptoku[©]

Object: Assign 9 different letters to each cell of 9 columns and 9 rows. In addition, nine 3 x 3 cells in the layout have the same nine different letters (this is similar to Sudoku but uses nine letters instead of nine numbers). A 'mystery word or phrase' using all nine different letters is designated by circled squares (other short words appear when solving, for which a list of meanings is provided). Every puzzle has a different 'mystery word or phrase' (no spaces).

How to Solve: Determine the nine different letters among those given. Try to solve the mystery word using the clue given and write it in. Other small words will appear in the puzzle. As in conventional crossword puzzles, a list of meanings for these ACROSS/ DOWN words is given and number positions shown. Doing them will speed up your solution to the puzzle. Using your powers of induction, inference and insight, place missing letters in all blank squares according to the rules noted above. Focus attention where the least number of letters are needed to complete a line, column or 3 x 3 cell. Email: pseudocube8@aol.com. Feedback encouraged!

Mystery Word
"Instantaneous Ignition"

Across

1. 50% (4)
2. Undersea vessel (3)
3. Moved swiftly (3)
4. Tall jar (3)
5. Joy (3)

Down

6. Article (2)
7. Cheer (3)
8. Sheep cry (2)
9. Small loaf (3)
10. Dog's cry

U			N	'	6			F
	B		A				H	
		N		7	L	B		
2		B	3	R		N	L	H
	L			H		4	R	
R	H	L		U				B
	5	U			10	A	R	9
	A		H				U	
B			L					A

Solution to May 15 puzzle

L	K	B	I	S	A	E	T	C
C	S	I	K	T	E	A	L	B
A	E	T	L	C	B	K	S	I
S	I	C	E	A	L	B	K	T
B	L	A	C	K	T	I	E	S
K	T	E	B	I	S	C	A	L
E	B	K	S	L	I	T	C	A
T	C	S	A	B	K	L	I	E
I	A	L	T	E	C	S	B	K

Find It All On This Map

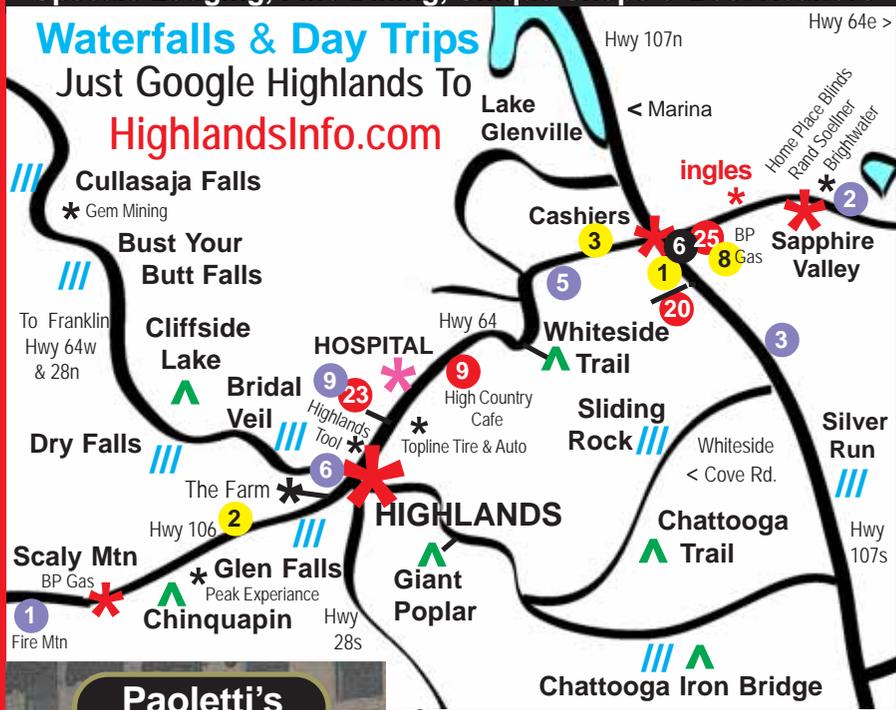
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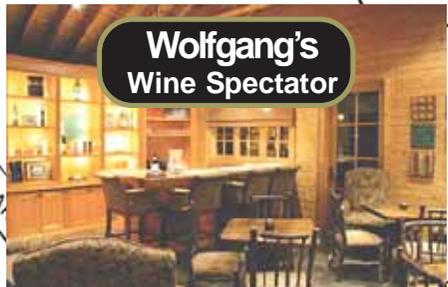
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2008 Highlands Map

- | DINING | DINING | Fashion | Antiques |
|--------------------|------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| 1 Brick Oven | 15 Madison's | 1 AnnaWear | 1 Acorns |
| 2 Buck's | 16 Nick's | 2 Bear Mt. Outfit. | 2 Chinz |
| 3 Cyprus | 17 Oak St Cafe | 3 Carolina Eyes | 3 CK Swan |
| 4 Don Leon | 18 Paoletti | 4 Drakes Diamonds | 4 Elephant's Foot |
| 5 Fireside | 19 Pizza Place | 5 Elevations | 5 Mirror Lake |
| 6 Fressers Eatery | 20 Pescado's | 6 Highland Hiker | 6 Scudder's |
| 7 Fressers Express | 21 Rib Shack | 7 Jackson Madeleine | 7 |
| 8 Golden China | 22 Rosewood | 8 Needle Point | |
| 9 High Country | 23 Skyline Lodge | 9 Raspberry Fizz | Galleries |
| 10 Highlands Deli | 24 Sports Page | 10 Silver Eagle | 1 Bryant Art Glass |
| 11 Hill Top Grill | 25 Subway | 11 Stone Lantern | 2 Collette Gallery |
| 12 Kelsey Place | 26 SweeTreats | 12 Village Boutique | 3 Mill Creek Gallery |
| 13 Lakeside | 27 Wild Thyme | 13 Village Kids | 4 Tin Roof Gallery |
| 14 Log Cabin | 28 Wolfgang's | 14 Wit's End | 5 Tino Gallery |
| | | | 6 Summit One |

Twigs At Highlands Edge
The Maps Are Updated Weekly



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- Dusty's Market
- 3 Cyprus
- 10 Taylor Barnes
- Live Music - Cyprus
- Post Office
- Manley's Auto Service
- J&J Lawn & Landscaping
- Summer House & Tin Roof



- | Beauty | Home Decor | Real Estate |
|---------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| 1 # 1 Nails | 1 Acorn's | 1 Buyers |
| 2 All Seasons | 2 Dutchman's | 2 Caralina Mtn Br. |
| 3 Creative Concepts | 3 Dry Sink | 3 Century 21 |
| 4 Images Unlimited | 4 Out On A Limb | 4 Chambers |
| 5 Michael's | 5 On The Rocks | 5 Country Club |
| 6 Mountain Magic | 6 Shiraz Rugs | 6 John Cleveland |
| 7 Mountain Rayz | 7 Summer House | 7 John Schiffl |
| 8 Old Edwards Spa | 8 Twigs The Season | 8 Meadows Mtn. |
| 9 Pro Nails | 9 Twigs | 9 Prestige Realty |
| 10 Taylor Barnes | 10 Wholesale Down | |

- Lodging**
- 1 Fire Mountain
- 2 Hampton Inn
- 3 High Hampton Inn
- 4 Highlands Suites
- 5 Millstone Inn
- 6 Mirror Lake Lodge
- 7 Mtn. High Lodge
- 8 Old Edwards Spa
- 9 Skyline Lodge
- 10 The Lodge

