Voters statewide rally for change

North Carolina’s May 6 primary turned the tide locally and nationally.

In Macon County, sitting Republican Commission Chairman Charlie Leatherman lost the nomination of his party for November’s race.

On Nov. 4, winner Republican Jimmy Goodman will run against Democrat Bobby Kuppers for the District III seat on the board. Dr. Jim Davis is running unopposed for one of the two seats in District II.

Goodman got 1,363 votes – 53.28% and Leatherman got 1,195 votes – 46.7%.

In Macon County’s 15 precincts there are 24,512 registered voters. On Tuesday only 8,074 voters cast their votes – 32.94%.

Overall, the citizens in High-• See VOTERS page 20

Life-long teacher honored at surprise ceremony

Teacher Wilma Gordon’s career spanned the continent over a 49-year period. For the past 25 years she has been the beloved teacher of the Highlands United Methodist Church pre-school preparing hundreds of students for “big school.” Now she is ready to retire; her last day is May 30. Allison Tate and Angie Gilbert will take over at the pre-school, so learning will continue. At a surprise ceremony Sunday, at the Methodist Church May 4, Ms. Wilma was acknowledged by current students and their parents many of whom also graduated from her class. A framed photograph entitled “Little Hands” with the caption “You taught us well from the very start to reach out for tomorrow, but you’ll always have our hearts.” by photographer Ginger Mosely, was presented to her during the ceremony.

For more on Ms. Wilma, see page 3. Photo by Kim Lewicki

Animal shelter, occupancy tax & sewer lines subject of May 1 MC Commission meeting

At a continuation meeting May 1, the Macon County Commission discussed issues whose outcome could affect the 2008-2009 budget.

County Manager Jack Horton was looking for budget guidance specifically in reference to the Animal Control operation, the Occupancy Tax system and the county’s sewer line extension commitment with the town of Franklin.

“We’re getting close to the end of the fiscal year and we need to project the budget for the next year,” said Horton.

Animal Control Shelter

The commission agreed to move forward with its plans to build an Animal Control Shelter on land below the jail, if the land is suitable for the project, said Commissioner Ronnie Beale.

Commissioners said it was an ideal location especially since no one lives near by.

Horton said once completed, Sheriff Robbie Holland said inmate labor could be used to help maintain the shelter and do daily cleaning and maintenance which would help keep costs down.

• See COMMISSION page 23

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Betz resigns

At the Wednesday Town Board meeting, commissioners agreed to move forward with their plan to change Highlands’ form of government from its hybrid form of Mayor-Council-Town Administrator to the Council-Manager form.

This came despite a letter of resignation from Town Administrator Richard Betz.

“I am writing to notify you that I will be resigning from my position as Town Administrator effective March 1, 2009,” it reads.

“I believe this period of time should permit the completion of this fiscal year’s budget, audit and financial cycle, most of the administrative work associated with the Harris Lake Capital Improvement Project, installation of new auditing software, and several other long-term projects which I have been managing. I hope that this period of timewill be adequate for you to find a Town Manager and I pledge to do everything in my power to facilitate a smooth transition.”

Town Attorney Bill Coward outlined the procedure which begins with the adoption of a resolution of intent to change the form specifically describing what will be amended in the Town Charter, calling a public hearing within 45 days and publishing a summary.

• See BETZ page 20

Weekend Weather:

70.49°F  71.58°F  65.45°F
Fred knows the real story

Dear Editor,

I always look forward to Fred Wooldridge’s column in the free Highlands’ Newspaper. Last week’s column was the best yet. Your take on the Muslim extremists is right on. The terrorists surely will do nothing between now and November because they want Hillary or Obama as our next President. And they will strike at our weakest time.

I get so very frustrated that the bulk of American people do not realize the extreme danger we face. We lost more Americans in Sept. 2001 in New York City than we did in Dec. 1941 at Pearl Harbor, yet citizens won’t band together to defeat our enemy and win the war in the middle east.

Please keep up the good work.

I would love to have lunch with you some time here in Highlands and talk national politics, local topics, guns, health insurance, etc.

Paul Thompson
Highlands

Call goes out for The Girls’ Clubhouse

The Girls’ Clubhouse is preparing for its annual trip and it needs the community’s help.

Every Friday afternoon during the school year, the girls in the group have been performing community service projects in town. This has actually been going on for 11 years.

Instead of raising money for its annual end-of-year trip, the club has been concentrating on performing community projects during its meetings and has now run out of time for fundraising!

This year The Girls’ Clubhouse going to Myrtle Beach, SC to work at the Myrtle Beach State Park transplanting wildflowers from one area of the park to another.

Thanks to a generous donation by Old Edwards Hospitality Group, the club has the rental van covered, but still needs money for accommodations, meals, gas and hopefully have some extra to rent bicycles, go to the Myrtle Beach Water Park and a show.

The Girls’ Clubhouse has an account with RBC Centura, P.O. Box 1090, Highlands, NC 28741. Bank manager Sue Gorski said donations could be sent to The Girls’ Clubhouse and she would see that they get deposited in its account.

About 12 people will be going on the trip – including the girls and two chaperones.

This year the club has picked up litter, worked three times at The Bascom – once packing boxes in preparation of the center’s move back into the Hudson Library, once cleaning out a storage shed and dismantling an exhibit, and once putting posters up around town for the upcoming wine event.

As has become customary over the last 11 years, the club decorated the tables for the town’s annual Thanksgiving Dinner and hid Easter eggs for the annual Easter Egg Hunt. The girls worked at the Highlands Community Child Development Center assisting with activities twice and at Andrea Chalker’s pre-school at the Episcopal Church doing the same thing twice, as well.

They worked at the Highlands United Methodist Church organizing the activity storage closet. During the flu season, the girls cleaned windows and door handles at Highlands School to help keep germs at bay. They also sold raffle tickets for the school’s Fall Festival and raised money through bake sales to buy 12 needy families gifts and goodies at Christmas time.

Though this doesn’t represent the complete list of activities completed this year, you get the picture. They have been busy.

The girls would greatly appreciate donations in any amount for the upcoming trip and activities. Either send them directly to the bank made out to The Girls’ Clubhouse, or send to Highlands’ Newspaper, P.O. Box 2703, Highlands, NC 28741, o The Girls’ Clubhouse.

The girls thank you for your consideration.

Kim Lewicki
The Girls’ Clubhouse
Supervisor

Fred’s column weighs heavy

Dear Editor,

I have been one of Fred Wooldridge’s biggest fans for almost 18 years and always look forward to his column in Highlands’ Newspaper. However, I sincerely wish he had not written the column in the May 1 edition.

If he is right, and there is probably a good possibility that he is, there is absolutely nothing we can do but worry. If he is wrong, again, all we can do is worry.

Kim Lewicki
The Girls’ Clubhouse
Supervisor
Salutatorian sisters continue success

Caitlin Rae Rawlins and Callie Marie Rawlins, salutatorians for the Highlands School classes of 2004 and 2006 respectively, were both named to the Chancellor’s list for the 2007 fall semester, both with 4.0 averages. Caitlin is attending the University of North Carolina in Asheville and majoring in Studio Art with a minor in Art History. Callie is attending Appalachian State University in Boone, majoring in Performance Theater with a minor in creative writing.

Shearl earns degree from WCU

Allen James Shearl, Highlands School Class of 2005 will be graduating from Western Carolina University on Saturday May 10 with a degree in Natural Resource Management.

Community honors Ms. Wilma

When Ms. Wilma took her customary seat in the second pew on the left at church Sunday morning, she wondered two things: What were Baptists and Episcopalians doing at the Methodist church this Sunday? And why did so many extra children come down for the Children’s Sermon? Despite the clues, Ms. Wilma was totally surprised at the public acknowledgement she received Sunday morning on the eve of her retirement.

She began her teaching career in Highlands, like her now famous teacher-mother Irene Picklesimer James. After two years, she and her husband John began working for the Bureau of Indian Affairs which took them first to Alaska for 10 years where they taught Eskimo children, then on to Washington State, Mississippi and Virginia. Ms. Wilma returned to Highlands after John died in 1985 and began the pre-school at the Methodist Church.

As an elementary teacher at Highlands School prior to leaving for Alaska, she taught Doyle Calloway, Billy Tate and Donnie Edwards, just to name a few. Now she’s teaching the children of children she taught – Sam Schmidt’s Julia May, Jessica Cox’s daughter Sara, and the list goes on.

She said she’s ready for retirement and will likely travel and work in the garden but she wouldn’t change a day of her life. “I received much more from the children than I gave,” she said. “They have been my life.”
**Laughing at Life**

Greening up Main Street
(And other random stuff)

You gotta give that ole Hank Ross credit; there's no grass growing under his feet. The man is constantly up to something. Not only is he the leader of the pack on the beautiful Pine Street Park project that is home to more dog poop than any other place in town, now he wants to put trees out in the middle of Main Street. At the risk of being tarred and feathered, I want to go on record and say I like the guy. At least he gives me good material to write about.

For starters, the town commissioners better be thinking of other ways of greening up Main Street rather than planting trees, like how to bring green money here this summer in a time of recession. With gas headed to four bucks a pop and the real estate and job market hurting, they should be thinking of things that will not irritate visitors once they're here...like issuing parking tickets to unsuspecting tourists. Hello...the key word here is "not." In my 28 years as a cop, I think I was forced to give out six parking tickets. I simply hate them. All it does is make people want to vacation somewhere else.

This would be a good summer to allow everyone to park wherever they want for as long as they want. People will flock here just to see if there will be chaos. I'll surely be there to watch the boring event. In a recession year, we should not have a system in place that causes people to have to run out and start their car engines and possibly leave town because they are out of money and outta gas. I just hate it when I'm practical. I am a true anti-micro-manager.

Actually I think Hank's got a pretty good idea on his plant a tree in the middle of the street plan. Main Street does kind of look like a giant Wal-Mart parking lot and trees would soften the look. The bad news is that trees bring birds. Birds bring poop. Poop on your new paint job is a downer. Also trees attract dogs. They love to circle a tree several times as they sniff and when things are just right, they...well, you know. Let's hope they use the tree and not the front bumper of a visitor's BMW. What is it with Hank and poop anyway?

Moving on, I'm guessing Highlands' real estate agents are in for a lean year. With folks scrambling just to hang on to their main abode in other cities, sale of second homes will take a big hit this summer.

This is why I am making this generous offer. It's called the HOFO project. I transfer the vacation house to my name, pay the commission fees that realtors normally gouge...oops, I mean charge for the sale and the contributor gets a tax write-off. It's a great plan. Are you sitting down? As an added incentive I will give the contributor enough gas to get out of Highlands. No need to call me Mr. Nice Guy! Oh, HOFO stands for help ole Fred out.

Speaking of gasoline costs, I don't know what all the fuss is about. Gas in the Netherlands is currently $6.77 a gallon and has been like that for years. If you happen to be in the Netherlands and hate paying that much, you can move to another European country like Great Britain where the cheapest gas is only $6.02 a gallon and has been like that for years.

When you consider it took 100 million years to make one gallon of gas, it's really a good deal. Also consider that Evian bottled water sells for about $21 bucks a gallon and won't even make your potable. It's not the same. Speaking of gasoline costs, I don't know what all the fuss is about. Gas in the Netherlands is currently $6.77 a gallon and has been like that for years. If you happen to be in the Netherlands and hate paying that much, you can move to another European country like Great Britain where the cheapest gas is only $6.02 a gallon and has been like that for years.

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Finally, everyone knows that Father Tien at Our Lady of the Mountains Catholic Church is the most devout Catholic in Highlands. Each week, his sermons are about love, peace, hope and the power of prayer. Well, I'm getting bored and want to move to the next level. Sooo, does anyone know of a caustic black preacher in Highlands I can go to and bring a little excitement into my religious experience? OK, does anyone know of a non-caustic black preacher in Highlands I can go to and bring a little excitement into my religious experience? OK, OK, color doesn't matter as long as he's black.

-Hank Ross

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**Feedback**

askfredanything@aol.com
A few years ago, a medical article heralded the fact that nutrition was an important component in the treatment of chronic diseases such as malaria, tuberculosis, and HIV/AIDS. I called my friend, Dr. Paul Farmer, and asked if he had heard the news. “Yeah, Henry,” he answered sarcastically, “isn’t that amazing. You have to feed people in order for them to get well!”

Paul had been preaching the importance of adequate nutrition in the treatment of diseases for years. At one time he was forbidden to use grant money to purchase rice for patients being treated for AIDS. The authority which had awarded the grant sternly warned Paul that the grant was exclusively for the purchase of drugs. Paul’s admonition that drugs work much better in adequately nourished patients fell on deaf ears. The fact that he bought the rice anyway says a great deal about Paul Farmer. The fact that he would never participate in a controlled study to evaluate the role of nutrition in the treatment of chronic diseases says even more.

In a controlled study, one group of patients receives a drug treatment and is fed. A second group receives the same drug, but is denied supplemental nutrition. At the end of the study, differences in the responses between the two groups are determined. Paul considers such a study both foolish and immoral. That’s science, and a good reason for Paul to describe himself as a doctor, rather than a scientist.

For several years Paul thought that his preference for patient care over scientific research might limit his advancement at Harvard, where today he is a full professor. It seems odd that he might have worried, for with Cange, Haiti as a laboratory, he was developing a model for care of the poorest of the poor, a model which is today becoming standard around the world.

Paul developed effective treatment for multiple drug resistant tuberculosis, a previously fatal disease, and he did it without a “control group.” Paul hired villagers, community health workers, to watch unsophisticated patients take every dose of prescribed medicine, and in the process, dramatically reduced the development of drug resistant strains of viruses, parasites, and bacteria. Paul has fought for clean drinking water, adequate nutrition, and safe roads, as well as women’s health and dignity.

Several years ago Paul stood defiantly and alone against the World Health Organization which had adopted the position that HIV/AIDS should not be treated in Africa. You read that correctly. The WHO opposed treating an entire continent. WHO cited cost inefficiency as a justification to deny treatment to millions of human beings. Today the goal is to treat every victim on the globe, a goal which is more to Paul’s liking. Paul did not have the international reputation which he enjoys today, but it mattered little to his David challenging the WHO’s Goliath on moral and medical grounds.

Paul spoke at Church of the Incarnation in Highlands last Saturday evening, and I’m sorry you missed him. I’ve known Paul for over a decade and am inspired anew each time I hear him speak. The experience is beyond description for a first-time listener. Paul started a clinic in the village of Cange in 1982 while he was still a medical student. Today Paul’s foundation, Partners in Health, serves the poor at 10 hospitals in Haiti, in Chiapa, Mexico, in the slums of Lima, Peru, in Guatemala, Siberia, in Malawi, Rwanda, and Lesotho on the African continent, and in the slums of Boston, Massachusetts.

The growth from a single clinic in rural Haiti to a world wide effort occurred because of Paul’s determination, magnetism, belief that the poor are entitled to quality health care, his refusal to accept less, and his ability to get donors to share his vision. I teasingly remind him that when one offers a service which has been unavailable, and offers it without cost, it’s easy to be a growth industry.

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Partners in Health now employees some 6,000 health workers around the world and has an annual budget of $50 million. Paul’s work is funded by partners large and small ranging from Bill and Melinda Gates who have contributed millions to Emily and Kyle Gabbard, and Bull Salzarulo, who donated the profits from lemonade sales. Bull had a birthday party a few weeks ago and asked his guests for charitable contributions instead of gifts. Bull gave Paul a check for $100, proceeds from the party. Forgive me for bragging, but we’re so proud of that boy.

A few columns ago, I mentioned a desperate need for funds to rebuild the water system in Cange, Haiti, a project which provides safe, clean water for several thousand Haitians. I offered to match any contribution and guaranteed that...  

See SALZARULO page 15
**Mother’s Day Weekend**

**Friday, May 9**

Free Nordic Walk - 9 am  
Meet at Highland Hiker Shoe Store  
Free Fly Fishing Clinic - 4 pm  
Meet at Highland Hiker Cabin Store  
Call for Reservations  
All Equipment Provided

**Saturday, May 10**

Free Nordic Walk - 9 am  
Meet at Highland Hiker Shoe Store  
Free Fly Fishing Clinic - 9 am  
Meet at Highland Hiker Cabin Store - Call for Reservations  
All Equipment Provided  
The North Face Cookout - Noon to 1 pm  
Solo a hot dog lunch with our The North Face Representative on the back deck of the Highland Hiker Cabin Store

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**Gas Tax Idiocy**

I came of age in the 1970s and was very influenced in my thinking by the energy crisis of that decade. It seemed obvious to me then — and it’s still obvious to me now — that our country’s national security and economic future would be best served by an intensive development of alternative energy. This would spur technological innovation and remove energy needs from our geopolitical calculations.

The fact that in 2008 we still don’t have this kind of forward-thinking energy policy really angers me, and now to make it even worse, John McCain and Hillary Clinton are proposing to suspend the federal gasoline tax between Memorial Day and Labor Day. Good for Barack Obama for opposing the idea.

Everyone loves to hate taxes. Being against taxes is an easy political strategy — just ask the Republicans, they’ve been winning elections with it for a long time now. But if you look at this gas tax suspension proposal rationally it quickly becomes obvious how idiotic it is.

The federal tax is 18.4 cents per gallon. A nonpartisan organization, Taxpayers for Common Sense, estimates that a typical family would save just $18 per car over the course of the proposed suspension. When I drove from a round-trip to Florida last week, I purchased 25 gallons of gas. I would have saved $4.60, enough to purchase a couple of lattes.

The tax goes into a federal fund to repair highways and bridges. Some economists say that if the tax is removed, demand for gas will rise, increasing the price of gas, and that 18 cents will go to the gas companies instead of to the government. And considering that ExxonMobil just posted a “disappointing” first quarter profit of $10.89 billion (up 17 percent from 2007), I’m sure we all agree that it would be better if our money went to poor Exxon rather than fixing that bridge in Minnesota that collapsed last year.

In a recent New York Times column about the proposal Thomas Friedman wrote, “This is not an energy policy. This is money laundering: we borrow money from China and ship it to Saudi Arabia and take a little cut for ourselves as it goes through our gas tanks. What a way to build our country…But here’s what’s scary. We have no energy strategy. If you are going to use tax policy to shape energy strategy then you want to raise taxes on the things you want to discourage — gasoline consumption and gas-guzzling cars — and you want to lower taxes on the things you want to encourage — new, renewable energy technologies. We are doing just the opposite…America’s premier solar company, First Solar, from Toledo, Ohio, is opening its newest factory in the former East Germany because Germany has created a booming solar market and America has not. In 1997, said Rhone Resch, the president of the Solar Energy Industries Association, America was the leader in solar energy technology, with 40 percent of global solar production. “Last year, we were less than 8 percent, and even most of that was manufacturing for overseas markets.”

There is already evidence that the higher gas prices are having an effect on consumer behavior. About one in five vehicles sold in the United States during April was a compact or subcompact car. Almost a decade ago, when sport utility vehicles were at their peak of popularity, only one in every eight vehicles sold was a small car. Sales of traditional SUVs are down more than 25 percent this year.

And what a surprise, the U.S. automakers are being hurt by this shift to smaller cars because they still make fewer small models than Asian and European automakers. Detroit has fought any increase in gas-mileage requirements for decades, and now they will probably complain how they are the victims of rising gas prices. Maybe that was believable in 1975 but after all these years it’s just pitiful.

The truth is we should raise the gas tax. In a market-based economy, only when gas prices are higher do alternative energy sources become competitive. The Washington Post editorialized last week, “If the United States had a sensible energy policy, a higher federal excise tax on motor fuels would definitely be a part of it. Few measures would more efficiently accomplish more worthy goals — strategic, social and environmental. The Congressional Budget Office has calculated that a 50-cents-per-gallon increase in gasoline taxes would contribute more than $300 billion to deficit reduction over five years, while reducing traffic congestion, dependence on Middle Eastern oil and greenhouse gases.”

Thomas Friedman proposes a government initiative that would be “our
Highlands School Junior Class President, Casey Jenkins (center) honors the BILO Franklin store and Manager, Margret Medlin (right) and Assistant Manager, Lisa Price (left) with a special thank you plaque on behalf of the Highlands School Class of 2009. BILO, Margret, and Lisa were very supportive of the school’s fundraising efforts and they are committed to this community.
**Make it quiche for Mother’s Day - Quick but special**

**Spinach & Blue Cheese Quiche**

- 1 Frozen or fresh pie crust
- 2 ounces of Swiss cheese, shredded
- Dijon mustard
- 1 pound of fresh spinach
- 1 small onion
- 3 tablespoons of butter or margarine
- 1/4 teaspoon of nutmeg
- 3 Eggs
- 1 cup of cottage cheese
- 1/2 cup of Half & half
- 4 ounces of Blue cheese

**Instructions:**

1. Preheat oven to 375°F. Place the unbaked pie crust in a 8-9” prepared pie pan. Brush the entire surface of the crust with a small amount of Dijon mustard, then sprinkle the Swiss cheese on top.
2. Blind bake for 10-15 minutes.
3. While crust is blind baking: chop the onion by hand or in a food processor, then sauté in the butter till lightly golden. Remove from heat and set aside. With the steel blade in the food processor (or in a blender), process the cottage cheese till smooth. Add the blue cheese and eggs, and again process till smooth. Set aside.
4. Puree the spinach with the half & half. Stir in the egg and cheese mixture. Mix well. Stir in the onions and nutmeg blending well. Place the blind baked crust onto a cookie sheet for support, and pour the entire blended mixture into the crust.
5. Place in oven and bake for 25-30 minutes or till set. Remove from oven and let sit at room temp. for 10 minutes before cutting.

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**Tomato Cheese Quiche**

- 1 large onion, chopped
- 3 slices of bacon, diced
- One 16 ounce can of well-drained tomatoes, cut up & drained again
- 1 cup (4 oz.) shredded sharp Cheddar cheese
- 3 eggs, slightly beaten
- 1/2 cup of biscuit mix
- 1 cup of milk
- 1/4 teaspoon of salt
- 1/4 teaspoon of crushed basil
- 1/4 teaspoon of pepper

**Instructions:**

Sauté onion and bacon. Drain. Spread in greased 9-inch pie plate with tomatoes and cheese. In bowl, beat remaining ingredients with beater or whisk until smooth. Pour into pie plate. Bake in preheated 375°F oven for 30-35 minutes or until knife inserted in center comes out clean.
Kinky Boots

The PG13, 2005 British Comedy/Drama, based on the astounding, hilarious, and dramatic events surrounding the rise, fall, and rise of Price Shoe Factory, and those in and around it. And yes, it’s a weird story, but not THAT weird. Starring Joel Edgerton (also appeared in King Arthur, Race the Sun) as Charlie Price, Chiwetel Ejiofor, (as seen in Amistad and Love Actually, brilliant as Lola), Sarah-Jane Potts, Nick Frost, and Linda Bassett. And no, no reason to you would have heard of any of these actors, but they are all great. Written by Geoff Deane, directed Julian Jarrold (Broke Back Mountain, Becoming Jane)

The Storyline: “There is nothing more beautiful than a shoe” Mr Price senior tells his son, and while that might seem an odd perspective, it makes more sense when you understand that he owns a 150 year old Northampton shoe factory. But when Charlie inherits the factory and reluctantly assumes control, he finds that not everyone holds that strong of an opinion about conservative, well crafted men’s shoes. Sales slip, the factory and the jobs it provides are in jeopardy, until a chance encounter with Lola, a rather large drag queen dancer, who has a problem finding quality sexy footwear, something that apparently lots of 6 foot tall, 200 lb transvestite dancers have (I had never actually thought much about that before, finding just the right stiletto heeled boot probably IS difficult for a guy built like a linebacker). Charlie and Lola, with the sometimes reluctant help of the rest of the crew at the factory, try to find a new market niche.

OK, could be that a story about a small shoe factory may not sound like a gripping tale, but this is absolutely one of the best films in years, it has funny, drama, tears, angst, and a bit of lite romance. The actors are all terrific, really bringing their characters to life, but ultimately about what can be done by those who refuse to quit, even when the odds are against them. The movie was filmed in part, in a working British shoe factory, so the settings are quite realistic, and the events more or less accurately portray the events that occurred in the W.J. Brookes Shoes factory Northampton.

More movies like this (well, there aren’t any like this) are Shall We Dance (I recommend the original Japanese version), Door to Door, La Cage Aux Folles, and The Big tease. More great British comedy/drama include Mrs. Henderson Presents, Very Annie Mary, Brassed Off, Greenfingers, and Janice Beard-45 WPM. These and about 5000 others are available at Movie Stop Video, stop on by and give a look.

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"Mother’s Day Sale!"
All Jewelry 20%-75% Off
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Mary Belle Chocolates Trunk Show: May 9-11
Hungry and on the prowl

The black bears are up from their long winter naps and are ready to eat. Garbage and bird seed are favorites. So be wise! Bring the feeders in a night and only take the garbage out on pickup days. Gay Kattel had these four bears visit her at her home in Horse Cove this week.

Happy Mother’s Day!

Come in and see our large collection of ladies clothing, shoes and accessories.

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Bear Mountain Outfitters

Mon-Sat: 10-6, Sun: 11-5
Lessons learned from behind the plate

Ryan Potts do solemnly affirm, on this day... May 8, 2008 that I will no longer complain about baseball umpires ever again. Having begun work as a baseball umpire for county league baseball, I have discovered that baseball is the most difficult of all of the sports to call... for numerous reasons. Here are a few lessons that I have learned from my recent umpiring expeditions.

• There are so many different sets of rules for baseball that it can be daunting. 5 run rule limits, limits on stealing, limits on pitching and substitutions, etc. It can be very confusing compared to county league basketball, which is basically high school basketball with lowered goals.
• Parents are considerably worse in basketball as far as complaining, but in baseball they have the luxury of sitting right behind the plate and commenting on your every move. There's nothing quite like having a guy with an eye patch question every ball and strike (in addition to your vision) from extremely close proximity. YARRRRRR! (That's a pirate noise...I think)
• It's important for these young kids to learn how to play, and I really enjoy working with them...sometimes. The other day I called a softball game where the winning team scored 14 runs and did not make contact with the ball. Not even a foul tip. I felt like I was watching a Pittsburgh Pirates game.
• Softball girls sing songs...lots and lots of songs...with the exact same words...over and over again. I submit that we should use these songs in a continuous loop as a substitute for waterboarding-surely some harmless children's singalongs could get past the Geneva Convention.
• Baseball is much more dangerous for umpires than basketball is for referees (parking lot confrontations with Bubba excluded). Thus far I have been beat up physically from foul balls, passed balls, sunburns, and little kids who throw their bats at me without realizing it. There is also some severe psychological damage likely from seeing a pitcher throw 34 straight balls without throwing one near the plate.
• Speaking of throwing the ball across the plate, the youth league strike zone is considerably larger than other levels. (including the microscopic Major League strike zone, which I consider to be little more than a well known rumor) I try and go shoulders to shins with my strike zone, mainly because I prefer not to or else you will face the wrath of coaches who likely know even less about the game than you do.
• There's nothing quite like seeing the joy on a little boy or girls face when they hit the ball, regardless of outcome. I cannot wait for my daughter to have that experience, as I have a lot of fond memories of county league baseball. There's something about the ballpark that brings a smile to kids faces. I hope those of you with children and grandchildren sign up for tee-ball or softball or baseball at least once, it's a great experience for youngsters.

Highlands Police kick off “Click It or Ticket” enforcement mobilization

Extended hours to focus on all unbuckled motorists — day and night

Highlands Police Department announced today they are joining with hundreds of other law enforcement agencies across the country in renewing a pledge to save lives by intensifying efforts to enforce seat belt laws — among all motorists and around the clock — during the 2008 Click It or Ticket mobilization, which runs from May 19 - June 1.

In 2006, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 15,046 passenger vehicle occupants were killed between the nighttime hours of 6 p.m. and 5:59 a.m. Nearly two-thirds (64%) of those killed at night were NOT wearing seat belts — compared to less than half (46%) of the passenger vehicle occupants killed during daytime hours. Along with nighttime motorists, men — particularly young men — are among those less likely to buckle up. In 2006, 73 percent of male passenger vehicle occupants killed at night were not wearing seat belts.

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I confess. I am a hugger. When we get to the part of the service where I say “the peace of the Lord be with you all” and the congregation responds with, “And also with you,” I know its hug time! It’s funny, I never was much of a hugger in or out of church until I met the gentle man who has become my second papa, Johnny Herschler.

Johnny was the perpetual greeter at my small home congregation, Incarnation Lutheran in Charlotte, NC. Every Sunday he handed out bulletins and hugs. Now don’t get the wrong idea. Johnny is a straight ahead guy. He was a Marine in the Pacific during WWI and is tough as nails. But he also has a faith so strong that he can give hugs and show affection to his friends and family without worrying about what folks will think. Johnny started giving me hugs at a time in my life when I really needed it.

My husband Jon and I had suffered a series of miscarriages and finally had realized that children were not to be a part of our lives. It was a very difficult time. Enter Johnny. He hugged me every week, sometimes twice, just for good measure. His hugs were not just a greeting.

They were for me, an extension of Christ’s love in a real and tangible form at a period of my life when I desperately needed them. Johnny not only gave hugs and hope to all the members of Incarnation, he also lovingly cared for his wife, Del, who had been ill for many years. Johnny did everything for her, and, as long as she was able, he made sure she got to church. I have rarely seen anyone so devoted as Johnny was to Del. I was honored when he asked me to bring my harp and play at Del’s bedside on the afternoon of her passing.

It was my first vigil when I was present in real time as a person made that mysterious transition from this life to the next. I will never forget it. We all gathered in the sunny bedroom in their home. The pastor was there. Johnny and his daughter were there. She passed so peacefully we were never sure of the exact moment when it occurred. It was a truly holy moment.

After Del’s passing, Johnny and I grew closer. Now, nine years after Del’s passing, and a scant seven months after the passing of my own father, Johnny is an important part of my life. Scarcely a week goes by that we don’t have lunch or a drink and talk. My favorite part of our get-togethers are — you guessed it — my hug. My own persona, “Miz Harmony Ann Joy,” wears a button that says “Do not bug me — Just Hug Me.”

I pray that the members of Incarnation Church will allow this friendly, gentle, straight ahead guy to continue to feel comfortable enough to express his love in a hug at a time needed.
Gardening is a great way for kids to get exercise, spend time outdoors, and learn about the environment, food, and wildlife. However, many kids grow up today without the benefit of having a gardening or farming background and access to free play outdoors. They often don't know what to do in a garden. That's where parents and grandparents come in. Adults can help kids learn about growing plants in a fun and engaging way. Plus, it will be a special time together outdoors, exploring the land, food, and flowers.

But what if you don’t know where to start in the garden? What should you do with your kids so they won’t be bored, but you won’t be in over your head? Here are some simple activities that will inspire your kids and keep them interested in the natural world.

Hold a Vine Race
Kids love races. Remember frog-jumping races when you were a kid? Why not hold a plant race to see who's vine reaches the finish line first. Fill some large containers with soil and let your child choose some kid-friendly vining plants such as pole beans, ‘Sugar Snap’ peas, climbing nasturtiums, and black-eyed Susan vines (Thunbergia). Run a string from the containers to the bottom of an overhang, ceiling, or beam about 6 feet away. Then get ready, plant your seeds, and go! Water and fertilize each container the same and have your kids mark intervals along the string to see who’s winning after the first quarter, halftime, and 3rd quarter. The winner gets a prize — free pole beans and peas to eat!

Make a Plant Car Wash
Kids love water and they really love squirting things and each other with it. Here’s a way to teach kids about safe insect control while having a little fun, too. Make a naturally safe insect spray by dissolving 3 tablespoons of soap flakes or liquid soap in a gallon of water. Use a non-detergent product such as Murphy’s Oil soap. Add the mixture to a plastic spray bottle. Let the kids set up an assembly line of container plants to spray. Teach them how to identify bad bugs and spray the leaves effectively.

Create Funky Plant Containers
It’s said that plants can grow just about anywhere. Instead of the standard clay or plastic pots, let your kids choose fun and funky containers to grow plants in. All you need is containers that are big enough and sturdy enough to hold soil and a plant, plus they need to have some water drainage holes. Some cool container ideas are an old toy (such as a large dump truck), a wagon, empty food container, basketball cut in half, old shoe, or old hat. Kids will get a kick out of plants growing in weird places, and you can teach them about what it takes to keep container plants healthy.


Charlie Nardozzi, a nationally recognized garden writer, book author, speaker and radio and television personality, has appeared on HGTV, PBS and Discovery Channel television networks. He is the senior horticulturist and spokesperson for the National Gardening Association (www.garden.org) and Chief Gardening Officer for the Hilton Garden Inn.
Mirror Lake’s swans are nesting

The swan pair is nesting on the left shore in an area roughly half way between the bridge and the dam. Hopefully, some cygnets will arrive in a month or so!

However, caution is due. During the nesting period, the male swan is very protective, very aggressive and extremely territorial. If canoing by, give a wide berth.

One season, a swan’s neck was broken when it was hit with an oar. So, steer clear.

The next Mirror Lake Association meeting is Monday, May 19 at 7:30 p.m. at the Civic Center.

CONSERVATIVE POVs

Never again - Oh, yeah?

The day this edition is made available is the anniversary of V-E Day, the day the Germans surrendered to the allies at Berlin. A military surrender took place at Reims, France the previous day, but May 8 is the day recognized as the end of our participation in Europe.

Some of us were around during that war and won’t ever forget the news coverage of the fierce fighting that went on “over there.”

That was a war in the classic style. Armies of the participants wore uniforms that identified their allegiance. The infantry traveled on foot, exposed to attack from every corner. Intact supply lines were critical to success. Aircover was essential to ground operations. Casualties were enormous and MASH (medical field) units were limited (through no fault of their own) as to their effectiveness.

War was hell.

As V-E Day grows faint in our collective memories, wars have changed shape and the weaponry that ultimately prevailed in 1945 no longer works in current conflicts.

The enemy is indistinguishable from our homefolks; homes and mosques have become bunkers and munition storage locations; streets and alleys have become battlesfields. It ain’t your grandpa’s war.

Our enemy now boils itself up to kill and maim the enemy, accurate intelligence is of extreme importance; public relations has become a major weapon and religion is an integral part of the enemies’ motivation. Recruiting and training is conducted under our noses. Control of territory is pass control of minds is the objective. War is still hell.

The United Nations is an enemy of the United States and has been since nearly its inception. Richard Nixon made no bones about his disdain for the UN for being anti-American. Jeane Kirkpatrick, who was appointed by Ronald Reagan to be United States Ambassador to the United Nations, wrote in a 1983 opinion piece in The New York Times that the process of discussions at the Security Council “more closely resembles a mugging” of the United States “than either a political debate or an effort at problem solving.”

There is another enemy that has infiltrated our culture and has quietly undermined our national spirit; the ever-expanding far left. They bring most of us to tears. They manipulate our political debate or an effort at problem solving.

And then there is George Soros who made his fortune in our capitalist finance arena but chooses to finance attacks on the system under which he prospered.

And the Hollywood crowd, who insist on tearing down the US (blame us first) even though our people feed their appetites for dollars. And the State Department which undermines US interests in foreign policy by giving officials bad information. And, if you believe Neil Boortz, Atlanta based talk-show host, NEA (the national teachers union) is a bigger threat to our country than radical Islam.

We are at war, in one way or another, with all these entities, organizations and people, and it is showing. We have tolerated, appeased and given in to wishes, demands and threats to the point that our culture no longer looks like the culture in place during the “greatest generation”, the people that fought and won the war that is remembered on this day.

Have we made progress through the changes that have transpired? We consider the encouragement of killing police and degrading women an art form that brings its artists and promoters billions in profits. It’s call gangsta rap and millions of children listen to and are guided by its message.

Turning to a different subject, quoting from Wikipedia, “Among Brezhnev’s legacy to his successors was the December, 1979 decision to intervene in Afghanistan, where a Communist regime was struggling with the US-sponsored mujahedeen and other forces to hold power.”

Who knew that our State Department had paid Jimmy Carter into that brilliant maneuver that haunts us today?

The poster child for Hollywood’s treasonist attitude, of course, is Jane Fonda, who preferred to support the Vietnamese military war effort rather than ours.

“Hanoi Jane”, as she is unfondly known to her detractors, thought she had found her soul-mate in Ted Turner, the nut job businessman who dumped her when she turned to Christianity.

War comes in many forms with many faces with many agendas. War is Hell. It should be outlawed.
Point and counterpoint

After a career in the military and another in corporate, I had no intention of committing myself to a weekly newspaper column as deadlines are now something I am not terribly fond of. But I have been reading the paper each week and one column in particular, “Conservative POV” has gotten my attention on more than one occasion.

I must admit I not only disagree with its point of view, I vehemently disagree. It is not because the column represents conservative values but rather that oft times the words “patriotism” and “values” are wrapped around intolerance and bias and the reader is expected to wave the American flag in support.

Not too long ago in that column it was stated that one presidential candidate couldn’t be president because he had a foreign name. Before I knew it I was at the computer writing a Letter to the Editor expressing my totally opposite opinion on the subject. The candidate has no backbone, or no clue how to fix the economy or no leadership ability; now those are reasons to not support a candidate. But not supporting him because of his name — please, get real!

Recently the “Conservative POV” stated that a woman was ineffective as a news anchor in part because of her name, and, “What can we expect from a woman named Katie?” he asked. It just so happens I know a woman named Katie. She is mature, mother of two, a registered nurse having worked in two of the best cardiac care post surgical units in the country, St. Joseph’s in Atlanta and Duke University. She is a formidable woman capable of standing toe-to-toe with anyone and I would never presume that she could not handle any job or task because of her name. I know her quite well and when I need in town, I offer to introduce her to the writer of “Conservative POV.” Come to my home and the three of us will have dinner together and you can judge for yourself. I’m sure she would attend — she’s my daughter.

Judging people by their name is just another form of bias if not discrimination. It certainly is an issue worth discussion, but these are serious times with serious issues that are more urgent and in need of resolution. Immigration, the war in Iraq, the war in Afghanistan (the two are not the same), the collapsing economy, the assault on personal freedoms all have been mentioned in “Conservative POV” and I have Another Point of View (POV) on those issues, which I intend to share in the coming weeks.

The right of freedom of speech and the right to express one’s point of view are the cornerstones of this country. If you fight for a person’s right to express his opinion, an opinion that you yourself would spend your entire life opposing, but you insist they have their voice, then that is democracy, that is freedom. I believe in democracy. I believe that one of our greatest treasures is that we are free to disagree. I believe it is not just our right to question but it is our duty and only by questioning ourselves and our government can we remain free. I intend to question, I intend to remain free.

I celebrate America journalism and the freedom of publishing uncensored opinions even if they are terribly uninformed, which is why I support “Conservative POV.” So now you know why I am writing. This country is facing an assault on personal privacy. Next week I will express Another POV on that issue.

... CLICK IT continued from page 11

... SALZARULO continued from page 5

100% of your donation would go to Partners in Health. I promised you nothing else, no plaques, no coffee mugs, no silent auctions, no publicity. I should have offered more, the opportunity to help a great man change the world, one impoverished person at a time, and the satisfaction that goes along with it.

Contributions to my low pressure appeal totaled zero. It’s unlikely that you’d like to know that 100% of your donation would go directly to the poor.

Matthew G. Eberz
Feedback encouraged
Email: mgeberz@verizon.net

... CLICK IT page 17
There are a few choice lots left in Highlands most innovative in-town development for Park Model RVs. Come see, it’s beautiful!

Packages include lot and membership, choice of floor plan, deck and/or screened porch or patio. ASK ABOUT DISCOUNTS!

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... SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING continued from page 12

says “I Brake for Hugs.”

I have a picture of “Miz Harmony” and Johnny at a church picnic — you guessed it — hugging.

Passing the Peace

A Guide for Lutherans and Other Shy Persons

1. Remember why we do it — to reconcile with one another and to recognize our life together as a family of God.
2. Be sensitive to the wishes of others. Some hug, some shake hands.
3. SHAKERS: GRASP OTHERS’ HANDS GENTLY — This is not arm wrestling.
4. HUGGERS: HUG GENTLY — many of us have neck and back problems and don’t really want a bone-crushing bear hug, thank you very much.
5. If you are a shaker, let your body language show it — Smile and extend your hand.
6. If you are a hugger, let your body language show it — Smile and open your arms in a welcoming manner.
7. Refrain from “the holy kiss.” I know that Jesus did it, but it’s more than Lutherans and other mainline denominations can deal with.
8. If you are sick, maybe wear a button or sticker that says “Have But — Don’t Hug.” (Hugging is actually more sanitary than handshaking, as long as you don’t linger and breathe on people.)

Whether you are a shaker or a hugger, the peace that we exchange every Sunday is not just a ritual but a touch of love, from Jesus, to us, through each other.

... LETTERS continued from page 2

Veterans Memorial committee wants every veteran since the Revolutionary War counted

Dear Editor,

I live in Lawrenceville, GA, but have a home in Highlands, and read the Highlands’ Newspaper online each week. I always go straight to Fred Wooldridge’s column first. It is always interesting to me, but the one on May 1 was riveting.

I am almost 70 and have been in the business world for about 45 years. The last 30 of that has been in the management of financial assets. I receive many advisory letters on all aspects of the economy, but have not seen anyone summarize our situation as well as I believe he did in that column. I think a copy should be sent to every voter in the country. Congratulations!

Joy Johnson

Highlands

The truth must be told

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Dwight Bronnum

Highlands and Lawrenceville, GA

... SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING continued from page 12

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... LETTERS continued from page 2

Veterans Memorial committee wants every veteran since the Revolutionary War counted

Dear Editor,

The construction of the Veterans Memorial in Franklin is moving ahead as planned. The break in the weather is now giving us the opportunity to do work more rapidly.

Our brick sales are going well, but if you haven’t brought your Honor Brick yet, go to our website at: veteransmemorialmaconcounty.org and download the forms.

We need the help of the local folks who have had families living here for a few generations. We need the names of those veterans who were from Macon County that lost their lives in the Revolutionary War, the War of 1812 the Civil War and the Spanish American War. We already have the names of those lost in later wars, as they are listed at the courthouse.

All veterans will be honored at the Memorial as giving their all for our country. You can mail their names to: Veterans Memorial, P.O. Box 474, Franklin, NC, 28744.

Bob Litten
Veterans Memorial Commission
Franklin, NC
Episcopal Church publishes first-ever cookbook

After a year of collecting the best recipes in the parish, “Divine Feasts – Highlands Style” has arrived. This beautiful, book is well organized and features the artwork of Isabel Allen, Dwight Bryant, Ernie Curtis, Freddie Flynn, J Jay Joannides, Nel Martin, Diane McPhail and Rosemary Stiefel. Helen Moore took the photographs on the front and back covers.

One of the sections features the favorite recipes of the men of Incarnation; another features the Incarnation’s chefs’ recipes – Carter and Nancy Bruns of Wild Thyme, Chuck Hammond, Jill Montana, Martha Porter, Holly Roberts of Holly in the Kitchen and Darren Whatley.

... CLICK IT continued from page 15

... CLICK IT continued from page 15

of fatal injury in a crash by 45 percent for front-seat passenger vehicle occupants and by 60 percent in pickup trucks, SUVs, and minivans. In fact, data shows that more than 3/4 (77%) of passenger vehicle occupants who were in a serious crash in 2006 and were buckled up survived the crash.”

Increased law enforcement activities, including seat belt checkpoints, will be conducted nationwide during the 2008 “Click It or Ticket mobilization. Paid national advertising, as well as State advertising, will support the mobilization by promoting the life-saving benefits of regular seat belt use, especially nighttime belt use, to all motorists.

... BETZ from page 20

points a city manager or administrator who will be responsible for supervising government operations and implementing the policies adopted by the council. The manager serves the council, usually with a contract that specifies duties and responsibilities.

Coward said the line between policy and administration that the manager tows is not hard and fast. “There is a dichotomy between policies of the council and the administration of the manager. There are gray areas that overlap so it depends on personalities and expectations,” he said. “The main thing is you want to hire a professional city manager with the power and duty to do what you tell him to do and if you monkey around with directives too much he won’t know what the job is.”

Commissioners agreed to work on charter changes and be ready to discuss particulars at the May 21 meeting.

– K L

Cookbook committee from left is Patricia Catchings, Anne Reddick, Anne Norman, Isabel Allen and Nell Martin. Not pictured is Anne Curtis, Harriet Hamilton and Joanne Rainey.

The cookbook committee was chaired by Anne Norman assisted by Isabel Allen, Harriet Hamilton, Joanne Rainey, Anne Reddick, Patricia Catchings, Anne Curtis and Freddie Flynn.

“Divine Feasts – Highlands Style” is on sale for $20 at the Church of the Incarnation (enter off Main Street), The Summer House, Hudson Library, Mountain Fresh Foods and Cyrano’s Bookshop. Sale proceeds go to Bright Discoveries, the Incarnation’s school serving infants through pre-kindergarten children.

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526-4095

Robert A. Tino Gallery

Mon-Sat 11-5
381 Main Street • 526-0667

ART GALLERIES

Highlands’ Newspaper - Thursday, May 8, 2008 - Page 17
Big Bear Pen Mountain. Check out this great Summer home located on desirable Big Bear Pen Mountain. Lovely usable yard with lovely mountain vista. Home features 3 bed, 2 baths. It has been fully updated and is in great condition. Offered at a very reasonable $775,000.00 mls #65059

Beautiful setting. Large living area for entertaining with a large stone fireplace as the centerpiece. 3 bedrooms, 1-1/2 baths. Nice open floor plan. Could be used as a full time residence, seasonal or investment property. Lots of potential here. Offered at $240,000. mls #64859

Darling Mirror Lake cottage with 2 bedrooms and wood throughout. Many updates include new windows, new tin roof, and low maintenance landscaping. Great covered deck on the back, perfect for relaxing with friends and family! This cabin makes a great mountain getaway. Close to town, shopping, dining, and the theater, furnished for $279,000. mls #64935

AUTHENTIC MOUNTAIN CABIN on creek & surrounded by Forest Service. Custom built cabinets in large renovated kitchen/dining area, walk in pantry, wrap around porch, hot tub overlooking the private back yard. Distressed yellow pine floors and lightly white-washed pine paneling. Located North GA. woods. 3.5+/- acres w/small pond. $520,000. mls #59234

LITTLE BEAR PEN and a BIG view. 4 bedrooms in main house and 2 more in the guest house. 2 large living areas in the main house. Beautiful lot with mature plantings. Separate dining room and large kitchen. Covered decks to enjoy the Whiteside view. $995,000.

Your own kingdom! Exceptional property! 23 acre farm has hundreds of feet of stream frontage, lovely pasture, pond, Mountain views, AND backs up to USFS Lands! Main house, detached garage, new garage with guest quarters above. What else could you ask for? Offered at $1,800,000.00 mls #65054

'TWILL DO" is an exceptionally cute in-town cottage. 1 bedroom 1 bath. The main living area features volume ceilings and a wood burning stove. Hardwood floors, walls and ceilings throughout make this a cozy getaway. Take in the fresh mountain air on the open deck. The sleeping loft is perfect for guests or an arts and crafts studio. Inspiration & fond mountain memories await at "Twill Do". $298,000. mls #64935

NEAR MIRROR LAKE. Foreman Road. Old Highlands Charm. Here it is... Major remodel recently completed. Hardwood floors, enlarged kitchen with new granite countertops and new stainless steel appliances. Rocking chair front porch overlooking nice yard with native plants. Just a short walk to Main Street Highlands. Offered at $489,000. mls #65057

A GREAT PACKAGE. This charming house sits on a five acre wooded knoll with a ridgeline view into GA. Over 2500 square feet of heated living area plus a garage and large covered deck. 3 bed, 3 baths, loads of storage. Energy efficient construction with 2 x 6 walls make getting utility bills bearable in winter or summer. Walls of windows bring in lots of light to the living spaces that are well laid out and finished with hardwood floors and lofted ceilings. Propane cooktop and freestanding heater $495,000. mls #63172

Trillium Place - What everyone is looking for! Fully updated and low maintenance with this lovely Trillium Place Condo that has an open living area with tile floors and 2 bedrooms with 2 1/2 baths. Great walk to town location. A steal for $419,000.00 mls #64868

Mirror Lake Area - Great entry level 3 bed 2 bath. Lots of possibilities. Large finished basement with separate entry and full bath. Offered at $299,000. mls #64856

HFCC Golf View Newly updated 3 bed 3 bath Chestnut Cove Condo in Highlands Falls C.C. Minutes from town. This unit has been upgraded with hardwood floors throughout, slate flooring in the kitchen, granite counters, custom built-ins flank a wood burning fireplace, enclosed side porch for additional indoor living space and more. Don't miss this one! Priced at $579,000. MLS# 65140. View a Virtual Tour @ccphighlandsnc.com
Would you like to do something nice for butterflies and 6th graders? Attend the Mountain Garden Club plant sale at the ballpark on May 24.

There you can buy bee balm, black-eyed Susans, coneflowers, daylilies, phlox, and many other flowers that butterflies like.

And the dollars you spend will help maintain the butterfly garden located on the front grounds of Highlands School at 545 Pierson Drive.

The Mountain Garden Club created the butterfly garden in 1998 for the enjoyment of the community and a place for hands-on science education.

On April 29, Mrs. Sara Mayer's 6th grade students at Highlands School visited the garden to learn about mulch and how it helps with water conservation, soil condition, and weed control. As part of the lesson, the students then mulched the garden with the help of Mountain Garden Club members.

The 6th graders will visit the garden again in late May for the "Releasing of the Butterflies."

Every spring the Mountain Garden Club provides 6th grade students at Highlands School with Painted Lady Butterfly larvae (caterpillars) to raise in the classroom. Over a period of three weeks, students watch as the larvae grow and spin cocoons before emerging as adult butterflies.

In late May, the students release the butterflies into the garden, creating a beautiful and exciting sight.

The "Releasing of the Butterflies" has become an annual event for everyone to enjoy, and the public is welcome to attend.

The date of the release depends on how quickly the butterflies complete their metamorphosis. If you would like to attend, call Becky Schilling (828 200-0699).

Initial funds for creating the butterfly garden at Highlands School were provided by grants from the Shell Oil Company. Funds for maintaining the garden come from the annual Mountain Garden Club plant sale.

The Mountain Garden Club plant sale will be held Saturday, May 24, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., at the baseball park on the corner of Highway 64 East (North 4th Street) and Hickory Street, in Highlands. Purchases can be made by cash or checks. Rain date is Sunday, May 25, from 1-4 p.m.

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**BRUGGER continued from page 6**

... BRUGGER continued from page 6

generation's moon shot," a crash program for alternative energy and conservation to make America energy-independent in 10 years. This would pay enormous dividends in national security: "You give me an America that is energy-independent, and I will give you sharply reduced oil revenues for the worst governments in the world. I will give you political reform from Moscow to Riyadh to Tehran. Yes, deprive these regimes of the huge oil windfalls on which they depend and you will force them to reform by having to tap their people instead of oil wells. When did the Soviet Union collapse? When did economic reform become a hot topic in the Arab world? In the late 1980s and early 1990s. And what was also happening then? Oil prices were collapsing. Everyone thinks Ronald Reagan brought down the Soviets; says economist Phillip Verleger. ‘That is wrong. It was the collapse of their oil rents.”

The day I decided to write this column I saw this quote by English philosopher Herbert Spencer and it summed up my opinion of McCain and Clinton’s idea: “The ultimate result of shielding men from the effects of folly is to fill the world with fools.”

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All of Katie Brugger's columns are available on her website: www.kathleenbrugger.com
lands, Flats and Burningtown precincts were the top voters in the county 30%-40% of the registered voters voted in those precincts; turnout in the other precincts in the county were 20% and lower.

Aside from the commissioner race, Macon County results didn’t match that of the state.

Candidate Barack Obama won the N.C. Presidential Primary but Macon County residents voted for Hillary Clinton over Obama. Clinton got 3,533 votes – 66.57%. Obama got 1,617 votes – 30.47%.

Not only did the majority of Highlands and Flats voters blacken bubbles for Clinton and Goodman, they also voted for Highlands local John Armor who was running for U.S. Congressional District 11.

In Highlands Clinton got 49.77% to Obama’s 47.72%; Goodman got 67.54% to Leatherman’s 32.46% and Armor got 44.78% to next runner up opponent Spence Campbell’s 42.17%.

However, statewide Armor and Campbell lost to Carl Mumpower who garnished 43.29% of the vote with 1,038 ballots cast.

In other races, John McCain carried the Republican Primary in the county, 30%-40% of the top voters in the county 30%-40% of the registered voters voted in those precincts; turnout in the other precincts in the county were 20% and lower.

VOTERS continued from page 1

... of proposed changes to the charter.

After the public hearing the board can take action to amend its charter at the next meeting, if it’s adopted, a summary of the ordinance of changes must be published. Citizens against the change can petition for a referendum with 10% of the population. If they win with 53% of the vote, the change won’t go through, if not it can. Once a form of government is changed it can’t change again for two years.

“You are suggesting a fundamental change in the way you do business,” said Coward. “Don’t enter into this lightly.” He’s suggested each board member read their copy of David Lawrence’s book “Municipal Government in North Carolina” so they understand exactly what specific changes as to job descriptions and job assignments are necessary in the council-manager form.

Specific changes will include the duties of the manager as well as the installation of employees to handle specific tasks, like a Town Clerk, Town Treasurer, Town Administrator and others – which represent just three of the many hats Betz has been wearing at Town Administrator for 14 years.

“I will have spent 26.2 years in my career with the town, 14 of them as Town Administrator, and many more as Town Planner and Zoning Administrator. I want you to know how much I appreciated the opportunity of serving the people of Highlands,” reads the letter. “I don’t need to remind you that the future of the town depends not only on effective, proactive planning, but also on the continuing recruitment of competent, professional employees who are willing to devote their lives to the rewarding but often thankless job of public service.”

In its current hybrid form of the Mayor-Council-Town Administrator form of government, Betz has been shouldering many of the duties a Town Manager shoulders, except for the hiring and firing part. That has been reserved as a duty of the Town Board.

In “Municipal Government in North Carolina,” Lawrence writes, “Among communities that decide a change in government is warranted, some decide to change their form of government and hire a city manager, others hire a chief administrator without changing the form of government right away and then after some successful experience with that arrangement, make the full transition to the council-manager form. No charter amendment is required for a city council to hire an administrator.”

Mayor Don Mullen asked if any commissioners have received feedback since the change was publicized April 18. Commissioners Amy Patterson who had heard from one person and Hank Ross who had heard from three people, two of whom are town employees, both said they received positive feedback with the comment “It’s about time.”

Commissioner Buzz Dotson said he heard from two people, one was for it the other, a town employee, suggested things could be worked out if the Board of Commissioners worked closer with the town employees.

Mayor Mullen said he’s heard only from town employees who are upset because they don’t understand how the change will affect them – particularly their job security. “We’ve already made our decision, but we probably should have spoken to them all beforehand,” he said. “Now we have to put the town employees at ease.”

Commissioner Larry Rogers said back in April the reason he agreed to the change was because jobs wouldn’t change. “I thought this would take some load off Richard,” said Rogers. “This will be to the betterment of the town and I believe everything will run smoother.”

Becky Vesy, with MAPS and the N.C. League of Municipalities both suggested it was time Highlands change its form of government. “Becky Vesy was very matter-of-fact about that,” said Commissioner Ross.

“The league also made it very clear that this was the direction in which we should be going,” said Mayor Mullen.

Mayor Mullen said he doesn’t think the board took enough time to explain things to the employees or particularly to Richard Betz, so commissioners are going to either arrange meetings, or distribute a memo explaining the particulars which they hope will ease concerns.

Coward said the classic reason to change a form of government is directly correlated to the level and quality of services provided a town. “At some point it gets so highly technical and complicated that you need someone who has gone to school for it,” he said. “There’s a point when it’s too much work for one individual to handle.”

In the Council-Manager form of government, the government is usually administratively divided into several departments, depending on the size of the town and level of services. Departments can include planning and zoning, economic development and tourism, public works and recreation, police, fire, emergency medical services, accounting and finance, human resources, housing, information technology, etc. An elected city council between five and 11 people is responsible for making policy, passing ordinances, voting appropriations, and having overall supervisory authority in the city government.

In such a government, the mayor performs strictly ceremonial duties or acts as a member and presiding officer of the council, similar to a chairman. The council ap-
Getting ready for ‘big school’

Excited preschoolers spent Tuesday morning at Highlands School registering for kindergarten in the fall. They and their parents rode on a school bus, ate in the school cafeteria, toured the campus and met next year’s teachers. About 30 children registered for kindergarten. More are expected the first day of school.

Photo by Kim Lewicki
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
- Colitis
- Diverticulitis
- Esophageal Disorders
- Gastroesophageal Reflux
- Gastrointestinal Bleeding
- Gallstones

- Heartburn
- Hepatitis
- Hemorrhoids
- Irritable Bowel Syndrome
- Liver Disease
- Pancreatitis
- Swallowing Disorders
- Ulcers

Mountains 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
Some months ago, the commission agreed to build an animal shelter estimated at $350,000 and to staff the operation with three people – two animal control officers and one administration person. It would be open six days a week – five full days and one half day on Saturday.

Since dealing with animals roaming the county is considered a public safety issue, animals will not be held indefinitely like at the Macon County Humane Society which is a “no kill” operation, but a time limit hasn’t been set.

The board agreed that fees and fines won’t offset the cost of the operation but it’s a service that’s needed in the county.

“We are going to be creating a whole new department and it’s not going to be cheap to run it,” said Beale.

Sheriff Holland said the cost of the animal shelter operation will pale to the cost of a lawsuit “if someone is attacked by a stray or a child bitten.”

Animals that are picked up will be collared, tagged and ID’d and when owners come to claim their pets they will have to pay the costs incurred for those services.

Commissioner Beale said the cost to build the building seemed low but $350,000 has been budgeted for 2008-2009.

After the shelter is built the county can adopt an ordinance. Some months ago an ordinance was recommended but the state says there has to be facility before the ordinance can be adopted.

The subject will be discussed again at the June meeting.

Occupancy Tax

The subject of the occupancy tax was considered so convoluted it will take a special meeting sometime in May to iron out all the details.

Again, Horton was trying to get a firm grasp on the situation for budgeting purposes.

At Thursday’s meeting he presented some “recommendations for consideration” he, County Attorney Lesley Moxley, and Finance Director Evelyn Southard drew up concerning occupancy tax disbursement and the development of the Travel and Tourism Development Committee (TDC).

Suggestions included:

• The county continuing to collect the 3% room tax money from each lodging and accommodation establishment in the county; with the county finance director determining how much of that the county will keep for administration fees as per applicable legislation.

• A TDC will be formed by the county and will include representatives from the commission board and others from the community appointed by the commission.

The TDC will act in an advisory capacity to the MC Board of Commission and as a clearinghouse for requests from Chambers of Commerce, and organizations devoted to travel and tourism during the county’s budget process.

• The TDC will also make recommendations for “Scope of Services” with the commissioners and the chambers.

• The chamber of commerce roles will continue as they are, accept their scope of services utilizing occupancy tax money must be separate and distinct functions if within the chambers.

That’s when discussion got snagged down and decisions delayed.

Commissioner Bob Simpson suggested that the occupancy tax money the Highlands and Franklin chambers tap to pay chamber directors and their assistants salaries for handling “visitor center” administration duties could change if the county and the TDC take over the administration duties of handling occupancy tax money.

Simpson said 60% of Highlands Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Bob Kiebeka’s salary and part of his assistant’s salary is paid for with occupancy tax proceeds.

Horton said that could change if administration duties were taken over by someone else.

Each chamber also has a visitor center director whose salary is funded through occupancy tax proceeds, but since visitor center directors’ jobs are dealing with travel and tourism, allocations of occupancy tax money in that regard isn’t an issue.

Horton said the county will have nothing to do with the additional 3% occupancy tax the town of Franklin will be levying within its municipal limits, only the countywide 3% tax.

The town of Franklin applied for and was given permission to levy the 3% tax about two years ago. Since that time, rules have changed, he said.

“Legislation pre-dated what’s currently on the books,” said Horton.

Now if a municipality within a county wants to levy its own occupancy tax, the county must have an independent TDA set up separate from a chamber of commerce, all money must be used solely for the promotion of travel and tourism and the TDA can only use up to 3% of the total to cover administration costs. All of which is now being discussed at the county level.

He said if the county moves forward and forms a TDA then Highlands could levy its own occupancy tax like the town of Franklin, it just couldn’t happen overnight.

Sewer Line Expansion

Concerning the sewer line expansion, the county is expecting a grant of $3 million to offset the $5.8 million price tag, but will have to borrow $1.5 million to complete the project. The extended line will run past the Whistle Stop Mall and to the Industrial Park. The county plans to ask the Town of Franklin for a $475,000 contribution towards the project.

Some months ago, the commission agreed to build an animal shelter estimated at $350,000 and to staff the operation with three people – two animal control officers and one administration person. It would be open six days a week – five full days and one half day on Saturday.
Audubon presentations set for Saturday, May 10 at the Nature Center & Sunset Rocks

Audubon will honor local organizations and individuals for their part in preserving wildlife habitat on the Highlands Plateau, Saturday, May 10.

The Republic is invited to the Highlands Nature Center, 930 Horse Cove Road, from 8:30-11:30 a.m. for a program and a short walk to Sunset Rocks where the awards will be presented.

Presentations will be made by Chris Canfield, Executive Director of Audubon NC. Mayor Donald Mullen will accept an award on behalf of the Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust for its work to preserve natural areas. The Land Trust has protected more than 1,300 acres on and around the Highlands Plateau.

The United States Forest Service, Nantahala Ranger District, has been instrumental in the preservation of bird and wildlife habitat through specific species protection such as the peregrine falcon and improved land management. Mike Wilkins, District Ranger, will be there to accept the award.

Mrs. Cindy Trewhathan will accept the recognition award on behalf of the Highlands Stewards of the Highlands Plateau. Their mission has been to promote responsible land stewardship and preservation of native plants through education and community service.

Finally, personal award citations will be presented to Mr. Patrick Brannon, Director, Highlands Nature Center and Mr. David Bates, Executive Director, Jackson Macion Conservation Alliance, for their important contributions in education and habitat preservation on the Highlands Plateau.

Participants will enjoy music by local artists Anya Hinkle and Stacy Claudia Light refreshments and exhibits by local conservation organizations will be available at the Nature Center before and after the presentations. Call Doug Landwehr at 828-787-1230 for additional information.

• 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
• Live music with Brad Vroon at Fireside Restaurant in Wright Square from 6-9 p.m. with Tapas Menu.

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

Fridays
• The Girls’ Clubhouse meets in the school cafeteria 3-4:30 p.m. All 4-9 grade girls are welcome. Come have fun while serving others. For more information, call Kim Lewicki 526-0782.

Saturdays
• Live music at Cypress Restaurant in the Dillard Village Shopping Center at 9:30 p.m. $10 cover.

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

Sundays
• Live music with Brad Vroon at Fireside Restaurant in Wright Square, noon-3 p.m.

Wednesdays through May 14
• A series of seven classes covering the Principles and Elements of Design meets every Wednesday at the Highlands Rec Park from 1 to 4 p.m. Each class will include a brief informative introduction to an element or principle, a fun and quick exercise, and an art project using a variety of materials. Classes include instruction on a variety of painting and drawing materials, as well as Balance, Emphasis, Contrast, Proportion, Repetition, Rhythm and Harmony. Call Donna Rhodes at 828-526-4949, 4th. 

Thursday-Sunday, May 8-May 11
• HCP’s The Last Night of Ballyhoo at PAC, 7:30 p.m. and 2:30 Sunday matinee. Call 526-8084 for tickets.

Thursday, May 8
• The League of Women Voters of Macon County will host a presentation on the Mountain Landscapes Initiative program on at noon at Tartan Hall of the First Presbyterian Church in downtown Franklin. Stacy Guffey, Macon County Planner and participant in the development of the project, will explain this regional
program to help guide Western North Carolina toward healthy growth. He will screen a documentary video featuring citizens from across the region sharing their concerns and visions for healthy growth. Citizens will learn how they can participate in the process by attending sessions of the upcoming week-long public workshop that will be held at Western Carolina University in mid-May, to create a “Tool Box” of planning and development guidelines for the seven western counties. For additional information, see www.mountainlandscepnc.org. Lunch is available at noon, by reservation. Call 524-5192. The program will begin at 12:15 and the public is invited.

The Plateau Fly Fishing Club will kick off its seventh season on May 8 at the Cashiers library. The meeting begins at 7 p.m. and features guides Rod and Matt Champion who will discuss fishing the Holston and Watauga rivers, both listed in Trout Unlimited’s top 100 trout streams. The Club is hosting a raffle today, May 10, from 2-4 p.m. Lowe-Anker is the widow of mountain climber Alex Lowe, killed in an avalanche on the Himalayan mountain Shishapangma in 1999. Alex Lowe’s life and climbing achievements have been celebrated by everyone from Outside Magazine (which called him the world’s best mountaineer), to Tom Brokaw (in a one-hour special for Dateline) to Sting (who composed music for a tribute) to John Krakauer (author of “Into the Wild” and Into Thin Air”), who had been a climbing partner of Lowe’s and who wrote the forward for “Forget Me Not.”

Through letters and expedition notes, Jennifer Anker-Lowe tells about Alex’s loss and how she and their three sons coped with it. She also recounts the surprising story of her burgeoning relationship with Conard Anker, Alex’s best friend—and a member of his climbing team on Shishapangma who lived to tell of what happened during the avalanche. As Conrad Anker dealt with his “survivor’s guilt,” she and Jennifer found themselves growing closer together. They are now married and Anker has adopted Alex Lowe’s children.

In “Forget Me Not,” Jennifer Anker-Lowe deftly weaves these stories of danger and redeeming love into an exciting and moving book. Ms. Anker-Lowe is an artist who grew up in Montana; her art work is in the corporate collection of the Patagonia clothing company, as well as the personal collections of Peter Fon-da and Jeff Bridges.

Cyrano’s Bookshop is located at 390 Main Street in Highlands, North Carolina. Books can be reserved for autographing by calling (828) 526-5488 or sending an e-mail to cyranos@nctv.com; to learn more about the shop please visit www.cyranosbooks.com.

Widow of mountain climber killed in the Himalayas signs memoir at Instant Theater Company on Saturday, May 10

Adventure, tragedy and unexpected romance are all found in Jennifer Lowe-Anker’s new memoir, “Forget Me Not,” which the author will sign at the Instant Theater Company this Saturday May 10, from 2-4 p.m. Lowe-Anker is the widow of mountain climber Alex Lowe, killed in an avalanche on the Himalayan mountain Shishapangma in 1999. Alex Lowe’s life and climbing achievements have been celebrated by everyone from Outside Magazine (which called him the world’s best mountaineer), to Tom Brokaw (in a one-hour special for Dateline) to Sting (who composed music for a tribute) to John Krakauer (author of “Into the Wild” and Into Thin Air”), who had been a climbing partner of Lowe’s and who wrote the forward for “Forget Me Not.”

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MtnTop Rotary Golf Challenge is May 12 at HCC

The High¬lands Mountaintop Rotary Charity Golf Challenge will be played on Monday, May 12 at the Highlands Country Club. Following the golf, a fun party will be held in the High¬lands Country Club Clubhouse featuring heavy hors d’oeuvres, refreshments and a live auc¬tion.

The High¬lands Mountaintop Rotary would like to thank all of the following for donating items for the auc¬tion:

Highlands Country Club, a custom painting by Summit One Gallery artist Jan Smithers and a Men’s Scottish Cashmere Sweater with a matching plaid scarf from McCulley’s Scottish Cashmere Shop.

This autographed flag from the Masters Tournament donated by the Augusta National Golf Course is one of the items to be auctioned off at the Highlands Mountaintop Rotary Charity Golf Challenge event on May 12. All proceeds will benefit Highlands Area Charities.

2-4 p.m. Adventure, tragedy and unexpected romance are all found in Jennifer Lowe-Anker’s new memoir, “Forget Me Not.”

• The Mountain Christian Singles will host a cookout and hike at Deep Creek in Bryson City on Saturday, May 10. We have the only shelter (on left) in the picnic area reserved from 10 a.m. until dark. Bring your own meat to grill, a dish to share, sodas, your lawn chairs, bug spray, sunscreen, games, etc. We may go tubing down the creek for those brave of heart to venture into icy waters! We will take up a collection for the $40 shelter rental fee. For more information, contact: Silas-828.526.1873; Dick-828.506.7863; or Vonda-828.371.4380.

2-4 p.m. Highlands Mountaintop Rotary Charity Golf Challenge if interested call Bill Zoellner at 787-2323 or visit http://65.210.102.104/rotarygolf.html.

Tuesday, May 13

• Join the Highlands Biological Station for a day-long foray that will focus on the Hellbender, the Southeast’s largest salamander species, which can be found in the Davidson River near Brevard. Participants will meet at 9 a.m. at the Nature Center for a short introductory lecture and then drive toward Breard, returning to Highlands by 5 p.m. $25 per person includes equipment and lunch. To register call 828-526-2602 or email ahinkle@email.wcu.edu.


Wednesday, May 14

• High Mountain Squares will dance this Wednesday night at the Macon County Community Building from 7-9 p.m. Jack Howie from Green¬ville SC will be the caller. We dance Western Style Square Dancing, mainstream and plus levels. Everyone is welcome. For information call 828-249-0905, 828-369-8344, 706-782-0943, or www.highmountainsquares.org.

Friday-Sunday, May 16-17

• UPCOMING EVENTS •

See EVENTS page 26
It’s time for a bit of ballyhoo about “The Last Night of Ballyhoo,” the Highlands Community Players’ production that opens this week on Thursday, May 8, at the Performing Arts Center (PAC). The play, winner of the Tony for Best Play in 1997, was written by Atlanta-born playwright Alfred Uhry, best known for his Pulitzer Prize winning play, “Driving Miss Daisy.”

“Ballyhoo” is set in 1939, the week that Gone With the Wind is premiering there, while in Europe Hitler is invading Poland. However, the young women of the Freitag household are more concerned at the moment with “Ballyhoo,” the Southern Jewish equivalent of a Cotillion where young people are brought together with the hope of meeting suitable mates. The upcoming event seems to be the last chance for daughter Lala to meet a potential husband, as she is a bit of a dreamer and social misfit, and so far she has no escort for the party.

The arrival of a young man from Brooklyn, New York, brought to Atlanta to work for Lala’s uncle, creates another problem. Not only is the fellow a “yente,” but also comes from an Eastern European Jewish family, while the Freitags are German Jews. The visitor from the North is not warmly welcomed by Faye Freitag, head of the household; Becky Schilling is Boo Levy, his sister; Laura Miller is Lala, Boo’s daughter; Jenny King is Adolph’s sister-in-law; Katie Cochran, her daughter; Colin Long, the young man from New York; and Matt McClaran, a young man of Louisiana.

“The Last Night of Ballyhoo” runs May 8 through May 18 at the Martin Lipscorb Performing Arts Center, 507 Chestnut Street in Highlands, N.C. Performances on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday evenings start at 7:30 p.m., the Sunday matinees at 2:30 p.m. Individual tickets are $15; $8 for students, and $12 each for groups of 15 or more, except on opening night. The HCP box office is open at PAC Monday through Fridays, 10 a.m. till 4 p.m., Saturdays, 10 till 2, and Sundays at Little Box on Chestnut Street. Call 828-526-8084 for reservations. Visa and Mastercard are accepted.

“The Last Night of Ballyhoo” is sponsored in part by Gates Nursery of Highlands, Highlands-Cashiers free health screenings, for residents of Cashiers, Glenville, and Sapphire at Blue Ridge School.

The Highlands Plateau Audubon Society will have a birthing field trip to the Lonesome Valley development in Cashiers on May 17. Meet at the public parking area next to the Highlands Town Hall at 7:30 a.m. if you want to car pool to Cashiers. For those in Cashiers, meet at Lonesome Valley at 8 a.m. Call Edwin Pool at 526-2775 or Romney Bathurst at 526-1939 for additional information.

The Summit Charter School will be sponsoring a 1 Mile Fun Run and 5-K Race Saturday.

Saturday, May 18

• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take an easy 2.5-mile hike to Little Rock Branch near Rock Gap at Standing Indian Campground. Drive 28 miles round trip. Meet at the Westgate parking lot in Franklin, opposite Burger King, at 2 p.m. Bring a drink, a snack if you wish, and wear sturdy comfortable shoes. Hikes are limited to 20 people. Call leader Kay Correll, 369-8820, for reservations or more information. Visitors are welcome, but no pets please.

Monday-Saturday, May 19-31

• Summer Courses offered at the Highlands Biological Station. Biology of Plethodontid Salamanders. For program descriptions and information about costs, academic credit, instructors, and prerequisites for our summer courses and workshops visit http://www.wcu.edu/uhbhs/currentcourses.htm or call the Highlands Biological Station at (828) 526-2602.

Tuesday, May 20

• Join the Highlands Biological Station for a day-long foray entitled “Ancient Landscapes Drift Trip.” Participants will canoe a short, non-technical section of the Little Tennessee River near Franklin, through what were the Middle Towns of the Cherokee. Author Tom Halley and environmental historian Brent Martin will help interpret a fascinating pre-European landscape that includes fish weirs, useful plants, and past settlement sites in the Little Tennessee Valley and around the Cowee Mound. The group meets at 9 a.m. at the Great Smoky Mountain Fish Camp, 81 Bennett Rd., about 4 miles north of Franklin, which intersects Highway 28 (Bryson City Rd.) just before the bridge over the Little Tennessee River (www.fishcamp.biz). Cost is $75 per person and includes equipment, lunch and shuttle service, which will bring participants back to their vehicles before 5 p.m. To register or for more information about these unique offerings, call 828-526-2602 or email ahinkle@wcu.edu.

• Free Take Charge of Your Health Lecture Series at Cashiers Chiropractic at The Hudson Library in Highlands. “Vitamins: Why do we take them?” From 6-7 p.m. Please call to register in Cashiers at 828-743-9070 or in Highlands at 828-526-3709.

• Free Take Charge of Your Health Lecture Series at Cashiers Chiropractic at The Hudson Library in Highlands. “Vitamins: Why do we take them?” From 6-7 p.m. Please call to register in Cashiers at 828-743-9070 or in Highlands at 828-526-3709.

Friday, May 23

• Storyteller, folkartist 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.highlandsperformingartscenter.org.

Saturday, Sunday & Monday, 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 828-787-2011 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. Refreshments and t-shirts will be available. For information, call (828) 526-4949 or visit www.thebascom.org.

• Pet adoption at Whiskers on Main Street Saturday & Sunday, May 24-25, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sponsored by Castaway Critter Pet Rescue organization of Murphy, N.C.

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 High...
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 home-spun humor mixed with pathos delighted the audience 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 Shipling 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 po-
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Everyday at 8 a.m., noon, 5 p.m., 7 p.m., 10 p.m., & midnight.
The Visitor Information Program airs at 7 am, 9 am, 4 pm, 6 pm, 9 pm, and 11 pm.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Highlands Playhouse fundraising auction set for Saturday, May 24**

Mark your calendars! The Highlands Playhouse is hosting an auction on Saturday, May 24 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 we are pleased to offer 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. We offer 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 you just can’t live without. 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!

**The Bascom ‘bridge pull’ set for Saturday, May 24**

Three major aspects of The Bascom’s new art campus, on Oak Street, are coming together. The sides of the bridge are now standing, and bridgewrights are working furiously toward preparing the structure for the May 24 bridge pull. That is when The Bascom will host an all-day community celebration so people can watch as a team of oxen pulls the bridge to its permanent home over the creek. Also, last Friday, construction crews poured the top floor of the main building. This week, they are starting the timber framing for the remaining part of the building - a process that could take eight weeks or more. Finally, crews completed the Nature/Sculpture Trail and the creek-side pavilion. “The Bascom is grateful to the many area individuals and businesses who donated their services in-kind to help our project,” said Linda Steigleder, Bascom executive director.
Entryways provide invitation to home

Does your home’s front entrance cause people to take notice or drive on by? Is it inviting or just another entrance? Much like a manicured lawn and well-maintained exterior or add curb appeal to a home, so does the front entrance.

“Ten years ago, homeowners personalized their entry by incorporating decorative glass,” says Jeff Kibler of Peachtree Doors and Windows. “Today, homeowners desire more dramatic entries and an entire entry system.”

If you’re considering remodeling your front entry or building a new home, you face many decisions about a door’s basic material and performance, complementary windows, accessories and security.

Basic Materials
Entry doors are primarily constructed of steel, fiberglass or wood. The material that is right for your home will depend on cost, desired look and, to a limited degree, geography.

Steel is the most economical and popular material and is also sturdy, secure and can be painted to match a home. Steel is susceptible to denting, rusting and corrosion in coastal areas, however.

Wood, the second most popular material, has an inherent richness in texture, provides security and can be painted or stained. Wood requires regular maintenance to prevent rot and keep it looking good.

Fiberglass doors make up the fastest-growing segment of the entry door market. A smooth fiberglass door provides the characteristics of steel but won’t dent or corrode in coastal climates. Textured fiberglass looks like a wood door but does not require extensive maintenance.

Performance
Energy performance is a growing concern today, and Energy Star ratings indicate more energy-efficient products. Generally steel and fiberglass doors, because of the dense insulation inside, are more energy efficient than wood doors.

Another source of inefficiency can be the frame system. Compo-
Wayah celebrates 20 years in Highlands

On May 1, Wayah Insurance owner Steve Chenoweth and staff invited the community to celebrate the company’s 20th anniversary in Highlands with food, drink and fellowship. Wayah Insurance is on Carolina Way.

National Assoc. of Realtors celebrates centennial

Chambers descendants first area members in 1950

The National Association of REALTORS is celebrating its centennial this month. 120 real estate professionals founded it at a convention in Chicago in May 1908.

There were many reasons for bringing those in the business of real estate together. One of the more important desires was to have an organization that would recognize the reputable practitioners and discourage those who were untrustworthy and damaging to the honest real estate businessmen. Other reasons were to encourage the states to enact laws regarding the practice of real estate, to encourage the sharing of information between real estate professionals, to promote ethical business practices and to have states issue licenses to the real estate practitioners.

The first REALTOR in the Highlands-Cashiers area was Tudor Norton Hall. He was admitted as a member at large in 1950, as there wasn’t a REALTOR Board in the area at that time. In November 1956, the first charter was issued by the National Association of Real Estate Boards to the Highlands Board of Realtors.

Tudor Norton Hall and his wife Margaret founded their real estate and insurance firm in 1941 and were issued brokers licenses in November of 1957. In 1985 Tony and Isabel Hall Chambers took over the real estate division of Tudor Hall Associates. Now Tucker Chambers, grandson of the Tudor and Margaret, and his wife Jeannie, are the third generation continuing the tradition started back in 1941.

In the early 1980s, the Board name was changed to the Highlands-Cashiers Board of REALTORS. Today there are more than 400 licensed REALTORS in the Board.

‘Child Safety Day’ at Highlands School

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, car seat 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.

Century 21 Mountain Lifestyles names top producers for April

The following CENTURY 21 Mountain Lifestyles agents were top producers for their office during the month of April:

In the Cashiers office, Elizabeth Matej was named Top Sales and Top Listing Agent. Matej is a broker associate and a Fine Homes & Estates Specialist. She also received the Silver Producer award for her production in 2007 as well as the Top Listing by Units and Top Sales by Volume, Units & Production awards for her office last year.

In the Highlands office, Jerry Hudson was named both Top Sales and Top Listing Agent. Hudson was recognized as the “Rising Star” in the Highlands office. In order to qualify for this distinction, agents must be relatively new in their real estate career and have demonstrated exemplary character.

CENTURY 21 Mountain Lifestyles is located in eight offices in Buncombe, Henderson, Jackson, Macon and Transylvania counties. It is ranked 52nd in the nation among CENTURY 21® companies.

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**Help Wanted**

**Highlands Inn** – Now Hiring Breakfast and Lunch servers. Call 526-9380 for Interview.

**Highlands Inn** – Front Desk available positions. Call 526-9380 For Interview.

**Part-Time Personal Assistant/Bookkeeper Position** – Call Sabrina at 526-5899 or 526-9380.

**Highlands Falls Country Club** – Now hiring seasonal part-time/full-time positions Golf Shop sales associate & cart attendant positions. Call for Appointment Allen 526-2189 5/1

**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. Oversees health care needs of 26 assisted living residents, including supervising CNAs and med techs. Excellent personal relations and customer service skills needed. Apply in person at chestnut Hill, 64 Clubhouse Trail, Highlans, NC. Or email your resume to admin@chestnuthills.com. Drug screening and background check. EOEs. 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: Biki 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. Applicant 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.

**Servers and Counter Help Needed** at SweeTreats, Highlands. Call 526-9822.

**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 Highlandscashiers Hospital and Fidelia Eckerd Living Center. CNA 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 needed 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 weekend differentials. Full benefits, or the option to opt out of benefits for an increase in pay, available after 30 days of full-time employment. We are now offering part-time employees, working at least 24 hours a week, medical insurance. Pre-employment screening required. Call 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. *See CLASSIFIEDS page 32*

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**See Classifieds**

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

**YARD SALES**

**SATURDAY, MAY 10** – 292 Rolling Acres Drive. Turn on Rolling Acres old Alexandra’s on U.S. 64 east (Cashiers Road.) Call 941-228-7714 with questions.

**SATURDAY, MAY 10** – 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Multi-Family -- Rain or shine. 1536 Franklin Road. ...on the Verandah.

**WHOLE HOUSE MULTI-FAMILY SALE** May 15, 16, 17 at Sequoyah Point Way off U.S. 64 west, across from Webbmont. Furniture, fixtures, accessories, tools, clothes, linens, dishes, paintings, and much more. EVERYTHING MUST GO! Call 526-2302 5/15

**SAT, MAY 17, FROM 9 AM-7, 30 Lullwater Rd. Franklin (just off Highlands Rd, between Cullasaja Exxon and Walnut Creek). Lots of stuff: household, furniture, office furniture, equipment and supplies, etc.

**WORK WANTED**

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

**LOOKING FOR YARD WORK** -- Experienced and dependable. Call 828-200-1038.

**HOME DUTY SITTER** available for elderly, caring, experienced with references. Please call for hours available and specifics. Denise - 369-3813

**EXPERIENCED FINISH CARPENTER** — Call Alfredo at 828-349-1590. You can also call the International Friendship Center to see how we can help! 828-526-9938 x 290

**CLASSIFIEDS**

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.hchosp.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.hchosp.org.

**RETAIL SPACE FOR LEASE**

**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 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.


**RESIDENTIAL SPACE FOR RENT**


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

**VACATION RENTAL**

**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**


**1,800 SQ. FT. HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE** house on 2 acres. 3br/2 above ground level, detached with 2 large bath w/roll under sinks; elevator, finished basement w/workshop area, 2 car carport; new metal roof; stone fireplace & landscaping; new hardwood floors. Bordered by USFS, creek and Buck Creek Road. Access to fish pond.$329,000. Call 524-6038. 5/15

**HOUSE FOR SALE IN WEST PALM BEACH, FLORIDA** 3 bedroom, 2 ½ bath in adorable, quiet neighborhood 2 miles from ocean and Palm Beach Island, 5 miles from downtown. $450,000. Call 561-379-9151. 7/31

**MOTOR COACH SITE — DOWN-TOWN HIGHLANDS** With Cedar shake Coach House. Gated. Private. Overlooks active stream. Short walk to shopping and dining. Located at the cor. of Fifth and Chestnut Sts. For all info. visit at your leisure: www.JTIMMS.com/HID-DENCREK or contact owner directly at 828-526-5333.

**LOTS FOR SALE** – .85 AC lot off Turtle Pond. Backs to USFS. Views $30K; .90 AC lot, drive cut in. $30K. 2-bed septic approved. Ready to build. New shared well for both. Call Ty at 828-399-9693.

**UPPER CLEARCreek ROAD AT CORNET LANE** 1.20+ acres less than 4 miles to Main Street. Paved Access. Some winter views 3 sided corner lot has old logging road as your driveway. $62,500 Call 526-9021 or 787-2307.

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


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


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

**ITEMS FOR SALE**

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

**SACRIFICE, BEAUTIFUL DIA-**
FURNITURE – Medallion Back Sofa, Louis XV style, $300. Matching Lady’s and Gentleman’s Chairs, $400 set. Rocking Chair, Lincoln Type, $175. Sold separately or all for $750. Call Sandy at 524-7350 or 369-6263.

WALL MIRRORS – Recently overhauled Conn 6-D double, excellent condition $1,500. Call 828-526-9152 for more information.

BOOKCASES – 828-526-9152 8 x 10 (can be cut to size) 526-4340 8-5 $75 each.

CHAIRS – Rocking Chair, Linen. match- ing Lady’s and Gentleman’s and/or supplies. Gift wrapping and fax services. 323 Hwy 107 N., Cashiers, NC (1/2 mile from crossroads) (828) 743-3222.

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


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

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

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


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

- 0501104, LUCERNE DR 1/2 OF LOT 17 ALPINE EST, CUSACHS BARBARA B. TRUSTEE, 3/14/2008, $0., CUSACHS BARBARA B. TRUSTEE, $74,690.
- 0501106, 141 LUCERNE DR LOT 18 ALPINE EST, CUSACHS BARBARA B. TRUSTEE, 3/14/2008, $0., CUSACHS BARBARA B. TRUSTEE, $580,090.

HIGHLANDS TOWNSHIP

- 0528949, 574 BONNIE DR MIRRORMONT SUBD, HALL DEBORAH ANNE, 4/22/2008, $0., VICKERY ROBERT M JR, $425,570.
- 0550685, HEDDEN LANE TRACT 2, CHAMBERS OVERTON, 3/18/2008, $0., CHAMBERS OVERTON, $697,940.
- 0541299 OFF RD 1544 TRACT C VIEW POINT SUBD FLAT MTN EST, HAMMOND CHRIS, 3/18/2008, $106,000., HAMMOND CHRIS, $1,271,700.
- 0516991, 95 WEST VIEW WAY LOT 101 CULLASA CLUB, LATHAM WILLIAM C, 4/25/2008, $915,000., SIEGEL IRWIN A, $1,102,750.
- 0511051, 200 QUEEN MOUNTAIN RD OFF HWY 28 ON QUEEN MT RD, WILSON TERRY MICHAEL, 3/26/2008, $0. WILSON TERRY MICHAEL, $1,157,260.
- 0536630, 154 RAIN TREE LN LOT 34 THE MEADOWS SUBD, VAN WILK MARY ELLEN, 4/7/2008, $0., VAN WILK ALFONS, $335,090.
- 0503356, DOMTAN RD, RANEY DAVID L & MARY P TRUST, 4/24/2008, $0., RANEY DAVID L TRUSTEE, $141,440.
- 0503771, LYMAN ZACHARY OFF RD 1538, STAUFAFER REANA P, 4/14/2008, $0., ZACHARY JAMES, $165,060.
- 0541300 OFF RD 1544 TRACT C-1 VIEW POINT SUBD FLAT MTN EST, HAMMOND G, 3/18/2008, $205,000., HIGHLANDS DEVELOPMENT COMPANY INC, $191,800.
The following is the Highlands Police Dept. log entries for April 27-30. Only the names of persons arrested, issued a Class-3 misdemeanor, or public officials have been used.

**April 27**
- At 8 a.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident on N.C. 106.

**April 30**
- At 7:45 a.m., a motorist at Pierson Drive and Wahoo was cited for diving without a license.
- At 8:15 a.m., a motorist at Main Street and N.C. 106 was cited for driving an unregistered vehicle.
- At 9:45 a.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident at Main and N.C. 106.
- At 10:54 a.m., a motorist on N.C. 106 was cited for speeding 58 mph in a 35 zone.
- During the week officers issued 26 warning tickets.

The following is the Highlands Fire & Rescue Dept. log entries for the week of May 1-7.

**May 2**
- The dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with a medical call at the Mountain Moorings townhouse complex. The victim was unresponsive and airlifted to an Asheville Hospital.

**May 3**
- The dept. responded to an alarm at a home on Lost Trail. There was no problem.

**May 7**
- The dept. responded to an alarm at a residence on Cullasaja Club Drive. It was set off by workers.

**May 5**
- The dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with a medical call on Main Street. The victim was transported to the hospital.
- The dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with a medical call at a home on Cullasaja Drive where a person had fallen. The victim was transported to the hospital.

**The following is the Highlands Township for the week of April 28.**

**May 2**
- At 8 a.m., deputies responded to a call from Half Mile Farm to investigate vandalism to a sign.

**May 5**
- At 8:07 p.m., deputies responded to an alarm at a home on Osseroga Drive. It was false.

The following is the Macon County Sheriff Dept. log entries for the week of May 2-5.

- The dept. responded to an alarm at a residence on Cullasaja Club Drive. It was set off by workers.
- The dept. responded to an alarm at a home on Lost Trail.
- The dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with a medical call on Main Street. The victim was transported to the hospital.
- The dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with a medical call at a home on Cullasaja Drive where a person had fallen. The victim was transported to the hospital.

Gantenbein trial set for June 23

The felony jury trial of Larry and Michael Gantenbein, which was set to begin Monday, May 5 in St. Tammany Parish in Louisiana has been continued until June 23.


For more than a year, the defendants' lawyers have filed motions on their behalf, but motions may have been filed for the last time in preparation for the June 23 trial.

The prosecuting attorney is Julie Knight. The presiding judge is Reginald T. Badeaux, III.

The men are facing felony drug possession and distribution charges stemming from a traffic stop on Interstate 12 near Covington, LA, in January 5, 2007.

Louisiana State Troopers found more than 300 pounds of marijuana in the trunk of a car being towed on a roll back truck owned by Michael Gantenbein.

Larry Gantenbein, who was driving the vehicle at the time of the arrest, was pulled over for improper lane usage.

Both men claim they didn't know what was in the car they were hauling from Texas to Alabama.

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**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!

**Solution to May 1 puzzle**

**Mystery Word**

Across
1. Moved swiftly by foot (3)
2. Two thousand pounds (3)
3. Projection (3)
4. Possess (3)
5. Performer's salute (3)

Down
6. Male progeny (3)
7. Bovine animal (3)
8. Convince (slang) (3)
9. Asphalt (3)
10. Part of circle (3)