This Week in Highlands

Volume 6, Number 47

Playhouse gets lease; Board rethinks Town Hall

The Highlands Playhouse board left Wednesday night’s Town Board meeting better off than when it arrived.

With a 3-2 vote, commissioners agreed to reitalize the town’s lease with the Playhouse but this time for 10 years instead of five. Like before it will pay $1 a year rent, and be responsible for all utilities, maintenance and renovations.

As part of the new lease agreement, Town Attorney Bill Coward wants the Playhouse to have a written contract “whichever it allows to use the facility and to have on file with the town copies of its insurance policies.”

Commissioners Hank Ross and Larry Rogers voted against the motion only because they wanted a five year lease.

“A lot can happen in 10 years,” said Rogers. “That’s a long time without a review.”

A review of the Playhouse’s relationship with other artistic entities in town is what Wednesday’s meeting was all about — initiated by Commissioner Ross and others to see if the Playhouse board of directors or General Manager Henry Johnson were making the use of the facility prohibitive to others.

Also on the table was the possibility of the town insulating the building so it could be adequately heated and used during the winter.

New K-4 School explained

A recent article about the pending K-4 school on the current in-town site had Macon County Commissioners and outgoing and incoming school board members asking for a facilities update.

So, on Monday, Nov. 17 Superintendent Dan Brigman, Finance Director Betty Waldrop, school board members Donnie Edwards, Tommy Cabe, Tommy Baldwin and incoming member Frieda Bennett, met with Macon County Manager Jack Horton, Finance Director Evelyn Southard and commissioners Ronnie Beale and Jim Davi to learn specifics.

Architect Mike Watson with the Bowers, Ellis and Watson Architectural Firm explained the plan as it now stands.

The fact that the county commission opted for the less expensive infrastructure.

HS Soccer players honored

The Highlands School Varsity Boys Soccer team received high honors when Ezra Herz, Taylor Parrish and Luke McClellan were named All Conference and Parish, Herz and Mike Lica were named to the WNC All Regional Team. Coaches of the conference vote for the top 13 players named to All Conference. WNC All Regional is similar to All Conference but represents the top 1A players in all of Western North Carolina. Highlands Schools 1A classification is based on the size of the student population. This is a very big honor,” said Coach Chris Green. Mike Lica, Hunter Leffler and Cord Strawn were named All Conference Honorable Mention. Photo by Kim Lewicki

Auditor says county is fiscally fit

At the Monday, Nov. 17 continued Macon County Commission meeting, auditors verified what the board already knew — that Macon County was in excellent economic standing.

Chris Kosner with the accounting firm of Martin-Starnes & Associates, said when it comes to audits “no news is good news” and said there were no unqualified opinions, no finding or questioned costs, or any material internal control weakness identified concerning Macon County’s finances.

He said the 2008 budget was slightly less than the 2007 budget — $42,359,043 in 2007 to $42,264,410 in 2008, with expenditures in 2007 at $36,746,857 and expenditures in 2008 $38,597,426.

He said the fund balance was above the minimum amount needed.

Middle East expert presents ‘Iraq 101’

This is part 4 of a multi-part series

As military, social and economic events continue to present themselves in the Middle East, predictions by Middle East expert Sandra Mackey made on Oct. 20 in Highlands are eerily ringing true.

Recap:

“On Dec. 31, 2008, the mandate the U.N. gave the U.S. to go into Iraq ended. So we need an agreement with the Iraqi government called a Status of Forces Agreement to stay. We have dozens of these around the world wherever American troops are in any capacity there is a Status of Forces Agreement with that government. It outlines a timeframe and most importantly, no American military person can be tried by courts of that country. All military are given immunity.

“The truth is we are having problems with the Iraqis. The agreement is on the table in parliament now, that says ‘No American combat operations in Iraq after July...’” Good news for me because if that happens, we’re going to be able to get out of Iraq, but we’ve really put the cart before the horse.”

• See PLAYHOUSE page 13

• See K-4 SCHOOL page 13

• See AUDITOR page 13

• See MACKEY page 9
We must rise above the attacks

Dear Editor,

In the wake of this year’s monumental election season I find myself fortified with inspiration, motivation, and hope. I feel a sense of patriotism for my country the likes of which I have never known before. I am ready to do my part to make this country a better place. I realize now with certainty that it is also my responsibility to do my part. The election has shown me that we as a people have the power to affect positive change in this country. One of the ways that we will continue to move in a positive direction is to speak out against the voices of negativity that seek to divide us rather than unite us. The tactics of disrespect, fear mongering, and outright lies have been rejected in this country. Those who continue to speak with such voices are, in my opinion, unpatriotic and hurtful. This is a time for positivity not divisiveness.

The views expressed last week by Mr. Johnny Owens in his letter-to-the-editor are a case in point of the unpatriotic attitude that has no place in our public discourse. It is telling that Mr. Owens begins his diatribe with the notion that “this country will fall” and that we the people are to blame because we are “ignorant.” What kind of person talks about his country and its people in such a negative way? With disrespect, sweeping generalizations and inaccuracy Mr. Owens declares that “most people” voted for President-elect Obama “out of emotion.” I’m curious just how Mr. Owens gained such insight into our personal feelings. Leading news sources reported economics, health care, Iraq and terrorism as the leading concerns on voters’ minds. In reality, people voted on issues not emotions.

Mr. Owens goes on to generalize once again that the “vast majority” of the people have never laid eyes on Mr. Obama’s record, the Library of Congress, or Articles I & II of the Constitution. This sort of condescending rhetoric is offensive and unfounded. Mr. Owens is quick to assume that we are all ignorant, but he can’t even get his own facts straight.

In some sort of last-ditch scare tactic to associate President-elect Obama with terrorists, Mr. Owens informs us that the “Pakistani” group Hamas fired celebratory missiles into Israel on the day after the election. In fact, it was the Palestinian group Hamas that fired missiles into Israel, not in celebration but rather, “after Israeli forces killed six Palestinian militants,” according to Reuters. If Mr. Owens does not know the difference between Pakistan and Palestine then he really shouldn’t use Middle Eastern affairs to fuel his floundering vessel of a smear machine. Furthermore, he shouldn’t lecture us on doing our homework when obviously he hasn’t done his own.

Barack Obama won this election by rising above the attacks. He won by sticking to his principles and inspiring millions to do the same. Positive forces are at work in this country. Remember, if you are not part of the solution then you are part of the problem.

Canty Worley
Highlands

So now in America socialism is a good thing?

Dear Editor,

I read Katie Brugger’s column in the Nov. 13 issue of Highlands’ Newspaper, entitled “Socialism.”

What I got was: She is a socialist; Barack is a socialist; It’s a good thing! Did I miss anything?

J. L. Clark
Highlands

Accident victim needs help

Dear Editor,

The morning of November 13, 2008 was a dismal, dreary, cold, and rainy morning. My mother was driving to work in her 2006 Champaign colored Ford Freestyle going North on Hwy. 106. She works in Highlands for J&J Lawn Service. At approximately 7:50 am she was about 4 miles South of Highlands, just passing Koenig Builders office. When she was involved in an accident. An 18-wheeler was driving south on 106 at this same time going faster than he should have been for the weather and road conditions. His rear driver’s side back tires of the trailer came into her lane of traffic and hit her. She had attempted to get off the shoulder of the road the best that she could have, but if anyone knows that area of the road the shoulder is maybe very narrow and drops off to a very steep ditch.

The Ford Freestyle she drives has a new system that “feels” if the driver veers off the road and the vehicle actually tries to correct this by pulling itself back onto the road. My mother was fighting the vehicle by trying to pull off the road to save her life and the car was trying to save her life by getting her back onto the road. Had she not
McCall-Stanley to wed

John and Julie McCall of the Goldmine Community would like to announce the engagement and upcoming marriage of their daughter Stephanie M. McCall of Highlands to Justin Keith Stanley of Franklin.

The bride-elect is a honors graduate from the Southwestern Community College Radiography program. She is employed as a Radiologic Technologist. She is the paternal granddaughter of Grover Ray Sr. and Linda Dendy McCall of Goldmine and the late Della McCall of Goldmine. She is the maternal granddaughter of Mary Virginia Alford and the late Julius “Jake” Alford of Highlands.

The groom-elect is the son of Randy K. Stanley of Franklin and Charlene Keener Stanley of Gastonia. He is the paternal grandson of Frank and Nacy Stanley of Franklin, and the maternal grandson of Phyllis Carpenter of Otto, Ruth Woods of Virginia, and the late Norman Keener of Franklin. He is employed as the yard manager for Reeves Hardware in Highlands.

A wedding is planned for December at Goldmine Baptist Church with Rev. William Wooten officiating. Some formal invitations have been sent, but all close friends and family are invited to attend.

After Thanksgiving SALE
Fri • Sat • Sun
All WOOD furniture 50% OFF
All Christmas & Select Accessories 20% Off

EARLY BIRD SALE
Friday, Nov. 28, ONLY • 9am to 11am
Chandeliers, Furniture, Select Accessories ... ALL 50% off
2 Hours ONLY – Come Early

ROSEWOOD MARKET
THANKSGIVING MENU 2007

ENTREMES:
10-12# Roasted Turkey $60
14-18# (Serves 10-12) $75
20-22# (Serves 14-16) $90
All Turkeys come with Giblet Gravy
15# Bourbon-Brown Sugar Baked Ham $149
8# Pork Loin Stuffed with Figs & Pears $139
4.5# Classic Beef Wellington (Serves 8-10) $169

SALADS:
Cranberry Congealed Salad
Roasted Beets, Oranges & Montrachet
Arugula Salad with Figs & Parmesan

SOUPS:
Tomato-Basil, Winter Squash,
Corn & Crab Chowder,
Split Pea, Shrimp Bisque

SIDES: $7.95 per pound
Cornbread Stuffing,
Oyster Stuffing ($9.95 per pound),
Sweet Potato Souffle, Potatoes Anna,
Squash & Corn Bread Pudding,
Squash Casserole, Creamed Spinach,
Roasted Green Beans with Onions
Southern Green Beans,
Broccoli Casserole, Corn Pudding

BREADS:
Buttermilk Biscuits $3.95/dz.
Cheddar Scones $4.95/9
Italian Sourdough Boule $4.95/ea.
French Seeded Miniature Baguettes $2.25/ea.

DESSERTS:
Apple Crumble $15.95
Cherry Pie w/ Lattice Top $16.95
Pumpkin Cheesecake $49
Buttermilk, Coconut, Pecan or Pumpkin Pies $16.95/ea.
Ambrosia $9/lb
Carrot Cake $49
Cranberry or Apple Walnut Bread Pudding $3.95/serving

(828) 526-0383
tim@distinctiveevents.com
An Invite for WWII Veterans...
Fly with us to Washington D.C.

The Rotary Club of Highlands would like to invite you to see the WWII Memorial in Washington, D.C. which has only been open since 2004. It will be our honor to honor you on this trip of one day, fly up in the morning and fly back that afternoon on a chartered jet out of the Asheville Airport.

This trip is part of the Honor Flight Network that began in 2006, and has since sent hundreds of veterans, totally free, to Washington to visit a number of the memorials in addition to the WWII Memorial. Memorials such as the Vietnam Wall, Korean War Memorial, Lincoln Memorial, Arlington Cemetery, Changing of the Guard and the Marines Monument.

As of now 2 trips are being planned for early 2009, and there may be more. If you are interested please call: Bert McCall at 828-526-9736; Doc Wilson at 828-526-2568 or Steve Perry at 828-787-2323.

Flu shots available at MC Health Center Mon.-Fri.

The Macon County Public Health Center is currently administering flu shots at their Franklin location on Lakeside Drive. Shots are available Monday through Friday (except on holidays) from 8 am to 4 pm for both adults and children. The cost of the vaccine is $25 for adults or it will be billed to insurance. Vaccine is free or billed to insurance for children through age 18. No appointments are necessary. Call 349-2081 for more information.

Fly with us to Washington D.C.
Tell politicians to invest in the future, not the past

Back in 1983, I helped Lee Iacocca save Chrysler. I bought a LeBaron convertible. It was the worst car and last American car I ever owned. I kept it for a few years until the engine seized and sold it for scrap. When it was new, I drove it to a fancy restaurant, valet parking and all. After dinner I gave my claim check to the valet. While I waited, a silent stream of Mercedes, BMWs, and Jags pulled up. Elegant couples claimed them and drove quietly into the night. From around the corner, just out of sight, came what sounded like scrap metal being vigorously shaken in a tin bucket. “Let’s go,” I said to my date. “My car is coming.”

It’s hard for me to oppose a rescue of the American automobile industry. It must be nearly impossible for Congressmen. The auto industry once a source of pride and cornerstone of industry, is staggering on the edge of extinction. Its loss would result in millions of job losses and economic upheaval. Then again, Detroit has had 50 years to get it right. It scoffed at the first VW Beetle, and ignored the appeal and quality of Japanese imports. Finally, Detroit responded with such stellar examples of automotive excellence as the Pinto, Chevette, and Maverick. My LeBaron was still years away. Its reliance on gas guzzling dinosaurs has led it to the edge of extinction.

The study of the buggy whip industry is common in economics classes. You may recall that the industry went through some pretty tough times in the early 20th century. The American automobile industry may offer a parallel. We’ve seen many industries wither around for a partner to manufacture an electronic widget. He found no one in America capable of producing the part. At this moment he is in Seoul, Korea finalizing a deal with a Korean company. If we invest billions in the automotive industry, it may save manufacturing jobs in the USA. Given the experience of recent decades, it’s more likely that it will simply delay the inevitable. Why not invest the money in a facility to manufacture widgets for my friend? Why not invest in the future rather than in the past? Japanese auto makers have built plants in America, factories which employ American workers and buy from American suppliers. BMW has boosted the economy of Greenville, South Carolina, and surrounding communities. This morning I saw a list of the best and worst cars sold in America. Toyota and Honda dominated the top 10. Toyota claimed six and Honda four of the top 10. Chrysler, even without my LeBaron, dominated the list of the worst. Ford, General Motors, and Korean manufacturers rounded out the list. The Japanese and Europeans build better cars. I don’t care if the profits ultimately go to fat cats in Detroit or fat cats in Munich or Tokyo. With a population in excess of 300 million, America will continue to be a market for automobiles. The Big Three can’t maintain market share or profitability. After decades of offering an inferior product, the industry has lost the faith of the consumer. It appears that marginal, or even substantial, improvement can’t redeem it.

I hate the thought of more unemployment, especially in these troubled economic times. We explored the loss of income, health insurance, and self esteem suffered by those who suddenly find themselves without a job. But what is the alternative? To prop up an industry? To spend billions to delay the inevitable? To reward companies for years of mismanagement? To deny the truth? I hate to sound callous, but I did my part in 1983. I think that it is time for the industry to face the music, even if it is a funeral dirge.
When it comes to holiday meals, it’s not about working harder — it’s working smarter that gets the job done right. Armed with delicious, dependable recipes, time-saving tips and wonderful wines for your guests, pulling it off seamlessly isn’t as intricate as you might think. Who knows — even seasoned cooks might pick up a few pointers.

Keep the menu simple. Don’t feel abashed about buying store-bought items to supplement the meal, as long as they are quality items. Source a good local bakery for crusty rolls for the main course and a fresh apple pie or creamy cheesecake for dessert. You may spend a bit more, but you’ll save your sanity and, if you find good sources, the store-bought items can be as good as homemade. Eventually, as you build your skills, you’ll be able to branch out to making more dishes from scratch.

Cajun Deep Fried Turkey
Makes: 12 to 15 servings
Wine suggestion: Pair with a Rioja red
turkey
1 (15-pound) turkey
Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper
Garlic salt
Cajun seasoning
4 to 5 gallons peanut or vegetable oil
Deep-fry thermometer
26 to 40 quart large pot High-pressure, outdoor propane cooker
Thaw turkey completely. Clean out cavity, rinse and pat dry. Season turkey with dry ingredients to taste. (For more flavor, season the night before you cook.) Place cooker outside in an open space, away from the house. Never use a turkey fryer indoors, in a garage or under a covered patio due to potential fire hazard. Heat oil in pot (allow enough room in pot for turkey to be placed, as too much oil will cause overflow), bringing oil to at least 375°F. Immerse turkey in oil. Maintaining at least 325°F throughout the cooking process, cook turkey until golden brown, about 4 minutes per pound.

Curry Pumpkin Soup
Makes: 6 servings
2 medium pumpkins (3 to 4 pounds)
1 large pumpkin (for use as soup tureen)
2 cups chicken broth
1 cup water
1/2 cup maple syrup
1 teaspoon cinnamon
2 teaspoons curry powder
1/2 teaspoon nutmeg
1/4 teaspoon salt
1/2 teaspoon ginger
1 cup heavy cream
Toasted pumpkin seeds, optional
Crème fraîche or sour cream, optional
Preheat the oven to 350°F. Cut two medium pumpkins in half. Reserve large pumpkin for use as soup tureen. Scoop out seeds and place skin-side down on baking sheet. Bake for 35 to 45 minutes, or until soft. Scoop out pumpkin flesh into food processor and puree until smooth. Pour pureed pumpkin into saucepan and add chicken broth, water, maple syrup and spices. Bring to a boil, then reduce to a simmer and cook for 30 minutes. While the soup is cooking, cut the top off the large pumpkin to create the serving bowl. The hole should be wide enough to fit a ladle. Hollow out seeds, checking for holes and lining with plastic, if necessary. Remove soup from heat and stir in heavy cream. Pour soup into large pumpkin and serve garnished with toasted pumpkin seeds and crème fraîche.

All materials courtesy of Family Features, Digital Vision/Lisa Peardon/Getty Images
Upside of the downturn

I love to weave. I don’t have much time for weaving but I have a small loom I try to keep strung with a sampler pattern during the season. Last year about this time I ordered a bunch of cones of cotton yarns in a variety of colors for some winter projects. After weaving the items I had planned I had a generous supply of yarn left. This summer as I was setting up the loom for my summer sampler I was reluctant to spend any money on yarn, considering the way the economy was looking, so I lined up the cones in different combinations until I found something interesting.

I’m now on this season’s second sampler, using an even more restricted palette of colors, and as I was setting up the loom I thought: “This recession (let’s go ahead and call it that, even though maybe we’re technically not there yet) has been a great thing for my weaving experience.” If I had felt flush enough to just order new yarn for every project, I would never have tried the color combinations I am experimenting with. I am thrilled with some of the effects I have achieved using colors of similar color-value — a pink and yellow in particular — and I can guarantee I would never have put those two together ordinarily.

This got me to thinking about whether an economic downturn has its upsides. Last week I typed the paragraphs above and gave the article this title, and the next morning (Nov. 15) while perusing the New York Times my eye fell on a letter to the editor with the exact same title! The letter spoke eloquently of similar sentiments I have been thinking of lately. I’ll quote it in its entirety:

“Having recently read ‘Goodbye Seduction, Hello Coupons’ (Advertising, Nov. 10), as well as considered the far-reaching social and cultural implications this economic crisis may have, I am beginning to become optimistic despite the struggles in front of us. For the first time that I can remember, people will be forced to put their lives, their spending and their desires in perspective. The age of shallow commercialism, for the foreseeable future, is over. Our economy will have to restore its balance and focus on our necessities, not our desires. Many articles in various news outlets have been discussing the far-reaching changes in consumer spending. My hope is that these changes will penetrate our psyches and forever change our perspective so that we may move forward and rebuild our economy and society based on real intrinsic value, not indulgent consumerism.” — Joshua Shapiro

My husband has for years told of something he saw in a national Lampoon magazine: a photograph showed two children sitting with a big tub of peanut butter between them, both of them dipping into it with spoons, their faces covered with peanut butter. The caption read, “These children are being forced to share a 5-pound tub of peanut butter — an American shouldn’t have to share.” This is how we have come to think; we want it all now.

Our society is about instant gratification. Don’t scrimp and save enough money to make a purchase like our grandparents did. Take out your credit cards and buy it NOW. Suck all the equity out of your home to take lavish vacations.

I’m reminded of a cartoon that showed shoppers in a mall carrying bags labeled “House of Useless Figurines.” Not only do we buy things we don’t need, we buy them with money we don’t have.

The American Dream has turned from a vision of the land of opportunity to a vision of material prosperity. The only thing many people seem to care about anymore is making money and spending it. So many of us are so busy working, trying to chase that prosperity dream that we completely miss out on life happening around us.

When I was growing up, my family ate dinner together every night of the week. It was a huge part of our family’s life and I can’t imagine family life without it. It astonishes me to hear that many families today rarely eat meals together. How do they stay connected?

I find Michelle Obama’s life story very inspiring. She grew up in Chicago. Her father worked for the city even though he had multiple sclerosis; his disability did not stop him from working. Her mother stayed home with Michelle and her brother until they reached high school. The family lived in a one-bedroom apartment on the top floor of a brick bungalow. The living room — converted with a divider down the middle — was Michelle’s bedroom.

The family spent many evenings together after dinner playing games. Both Michelle and her brother ended up attending Princeton University; she graduated from Harvard Law School and he is a basketball coach at Oregon State University.

We always dream of giving our children more stuff, more material prosperity. But Michelle’s parents gave their children something more important: their time and attention.

All of Katie Brugger’s columns are available on her website: www.kathleenbrugger.com

---

Western Square Dance Clubs Hold Annual Fundraiser for Hospice

Clubs of the Western Carolina Federation of Round and Square Dancing are now conducting their annual fundraiser for local hospices. The twelve clubs of the Federation are selling raffle tickets for $1 each and will donate the total proceeds to hospices selected by the clubs. The winning ticket will be drawn November 29th during the Federation Hospice Dance at Eliada Home in Asheville. An award of $300.00 in cash will be given by the Federation to the winning ticket holder. The winner does not have to be a dancer or be present for the drawing to win.

For information on the tax-deductible donation, call Bob Walker at 828-332-0001.
Thanksgiving made easy and delicious
by
Wild Thyme Gourmet

~ Our favorite Thanksgiving take-out meal ~
Slow roasted maple and cider-glazed turkey
Apple, sausage and pecan dressing
Turkey gravy with fresh sage and vermouth
Sweet potatoes with orange and crystallized ginger
Garlic mashed potatoes
Spinach and artichoke casserole
Green beans with shallots and walnut oil
Cranberry relish
Fresh baked rolls
Pumpkin, apple or chocolate pecan pie

The Feast
Serves 6 ~ $210.00
A 10-12 pound turkey, all the above accompaniments
One dozen rolls and one pie

The Big Feast
Serves 10 ~ $300.00
An 18-20 pound turkey, all of the above accompaniments
1 1/2 dozen rolls, and two pies

Dinners may be picked up by appointment between 11 a.m. Wednesday and 10:30 a.m. Thursday.

Order soon, oven space is limited!
Call Through Nov. 13 To Reserve Your Holiday Meal

(828) 526-4035
490 Carolina Way Highlands North Carolina 28741

The pinball bailout?

Is the proposed bailout of the "big three" auto makers really for them? Or is it something else entirely?
Here I sit in a farmhouse on the Eastern Continental Divide. From my front porch, I can see most of upstate South Carolina. In that territory are several auto manufacturing plants that are doing just fine, thank you very much.

To my left, or west, is the Tennessee border. Over those mountains are several more auto plants which are quite healthy also.

So, let's chuck in the trash the idea that auto manufacturing in the US is failing generally. It isn't. It is just the "big three" American manufacturers. Properly. It should be called the "big two and a half," since Chrysler is in the bucket, once again.

Auto manufacturers must be in the business of not only manufacturing cars, but selling them. So, let's start at the end and work backwards to a realistic starting point. Let's say that next year General Motors will have demand (both foreign and domestic) for one million cars and trucks. That means, regardless of corporate or governmental actions, it will need enough employees to manufacture one million cars.

Employees above that need are going to lose their jobs, no matter what the government, or corporate management, or auto unions do. That is, unless the government goes into the business of buying up stockpiling unsold cars, like it does for certain farm products. I begin with the assumption that the feds are not so stupid as to start dumping excess cars in silos in South Succotash, Iowa.

It follows, then, that enough GM employees to manufacture one million cars and trucks, will get to stay on the job in GM plants, doing work, REGARDLESS of whether the feds bail out GM, or do nothing and GM has to file for bankruptcy.

In bankruptcy, GM would be rid of its present, clearly incompetent management. It would also be free of any tentacles of the United Auto Workers. If anyone is paying attention, the healthy auto plants in states other than Michigan are generally non-union and in a welcoming environment for businesses generally.

There's also the wrinkle that the unions operate a worker retirement and welfare plan which is owed a $7 billion payment early next year. If U.S. auto companies get bailed out, that payment gets made. If not, then not. And don't forget that only union contract employees pay union dues.

Bottom line, this is not a proposed bailout for the American auto industry. It is really a bailout for the auto unions. And, as the pinball bounces, it is also a bailout for a failed Democrat city (Detroit) and a failed Democrat state (Michigan).

This fits right in with the proposed federal law to end secret ballots in union elections. Except in the public sector, unions have been in a steady decline in membership for more than forty years. Terminating secret ballots in union elections will have only one result: more unions will be recognized in more places if union organizers can lean on employees personally and directly, to force their "votes" to go in the right direction.

This, by the way, is not a new concept. The secret or "Australian" ballot was not introduced in the U.S. until 1888 in Louisville, Kentucky. Prior to that, the political parties printed their own ballots for every election, and urged their supporters to use them. The advantage was that party organizers could tell by the color or shape of the paper ballots whether each voter was voting the right way, or with the hated opposition.

What does it matter that the bailout is really for the unions, and for two, failed Democrat administrations? In the long run, this bailout is designed to save the Democrat Party itself. If the incoming administration is an abject failure, it will take hundreds of millions of dollars, and hundreds of thousands of warm bodies, to pull its chestnuts out of the fire in 2010, and especially in 2012.

Where are those bodies and that money coming from? Majority Leader Harry Reid has a plan for that. Watch the Senate on Monday afternoon as he fires the first shot in the pinball bailout.

• About the Author: John Armor practiced law in the US Supreme Court for 33 years. He now lives in Highlands, NC, and is working on a book on Thomas Paine. John_Armor@aya.yale.edu
Buckle up, dudes!

thinking about bailing out GM, Ford, American Express, California, Ohio, etc.
Now I am not making fun of Paulson’s speech impediment. If, in fact, he had one.
I swear I am not, but he does not have a manner of speaking that would engender large amounts of confidence.

So, back on the bronk he goes to continue his wild ride through the financial morass of the universe, twisting and turning, but getting nowhere. I am not minimizing the complexity of the problems facing him, and us. They are devastating and possibly insolvable in my lifetime — and maybe yours.
I am having a problem with the cries of lack of transparency as to the disposition of the huge amounts of money. Even Barney Franks, who backed Paulson in round one, is exercising his own particular brand of speech concerns over the latest version of “over the rainbow.”

... MACKEY continued from page 1

of 2009; that American troops will be withdrawn back into bases by 2009 and by 2011 all troops will be gone. When that happens, Americans in the country are American citizens not military personnel and they can be tried in Iraqi courts and military personnel who aren’t involved in actual military operations — say they are on street and decide to rape someone — then they go into Iraqi court. If this “agreement” passes, Iraq will be only country with that sort of thing in effect. So it’s a big problem, so we are starting to pull down in Iraq.

But now what?

“What we’re having to look at is a change in American foreign policy in Persian Gulf from what it has been from 1970s. The U.S. used the Shah of Iran and Iraq to balance off each other to keep them both weak and to keep the Persian Gulf out of the hands of other of the countries — we used Saudi Arabia in that way. But that’s not working now.

“Now there is a government in Baghdad that is tepid about us and Iran who is really against us, so we need a regional approach to this which brings us to the fact that the countries we thought we could never get along with, may slowly have common interests. You know what they say, “No country has friends or enemies only interests.” To the constellation of Iran and America, we are beginning to have a lot of his brilliance to get us out of this one.

Oh, BTW, I think I’m hearing the sound of his administration-to-be baking away from the middle class tax cuts 95% of us were going to enjoy. Dam. And I had it all spent.

Also, I’m hearing he is going to RULE from day one, reversing many recent accomplishments by Executive Order. That’s ominous. If that isn’t enough, Obama has said we need a “Civilian National Security Force” as big as our military. Can you say “Siege Heil?”
Four Observations: Duke-Rhode Island

The major story from college hoops this weekend was the near upset of Duke by Rhode Island at Cameron Indoor Stadium. Here are a few observations from that game.

1. The lone bright spot from Sunday night for Duke was that Coach K has finally figured out that Duke’s best players are Jon Scheyer, Kyle Singler, Nolan Smith and Gerald Henderson. Greg Paulus was nowhere to be found on the floor last night at the game, and I honestly believe that is why Duke managed to pull it out. Greg Paulus is a fine basketball player, particularly in the open court, but teams attacked him both offensively and defensively at the end of games last year, so taking him off the floor eliminates a weakness for Duke. Paulus can still be a valuable player for Duke, especially his shooting ability and experience, but he is known defensively liability at this point in his career and allows the opposing coach an easy choice to attack when they need a basket.

2. I agree with the sentiments of those pundits who believe that Duke’s talent level is down. There is a big drop off after the aforementioned four players — although I think that Elliot Williams has the potential to become a major player and McClure has become a nicer player in the mold of a Marcus Ginyard type who can provide defense and rebounding. The problem with Duke’s other players is that they excel at one aspect of the game, while being weak in many others. Paulus is still a defensive liability who can’t play defense or penetrate. Martynas Pocius is an athlete who gets run on defense and can’t shoot. Miles Plumlee looks adequate offensively and passes well for a big man, but has not rebounded well thus far. Same goes for Lance Thomas, who has been very active on the offensive boards and defends the post well, but cannot shoot a lick and is a poor defensive rebounder. Brian Zoubek...well Zoubek does nothing well. Just too many holes in the games of these players — something that assistant coaches are supposed to fix...

3. The loss of Demarcus Nelson was felt full force last night, as Duke failed to find the guy that could cool off Rhode Island star Jimmy Baron until right at the end. I think ultimately that Nolan Smith will be the guy called upon to lock people down, but Scheyer did a terrific job during major stretches last night of guarding Baron, only to see Baron hit some incredible shots. Coach K cannot be happy at all that his defense allowed Rhode Island to shoot such a great percentage this early in the season.

4. Lastly, perhaps the greatest strategic nuance that I noticed on Sunday night was that Rhode Island greatley disrupted Duke’s offense by pressuring their initial inbounds and not letting Duke get into their secondary break. The confusion you saw on offense in the first half from Duke looked like a team that had a late start to the season. Coaching in high school, we usually put in our press break and primary and secondary break first, and then work on half court offense more as the season goes along. It looked to me like Duke had not spent a whole lot of time on half court offense and it took the individual efforts of Scheyer and Singler to pull this game out. In my opinion, Coach K was outcoached until the last minute of the game where he matched the 6’9” Singler against Jimmy Baron and forced a bad shot...

HS Basketball

The Highlands Highlanders began their basketball season with a strong performance on the road versus the Andrews Wildcats Tuesday night. In the 5 p.m. game, the Highlands JV boys lost a nail-biter 43-42 when a buzzer beating shot by J.J. Rodriguez was ruled to have been a hair too late.

The JV Highlanders were led by Cody St. Germaine with 16 points, and Rodriguez chipped in 9 points.

In the Lady Highlanders first game of the year, they used a smothering full court press to force 12 Wildcat turnovers in the first quarter and build a lead they would never relinquish.

Despite some cold shooting in the first half, the Lady Highlanders still managed enough offense for a blowout, mainly due to their effort on the defensive end. In my opinion, Coach K was outstanding in this game out. In my opinion, Coach K was outstanding...

Junior Sarah Power led the Lady Highlanders with 11 points, and Freshman Stephanie St. Lambert added 8.

The nightcap saw the Highlands Men’s Basketball team showcase a dominant performance on both the offensive and defensive end in a 93-43 victory over Andrews. Turnovers were also the story in the boys’ game, as the locals had defense pressure forced 17 steals against the Wildcats that led to numerous easy baskets early in the game.

Leading the way for the Highlanders was senior Ezra Herz with 22 points, followed by senior Michael Baty with 18 and sophomore Robbie Vanderbilt adding 13. Vanderbilt, Baty and sophomore Josh De La Cruz all added 10 rebounds apiece in what was a superior effort on the glass.

The Highlanders open their home schedule on Friday against Rabun County, with the JV’s beginning at 5 p.m. followed by both the Varsity girls and boys. We would like to encourage all fans to come out Friday night and support the Highlanders. — Ryan Potts
Two Highlands School students have ‘Governor’s’ school in sights for summer 2009

Brice Jenkins, a junior a Highlands School, is the superintendent’s nominee for the math program and Ashley Dickey, also a junior, is the superintendent’s nominee for the Spanish program at The Governor’s School of North Carolina this summer.

Dickey must go through one more process before learning if she will go onto The Governor’s School.

Each of North Carolina’s 100 counties gets two guaranteed spots — superintendent’s choice — and can nominate others.

The Governor’s School of North Carolina is a six-week summer residential program for intellectually gifted high school students, integrating academic disciplines, the arts, and unique courses on each of two campuses. The curriculum focuses on the exploration of the most recent ideas and concepts in each discipline, and does not involve credit, tests, or grades. The program is entirely free of charge to all students, funded by the General Assembly of North Carolina.

The Governor’s School is the oldest statewide summer residential program for academically or intellectually gifted high school students in the nation. The program, which is open to rising seniors only, with exceptions made for rising juniors in selected performing visual arts areas, is located on two campuses of 400 students each: Governor’s School West at Salem College in Winston-Salem (begun in 1963), and Governor’s School East at Meredith College in Raleigh (begun in 1978).

All students study in three curricular areas:

Area I consists of English, French (East), Spanish (West), Mathematics, Natural Science, Social Science, Art, Choral Music, Instrumental, Music, Drama, and Dance.

Area II – Study that explores connections between and among the Area I disciplines. As integrative concepts emerge, the class attempts to construct an understanding of contemporary ways of thinking and of the culture that arises from them.

Area III – Study that grounds the learning from Areas I and II in student’s own personal experience, and applies that understanding to their social worlds; that is, they try to discover links between ideas and actions, theory and practice.

Macon County Superintendent, Dan Brigman said every school district may send in two nominations as Superintendent’s Choice and these two are guaranteed a spot at Governor’s School. He personally interviewed each “Superintendent Choice” nominee.

“Based on Macon County School System size, we also send in two additional nominees to the State Committee for their consideration of acceptance to Governor’s School.

Brice was a Superintendent’s Choice and Ashley was an additional nominee that will be taken under consideration for attendance by the State Committee. In the past, several of our additional nominees have been selected to attend,” he said.

He said all of the school system’s candidates for the NC Governor’s School were extremely impressive.

“Brice has excellent communication skills and student leadership experiences to assist him as he represents the Macon County School System and Highlands School,” he said. “Each student greatly benefits from the unique leadership and academic opportunities presented to them through their attendance at the Governor’s School. Many students who have attended in the past have reported this to be a life-changing experience.”

... MACKEY from page 9

common interests that we might be able to get together on.

“As we all know, since 1979 the U.S. and Iran haven’t had cordial relations. We had a situation in which there has been this incredible hostility from Iran because of the fact that Iraq was taken away as a balance point to Iran. Now, Iranians can exert a lot more influence in this area than they have been able to do so previously. So what they’re doing is throwing their weight around — pursuing nuclear weapons, saying outrageous charges since the revolution.

“The question is, do we, at the price of lowering our presence in Iraq, sit down with Iran? No. No. You don’t sit down with Iran. What you do is pursue the same path since 1989 which is the U.S. over here, and Iran over there and we’re like two rats who come up out of our holes, look at each other and then go back down in.

“We come back and look at each other,
Learning Literacy: A success story

By Laura Miller

Individual tutoring can mean the difference between struggling to read and literacy success. Many students receive one-on-one instruction from the dedicated and highly qualified volunteer tutors at the Literacy Council of Highlands. One such student is Leah Craig.

Since July of 2008, Leah has been tutored by Leslie Doster, a part-time Highlands resident and professor of Speech Pathology at the University of Central Florida. In just a few months of working with Leslie and the intensive instruction of the Wilson Reading System, Leah has shown remarkable progress.

The enthusiasm and confidence shows in this bright girl’s voice as she describes how Leslie’s patient guidance has not only helped her to read better, but also to enjoy reading. “Now I’m on my second page of Reading Counts. I’m making 100s!” Her mother Kay appreciates the changes in Leah’s whole attitude: “She has tremendous confidence and isn’t embarrassed to try anything as far as reading goes… she writes things, she reads things – she doesn’t feel scared to do it any more.” Kay adds that the Wilson program is excellent for students like Leah who are dyslexic.

Dyslexia affects nearly one in five students worldwide, and is marked by reading difficulties, spelling errors such as mixing up the order of letters, difficulties in speech development, and problems associating letters with the sounds they represent. This learning disability is best addressed through early diagnosis and intervention, particularly one-on-one tutoring with methods like the Wilson Program that incorporate a detailed phonics-based curriculum with a multisensory approach to teaching.

The step-by-step instruction, combined with the patient guidance of a mentor like Leslie Doster, gives children like Leah the skills to excel at reading. Anyone wishing to join the team of highly skilled professionals who volunteer at the Literacy Council is encouraged to contact us at 828-526-9938, extension 261. Tutors with a background in all academic disciplines are greatly appreciated.

• Laura Miller is the Programs Coordinator for the Literacy Council of Highlands.

Christmas Parade Book Give-away

Matt Eberz of Sam Call Productions, LLC, and Clair and Arthur Simpson of Cyrano’s Book Shop, will once again donate books to the Literacy Council of Highlands, to be given away during the annual Christmas parade in Highlands on Dec. 6. The members of the Literacy Council of Highlands, dressed as storybook characters, will be marching in the annual parade and will be giving away children’s books to the young children watching along the parade route. Last year the Literacy Council gave away over 500 books to the children attending the annual event.

Advertise in the weekly vehicle the BUYING PUBLIC READS: Highlands’ Newspaper, 5,000 on the streets, 3,200 PDF downloads from www.highlandsinfo.com. Call 526-0782 for information or email: highlandseditor@aol.com

By Laura Miller

Individual tutoring can mean the difference between struggling to read and literacy success. Many students receive one-on-one instruction from the dedicated and highly qualified volunteer tutors at the Literacy Council of Highlands. One such student is Leah Craig.

Since July of 2008, Leah has been tutored by Leslie Doster, a part-time Highlands resident and professor of Speech Pathology at the University of Central Florida. In just a few months of working with Leslie and the intensive instruction of the Wilson Reading System, Leah has shown remarkable progress.

The enthusiasm and confidence shows in this bright girl’s voice as she describes how Leslie’s patient guidance has not only helped her to read better, but also to enjoy reading. “Now I’m on my second page of Reading Counts. I’m making 100s!” Her mother Kay appreciates the changes in Leah’s whole attitude: “She has tremendous confidence and isn’t embarrassed to try anything as far as reading goes… she writes things, she reads things – she doesn’t feel scared to do it any more.” Kay adds that the Wilson program is excellent for students like Leah who are dyslexic.

Dyslexia affects nearly one in five students worldwide, and is marked by reading difficulties, spelling errors such as mixing up the order of letters, difficulties in speech development, and problems associating letters with the sounds they represent. This learning disability is best addressed through early diagnosis and intervention, particularly one-on-one tutoring with methods like the Wilson Program that incorporate a detailed phonics-based curriculum with a multisensory approach to teaching.

The step-by-step instruction, combined with the patient guidance of a mentor like Leslie Doster, gives children like Leah the skills to excel at reading. Anyone wishing to join the team of highly skilled professionals who volunteer at the Literacy Council is encouraged to contact us at 828-526-9938, extension 261. Tutors with a background in all academic disciplines are greatly appreciated.

• Laura Miller is the Programs Coordinator for the Literacy Council of Highlands.

Christmas Parade Book Give-away

Matt Eberz of Sam Call Productions, LLC, and Clair and Arthur Simpson of Cyrano’s Book Shop, will once again donate books to the Literacy Council of Highlands, to be given away during the annual Christmas parade in Highlands on Dec. 6. The members of the Literacy Council of Highlands, dressed as storybook characters, will be marching in the annual parade and will be giving away children’s books to the young children watching along the parade route. Last year the Literacy Council gave away over 500 books to the children attending the annual event.

Advertise in the weekly vehicle the BUYING PUBLIC READS: Highlands’ Newspaper, 5,000 on the streets, 3,200 PDF downloads from www.highlandsinfo.com. Call 526-0782 for information or email: highlandseditor@aol.com
The next revenue generator is the sales tax – 19% of revenues or $8,084,993, down slightly from 2007’s $8,306,681.

Restricted Intergovernmental funds – designated grant money – amounted to 14% of the 2008 budget or $6,015,440, down from 2007’s $6,852,830 because that figure reflected the last locale of humane relief grant money the county had been receiving since 2006.

The remaining 15% in revenues came from unrestricted intergovernmental funds, permits and fees, sales and service and investment income.

Expenditures were pretty evenly distributed across the board – other (28%), public safety (26%), human services (25%) and education (22%).

Total expenditures for 2008 were $38,597,426 with general expenditures up in 2008 — $6,999,282 to 2007’s $5,790,451; public safety expenditures were down in 2008, $9,994,481 compared to 2007’s $10,148,813; human services expenditures were up slightly — $9,481,690 in 2008 to 2007’s $9,438,135 in 2007; and education expenditures for 2008 were $8,245,555 compared to 2007’s $7,815,684.

He said the county/sonly enterprise fund – the Solid Waste Department – was in good shape with a positive cash flow of $810,156 even though it was down from 2007’s $1,471,649 cash flow. Southard said that it is due to monies the county has expended at the Highlands Land Fill.

County Manager Jack Horton asked Kosner how the county stacks up compared to other like-counties in the state.

Hesaid several counties would be enviable of Macon County’s fiscal standing.

– Kim Lewicki

Two superior services.
One unbeatable price.

Bundle High-Speed Internet with Digital Phone from Northland for one LOW price.

High-Speed Internet

- Only Northland can deliver the fastest speeds for all your video streaming, banking, shopping, schoolwork, and more!
- No matter where you live within the network, experience consistent speeds faster than DSL and dialup.

Digital Phone

- Reliable home phone service with unlimited local and long distance calling
- 13 FREE calling features including Voicemail, Caller ID, and Call Waiting PLUS online Voicemail access

Northland Advanced Fiber Networks

$52.85 per month with a 12 month agreement required. Standard prices apply after term. Prices subject to change. Offer valid for new customers only. Actual Internet speeds may and are not guaranteed. Northland manages shootable bandwidth and may temporarily restrict services or a result of high volume use to maintain quality service. Unlimited local and long distance calling to the U.S. and Canada. Equipment fees, taxes and installation not included. May not be available in all areas. Some restrictions may apply. Offer expires 12/31/09.

Highland's Newspaper - Thursday, Nov. 20, 2008 - Page 13

... K-4 SCHOOL from 1

A solution – drilling wells and laying drainage fields instead of running water and sewer lines out to the site – has changed the plan somewhat, hesaid.

"More extensive soil tests due to the necessary intensive treatment and certification for a below ground septic tank system that bleeds out to a drain system, as well as numerous water wells is needed, but preliminary reports indicate that everything is OK," said Watson. "It is a viable area for everything we need to do."

Another change – this one suggested by Watson – is to move students to the nearby Cowee School while the new Iotla School is being built, rather than building the new school around the occupied old school – this for safety, the expedition of construction.

See K-4 SCHOOL page 23
take a few steps forward, then back and go back into our holes. Since 1989 both countries trying to find a path to talking to each other. And it's been the fault on both sides. You will get some movement and then one side or other will blow it and we're right back.

"When president of Iran — Mahmoud Ahmadinejad — got elected 4 years ago you had the absolute non-intellectuals, the representatives of the poorest least educated people in the country ascend to the presidency and Ahmadinejad has blown it. Totally blown it."

"The truth is, Iran is not nearly as powerful as it appears. The leadership in Iran since Khomeini's death in 1989, has been very split. You have those who believe in keeping Khomeini's hard-line and not wavering from edicts promoting Islam and those who say the interests of the Iranian nation are greater than the interests of Islam. They are the nationalists. They want to reform the system, because they know if they don't reform the system the country won't survive."

"The president know their only chance to stay in power is to goad the U.S. into bombing nuclear facilities thereby igniting Iranian nationalism which is very powerful. That's why Ahmadinejad says all the crazy things he says, which aren't necessarily backed by anyone else."

"What draws the U.S. and Iran together? "Things have happened that have changed the situation. One of the big events is that neither Iran or the U.S. wants chaos in Iraq."

"Tiran with one hand is stirring up trouble in Iraq to get the U.S., but at the same time, Iran wants to keep a hand on that violence because they don't want chaos on their border because that is unsettling for them."

"Secondly, they don't want Alkada to be operating in Afghanistan. Why? Because Alkada are Sunni Muslims and the Iranians are Shite Muslims. They are terrified of Alkada."

"In fact, shortly after the attack on Afghanistan in 2002, there was a lot of cooperation between U.S. and Iran on that issue. When Russians got involved in the state of Georgia recently, that made the Iranians extremely nervous because in the mid-19th century Russia actually broke a big chunk of what was Iranian territory and put it in Russia. So Iran is very nervous about them. That's a common interest we have."

"Next week: The Russia and Afghanistan story."
The great American feast is next week!

By Ted Schmidt

Next Thursday is Thanksgiving Day! Have you ordered your turkey? Have you invited all of your guests? Do you know which football games you will be watching? Do you plan to start your Christmas shopping the following day? The day that is called Black Friday, because retailers hopefully have a bottom line that is not red. As we approach the official start of the holiday season, I can’t help but think about how we all manage to get caught up in all the stuff. The food, the decorations, the activities. Don’t get me wrong, it is my favorite time of year, I am just amazed at how far we have come from its original meaning.

Thanksgiving Day was not always celebrated on the fourth Thursday of November. Some may remember that prior to 1941, presidents declared a day of Thanksgiving on various days in the Fall. The Pilgrims, who we generally credit as having the first Thanksgiving in 1621, may not have even had the first Thanksgiving in the United States. Claims to the First Thanksgiving title are also made by the Spanish settlers of St. Augustine in 1565, and the Virginia colony in 1619. For the Pilgrims, Thanksgiving was not an annual event, and unlike many annual harvest festivals, the Pilgrims would have had a Thanksgiving Day in good harvest years, but fasting in drought years. By the mid-17th century, it was an annual event, and fasting was not part of the program.

The Pilgrims, as well as the Spanish and the Virginia colony, viewed a day of Thanksgiving as a spiritual event, not a harvest festival. The focus was on God, and His Goodness, not the food. The case has been made that the Pilgrims adapted the Feast of Tabernacles from the Old Testament to celebrate the autumn harvest. The Feast of the Tabernacles was also called the Feast of Ingathering because it occurred at the time of the major autumn harvest. But even if this hasn’t been a great year, there is still a great occasion in store for you, because when we are clothed, we will not be found naked. For this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.” (1 Thessalonians 5:18) But even if this hasn’t been a great year, there is still a great occasion in store for you, because when we are clothed, we will not be found naked. For this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.” (1 Thessalonians 5:18)

So over the course of more than 2,000 years, we have gone from a spiritual appreciation of eternal life to turkeys, football, and a big parade in New York — a parade that is financed by a retailer who wants you to start shopping the following day. Is it any wonder that some may have a difficult time being thankful this year? In addition to the misplaced focus, it may be hard to be thankful if you are without a job, or have seen your investment portfolio take a serious hit, or if your business volume continues to decline. It may be hard to “Speak to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs. Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord, always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.” (Ephesians 5:19-20) It may be really hard to “give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.” (1 Thessalonians 5:18) But even if this hasn’t been a great year, there is still a great blessing for which we need to be thankful. “Give thanks to the LORD Almighty, for the LORD is good; His love endures forever.” This phrase appears several times in the Bible, in fact, several times in Psalms and Jeremiah alone. God’s love is the greatest thing for which we need to be thankful. It is out of God’s Love that our health, finances, and relationships can be restored. (Jeremiah 33:11) It is out of God’s Love that He sent His Son, so that all men who believe in Him can have eternal life. Can you really think of anything for which you might be more thankful than eternal life?

So, enjoy the holiday, enjoy the food, enjoy your family, and yes, you can even enjoy the football game and the parade; but take some time to thank God next Thursday for the free gift of eternal life, and take some time to share God’s Love with someone who may not know Him. Have a Blessed Thanksgiving!
veered off the road when she did, this truck’s back tires would have hit her directly in the driver’s seat! This truck never stopped to see about the accident and kept driving. This by law is called a hit and run.

Then there were two or three cars behind her when this accident happened and no one stopped to see if she needed any assistance nor has anyone reported anything about the truck or the accident except us. She sustained $3,000-$5,000 in damages to her car. We are very thankful that my mother was not killed or seriously injured in this accident, but the truck driver and the other drivers didn’t seem to care if she was injured or not.

The highway patrol officer also did go to the scene of the accident, but was not able to find a witness to write a report about the accident even though there is evidence that a person ran off the road and hit the rocks in front of the Koenig office very recently. In fact, when the other drivers behind my mother stopped suddenly, due to the accident, one driver had to swerve to avoid from hitting the other cars and this may have been who hit the rocks.

If anyone has information about this accident please contact the NC Highway Patrol and give them the information. This truck driver needs to be found and made to pay for the damages and injuries he caused by veering into oncoming traffic’s lane and causing an accident!

One day a friend, family member, or someone you love is going to be killed by reckless drivers, help us in stopping this before it happens to me or you!

Berita L. Easland-Fox
Otto, NC

The Senior Beta Club at Highlands School held its annual Induction Ceremony on Nov. 10 to formally welcome new members into the local and national organization. Nine new members were inducted, bringing the school membership to 27. Officers for the ’08-’09 school year are Carolyn Hornsby, president; Luke McClellan, vice-president; Marisol Ruiz, Andrew Billingsley, treasurer. Membership in Beta Club is based on academic achievement and character. The Highlands Beta Club is active in service projects, locally and internationally. The club handles the ongoing recycling program at the school, collecting and sorting cans, bottles, and papers, and taking them to the Recycling Center. The club also plans to sponsor local children again this year at Christmas and lend money to a Third World entrepreneur through the Kiva organization. The Induction Ceremony concluded with Officers Carolyn and Marisol passing the symbolic torch of Beta Club leadership to all the members of the club.

Calvin “Squeak” Speed

Calvin “Squeak” Speed, 53, of the Buck Creek community died Sat. Nov. 15, 2008 at Angel Hospital in Franklin, N.C. He was a native of Macon County, the son of the late Chester and Kate Ledford Speed. He was a construction worker, and a member of Blue Valley Baptist Church.

He is survived by a daughter Jessica Stickle of Cocoa Beach, FL, a son Chester Speed of Cocoa Beach, FL; eight sisters, Nancy Tilson, Kathy Branum, Frankie Beck, Susie Barnes and Rita Speed all of Highlands, NC; Pat Green and Brenda Guertin of Clayton, GA and Tinker Gilett of Charleston, SC; one brother David Speed of Highlands, NC; two grandchildren also survive.

Funeral services were Wednesday, Nov. 19 at 2 p.m. in the Chapel of Bryant-Grant Funeral Home in Highlands with Rev. Bobby Cloer and Rev. Oliver Rice officiating. Pallbearers were Sam Johnson, William Passmore, Davis Green, Brantly Potts, Brian Reese, Keith Barnes, and Toby Barnes. Bryant-Grant Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.
Thanks for making the 2nd Annual Culinary Weekend an amazing success

The foundation has truly been laid for a not-to-be-missed event in the coming years. When we began coordinating this year’s event (not long after the completion of last year’s event), I could only hope that things would turn out as well as they did. The word of mouth of last year’s event brought people back and enticed new visitors to Highlands – the true purpose of the Highlands Culinary Weekend. Once again, the weekend brought great success – a delightfully delicious opening night party, cooking demonstrations, guest speakers, inspired dinners and, new this year, “Sip & Stroll” which was a sell-out this year and, from the feedback that I’ve received so far, should grow to include more merchants and more attendees for next year.

Much of the credit for the event’s success goes to the staff and volunteers of the Highlands Area Chamber of Commerce and Visitor Center whose dedication and hard work made the event happen. I was fortunate this year to be working with a wonderful committee that took on tasks and provided me with the final product.

Thanks to the “working” committee - Mindy Green, Laura Huerta, Jan Healey, Vicki Aspinwall, Ginger Sweat, Melissa Delaney, Leah McGlade, Debbie Grossman and Faye Wurm, as well as Marianne Vines, Lynn Delgado, Amanda Sullivan, Anne Tate, Little Flower Shoppe, and the 43 Opening Night Party volunteers. Thank you to the Town of Highlands, the Town Board and Mayor Mullen and the Highlands Police and Fire Departments.

I appreciate the support and vision of our sponsors: The Highlands Area Chamber of Commerce and Visitor Center, PFG Milton’s Food Group, the Laurel Magazine, WNC Magazine, Highlands Fine Art & Estate Jewelry Corporation, WHLC 104.5 FM, Highlands Medical Associates, Manning Brothers, Starberrry Insurance, Nellis Communities, Inc., Highlands Wine & Cheese Shop, A Moment in Time Photography, Old Edwards Inn & Spa, on the Verandah Restaurant, Wolfgang’s Restaurant and Wine Bistro, NC Signature Magazine, Clique Photography & Design, Integrated Installations and Bryson’s Food Store.


The foundation has truly been laid for a not-to-be-missed event in the coming years. When we began coordinating this year’s event (not long after the completion of last year’s event), I could only hope that things would turn out as well as they did. The word of mouth of last year’s event brought people back and enticed new visitors to Highlands – the true purpose of the Highlands Culinary Weekend. Once again, the weekend brought great success – a delightfully delicious opening night party, cooking demonstrations, guest speakers, inspired dinners and, new this year, “Sip & Stroll” which was a sell-out this year and, from the feedback that I’ve received so far, should grow to include more merchants and more attendees for next year.

Much of the credit for the event’s success goes to the staff and volunteers of the Highlands Area Chamber of Commerce and Visitor Center whose dedication and hard work made the event happen. I was fortunate this year to be working with a wonderful committee that took on tasks and provided me with the final product.

Thanks to the “working” committee - Mindy Green, Laura Huerta, Jan Healey, Vicki Aspinwall, Ginger Sweat, Melissa Delaney, Leah McGlade, Debbie Grossman and Faye Wurm, as well as Marianne Vines, Lynn Delgado, Amanda Sullivan, Anne Tate, Little Flower Shoppe, and the 43 Opening Night Party volunteers. Thank you to the Town of Highlands, the Town Board and Mayor Mullen and the Highlands Police and Fire Departments.

I appreciate the support and vision of our sponsors: The Highlands Area Chamber of Commerce and Visitor Center, PFG Milton’s Food Group, the Laurel Magazine, WNC Magazine, Highlands Fine Art & Estate Jewelry Corporation, WHLC 104.5 FM, Highlands Medical Associates, Manning Brothers, Starberrry Insurance, Nellis Communities, Inc., Highlands Wine & Cheese Shop, A Moment in Time Photography, Old Edwards Inn & Spa, on the Verandah Restaurant, Wolfgang’s Restaurant and Wine Bistro, NC Signature Magazine, Clique Photography & Design, Integrated Installations and Bryson’s Food Store.


The foundation has truly been laid for a not-to-be-missed event in the coming years. When we began coordinating this year’s event (not long after the completion of last year’s event), I could only hope that things would turn out as well as they did. The word of mouth of last year’s event brought people back and enticed new visitors to Highlands – the true purpose of the Highlands Culinary Weekend. Once again, the weekend brought great success – a delightfully delicious opening night party, cooking demonstrations, guest speakers, inspired dinners and, new this year, “Sip & Stroll” which was a sell-out this year and, from the feedback that I’ve received so far, should grow to include more merchants and more attendees for next year.

Much of the credit for the event’s success goes to the staff and volunteers of the Highlands Area Chamber of Commerce and Visitor Center whose dedication and hard work made the event happen. I was fortunate this year to be working with a wonderful committee that took on tasks and provided me with the final product.

Thanks to the “working” committee - Mindy Green, Laura Huerta, Jan Healey, Vicki Aspinwall, Ginger Sweat, Melissa Delaney, Leah McGlade, Debbie Grossman and Faye Wurm, as well as Marianne Vines, Lynn Delgado, Amanda Sullivan, Anne Tate, Little Flower Shoppe, and the 43 Opening Night Party volunteers. Thank you to the Town of Highlands, the Town Board and Mayor Mullen and the Highlands Police and Fire Departments.

I appreciate the support and vision of our sponsors: The Highlands Area Chamber of Commerce and Visitor Center, PFG Milton’s Food Group, the Laurel Magazine, WNC Magazine, Highlands Fine Art & Estate Jewelry Corporation, WHLC 104.5 FM, Highlands Medical Associates, Manning Brothers, Starberrry Insurance, Nellis Communities, Inc., Highlands Wine & Cheese Shop, A Moment in Time Photography, Old Edwards Inn & Spa, on the Verandah Restaurant, Wolfgang’s Restaurant and Wine Bistro, NC Signature Magazine, Clique Photography & Design, Integrated Installations and Bryson’s Food Store.


We will be holding a wrap up meeting on Monday, Nov. 24 at 10:30 a.m. at the Visitor Center and encourage your input. I look forward to even greater success next year and in the years to come!
Mountain Garden Club has Fall ‘Litter Sweep’

As our beautiful fall colors begin to fade, many leaves will fall on clean litter-free earth, thanks in part to the Mountain Garden Club. On September 28th, twelve energetic members of the Mountain Garden Club gathered to pick up trash along Buck Creek Road. The group included President Ann Maxwell, and members Pud Brogan, Wendi Diamond, Candy Field, Jeannie Chambers, Becky Shilling, Midge Rothermel, Sarah Sloan, Elaine Johnson, Molly Leonard, Diana Rethorst and Ann Turner.

The group divided into pairs and started at the Recycling Drop-Off Center on Buck Creek Road, working north for a period exceeding four hours and covering over two miles. They worked with gloves, bags, pick-up sticks, and vests, all donated by the North Carolina Department of Transportation. At least seven large orange bags were filled with trash, and four large blue bags were filled with aluminum items and plastic items for recycling.

Participating members said they had great fun working on the project. They also expressed having experienced a sense of accomplishment in doing something good for the community and the environment. The Mountain Garden Club’s Fall Litter Sweep was one of many held around the state this fall. September 20th through October 4th, 2008, was proclaimed by Governor Easley as LITTER SWEEP time in North Carolina. The state’s fall cleanup celebrates the 20th anniversary of the North Carolina Adopt-A-Highway program and its 6,000 volunteer groups that donate their labor and time.

The Mountain Garden Club hopes to make their Litter Sweep a bi-annual event to occur each spring and fall. They join with the state to encourage organizations as well as individual members of the community to participate in keeping Highlands and its surrounding roads and highways clean. For anyone interested in forming a litter sweep, information can be obtained from the North Carolina Department of Transportation hotline at 1-800-331-5864 or the website at www.ncdot.org.

– Janet Sossomon
On-going Events

- The Bascom is offering a host of art classes for preschoolers to pre-teens from now through the end of the school year. For more information, call (828) 526-4949, ext. 09, or visit www.thebascom.org.

- Friends of Panthertown work days, last Thursday of every month (time and location varies). Volunteers need to maintain trails. For more information, contact Nina Elliott at 828-526-9938 (ext. 258) or friends.of.panthertown@gmail.com or online at www.rmcga.org.

- Four churches prepare to “Walk to Bethlehem.” The Macon County Public Health Center is continuing a successful faith-based wellness program. Four local churches, with assistance from the Health Promotions Program at the public health center, are wrapping up a virtual journey from Franklin to Bethlehem as a part of the “Walk to Bethlehem” program. The four participating churches include First United Methodist Church, Holy Springs Baptist Church, Pratts Church of God, and Watauga Baptist Church. The Walk to Bethlehem program encourages church members to be more physically active and make healthier food choices. According to the Centers for Disease Control, everyone needs at least 30 minutes of moderate physical activity on most days to stay healthy. As a part of the Walk to Bethlehem program, the public health center provided a pre-event health screening to the churches.

- Collections for men and women overseas at Chestnut Hill Retirement community. A wide variety of items currently are needed, including books and magazines, CDs and DVDs, and small pocket books, which fit neatly in the BDUs (Battle Dress Uniforms). Phone cards, lounge pants, grey or black t-shirts, and cards of encouragement are also in great demand. Consumables such as insect repellent, lotions, and other hygiene products must come new, in original packaging. Monetary donations to fund the flat rate APO shipping at $10.95 per box should be left at the front desk of Chestnut Hill. The drop point for all items will be under the flagpole at the Chestnut Hill Clubhouse on Clubhouse Trail. For any questions, or to schedule a drop-off, contact Jeremy Duke in our community office at (828) 787-2114.

- Refuge Youth meets every Sun. night at 6:30 p.m. downstairs at Cullasaja Assembly of God. If you are in grades 6th-12th then this is the place to be! The church is located at 6201 Highlands Rd. next to Exxon. For more info call youth ministers Matt and Candace Woodroof at 828-369-7385, Carole Light at 828-526-1402 or Florence Flanagan at 743-2567. The meeting starts at 6 p.m.

- Highlands Rotary Club meets at noon at the Highlands Conference Center. Men’s interdenominational Bible Study at 8:30 a.m. at First Baptist Church.

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

- Macon County Mental Health Task Force will meet at 10:30 AM in Meeting Room A at the Health and Human Services Building on Lakeside Drive in Franklin.

- The annual all children’s play “Cinderella” 7 p.m. at the Dillard Playhouse, in Dillard. Ga. Tickets are $10 for adults and $5 for children under 11. Call 706-212-2500.

- Wine Tastings at Old Edwards Inn & Spa. Sumptuous hors’ oeuvres amid festive fireside ambiance of Hummingbird Piano Bar in the inn. 2-4 p.m. $20 applies to purchase if you choose to buy and not just taste! Call 526-8008.

- Tour of The Bascom’s new facilities at 3 & 4 p.m. To attend call 526-4949, ext. 89 or email events@thebascom.org.

Tree lighting Nov. 29

Tree lighting Nov. 29

On-going Events

- The Bascom is offering a host of art classes for preschoolers to pre-teens from now through the end of the school year. For more information, call (828) 526-4949, ext. 09, or visit www.thebascom.org.

- Friends of Panthertown work days, last Thursday of every month (time and location varies). Volunteers need to maintain trails. For more information, contact Nina Elliott at 828-526-9938 (ext. 258) or friends.of.panthertown@gmail.com or online at www.rmcga.org.

- Four churches prepare to “Walk to Bethlehem.” The Macon County Public Health Center is continuing a successful faith-based wellness program. Four local churches, with assistance from the Health Promotions Program at the public health center, are wrapping up a virtual journey from Franklin to Bethlehem as a part of the “Walk to Bethlehem” program. The four participating churches include First United Methodist Church, Holy Springs Baptist Church, Pratts Church of God, and Watauga Baptist Church. The Walk to Bethlehem program encourages church members to be more physically active and make healthier food choices. According to the Centers for Disease Control, everyone needs at least 30 minutes of moderate physical activity on most days to stay healthy. As a part of the Walk to Bethlehem program, the public health center provided a pre-event health screening to the churches.

- Collections for men and women overseas at Chestnut Hill Retirement community. A wide variety of items currently are needed, including books and magazines, CDs and DVDs, and small pocket books, which fit neatly in the BDUs (Battle Dress Uniforms). Phone cards, lounge pants, grey or black t-shirts, and cards of encouragement are also in great demand. Consumables such as insect repellent, lotions, and other hygiene products must come new, in original packaging. Monetary donations to fund the flat rate APO shipping at $10.95 per box should be left at the front desk of Chestnut Hill. The drop point for all items will be under the flagpole at the Chestnut Hill Clubhouse on Clubhouse Trail. For any questions, or to schedule a drop-off, contact Jeremy Duke in our community office at (828) 787-2114.

- Refuge Youth meets every Sun. night at 6:30 p.m. downstairs at Cullasaja Assembly of God. If you are in grades 6th-12th then this is the place to be! The church is located at 6201 Highlands Rd. next to Exxon. For more info call youth ministers Matt and Candace Woodroof at 828-369-7385, Carole Light at 828-526-1402 or Florence Flanagan at 743-2567. The meeting starts at 6 p.m.

- Highlands Rotary Club meets at noon at the Highlands Conference Center. Men’s interdenominational Bible Study at 8:30 a.m. at First Baptist Church.

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

- Macon County Mental Health Task Force will meet at 10:30 AM in Meeting Room A at the Health and Human Services Building on Lakeside Drive in Franklin.

- The annual all children’s play “Cinderella” 7 p.m. at the Dillard Playhouse, in Dillard, Ga. Tickets are $10 for adults and $5 for children under 11. Call 706-212-2500.

- Wine Tastings at Old Edwards Inn & Spa. Sumptuous hors’ oeuvres amid festive fireside ambiance of Hummingbird Piano Bar in the inn. 2-4 p.m. $20 applies to purchase if you choose to buy and not just taste! Call 526-8008.

- Tour of The Bascom’s new facilities at 3 & 4 p.m. To attend call 526-4949, ext. 89 or email events@thebascom.org.

- See EVENTS page 20

Highlands Historical Society Christmas Showhouse set for Dec. 6-7

Highlands Historical Society Christmas Showhouse set for Dec. 6-7

Highlands Historical Society Christmas Showhouse set for Dec. 6-7

Nancy Ostrom, proprietor of Cosper Flowers is one of the decorators whose talents will contribute to the Christmas Showhouse sponsored by the Highlands Historical Society. The Showhouse this year will feature one of the largest Joe Webb log-houses. Built within walking distance of Main Street in 1930 it is still surrounded by a forest of ancient trees, with a view of surrounding mountains including Whiteside. The Showhouse will open from 1-5 p.m. December 6 and 7, 2008. Tickets are $15 each, available now at Cyranos Bookshop or outside Bryson’s Food Store on the days of the event. Shuttle will run to the Showhouse from Bryson’s. Proceeds will benefit the Highlands Historical Society.
Ruby Cinemas
Hwy. 441, Franklin • 524-2076

Showing Nov. 21-27

TWILIGHT
rated PG-13
Friday: (4:30), 7:30
Sat & Sun: (12), (4:30), 7:30
Mon – Thurs: (4:30), 7:30

BOLT
rated PG
Friday: (4:15), 7:10, 9:15
Sat & Sun: (2:00), (4:15), 7:10, 9:15
Mon – Thurs: (4:15), 7:10, 9:15

QUANTUM OF SOLACE
rated PG-13
Friday: (4:20), 7:15, 9:20
Sat & Sun: (2:15), (4:20), 7:15, 9:20
Mon – Thurs: (4:20), 7:15, 9:20

MADAGASCAR:
ESCAPE 2 AFRICA
rated PG
Friday: (4:10), 7:05, 9:10
Sat & Sun: (2:05), (4:10), 7:05, 9:10
Mon – Thurs: (4:10), 7:05, 9:10

Channel 14
Highlands’ own TV channel!

Heart of the High Country
weekly show about Highlands

Mountain Home Showcase
home tours, design tips, and cooking classes

Visitor Information Program
hosted by Blackberry Bear

DVDs of Heart of the High Country available at the Hudson Library and Movie Stop

Northland Cable Television
Highlands' Newspaper - Thursday, Nov. 20, 2008 - Page 21

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

- **Christmas Showhouse** to benefit the Highlands Historical Society 1-5 p.m. each day. The Joe Webb log house at 149 Satulah Road will be decorated for the holidays by professional and semi-professional decorators. Advance tickets: $15.00 each at Cyra-no’s. Shuttle from Bryson’s.

- **Artisans of the Plateau sale Nov. 28-29**

  On Friday and Saturday, Nov. 28-29 The Artisans of the Highlands Plateau will be selling their wares at the Highlands Community Building on U.S. 64 east next to the ballfield 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Don’t miss this opportunity to buy one-of-a-kind, handcrafted items for everyone on your Christmas list this year. Jean Trott will be displaying and selling her log house miniatures.

- **Prince of Dark Corners’ at PAC Nov. 29**

  “The Prince of Dark Corners,” a play by Gary Carden, will be presented one night only at the Martin-Lipscomb Performing Arts Center on Saturday, Nov. 29 at 7:30 p.m. The play was winner of the Paul Green Multimedia Award from the North Carolina Historians Society, and was adapted by Carden from the true-life story of Lewis Redmond, operator of an extensive bootleg operation in North Georgia, upstate South Carolina and Western North Carolina in the lean and hopeless years of Reconstruction.

  To the people of Southern Appalachia, Redmond became an American Robin Hood, fighting revenuers and using moonshine money to save people’s land from tax collectors. Northern newspapers depicted Redmond as a degenerate and cold-blooded murderer who shot and killed a childhood friend who had become a federal marshal. But he retained a reputation for honesty and generosity, and no one could have predicted the end of his story. “The Prince of Dark Corners” sheds light on a time and place long shrouded in mystery, if not forgotten.

  Tickets to the performance, priced $15 each, are available now at the Performing Arts Center on Chestnut Street. They can be charged by phone at 526-9047 or at www.highlandsperformingartscenter.org.

- **Galax Rose Workshop, Dec. 2**

  One of the area’s most abundant evergreen plants is the galax with shiny green heart-shaped leaves. It covers the ground like a green carpet. After the leaves have fallen and the plant gets more light its leaves change to maroon. Many of these leaves are used to decorate homes especially at Christmas. Sue Potts, former florist and teacher at Highlands School, will teach the workshops on making galax roses Dec. 2 at the Highlands Historical Society’s Museum 520 North 4th Street next door to the Civic Center. There will be two sessions: first session is from 9 a.m. until noon and the second session from 1-4 p.m. each session will be limited to 15. The sessions will cost $15. All materials will be provided and each attendee will be able to take their rose home. Please call Sue Potts at 526-3163 to register for the class. If not available please leave a message and she will call you back.

- **Saturday, Dec. 6**

  - Wine Tastings at Old Edwards Inn & Spa. Sumptuous hors d’oeuvres amid festive fireside ambiance of Hummingbird Piano Bar in the inn. 2-4 p.m. $20 applies to purchase if you choose to buy and not just taste! Call 526-8008.
  - Highlands Alternative Market immediately following the Christmas Parade until 2:30 p.m. at the Episcopal Church of the Incarnation. Free lunch and chance to give to area nonprofits.
  - Annual Christmas Parade 10 a.m. until noon on Main Street.
  - Santa will be at the Highlands Visitor Center from 12:30-4 p.m. to hear wishes and for photos.
  - Friday-Sunday, Dec. 12-14
    - Sanders’ Family Christmas (sequel to “Smoke on the Mountain”) a wholesome musical at 7 p.m. on Saturday and 3 p.m. on Sunday at the Dillard Playhouse, in Dillard, Ga. Tickets are $10 for adults and $5 for children under 11. Call 706-212-2500.
**CLASSIFIEDS**

- **能力**
  - COLONIAL GLASS – set of 12 Sherbert Coblets andSSERTS, and dessert plates. $35. Call 526-4063.
  - TANZANITE LOOSE STONES – I have for sale 10 gorgeous oval cut 1-carat Tanzanite stones which would make beautiful earrings, bracelet, necklace, or a cluster ring. These stones are AAA+++ quality grade. These stones are priced at $40 each or discounted for a multiple stone purchase. Call 828-488-2193 and ask for Randy.

- **水净化**
  - WATER PURIFYING CHLORINATOR PUMP with large heavy duty plastic holding tank. Was $75. Now $50. Call Randy at 828-488-2193.

- **塑料户外**
  - PLASTIC OUTDOOR TABLE: Hunter green 36"x36" in like new condition. $10. Call Randy at 828-488-2193.

- **床头**
  - DECK CHAIR WITH MATCHING FOOT RESTS – Call 526-5367.

- **化妆镜**

- **台灯**
  - STEEL TYPEWRITER TABLE – $5. Call 526-5367.

- **双人床**
  - TWO TWIN CREAM COLORED BEDSPREADS – $6 each. Call 526-5367.

- **层架**

- **水冷器**
  - TWO ELECTRIC WATER COOLERS for sale. Approximately 38" tall x 12" square. Put bottled water on top. $50 each. OBO. Call 526-3262.

- **灯**
  - 7-1/2 INCH SHORE LAMPS BY ENESCO For sale. Call 828-787-1929. Prices range from $70-$125.

- **砖**
  - FREE BRICK FRONT FOR BUILT-IN FIREPLACE – Call 828-349-3320.

- **香料**
  - LENOX SPICE JARS, full set mint condition, original price $45 each. Also jewelry call 369-0498. 7-9 p.m.

- **古董家具**
  - GEISHA GIRL, NIPON TEAPOT, ratten backs handle circa 1891-1921, Creamer/Covered Sugar Set, Tea set rice bowls 369-0498 7-9 p.m.

- **绿色印刷**
  - GREEN PRINT VELOUR SWIVEL ROCKING CHAIR, new, $250, blue stripe club chair wostoman, like new, $175; large pine armoire, like new, $200; Simms 2-large waders wattached boots, bought at Highlands Hiker, used 3 times, $250. Call Beatrice or Dennis at 743-5600.

- **Jeep**
  - JEEP C17 – Rebuilt 304. 10,000 miles, 4 CY, 4 SP. $1,000.00 OBO. Call 526-3824.

- **露营**
  - OUTFIELD TRAILER – $50.00 each. OBO. Call 526-3262.

- **折叠椅**

- **服务**
  - HOUSEKEEPING – Saturday and Sunday mornings. Call Kim at 828-482-2105.
  - LANDSCAPE CLEANUP – Leafs, gutters and more. Call Juan at 908-9249 or 526-3528.
  - COMPLETE LAWN SERVICE – All levels of Lawn Care at Competitive Rates. Design, Installation, & Maintenance. No Job Too Small or Too Large. 30 Years Experience. For Free Quotes, References, or Scheduling, Please. Call: 526-1894.
  - ANTIQUE CHERRY DINING TABLE – drop-leaf, rope carved legs. Seats 4-10 people. $1,500 obo 828-787-1515.
  - delUXE VENTED GAS heater high btu, slightly used, $300. 524-6038.
  - custom deck set – Painted aluminum Love seat & club chair with laminated wavyly cushions. $125, Call 526-1078.
  - Antique beams, flooring and structures: Hand hewn beams in oak and yellow pine. Beautiful material, large faces, $3.50-$4 per board foot. Original, reclaimed white and yellow pine flooring, random wide widths (6-16”) $6/board ft. Also selling entire log and timber frame structures. 215-529-7637. www.vcwoodworking.info

- **车辆**
  - 1997 FORD F250 CREW CAB – 4WD, 75.000 original miles. 460 8 CY, 5 SP, Short WB, Black, one owner. 35” tires. $8,500 or OBO. Call 526-3824.

- **车辆**
  - 1994 JEEP C17 – Rebuilt 304. 10,000 miles, 8 CY, 4 SP. $1,000.00 OBO. Call 526-3824.

- **车辆**
  - 02 DUTCHMEN 27” LITE TRAVEL TRAILER – Slideout. Queen MBR, sleeps 6. $12,000. OBO. Call 526-3824.

- **车辆**

**SCHOOLS**

- **学校**
  - K-4 SCHOOL continued from page 13
  - ...
Scruggs benefit Saturday

On Saturday, Nov. 22 at the Cartoogechaye School in Franklin there is a benefit for Justin Scruggs to help with medical bills. Justin is 19 years old. He recently sustained a gun shot to the face. He has had a lot of facial injury and needs years of reconstructive surgery. At this point, he has no vision.

The event is 5 p.m. until 9 p.m. There will be exciting raffle items including a set of braces donated by Dr. Ralph Kurti, a cake walk, kids' games, music, hotdogs, BBQ and more.

New Community Care Clinic board members David Wheeler (who is also the clinic's new medical director), Travis Goodloe and Sandy Bishop pause for a smile.

The Community Care Clinic now has a new Medical Director and three new board members to help it provide the area's uninsured with healthcare.

David Wheeler, Travis Goodloe and Sandy Bishop are joining the board, replacing Don Mullen and Bruce Berryhill, whose terms are expiring, and Mark Jefferson, who is leaving the area.

Wheeler will also serve as Medical Director, replacing Heffington.

“We are so grateful to these new board members for selflessly volunteering their expertise to help guide our clinic,” said Jerry Hermanson, the clinic's executive director. “We also appreciate the service of Don Mullen, Bruce Berryhill and Mark Jefferson, who have given so much to get us to where we are today.”

Wheeler is a family medicine physician in private practice at Mountain Area Family Medicine in Cashiers, which he started and co-owns with Heffington. Wheeler also attends patients at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital and the Fidelia-Eckerd Living Center, and he covers the emergency room there. He hails from Kentucky, where he attended medical school at Vanderbilt. He did his residency in Asheville and then moved to the Highlands-Cashiers area in 1988, when he opened his practice.

“I think the Community Care Clinic is a very needed outreach program,” Wheeler said on why he is helping the clinic as medical director and board member. “I want to do what I can to try to help it flourish and be successful.”

Goodloe is a retired pediatrics and emergency medicine physician from Mobile, Ala., who now lives in Highlands. He served on the board of the International Friendship Center, an elder at the First Presbyterian Church and volunteers at the Bookworm and the Highlands Chamber of Commerce.

“I hope with my knowledge I can add some expertise and insight to the clinic,” Goodloe said on why he is helping.

Bishop is a retired board-certified veterinary pathologist and cardiologist who has lived in Glenville full-time for the past 10 years. He was on the faculty at Ohio State University, then spent 25 years on the faculty of the University of Alabama at Birmingham as Emeritus Professor doing research and teaching. Locally, he served on the board of Habitat for Humanity for four years, and he serves on the board of the Cashiers Community Fund, an affiliate of the Community Foundation of Western North Carolina. He has worked with Cashiers’ free dental clinic and is active in the Church of the Good Shepherd’s Outreach Committee.

“Fifteen percent of the people in this country don’t have medical insurance, and it may be higher around here,” Bishop said. “I feel we have a mission to try to help those folks who don’t have the resources. The Lord has been good to me, and I feel I need to give some of it back.”

For more information on the Community Care Clinic or to make a tax-deductible donation, call (828) 526-1991.

Highlands-Cashiers Hospital Board adds five new members

Five new members have officially joined the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital Board of Directors.

New faces on the board include a Cashiers educator, a former executive with Georgia Pacific and hospital CEO, a well-known leader in various Highlands civic organizations, and the new chairman of the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital Foundation. Lynn Dillard, Ronald P. Hogan, Frances Oakley, and Earle Mauldin are all joining the hospital board for the first time. Cashiers family physician David M. Wheeler, MD, returns to the board by virtue of his position as the new chief of the hospital's Medical Staff.

While there are many new faces around the board table for the coming year, the board’s officers remain unchanged for another year. Bud Smith of Cashiers remains chairman, Vice Chairman Donald C. Mullen, MD, of Highlands, and Secretary Brenda Mullen’s Auto & Towing

526-9805
James “Popcorn” Manley
Owner/Operator

Highlands-Cashiers Hospital Board of Directors Chairman Bud Smith (second from left) recently welcomed five new members to the board for the 2008-2009 year. Among the new members were from left: Lynn Dillard of Cashiers; Foundation Board Chairman Earle Mauldin, of Highlands; Atlanta and Ponte Vedra, FL; and Ron Hogan, of Highlands, Atlanta and Naples, FL. Other new members not available for the photo are Frances Oakley, of Highlands and Charlotte, NC, and Cashiers family physician David Wheeler, MD, who is the new chief of the hospital's Medical Staff.

• See HO SPITAL page 25
Wayah's Jeff Cloer earns LUTCF professional designation

Jeff Cloer of Wayah Insurance Group has earned the Life Underwriting Training Council Fellow professional designation. The LUTCF is conferred only upon those individuals who meet or exceed the exacting qualification standards determined by two organizations that jointly sponsor the designation – The American College and the National Association of Insurance and Financial Advisors (NAIFA).

The designation marks an agent's long-term commitment to professionalism on behalf of clients, establishes the agent's competence and business experience, marks a commitment to the American College's and NAIFA's Code of Ethics and fosters additional professional development. In addition to successful completion of the five course curriculum, LUTCF candidates must also complete an ethics course and be a member in good standing with NAIFA.

Since the introduction of the LUTCF designation in 1984, only 67,000 individuals in the United States have earned the designation.

...HOSPITAL continued from page 24

Stewart, of Cashiers, were also re-elected to their leadership posts.

Dr. Lynn Dillard of Cashiers spent her professional career as an educator. She earned her Ph.D. at Emory University in Atlanta in 1993, where she had also earned her master's degree some 19 years earlier. Prior to retiring in January of 2007, she was an adjunct instructor at Western Carolina University and director of the Exceptional Children's Program and Coordinator of Student Support Services for Highly At-Risk Children in the Jackson County School System.

During her distinguished career she served a number of professional organizations, most recently as a director of the state board of the NC Association of Alternative Educators. She was named Educator of the Year at different points by both the Cashiers Area Chamber of Commerce and the Jackson County Chamber.

Dr. Dillard has also been active in many state, regional, and local civic organizations. She was named Woman of the Year two years running by the Jackson County Community Development Council, and has served as president of the Cashiers Community Council.

•See HOSPITAL page 26
... HOSPITAL continued from page 25

the Jackson County Community Development Council, and the Blue Ridge School PTO in the past, as well as a board member of a number of county and Cashiers area charities. In fact, in the late 1980s she served on the steering committee for the campaign of the new Highlands-Cashiers Hospital.

Ron Hogan, who divides his time among Highlands, Atlanta and Naples, FL, spent 27 years with Georgia Pacific Corp., one of the country's leading manufacturers of forest products. He joined the company's sales department in his native Houston after graduating from the University of Houston in Business Administration. He worked his way up the corporate ladder, becoming President and COO in the late 1980s and early 1990s, before retiring as the vice chairman of the company's board of directors in 1992 to run his own real estate investment company in Atlanta. However, while serving as a volunteer board member of St. Joseph's Health System in Atlanta in 1995, he was persuaded to come out of retirement to be the organization's president and CEO - a position he held until 2002.

He currently serves on the board of Georgia Mutual Insurance and is a past member of the board of Wachovia Bank of Georgia. In addition to belonging to numerous professional organizations, he has been active in community affairs in both Atlanta, including being a member of the board of the Atlanta Chamber of Commerce, and vice chairman of the board of the Atlanta College of Art. He is a trustee emeritus of Westminster School in Atlanta.

A former stock broker with Dean Witter, Frances S. Oakley and her husband Obie now operate a commercial printing brokerage business in Charlotte. Born in Charlotte, she has been coming to Highlands since the 1930s when her grandmother first bought a summer home here. She earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in History from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where she was a member of the History Honors Society.

In addition to serving currently as president of the Highlands Country Child Development Center, she is also a member of the executive committee of the Highlands Biological Station Foundation. In the past she has served as chairperson of the HCCDC Building Campaign and as a board member of Highlands Country Club. Previously in Charlotte she was president of the local chapter of the National Alzheimer's Association and a member of the Junior League.

Earle Mauldin, who divides his time among Highlands, Atlanta and Ponte Vedra, FL, is a former president and CEO of BellSouth Enterprises and chairman of BellSouth. In addition to chairing the Bob Jones Golf Tournament Committee at Highlands Country Club, he also serves as a member of the Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Board of Directors, and, as of Oct. 1, chairman of the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital Foundation board. He joined the hospital's Foundation board two years, and has also served on the hospital board's Finance Committee for the past year.

He is a former chairman of the board of trustees of the Children's Healthcare of Atlanta and former member of the board of the Atlanta Community Foundation.

As the new Chief of the Medical Staff for the coming year, family physician David Wheeler, MD, has served several terms on the hospital board in the past, both as a voting and non-voting member. He served as a regular voting member from 1993-97 and again as a voting member when he represented the Medical Staff's Medicine Committee several years ago. He has also served as a non-voting member under the old board structure by virtue of previously being Chief of Staff. Under the new board structure implemented two years ago, the Chief is now a full voting member.

Dr. Wheeler earned his medical degree from the Vanderbilt University School of Medicine in Nashville, TN, before undertaking his residency in family medicine at the Mountain Area Health Education Center in Asheville. After completing his training, he joined Dr. Mark Heffington in Mountain Area Family Medicine in Cashiers, where he has practiced for the past 20 years. He is certified by the American Board of Family Practice, and a member of the American Academy of Family Physicians, the Southern Medical Association, and the Alpha Omega Alpha Medical Honor Society.
The following are the Highlands Police Dept. log entries for Nov. 2-19. Only the names of persons arrested, issued a Class-3 misdemeanor, or public officials have been used.

Nov. 2
• At 10:35 p.m., officers responded to a call of an assault on a female on Old Farm Road.

Nov. 5
• At 11:15 p.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident on U.S. 64 and Holt Circle Road.

Nov. 7
• At 6 a.m. a glass display at Buck’s Coffee Cafe was reported smashed.
• At 12:30 p.m. officers responded to a call of a suspicious person hanging around Bear Mountain Outfitters.
• At 11:10 p.m., officers assisted an intoxicated girl who was lost and sitting on S. 4th Street.

Nov. 8
• At 10 p.m., officers responded to an accident between two vehicles on Log Cabin Road.
• A motorist was cited for speeding 40 mph in a 20 zone at N.C. 106 and Main streets.

Nov. 9
• At 10:44 p.m., Jose Manuel Cruz, 24, of Cashiers, was arrested for DWI when he was stopped and it was discovered he was driving without a license. He was released on a secured $500 bond.
• At 11:15 p.m., Ward William Chapman, 41, was arrested for DWI at U.S. 64 and Holt Circle Road. He was released on a $1,000 bond.

Nov. 10
• At 10:25 a.m., Aledandro Torres, 28, and Juan Torres, 22, both of Cullowhee, were arrested for driving without a license on Chestnut Street.

Nov. 11
• At 11:30 a.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident at Fourth and Main streets.

Nov. 12
• At 2 p.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident at Fifth and Church streets.

Nov. 13
• At 8:40 a.m., a motorist on U.S. 64 east was cited for speeding 50 mph in a 35 zone.

Nov. 14
• At 11:40 a.m., officers responded to an accident at U.S. 64 east and Foreman Road.

Nov. 17
• At 8:45 a.m., a motorist on U.S. 64 west was cited for speeding 50 mph in a 35 zone.

Nov. 19
• The dept. responded to a fire alarm at a residence on Whiteside Mountain Road but it was false.

During the week, officers issued 3 warning tickets and responded to 7 alarm activations.

The following are the Highlands Fire & Rescue Dept. log entries for the week of Nov. 12-19

Nov. 12
• The dept. provided mutual aid to Jackson County concerning a brush fire out of control, but the call was cancelled.

Nov. 14
• The dept. responded to an accident on U.S. 64 west between Bust Your Butt Falls and Goldmine Road. There were no injuries.

Nov. 15
• The dept. responded to a vehicle accident on Buck Creek Road. There were no injuries. The dept. directed traffic.

Nov. 17
• The dept. responded to the call of a structure fire at a residence on Picklesimer Cemetery Road but it was false.

Nov. 19
• The dept. responded to a fire alarm at a residence on Whiteside Mountain Road but it was false.

The cube has 27 consecutive numbers in it, arranged in three layers with 9 numbers each. These numbers are arranged in a special pattern: For each layer, the sum of the three numbers in each row, column or diagonal, is 3 times its center number. Eight diagonals connect all 3 layers. Each diagonal contains 3 numbers equalling the total of the three center numbers. One of the diagonals is shown with circles.

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

Email: pseudocube8@aol.com.

Solution to #AZ2F in Nov. 13 issue

#BN2F Level of Difficulty - Easy

THE SETUP:
The cube has 27 consecutive numbers in it, arranged in three layers with 9 numbers each. These numbers are arranged in a special pattern: For each layer, the sum of the three numbers in each row, column or diagonal, is 3 times its center number. Eight diagonals connect all 3 layers. Each diagonal contains 3 numbers equalling the total of the three center numbers. One of the diagonals is shown with circles.

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

Email: pseudocube8@aol.com.

Solution to #AZ2F in Nov. 13 issue

PseudoCube©

Sudo-Grams© 2008

by Pete Sarjeant and Don Cook

OBJECT:
A mystery word or phrase using all different letters is designated by circled squares (other short words will appear when solving, for which a list of meanings is provided). Every puzzle has a different mystery word or phrase (no spaces). Assign different letters to each square of each column and row. In addition, various cells (six, eight or nine) in the puzzle layout have the same different letters (this is like Sudoku but uses letters instead of numbers).

How to Solve:
Determine the different letters among those given. Write in the mystery word using the clue and these letters. 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 blank squares according to the rules noted above. Focus your attention where the least number of letters are needed to complete a line, column or cell.

Mystery Word
#E605
Lacking Intellectual Power (6)

Across
1. African parasitic fly (3)
2. Utilize (3)
3. Not in (3)

Down
4. British Thermal Unit (Abbr.) (2)
5. We (obj.) (2)