The bears among us...

Marjorie Potts snapped this shot of a bear at Horsecove Road and the entrance to Playmore near Bowery Road on her way home the other night. Moments after it was taken, a cub peeked out from the bushes.

Candidates take a stance at forum

By Sally Hanson

The Nov. 4 election will mean big changes nationally and locally.

There are 10 people running for four seats on the Macon County Board of Education potentially changing the membership of the entire board as two people running for Macon County Commission seats currently occupied by incumbent Commissioner Jim Davis are running unopposed.

Cynthia Stowers said animals are part of God’s creation and man has been appointed by Him to take care of them. "I hope fines will be imposed, that you educate the public about the laws and that..."
Currently, the U.S. health care system is outrageously expensive, yet inadequate. Despite spending more than twice as much as the rest of the industrialized nations ($7,129 per capita), the United States performs poorly in comparison on major health indicators such as life expectancy, infant mortality, and immunization rates. Moreover, the other advanced nations provide comprehensive coverage to their entire populations, while the U.S. leaves 47 million completely uninsured and millions more inadequately covered.

The reason we spend more and get less than the rest of the world is because we have a patchwork system of for-profit payers. Private insurers necessarily waste health dollars on things that have nothing to do with care overheard, underwriting, billing, sales, and marketing departments as well as huge profits and exorbitant executive pay. Doctors and hospitals must maintain costly administrative staffs to deal with the bureaucracy. Combined, this needless administration consumes one-third (31 percent) of Americans’ health dollars.

Single-payer financing is the only way to recapture this wasted money. The potential saving on paperwork alone is more than $350 billion per year, and enough to provide comprehensive coverage to everyone without paying any more than we already do.

Under a single-payer system, all Americans would be covered for all medically necessary services, including doctor, hospital, long-term care, mental health, dental, vision, prescription drug, and medical supply costs. Patients would regain free choice of doctor and hospital, and doctors would regain autonomy over patient care.

Physicians would be paid for service according to a negotiated formular or receive salary from a hospital or nonprofit HMO / group practice. Hospitals would receive a global budget for operating expenses. Health facilities and equipment purchases would be managed by regional health planning boards.

A single-payer system would be financed by eliminating private insurers and recapturing their administrative wastes. Modest new taxes would replace premiums and out-of-pocket payments currently paid by individuals and business. Costs would be controlled through negotiated fees, global budgeting and bulk purchasing.

The is the first in a series of answers to frequently asked questions concerning Single-Payer National Health Insurance.

1. Is national health insurance ‘socialized medicine’?
   No. Socialized medicine is a system in which doctors and hospitals work for and draw salaries from the government. Doctors in the Veterans Administration and the Armed Services are paid this way. The health systems in Great Britain and Spain are other examples. But in most European countries, Canada, Australia, and Japan they have socialized health insurance, not socialized medicine. The government pays for care that is delivered in the private (mostly not-for-profit) sector. This is similar to how Medicare works in this country. Doctors are in private practice and are paid on a fee-for-service basis from government funds. The government does not own or manage medical practices or hospitals.

   The term socialized medicine is often used to conjure up images of government bureaucrat interference in medical care. That does not describe what happens in countries with national health insurance where doctors and patients often have more clinical freedom than in the U.S., where bureaucracy attempts to direct care.

2. Won’t this result in rationing like in Canada?
   The U.S. already ration care. Rationing in U.S. health care is based on income: if you can afford care, you get it; if you can’t, you don’t.

   A recent study by the prestigious Institute of Medicine found that 18,000 Americans die every year because they don’t have health insurance. Many more skip treatments that their insurance company refuses to cover. That’s rationing. Other countries do not ration in this way.

   If there is this much rationing, why don’t we hear about it? And if other countries ration less, why do we hear about them? The answer is that their systems are publicly accountable, and ours is not. Problems with their health care systems are aired in public; ours are not. For example, in Canada, when waits for care emerged in the 1990s, Parliament hotly debated the causes and solutions. Most provinces have also established formal reporting systems on waiting lists, with wait times for each hospital posted on the Internet. This public censure has led to recent falls in waits there.

   In U.S. health care, no one is ultimately accountable for how the system works. No one takes full responsibility. Rationing in our system is carried out covertly through financial pressure forcing millions of individuals to forego care or be shunted away by caregivers from services they can’t pay for.

   The rationing that takes place in U.S. health care is unnecessary. A number of studies (notably a General Accounting Office report in 1991 and a Congressional Budget Office report in 1993) show that there is more than enough money in our health care system to serve everyone if it were spent wisely. Administrative costs are at 31% of U.S. health spending, far higher than in other countries’ systems. These inflated costs are due to our failure to have a publicly financed, universal health care system. We spend about twice as much per person as Canada or most European nations, and still deny health care to many in need. A national health program could save enough on administration to assure access to care for all Americans, without rationing.

   Information provided by Physicians for a National Health Care Program. More questions will be answered in the Oct. 23, issue of Highlands’ Newspaper.
Horace Gordon Duncan, CCM, CAE, born in Morganton, N.C. January 20, 1922, died October 11, 2008 in Fairfax, VA. He was the son of the Rev. Norvin C. and Mary Olivia Duncan of Asheville, N.C. He attended Patterson Agricultural School in Patterson, N.C. and graduated from Lee Edwards High School in Asheville in 1940. He also earned management certifications (CCM & CAE) from The Club Management Institute and The American Society of Association Executives and the United States Chamber of Commerce Institute, Washington, D.C.

In his younger years he began his career by working at The Asheville Times and The Langren Hotel in Asheville and the Biltmore Plaza restaurant in Asheville. Reserved 3 1/3 years in World War II. After graduating from the Army Air Corps School of Photography at Lowry Field in Denver, CO, he studied aeronautical Tri-Metron mapping in Colorado Springs, where he was stationed and worked as a photogrammist mapping various areas of the world including the Burma India theater.

Duncan was Executive Director of the Club Managers Association of America in Maryland, which is now in Alexandria, VA, from 1971 through 1987. He was General Manager of Cherry Hills Country Club in Englewood, CO for 13 years. He was also employed by the Denver Country Club as Assistant Manager for seven years. Additionally, he was associated with radio stations KMYR in Denver and WSKY in Asheville.

He and his family lived in Denver for more than 25 years. While in Denver, he was a member of the Exchange Club, and a member of Pinehurst Country Club. He served as a Director of the Colorado/ Wyoming Restaurant Association and was inducted into the Colorado Hospitality Institutional Hall of Fame.

In 1967, he served as President of The Club Managers Association of America. Prior to that, he held other executive positions as well as being a Director of that Association. In Denver, he also served as President and other executive offices of the Mile High Chapter of CMAA. From 1968 to 1971, he was Vice President of Wilscam Enterprises, the home of the Hungry Farmers, The Hungry Dutchman and the Broker Restaurants.

In Washington, D.C., he served as a treasurer of The Executive's Club. He was a member of the American Society of Association Executives and the ASAE foundation. He served on the vestry of the Episcopal Church of Ascension in Gaithersburg, MD. He and his family lived in Gaithersburg for 17 years.

In Highlands, N.C., he was a member and Past President of the Rotary Club of Highlands. He was a member and a vestryman of the Episcopal Church of the Incarnation at which he also served on the building and future planning committees.

He was preceded in death by his wife Mary Alice Hoxie Duncan, whom he met and married in Denver. His son, Fred, also preceded him in death. He is survived by his daughter, Meredith Duncan Bowen, and son-in-law, Randall, of Fairfax, VA and his son, David Duncan, in Aurora, CO. He had eight grandchildren, Evan, Lindsay and Alexandra Bowen of Fairfax, Kris Martinelli and her husband, Bill, of Dei Montana, Scott Catey and his wife, Tiara, of Gainesville, Florida, Katchen and Jessica Duncan of Key West, FL, and Heather Duncan Raboin of Rochester, MI. He had four great-grandchildren, Shelby, Skylar and Justin Martinelli also of Dei, Montana and Olivia Elizabeth Duraine of Rochester, MI.

The funeral service will be conducted at 2 p.m., Saturday, October 18, at the Episcopal Church of the Incarnation in Highlands, N.C. with the Rev. Brian Sullivan officiating. Interment will be at Alzheimer Memorial Park in Highlands.

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In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the Horace Duncan Rotary Scholarship Fund, P.O. Box 1741, Highlands, NC 28741 or the CMAA Club Foundation Scholarship Fund, P.O. Box 1741, Highlands, NC 28741.

Interment will be at Highlands Memorial Park in Highlands.

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Highlands', Newspaper - Thursday, Oct. 16, 2008- Page 3

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**Laughing at Life**

Dry Falls is giving me the dry heaves

If you ever, in your wildest dreams, in a moment of sheer weakness or during an attack of temporary retardation, think you would like to have the government run something for you, I have two words for you: Dry Falls.

The U.S. Forest Service has announced it will take another 240 days to complete this project. Not 241 days, mind you, but 240. They could have at least not insulted us and said “about” 240 days. Excuse us if we don’t believe you.

Mayor Mullen says he “thinks” we’re disappointed. Ha! Lo, we are definitely disappointed.

Since this project started two years ago, private enterprise in and around the Highlands has constructed entire condo buildings, including tamping down fill dirt to support them, in less than half the time the government has attempted to overhaul a parking lot. This is not rocket science here. Hey, we’re talking fill dirt, a wooden pit toilet that everyone driving can see and a new set of steps. DUH!

Write this next part down. Take away the incentive of capitalism or the incentive of profit and things move slower than a tourist on the Franklin Road. Now add the words “Forest Service,” an oxymoron itself, and we are talking snail speed here.

Hold it, before you get your shorts in a wad and write in saying nasty things about me for slamming the USFS, be aware I know my stuff on this subject. Not only was I a government employee for 28 years, when I retired I ran a business on national forest service land for 13 years. The two hardest things I had to do since my retirement as a cop was first get my permit to use Forest Service land and get rid of my permit to use Forest Service land and once I sold my business, I was still communicating with them, begging them to send me a final bill for what I owed them so I could close my books.

Surely you remember when the huge chunk of rock fell off Bridle Veil Falls. After a five-year study and much hand wringing, the Forest Service finally determined the cause of the collapse: Gravity! Ta da! The mess would have sat there forever if Bill Nellis, at his own expense, hadn’t taken the initiative and cleaned it up. The Forest Service was still studying what the effects of cleaning it up would have on the environment.

Obviously, Bill also knows how the government works.

Now don’t get me wrong, some of the nicest people I ever met in the Highlands area worked for the Forest Service and I had a great working relationship with most of them for the whole 13 years. They know how inefficient their agency is. Don’t confuse nice with efficient. It’s not their fault; it’s the U.S. government’s fault.

And finally, for better or for worse, for richer or poorer, it looks like Mr. Obama will be our next president.

For certain, the United States is about to become a lot more socialist with our government running more things than ever.

Other than the Interstate Highway System, try to think of one federal government project that has ever run efficiently, or in the black.

I shutter to think about the cost and efficiency of a socialist health care plan. Maybe we could get the Forest Service to do a study on health care and come up with a plan. That way, Mr. Obama will be an old man before it’s initiated.

Ha, only kidding... not.
Will we remember why there is a need for change, or will we forget?

Yippee! $3 gas is back and we are celebrating. Not so long ago when gas was on the way up to $3, we wised up to the prospect and projected endless and uninterrupted escalation in the cost of fuel, with devastating economic impact. Sure enough, increasing world demand, speculation, and a series of hurricanes drove the price well over $4 per gallon, when you could find a station with gas.

Sedans, large SUVs, and trucks, once the darlings of American consumers, sat unwanted in dealer lots and in front yards across the country. Everywhere I looked, I saw cars with “for sale” signs. I even saw a bus of the type that transport gospel singers and vans in various sizes, but big SUVs were the last wanted of all.

It took a violent economic upheaval which left the world on the brink of a deep recession or worse to reverse the trend. Demand for gasoline evaporated faster than the prices had climbed. The price plummeted until it fell below the $3, at least in towns beyond Highlands. I filled up in this morning at Ingles in Seneca for $2.889. A driver could fill his tank in Mountain City for $2.99, no lines, no limits, no plastic bags on the pumps. There is least talk of hybrids today. Demand to develop renewable energy suddenly seem oddly quiet. For days I saw a guy riding his bike into Westminster each morning at 6:45. Then he disappeared along with gas shortage induced anxiety. I suppose he is driving his truck again, or resting weary muscles. In any case, I doubt he is demonstrating for cheaper fuel or against greenhouse gases. We are happy again. Three dollar gas is like a gift from the oil companies, until recently derided and collectively referred to as, “Big Oil.”

It remains to be seen if we will renew our love affair with big, gas guzzling vehicles, but if the past is any indication, it is likely. Will Ford and General Motors rush to reopen truck factories, so recently shuttered in amove costing millions? I wonder if small fuel efficient cars will become orphans in the industry. There won’t be many car buyers willing to pay thousands for a hybrid when gasoline is a gift at $3. At $2.50 I feel like we are stealing it. Americans have long been intoxicated with speed and power.

For a moment I thought that something was wrong. Maybe we are, but it is at least as likely that we are preparing for yet another binge. The irrefutable facts that we are again ignoring, are that petroleum is a finite resource, and a polluting one. The world’s economies may quickly right themselves, or we may experience a deep and prolonged depression. In either case, prosperity will return sometime, and with it the demand for fuel.

When China’s factories are humming again, the Chinese will want cars. As prosperity returns to India, Indians will want to drive. Gasoline prices will rise again, and oil reserves will shrink. We should take advantage of this temporary reprieve to prepare for the future, but we probably won’t. We will drill off shore, and eventually we will drill in ANWR. We will wring every drop of oil from beneath the earth. We will fight more wars over remaining oil. (Has anyone heard of Iraq?) The crisis has not passed and by ignoring it, we are endangering our planet and our economy. Our presidential candidates who should be debating this impending disaster are busy attacking each other and assigning blame for the failures of the past. I wonder if we will ever extend our vision, or we will never look beyond immediate crises and the political capital they might generate. We will surely see $4 gas again.

The right combination of Middle East instability, terrorist activity, weather related disruptions, and in-

*See SALZARULO page 9
... CANDIDATES continued from page 1

forum: County Commissioner District II candidate and incumbent Dr. Jim Davis, who is running unopposed; County Commissioner District III candidates Jimmy Goodman and Bobby Kuppers; BEO District I candidate Frieda Bennett; BOE District III candidates Brian Bateman and incumbent Tommy Baldwin; BOE District IV candidates Alan Allman, Jim Bredlove, Gregg Jones, and Dwight Vinson; and BOE District IV candidates Bobby Bishop and incumbent Roberta Swank. BOE District I candidate John Shearl was unable to attend the event.

MCAE Vice President and FH Teacher John deville introduced the candidates and served as moderator. All candidates had five minutes to give an opening statement, then questions submitted by the audience were read. Candidates had two minutes in which to address the questions. After everyone had responded, anyone could address the other candidates’ responses for up to a minute.

Commissioner Dr. Jim Davis said that his next term would be the omega of his political career. “It has been a pleasure to serve the citizens of Macon County,” he said. Davis is currently finishing his third term as commissioner, and he said that he plans to keep doing what he has been doing. “This commission has been successful,” Davis said.

Bobby Kuppers said that he moved to Macon County when he was five years old, and he is a 1971 FHS graduate. “I never worried about anything when I was growing up here because there were five people looking after me. The five county commissioners of Macon County made growing up here a wonderful experience,” he said.

Kuppers served in the US Submarine Force for 25 years after graduating from the U.S. Naval Academy. He said he was inspired to run for office by one of his students. “I’ve been around government for a long time. I’ve seen it at its best, I’ve seen it at its worst, and I hope I know enough to tell the difference,” Kuppers said.

Jimmy Goodman has lived in Burningtown for the past 17 years. He said that he owns a small business and has experience making budgets, working with individuals and procuring materials. Goodman previously served on the Macon County Planning Board, and he said this experience proves that he can sit down with others, work through problems and come to conclusions.

“I want to get more citizen involvement in government,” Goodman said. He also wants to have every commission meeting recorded and put on the web.

Frieda Bennett is a graduate of Highlands School, and she was a public school teacher for 34 years. “I have experience in education, and I’m passionate about kids,” Bennett said. This is her first time running for any public office, and she hopes to keep Macon County a community where everyone is involved in education.

Current BOE member Tommy Baldwin said that he would like to be on the BOE when the Macon 5-6 School is...
Calendar Girls

The 2003 British comedy/drama, starring Dame Helen Mirren (Queen, National Treasure-Book of Secrets, Elizabeth I, Green fingers, and scores of other great films) Julie Walters (Harry Potter, Becoming Jane, Billy Elliot) Celia Imrie (Nanny McPhee), Penelope Wilton (History Boys) and many more. Screenplay by Tim Firth (Kinky Boots), directed by Nigel Cole (Saving Grace, a positively brilliant film), and music expertly done by Patrick Doyle (Nim's Island, Second Hand Lions). Rated PG 13.

The Storyline: A typical group of Yorkshire women go about their typical lives, working, caring for sick family members, being involved in the local women’s organization, charitable fund raising, just regular stuff, you know. Oh, about the fund raising, this year’s calendar committee is about to decide what theme for the pictures, maybe flowers, bridges, possibly area churches, recipes of the month? Well, if it hasn’t been done to death, how about a calendar of photos of the ladies of the Women’s Institute at work at their hobbies, cooking, flower arranging, and the like, and maybe, to make it somewhat interesting, something could be, well, left out, you understand.

OK, for those who may be unfamiliar with this wonderful, charming (and true) story, portrayed by some of the best female actors in all British cinema, a group of women who are, let’s say, of a certain age, decided to produce a fund raising calendar with the ladies photographed (quite tastefully, mind you) au naturel. They came to this somewhat unconventional choice in hopes of raising enough money to maybe, possibly, if it wasn’t to awfully expensive, buy a few chairs or a sofa for the local hospital, and had 500 copies printed. They misjudged the demand for the product. Almost a quarter million copies later, their initial misgivings about the success of the project were assuaged.

Funny, cute, tear jerking, uplifting (the story), brilliantly acted, and inspiring, the movie was apparently fairly true to most of the actual events about the production of the calendar, but the story is much more about the women, their attitudes about themselves and each other. Some of the greatest British actresses, working ensemble, do a terrific job with this story, which at its essence is about ordinary people finding themselves capable of extraordinary things.

The publication of the calendar raised £200,000 to fund treatment of leukemia. The movie, winner of multiple awards, grossed $62,063,000. A few along these lines, some based on true stories, some fictional, are Mrs. Henderson Presents, Kinky Boots, Brassed Off, The Queen, Edges of America, and Queen Sized. These and about 5000 other titles are available at MovieStop Video, come on by and take a look.

Auction benefits the hospital

Frank Scudder Jr. of Scudder’s Galleries presenting a check to Executive Director Russell Harris of the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital Foundation for proceeds from a benefit auction held at Scudder’s galleries in October.

These times will make you crazy...

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To the Voters of Highlands:

With the election fast approaching, there are some important issues at hand.

Jimmy Goodman, who is running for County Commissioner, would be a breath of fresh air and a conservative voice for voters who are concerned with the tax-and-spend policies of the current board.

After the failure of the bond issue, the board has ignored the wishes of the voters and has borrowed tens of millions of dollars.

In a down economy, is this wise?

In the non-partisan school board Districts I and IV, the clear choice is John Shearl in District 1 and Allen Allman in District IV. These men are deeply concerned about the falling test scores, teen pregnancy and 40% drop-out rate in our schools.

There is a distinct possibility that the Macon Middle School will be taken over by the state next year.

To the Voters of Highlands:

These men will be committed to finding solutions to the critical issues facing our schools.

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CONSERVATIVE POV

Bad Nancy; bad, bad Nancy

W

e conservatives, even though we have a common character trait in optimism, are often accused of being negative. Just this week, I have been called a “government hater.” An old friend, Thomas Jefferson once said, “When the people fear their government, there is tyranny. When the government fears the people, there is liberty.” Maybe conservatives simply try to balance the “fear factor” and appear negative in doing so...

Today, I would love to write a glowing report on government honesty, on the prevalence of statesmanship in our government officials, on the buoyant spirit of the American people. However, with the current NBC/Wall Street Journal showing Congress with a 13% approval rating, and the same poll showing the President at 29%, it is difficult to make a positive case for the government.

To put things in perspective, when the current House of Representatives took office in January, 2007, it had a job approval rating of 32%, not an admirable figure but certainly better than now. So, you may ask, what happened to their number at such a lowly level? Well, since the Democrats are the dominant party, and the leader of the Democrat Party is Nancy Pelosi, I guess she deserves the honor.

I recently received an email that made a good point, and I’d quote it if I could find it, but its point was that 545 (the number might be slightly off) people control the country. If they wanted a balanced budget, we’d have a balanced budget. If they wanted an effective energy policy, we’d have one. Likewise, if they wanted an effective immigration policy, we’d have that one too. We are what that limited number of people want us to be. Come to think of it, we’re only talking about some number over half that many, since we aren’t what the opposition wants.

So, what about Nancy’s performance as Speaker of the House?

For starters, in her acceptance speech, she said, “This is a historic moment – for the Congress, and for the women of this country.” Well I hope you ladies are enjoying her victory because I certainly am not. Perhaps the first move she made as Speaker was to support John Murtha to serve as House Majority Leader. Fortunately, Murtha was soundly beaten and Pelosi lost her first skirmish. She did make good on her promise to pass a slug of legislation in the first “hundred hours” of her reign, although it took several hundred hours. Her job required her to make committee chair appointments, which she did, and that was the beginning of our current slew of problems. Let’s stand back and take an objective look at our current situation.

In the president’s last two years of his second term, he is labeled “a lame duck.” Additionally, because of the status of the war effort when Pelosi became Speaker, Bush’s political power was waning. And, for better or worse, Nancy is probably the most powerful politician on earth. I’ll let the poll results on her performance speak for themselves. The people say Congress was poorly respected when she took office, and the people now say it is much worse.

I won’t list the reasons why this might be other than to mention her pathetic leadership in the financial meltdown. When Treasury Secretary Paulson and Fed head Bernanketold Congress (Nancy) that certain measures must be taken in order to head off a catastrophe, her need to politicize the issue and call for an ill-fated vote signaled the world that we were helpless to act in the face of an emergency.

What’s next for Bad Nancy? Aside from another stimulus package – she’s floating to buy more votes, her real political philosophy is revealed in her scheme to put a “windfall tax” on retirement income. She says we need to put an additional tax on stock market profits. What for? She says, “We need to raise the standard of living of our poor, unemployed and minorities. For example, we have an estimated 12 million illegal immigrants in our country who need help along with millions of unemployed minorities. Stock market windfall profits taxes could go a long way to guarantee these people the standard of living they would like to have as Americans.”

This is Marxism, pure and simple. I have felt that an Obama win coupled with a veto-proof Congress would bring us socialism in short order. With Ms. Pelosi on the job, it’s a lock. If you want your retirement funds to go to illegals, vote for the Libs. If the market doesn’t turn around soon, a profits tax may be academic.
The only thing to fear, is fear itself

The current economic situation so far is affecting Highlands more than downturns in the past. While these recessions usually occur every six to eight years in our country, we have always been almost immune from severe losses here. However, this is the worst crisis we have had since the Great Depression and cool heads are in order.

Franklin Roosevelt said in 1932 in the depth of that depression, “The only thing we have to fear is fear itself,” and that still holds true today. These downturns are called “panics” for a reason. And decisions made during a panic regarding our own personal affairs are usually not good. It is a time to hunker down and wait out the storm. Everyone must remember that you do not lose in the stock market until you sell, and the market always comes back stronger than ever.

But those remarks do not help the businesses in our town because the number of visitors this summer and fall is definitely down. And gas shortages and gas prices have escalated. Some businesses are closing and others are for sale. Since many of us have had to curtail our travel activities, it behooves us locals to buy more of our necessary products locally. Going off the mountain has become an expensive proposition and the local store owners need our business in this time of uncertainty. Let us all stick together, not panic, and we will come through this downturn better than we were before. Adversity helps us appreciate what we have had and will have again.

Highlands and Scaly Mountain volunteer fire fighters were recognized recently. We now have 32 volunteers in Highlands who always do an incredible job in helping keep the Highlands plateau safe in the face of emergencies. We are indebted to them for their quick response in very tough situations, and I would like to add my congratulations to all of these men for jobs well done. Let me just add that training sessions are ongoing with these emergency workers and they are well prepared to handle emergencies in a very professional way.

“Popcorn” Manley is our Chief and he has been ably assisted for many years by Bob Houston and Ricky Bryson.

This week the Highlands Cashiers Players opens a new play at the Martins-Lipscomb Performing Arts Center. “A Thousand Clowns” will begin this coming Thursday and run for two weekends. It is a cute play of a man raising his orphaned 12-year-old nephew in New York City, and if these folks do their usual outstanding performance it should be a hoot. Get your tickets and support this great group of local actors.

Thanks to the generosity and work of developer Bill Nellis we have a new park in town. After more than 160 entries for a new name to the green space created around Harris Lake on the former Edwards family property, we have appropriately named the new park “Harris Lake Park.” We thank Bill Nellis for this fine addition to our community and the effort he put forth to name the park. And thanks to the many people who contributed names in this contest. Whatever name we had chosen, the park would have naturally been called “Harris Lake Park.” So that choice was obvious to the committee.

… SALZARULO
continued from page 5

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Apple Cranberry Cobbler with Spiced Whipped Cream

Prep Time: 0:15
Total Time: 1:15
Servings: 16

- 8 cups tart apples (peeled, cored and chopped)
- 10 ounces cranberries (thawed and drained, or fresh if available)
- 4 tablespoons Organic Valley Butter (Salted, Cultured or Pasture)
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 2 cups rolled oats (old fashioned)
- 2 cups all-purpose flour (or spelt)
- 1/2 teaspoon double-acting baking powder
- 1 tablespoon vanilla extract
- 2 teaspoons cinnamon
- 1/4 teaspoon allspice
- 1/8 teaspoon nutmeg
- sea salt (to taste)
- 1/3 cup maple syrup
- 1/2 cup Organic Valley Milk

Spiced Whipped Cream

- 1 pint Organic Valley Heavy Whipping Cream
- 3/4 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 2 tablespoons sugar

Preheat oven to 375°F. Thaw and drain frozen cranberries, or wash fresh berries and pat dry. Toss cranberries and apples together into a 10x13-inch glass baking dish.

In medium sized mixing bowl, using your hands, blend together to resemble a coarse meal: butter, sugar, oats (rub between hands to break into smaller bits), flour, baking powder, vanilla extract, spices, and sea salt. Stir in milk and syrup; mixture will become somewhat sticky. Drop by spoonfuls onto apple/cranberry compote and pat down slightly. Sprinkle with sugar, if desired. Bake for 45-60 minutes, or until apples are soft and topping has become golden.

Whip cream with cinnamon, vanilla, and sugar until stiff. Serve atop warm cobbler.

For more great recipes and information about organic foods, visit www.organicvalley.coop.
A brave man for president

Matthew G. Eberz
Feedback is encouraged
Email: makk@gmail.com

This is a remarkable country. It is a country where each person has the right to opportunity and where everyone can make a difference. This is also a country where every person has the right to try, the right to compete. Perhaps the greatest contest in this country is the race for president and we are nearing the end of that race.

Unlike any previous race, this presidential race has seen something new; that it is simply staggering in its significance. For the first time, the top two candidates for president from a major political party were a woman and an African American man; their presence alone has been a beacon that shines on the principles of America. Regardless of political party affiliation, every American should feel pride in knowing that in America race or sex will not prevent Americans from being all we can be.

This country prides itself on the belief that all men are created equal, and sometimes you actually have to prove that. We have been the envy of the world for a long time in the way we envy our political system and our way of life. They envy how we respect and protect the value of one life, one person, one dream. The loss of one to us is as powerful and as tragic as the loss of a thousand. In this world of anger, hatred, war lords and corrupt governments, where the loss of human freedoms is all too often the result, this country stands as a beacon of hope and an example of what can be. The true course of America has always been the example of freedom for the world.

“People who have been poor have always been more impressed by the power of our example than by the example of our power,” said former President Clinton in a recent speech. Like he, I believe that over the last few years we have lost the course. We have abused that power and now we are suffering for it. Anyone who can ignore that the misguided war in Iraq and the greed of companies like Countrywide have not thrown this country into turmoil and near financial collapse need to open their eyes.

We need to make changes — that’s for sure. We can’t seem to agree on what they are or who should make them but we agree on the need for changes. Under our two-party system, we really now have only two choices; Senator McCain and Senator Obama. One has been around a long time, served in the military, became a POW, and has been in the Senate for more than 20 years. The other is newer to the political scene. He was raised by a single parent, graduated from a most prestigious college then chose to serve at the community level before becoming an Illinois State Senator and then a U.S. Senator. They are as different as night and day.

People say that this man, Obama, does not have the military experience of his opponent, that he is less qualified to be Commander in Chief because he has not faced the danger of war. This man, a black American, walks the streets every day with a target on his back. There are deranged people that seek to hold back a person because he or she is not the same race as they. There has already been one plot against his life that has been foiled and I suspect there will be more. So is Obama not qualified because he hasn’t faced danger? Well! He faces it everyday. He faces it because he committed to the values of America; that kindness, faith, and the average American is the backbone of this great country, and that the course of America needs a correction. So I say the question that Obama does not have the courage is off the table.

Obama believes, as I do, that a fundamental belief of life and of America is that I am my brother’s keeper. If I see a man who has fallen in the street I lend a hand. If I see a person who has fallen on bad financial times, I lend what I can. Many people just don’t have that view. They believe that people who are getting aid are “free loaders” and “should work for what they get.” Yes, some of those who we help are milking the system, but that doesn’t make the system bad nor lessen the need for our generosity.

There are bad businesses, greedy companies and despicable CEOs who take exorbitant salaries, but that doesn’t mean our entire system of business is broken. It just means there is work to do.

As the contest unfolded there were...
miles of roads in the city limits that can be used for road improvements in Highlands. It is down 10% across the state. I would not be surprised if other revenues are reduced even more. The League says that they "hope and believe" that the Governor will not withhold our State-collected local revenues as he has done in the past, but that, too, is a possibility.

On the local level, property taxes will not be affected until our next revaluation, but in many areas the soft market has meant lower assessed values. In addition, foreclosures are on the rise, and we have even seen some here in Highlands. We may also see more and more consumers having difficulty paying their utility bills as a result of unemployment or slow work in construction.

For this reason, the League has urged municipal officials across the state to consider reducing expenditures for the current fiscal year; as they point out, it may be easier to do so now than later in the year.

I would echo that advice, and recommend that the Town Board carefully consider ALL expenditures that have not yet been approved in the coming year until we get a clearer picture of where we are headed. Many other cities have already instituted hiring freezes or reductions, and the communications I see on the City & County Managers Association Listserv reveal a very serious problem, especially for cities with minimal capital reserves. Now is the time to be extremely conservative with spending.

Another factor that might affect us is the upcoming wholesale electric rate increase from Duke Power – Duke has been delayed in getting back to us and we’re not scheduled to meet now until early December, but we can certainly expect an increase.

Although that won’t go into effect until March of 2010, passing the increase on to consumers at that time might be difficult if economic conditions remain unimproved. Thus, the historically healthy profit we have made from our Electric Distribution System may be affected.

That being said, the Harris Lake Sewer Project is fully funded – our CWMTF grant has been committed, and our matching funds have been placed into the Capital Projects Fund for the contract.

Future grant money is certainly going to become tighter and tighter, although PARTF funds seem to be unaffected for now. PARTF funds are Parks and Recreation Trust Funds municipalities can get to buy land for parks and recreational facilities.

So, only time will tell to what extent some of the larger capital projects the Town Board has been discussing – such as Phases II and III of the sewer projects, Town Hall, and Pine Street Park – can be funded, but for this year the town has the resources to move forward.

We also have healthy capital reserves, as our annual audit shows. Our water, sewer,
After our early morning departure from Edinburgh, I thought we'd be cranky and sleepy. Fortunately for us, we had the first—and, alas, only—really sunny day of our entire trip. After days of solid rain, with heavy, leaden overcast skies, we had resigned ourselves to having this kind of weather for the entire stay. Here we were, sailing to Ireland, and the most glorious sunshine warmed both our bodies and spirits. I’d thought that if we had rain anywhere it would be in Ireland, and here we were, getting the nicest day to welcome us.

The ferry trip from Stornaway to Lannio was short and pleasant. I’ve always enjoyed boat travel, and missed those frequent ferry trips to and from France and England during those 14 years I lived in Paris. While the Channel Tunnel was a huge change in English Channel travel, and very convenient, it never replaced ferry travel for pure charm. By the way, the British have a lot of nerve calling it the “English Channel!” The French simply call it “La Manche,” quite literally “the sleeve,” probably because it’s the arm of the Atlantic Ocean that separates the two countries.

We landed in Lannio in Northern Ireland, and piled back into our bus, which had been waiting for us on one of the upper levels of the ferry. One of Ireland’s most popular routes is the scenic coastal route traveling north. Mountains, valleys and coastline offered the most marvelous views. We briefly stopped for a photo op—with shots of Northern Ireland with the Scottish coastline in the distance. Our destination for the day was the Giant’s Causeway, an extraordinary location featuring 40,000 impressive hexagonal columns formed over 60 million years ago by cooling lava.

Of course, such an amazing area had to be the subject of much myth and legend. The most famous of them was that the Giant’s Causeway was built by Finn McCool. Unfortunately, in a fit of anger, Finn McCool was so tired from building the causeway that he fell asleep, and his larger rival crossed the bridge to come looking for him. To protect his husband, Finn’s wife Oonagh laid a blanket over him so that he would pretend that he was actually their baby son. When Benandonner saw the size of the “baby,” he panicked. He assumed the father, Finn, must indeed be a giant, and fled home in terror, ripping up the Causeway just in case Finn decided to pursue him.

These wonderful stories were an integral part of Ireland, we soon found out. Was there a tree standing alone in a field? Was there a tree growing in a stone wall? The fairies put it there! Was there a tree growing in a stone wall? The fairies put it there! And like Mother Nature, you don’t mess with the fairies. Time and time again, we were told of the horrors befalling folks who messed with the Little People, and came out the worse for wear. While we had had rainy days in Scotland, we only started seeing rainbows when we arrived in Ireland. Somehow, it didn’t seem too much of a stretch to imagine finding pots of gold at the end of them.

We continued along the coast to Letterkenny, which would be our base for the next two days—and relief after all that packing and unpacking during much of our trip. This was Victor’s neck of the woods, and we knew we’d get a real insider’s look at this part of our tour. The Giant’s Causeway was only 14 miles from Bushmills, the village best known as the home of the Old Bushmills Distillery, founded in 1608 and the oldest licensed distillery in the world. Here’s a tip about the spelling of this famous brew—if it’s from Scotland, it’s whisky. If it’s from Ireland, it’s whiskey. No one knows why the spelling is different, it just is.

Why so much emphasis on this magical brew? Breakfast! We came downstairs, and prepared ourselves for another delicious breakfast—this was a breakfast with a twist. Why so much emphasis on this magical brew? Breakfast! We came downstairs, and prepared ourselves for another delicious breakfast—this was breakfast with a twist. Or rather, with a kick. In the midst of all the other, more traditional fare was a big pot of Irish oatmeal. So far, so good. More unexpected, however, was what was set out to go with the oatmeal—a big jar of Irish honey and a bottle of Bushmills whiskey. Yum! Honey and whisky in the oatmeal. It was too tempting to pass up. The thought of the breakfast, spooned hot oatmeal into our breakfast bowls, and loaded up our oatmeal with the goodies set out for us. The result! Surprisingly, the oatmeal didn’t taste that strong of whisky, but everyone pronounced it delicious. Up until that moment, I had thought that whisky in the breakfast was the breakfast of champions. Let me tell you that in the Northern Irish town of Letterkenny, I changed my mind.

After breakfast, we drove east into Derry, and piled back into our bus, which had been waiting for us on one of the lower levels of the ferry. One of Ireland’s most popular routes is the ferry trip from Stanraer to Larne, which has separate carriage over a large, two-car garage. $1,695,000. MLS #66496

Part 4

The honeymoon

Michelle Mead-Armor &
John Armor
michieme@ao.com
John_Armor@aya.yale.edu
Is health care a right, privilege or responsibility?

In the second presidential debate some of the questions were very interesting and I think that had a lot to do with the fact that they were posed by ordinary people. One of the questions in particular went to the heart of a question I have been pondering: “Is health care a right, privilege or responsibility?” Predictably, Obama said “right” and McCain said “responsibility.”

For sometime now liberals have been making their case for health care reform by calling health care a “right.” I would find myself cringing when I heard this and wasn’t sure why. What do we mean when we say something is a “right?” In our Declaration of Independence we are assured of the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. In the Bill of Rights we are guaranteed a number of rights: free speech, assembly, religion, equality before the law, etc.

All of these rights are things we express or pursue ourselves; they are not something that requires anything of another person, except significantly, that we are left alone. Our right to life means that other people are required to leave us alone and not harm us, but they are not required to help us live by feeding us. Our right to free speech means other people are required to tolerate our expression, no matter how odious, but they are not required to help us by providing a forum.

All of these rights are restraints against behavior—a government that respects human rights is restrained from wrongfully imprisoning its people, preventing free speech and assembly, etc. A “right to health care” on the other hand would be a requirement that certain people provide services for others. What if we called housing a “right” and required developers to build and provide apartments to low-income people?

The UN passed the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in 1948, and Article 25 declares there are such things as economic and social rights: “Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family, including food, clothing, housing and medical care and necessary social services, and the right to security in the event of unemployment, sickness, disability, widowhood, old age or other lack of livelihood in circumstances beyond his control.”

Conservatives like to call medical care or retirement income a “responsibility” because they envision society as a place where it’s every person for themselves (unless you’re a failing bank or investment company of course). Conservatives were against Social Security when it was founded by FDR in the 1930s and are still against it today but the majority of the American public think they are wrong on these social issues.

The question in the debate gave another perspective: medical care is a privilege. We are certainly privileged to live in a prosperous society that is technologically sophisticated so we have machines that do MRIs and mammograms, incredible surgery techniques, and tiny cameras and amazing biochemistry tests to see inside our bodies. But privilege also means something that only wealthy people get—Is that what the questioner meant? This article may seem

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completed. “I’ve been a part of it since the beginning,” he said. Baldwin has seen many changes during the 24 years he has served on the BOE, and he wants to provide the best education that money can buy.

“The children of Macon County are the greatest asset we have. They are our future,” Baldwin said. “I stand for the children, teachers, and parents.”

Brian Bateman graduated from Nan-tahala School in 1983, and he is a member of Junaluska Baptist Church. “I’ve been involved with Nantahala Fire and Rescue for 17 years,” Bateman said, and he has served as fire chief for the past 12 years.

Bateman said he has four goals: to prepare students to be globally competitive, to provide opportunities for all students to graduate from high school, to prepare students for the 21st century, and to retain quality teachers. “I am a person of integrity with high moral values,” Bateman said.

Alan Allman retired in 1991 as a senior research chemist after 27 years with DuPont. He returned to Macon County to become the fire chief for the past 12 years. He is a Macon County native, and his father was employed by the Mountain Development Corporation.

Allman has handled school construction in the past. “During my time on WCU’s Board of Trustees, the Ramsey Center, the University Center, two dorms, and a cafeteria were built,” he said. “My main concern is the classroom,” Allman said, “including teachers, teacher’s assistants, supplies, technology, and students.”

Jim Breedlove is a native of Macon County. He graduated from FHS in 1979. He completed a master’s degree in business administration at WCU in 1986. Breedlove currently serves on the Franklin Area Chamber of Commerce Board and also with the Smoky Mountain Development Corporation.

Breedlove has a son and a daughter, and his wife Kathy is an FHS guidance counselor. “Children are facing a different future than in the past. It is vital to provide a background and an education for success,” he said.

Gregg Jones has worked for Cowee Grading for 12 years. He is a Macon County native, and his father was employed by the school system for 35 years. “We need to modernize education, provide better benefits for educators, and get parents more involved,” Jones said.

Dwight Vinson is a lifelong resident of Otto. He attended Otto High School for eight years, and he is a 1980 FHS graduate. After graduating from Appalachian State University in 1986, Vinson returned to Franklin and became a real estate appraiser. He left Macon Bank in 1998 to open his own appraisal business.

Vinson is currently the music director at South Macon Baptist Church. He has experience in organization and construction management, and he says he is never afraid to ask why. “There is always a better way, but you can’t find it unless you ask. Why am I doing this now, and how can I make it better?” Vinson said.

Bobby Bishop is an FHS grad and a native of Macon County. He has been a Macon County Building Inspector for 15 years. Bishop emphasized how important it is for academic and band activities to be given the same recognition as athletic achievements. “Kids who achieve academically should get their names in the paper just like the athletes,” he said.

“If we let one kid fall through the cracks, that is one too many,” Bishop said. “No child should be left behind.” He has been a part of it since the beginning,” he said. Baldwin has seen many changes during the 24 years he has served on the BOE, and he wants to provide the best education that money can buy.

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Random thoughts, version 33 1/3

Exciting finishes ruled the NFL this week, with Atlanta, Houston and Minnesota all gaining last second victories. The big news is the trouble with the Cowboys, who lost their second straight game and will be without Tony Romo (broken pinkie) and Adam Jones (mental fatigue) for 4 weeks. With the Cowboys faltering, it looks like the NFC is wideopen, with 10-11 teams fighting for 6 playoff spots.

Upset was also the word used around college football this weekend, with Oklahoma, LSU and Missouri all faltering and dropping from the ranks of the unbeaten. At this particular point, it looks like Penn State could have the easiest road to the BCS championship after their 48-7 destruction of Wisconsin at Camp Randall. While Alabama and Texas are ranked ahead of JoePa’s boys, Alabama still has to navigate the SEC, and Texas will face both Missouri and Kansas before the season ends. Penn State has to beat Ohio State and avoid any major upsets, but they look poised to make a run to the BCS title game due to their schedule.

Both the Philadelphia Phillies and Tampa Bay Rays have shot out to 3-1 lead in their respective championship series in the past week. While the Dodgers bullpen has struggled to protect leads, the Boston starting pitching has been lackluster-getting shelled by the Rays’ young lineup in the first inning for two straight games. If Tampa Bay and Philadelphia both close things out then we could be looking at a very interesting World Series featuring a decided underdog (Tampa Bay) versus the lovable losers of the past few years in the Phillies. I wouldn’t count the Red Sox out just yet, mainly because they do have the experience of some great comebacks in both of their World Championship seasons. However, I think that Matt Stairs’ homer in Game 4 that gave the Phillies a threeto one lead spelled doom for the Dodgers they are done. It is the start of college basketball season, with midnight madness beginning for many universities all around the country. Local fans of the North Carolina Tar Heels will be happy to note that they are ranked number one to begin the season despite the injury to Marcus Ginyard that will keep him out for the first two months of the season. The Heels are the deepest and most talented team in the country, and anything less than a national championship would have to be considered a failure for Tyler Hansbrough and company. (Is the jinx working yet? I’m trying as hard as I can, but I’m not sure if even a jinx can stop North Carolina this year)

And finally, the NBA has continued its campaign to be the least popular professional sport in America by laying off 80 employees before the start of the season. I believe that the NHL is getting a bit worried that the NBA is going to take the crown that it has held for so long. However, judging from the reaction that Sarah Palin got at this weekend’s Philadelphia Flyers game, it seems that the NFL is doing everything they can to hold on to that top spot.

Middle East expert to speak Oct. 20 in Highlands

Middle East specialist Sandra Mackey will speak at the Highlands Community Building on Monday, Oct. 20 at 7 p.m. Her presentation will discuss Iraq, Afghanistan and Iran and answer the question “Where do we go from here?”

These countries are increasingly complex and central to U.S. economic health and security. After building a framework of the forces currently at work in the region, Ms. Mackey will open the floor for discussion with the audience on the issues most relevant to those in attendance. Bring questions for this timely opportunity. The presentation is free of charge. For more information call 828-787-1463.

Sandra Mackey is the author of six books on the Middle East including The Reckoning: Iraq and the Legacy of Saddam Hussein and The Iranians: Persia, Islam and the Soul of the Nation. She has written for the Christian Science Monitor, the New York Times, the Washington Post, the Los Angeles Times as well as other publications.

Middle East scholar Sandra Mackey has been a commentator on the Middle East for CNN, Fox, ABC Evening News and Nightline, CBS Sunday Morning, NPR, BBC, Canadian Broadcasting and German Public Broadcasting among other media outlets.
The Martin-Lipscomb Performing Arts Center Thanks You!

Through your annual donations, the PAC is able to continue to offer a premier performance space to the people of Highlands. The PAC is available to any local organization for its use in the encouragement and promotion of the performing arts. Organizations that enjoy the use of the PAC include: the Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival, the Center for Life Enrichment, the Highlands-Cashiers Players, Bel Canto, and the Martin-Lipscomb Performing Arts Center Male Chorus.

PAC Celebrates Success of the 2008 No-Go Bear Party

The community response to this innovative fundraising concept has been a resounding success again this year. The opportunity to support the Performing Arts Center, or the PAC, through NOT attending a function, appeals to many. In a summer season filled with an increasing number of charitable events, the No-Go party offers a fun way to vote for the continued success of the PAC while not filling your calendar with another night out. Nell Martin and Margaret Pennington, co-chairs, want to express their appreciation to all these generous donors who helped us.

We are most grateful to our 2008 Partners for their interest in nurturing the performing arts through donations and volunteerism. Membership in this group enables the PAC to pay for the "bread and butter" expenses of its operation and staff events. Our partners help the community and the various performing arts groups. Our membership year begins in November, so expect to receive the new campaign mailing shortly.

We owe special thanks to the following generous donors:

- Tas Anderson Co.
- The Britton Foundation
- Sanford Smith and Ruth Beinhorn
- Coliasa Women's Outreach
- Gentry and Avery Doubleday
- The Win. Gabrelle Foundation
- Highlands Community Foundation
- Highlands Mountain Foundation
- Wayne and Christine Kilian
- Stewart and Brenda Manning
- Diane K. McPhail
- Neil and Bill Martin
- Margaret and Gerald Pennington
- Jack Sapolsky
- A.L. Williams Family Foundation
- Margaret and Hired Wimmer
... HIS & HERS continued from page 13

formerly Londonderry, for a walking tour of the principal sights. Derry was the last city in the British Isles to be enclosed with defensive walls and its 17th Century walls are the only surviving complete series of city walls in the British Isles. Derry is one of the few cities in Europe whose fortifications were never breached. I know many people’s eyes glaze over when you talk about museums, but the one in Derry is a must. An interesting, interactive museum, it gives a wonderful sense of how this historic town came into being and grew. It also tells the sad story of “the Troubles,” the violence which began in the late 1960s as the result of Catholics being discriminated against, both politically and economically, under the Unionist government in Northern Ireland. I’m not going to get into the gory details of this sad part of Northern Irish history. Let’s just say that the residents of Derry are relieved to see an end to “the Troubles,” and there is a collective holding of breath as the city rebuilds and moves forward. Sadly, there are still neighborhoods which are almost exclusively Catholic or Protestant, something which is difficult for many Americans to understand.

After all that history, a bit of retail therapy was in order, and we hit the jackpot, with a visit to the Triona Design Center. We had a demonstration of wool spinning and weaving, and enjoyed tea and scones while wandering the aisles looking for bargains. Maman picked up two suits – one with pants, one with a skirt. I got a jacket. John insisted that he didn’t need anything much to our dismay. We had a good chuckle when we found out that the attractive Irish owner had charmed John into buying a tweed jacket. I insisted on getting him a tweed cap, thus completing that dashing and dandy look that we had expected. On the horizon – a trip to the Aran Islands – had us full of anticipation.

Lakefront house & lot or house & 5 lots!
Charming two-level home on Apple Lake with great open space. Old growth rhododendron, extensive landscaping and a garden area. Feed fish from your own deck! Three bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, in Highland Hills and includes 5 lots. House and one lot $895,000 or house and 5 lots for $1.2 million.

Reduced from $3.5 million to $2.475 million!
Rockcliff is in gated Highlands Point and offers elegance, high-tech features, stream and long-range view all in one package. 4+ bedrooms with private decks, 8 1/2 bathrooms, media room, exercise room, paneled library, formal dining and living rooms, in-law/ staff suite with private kitchen, gourmet kitchen with top-of-the-line stainless steel appliances, breakfast room, granite countertops, 3 large decks, outside stone fireplace, glass elevator, paved, heated driveway and more. 2.5 miles from Main Street. Appraised at $3.5 million.

New Listing!
Historic Webbmont 5.22-acres with private lake. A rare offering $950,000.

Bear’s Den in Whiteside Cove
Reduced from $1.2 to 980,000
Large rustic home on 8.86 acres with 7 bedrooms, 7 bathrooms, a tennis court and much more. Beautiful mountain views abound. $980,000.

Estate Property
w/ 5-bed septic permit
Gorgeous 4.12 acres off Shortoff Road and Norton Ridge with Norton Creek running through it with an island picnic area. 5-bed room septic permit and the well is in place. $440,000.

Near Harris Lake
This is a wonderful recently remodeled house is absolutely charming! Walk to the Nature Center and downtown Hills. 4 bedrooms, guest room, and children’s room with bunk beds. Great room, kitchen, dining with bedrooms up and down. Outside room with living, dining areas and fireplace. $899,000.

Views of Blue Valley & Whiteside
Family home located at the top of Brushy Face Mountain with views of Blue Valley and Whiteside. The elevator services all 3 levels with the master bedroom on the main level. 8 bedrooms, 8 1/2 baths, 6 fireplaces and everything you’d expect in a house of this calibre. Many fabulous details. $5.5 million.

Highlands Playhouse diamond raffle winner
One of the fundraisers for the Highlands Playhouse this year was a raffle for a certified diamond valued at $8,600 donated by Drake’s Diamond Gallery. The drawing was Sept. 28 and the lucky winner was List and Lucy Underwood of Highlands and Birmingham.

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HUGE REDUCTIONS!!
Priced to Sell
Call Pam Taylor at Country Club Properties
526-9027, 342-6988 or 526-2520

Reduced from $3.5 million to $2.475 million!
Rockcliff is in gated Highlands Point and offers elegance, high-tech features, stream and long-range view all in one package. 4+ bedrooms with private decks, 8 1/2 bathrooms, media room, exercise room, paneled library, formal dining and living rooms, in-law/ staff suite with private kitchen, gourmet kitchen with top-of-the-line stainless steel appliances, breakfast room, granite countertops, 3 large decks, outside stone fireplace, glass elevator, paved, heated driveway and more. 2.5 miles from Main Street. Appraised at $3.5 million.
Vote for Jimmy Goodman on November 4th!
charges that that Barack Obama is short on executive experience. It’s a legitimate point. What is not legitimate is that he does not know and understand the issues. There is no question whatsoever that Obama knows the issues and that the Obama-Biden team has a plan. You may disagree with the conclusions they have reached but as the campaign has demonstrated that they know the issues, have thought them through and as the polls now show the American people have begun to agree. But I say the question that Obama does not have years of executive experience remains on the table.

McCain’s decision to have Sarah Palin as vice president has been proven to be a titanic mistake even though the Republican base loves her as a symbol. In place of interviews, and the difficult to anticipate follow-up question that she cannot handle, she sticks with giving one-sided speeches, where she excites the crowd with a chorus of “You Betcha” “Joe Six-packs” and prepared rhetoric of anti-Obama claims that organizations like Factcheck.com prove are exaggerated if not completely false.

But the people listening don’t seem to hear the truth — the lie becomes the truth because they want it to be.

Now that the polls show their campaign is in serious trouble because McCain and Palin have taken the rhetoric to a dangerous level and have charged that Obama has knowingly been associated with a domestic terrorist. The McCain campaign, Palin in particular, has begun to resort to extreme negative campaigning and has had the audacity to make the charge that Obama is a terrorist by association.

Palin has used that lie to stir up the crowd and now dangerous incidents of racism have occurred, and even McCain has had to step in to set the crowds straight. With her inexperience, her unabashed willingness to say anything to win, her inciting of the crowds with lies, raises the danger of turning back the clock on racism in this country. McCain has let this genie out of the bottle and he is struggling to get it back in. When the campaign started, McCain promised a clean campaign — that is gone for sure.

If you believe in the present course of the war, or more tax breaks for corporate America, trickled down economics, or not talking with our enemies of the world to find solutions, or taxing medical benefits, then those are your choices, your issues, and you should vote for the team of McCain-Palin.

If your issues are to end the war, lower taxes for middle-class Americans, end the abuse of personal freedoms, restore our credibility throughout the world by closing Guantanamo Bay Detention Camp, believe that “I am my brother’s keeper” and you want to ensure every child has health care, then vote Obama-Biden.

If your issues are religion or race and you subscribe to the politic of terror then you don’t deserve to have a vote.

Some people say that McCain and Palin are not more of the same and will bring change to this country. I have another Point Of View; I fear that McCain will choose pushing the button over discussion and Palin will push us back in time. I don’t know if Senator Obama will be the greatest American president of all time, but I believe he, and Biden, stand ready to lead us back to where we are the beacon of freedom and justice for the free world.

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Thompson has immediate openings for skilled Maintenance Technicians in the Franklin, NC area. Candidates must have strong electrical and mechanical experience in a manufacturing environment. Successful candidates will be responsible for maintaining all production equipment and associated hardware. Electrical, hydraulic, pneumatic and mechanical skills required. Strong PLC skills and robotics experience a plus for some positions. Requires 5 to 7 years of maintenance experience in a manufacturing environment. Shift work and some overtime required. Excellent compensation and benefits. Salary based upon experience.

You may apply using any of the following resources: apply online at www.thompsonind.com, email resume to tnorman@thompsonind.com or apply at the Franklin, ESC office. E.O.E.
Macon School based on current projections,” he said.

Kuppers said the work is in an economic crisis. “And it’s not going to get better before it gets a little worse.” Kuppers said that county commissioners have to evaluate the current conditions before asking for a higher tax. “I’m not ready to increase taxes, but I don’t want to turn my back on the students, either. It’s a delicate balance, driven by gas prices and the economy,” he said.

Goodman said he’d like to see the students stay in their communities. He said that the people of Macon County are hardworking. “I think we could keep the small schools. We would have to build a new school at Cullasaja, but it’s in great shape,” Goodman said. He also mentioned that the portable classrooms at Cowee needed to be addressed. “We can solve this problem as a community and save the community schools,” Goodman said.

Bennett said she had researched how other districts have tried to save money. “Are we having equity of class sizes when children in larger schools lose their community identity?” she asked. “If we want to stop the dropout rates from increasing, we need to keep community schools,” Bennett said.

“Being from Nantahala, I’m for community schools,” Baldwin said. “But we have to do what’s less expensive in order to have more expensive educational opportunities.” He said that there is no more room at Cullasaja School. “We try to meet the needs of the students as best we can,” Baldwin said.

Bateman is another fan of community schools. “But I also want to watch taxpayer dollars,” he said. “It’s a no-win situation if you’re sitting up here.” Bateman said that the current estimated price per square foot for construction at the North Macon School is twice as expensive as it cost to build South Macon Elementary 10 years ago. “I don’t want to look back in 10 years and wish we’d done something now,” he said.

Allman said the 5-6 School was necessary. Allman said. “Money is at a premium. There are unlimited wants with limited resources,” he said. “We are facing problems that haven’t been faced in this county since the Depression, and you can’t tax people when they have no money to pay it.” He suggested that no existing schools be torn down yet, no matter how outdated they might be.

Breedlove said the BOE should work closely with the county commissioners. “We need to reassess where we’re at and what’s available and then make the best decision based on the resources we have,” he said.

“I would love to keep community schools, but some of them are outdated,” Jones said. “If the children have a better place to learn, they will learn more.” He suggested that local contractors should be involved in new school building construction. “We need to keep the money in Macon County and give jobs back to the people of Macon County,” Jones said.

Vinson said the last two weeks have been an eye opener for everyone, particularly for those running for office. He said that eight

... CANDIDATES continued from page 16

See CANDIDATES page 23
years ago he suggested that the BOE remove the sixth graders from Macon Middle School. "I support the Macon 5-6 School wholeheartedly," Vinson said. "The next board needs to focus on both a short term and a long term plan: things will heavily depend on the economy."

Bishop said the size of the school is not the issue. "It comes down to reducing the size of the classroom," he said. "We have 200 kids in a classroom."

Swank said that their 800-student school was a high-quality school than what he had seen in the much smaller Macon County schools at the time.

The candidates were given one minute to respond to the other candidates. "I went to Otto School, and it was a good learning experience," Vinson said. "But when I left in 1976 I knew it was worn out."

Goodman said he supports community schools "but it doesn't matter what I support, but what the community supports." "Are we talking about money or about what's best for the students?" he asked.

"I don't think we can separate the two," Kuppers countered. "Five hundred to 600 students is not a mega school. If we keep class sizes between 20-25 we'll educate kids." Kuppers agreed with Allman, saying that existing schools shouldn't be torn down. "Things have changed since we voted on the referendum," he said. "Reality has shifted, and when that happens, long-range plans have to shift."

Swank said he is focusing on the Three Cs: common sense, communication and community. "For common sense, I will examine the scope of the problem, identify solutions, listen and incorporate the people's input, pick the best solution, and act," he said.

Kuppers proposed a new way of communication with county commissioners: instead of having citizens come to commission meetings, he wants the commissioners...
education organization of 15,000 physicians, medical students and health professionals who support single payer national health insurance.

The mission statement from their website www.pnhp.org:

“The U.S. spends twice as much as other industrialized nations on health care, $7,129 per capita. Yet our system performs poorly in comparison and still leaves 47 million without health coverage and millions more inadequately covered. Streamlining payment through a single nonprofit payer would save more than $350 billion per year, enough to provide comprehensive, high-quality coverage for all Americans. Single-payer national health insurance is a system in which a single public or quasi-public agency organizes health financing, but delivery of care remains largely private.” In other words, you still get to choose your own doctor.

Two of our local doctors have signed the letter of support (I’ll let you find out for yourself who they are) and I urge everyone to go to this website and see the logic behind a total overhaul of our health care system.

... ORDINANCE continued from page 1

... BRUGGER continued from page 14

you enforce them because animals need to be taken care of,” she said.

Teresa Lovell said she hoped the ordinance would take care of the barking dogs at a kennel which recently became part of her residential neighborhood on Ray Downs Road.

“There is noise from daylight to dark and all night long,” she said. “None of us can get any rest.”

She also said the dogs are let out of the kennel to run at night and they threaten her family if they go out of their house.

Though nuisance animals are addressed in the ordinance, commissioners said the ordinance is not a “barking dog” ordinance. Plus, the fact that a kennel was allowed to move into a residential neighborhood is a zoning issue.

But Commissioner Jim Davis said if the dogs are labeled “a nuisance,” there are provisions in the ordinance to address that.

As defined, a nuisance animal is a domesticated animal off the owner’s property which without provocation, habitually or repeatedly chases, snaps at, attacks or otherwise behaves in an aggressive manner to pedestrians, bicyclists or vehicles, or turns over garbage cans, damages gardens, livestock or public or private property.

To be labeled a “dangerous dog,” the animal must without provocation kill or inflict severe injury on a person or another domestic animal.

Due to issues raised during the public hearing, Commissioner Ronnie Beale made the motion to adopt the ordinance with several changes:

The motion to adopt the ordinance with several changes: to extend the shelter time to 10 days prior to euthanizing to eliminate the portion of the ordinance pertaining to animal fighting because that is already illegal under state law, to allow dogs to run on county property if they are under the command – voice or otherwise – of their owner, and to have the ordinance go into affect on April 6, 2009, or sooner, if the shelter is ready and staff hired beforehand.

There will be two animal control officers employed by the county – the Sheriffs Department – and one administrator at the shelter.

Up until this point, animal control has been a part of the Sheriffs Department but once the shelter is operating that will change.

“As it stands now, citizens can call 349-2106 for Animal Control, Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. concerning nuisance or dangerous animals,” said Sheriff Robert Holland.

As per a “band-aid” ordinance put into effect December 1, 2006, owning an animal that causes damage to real or personal property is a violation. The first offense gets a verbal warning by Sheriff deputies; the second offense is a written warning and the third offense warrants a citation or arrest.

But once the new ordinance goes into affect in April, the Sheriffs Department will not be involved in animal control.

Commissioners want citizens to understand that the new ordinance is not a “barking dog” ordinance because a barking dog is a “noise” and that should fall under a noise ordinance. However, the county doesn’t have a noise ordinance.

Because commissioners believe the stray nuisance and dangerous dog problem in the county stems from irresponsible pet owners, all dogs (and cats) have to be either collared with their owners information, tattooed, or micro-chipped. As per state law, they must also be inoculated for rabies and dogs must wear a valid rabies tag.

Though cats must also be vaccinated, state law exempts cats from wearing a rabies tag but owners must be able to produce proof of inoculation.

Any dog or cat found to be on another person’s property that can’t be identified and is deemed a nuisance will be impounded with fines issued, and a fee levied to retrieve the pet.

Pickups of strays will be complaint driven. Before an animal can be picked up by a county Animal Control Officer, a complaint must be filed with the county.

County Manager Jack Horton said steps leading to the completion of the shelter are moving along.

– Kim Lewicki
The following is the Highlands Police Dept. log entries for Oct. 2-14. Only the names of persons arrested, issued a Class-3 misdemeanor, or public officials have been used.

Oct. 2
• At 6:20 p.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident at the Post Office.

Oct. 4
• At 9:12 p.m., a motorist on N. 4th Street was cited for speeding 43 mph in a 25 zone.
• At 11 a.m., a motorist on Mirror Lake was cited for having an expired registration.

Oct. 10
• At 11 a.m., a motorist on Mirror Lake was cited for having an expired registration.

Oct. 11
• At 10:45 a.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident at Cullasaja Drive and Three R Lane.
• At 11:26 a.m., a driver was cited for not having financial responsibility for the vehicle.

Oct. 12
• At 1:51 p.m., officers responded to a call from a resident on Brushy Face Road who said a window had been forced open. It didn’t appear that anything had been taken.

Oct. 13
• At 1 p.m., larceny of mail was reported at the Post Office when a person’s mail was taken off the counter.

Oct. 14
• At 9:15 a.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident at Main and 4th streets.

During the week, officers responded to 6 alarm activations and issued 3 warning tickets.

The following are the Highlands Fire & Rescue Dept. log entries for the week of Oct. 6-10

Oct. 6
• The dept. responded to a report of an unattended brush fire on the Cashiers Road across from the Community Bible Church. The Macon County fire inspector was notified due to the potential of burning material not allowed to be burned.

Oct. 10
• The dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with a medical call at a residence on Cottage Walk. The victim was taken to the hospital.

Oct. 13
• The dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with a medical call at a residence on Clubhouse Trail. The victim was taken to the hospital.

The following are the Macon County Sheriff Dept. log entries Oct. 6-13.

Oct. 6
• Mario Gomez age 54 of Highlands, was arrested and charged with 5 felony counts of obtaining property/money by false pretense after he turned himself in at the Macon County Courthouse to Macon County Deputies. He was released on a $10,000.00 unsecured bond.

Oct. 11
• At 10 a.m., the larceny of a steel chainsaw was reported at a residence on Lyman Zachary Road.

Oct. 13
• At 9:30 a.m., deputies responded to a call of vandalism to a boat on Lake Sequoyah where engine lines had been cut. The resident said many people living on the lake had boats cut loose from their docks or vandalized lately.

By Ryan Potts
The Highlands varsity soccer team went 2-1 last week to improve their overall record to 11-3-2.

Last Wednesday, the Highlanders played a home contest against Andrews in what could be considered a small monsoon. The rough field conditions slowed down the Highlander attack considerably, but they were still able to come away with a 4-2 victory. The Highlanders received two goals from Michael Shearl, and one goal a piece from Taylor Parrish and Mikey Lica.

Last Thursday, the Highlanders traveled to Columbus to face the #4 ranked Polk County Wolverines. The Highlanders played well in the first half and trailed just 1-0 at halftime. Unfortunately, the first 7 minutes of the second half proved disastrous for Highlands, as Polk County scored 4 goals in the first seven minutes to build an insurmountable 5-0 lead. Highlands was able to get goals from Taylor Parrish and Michael Shearl to round out the 5-2 final score. Coach Chris Green was disappointed with the outcome, but still found some positives to remark on after the game. “The game was competitive for 73 out of the 80 minutes, and was a lot closer than the final score would indicate,” said Green. “We actually outplayed them in several stretches, but the wheels kind of came off in the first part of the second half for a few minutes.”

After tasting defeat for the first time in over a month, the Highlanders bounced back strongly with a 7-0 victory over the Murphy Bulldogs on Monday. Hunter Leffler provided two goals, and Luke McEllian, Andrew Renfro, Michael Shearl, Mikey Lica and Clayton Creighton all scored in the victory.

The Highlanders played Rabun Gap last night, but results were not available at press time.

Next Monday will be the Highlanders final home game of the regular season against Blue Ridge. Please come out and support Highlands as we honor the seniors at Zachary Field Monday and continue the drive to the state playoffs.
Apple Mtn. Shoppes Real Estate is an investment property that doesn't fade away in these volatile times. Great high traffic location on highway 64, near all of the Country Clubs and the Briar PatchShop. This great complex for your to own and operate or just rent out for a steady income. Contact Terry Potts.

Flat Mountain Estates – Newly painted and in excellent condition, the 3 bedroom, 3 bath home has an additional family/rec room and sleeping area in the terrace level. Cathedral ceiling in the living room, stone fireplace, screened porch and huge deck! Offered at $699,000.00 with a furnishings package available for $25,000. MLS #66203.

Cullasaja Club – 15th Fairway, with a gentle, natural landscaped lot, sits this lovely home in excellent condition. Easy living main level with living room, open dining-kitchen, bedroom and bath. Upper level has 2 master bedrooms each with baths and a huge closet, office and large upper deck. Lower level has additional living room, guest bedroom/bath and huge covered deck. Great 2 car garage and workbench. $995,000. A Cullasaja membership is available subject to membership requirements.

Great Investment Opportunity – 3,000 Square foot commercial Building with an additional 3,000 square feet on the upper level is planned for 2 apartments. It is in an excellent location with great traffic and could be one or two shops on the main level. Good frontage and adequate parking. Offered at $895,000.

Dogwood Drive – Fully renovated cabin is loaded with features: Cathedral ceiling in the living room with fireplace opens on to a great screened porch with a mountain view, custom kitchen with stainless appliances and custom spice cabinet. new hardwood floors, heat and air system and generator, great master suite with 2 guest areas. New landscaping and additional parking. A great house in move in condition. $498,000. mls #66104.

Wilson Road – Walk to Harris lake, Lakeside dining, and downtown from this one level ranch on an exceptional flat and private 3 lots in Sunset Hills Subdivision. Large living room with fireplace, kitchen/dining area opens on to a large covered porch that overlooks the back yard. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, plus a 2 car garage and full basement. $445,000.

Enjoy the creek in the backyard of this three bedroom, two bath home. A rhododendron arched, stone walkway leads down to the creek and fire pit. You could also walk to Mirror Lake or, in the winter, enjoy some view of Satulah Mountain. There is a gas log fireplace in the living room along with a full basement with a one-car garage and a deck on the back that spans the length of the house. Great location and great price - $390,000. mls #66135.

Wyanok Drive – Check out this classic original Mirror Lake Cottage located on 3 lots with access from Wyanok and Chowan Drive. Knotty pine paneling, vaulted ceilings, wood floors, fireplace, nice wooded setting. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths on 2 levels. Offered at $498,000. mls #66104.

Skyline Lodge – Fully loaded with potential is this 40-room facility with pool, spa, restaurant. 16 rooms have fireplaces. Just waiting for you to make it happen! Additional buildings and land is available. $3,500,000.

Satulah Mountain – One of the most desirable locations bar none is this historical beauty that sits on almost 7 acres w/barn, garage with guest quarters above, and wonderful Mt view. The dwelling has good bones and great charm. Large rooms, 5 fireplaces, stone floors in the living room, wood floors & custom wood paneling. The stonework & gardens, along with the spectacular view is worth the price alone. Did I mention the 2 ponds? This property is suitable for horses or just a gentleman’s farm. $3,500,000.

Lake Osseroga – Water frontage on private pond and lake access to Ravenel lake from this exceptional 4 bedroom, 4 bath in the lovely community of Lake Osseroga. Greatroom with a wall of glass, open design with 2 split bedrooms on the main level, custom kitchen and screened porch. 2 upper level bedrooms, each with baths and an additional family room. Lovely yard with great water feature! Offered at $1,450,000, and shown by appointment.
To be a witness

Pastor Sam Forrester
Whiteside Presbyterian Church

What is required to be a witness of something? To be a witness requires that you know what you are talking about. The Scripture says that from out of the heart the mouth speaks (Luke 6:45). It is easy to speak about those things about which you are passionate. When you study something and learn about it, you want to witness to others about it. You are thrilled when you find someone who will listen. It is true that there are some who are better at this than others but generally, timing is what is important. If your heart is full and someone asks, even the rudest, can speak about what they love. This is what the angel told the apostles in Acts 5:20, “Go, stand in the temple courts and tell the people the full message of this new life.”

It is no different when speaking about your job or Christ. You must have a real heart interest in Jesus and his kingdom if you want to be an effective witness for him. You cannot and will not hide him when he is really active in your heart and life. You know what he has done for you and that should make it easy to tell others how he has changed your life. When true faith fills your life and changes your way of thinking you want to tell others, “But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth” (Acts 1:8). Once this happens, every area of your life will show forth his glory and become a testimony of his grace and mercy. It will become impossible for people not to see a different you and want to know how it has happened.

It is absolutely true that not everyone will be a great witness. But every person whom the name of Jesus Christ should be able to tell what he has done for them. Some people are better at their jobs than others. Some people are better at speaking about things than others. But every believer touched by God’s grace will be able to express in some simple way, how that grace has helped them to live a better life. If you are a true believer you will never want to leave him out of your conversation.

If you do not witness for him at all, then you have to stop and question what your relationship with him really is? Do you love him, does he have a real place in your heart? Is your heart full of the grace he promises? Are you spending enough time in his Word? Not witnessing, for those who are true believers, is generally caused by a failure to spend time in his Word. The Holy Spirit was sent to work in the hearts of God’s people. The Spirit does his work through the use of the Word. If you desire to keep

See SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING page 36
Free Dinner Seminars in Asheville and Highlands
at Asheville’s Grove Park Inn Monday, October 20 and
Highlands Old Edwards Inn, Spa, Tuesday, October 21
Seminars are from 4 to 6pm with dinner to follow
This seminar is appropriate for couples age 70 and over with a minimum $2 million net worth

Will your family’s estate plan cause more problems than it solves?

✓ Learn exactly what’s missing and mistaken in your family’s estate plan legal documents
✓ Learn how to protect the assets you leave to your children from divorce, lawsuits and creditors, and from ever leaving the family Bloodline
✓ Learn time-tested strategies to save your family hundreds of thousands in Estate Taxes
✓ Save up to 50% and more in your annual Life insurance premiums using the little known Life Expectancy approach
✓ Learn how to sell your old Life Insurance policy for a huge profit, get a new policy at half the cost
✓ Financed Life Insurance: Learn the real risks, the potential benefits and which programs to avoid

STUART B. KIRSHNER, National Chief of Planning, Stu has worked on more estate plans for the larger estate than most average sized law firms. He’s a nationally recognized estate planning authority with over 35 years of experience in: Complete estate plans for the larger estate, Estate tax minimization strategies to avoid 55% taxes, • IRA Tax and distribution planning to avoid 56% death taxes, • Multi-Generation estate plans to protect the assets you leave to your children from loss through divorce, lawsuits and creditors, • Planning to make sure the assets you leave to your children stay only in your family’s Bloodline, • Innovative Life Insurance strategies for new and old policies which minimize cost and maximize lifetime value of policy. Stuart has been listed in The Who’s Who of just about everything, He’s a real pro at making complex and convoluted planning strategies into understandable, user friendly solutions.

DR. BARRY SKOELI, Vice President, Medical Underwriting Division. Barry started his career as an electrical engineer. He then did his residency at Yale University and ultimately became Chief of Head and Neck Cancer Surgery at the prestigious Rutgers University Hospitals. Barry has since served as a Professor at Florida Atlantic University. Three years ago, Barry retired to join Stuart Estate Planning as the creative head of our medical underwriting division for new life insurance.

CRAIG KIRSHNER, MBA, Vice President, Premium Finance and Life Settlements. Craig is an expert in utilizing various minimal equity funding approaches to acquire large life insurance policies for our clients, and in maximizing the lifetime value of our clients’ existing life insurance policies. Craig has over 10 years of corporate financial analysis and accounting experience. Craig brings a diverse background including management consulting, business plan consulting, real estate mortgage financing and stock trading. Craig received his MBA with a concentration in Finance from the College School of Business at Florida International University and was then inducted into the prestigious Beta Gamma Sigma Honor Society.

Dates and Locations
Asheville Highlands
Grove Park Inn Old Edwards Inn, Spa
Monday, Oct. 20th Tuesday, Oct. 21st
Seminars times are 4-6pm, Dinner to follow
*This seminar is appropriate for couples age 70 and over with a minimum $2 million net worth.
**$500 fee for professionals attending

Stuart Estate Planning
Estate Planning for Larger Estates for over 36 years
Helping our clients with hard questions so they can rest easy
National Headquarters: Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Affiliate offices in Naples, Cleveland, Atlanta and Asheville

CALL 1 800-807-5558 NOW TO RESERVE YOUR SEATS!
FACilities

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. 0, or visit www.thebascom.org.
- Friends of Panthertown work days, last Thursday of every month (time and location varies). Volunteers needed 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.jmca.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 embarking on 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, Holly Springs Baptist Church, Presbyterian 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 $0.95 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 828-369-7540 ext 203, www.cullasajaag.org.
- Raffle of handcrafted Stiefel Botanical Book to Benefit The Bascom. To purchase a raffle ticket, call 828-526-4340. Four different images will be available for sale and for raffle, so people can buy all four images for $2,000 and have four different chances of winning.
- Yoga in the bottom floor of Jane Woodruff Building, 10:30 a.m. Thursdays. Call 526-4340.
- NA open meeting every Saturday at 7:30 p.m. of the ACC Satellite Group at the Graves Community Recreation Center. For any questions, or to schedule a drop-off, contact Jeremy Duke in our community office at (828) 787-2114.
- Yoga at the Rec Park, 7:30 a.m. Monday and Wednesdays. Call 526-4340 for information.
- Yoga in the bottom floor of Jane Woodruff Building, 10:30 a.m. Thursdays. Call 526-4340.
- NA open meeting every Saturday at 7:30 p.m. of the ACC Satellite Group at the Graves Community Recreation Center. For any questions, or to schedule a drop-off, contact Jeremy Duke in our community office at (828) 787-2114.

‘A Thousand Clowns’ on stage at PAC

The cast of “A Thousand Clowns,” the first play of the Highlands Cashiers Players’ new season, opening Oct. 16 at the Performing Arts Center. Left to right: Harry Bears plays the older brother of Murray Burns, played by Jim Gordon, with his son Ash as Nick Burns. Begging Murray to return to his TV show is Chuckles Chimpunk, played by Bob Tietze, while Marsha Shmalo and Rick Siegel, playing Child Welfare officers, round out the cast. Box office hours at PAC, 507 Chestnut Street, are 10 a.m. till 4 p.m. Call 828-526-8084 for reservation.

Art League’s ‘Fall Colors Show’ is Sat. & Sun

The Art League of Highlands has announced the date of its “Fall Colors” Fine Art Show. This annual event of the fall season is Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 18 and 19 from 10-5 each day at the Highlands Recreation Center. The show features over 55 artists from throughout the southeast. There will be demonstrations and visitors to the show will be able to purchase fine quality art work directly from the artists. There will be over $1,000 in gift certificates given away during the 2-day event. Admission is free.

‘Second Lady’ opens Saturday at ITC

Second Lady is a very timely show for the Instant Theatre Company to be producing this October because this remarkable play takes place in October in an election year. Mrs. Joseph Erskine, the wife of a U.S. Senator who is running for Vice President of the United States, is in Philadelphia fulfilling a speaking engagement for her husband. She has mislaid her prepared remarks and must draw on her experiences and recollections. Her stories become more and more personal as she peels away rationalizations and justifications she has accumulated over the years. This powerful 70-minute, one-woman show about a fictional political wife displays the very fine acting talents of Madeleine Bains Davis. Ms. Davis has also been seen this season at the Studio on Main in ITC LIVE!, and co-starring with David Milford in The Ice-Breaker. The Return of Herbert Bracwell and Diaries of Adam and Eve. She directed the ITC’s August hit show Clarence Darrows, starring David Milford and is the Instant Theatre Company’s incoming Artistic Director. Second Lady, directed by David Milford, opens October 17 and also plays the 18, 24 and 25. All performances are at 8 p.m.

For reservations call the ITC Box Office at 828-342-9197. Tickets are $15 with reservations and $20 at the door. The ITC’s Studio on Main is located at 310 Oak Square, Main Street.

madeleine bains davis

Art League member Neal Adams, a potter from Florida, always draws a crowd as he explains Raku pottery.
Mon., Wed., & Fri.
• Open AA meeting noon and 8 p.m. at the Episcopal Church at Fifth and Main streets.

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

Mondays & Wednesdays
• Pilates Classes Level 1 of Jane Woodruff at the Highlands Rotary Club meets at noon at the Highlands Center Conference Center.
• Weight Watchers meets at the Highlands Civic Center. Weigh-in is at 5:30. The meeting starts at 6 p.m.

Wednesdays
• Highlands Mountain Top Rotary Club meets at the Highlands Center Conference Center at 5:30 p.m. Men’s interdenominational Bible Study at 8:30 a.m. at First Baptist Church.

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

1st & 4th Thursdays
• The local affiliate of NAMI NC (National Alliance on Mental Illness), NAMI Appalachian South, meets from 7-9 p.m. at the Family Restoration Center, 1095 Wiley Brown Road, Franklin. NAMI offers peer support, education, and advocacy for individuals suffering from serious mental illness and their families and loved ones. Contact Ann Nandrea 369-7385, 242 Hwy 107 N in Cashiers. Call 888-764-1FIT.

Sat & Sun: (2:05), (4:05), 7:05, 9:05
Mon – Thurs: (4:20), 7
Friday: (4:20), 7:15, 9:20
Saturday: (4:15)
Sunday: (4:15)

Ruby Cinemas
Hwy. 441, Franklin • 524-2076

Showing Oct. 17-23
MAX PAYNE
rated PG
Friday: (4:20), 7:15, 9:30
Sat & Sun: (2:15), (4:30), 7:15, 9:30
Mon – Thurs: (4:30), 7:15

THE EXPRESS
rated PG
Friday: (4:20), 7:15, 9:30
Sat & Sun: (2:15), (4:30), 7:15, 9:30
Mon – Thurs: (4:30), 7:15

BEVERLY HILLS
CHIHUAHUA
rated PG
Friday: (4:05), 7:05, 9:05
Sat & Sun: (2:05), (4:05), 7:05, 9:05
Mon – Thurs: (4:05), 7:05

FIREPROOF
rated PG
Friday: 7, 9:15
Sat & Sun: (2), 7, 9:15
Mon – Thurs: 7

NIGHTS IN RODANTHE
rated PG-13
Friday: (4:15)
Sat & Sun: (4:15)
Mon – Thurs: (4:15)

390 Main Street • 526-5488
www.cyranosbooks.com

Upcoming Book Signings
Sat. 0 October 18
3:15-4:15 p.m. at the Episcopal Church of the Incarnation (cost $30 for a six-class session).

Fri, 0 October 18
4 to 6 pm
Ron N Ash
“Serena”

Children art classes at The Bascom
It’s back to school time at The Bascom – art school, that is. The art center is offering a host of children’s classes for preschoolers to preteens through its Young Artist Program.

• Little Stars – art for preschool children – is held Tuesdays 11-11:30 a.m. at the Episcopal Church of the Incarnation (cost $15 for a six-class session).

• Artventure – art for kindergarten and first graders – is held Tuesdays 3-4 p.m. in the Highlands School Cafeteria (cost $45 for a six-class session).

• Artventure – art for kindergarten and first graders – is held Wednesdays 3:15-4:15 p.m. at the Episcopal Church of the Incarnation (cost $30 for a six-class session).

• Art Odyssey – art for children in grades two to five is held Mondays 3-4 p.m. in Highlands School Cafeteria (cost $30 for a six-class session).

• And It’s Masterful – art for home-schooled children in kindergarten to eighth grades – is held Wednesdays May 7-2:30 p.m. at the Episcopal Church of the Incarnation (cost $45 for a six-class session).

Financial assistance is available. To register, call (828) 526-6345 or go to the website: www.ncmana.org.

Through Nov. 22
• The Hambidge Center for Creative Arts & Sciences presents Celebrate Clay, a pottery show featuring Western North Carolina Potters. The show features mostly functional and some just plain fun pieces. Celebrate Clay opened in late September and runs through November 22. The Hambidge Center’s Weave Shed Gallery is open Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Celebrate Clay includes work from artists like Stanley Andersen, Maria Andrade Troya, Anita Blackwell, Pamela Brewer, Kyle Carpenter, Josh Copus, Terry Gess, Barry Gregg, Matt Jacobs, Courtney Martin, Mickey Shane, David Ross, Michael Rutkowski, Ken Sedberry, Joy Tanner and Mark Tomczak. Wood turner Steve Rountree is also included in the show. Hambidge is located at 105 Hambidge Court, Rabun Gap, Georgia 30568. The mailing address is PO Box 399, Rabun Gap, Georgia 30568. Hambidge can be reached at 706-746-5718 or visited online at www.hambidge.org.

Thurs., Sun., Oct. 16-19
• An old favorite, the comedy-drama “A Thousand Clowns,” is the Highlands Cashiers Players fall play this season at the Performing Arts Center in Highlands. Tickets for “A Thousand Clowns” go on sale for the public beginning Saturday, Oct. 11. Box office hours are Tuesdays-Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call 828-526-8084 for reservations.

Thursday, Oct. 16
• “To Catch a Thief” (1955) features Cary Grant as a reformed jewel thief who is suspected of returning to his former occupation. In order to prove his innocence, he must find the real thief. He is aided by an American heiress played by Grace Kelly. The movies are shown in the Library Meeting Room at 7 p.m. on Thursday nights. The movies and popcorn are free,
If you think the current Presidential Campaign is a little whacko you haven’t seen the latest exhibit at the Hudson Library. On display in the main lobby are many colorful characters from past Presidential campaigns.

Don Cook has prepared a colorful array of humorous candidates from comic strips, animated films, TV, and comic books. Included are such delightful characters as Betty Boop, Pogo, WonderWoman, Howdy Doody, and Huckleberry Hound. Barney Google, the earliest candidate, ran in 1932. Alfred E. Neuman has tried many times and is well represented. You’ll also find Rat Fink, Zippy, and Bill the Cat among other really whacko candidates.

Cook started collecting comics memorabilia around 1970. His holdings have since grown substantially enabling him to assemble many different exhibit themes including Women in the Comics, The History of Bill Gaines and MAD magazine, Political Correctness in the Comics, etc. This is his ninth exhibit at the Hudson Library. Cook regularly attends comic conventions and has published fanzines for comics aficionados. Currently he is writing the biography of local cartoonist Bill Dwyer.

So stop by the Hudson Library — a vote for humor might be just the “ticket” in this election year. The exhibit runs through the end of October.
educate the community about conservation on the plateau. The event is free to HCLT members and a $25 donation for non-members. Your donation will grant you membership status and help your community and trust to continue their efforts to save the places we all love. Space is extremely limited. Contact HCLT at 526-1111 or hclt@earthlink.net.

Saturday, Oct. 18
• At Cyrano’s Bookshop, Nat Turner, editor of “A Southern Soldier’s Letters Home: The Civil War Letters of Samuel Burney, Army of Northern Virginia” will sign copies of his new book at 1-3 p.m.
• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a moderate-to-strenuous six-mile hike on the Chattaqua River Trail from the Whiteside Cove Chapel to the Iron Bridge, with river views, giant rock formations, big trees, and waterfalls along the way. Some scrambling over rocks is required. Meet at the Cashiers Wachovia Bank (in back) at 10 a.m. Hikes are limited to 20; Call leaders Mike and Susan Kettles, 743-1079, for reservations.
• Computer and Electronics Recycling: Dave Stewart, Macon Users Group and Tech Place have joined together to recycle electronic items, including: computers, modems, keyboards and mice. It also includes fax machines, tuners, VHS/DVD players and speakers. TV’s are not included; please take TV’s to the landfill. Items may be taken to Tech Place in Franklin from 10 am until 4 pm. There will also be a pickup at the community center (across from the ball field) in Highlands from 10:30 am until 1 pm. There is no charge for this service. However, if you want to have your hard drive wiped clean, there is a $3 charge. For more information, call John Rymer at 526-9899.
• High Mountain Squares will be giving a demonstration in Western Style Square Dancing at the Smoky Mt Fall Craft Show Saturday at the Macon County Fairgrounds from 1-2 p.m. For information call 828-349-0905, 828-349-4187, 706-782-0943, or www.highmountainsquares.org.
Sat. & Sun., Oct. 18-19
• The Art League of Highlands “Fall Colors” Fine Art Show is from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day at the Highlands Recreation Center just a few blocks from the main street of Highlands. The show will feature over 55 artists from throughout the southeast. There will be demonstrations and visitors to the show will be able to purchase fine quality art work directly from the artists. The Children’s Art Room is a fun experience for all the young people attending the show. There will be over $1,000 in gift certificates given away during the 2 day event. Admission is free and everyone is encouraged to attend and bring the entire family!
• At the Community Center (across from the ball field) in Highlands from 10:30 am until 1 pm. There is no charge for this service. However, if you want to have your hard drive wiped clean, there is a $3 charge. For more information, call John Rymer at 526-9899.
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ROBERT G. BURNEY

Native of Covington, Georgia and a graduate of Georgia Tech. He was a commissioned officer in the US Navy. He is an avid fly fisherman and resides with his wife in Gainesville, Georgia. The correspondence of a soldier like Burney gives the truest and most immediate account of the War Between the States, and puts readers right in the terror of battle and high jinks—or at least—of camp life. “A Southern Soldier’s Letters Home” is the latest addition to Mercer University Press’s distinguished series of books on Georgia in the Civil War.

Ron Rash’s “Serena” is set right here in Western North Carolina. The year is 1929, and newlyweds George and Serena Pemberton arrive in our mountains from Boston to create a timber empire. Although George has already lived in the camp long enough to father an illegitimate child, Serena is new to the mountains — but she soon shows herself the equal of any worker, overseeing crews, hunting rattlesnakes, even saving her husband’s life in the wilderness. Together, this Lord and Lady Macbeth of the woodlands’ ruthless skill vanquish all who fall out of favor. Yet when Serena learns that she will never bear a child, she seulefully sets out to kill the son George had without her. Mother and child begin a struggle for their lives, and when Serena suspects George is protecting his illegitimate family, the Pembertons’ intense, passionate marriage starts to unravel as the story moves toward its shocking reckoning.

In her glowing review of “Serena” last week, Janet Maslin of the New York Times describes how “with bone-chilling aplomb, linguistic grace and the piercing fatalism of an Appalachian ballad, Mr. Rash lets the Pembertons’ new union generate ripple after ripple of astonishment.... ”Serena” is Ron Rash’s fourth novel. For those unfamiliar with the wondrously fine-tuned voice of this Appalachian poet and storyteller, a writer whose reputation has been largely regional despite an O. Henry Prize and other honors, it will prompt instant interest in his first and second. (As Rash’s many fans here know, these books are “One Foot in Eden,” “Saints and Sinners.”) The Washington Post’s Ron Charles praises Rash’s style (“a poet’s conception”) and his characters, particularly Serena herself (“the Lady Macbeth of Ron Rash’s stirring new novel wouldn’t fret about getting out the damned spot. She wouldn’t even wash her hands; she’d just lick it off. I couldn’t take my eyes off this villainess, and any character who does ends up dead”) and his plot (“the final chapter is as flawless and captivating as anything I’ve read this year, a perfectly creepy shock that will leave you hearing nothing but the wind between the stumps”). And novelist—and part-time Highlander—Pat Conroy says Rash’s new novel “Serena” catapults him to the front ranks of the best American novelists. This novel will make a wonderful movie, and the brave actress who plays Serena is a shoe-in for an Academy Award nomination.”

Ron Rash is the Parisi Distinguished Professor in Appalachian Cultural Studies at Western Carolina University and a frequent visitor to Highlands for lectures.

Cyrano’s Bookshop is located at 390 Main Street in Highlands. Books can be reserved for autographing by calling (828) 526-5488.
Hymn. The song leader will be Stell Hue and Angie Jenkins will play the piano. The church is located at 471 Main Street. Come for an hour of singing and Christian fellowship.

At Cyrano’s Bookshop, author Ron Nash will sign copies of “Serena” from 4-6 p.m.

First Baptist Church invites everyone to a concert with Calvin Newton at 6:30 p.m. Calvin is a member of the Gaither “Homecoming Family”, participating in various Gaither videos and concerts. He has toured Northern Ireland, Scotland, and England three times and sung to packed houses and receptive audiences.

Monday, Oct. 20
- Sandra Mackey will be speaking at 7 p.m. at the Highlands Community Center on the presidential candidates positions on Iraq, Afghanistan, Iran and Israel.
- Macon County flu vaccination clinic for adults age 19 and older. 8 a.m - 2 p.m. Franklin: Community Building, Highway 441 South. Appointments are not needed and vaccine will be given on a first come, first served basis. Individuals unable to wait in line may have someone wait in line for them and a nurse will take vaccine to their vehicle. For more information call the Macon County Public Health Center at 349-2081. The cost for the vaccine is $25. The health center will bill Medicare and Medicare replacements, BCBS, Crescent, and Tricare; but you must bring your card. Free vaccine for high-risk children and pregnant women is available at the Macon County Public Health Center at a later date. This includes all children 6 to 59 months of age and children 5-18 years old who are high risk or do not have insurance or visit its website at www.maconnc.org/healthdept.
- High Mountain Squares will dance this Wednesday night at the Macon County Community Building from 7-9 p.m. Tom Pustinger from Spartanburg SC will be the caller. We dance Western Style Square Dancing, main stream and plus levels. Everyone is welcome.

Thursday, Oct. 23
- “Dial M for Murder” (1954), rated PG at the Cashiers Library Meeting Room at 7 p.m. on Thursday nights. The movies and popcorn are free, but donations are appreciated.
- Red Cross Blood Drive at the Southwestern Community College Public Safety Training Center at 225 Industrial Park Loop; Franklin, NC from 10 a.m to 2:30 p.m. Please call 369-0591 for more information or to schedule an appointment.
- Robert Morgan’s book Boone has been
YARD SALES

SAT. & SUN., OCT. 18-19 – Multi-family yard sale. Downtown Highlands, behind Bryant Funeral home on Spruce Street. 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. each day. Furniture, clothing, luggage, children’s items and much more.

SAT. OCT. 25 – Multi-family yard sale at Buckberry Falls, 64 west just before High Country Cafe on left. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

HELP WANTED

SKILLED MAINTENANCE TECHNICIANS – needed by Thompson who has immediate openings in the Franklin, NC area. Candidates must have strong electrical and mechanical experience in a manufacturing environment. Successful candidates will be responsible for maintaining all production equipment and associated hardware. Electrical, hydraulic, pneumatic and mechanical skills required. Strong PLC skills and robotics experience a plus for some positions. Requires 5 to 7 years of maintenance experience in a manufacturing environment. Shift work and some overtime required. Excellent compensation and benefits. Salary based upon experience. You may apply using any of the following resources; apply online at www.thompsonind.com, email resume to thompsonres@comcast.net or apply at the Franklin, ESC office. EOE

HIGHLANDS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH is actively seeking a responsible and energetic individual to fill the full-time position of Director of Children and Youth Ministries. Bachelor’s degree or five years related experience required. Send resumes to HUMC, P.O. Box 159, Highlands, NC 28741. Attn: Scott Roddy or email inquiries and resumes to humsc@dnset.com.


IT SPECIALIST – needed at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. Full-time, day shift position available. Should have one year experience in minor network operations and end-user troubleshooting skills as well as Microsoft Office skills. A two year degree in an IT related field preferred. Full benefits, or the option to opt out of benefits for an increase in pay, available after 30 days of full-time employment. Pre-employment screening required. Call Human Resources at 828-526-1301 or apply online at www.hchospital.org.

Respiratory Therapist: at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. Part time and PRN positions available. Responsibilities include taking call and being able to respond within 20 minutes. Also must be able to intubate a patient. Current registration or certification in North Carolina, along with a current BLS and/or ACLS required. Experience with rehabilitation and disease prevention preferred. Pre-employment screening required. Call Human Resources at 828-526-1301 or apply online at www.hchospital.org.

CNA OR CNA II at Fidelia Eckerd Living Center. PRN positions are available. Our wage scale is $11.00 to $14.40 per hour, and you also receive shift differential. Pre-employment substance screening required. Call Human Resources, 828-526-1301 or apply online at www.hchospital.org.


2 BED, 2 BA HOUSE – Carport, Storage, Garage. $300 a month. In Scaly. 423-715-7757.


COTTAGE FOR RENT – 1 bed, 1 bath. In town. Cherry cottages. Screened porch, heat. Furnished. Weekly $250 a week or $1,200 a month. Call 526-4063. 10/1

ONE-BEDROOM – Furnished apartment with covered patio. Includes electric, water and cable. No pets and no smoking inside. $650 per month plus deposit. Call 526-2561.

FURNISHED 3BD/2BATH HOUSE IN MIRROR LAKE area available for 6-12 month lease $1,200+ utilities. Call 770-977-5692.

ATTRACTIVE 2BD APARTMENT – for immediate occupancy. Desirable Main Street location features balcony, large kitchen with dishwasher, spacious laundry equipped with washer and dryer. Recently renovated. No smokers and no pets. Call John for details. 526-5587. Referenced.

FURNISHED 3BD/2BATH HOUSE IN MIRROR LAKE – Furnished apartment with covered patio. Electric, water and cable. No pets and no smoking inside. $650 per month plus deposit. Call 526-2561.


TURTLE POND – 2 bed/1.5 bath, hot tub; furnished; no smoking pets. Call 828-526-2759.

3 BR, 2 BA COTTAGE NEAR MIRROR LAKE – In town. $1,250 per month. Very clean. 770-977-5692.


VACATION RENTAL

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

THE LODGE ON MIRROR LAKE – Fish or canoe from deck. Available weekly, monthly. No min. Call 828-342-2302.

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

MOTORHOME, LOT AND ADJOINING COACHHOUSE – Absolutely beautiful and shining 40’ PREVOST COACH “Liberty Lady” model by Liberty Coach. Garaged since new. $5,000,000 pampered

PETS: NONE AT ANY TIME.
Home for Sale
Asking $185,000

5 miles from downtown Highlands. Borders USFS. Owner financing available. Will consider all offers. Agents welcome at 4%.

Call 903-343-7318

NEW BAUM BROTHERS CHINA. Service for 8- with serving pieces-white with gold trim. In original box $150 for set. Call 526-3251
STONE AVAILABLE – Assorted. 14 pallets. $200 per pallet. Call 526-5932
ANTIQUE WICKER BABY CARRIAGE for sale $100. Call 369-5863.
GRANDFATHER’S CLOCK FOR SALE. Key wound. $100. Call 369-5863.
AVON CAP CODE RED GLASS – 8 piece place setting. 64 pieces. $365. Also, accessory pieces available. Call 828-524-3614.
SET OF 4 ORIGINAL RIMSTIRES FROM TOYOTA SOLARA – 16" x 6 1/2" with mounted Bridgestone Potenza tires 215-60-R16 M&S. $500. Call Wolfgang at 526-8396 or 526-4603, evenings.
ANTIQUE WALNUT DINING TABLE with two 10½ inch leaves. $250; six oak pressed back chairs. Very good condition. $300. Whirlpool upright freezer, $100; 80,000 BTU propane central heat unit, $100 and 60-gallon propane hot water heater, $75. Call 526-0386 or 421-1159.
DECK CHAIR WITH MATCHING CREDENZA, oak, leather chair. $950. Call 743-8689
ENTERTAINMENT CENTERS. 1. Pine, $75 can hold 27" TV, 1 dark wood $50. Call 369-5863.
CHAIR AND OTTOMAN – oversized brown leather – excellent condition $500 for both - 826-5276- 5746
BOARD PINE DINING TABLE – $300. Early American New England spinning wheel - $225- 265- 2671
BOWPLUS EXTREME 2 SE home gym. New. Used 2 weeks and now it collects dust. $1,500 obo. 706-212-7349.
OAK 6'FT DINING TABLE with extra 2 ft leaf insert and 6 dining chairs - $400. Call 526-2767 or 526-0996.
DOUBLED UNFOURLED HEAD BOARD with 4 matching valences. $35 for all. Blue and yellow plaid. Call 526-3251.
STEEL Pallet RACK FOR SALE. – Approximately 50 ft. of 42" high x 42" deep x 8' wide steel pallet rack, includes frames and racking, 3000 board ft. capacity. Perfect for home or industrial applications - including work benches; $450. (828) 787-1035.
MR. HEATER – 75,000 BTU. Forced Air Heater. Like New. $110. Call 526-3206.
TABLE SAW – New with 4" Jointer. All one stand. $75. Call 526-3206.
PFLATZGRAFF “HEIRLOOM” DISHES. Complete service for 8 plus numerous serving pieces, extras and accessories. Too much to list. $300 Call (828) 631-2675 after 5 p.m. Sylva area.
JESSICA MCCINTOCK VICTORIAN STYLE WEDDING DRESS. Very unique. Size 12/ 12. $200. Call (828) 631-2675 after 5 p.m. Sylva area.
MAN’S FORMAL (MID-LENGTH) WESTERN STYLE BLACK COAT. Size 46. Worn once. Bought at Stage’s West in Pigeon Forge. $150. Call (826) 631-2675 after 5 p.m. Sylva area.
KODAK 8 inch EASYSHARE DIGITAL PHOTO FRAME with remote. New - in box. $95. 526-2713
8 SOLID OAK, LADDERBACK dining room chairs with woven seats. $800 for set. Call 526-3048.
UNUSUAL OAK ROCKER, $225. Call 526-3647.
1995’S CHILD’S WICKER ROCKING CHAIR, $175. Call 526-3584.
OLD OAK MORED TOWEL RACK, $85. Call 526-3497.
TWO LOW-BACK SOUTHWESTERN LOOKING UPHOLSTERED CHAIRS, $400. Call 526-5056.
RED WICKER CHAISE LOUNGE WITH PAD, $250. Call 526-5056.
THREE “HOUSE OF DENMARK” BOOKCASES – walnut, 3′ x 6′, containing TV, tape player, turn table, radio/CD. Sold as an entertainment unit including 2 Advent speakers. $550. Call 526-9273.
MISC. ITEMS – Various proof coin sets, old 78 records, Home and Garden magazines, old LP. Call 828-787-1292. Prices range from $70-$125.
TWO TIERED GLASS CORNER SHELF $310. Call 526-5367.
TWO ELECTRIC WATER COOLERS for sale. Approximately 36" tall x 12" square. Put bottled water on top. $50 each. OBO. Call 526-3262.
7 JIM SHORE LAMPS BY ENESCO For sale. Call 828-787-1292. Prices range from $70-$125.
FREE BRICK FRONT FOR BUILT-IN FIREPLACE. W/6" H 52 call 349-3320.
ETHAN ALLEN HEIRLOOM CROWN GLASS CHINA CABINET with a bottom 3-door buffet. Call 826-507-4077. $995.
LENOX SPICE JARS, full set mint condition, original price $45 each. Also jewely call 369-0498, 7-9 p.m.
GEISHA GIRL NIPPER TEAPOT, ratten bails handle circa 1891-1921. Creamer/Covered Sugar Set, Tea set/rice bowls 369-0498 7-9 p.m.
LANDSCAPE SUPPLIES – Variety shrubs, trees, rock road beds, stone and mulch varieties, pine straw and soil additives. Call 826-526-2251.
GREEN PRINT VELVOUR SWIVEL ROCK- er, new, $250; blue stripe chair club wottoman, like new, $175; large pine armoire, like new, $200; Simmons X-large waders with/attached boots, bought at Highland Hiker, used 3 times, $250. Call Beatrice or Dennis at 743-5800.
THREE “HOUSE OF DENMARK” BOOKCASES – Walnut, 3′ x 6′, containing TV, tape player, turn table, radio/CD. Sold as an entertainment unit including 2 Advent speakers. $550. Call 526-9273.
MIS C. ITEMS – Various proof coin sets, old 78 LP. Old Walt Disney movies (never opened) Girls’ bicycle; Collectible Basketball Cards (never opened). Call 526-6123.
MASSEY FERGUSION DIESEL DELUXE 35 WITH POWER STEERING. Completely rebuilt, repainted, new tires. Includes scrape blade, and an 8,000 lbs. tandem axle trailer. Sharp Package! $6,000. Call (828)526-1684 and leave message.
BEAMS, FLOORING AND ENTIRE STRUCTURES: HAND HEWN BEAMS. Beautiful material, large faces, $3.50-$4.50 per board foot. Wormy white oak flooring (milled w/ a t&g), 6-12" widths, $8 per ft. Original, reclaimed white and yellow pine flooring, random wide widths (6-16") $60/board ft. Wide barn siding, $34. Also historic log cabins and barns ready to assemble. 215-529-7637. Delivery available.
ANTIQUE CHERRY DINING TABLE – drop- leaf. rope carved legs. Seats 4-10 people. $1,500 obo 787-1515.
DELUXE VENTED GAS heater high bus, slight- ly used $300, 526-6208.
ANTIQUE BEAMS, FLOORING AND ENTIRE 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") $60/board ft. Also selling entire log and timber frame structures. 215-529-7637. (www.jcwoodworking.info)
VEHICLES FOR SALE
1997 FORD F250 CREW CAB – 4WD. 75,000 original miles. 460 8 CY, 5 SP, Short WB, Black, one
• CLASSIFIEDS •

Highlands’ Newspaper - Thursday, Oct. 16, 2008 - Page 35
Excavator
For SALE
2004 Kubota-KX161-3R
With 12" & 24" buckets, hydraulic thumb. 262 hours, garaged when not in use. Serviced regularly. $34,500. By owner. No sales tax. Call 526-9532

Skid-Steer Loader
For SALE
2004 ASV RC85

DEPENDABLE HOUSESITTER & PET SITTER. Available weekdays and weekends. References Available. Call 443-315-9547. 925
HANDYMAN SPECIAL- Repairs and Remodeling, Electrical and Plumbing. Carpentry and more. Low prices. For free estimate call 828-342-7864. 10/10

EXPERIENCED ATTENDANT FOR ELDERLY - Full or part-time. References. Call Mia at 526-4813 or cell: 719-570-7468. 10/9

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 526-1684.


FIREWOOD - "Nature Dried" Call 526-2251.

CUTTING EDGE TREE SERVICE - "Let us go out on a Limb for You." We specialize in tree removal, trimming, Lot/View clearing, underbrush and stump grinding. Quality work and Fully insured. For Free Estimate call 524-1308 or 421-2085.

HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL HEMLOCK WOOD LADY ADLEGID TREATMENT & FERTILIZATION - Great Results by J&J Lawn and Landscaping services. NC Licensed Applicator, Highlands, NC 828-526-2521.

J&J LAWN AND LANDSCAPING SERVICES - total lawn care and landscaping company. 20 years serving Highlands area. 828-526-2521.

SHIPPING SERVICES - STORK'S WRAP, PACK & SHIP UPS Ground & Next Day Air services and large furniture shipping available. Packing services and or supplies. Gift wrapping and fax services. 323 Hwy 117 N., Cashiers, NC (1/2 mile from crossroads) (828) 743-3222.

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

AIRPORT EXPRESS - All airports, Lincoln Town Car, private car, on time, reliable, low rates, NC, VISA, AMEX. Call cell: 239-292-3623. 524-2149 or email: markcrockett68@hotmail.com. 10/9

Stone Available
Assorted. 14 pallets. $200 per pallet. Call 526-9532

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

WORK FROM HOME WITH INC. 500, – 23-yr old Wellness Company. PT or FT income. No selling, no inventory, no delivering, no large investments. Learn the details from top Exec. in company @ free seminar Oct. 14, 7 p.m., Sapphire NC. NO PRESU. Join a fun, green business & start making $$. Reserve your seat 828-226-9727.

BUSINESS FOR SALE

FITNESS CENTER – Downtown Highlands. 125+ members. Business and equipment can be purchased for less than equipment cost. $35,000. Call 828-200-9360 or 828-506-4296. 10/9

SERVICES


LANDSCAPE CLEANUP – leaves, gutters and more. Call Juan at 200-9249 or 526-8525.

HANDY MAN – Will do odd jobs. References. Call Tim Alexander at 526-3824

owner. 35" tires. 3" lift. $12,500. Call 526-3824.

1994 JEEP CJ7 – Rebuilt 304. 10,000 miles. 8 CY, 4 SP, 4WD, Front Bush Guard. 35" tires. 6" lift. Headers. Good condition. $12,000. Call 526-3824.


15-FT. DUAL AXLE TRAILER FOR HAULING TRACTORS FOR TRADE – Worth $1,050. Call 828-200-9360 or 828-506-4296. 10/9


1984 JEEP CJ7 – Rebuilt 304. 10,000 miles. 8 CY, 4 SP, 4WD, Front Bush Guard. 35" tires. 6" lift. Headers. Good condition. $12,000. Call 526-3824.

EXPERIENCED ATTENDANT FOR ELDERLY - Full or part-time. References. Call Mia at 526-4813 or cell: 719-570-7468. 10/9

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 526-1684.


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AIRPORT EXPRESS - All airports, Lincoln Town Car, private car, on time, reliable, low rates, NC, VISA, AMEX. Call cell: 239-292-3623. 524-2149 or email: markcrockett68@hotmail.com. 10/9

or visit our web site at www.maconnc.org/elections

Sara R. Waldroop, Chairman
Macon County Board of Elections

Pursuant to G. S. 136-230.1 (c) the Macon County Board of Elections will meet to act on absentee ballot applications for the 2008 General Election in the boardroom of the Board of Elections office on the following dates. The dates are as follows:

Tuesday, October 14, 2008 8:30 a.m.
Tuesday, October 21, 2008 8:30 a.m.
Tuesday, October 28, 2008 8:30 a.m.
Tuesday, November 4, 2008 2:00 p.m.

The Board is not required to hold any of the prescribed meetings in said statute unless there are applications or election business to be passed upon.

Sara R. Waldroop, Chairman
Macon County Board of Elections
 appointed to the Zoning Board as alternate members, taking the place of alternates Allen Frederick and David Rohr who are replacing regular members James Manley and Allen James who have resigned from the board.

The Greenway: The board approved $35,000 for insurance, rock, training, a track dump truck and mini-excavator for Greenway development. But commissioners weren't so quick to approve changes to the subdivision ordinance to accommodate the Greenway.

Town Planner Joe Cooley suggested waiting to make major changes to the subdivision code until the Unified Development Ordinance is finished because it will address conflicts and redundancies. He also said the proposed Greenway/subdivision ordinance represented a significant philosophical and policy change concerning " takings."

"You're discussing the dedication of air and conditioned capabilities, and insulation, Commissioner Buz Dotson suggested hiring a specialist to inspect the structure to see exactly what's there and what can be done to make the facility usable all year long."

ABC Store: David Wilkes, on the ABC Board, asked the town for direction concerning the ABC building. He said the ABC Board wants to expand the store, which would mean more money to the town, but it can't in the present space.

He said the net profit now is $150,000 a year; that's based on $2,800 sq ft and $60,000 of that will go to the lease, but if we expand then our profit ratio will go up, too."

He said 2,800 sq ft could mean a profit increase of $750,000 which translates to more money for the town. At the Nov. 19 meeting, the board is going to rethink the entire Town Hall concept and said they would give the ABC board direction at that time.

... FINANCIALS continued from page 12

... TOPICS continued from page 1

due use of the playhouse by other entities. Commissioners are considering changes to the Highlands Playhouse lease expiring Dec. 31, commissioner agreed.

Due to conflicting reports concerning heating and air-conditioning capabilities, and insulation, Commissioner Buz Dotson suggested hiring a specialist to inspect the structure to see exactly what's there and what can be done to make the facility usable all year long.

"You're discussing the dedication of air and conditioned capabilities, and insulation, Commissioner Buz Dotson suggested hiring a specialist to inspect the structure to see exactly what's there and what can be done to make the facility usable all year long."

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... FINANCIALS continued from page 12

and electric rates are adequate to operate as true enterprise funds which don't need to be subsidized from General Fund revenues.

Investments

As far as our investments, the State of North Carolina is probably in a stronger position than most other states. The local Government Commission continually " looks over our shoulder, " as well as the shoulder of banks, to ensure that our investments are in order. All of the town's capital reserves are secured through the so-called " Pooling " method, rather than the " Dedicated " method. This means that they are collateralized by the State Treasurer in a " Pool " with other municipalities. The State Treasurer monitors the pool and ensures that all sufficient collateral, in the form of high-quality securities, is available for all public depositories. Funds deposited by Wachovia are thusfully protected, as are the Certificates of Deposit that we have with RBC Centura.

Unfortunately, despite our excellent credit rating, the town's ability to borrow money for long-term has virtually disappeared. Nobody is buying municipal bonds, and our ability to proceed with a bond issue for a large capital project would be affected; interest rates would simply not be feasible. The State Treasurer is urging all local governments to limit debt issuance to essential projects that cannot be delayed.

Pension Fund

Like every other 401(K) in the country, our optional employee-funded 401(K) has been hit by the stock market crisis. However, all of our employees are members of the Local Governmental Employees Retirement System, which has been conservatively invested and wisely managed. In fact, the State Treasurer told us on Monday that North Carolina has the second best pension fund in the country, and is prepared to weather the downturn. Employees can be confident that their benefits will be there when they retire, and we will be giving them all a more detailed written report in their next pay check to re-assure them.

So the bottom line is we are in a lot better shape than many public institutions, but we have to tighten our belt.
... CANDIDATES continued from page 23

to go to the voting precincts. "If one commis-
sioner went to each of the 15 precincts every 
month, we could cover the whole county in 
three months," hesaid. "Community means 
we don’t turn our backs on kids," Kuppers 
said. "There are five people to look after them 
who don’t have their own agendas."

"My phone number is on my signs, and 
I will meet you anywhere," Goodman said. 
"I do care. I’ve been involved in county gov-
ernment for 10 years."

Bennett said that he expected to be con-
tacted. "E-mail is the best way to reach me, 
and you can also contact me by phone," she 
said. "I can’t know the will of the majority 
unless you contact me."

"You can contact me by phone or by in-
ternet," Baldwin said. "If I’m not there, leave 
a number and I'll call you back. I want to 
hear from you." He said that he is running 
for the children and that he has no other 
agenda.

Bateman said that he can be reached on 
his cell phone, his office phone, his home 
phone, by fax, or via four or five email ad-
dresses. "I’m in it for the kids; I want the best 
dresses. "I'm in it for the kids; I want the best 
for the children and that he has no other 
agenda.

"I understand that the boss is the taxpay-
er," Allman said. "My number is in the book. 
I will meet you anywhere," Goodman said.

"Skimping on kids’ education has a long-
term negative impact," Vinson said. "We have 
adjust plans for the future and do what is 
within our means," he said. "I have the fu-
ture of the kids as my number one priority."

Vinson invited the audience to contact him 
at his business, at home, on his cell phone, 
and via e-mail.

"I will be accountable to the people of 
Macon County," Bishop said. "I want to know 
what the public wants," he said. "Chil-
dren are the future. I want you to contact me. 
I want to know what the public wants," he 
said.

"Any parent or teacher can come to me 
at any time with comments or complaint," 
Swank said. "I don’t hold grudges. There is 
only one Swank in the phone book, so you 
have no excuse for not finding me." She said 
that as a retiree she has the time, energy and 
commitment for the job. "We need to listen: 
that’s how we improve," Swank said.

"There is no more difficult job in gov-
ernment than the one these people are seek-
ing," deVille said in closing. "This is where 
the rubber meets the road." He mentioned 
that BOE members and county commission-
ers don’t have secretaries to buffer their calls.

"This is as raw as it gets, and you have some 
incringly difficult decisions to make over 
the next three weeks," deVille said.

The upcoming School Board elections 
have already proven to be very exciting with 
quality candidates vying for each seat, said 
School Superintendent Dan Brigrman. "I look 
forward to the outcome of the elections and 
the opportunity to work with a Board of Ed-
ucation that continues to have the best in-
terest of students at heart."

Early voting begins Thursday, Oct. 16 at 
the Macon County Board of Elections at the 
courthouse. All County Commissioner and 
Board of Education races can be voted on by 
all registered voters in Macon County. Votes 
can also be cast on Election Day (November 
4) from 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. at all voting 
precincts.

Highlands Varsity Volleyball 
currently holds second place in 
the conference. Upcoming 
tournament games will deter-
mine who the champion is but 
so far Highlands is holding its 
own.

On Monday, Oct. 13, High-
lands beat Nantahala three up - 
-25-17, 25-4 and 25-12 at 
home.

On Wednesday night they 
played Hiwassee for the con-
ference tournament champi-
onship, but the outcome was not 
available at press time.

On Saturday, Oct. 18, the team 
plays in the state playoffs at 
Highlands.

Marlee 
McCall sets 
up the ball 
for Courtney 
Rogers at 
the Rabun 
County 
game 
played at 
Rabun last 
week.

Photo by 
Debbie 
Hornsby
PseudoCube©

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

THE CHALLENGE:
Start with the three center numbers for each layer and the other numbers given. Now pour a cup of coffee, pick up a pencil and eraser and try to figure out where the other numbers belong. Good Luck!
Email: pseudocube8@aol.com.

Solution to Oct. 9 Sudo-Grams

Mystery Word
#B602
Mollusc treasures (6)

Across
1. One’s rear end (4)
2. Sharp blow (4)
3. English title (4)
4. Friend (3)

Down
4. Primate (3)
5. Poisonous snake (3)
6. Sea mammal (4)

2008 Juried Art’ at The Bascom

The Tiner family admires one of the artworks on display at The Bascom on Saturday night at the opening of “2008 Juried Art.” Atlanta gallery owner Fay Gold served as juror of The Bascom’s exhibition, which showcases works from artists throughout the southeast. Five thousand dollars in cash prizes were awarded to winners of the juried show. Recipients were Jean Banas, best of show; Charles Caldemeyer, first place; Karen Fields, second place; Janet Whitehead, third place; Lee Sipe, fourth place; and five honorable mentions: Sandy Donn, Zada Jackson, Carol Rollick, Hilda Spain-Owen and Jack Stern. The exhibition will continue through Nov. 13 Tuesdays through Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is free.

Community spirit appreciated
Thank you for all of your thoughts, prayers, cards and hugs. This is a sad time for my family following the sudden death of my brother Capt. Jim Monahan.
Jean Smith and Family.

A big ‘thank you!’
I would like to take this opportunity to say “Thank You” to Michelle Hubbell of The Toy Store for purchasing magnetic school calendars for all of the students, faculty, and staff at Highlands School. They are great resources, and we truly appreciate your support of our school!
Melanie Miller
Highlands School
Second Grade Teacher