EDC to entice biz with county financed grants

The Economic Development Commission has seen a rebirth this year with commitment to a common goal in the county’s municipalities and at the county level.

At the Dec. 14 County Commission meeting, the board agreed to a proposal presented by James McCoy, the consultant the county hired to get the newly formed EDC off the ground and EDC Director Trevor Dalton.

To promote diversified development, encourage growth in the property tax base, improve recruitment of business and industry, enhance job creation and continue the county’s ability to function as a local center of commerce and industry, the county is ready to assist with grant funding.

“As our EDC continues to work toward being able to attract companies that will make capital investment and create jobs in our county, it is compiling a number of tools to work with,” said County Commission Chair Ronnie Beale. “The grant proposal is a way to hopefully attract companies to consider Macon County for this type of investment.”

According to the proposal, any grants will be offered at the discretion of the commission and will be considered for new or expanding businesses that meet certain criteria.

Highlands 2009 - Year in Review

New faces on the Town Board, new ordinances, good-byes to old friends, criminals caught, wild weather, tragedy at area rivers and falls – it all happened in Highlands in 2009.

January
• Due to the snowy weather, the Town Board held an abbreviated meeting Wednesday night with Town Manager Jim Fatland seated for the first time!
• Town to tap federal stimulus package for stormwater remediation and sewer expansion.
• Chris Metrick was named “Outstanding Fireman of the Year” at annual Fire & Rescue banquet.
• Highlands High School students and six chaperones were part of history as they joined an estimated three million people in the District of Columbia to celebrate the inauguration of President Barack Obama.
• With the downturn in the economy, families in nearby Satolah, GA asked for a reprieve from out-of-state tuition.

February
• During the early morning of Feb. 4, unrelenting winter weather buffeted the plateau with howling winds, subzero temperatures that turned all moisture to ice and a dusting of snow. Citizens on the Highlands Plateau awoke to silence, darkness and bitter cold. The power had gone out – not because of weather, but due to a faulty piece of equipment inside the Duke Power substation at Mirror Lake Road and U.S. 64 west.
• Old Pierson Inn rises again. In classic OEI form, the old Pierson Inn on South Street is being renovated to its prior glory. The building existed as an inn in some form from 1889-1993 according to Ran Shaffner’s “Heart of the Blue Ridge” and now it will be part of OEI’s bevy of accommodation packages.
• As of Jan. 29, the NC School Report became available to the public and though only considered a “snapshot,” Highlands School fared very well compared to other schools in the Macon County and the state.
• County prepares for shortfalls; trims $1.33 million from 08-09 budget.
• A Franklin couple has been arrested and charged with a variety of sex crimes against children.

The Town of Highlands received a Clean Water Management Trust Fund Grant (CWMTF) for an innovative stormwater project at Kelsey Hutchinson Park, formerly known as Pine Street Park.

With its previous space to be occupied by the Highlands Police Department, the Highlands EDC Store is moving to Highlands Plaza.

Around 11:30 a.m., Monday, Feb. 16, Highlands Fire & Rescue began fighting a brush fire on Satulah Mountain along N.C. 28 south. They were there until 9 p.m. and returned to the scene Tuesday.

Highlands First Presbyterian Church welcomed its new full-time minister, Rev. Doctor Lee Willey Bowman.

Town Administrator Richard Betz retires with 26 years of service.

March
• Highlands Police arrest counterfeiter.
• Macon County Commission amends height ordinance. Buildings can extend above 48 feet.
• Board may go to one meeting a month.
• County’s Junk Ordinance junked.
• Duke Power is raising its wholesale electric rates for the Town of Highlands effective March 2010 so the town considers a gradual rate increase to its customers beginning April 25, 2009.

April
• Highlands electric rates will increase 10% on May 1 with the increase evident in the May 25 bill.
• Beginning with the 2009-10 school year, children must be five years-old by Aug. 31 to enter public school.
• Highlander Jamie Bolt wins scholarship to prestigious Johnson & Wales culinary school.
• Highlander Zack Woodcox, 2004 graduate of Highlands School and 2008 graduate of University of Colorado at Boulder commissioned into the U.S. Marines.
• Police dog Canine Ruby finds 92-year-old man alive but disoriented.
• Due to the state of the general economy, as well as the school district budget, Macon County Schools Superintendent Dan Brightman didn’t take his pay increase.

Highlands High School seniors...
... EDC continued from page 1

- Create new capital investment of $1 million or more;
- Create full time jobs that pay wages at or above the median wage for Macon County and provide health insurance and other benefits;
- A binding lease agreement that exceeds the length of time for which grant payments will be made;
- Projects eligible for grants include but are not limited to data management facilities, corporate headquarters, research and development facilities, software development enterprises, retail businesses, manufacturing facilities, technology related business professional offices, health care services and back office operations;
- Projects not eligible for grants included: cemeteries, golf courses, public utility uses, resource recovery facilities, adult uses, private clubs, slaughterhouses, mining, landfill, residential projects and telecommunication towers. Expansion projects will be excluded if the project results in a net reduction of the property tax valuation of all facilities owned by the company, its parent subsidiary or affiliated companies;
- Furthermore, projects eligible for grants must have either started construction or been publicly announced prior to consideration for application;
- Economic development grants must comply with the NC GS 158-7.1 and other applicable statutes;

See EDC page 3

THANKS

Support for Highlands School is phenomenal

In all my years in education, I have never been in a community that expresses appreciation to teachers and staff like Highlands does.

The PTO at Highlands School is the most supportive organization that I have ever seen. They provide funding for just about any request teachers have. They reimbursed teachers for expenditures at the beginning of school; they shared the profits of the Fall Festival with the teachers who worked there; they provided us with a gourmet meal on Tuesday as a Christmas celebration; and they are lavish with treats during Teacher Appreciation Week and arrange for us to go out to lunch at a local restaurant, to name a few examples. The leadership of our PTO is careful to plan meetings to coincide with our Book Fair so that we can have the best possible turnout and I really appreciate that because all the money earned goes directly back into the school to provide resources for our students. Thank you, Highlands PTO, for all you do for all of us at Highlands School! We appreciate you!

Additionally, the Rotary Club of Highlands annually presents the staff at Highlands School with a monetary Christmas gift in appreciation for our service to the children of Highlands.

Thank you, Rotary Club members! We appreciate your support!

Carol Bowen
Media Specialist
Highlands School

Hospital care outstanding

I would like to thank all my family and friends for their visits, calls and most importantly their prayers.

I know that we (the people of Highlands) live in the best place on earth, and we are very fortunate to have such a wonderful hospital, staffed with expert doctors, nurses, and technicians. For me and my family, it has truly been a blessing to have such a facility here, where I did not have to travel out of town for medical care. I know I would not have received the same care and attention anywhere else.

I want to express my thanks and appreciation to Dr. Baker, Dr. Carter, Dr. Koell, Dr. Dozier, all the nurses, technicians and the entire staff of Highlands-Cashiers Hospital for all they did for me.

Jim Nix
Highlands

Library Board appreciates donation

On behalf of the Hudson Library Board of Trustees and patrons of the library, I want to express our deep appreciation and gratitude to the Highlands Motoring Festival Committee for their generous contribution.

The library is undergoing extensive renovation this winter, and this gift is a very welcome donation. It will be particularly useful as we make extensive upgrades to our space and our services. It was a delightful event, and we wish the Highlands Motoring Festival continued success for many years to come.

Robert E. Smith
President, The Hudson Library Board of Trustees
... FAIR continued from page 1

required to submit a time sheet to document their hours; the athletic directors at Franklin, Highlands and Nantahala will be 11 month employees and due to the size and scope of the athletic program at Franklin High School two 11-month co-athletic directors will be appointed.

In addition, the athletic director at Macon Middle School will be a 10-month employee and will submit a time sheet for hours worked during the summer months.

From now on, coaching lists for each school will be submitted at the Board of Education meetings with submissions for the fall season heard at the May BOE meeting; submissions for the winter season heard at the September BOE meeting and submissions for the spring season heard at the May BOE meeting.

Present at the meeting were: Jay Brooks, from Franklin High School, Butch Smart from Highlands School, Robbie Newton from Nantahala School, Keith Brooks from Macon Middle School, Angie Cook, school finance officer and Dan Moore, director of personnel/county athletic director.

— Kim Lewicki

... EDC continued from page 2

And, applicants must understand there is no right or entitlement to economic development assistance. All assistance is made at the discretion of the board of commissioners.

Project grants will be made in annual payments in an amount and for a period depending on the amount of assistance granted.

- For a Capital Investment of $1-2.999 million the annual grant payment will be 1.5% of the investment for three years;
- For a Capital Investment of $3-5.999 million, the annual grant payment will be 1.75% of the investment for four years;
- For a Capital Investment of $6-9.999 million, the annual grant payment will be 2% of the investment for 4 years;
- And for a Capital Investment of $10 million and above, the annual payment will be 2.5% of the investment for 5 years.

Chairman Beale said the funding capital will come from the county by granting a portion of the tax that would be provided by the capital investment.

“This is a common practice in economic development and is really quite conservative in comparison to other communities and states,” he said. “An important part of the guidelines is that the commissioners have the discretion of granting the incentives and thereby have control of the type of growth our county would consider.”

— Kim Lewicki

**Dutchman’s Design**

at 342 Main Street in Highlands • 526-8864

**Christmas SALE!**

Through Sunday, Jan. 3

50% off all wood furniture
25% off all Christmas items

**For wherever you choose to roam...**

**Bear Mountain Outfitters**

We outfit you for life

MEN • WOMEN • KIDS • CASUAL CLOTHING
ACTIVE WEAR • ACCESSORIES • BACKPACKS
HUNDREDS OF SHOE AND BOOT STYLES

After Christmas Sale

30% - 75%

SELECTED CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR

Hours: M-Th 10-5 F Sa 10-6 Su 11-5
Open Year Round
Corner of Main and 3rd St. • Highlands, N.C. 28741
bearmountainoutfitters@dnet.net
828-526-5784

**CROCS • GRAMICCI • MERRELL • MINNETONKA • AVENTURA • CAMELBAK • LOLË • TEVA**

**EDC continued from page 2**

And applicants must understand there is no right or entitlement to economic development assistance. All assistance is made at the discretion of the board of commissioners.

Project grants will be made in annual payments in an amount and for a period depending on the amount of assistance granted.

- For a Capital Investment of $1-2.999 million, the annual grant payment will be 1.5% of the investment for three years;
- For a Capital Investment of $3-5.999 million, the annual grant payment will be 1.75% of the investment for four years;
- For a Capital Investment of $6-9.999 million, the annual grant payment will be 2% of the investment for 4 years;
- And for a Capital Investment of $10 million and above, the annual payment will be 2.5% of the investment for 5 years.

Chairman Beale said the funding capital will come from the county by granting a portion of the tax that would be provided by the capital investment.

“This is a common practice in economic development and is really quite conservative in comparison to other communities and states,” he said. “An important part of the guidelines is that the commissioners have the discretion of granting the incentives and thereby have control of the type of growth our county would consider.”

— Kim Lewicki
Cyprus
International Cuisine
N.C. 106 in Dillard Road Shopping Center • 526-4429
Small plates & wine, beer and full bar
Open for dinner from 5:30 p.m. Dec. 26-Jan. 2

The Log Cabin Restaurant
Open for dinner 7 days 5:30 until
Reservations appreciated
On Log Cabin Road behind Hampton Inn off N.C. 106 • 526-3380

Fressers eatery
Sunday Brunch 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Lunch: 11-3 everyday
Dinner: 5 until every night except Sunday
Now taking Holiday reservations
526-4188
151 Helen’s Barn Avenue, Highlands
Music with Cy Timmons Fri-Sat at 6 p.m.
Cy Timmons Live Friday & Saturday 6 'til closing

Highlands FINE DINING
Ristorante adetti
Uptown Italian Dining Since 1953
Downtown Highlands Since 1984
Exceptional Wines, Robust Cocktails & Artful Beer
Dinner/Bar from 5:30 through January 2
Reservations: 828.526.4906

The Bistro
Open 4 p.m. – wine & small plates
Taking reservations for New Year’s Eve
474 Main Street • 526-3807 • Wine Spectator Best of Award of Excellence

I can do “snooty”

Well, 2009 is history and good riddance. Happy New Year, everyone.

Picture this: I’m standing on a high ladder outside my house, taking down Christmas lights and snow is soaking my t-shirt and shorts. Vultures circle overhead hoping I’ll fall. I’m not making this up.

Since leaving Highlands for South Florida, I’ve marked the number of days I’ve had to put on a windbreaker before going for our morning walks. I can count them on one hand. So far, it’s been a warm fall and winter is expected to be the same.

So, here’s my question: Do I run the air conditioning in South Florida or head for Highlands and run the heat?

Puzzlement!

Tomorrow, the li’l missus and I will start packing for our annual trip to Dubai to visit our son and his wife. They live there. From New York, the flight usually takes 12 hours but this time it will take... well, 23 days. That’s right: We’re taking a slow boat to Dubai. Our trip is part of a grand 107-day world cruise tour on the most elegant, snootiest ship roaming the planet. On the Queen Mary 2, the waiters’ tuxedos look better than mine and their shoes squeak.

And speaking of sweating in t-shirts, you better not leave the ship’s cabin wearing one as they are considered underwear and exposure is prohibited. So are blue jeans. On the QM 2, you don’t sweat in the gym, you perspire.

The li’l missus and I have taken many cruises starting way back with the old Britannia of the ’50s. But this will be our second crossing on the QM2. Without a doubt, it’s the snootiest ship at sea. Their white glove service is impeccable and the evening Broadway shows are the best you’ll find at sea. She’s not the biggest ship out there but she’s the grandest and the most noble of them all. I love descending the grand staircase, dressed to the hilt with the li’l missus on my arm as we head for dinner. Is everyone looking at us? I casually check my fly, not knowing what I’ll do if it’s open.

Hey, I know how to do snooty but damn if I can remember which fork to use first. Currently, the li’l missus is training me on the proper use of finger bowls ‘cause last time I complained the soup was tasteless.

The caste system still exists on this big girl so we’ll not be allowed into certain rooms on the ship. I’m OK with that because those uppity folks who paid more than twice as much for passage are not allowed in our dining room and it’s more elegant and beautiful than theirs. And, ha, I have as many forks next to my plate as they do.

I know the QM2 is not for everyone, but I find it fun to act snooty. I know some Highlanders would be proud of me because they’re uppity all the time. It’s just a frame of mind. Jackets are worn for every evening meal and dressing casual means not wearing a tie.

The best is the bi-weekly “black and white” ball in the Grand Ball Room after dinner. Flowing formal gowns and tuxedos are everywhere. Most of the older gals are stretched tighter than a Highlands sweater. Most of the older gals are stretched tighter than a Highlands sweater. Most of the older gals are stretched tighter than a Highlands sweater. Most of the older gals are stretched tighter than a Highlands sweater.

Also, this grand ship has a planetarium. I’m not kidding. You enter this huge room and, as the lights dim, your theater-style seat begins to recline. Suddenly, the sky lights with distant stars and planets and you are taken on a journey into space. It’s wild and I can’t believe I’m on a ship in the middle of the ocean. It’s a knock-your-socks-off performance.

Now here’s the really fun part. Are you sitting down? Wyn and John Cleaveland will be on this ship with us. We’re not telling the captain. To prepare ourselves, the four of us have been practicing being snooty all week. I guess with David Wilkes at the helm, John feels he can relax.

John and I have gotten real good at looking down our noses at people. I’ll send pictures once we’re on board. And we’ll be sending you weekly reports of our snootiness. Especially once we straighten out those hijackers in the Gulf of Aden.
Thoughts on healthcare revisited

I spent the last two hours in the hot tub. I chatted with James and his wife, who are visiting from Wales. Walter moved from Sweden 20 years ago and started a telecommunication company in Ohio. A hot tub is a great place to swap views.

In recent years I’ve heard a European view of our wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, a French impression of American football, and a Swiss view of global warming. Walter, my new Swedish-American friend wanted to talk about healthcare. He grew up under socialized healthcare in Europe and has observed and participated in the American system for two decades, and has pretty strong opinions on the subject. Remember that Walter has enjoyed great success in America, and while I didn’t inquire, I’m certain that he has a good drawer of healthcare coverage. He is every bit American, with attitudes similar to those of other wealthy Americans. Had he not spent the first 50 years of life under socialized medicine, I would have dismissed his observations as those of just another Republican.

Walter observed that most Western Europeans alive today have never known anything other than socialized medicine, in one or another of its various forms. He explained that the only thing that Swedes complain about is the long wait to get treatment. He pointed out that Europeans have no idea that the limitations of their care extend far beyond long lines. His wife mentioned taking snax and sleeping bags to the emergency room in anticipation of a three-hour wait for care. She journeyed to the states for treatment of back pain with steroids, treatment that was unavailable at home. It’s hard to imagine a trans-Atlantic flight with a sore back, but Gall made the trip and responded to cortisone treatment in five days.

The greater problem, and one which Europeans can’t possibly comprehend, is that there are sophisticated, and sometimes lifesaving treatments in the States which are simply too beyond the budget of European socialized care. He talked of year-long delays for the present system, but it made me question my opinion. Of course there are problems with access to care for the poor, and the reality of care motivated by profit rather than patient needs. I’ve written about those problems before. These problems must be addressed, but maybe there is a solution in an industry in which we still enjoy a dominant position. I believe that we can afford the present system. Maybe the truth is that we can’t afford to dismantle it. I don’t know the answer, but I think I should stay out of the hot tub for the rest of the week.

... REVIEW from page 1

Michael Baty and Carolyn Hornsby were named King and Queen at Highlands School Junior-Senior Prom. The Town of Highlands receives a $3 million grant award for the Mirror Lake Sewer Project—one of three communities to receive the maximum award allowed by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). May

• NC has 7 confirmed cases of H1N1 Flu.
• Irene ‘Granny’ James dies at 103.
• Fire Dept. to get new ladder truck.

As per the Governor’s Executive Order Number 11, full-time public school employees are to receive 10 hours of flexible furlough leave to be taken between June 1 and December 31, 2009 in return for a 5% reduction in salary.

• Public says ‘no’ to new Pine Street park design, Pine Street not to close.
• County’s 2009 budget down 10%.
• Highlands School renovations to begin on front, roof and bathrooms.

At the Athletic Banquet, David and Sammie Leffler, were named “Fans of the Year” for the second time!

June

• At Wednesday morning’s Highlands School Awards Ceremony, William Edwards was named Salutatorian and Casey Jenkins was named Valedictorian.
• At 4:40 p.m. Tuesday, June 16, Highlands Fire & Rescue and Macon County EMS crews were called to Glen Falls where a visiting 16-year-old almost all medical advances. His fear is that if we implement a European system here, the flow of the American pipeline of ingenuity will be reduced to a trickle. I had been aware of this cost if we eliminate the profit motive in American healthcare, but it never before seemed so significant.

I’m not sure that my evening in the hot tub with Walter changed my view that we can’t afford to continue the current system, but it made me question my opinion. Of course there are problems with access to care for the poor, and the reality of care motivated by profit rather than patient needs. I’ve written about those problems before. These problems must be addressed, but maybe there is a solution in an industry in which we still enjoy a dominant position. I believe that we can afford the present system. Maybe the truth is that we can’t afford to dismantle it. I don’t know the answer, but I think I should stay out of the hot tub for the rest of the week.

For those of us interested in a lifestyle that revolves around health and fitness, it’s a wonderful opportunity to have fun, celebrate the New Year and meet other like minded folks. We welcome everyone in the community to join us.”

The Resolution Run has no entry fee and offers no T-shirts or trophies. Those interested in participating simply gather in front of the “old” Town Hall at 210 North Fourth Street on Friday morning January 1, at 9 a.m. and run a three-mile loop at a relaxed pace around the downtown area of Highlands, returning to the Town Hall. Walking breaks for new runners are encouraged. The run is held “comeran or shine or ice or snow,” but Betz claims that the weather has been flawless for several years, though a little on the chilly side on some occasions.

“Running is a great way to stay in shape, especially as we grow older,” Betz says. “Our running club has been successful in attracting and encouraging a pretty broad demographic who want to stay fit and achieve measurable goals.” The Club welcomes both men and women, and all age groups are represented, from those in their teens to those in their 70s. Many “novice” runners in the club have gone on to train and complete marathons within a year or two of beginning training.

While the marathon distance – 26.2 miles – is not for everyone, even a modest program of running in other regular aerobic activity can produce remarkable results, from controlling weight to improving the condition of heart and circulation. There’s even some suggestions that exercise might help prevent Alzheimer’s and other age-related diseases.

“Many of the runners in our Club are in the best physical condition of their lives, even though they may be in their 50’s, 60’s, and 70’s,” Betz said. “In addition to the fun and camaraderie, that’s what keeps a lot of us going.”

So if you’ve been thinking about starting the new year as a healthier person, plan to join the Road Runners Club on January 1 in front of the Town Hall building for their first run of the year.

Annual Resolution Run offers health insurance for 2010

What’s the best health insurance you can obtain for 2010? Make a New Year’s Resolution to take control of your own health.

A healthy lifestyle is the driving force behind the Highlands Road Runners’ Club’s annual Resolution Run, according to Club President Richard Betz. For many years, the annual event has attracted the usual two dozen or so regular runners, but it has also welcomed visitors and new runners who want to start the New Year in a positive way.

“For those of us interested in a lifestyle that revolves around health and fitness, it’s a wonderful opportunity to have fun, celebrate the New Year, and meet other like minded folks. We welcome everyone in the community to join us.”

The Resolution Run has no entry fee and offers no T-shirts or trophies. Those interested in participating simply gather in front of the “old” Town Hall at 210 North Fourth Street on Friday morning January 1, at 9 a.m. and run a three-mile loop at a relaxed pace around the downtown area of Highlands, returning to the Town Hall. Walking breaks for new runners are encouraged. The run is held “comeran or shine or ice or snow,” but Betz claims that the weather has been flawless for several years, though a little on the chilly side on some occasions.

“Running is a great way to stay in shape, especially as we grow older,” Betz says. “Our running club has been successful in attracting and encouraging a pretty broad demographic who want to stay fit and achieve measurable goals.” The Club welcomes both men and women, and all age groups are represented, from those in their teens to those in their 70s. Many “novice” runners in the club have gone on to train and complete marathons within a year or two of beginning training.

While the marathon distance – 26.2 miles – is not for everyone, even a modest program of running in other regular aerobic activity can produce remarkable results, from controlling weight to improving the condition of heart and circulation. There’s even some suggestions that exercise might help prevent Alzheimer’s and other age-related diseases.

“Many of the runners in our Club are in the best physical condition of their lives, even though they may be in their 50’s, 60’s, and 70’s,” Betz said. “In addition to the fun and camaraderie, that’s what keeps a lot of us going.”

So if you’ve been thinking about starting the new year as a healthier person, plan to join the Road Runners Club on January 1 in front of the Town Hall building for their first run of the year.
I love hiking in the woods, but not on established trails. One of the things I’ve enjoyed about living on Turtle Pond Road is that this community is surrounded by National Forest land. Over the years I have developed some trails near my house and I have found some special places I enjoy visiting regularly.

My main paths lead to the tops of two of the mountains across the road from me, Rattlesnake and Big Dog. For years that’s all I was interested in; climbing to the top. And in the winter the views were nice—I could see Whiteface from both summits.

Then last winter I felt like doing something new. So I decided to explore the trough between the two mountains, and I learned what I call the “charms of the trough.” Between the two mountains is an impressive saddle, with a very narrow ridgeline curving between the shoulders of the mountains. As I crossed down on the saddle into the narrow canyon between the two mountains I soon found the springhead of a little stream. After running for a stretch barely noticable among the previous fall’s leaves, some rocks appeared, and suddenly there was a lovely mossy-rocked stream with little falls and pools.

I followed it down almost to the Cullasaja River where I was stopped by a wall of rhododendron.

On my way back up to the saddle I reflected that in life we are always seeking the highs—the great moments, the pleasures, the peak experiences. We shun the troughs—the sad times, grief, despair, loss.

One of my favorite movies is “Pleasantville.” The film tells the story of a black-and-white 1950s sitcom-world that is transformed into color by the influence of a couple of transplants from the future. Pleasantville is like many people’s idea of Heaven, a place where nothing bad ever happens and everything is always the same, but it’s also a place where there is no joy or love or art or growth. In short, the film portrays the dualistic nature of reality—you can’t have up without down.

For example, Pleasantville’s basketball team never loses, in fact the players never miss the basket. The first sign that something has changed is that a player throws his ball at the basket and

hemispheres.

The young people in the film embrace the changes because they want to explore, learn, grow, and expand. But the changes also bring anger and pain and loss and violence.

The highs and the lows of life are contingent; you can’t have one without the other.

When I spoke about this to my husband Arthur, he said, “Is this why we often stay stuck in a ‘comfortable’ situation because at least it’s ‘pleasant’? Why we’re afraid to take risks because it might lead to a trough?”

This seemed to be the best way I could think to say the following: this will be my last column for the Highlands’ Newspaper, Arthur and I are moving. Highlands has provided me with opportunities to grow that I will always be grateful for. There are not many places where I could have had the opportunity to produce a weekly television show with the (almost) complete freedom I have enjoyed here. I have had the chance to learn television production—filming and editing—and I learn how to be a good interviewer, all while having a fabulous time interviewing interesting people I otherwise would never have had a chance to meet. In the last six years we have produced 199 “Heart of the High Country” shows! By the way, we are donating copies of all of those shows to the Highlands Historical Society.

Similarly this column, which I have done weekly for three years, has been a great opportunity to improve my writing skills, learn to express my opinion without fearing criticism, and learn to handle criticism. I’m grateful to Kim Lewicki for giving me this forum, and for being tolerant of the length of my essays.

However, I feel that I have reached the limit of what I can achieve here. To keep growing I need to leave.

I’m planning on continuing my website, www.kathleenbrugger.com, where you can currently find all of my articles. I think I will be doing a blog where I’ll continue writing the kinds of articles I have published here in this newspaper and at Kim’s insistence, I may return to the paper in some abbreviated form. We’ll see.

• All of Katie Brugger’s columns are available on her website: www.kathleenbrugger.com
Let it snow!

By Michelle A. Mead-Armor

W
hen we are children, snow is a perfect joy. It does schools. We build snowmen. Maybe a sled arrives under the Christmas tree.

My parents, thinking that there probably wouldn’t be snow for the holiday, gave Eric and me sleds early one year. It was a good thing too, since Christmas Day that year dawned bright and sunny, with temperatures in the low 60s.

Few gifts brought me as much pleasure as that wooden sled into which my father had burned my initials, to distinguish it from my brother’s sled — otherwise identical in every way. Our sledding destination was the pride of the entire town, a tricky slope overlooking the golf course which we had nicknamed “Blueberry Hill.” Bundled up against the cold, I trotted over to the top of the hill, sat on my new sled, and with a push of the foot, launched my way downward. It was scary and thrilling at the same time. This sailing down the hill and then trudging up again continued most of the afternoon, until an older boy from another neighborhood almost ruined everything.

It sounds snobbish to talk about “the wrong side of the tracks” but there was a wrong side of the tracks in Waynesboro. There were people of very modest means in town, and I’m sure their children resented those who had more and better toys than their parents could afford to give them. Out of breath from my last downhill slide, I didn’t notice the older boy striding toward me. He reached out and grabbed the rope of my sled, pulling it out of my hands. When I protested and tried to get my sled back, he reached out his hand, and shoved me into a nearby snowbank. Suddenly, from out of nowhere appeared my brother, eyes blazing in anger. He grabbed my sled back, pushing the boy away. Gruffly, he handed me the reins of my beloved sled. Just as I was formulating one of those “My hero” thoughts, I found myself once again propelled into the snowbank. My brother’s words were the kind of statement typical of big brothers everywhere. “If anyone’s gonna give my sister a bad time, it’s gonna be me!”

Living in Virginia, we seldom had much snow, for very long. We’d typically get a few inches, only to shovel them the next day wearing Bermuda shorts. One year, however, we had a spectacular snowstorm. We sat around the kitchen table listening to the local radio as it called out its list of closed schools and businesses. A shout of glee escaped my father as he heard “General Electric” and “General Electric” and I echoed that cheer when we heard our school called. That year — that exceptional year — we were snowed in for three days, and still have the photos to prove it.

With time, I should have become less enchanted with snow, knowing the down side of it now — the traffic jams, delayed flights, and disruption to daily life which it can cause. But, no, I still have that same childish excitement whenever I spy those first flakes begin to fall. I even created my own tradition!

I was living in New York, eagerly anticipating the first snowfall. Sure enough, the first snowflakes began to fall in Manhattan. Seized with a kind of insanity I still don’t understand, I went up to the first gentleman I saw walking by. Excusing myself, I solemnly explained that there was a family tradition which I had to fulfill. I had to kiss the first man passing by after spying the first snowflake of the season. Fortunately for me, each year provided a kind, bemused gentleman who was only too willing to help me fulfill my “family tradition.” I look back on those days, and wonder at my audacity, and the good nature of the men in question, who never took advantage of the situation.

Now, I live in Highlands. While the roads may get messy, and businesses have to close early for the safety of their employees and customers alike, I still retain my childlike wonder and appreciation for snow. My husband, John, doesn’t mind it, either. He just makes sure he’s the one who is the first man passing by when that first snowflake appears in the winter sky.

About the Author: Michelle A. Mead-Armor is a writer and translator who grew up in Waynesboro, Virginia, beforewarding her youth and good looks in Baltimore, Sydney, Paris, and New York. She and her husband live on top of a mountain on the Continental divide near Highlands. They are members of the Highlands Writers Group. Michelle is enjoying the holidays with her husband, John, and her mother, Annette, who is visiting.
Heart of the High Country
weekly show about Highlands
Show times: 8 am, noon, 5 pm, 7 pm, 10 pm, midnight
To see what’s on this week, visit: www.heartofthehighcountry.com

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

Visitor Information Program
Show times: 6 am, 9 am, 2 pm, 6 pm, 8 pm, 11 pm

Northland Cable Television

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

Trillium Technologies, LLC
RadioShack Dealer
at&t jitterbug

Installation and On-Site Service
OPEN
M-F 10-5 & SAT 10-4
555 E. Main Street Highlands
Across from Hudson Library
(828)-526-3350

Happy New Year from the employees, residents and management staff at Chestnut Hill!

Chestnut Hill
Of Highlands

Baby it’s cold outside ...
Come stay warm at Chestnut Hill!

As your thoughts turn to preparing for the cold months, you may be worried about ice or snow storms, the potential loss of electricity or simply staying comfortable during the cold months.

We want you to come stay with us for a few short months while the weather is upon us.

Here is what we will provide while you stay at Chestnut Hill during the cold months:

• Furnished apartment including bed, television, mini refrigerator, microwave and private bathroom.
• Three delicious meals a day.
• Transportation to your doctor’s appointments.
• All other services and amenities offered.

For more information about a short stay during the cold months, Call Gary at 828.787.2114 or e-mail: GaryTalent@ChestnutHillAtHighlands.com

You will see why so many others have decided to stay warm at Chestnut Hill Assisted Living.

64 Clubhouse Trail, Highlands, NC 28741
PH: 828-526-5251 • FAX: 828-526-5240
www.ChestnutHillAtHighlands.com

This is so cool!

I was in Copenhagen once. Ironically, the day I was there, it was hotter than Hades. I was told the temp was 94 degrees and that was the hottest ever recorded in Copenhagen. Checking the records, I guess it was. That was 13 years ago so evidently global warming hasn’t struck Denmark since then.

What has struck Copenhagen is the inescapable reality that the “climate change” scam is, and always has been, about money. It isn’t only Gore who wants a piece of your pie, but also a slug of insignificant countries such as the island nation of Tuvalu, officials of which claim that, since their island will be under water in 20 years, developed nations need to hand over huge amounts of cash in case they need to relocate.

Hillary Clinton, you remember her, she’s there suggesting or at least agreeing to establishing a fund of $1,000,000,000,000 a year, starting in 2020, to help the backward folks come up to standard, whatever that is.

By then, we may not be backward, but we just might have a little difficulty coming up with our share, around $35,000,000,000.

I know it seems like a trivial amount in light of the trillions being thrown about these days, but by then, 35 billion a year might be real money, since we may well be bankrupt at the time.

As I write this, our President is swingin’ his way across the Atlantic, preparing to save the conference, which has disintegrated into the muddled mess it was destined to be. With cyber conferencing readily available for such occasions, one wonders why the international and national muckety-mucks felt the need to spew a gazillion tons of CO2 into the air flying in on their private jets. I guess it was to be in the presence of his radiance.

Come to think of it, President Obama doesn’t have such a great record in Copenhagen. Remember his ill-advised attempt to salvage procuring the 2016 Olympics for his new-estate developer buddies in Chicago. Came in 4th out of four on that one.

Breaking News—He’s landed, and is about to speak. The crowd is breathless, awaiting the sound of his voice. He speaks. Oh, Oh. The Guardian.uk says it this way. “Barack Obama’s speech disappoints and fuels frustration at Copenhagen. Copenhagen heading for meltdown as stalemate continues…” Copenhagen summit veering towards farce… “The sheer self-adulation of the man is rapidly undoing him.”

He was warned not to go the conference unless he could close the deal. There was never a deal possible yet he just couldn’t resist the spotlight. The PR nightmare he was warned about is now unfolding. The magic sound of his voice continues longer moves his most ardent admirers. Even his comrade, Hugo Chavez, said that he sniffed sulfur in their air as Obama spoke, referencing his previous claim that Bush 43 was Satan.

The final act of the whole show was an “agreement” to draw up a list of their objectives (individually) that are not binding and with no verification in place. Obama predictably says that it is a momentous accomplishment. The conference was built around “Greenmail,” pure and simple, and it blew up, as it should have. If cap and trade legislation wasn’t dead before, it is now.

At the time of this writing, Sen. Ben Nelson, (NE) evidently has squeezed everything out of Harry Reid he can, and has signed on to the Senate’s version of the health reform bill that few have seen much less read. If the “public option” provision is truly out, and if the destruction of Medicare is truly out and if public funding for abortion is truly out, what the Senate sends to reconciliation would appear to be reasonably toothless.

Sen. Mitch McConnell, Senate Minority Leader, followed Nelson’s announcement with comments from the Republican point of view. He said the bill is a train wreck of historic proportions. He says the abortion language is not adequate. Not good. He says insurance premiums and taxes will escalate. Not good. He says that scheduling the vote for 1 AM as peoples’ minds are on Christmas is an outrage. I agree, but if I voted for a bill that a large majority of voters oppose, I’d do it at a time when nobody was paying attention.

At this time last year, I wrote that a disaster was brewing and that 2009 had the potential for undoing our economy. Little did I know how seriously they would undertake to do just that. Among many other things, I wrote that the election of Al Franken as Senator from Minnesota presented a new low in national politics.

The other day, Franken was chairing a committee hearing and denied Joe Lieberman “a moment” to complete a thought as he spoke. Veteran Senator from Minnesota presented a negative way. The Republican minority of voters oppose, I’d do it at a time when nobody was paying attention.

The good news is, on September 12, conservatives planted their flag on the lawn of the Capitol. It didn’t matter if they were 9/12ers, Tea Party Express people, FreedomWorks people people from several other organizations, or no organization at all. It was our “Woodstock” and it will have as significant an effect on our culture in a positive way as the original Woodstock had in a negative way. Going into 2010, the “People” will be heard, during the campaign season and in the election.
New Year's Mission: Find my lucky shirt

Disaster struck a few Saturdays ago, as I was unable to do something that I had done for 13 weekends during the last couple of months. While I was able to watch the New Orleans Saints play at my location, I was unable to wear my lucky Saints polo shirt that had brought 13 straight wins. I actually remarked before the game that if I failed to wear my lucky shirt, it would cause the Saints to lose to the Cowboys and how disgusted I was with myself for forgetting to pack the shirt.

At the time, my girlfriend laughed at me, saying that I was “so silly” for believing that and that everything would turn out OK. HA! Little did she know that my superstitions go way past that lucky polo shirt.

The superstitions go all the way back to my middle school, where I could be found ducking in the Duke “True Blue” Soda can during Blue Devil basketball games as silently praying to the basketball gods for victory. If Duke won, it was because I had the proper relic beside me (the soda can was present for the last game against Kentucky) and if they lost it was because I had somehow failed to perform the proper ritual before the game. Nevertheless, this makes absolutely no sense in a logical methodology, but I always try to explain to Jenny that all the time sports are not exactly the most logical of arenas.

As I have gotten older, I have moved away from the relics and towards more intangible (HA!) superstitions. For example, it is bad luck to go to the bathroom during any portion of game action. Those with weak bladders can be punished mercilessly by the sports gods, as well as their cohorts watching the games. Additionally, it is also a huge no-no to claim victory before the game is actually over. Instead, one should use what is called the "Lou Holtz" maneuver, which involves poor-mouthing your team to the point that you actually convince yourself and others that they have no chance of winning the game, followed by great surprise when they actually do prevail. Also, team apparel is a must; as long as it is not over the top. Hence my lucky Saints polo, which is nice enough to wear casually yet doesn't scream out “raging lunatic” quite the same way that a helmet and/or face and body paint does.

Unfortunately, I violated two of these rules the other day, when I failed to wear my Saints polo for the New Orleans-Dallas game and I committed a terrible sin. Having watched the Saints come back all year from crazy deficits, I did not panic when they trailed 24-3. I smirked at the Cowboy fans in the bar as the Saints rallied to 24-17, and I let out a full hearted laugh as Nick Folk missed a 39 yard FG and the Saints took the ball with the chance to tie. Then I lay my mistake — I fully believed the Saints would win. Despite all of my years of conditioning otherwise, despite my knowledge that these are indeed the New Orleans Saints (who once threw a Hail Mary only to miss the extra point) I believed they would win because of a 13 gamestretch of miracles. DOH! Indeed, the football gods punished me by having Demarcus Ware strip Drew Brees and end our quest for perfection.

Now before you dismiss this as the ramblings of an insane person, let me leave you with one final note. As we were sitting at the bar paying the tab and getting ready to head into the night, Jenny said something to me that summed everything up perfectly — ”You know, it is kinda strange how the one night you didn’t wear that polo shirt all of the dropped passes and weird stuff started happening.”

Ladies and gentlemen, another convert to the madness of superstition! Now all I need to do is find that shirt before the playoffs start.

... REVIEW from page 5

old had fallen 80 feet from the top tier of the three-tiered falls. He was taken to an Asheville hospital to recover.

- Town’s operations budget cut for FY10.
- New ladder truck named for standby, Ole Bob (Houston).
- Dummy copy unnerves motorist.
- July
- New Main Street design proposed involving more planters and extending center parking to First Street.
- First H1N1 case in Macon County confirmed.
- The Grady family was playing in the river just above Bust Your Butt falls in a hole that swirled with water. Around mid-morning, Austin Grady, 12, got his foot caught in the hole as the water rushed in threatening to engulf him. His dad Mike, 52, jumped into the hole and was able to lift his son out. But then he too, got stuck and fire & rescue workers weren’t able to save him.
- Folk, pop icon Judy Collins comes to Highlands.
- Long-time Highlands family physician Dr. John F. Baumrucker has decided to retire again from office practice, but not from medicine.
- Tuesday afternoon, friends and family filled the Community Bible Church at the memorial ser-
**Bryson’s Food Store**

**Planning a New Year’s Celebration!**

We’ve got everything you need for that special recipe and the ingredients for the accompanying recipes!

**Four-Cheese Potato-Stuffed Mushrooms**

- **Prep Time:** 15 minutes
- **Cook Time:** 15 minutes
- **Servings:** 12

- 1 4-ounce package Idahoan Four Cheese Mashed Potatoes
- 12 large mushrooms or 18 medium mushrooms
- 3 tablespoons butter, margarine or olive oil
- 3 tablespoons chopped chives
- 3D4 teaspoon salt

1. Preheat oven to 450°F.
2. Prepare Idahoan Four Cheese Mashed Potatoes as package directs.
3. Remove stems from mushrooms; chop stems and set aside. Carefully scoop out the center of each mushroom cap with a spoon, leaving 1D2-inch shell.
4. Melt butter in 10-inch skillet over medium heat. Add chopped mushroom stems and cook 3 minutes or until tender. Remove from heat and stir in mashed potatoes, 2 tablespoons chives and salt.
5. Fill each mushroom cap with potato mixture, mounding it slightly. Bake 10 minutes or until potatoes are lightly golden. Sprinkle mushrooms with remaining 1 tablespoon chives.

**Holiday Brie en Croute**

- **Thaw:** 40 minutes
- **Prep:** 15 minutes
- **Bake:** 20 minutes
- **Stand:** 45 minutes
- **Makes:** 12 servings

- 1 egg
- 1 tablespoon water
- 1/2 of a 17.3-ounce package Pepperidge Farm Puff Pastry Sheets (1 sheet), thawed
- 1/2 cup apricot preserves or seedless raspberry jam
- 1/4 cup toasted sliced almonds
- 1 (13- to 16-ounce) Brie cheese round
- 1 package (13 ounces) Pepperidge Farm Entertaining Quartet Distinctive Crackers

1. Heat the oven to 400°F. Beat the egg and water in a small bowl with a fork.
2. Unfold the pastry sheet on a lightly floured surface. Roll the pastry sheet into a 14-inch square. Spread the preserves on the pastry to within 2 inches of the edge. Sprinkle with the cranberries and almonds. Place the cheese in the center of the pastry. Fold the pastry up over the cheese to cover. Trim the excess pastry and press to seal. Brush the seam with the egg mixture. Place seam-side down onto a baking sheet. Decorate with the pastry scraps, if desired. Brush with the egg mixture.
3. Bake for 20 minutes or until the pastry is golden brown. Let stand for 45 minutes. Serve with the crackers.

Prepared dips can be served on their own or as part of a delicious appetizer.

Located in Highlands Plaza • 828-526-3775 • Fax: 828-526-0430

**Elegant holiday entertaining made easy**

Gathering with family and friends to celebrate the holiday season is a tradition that everyone enjoys. Finding the time to do the party up right, however, can be a challenge and then suddenly, that fun-filled evening of holiday merriment you planned for your guests becomes a stressful occasion for you. Well, stress no more as help is on the way.

For those party hosts who lack the time, but really enjoy a more hands-on approach, another great, time-saving tip involves impressing your guests with party-perfect appetizers that you make simply by adding a few homemade touches to prepared products. Here are few ideas that will allow you to truly enjoy your guests, while leaving them wondering how you ever found the time to prepare all the delicious food.

**Holiday Brie en Croute**

- **Thaw:** 40 minutes
- **Prep:** 15 minutes
- **Bake:** 20 minutes
- **Stand:** 45 minutes
- **Makes:** 12 servings

- 1 egg
- 1 tablespoon water
- 1/2 of a 17.3-ounce package Pepperidge Farm Puff Pastry Sheets (1 sheet), thawed
- 1/2 cup apricot preserves or seedless raspberry jam
- 1/4 cup toasted sliced almonds
- 1 (13- to 16-ounce) Brie cheese round
- 1 package (13 ounces) Pepperidge Farm Entertaining Quartet Distinctive Crackers

1. Heat the oven to 400°F. Beat the egg and water in a small bowl with a fork.
2. Unfold the pastry sheet on a lightly floured surface. Roll the pastry sheet into a 14-inch square. Spread the preserves on the pastry to within 2 inches of the edge. Sprinkle with the cranberries and almonds. Place the cheese in the center of the pastry. Fold the pastry up over the cheese to cover. Trim the excess pastry and press to seal. Brush the seam with the egg mixture. Place seam-side down onto a baking sheet. Decorate with the pastry scraps, if desired. Brush with the egg mixture.
3. Bake for 20 minutes or until the pastry is golden brown. Let stand for 45 minutes. Serve with the crackers.
### 2009 Real Estate Transactions - Jan. 1 - Dec. 18

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Town of Highlands</th>
<th>PROP ADDR</th>
<th>PROP DESC</th>
<th>LAST APPR DATE</th>
<th>OWNER NAME</th>
<th>DATE RECORDED</th>
<th>SALES PRICE</th>
<th>GRANTOR NAME</th>
<th>ASSESSED VALUE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BUNBICK WILLIAM</td>
<td>5/26/2009</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>$51,510</td>
<td>BUNBICK WILLIAM</td>
<td>5/26/2009</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>$51,510</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LOT 1603</td>
<td>11/7/2006</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>$697,860</td>
<td>ETTINGER MARK P</td>
<td>11/7/2006</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>$697,860</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HORSE COVE RD</td>
<td>11/17/2006</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>$323,720</td>
<td>LUPOLI JOHN R JR</td>
<td>11/17/2006</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>$323,720</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2202000</td>
<td>GOLF ESTATES RD, LOT 50</td>
<td>11/13/2006</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>$167,000</td>
<td>JIMBOE</td>
<td>11/13/2006</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>$167,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>606584</td>
<td>36 BELLWOOD DR</td>
<td>1/21/2007</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>$59,000</td>
<td>PATTEN AMY E</td>
<td>1/21/2007</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>$59,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>551777</td>
<td>1060 COUNTRY CLUB RD</td>
<td>3/17/2007</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>$907,540</td>
<td>PETERS B</td>
<td>3/17/2007</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>$907,540</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>443926</td>
<td>6435 BUCK CREEK RD</td>
<td>3/17/2007</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>$145,230</td>
<td>BRADY CLYDE A III TRUSTEE</td>
<td>3/17/2007</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>$145,230</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Beautiful and spacious home close to town on a 1.1 acre lot. The spacious deck is perfect for birdwatching and taking in the beautiful view. Features include a striking kitchen with eat-at-bar, granite countertops, stainless appliances and wine refrigerator. Relax by the massive stone fireplace in the great room with vaulted ceiling, large windows and built-in shelves. This home has plenty of space with additional living area, upstairs bonus room, and workshop/craft area. A loft is perfect for an office or cozy TV room. The master bedroom is on the main level and features a fireplace. This is a beauty and priced at only $869,000. Call Pat Allen at 828-200-9179 or 828-526-8300.

Value priced at $769,000.
Call Pat Allen at 828-200-9179.
MLS # 67703

Continued on page 14
from the history guy ...

Dec 29, 1997

Hong Kong begins to kill all the nation’s 1.25 million chickens to stop the spread of a potentially deadly influenza strain

The plot begins to thicken, this Asian stalking of the chicken, but this will not be food man chew, these birds will be axed over the flu! This fowl deed among the Asians is the result of airborne contagions.

That’s a lot of chicks to ice, I’d be afraid of a poultry-gest. Grown roosters and hens, and if that doesn’t phase ya, they’re practicing on the avian youth in Asia.

Reach them on the streets or on the web. Email highlandseditor@aol.com for news on exciting advertising packages for 2010.

HIGHLANDS EATORIES

Pescad avoided by a small audience.

The Pizza

Place

Free Wi-Fi now available!

Daily Lunch Specials

Pizza by the slice, and beer, too!

OPEN

New Year's Eve: 11-9

New Year's Day: 11-10

365 Main Street 526-5660

Highlands Hill Deli

Corner of Main and 4th streets

Open Daily Serving:

Soups, Salads, & Mad-to-order Sandwiches for Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner. Ice Cream, too!

7 a.m. to 1 p.m. Mon-Fri

9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sat & Sun

526-9632

PIN, PROP ADDR, PROP DESC, LAST APPR DATE, OWNER NAME, DATE RECORDED, SALES PRICE, GRANTOR NAME, ASSESSED VALUE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Record</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ZENS BANK AND TRUST COMPANY</td>
<td>$142,730</td>
<td>1/7/2008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$142,730</td>
<td>1/2/2009</td>
<td>BLYTH JOHN M; BLYTH RICHARD W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ZENS BANK AND TRUST COMPANY</td>
<td>$78,850</td>
<td>1/12/2009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$78,850</td>
<td>1/12/2009</td>
<td>COOLEY JOSHDUB D; COOLEY JOSHDUB R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pescadillo - Tacos - Burritos</td>
<td>Homemade soups &amp; freshly baked cookies</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday-Saturday 11-4</td>
<td>Thursday &amp; Friday till 7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Closed on Sundays</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>226 S. 4th St, Highlands</td>
<td>838-526-9313</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eat right, Live long!</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

High Country Cafe

Down home favorites everyday!

WINTER HOURS

Breakfast & Lunch 7 a.m. to 2 p.m
Closed Saturday

526-0572

Cashiers Road next to the Community Bible Church

Continued on page 16
Highlands' Newspaper - Tuesday, Dec. 29, 2009 - Page 15

**COUNTRY CLUB PROPERTIES**

**Main Street**

Wright Sq. 828-526-2520 | www.ccphighlandsnc.com | ccp4info@verizon.net

---

Highlands Cove. One of the nicest home available in Highlands Cove Old Edwards Club. 5 bedrooms, 4.5 baths, Sunroom, Loft, 2 fireplaces. Water feature, 2 car garage. Professionally landscaped by Zoeller Landscaping. Great floor plan and constructed using the highest quality finish materials by Lupoli Construction. Over 2 acres with a spectacular mountain view that includes the golf course and lakes in the foreground. Membership is available upon satisfaction of all requirements. Offered unfurnished at $2,400,000. MLS#68329

---

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 $699,500. MLS#66203

---

What do you get when you pair one of the best builders with one of the best design and decor teams in the Highlands area? A great house with a spectacular mountain view! Located at The Cotswolds, this 4 bedroom, 4 1/2 bath has an exceptional floor plan, loads of glass, French doors, 2 car garage and a great covered porch are just a few of the features of this new home under construction. Offered at $1,586,000. MLS#60668

---

Designers Home is located in the Breezes atop a knoll off North Cobb Road near Highlands Country Club. 3 bedrooms, plus den, 4 baths. Great Living room with fantastic screened porch! Open with lots of Light! Low maintenance yard. Excellent parking. Offered at $650,000. Owner wants offer! MLS#68298

---

Adorable three bedroom, two and one half bath home is tucked away on a picturesque country lane with a creek running down the side of the house and the hot tub deck which his off of the master bedroom. Private yet convenient to town. Wood floors, stone-faced fireplace, updated kitchen, wraparound porch, and two car garage. Offered at $375,000 MLS# 69014

---

Sherwood Forest. A real nice 3 or 4 bedroom home in the city of Highlands all on one level with a two car garage and workshop. Covered deck and waterfall make this a must see. Offered at $557,400. MLS#65908

---

Check out this great home on desirable Foreman Road, walk to town and built by present owners contractor with quality finished throughout from the six bedrooms and five and one half baths to the two great fireplaces and lots of built-ins. Large pond to fish in, great kitchen and family room, two car garage. Professional landscaping. Move in condition! Offered at $1,595,000. MLS#69424

---

Highlands Country Club. Old Highlands Charm abounds with this great home located on the 5th green. From the hand drawn beams, to the massive stone patio, craftsmanship is evident throughout this lovely home. Master suite has an additional sitting area with porch and 2 baths, 2 additional bedrooms on the main floor living area, each with private baths. The guest quarters has 2 bedrooms, each with baths, and is accessed through a separate entrance. There is also a full guest house above the garage and golf cart shed. One of the most desirable locations and not to be missed if you want to be at Highlands Country Club. Offered at $2,200,000. MLS#68329

---

Adorable three bedroom, two bath home in move in condition. Offered at $445,000. MLS#66120

---

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 $699,500. MLS#66203

---

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. Offered at $445,000. MLS#66120

---

Excellent condition 2 bedroom 2 bath home is close to downtown on Highway 64 near Lake Sequoyah and the Veranda Restaurant. Low Maintenance yard with small pond. Master bedrooms on main and upper level. A great starter or year round home that is in Move in condition. Offered at $249,000. MLS#69377

---

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 $1,350,000 and shown by appointment. MLS#66416

---

Good location near the Hospital with this one bedroom, one bath fixer upper that has new electrical and heating system and great bones. Nice yard with additional storage shed. Great entry level into Highlands. Offered at $85,000. MLS#69404

---

What do you get when you pair one of the best builders with one of the best design and decor teams in the Highlands area? A great house with a spectacular mountain view! Located at The Cotswolds, this 4 bedroom, 4 1/2 bath has an exceptional floor plan, loads of glass, French doors, 2 car garage and a great covered porch are just a few of the features of this new home under construction. Offered at $1,586,000. MLS#60668

---

2 bedroom 1 bath home in great condition on 1.00 +/- acre close to town. New furnace, range, hot water heater and new electrical system. Offered at $249,000. MLS#69371

---

Old Highlands Charm with this charming cottage that sits overlooking the headwaters of the Cullasaja River with lake access to Mirror Lake. Recently renovated, this home is in excellent condition and is an exceptional opportunity. Launch you canoe or boat after closing and enjoy the benefits of living on the water! Offered at $575,000. MLS#67443

---

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 $1,350,000 and shown by appointment. MLS#66416

---

Huge deck! Offered at $699,500. MLS#66203

---

Great Walker's Pond views in this expanded home. 5 bedrooms, 4.5 baths, 2 fireplaces, new roof, new heating / air system, 3 car garage and deck! Offered at $575,000. MLS#67443

---

What do you get when you pair one of the best builders with one of the best design and decor teams in the Highlands area? A great house with a spectacular mountain view! Located at The Cotswolds, this 4 bedroom, 4 1/2 bath has an exceptional floor plan, loads of glass, French doors, 2 car garage and a great covered porch are just a few of the features of this new home under construction. Offered at $1,586,000. MLS#60668

---

2 bedroom 1 bath home in great condition on 1.00 +/- acre close to town. New furnace, range, hot water heater and new electrical system. Offered at $249,000. MLS#69371

---

Good location near the Hospital with this one bedroom, one bath fixer upper that has new electrical and heating system and great bones. Nice yard with additional storage shed. Great entry level into Highlands. Offered at $85,000. MLS#69404

---

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 $1,350,000 and shown by appointment. MLS#66416
Happy New Year? No Thanks!

COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH
Pastor Gary Hewins

In 1835 a man visited a doctor in Florence, Italy. He was filled with anxiety and exhausted from lack of sleep. He couldn’t eat, and he avoided his friends. The doctor examined him and found that he was in prime physical condition. Concluding that his patient needed to have a good time, the physician told him about a circus in town and its star performer, a clown named Grimaldi. Night after night he had the people rolling in the aisles. “You must go and see him,” the doctor advised.

“Grimaldi is the world’s funniest clown. He’ll make you laugh and cure your sadness.” “No,” replied the despairing man, “he can’t help me. You see, I am just for you everyday.

Is it a worthy goal to be happy? If we resolve to embark upon this next New Year or this next decade with the idea that we are in “pursuit of happiness” as our forefathers wrote, then actually arerare big trouble. By definition, happiness can neither be pursued nor truly apprehended. Happiness by definition is based on happenstance or good fortune. That is to say, if certain circumstances come about, beyond our total control, then you and I will experience a certain level of contentment. We will be happy if something from the outside takes place to raise our level of internal elation. Happiness is based on an “outside in” mentality.

The problem with this philosophy is that if things don’t go well we are guaranteed the absence of happiness because happiness is conditional. This stinks! That is no way to live in a world as tenuous as ours. No wonder so many people are depressed.

Isn’t joy what you and I really want? Joy is present regardless of outside conditions. Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance (James 1:2-3). A joyous life is a lived from the inside out. Joy isn’t based on the economy. Joy isn’t perseverance (James 1:2-3). A joyous life is a lived from

As you and I embark upon a brand new year, perhaps we should enjoy our freedom to pursue happiness while we experience the joy found not in knowing about God but in really knowing him. The apostle Paul wrote from prison the following words, Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice (Phil 4:4). I pray that more people on this mountain would experience the joy found in Christ rather than a fleeting happiness that leaves one unsatisfied and wanting for more. “Do not grieve, for the joy of the LORD is your strength.” (Neh. 8:10) Let’s have a joyous New Year!

Blue Valley Baptist Church
Rev. Oliver Rice, Pastor (706) 782-3965
Sundays: School – 10 a.m.; Worship – 11
Sunday night services every 2nd & 4th Sunday at 7
Wednesdays: Mid-week prayer meeting - 7 p.m.

Buck Creek Baptist Church
Sundays: School – 10 a.m.; Worship – 11
Chapel of Sky Valley
Sky Valley, GA
Church: 706-746-2999
Pastor’s residence: 706-746-5770
Sundays: 10 a.m. - Worship
Holy Communion 1st Sunday of the month.
Wednesdays: 9 a.m. Healing and Prayer with Holy Communion each service

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints
NC 28 N. and Pine Ridge Rd., (828) 369-8329
Rai Cammack, Branch President, (828) 369-1627

Christ Anglican Church
Father Jim Murphy: Office - 526-2320
Sunday: Holy Communion – 11 a.m.
Highlands Community Center
Monday: Evening Bible Study at 6 p.m.
Wednesday: Men’s Bible Study at 8 p.m.

Pot Luck Lunch last Sunday of each month.

Clear Creek Baptist Church
Pastor Everett Brewer
Sundays: School – 10 a.m.; Worship – 11
Prayer - 6:30 p.m.
Evening Service - 1st & 3rd Sunday – 7 p.m.
COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH
www.ccbhighlands.com • 526-4685
Pastor Gary Hewins
3645 U.S. 64 east, Highlands
Sundays: 9:30am Sunday School; 10:30 am
Children’s Program; 10:45 Worship

Episcopal Church of the Incarnation
Sunday: Breakfast; 9 A.M. - Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist (Rite II)
Sunday Service on Channel 14 Sun. at 10:30 A.M.
Monday: 4 p.m. Women’s Cursillo Group
Tuesday: 8 a.m. Men’s Cursillo Group
4:30 PM. Education for Ministry
Wednesday: 6:30 PM. Choir Practice
Thurs:12:30 – Women’s Bible Study (nursery provided for Wed. p.m. activities)

Scaly Mountain Baptist Church
Rev. Clifford Willis
Sundays: School - 10 a.m.; Worship - 11 a.m. & 7
Wednesdays: Prayer Mtg. - 7 p.m.

Scaly Mountain Church of God
290 Buck Knob Road; Pastor Alfred Sizemore
Sundays: School – 10 a.m.; Worship – 10:45 a.m.;
Evening Worship - 6 p.m.

SCALY MOUNTAIN BAPTIST CHURCH
Rev. Mitch Schultz, Pastor • 828-369-7977
Sun. Worship 8:30 & 10:45 a.m.; 6 p.m.
(nursery provided)
Sun. school for all ages 9:45 a.m.
Wed: dinner 5 p.m. followed by children’s
Pioneer Club 6 p.m.; Jr & Sr Youth Group 6:30 p.m.;
Adult Bible Study & Prayer Meeting 7 p.m.
Small groups available throughout the week.

FIRST ALLIANCE CHURCH OF FRANKLIN
Rev. Mitch Schultz, Pastor • 828-369-7977
Sun. Worship 8:30 & 10:45 a.m.; 6 p.m.
(nursery provided)
Sun. school for all ages 9:45 a.m.
Wed: dinner 5 p.m. followed by children’s
Pioneer Club 6 p.m.; Jr & Sr Youth Group 6:30 p.m.;
Adult Bible Study & Prayer Meeting 7 p.m.
Small groups available throughout the week.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
Dr. Daniel D. Robinson, 526-4153
Sun.: Worship 10:45 a.m.; School - 9:30 a.m.; Youth - 6:30 p.m.
Choir – 7:15
Wednesdays: Dinner - 5:30 p.m.; Team Kids - 6 p.m.; Prayer - 6:15 p.m., Choir - 7:30 p.m.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Rev. Lee Bowman, Pastor
Dr. Don Mullen, Parish Associate 526-3175
Mondays: 8 a.m. - Men’s Bible Discussion & Breakfast
Wednesdays - Choir – 7

HIGHLANDS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Pastor Paul Christy
526-3376
Sun.: school 9:45 a.m.; Worship 11 a.m.; 5 p.m.
Youth Group
Wed: Supper; 6:7:15 - children, youth, & adults
studies; 6:15 - Adult choir
(nursery provided for Wed. p.m. activities)
Thurs:12:30 - Women’s Bible Study (nursery)

HOLY FAMILY LUTHERAN CHURCH – ELCA
Chaplain Margaret Howell
2125 Dillard Road - 526-9741

HIGHLANDS ASSEMBLY OF GOD
Sixth Street
Sundays: School – 10 a.m.; Worship – 11
Wednesdays: Prayer & Bible Study – 7

HIGHLANDS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Pastor Paul Christy
526-3376
Sun.: school 9:45 a.m.; Worship 11 a.m.; 5 p.m.
Youth Group
Wed: Supper; 6:7:15 - children, youth, & adults
studies; 6:15 - Adult choir
(nursery provided for Wed. p.m. activities)
Thurs:12:30 - Women’s Bible Study (nursery)

Holy Family Lutheran Church – ELCA
Chaplain Margaret Howell
2125 Dillard Road - 526-9741

HIGHLANDS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Pastor Paul Christy
526-3376
Sun.: school 9:45 a.m.; Worship 11 a.m.; 5 p.m.
Youth Group
Wed: Supper; 6:7:15 - children, youth, & adults
studies; 6:15 - Adult choir
(nursery provided for Wed. p.m. activities)
Thurs:12:30 - Women’s Bible Study (nursery)

Holy Family Lutheran Church – ELCA
Chaplain Margaret Howell
2125 Dillard Road - 526-9741

HIGHLANDS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Pastor Paul Christy
526-3376
Sun.: school 9:45 a.m.; Worship 11 a.m.; 5 p.m.
Youth Group
Wed: Supper; 6:7:15 - children, youth, & adults
studies; 6:15 - Adult choir
(nursery provided for Wed. p.m. activities)
Thurs:12:30 - Women’s Bible Study (nursery)

Holy Family Lutheran Church – ELCA
Chaplain Margaret Howell
2125 Dillard Road - 526-9741

HIGHLANDS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Pastor Paul Christy
526-3376
Sun.: school 9:45 a.m.; Worship 11 a.m.; 5 p.m.
Youth Group
Wed: Supper; 6:7:15 - children, youth, & adults
studies; 6:15 - Adult choir
(nursery provided for Wed. p.m. activities)
Thurs:12:30 - Women’s Bible Study (nursery)

Holy Family Lutheran Church – ELCA
Chaplain Margaret Howell
2125 Dillard Road - 526-9741

Holy Family Lutheran Church – ELCA
Chaplain Margaret Howell
2125 Dillard Road - 526-9741
HELP WANTED

EARN $250-$300 WEEKLY WORKING AS A
SECRETARY/MYSTERY SHOPPER – This is a flexible
job offer, does not disturb your present Job if you
have one. Here’s your chance to get paid for shopping
and dinning out. Your job will be to evaluate and
comment on customer service in a wide variety of
shops, Stores, restaurant and services in your area.
Mystery shoppers are Needed. You’ll be paid to shop
to dine out plus, you can also get free meals, Free
merchandise, Free services, free Entertainment, Free
travel and more. Great Pay. Fun Work. Flexible
Schedules. No experience required. If you can shop-
you are qualified! JOB REQUIREMENTS:
Good business Skills; The Applicant must be 18 years and
above; Honest, responsible, industrious, PC, e-mail
and the internet skills; Ability to check e-mail daily; No
less than 2 working hours per day. Interested
candidate contact email: brian.williams@gmail.com
(2/10)

MARKETING COORDINATOR AT
HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HOSPITAL.
Full-time exempt status position. Experienced professional with
Marketing background preferably in healthcare field.
Responsible for coordinating the hospital’s marketing and
communications programs. Demonstrated proficiency in writing
skills and website knowledge required. Full benefits, or the option to opt out of benefits
for an increase in pay, available after 60 days of full-
time employment. Pre-employment screening
required. Call Human Resources at 828-526-1376 or apply online at www.hchospital.org

NEW POLICY
One FREE Classified Ad for ONE
item less than $500
(Not animals, no commercial item, no
business) ONE AD PER FAMILY otherwise:
20 words for $5; $2 for each 10-
word increment.

Email copy to:
highlandseditor@aol.com
or FAX to 1-866-212-8913
Send check to:
Highlands’ Newspaper
P.O. Box 2703
Highlands, NC 28741
828-526-0782

HIGHLANDS COUNTRY DINER

WANTED

WANTED TO RENT – Quality 3 or 4-bedroom
home close to town. Upgraded kitchen, flexible on
furnishings, easy access. Small, clean dog allowed.
Long-term lease. Possibly interested in option for the
right home. Call 828-202-0815. (st. 12/10)

HARDWORKING COUPLE LOOKING FOR
LANDSCAPING AND YARDWORK AND HOUSE-
CLEANING WORK – Call Juan Diaz at 828-202-
1038 or 828-526-1025.

HIGHLANDS ART GALLERIES

WANTED

WANTED TO RENT – 4 or 5-bedroom
home close to downtown. Upgraded kitchen, flexible on
furnishings, easy access. Small, clean dog allowed.
Long-term lease. Possibly interested in option for the
right home. Call 828-202-0815. (st. 12/10)

HARDWORKING COUPLE LOOKING FOR
LANDSCAPING AND YARDWORK AND HOUSE-
CLEANING WORK – Call Juan Diaz at 828-202-
1038 or 828-526-1025.

Classification

- 10-WOODED ACRES, spring creeks on Bald
Mountain Road across from Sky Valley Golf Resort.
Potential for Health/Spa retreat. Great location.
Financing Available by owner. Call 707-782-7396.
THE REAL ESTATE BOOK – North Carolina's
largest and most successful "Homes for Sale"
magazine, is offering the chance to be an Independent
Distributor of the Cashiers-Highlands area. This market
meets the criteria of our other 400 successful territories.

COMPANY POLICY
One FREE Classified Ad for ONE
item less than $500
(Not animals, no commercial item, no
business) ONE AD PER FAMILY otherwise:
20 words for $5; $2 for each 10-
word increment.

Email copy to:
highlandseditor@aol.com
or FAX to 1-866-212-8913
Send check to:
Highlands’ Newspaper
P.O. Box 2703
Highlands, NC 28741
828-526-0782

HIGHLANDS ART GALLERIES

- 526-9333

• 65 ACRES AT LAKE GLENVILLE – Two tenths
mile from public boat ramp, mountain views, zoned
unrestricted, $175,000 787-2132 (12/29)

• 15-ACRES OF WOODED ACREAGE FOR
SALE – NE Georgia Mountains at NC/GA state line.
Across from Sky Valley Golf. Includes Spring-fed
creeks. $100,000 per acre. Call 707-782-7396. (12/31)

- 10-WOODED ACRES, spring creeks on Bald
Mountain Road across from Sky Valley Golf Resort.
Potential for Health/Spa retreat. Great location.
Financing Available by owner. Call 707-782-7396.
THE REAL ESTATE BOOK – North Carolina's
largest and most successful "Homes for Sale"
magazine, is offering the chance to be an Independent
Distributor of the Cashiers-Highlands area. This market
meets the criteria of our other 400 successful territories.

COMPANY POLICY
One FREE Classified Ad for ONE
item less than $500
(Not animals, no commercial item, no
business) ONE AD PER FAMILY otherwise:
20 words for $5; $2 for each 10-
word increment.

Email copy to:
highlandseditor@aol.com
or FAX to 1-866-212-8913
Send check to:
Highlands’ Newspaper
P.O. Box 2703
Highlands, NC 28741
828-526-0782

HIGHLANDS ART GALLERIES

- 526-9333
ARCHITECTS PRIVATE HOME WITH STUNNING FEATURES. Three bedrooms, plus den, three full baths, and an open living area. Two Stone fireplaces and three decks overlooking stream and private stocked trout pond. Full Privacy. Designer furnished. Walking distance to town. Non smokers only; no pets. Deposit required. Monthly or yearly rental $2,500.00 per month. Call 770-639-2882 or 678-358-9675 (St. 2/25)

APT FOR RENT: 1 bedroom, 1 bath, furnished. 1/2 miles from downtown. $600. per mo. incl. utilities, satellite TV, access to washer, dryer. Call 526-4586 or 526-3612. (1/10)

TURN KEY FURNISHED ONE BED, ONE BATH, SINGLE COTTAGE APT, 2 color TVs and wireless internet. 2.5 miles east of Main Street. $600/ month. 536-1566 (St. Dec. 17)

HAVE IT YOUR WAY. BUY, LEASE WITH OPTION TO BUY OR RENT. 352 28a great view desirable neighborhood in Highlands $750,000 or $1,700 month. Call 706-746-3558. (12/31)

HOUSE FOR RENT IN LAUREL FALLS. Fully Furnished with W/D, $750 a month. 787-2423. (st. 11/12)

SPACIOUS MAIN ST. APT, full kitchen, fully furnished, covered balcony, small pets OK. $700/month. 526-3363. (St. 11/5)

ONE-BEDROOM APARTMENT IN TOWN – 535 N. 4th Street. $600 a month. Call 770-827-0450. (St. 10/22)

CUITE HIGHLANDS COTTAGE. 2BR/1BA. Remodeled kitchen and bath. Close to town, private, quiet. Deck, W/D, DW, wood stove. No smoking. Pets negotiable. $900/month + utilities. 770-845-1577. (St. 10/22)

APT FOR RENT – Fully Furnished. Including W/D. Minutes from Hospital and downtown. $475/month plus utilities. Call 787-2423. (St. 10/22)

2 BED, 1 BATH HOUSE FOR RENT IN LAUREL FALLS. Few minutes from downtown Highlands and the hospital. Fully furnished including all utilities. Call 787-2423. (St. 9/24)

$325/MONTH. One bedroom in 5-bedroom house. Utilities divided equally. Walk to hospital. Call 828-200-1064. (St. 1/10)

FULLY FURNISHED 4-ROOM CABIN SUITE off Glen Falls Road atop Loma Linda Farm. New queen bed, kitchenette, large tiled shower, deck and view. Good for 1 person. $700/month. Includes electric, heat, satellite TV and wifi. Visit http://highlands/cashiersrealestate.blogspot.com/ for virtual tour. Phone (828) 421-7922. (St. 11/12)

APARTMENT FOR RENT – partly furnished 1BR/1ba - no dogs/smokers - Whiteside Cove - $100/ week - call (828) 787-1515

ROOM FOR RENT – furnished or not - no smokers - must love dogs - $50/week - call (828) 787-1515

APARTMENT FOR RENT – newly furnished one bedroomed bath. AC/Heat. Deck. Fantastic view. 5 min from Highlands. Adults only. No smokers, no pets. Utilities included. $795. Call 526-2694. (St. 7/30)

GREAT 2 1/2 BATH APARTMENT – Main Street. Highlands includes 9-foot ceilings, central heat & air, balcony, large laundry room with washer/dryer. $900 per month plus utilities. Lease and references required. Contact John Dotson - 526-5587. (St. 5/21)

SMALL FURNISHED COTTAGE suitable for (1) occupant conveniently located @ 674 Chestnut Street. Queen bed, Living area and kitchen combined. Nice screen porch with sleeping loft. Quiet and private. No pets and no smoking. $800, monthly plus $300. security deposit with 6 months lease and references. Includes all utilities & satellite TV. Contact Charlie @ (828)526-8645.

COMMERCIAL FOR RENT/SOLD

FOR SALE – BEST COMMERCIAL BUY IN HIGHLANDS – 535 4th Street. Zoned mixed-use, commercial and residential. Recent Remodel. Great retail/office and separate one-bedroom basement apartment. $389,000. Call 770-827-0450. (St. 11/5)

RESTAURANT FOR LEASE ON THE ROAD – Currently occupied by High Country Cafe. 6,300 sq. ft. Call Buddy or Sherry Kremser at 706-782-6252. (St. 11/5)

Rental Space in Wight Square – Half a building or two floors of one building. Call Harold Branner. 828-526-5673. (st. 4/16)

VACATION RENTAL

RV SITES FOR RENT IN TOWN – Short Walk to Main Street. Daily, Weekly, or Monthly Rates Available. Contact Charlie @ (828)526-8645 e-mail: chestnutcottages@yahoo.com (ST. 11/5)

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

PUPPIES FOR SALE


ITEMS FOR SALE

GORGEOUS PERFECT CONDITION POOL TABLE, 2 spectator chairs, wall rack, light, $2,200 787-2132 (Dec. 29)

HEALTHY TREATED HEMLOCKS, all sizes, name your price 787-2132 (Dec. 29)

GOODMAN PACKAGE HEAT PUMP w/air, 2 Ton 10-Seer, 1 Year left on warranty, $480. Make an offer. Call 828-742-7486.


REFRIGERATOR, Stainless steel with in-the-door water and ice. $1,000. Call 828-506-3138. (st. 12/10)

COWHIDES (2) approximately 80“x88” and 88”x76”. Originally $400 each. Will sell for $225 each. Call 526-0498.

GOODYEAR WRANGLER TD TIRES – size 205 75R 15 with black spoke rims. Bought new. Less than 100 miles on them. Selling for $800. fits Toyota, Nissan & Chevrolet. Call 526-3824. (st. 12/9)


CAST IRON CLAW FOOD CIALS BATH TUB – Large enough for two $400 OBO. Call 526-3824.

89-INCH SOFA, soft floral print, great condition. $250. Also, 4 ft 4 inch x 5 ft 8-inch floral hooked rug that goes well with sofa. $85. Call 526-3647.

EMPIRE GAS LOGS, 28 wide, ventless, remote controlled. 20-38M BTU, maintains real fire very well, $150. 526-4594


WESLO CARDIO GLIDE – Like New. $75. Call 526-5462.

ORIGINAL SYRACUSE CHINA FROM NOW CLOSED “AUNT FANNY’S CABIN” IN ATLANTA. 19 plates, 18 bread and butter, 18 dessert. All for $295. Call 526-0498.

RECLAIMED BRAZILIAN CHEERRY DINING TABLE – One of a Kind. $1,200. 828-526-5012. Randy. (st. 10/22)

PIANO — Gorgeous Fully restored. Late 1800s upright owned by the Vanderbelts and was in the Biltmore Estates Plays Beautiful $7,000 invested, worth way more Must sell. Will sacrifice for $2,800. OBO.

See CLASSIFIEDS page 21
5025. OBO for photo call 828-526-2671. Two section 1-3/4" thick x 42" H x 70-1/2" W. $160, with remote control and ember material. $250. 526-9805. Hardwood plus cut kiln-dried kindling close to a cord with hard case-great condition-$250 828.482.2222. Call 828-524-3614.

**STOP SMOKING IN 2010?** Five-week program uses hypnosis and other tools, beginning January. Individuals, small groups. Details 526-8885. 12/31

**THE HIGHLANDS HANDYMAN** – Anything and Everything. From High End to Low Spend. Local References. Call a neighbor. Call Mark at 526-0031.

HANDYMAN SPECIAL – Repairs, and remodeling, electrical and plumbing. Carpenter and more. Low prices. For free estimate call 828-342-7864. (12/22)

AFFORDABLE WINTERIZATION AND HOME WATCHING SERVICE – Call the Highlands Handyman. References. 526-0031. 24-HOUR CARE FOR YOUR LOVED ONE – 16 years experience. Will travel to accommodate. $2,800 monthly. Call Clare Myers 828-631-2675 after 5 p.m. Asking $175. 828-631-2675.

**RANGE WITH DOWNDRAFT DOOR** 828-524-7233 or 828-371-2129 (st. 10/22) or 601-316-3147.


**TFS FOR SALE** – Remodeling makes these slightly used bargains possible. 25" – $140, 27" $160, 32" $260. Call 526-5992.

**TWO MATCHING QUEEN ANNE CHAIRS**. Creamy Strain. Walnut legs. Excellent condition. $300 for both. 828-226-2027.

**COLLAPSIBLE LADDER** – $270. Call 526-5025.

**COLEMAN 5000 ER ELECTRONIC GARAGE DOOR** $950. Call 526-5025. (st. 8/13)

**PALLADIUM STYLE WINDOW** — Mahogany two section 1-3/4" thick x 42" H x 75-1/2" W. $150, OBO for photo call 828-526-2671.

**OLD BRASS BALL FIREPLACE ANDIRONS** Cranberry Red. Walnut legs. Excellent condition. $300. Call 526-0439.

**2 ROCKING CHAIRS & TABLE**. Metal frame, with cushions. Finally $300. Asking $125. 369-5863.

**BABY LOCK SERGER MACHINE** BRAND-NEW. $2,800 monthly, negotiable. Call Clare Myers 828-631-2675 after 5 p.m. Asking $175. 828-631-2675.

**COLEMAN 5000 ER ELECTRONIC GARAGE DOOR** $950. Call 526-5025. (st. 8/13)

**PALLADIUM STYLE WINDOW** — Mahogany two section 1-3/4" thick x 42" H x 75-1/2" W. $150, OBO for photo call 828-526-2671.

**OLD BRASS BALL FIREPLACE ANDIRONS** Cranberry Red. Walnut legs. Excellent condition. $300. Call 526-0439.

**2 ROCKING CHAIRS & TABLE**. Metal frame, with cushions. Finally $300. Asking $125. 369-5863.

**BABY LOCK SERGER MACHINE** BRAND-NEW. $2,800 monthly, negotiable. Call Clare Myers 828-631-2675 after 5 p.m. Asking $175. 828-631-2675.

**COLEMAN 5000 ER ELECTRONIC GARAGE DOOR** $950. Call 526-5025. (st. 8/13)

**PALLADIUM STYLE WINDOW** — Mahogany two section 1-3/4" thick x 42" H x 75-1/2" W. $150, OBO for photo call 828-526-2671.

**OLD BRASS BALL FIREPLACE ANDIRONS** Cranberry Red. Walnut legs. Excellent condition. $300. Call 526-0439.
The Town Board nixes plans to build a new Town Hall. Architects discover the building is sound and can be renovated for a permanent Town Hall.

¢ On Saturday, Aug. 13, a man entered the lobby of RBC Centura Bank on U.S. 64 West, shot the gun into the ceiling and demanded cash. He got away on foot through the woods behind the bank.

¢ On Sunday, Aug. 16, HUMC celebrated its centennial anniversary on Main Street.

September
¢ The Town Board wants citizen input about the Rec Park. Surveys were mailed out and 860 -- 10% were returned. A report will be given in February.
¢ Billy Edward Vitatoe, 40, and Kari Huskey Conklin, 32, both of Franklin, were arrested for the armed robbery of RBC Centura Bank on Aug. 13. They are also responsible for the robbery attempt of the credit union ATM in Highlands Plaza the night of Wednesday, Aug. 5 where a vehicle was crashed into the ATM.
¢ The one percent sales tax increase that went into effect across North Carolina will help offset the $4 billion budget gap that federal stimulus money and budget cuts didn’t fill, say state officials. All the money goes directly to Raleigh.
¢ Highlands School teachers name Teacher-Assistant-of-the-Year Cindy Reed and Teacher-of-the-Year Chris Green. Each year teachers in Macon County’s 12 schools, select co-workers as Teacher- and Teacher-Assistant-of-the-Year.
¢ The Town Board nixes plans to build a new Town Hall. Architects discover the building is sound and can be renovated for a permanent Town Hall.
¢ More than six inches of rain fell between midnight Saturday and midnight Sunday with 3 1/2 more on Monday. Areas of town flood.

October
¢ There are three seats open on the Town Board. All three sitting representatives are running again for office and two citizens are vying for those seats. Running for Mayor of Highlands is incumbent Don Mullen and David Wilkes. Running for commissioner are incumbents Amy Patterson and Hank Ross and Gary Drake.
¢ On Wednesday, Sept. 30, the Macon County School Board representative for District I, Brenda Bennett, submitted her resignation.
¢ Appeal case stymies Zoning Board when John Shearl owner of J&J Lawn and Landscaping at 1663 S. 4th Street appeals a violation issued by Zoning Administrator.
¢ With color still on the trees, the first snow of the 2009 winter season -- Sunday, Oct. 18 at 7:45 a.m. -- a full week sooner than last year.
¢ Actor Collin Wilcox Paxton died October 14 at 4 p.m. in her bed surrounded by roses, lilies, scented candles listening to the ocean waves looking out on a beautiful rainy colorful Fall day in Highlands.
¢ A renovated Dry Falls park opens.
¢ Kenneth A Shull, who has been president and chief executive officer of Highlands-Cashiers Hospital for the past four years is leaving to become CEO of St. Luke’s Hospital in Columbus, NC, near Tryon.
¢ County only keeping 8% of room tax money, roughly $32,000 a year -- to administer the occupancy tax.
¢ Planning Board says ‘yes’ to HUMC rezoning request from B3 to Conditional-B1 for its property behind the church.
¢ Greenway committee members, workers and town employees officially open the renovated bridge over Mill Creek and much improved Greenway trail that originates at the Rec Park.

November
¢ On Tuesday, Nov. 3, 429 of Highlands’ 893 registered voters – a whopping 48.04%. Wilkes beat Mullen by more than three to one with 385 votes or 77.7%, to Mullen’s 108 votes or 21.82% of voters.
¢ At its regularly scheduled meeting on Oct. 21, the Town Board approved the establishment of a Sustainability Advisory Committee which will provide feedback and advice to the Town Board on policies, ordinances and administrative procedures regarding environmental protection and the conservation of energy and natural resources.
¢ On Monday, Nov. 9, 50,000 sq. ft. of grass sod was rolled onto the Highlands School soccer field.
¢ At the special called Board of Education meeting Stephanie McCall was selected to replace Frieda Bennett who announced her resignation in September.
¢ Town signs 20-year contract with its wholesale power supplier, Duke Power.
¢ With the slowing of the real estate market since 2008, county determines 2011 is not the time to do a reval.
¢ September rains sent a wall of water down the Bowery cliff causing soil, trees and foliage to scour its face leaving the underlying granite exposed.
¢ Legendary Golfer Bobby Jones was immortalized at Highlands Country Club with a statue. Since then, the majority of the board voted to have the statue removed. It now seeks a new home.
¢ Town Board to return to its two meetings a month policy.
¢ On Monday, Nov. 16 renovations began at Hudson Library.

December
¢ Macon County Commission voted unanimously to raise the current tax rate per $100 valuation from 26.4 cents to 27.9 cents, effective July 1, 2010. The money raised through the tax hike will be used to finance the debt incurred to build the new Iota K-4 school and make renovations and repairs to Franklin High School and Nantahala School.
¢ New mayor David Wilkes suggested the formation of a Business Advisory Committee whose purpose will be to act as a liaison between the business community and the Town Board.
¢ At Monday night’s Planning Board meeting, members once again stone-walled the Town Board’s attempt to get an “Abandoned Building” ordinance on the books.
¢ Questions were posed regarding the town’s policy for electing its Mayor Pro Tempore.
¢ Following the closed session part of the Tuesday, Nov. 17 Macon County Commission meeting, commissioners said the county would not purchase land in the vicinity of Zachary Field as entertained in 2007.
¢ Macon County has contracted with Emergency Communications Network to license its CodeRED high-speed notification solution.
¢ Mayor David Wilkes and Commissioner Gary Drake met with Police Chief Bill Harrell to learn about the police department for themselves.
¢ The possibility of a 300-ft. steel, communication tower erected on county property in the Highlands area was discussed at the Monday, Dec. 14 Macon County Commission meeting.
¢ Phase 1 connectivity of WNC-ED-Net -- the network that will bring voice, video, data and distance communications to more than 70 school sites in Western North Carolina -- will be turned on once a WANG Engineer is hired.
¢ No snow days in the 2010-11 school calendar. There is no room for snow days because now school can’t start before Aug. 25 and must end before June 10.
**Serving Highlands & Cashiers for 20 years!**

Phone: 526-2251
Toll Free: 888-526-2251
Fax: 828-526-8764
Email: JJlawn1663@verizon.net

John Shearl, Owner • 1663 S. 4th St. Highlands

---

**Santa visits, too!**

William & Ruby Shaheen
828-526-4890
Free Consultations
Santa Visits

Decorating for All Occasions & Holidays
- Interior & Exterior -
- Nurseries • Children's Rooms • Dinner Parties
- Residential • Commercial • Churches

P.O. Box 187 • Scaly Mountain, NC 28775 Email: poppyrus1@verizon.net

---

**Residential • Commercial**

Pressure Cleaning • Seamless Gutters, too
Insured • Licensed • References

Dennis Perkins, owner
828-371-2277 or 828-526-3542

---

**Runaround Sue Pet Sitting**

- Healthy Homemade Treats
- Birthday Parties
- Pet Photos
- Hand-crocheted Dog Clothing

Sue Laferty
P.O. Box 1991
Highlands, NC 28741
(828)526-0844
slaferty@verizon.net

---

**Visit Greenleaf Gallery right here in Highlands for all your ...**

**Custom Picture Framing**
526-9333
177 Main St. (Wright Sq.) Highlands

---

**Runaround Sue Pet Sitting**

- Healthy Homemade Treats
- Birthday Parties
- Pet Photos
- Hand-crocheted Dog Clothing

Sue Laferty
P.O. Box 1991
Highlands, NC 28741
(828)526-0844
slaferty@verizon.net

---

**J&J Lawn and Landscaping**

- Airport Shuttle
- Pet Walking
- Errands

References, Insured.
Call 526-5407 or 828-200-1237
highlandscarconcierge@yahoo.com

---

**DP Painting**

- Residential • Commercial
- Pressure Cleaning • Seamless Gutters, too
- Insured • Licensed • References

Dennis Perkins, owner
828-371-2277 or 828-526-3542

---

**J&J Lawn and Landscaping**

- Airport Shuttle
- Pet Walking
- Errands

References, Insured.
Call 526-5407 or 828-200-1237
highlandscarconcierge@yahoo.com

---

**Allan Dearth & Sons Generator Sales & Service, Inc.**

828-526-9325
Cell: 828-200-1139
email: allandearth@msn.com

---

**Deluxe, Indoor Climate Controlled Self Storage**

With covered loading zone

Highlands Storage Village • 828-526-4555
Cashiers Road

---

**CROWE CONSTRUCTION**

New Construction • Remodels
Maintenance and Repairs

Owner: Kenneth M. Crowe
(828) 526-5943
Cell: (828) 332-8290
crowecrazy@yahoo.com
1540 Blue Valley Rd. Highlands, NC 28741

---

**Douglas Tank General Contractor**

Since 1965
New Home and Remodeling
Licensed and Insured
828-526-9450