

Highlands' Newspaper

FREE

Volume 7, Number 45

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Thursday, Nov. 12, 2009

FRI  55 / 37F	SAT  58 / 39F	SUN  57 / 40F
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This Week in Highlands

Thursday, Nov. 12

• Hudson Library book club meeting is at 5:45 p.m. Call 526-3031.

Friday, Nov. 13

• At Cyprus Restaurant, Italian Pastry Kitchen Cooking Salon & Demonstration. Noon. Call 526-4429.

• At Wolfgang's Restaurant & Wine Bistro. Domaine Serene, Flavor Spectrum Luncheon. Noon. Call 526-3807.

• At Ruka's Table Sake Tasting and Sushi Roll Demonstration. 2 p.m. Call 526-3636.

• At Wolfgang's Restaurant & Wine Bistro. Wine Dinner with Crocker and Starr. 7 pm. Call 526-3807.

• At the Log Cabin, Grateful Palate Wine Dinner. 7:30 pm. Call 526-3380.

Sat., Nov. 14-Fri., Dec. 18

• *The Shopping Bag: Exemplary Art and Design* exhibition at The Bascom from 5-7 p.m.

Saturday, Nov. 14

• At Cyprus Restaurant, Fire Breathing Wok Cooking Salon & Demonstration. Noon. Call 526-4429.

• At The Dry Sink, Discover the Latest in Kitchenware. Product demonstrations and giveaways. 1-5 p.m.

• At Call Ruka's Table Craft Beer & BBQ Tasting. 1-3 p.m. Call 526-3636.

• With Fresser's, a Sunset Hike with supper. Call for time. 526-4188.

• At Cyprus Restaurant, Maman dans la cuisine, Papa dans la vignoble. 7 p.m. Call 526-4429.

• At Wolfgang's Restaurant & Wine Bistro, Silver Oak Cellars Wine Dinner. 7 pm. Call 526-3807.

• At Ruka's Table Vine Connections Wine Dinner. Call 536-3636.

• Focus on the Family's at CBC, 9 am-4:30pm. \$10 per person. Call 526-4685.

Tuesday, Nov. 17

• HIARPT's Winter Dialogue. Carl Sagan's *The Varieties of Scientific Experience*. Civic Center: 10-11:30 a.m.

Thursday, Nov. 19

• A drop-in reception to say "good-bye" to Hospital CEO Ken Shull at 3:30-5 p.m. in the Level 1 lobby of the Jane Woodruff Clinic on the hospital campus.

• Taize service at Our Lady of the Mountains Roman Catholic Church at 5:30 p.m.

Local's arrest points to widespread prescription drug problem

The illegal use or the misuse of prescription drugs is being called the number one drug problem in the country – a problem to which Macon County and Highlands are not immune.

The Center for Disease Control issued a report recently naming prescription drugs as the primary drug of choice for suicides and accidental overdoses.

Highlands recently mourned the death of Elizabeth Coram, 22, a

college senior, who died July 9 of an illegal prescription drug overdose of Oxycontin mixed with alcohol. The circumstances involving that death are still under investigation and the Coram family is frustrated.

"If some of our local officials had to go down to Bryant Funeral Home and found their daughter in a body bag like Susan and I did, then they might not be so nonchalant about the problem," said J.B. Co-

ram. "A politician can give quotes, but it's action that counts."

Within the last five years, three young people in the Highlands-Cashiers area have died from prescription drug overdoses coupled with alcohol.

In September, Nick McCall, 27, currently of Highlands, was arrested first by the Asheville Police Department and then by the Macon

• See DRUG PROBLEM page 11

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McCall appointed to vacated BOE seat

The announcement of the candidate selected to fill Frieda Bennett's vacated Highlands District I seat on the Macon County Board of Education was quick business Monday night.

At the special called Board of Education meeting, Chairman Jim Breedlove said seven names had been submitted for Bennett's replacement – John Shearl, who lost to Bennett during the 2008 election, Jeff Weller, Mike Murphy, Tina Rogers, Lamar Billingsley, Stephanie

• See BOE SEAT page 17

Discretionary students called to toe the line

Several Highlands School families were up in arms last week at the possible expulsion of their children from the school.

But it turns out the "potential expulsion call" was fairly and legally made by Principal Brian Jetter, say Macon County School administrators.

Under Macon County's Discretionary Student Policy, students allowed to cross district, county and state lines to attend Highlands

• See DISCRETIONARY page 20

The 'greening' of the soccer field begins ...



On Monday, Nov. 9 grass-sod was rolled onto the Highlands School soccer field. With 50,000 sq. ft. of sod — 70% — now in place, the field is near completion. Rain has postponed the remainder. Sod began arriving at 3 p.m. and crews worked until 11p.m. to beat the rain. Architects Hank Ross and Jeff Weller provided the design and construction management, pro bono; the General Contractor was Mike Bryson of Bryson Grading and Jim Tate with Tate Landscaping Services was in charge of the "greening" of the field. Pictured is Bryson, Tate and other workers. At Monday night's Macon County Commission meeting, County Manager Jack Horton announced the near-completion of the field, Commission Chair Ronnie Beale said Highlands has a "really good" soccer team and the field is well deserving and Highlands Commissioner Dennis DeWolf, who attended the meeting, thanked the commission for making the Highlands School soccer field a reality.

Photo by Jim Lewicki

• THE PLATEAU'S POSITION •

• THANK YOU'S •

REGULAR BOARD OF
COMMISSIONERS MEETING
COMMUNITY BUILDING
NOVEMBER 18, 2009
7:00 P.M.

*** AGENDA ***

1. Call to order
2. Public Comments
3. Approve agenda
4. Approve minutes of September 23 & October 21, 2009
5. Reports
 - A. Mayor
 - B. Commissioners
 - C. Committees
 - D. Town Manager
 6. Consent Agenda
 - A. Public Services Department
 - B. Police Department
 - C. Parks & Recreation Department
 - D. Planning & Zoning Department
 - E. Treasurer's Report for Month Ended October 31, 2009
 - F. Monthly Calendar
 - G. Grant Status Report
 - H. Surplus Equipment Resolution
 - I. Post Vacancy for Highlands ABC Board
 - J. Set Public Hearing for January 20, 2010 for Highlands Methodist Church Rezoning
 7. Duke Agreement
 8. Rezoning Application: Chris Gilbert & James Tate at 2271 Dillard Road
 9. Agreement to use Gov Deals for online sales of surplus equipment
 10. Consider Appointments to Sustainability Committee
 11. Employee Christmas Bonus
 12. Scholarship Fundraising Committee
 13. Set Wednesday December 2 as next regularly scheduled meeting of Town Board (Swearing In Ceremony for newly elected officials)
 14. Closed Session to discuss easements for Lake Sequoyah and Azalea Circle; Bowery Road Settlements
 15. Adjourn

MC Commission news

At Monday night's Macon County Commission meeting, the board accepted the Highlands TDC's recommendation to name Helene Siegel chairman. She replaces Gary Drake.

The Highlands Town Board will nominate a person to take Hank Ross's place who represented the Town Board on the TDC board.

County Manager Jack Horton also reported that work on the Hudson Library expansion will hopefully begin sometime this month.

There's nothing like a Highlands' Halloween

Dear Editor,

Thank you to the city of Highlands, the mayor, the City Council, the Rotary Clubs, the Police and Fire Departments, the Main Street Merchants, the costumed children, adults, and dogs, and everyone else associated with making Halloween on Main Street such an exciting wonderful event!

Even Mother Nature had a share, starting the evening with light rain, but not enough to chase anyone away, and ending with fog which helped to make the night even more mysterious. Halloween has always been a special time for Highlands and its visitors but this year it was bigger and better than ever!

A wonderful addition was the music provided by the DJ. He really kept things rocking and fun.

The merchants need a special thank you. This year of economic problems has impacted each of the stores, yet most of the merchants dug deep into their pockets to provide the traditional candy to the young ghosts, goblins and princesses. Without their generosity Halloween on Main Street would not be possible.

And Thank You to all the unnamed volunteers who helped make Halloween such a terrific event!

Judy Gary
Highlands

First Presbyterian Troop Drive a success

Dear Editor,

"It all started with a dream. I never dreamt it would have become so big, says Nancy Cox."

Due to all the help of First Presbyterian Church, area merchants, and our town 35 boxes will be shipped to Afghanistan to our young service men and women.

Many many thanks and gratitude to those who gave so graciously from the heart. Bryson Food Store-Jim Bryson, owner, Buck's Coffee Café-Linda Clark and Buck Frank, owners, Carolina Ophthalmology of Asheville -- Mark Joseph,

MD, Center for Plastic Surgery -- Robert Buchanan, MD, Dry Sink -- Allen & Kris Mayor, owners, Christopher Dyer, DMD, Highlands Dermatology -- Paul Cabiran, MD, Highlands Pharmacy -- April Burrell, employee and Sherry Sims, owner, Long Transfer Inc.-- Robert Lee, manager and Collin Long, owner, Main Street Pharmacy -- Ryan Backer, manager, Mountain Fresh Grocery -- Ed Hudson, manager and J.T. Fields & Glenn Murer, owners, Reeves Ace Hardware -- Joe & Jim Luke, owners, Summer House -- Paula Jones, owner, Trillium Radio Shack -- Josh & Wendi Diamond, owners, Highlands Newspaper -- Kim & Jim Lewicki, Publisher/Owners, The Highlander-Melody Spurney, Managing Editor.

Special thanks to one very special lady, Nancy Cox, never stop dreaming!
Heather Mangum
Highlands

Thanks for free publicity!

Dear Editor,

It is with much gratitude that the entire Scaly Mountain Women's Club would like to thank Highlands Newspaper for all it has done for us this year. We

never would have had such a successful fundraising year without all the wonderful publicity you generously gave us.

You deserve so much credit for our fundraising success during the 2009 season. We are very proud of the contributions we gave to local charities with most of the money going to scholarships for Scaly Mountain young people.

Thank you, Highlands Newspaper, for all you do for us. We truly appreciate you!

Scaly Mountain Women's Club

Remember to honor our veterans!

At Monday night's Macon County Commission meeting, Commissioner Bob Simpson said veterans admitted to the VA Hospital aren't supplied with toiletries. He asked that people make donations to the Macon County Veteran's Services Department at **104 East Main Street in Franklin between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday-Friday.**

Simpson said donations will be taken t the VA hospital before the holidays.

LETTERS-TO-THE EDITOR-POLICY

We reserve the right to reject or edit submissions. **NO ANONYMOUS LETTERS WILL BE ACCEPTED.** Views expressed are not necessarily those of Highlands' Newspaper. Please EMAIL letters by Monday at 5 p.m. There is a 500-word limit without prior approval.

Highlands' Newspaper

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Email: HighlandsEditor@aol.com

Publisher/Editor - Kim Lewicki; Copy Editor- Tom Merchant

Cartoonist - Karen Hawk; Digital Media - Jim Lewicki

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• OBITUARIES •

Iris Jane (I) Norman

Iris Jane (I) Norman, age 97, of Highlands, NC, died Wednesday November 4, 2009 at Fidelia Eckerd Nursing Home. She was born in Lockney, Texas, the daughter of the late John and Wilhemina Hassell Witherspoon. She was a registered nurse and a member of Broadway Church of Christ. She was a member of Professional Women's Society, while she served as Superintendent of Student Health Service at Texas Tech University.

She is survived by her daughter, Jane Lea Norman Sticka and her son in law Dale Sticka, and her granddaughter Shannon P. Sticka all of Highlands, NC. She was preceded in death by two sisters, Athalee Genn and Lucille Freeman, a twin brother, D.J. Witherspoon, and brother Hack Witherspoon.

She spent most of her life in Lubbock and Dallas, Texas. Growing up during the Great Depression which made her a person who could work hard, but also a person who developed the grace and poise to run a hospital and also entertain royalty. Those that knew her were amazed by her presence and her ability to win you over quickly with her grace. Yes, she will be missed by all who knew her.

By her request, no services are planned, she believed in celebrating life not death. For those who would like to make a contribution to a cause she embraced, please acknowledge Highlands-Cashiers Hospice and Friends for Life.

The family would like to take this time to praise both Fidelia Eckerd and Highlands-Cashiers Hospice where all went out of their way to aid and assist us during this difficult time. Life is fragile so live like there is no tomorrow, dance like no one is watching, laugh often, and help one another. Bryant-Grant is in charge of arrangements. Online condolences may be made at www.bryantgrantfuneralhome.com.

Edward "Bud" Boyle Darde

Edward "Bud" Boyle Darden, Jr., age 85, a longtime resident of Cashiers, NC died November 4, 2009 at an Asheville Hospital. He was born in Virginia Beach, VA, the son of the late Edward B and Maude Baker Darden.

He was a US Army Veteran of WWII where he served as a Sgt. He was an alumni of Perdue University, attended Darlington Prep School, was a founder of Chatooga Club; founder of the Christ Anglican Church, member of the Sons of Confederate Veterans and a member of Christ Anglican Church of Highlands-Cashiers. He owned his own Real Estate Business.

He is survived by his wife of 33 years, Ruth Champ Darden; his daughter, Ann Dale Darden of Tampa, FL; his son, Edward B. Darden III and his wife Mary of Oak Harbour, Washington; one sister, Elizabeth D. Brown of Danielsville, GA; two grandchildren, Rachael Darden and Emily Darden Berkey and her husband, Christian; one great-granddaughter, Claire Elizabeth Berkey; one niece, Bette Bunnell and one nephew, Robert Brown.

Funeral services were held Monday, November 9 at 1 PM at the Community Bible Church with The Rev. Jim Murphy officiated. Burial was in the Norton Cemetery in Norton Community, Cashiers, NC. The Sons of Confederate Veterans served as pallbearers.

Memorials may be made to the Christ Anglican Church, 348 S. 5th Street, Highlands, NC 28741. Bryant-Grant Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Online condolences can be made by visiting www.bryantgrantfuneralhome.com.

Virginia Brown Sweeny

Ginny Sweeny died at home in Highlands, NC on October 31, 2009. She was born in Florence, SC on November 5, 1917, a daughter of Leroy K and Virginia K. Brown. She attended the public schools in Florence, and in 1935 entered Furman University. At Furman she participated in the Bach and Chapel Choirs, was a member of the Student Government Association, and was elected into Zetosophia, the honorary scholastic fraternity. She graduated in 1939 with a BA degree in Music.

Ginny and Jim Sweeny were married on April 19, 1941. Their first son was born while Jim was in India during the war. After his return to civilian life, they lived in Pittsfield and Lenox, MA and Baltimore, MD, where Ginny made a home for their growing family. In Pittsfield she was a member of the Hospital Auxiliary, participated in United Way fund drives and was inducted into PEO. She was also a member of the Lenox, MA Congregational Church. Throughout Jim's career in GE, she was a gracious hostess to his business associates and to their many friends, and in his retirement, she was his dearest friend and companion until in her nineties, when an advanced case of arthritis and heart complications finally took their toll.

A memorial service will be held at a later date. Survivors include her husband; their three children, James O. Sweeny, Jr., and wife Barbara of Oldsmar, FL, V. Kee Howles and husband Jeffrey of Schenectady, NY and Robert M. Sweeny of Charleston, SC; two grandsons and two granddaughters. Memorials may be made to the Highlands-Cashiers Hospice, PO Box 190, Highlands, NC 28741 Bryant-Grant Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Online condolences can be made by visiting www.bryantfuneralhome.com.

Cara K. 'Tommy' Lambrecht

Cara K. 'Tommy' Lambrecht 94, of St. Petersburg, FL, and a longtime summer resident of Highlands, died October 31, 2009 after a brief illness. Mrs. Lambrecht, affectionately known as Tommy, was born in Minneapolis, MN, the daughter of Emma and Carl Keller.

Mrs. Lambrecht spent her childhood in Birmingham, MI. She fondly recalled her happy childhood, her father, a pioneer in aviation, and the many adventures during the 1920s and '30s flying in his nine-passenger plane – from landing in a farmer's field to attend her sister's graduation from school in Illinois in 1926 to taking schoolmates to University of Michigan football games in Ann Arbor and to flying across country to visit relatives in California.

She attended Shimer College in Illinois and Michigan State University where she was a member of Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority. She married George J. Lambrecht of Detroit, MI in 1934.

In 1943, she and her husband moved from Detroit to St. Petersburg, where they raised their family and were active in the real estate and insurance business for more than 30 years. He predeceased her in death in 1990.

Mrs. Lambrecht was actively involved in volunteer work in St. Petersburg, serving on the boards and as an officer of several organizations, including president of the YWCA and Florence Crittenton Home and Service League, and as a volunteer at the Museum of Fine Arts and the Historical Museum. She was a charter member of AO Study Group, a long time member of Woodlawn Presbyterian Church and a member of Sintellites and the St. Petersburg Yacht Club.

Mrs. Lambrecht and her husband were summer residents in Highlands, NC for more than 35 years and celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in Highlands. During their summers in Highlands, she volunteered regularly at Mountain Findings and the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. She was a member of the First Presbyterian Church and Highlands Falls Country Club. During her last eight years in Highlands, she was a summer resident at Chestnut Hill.

Mrs. Lambrecht is survived by her daughter Carol Aamodt of Morehead City, NC and her sons Carl Lambrecht (and wife Lee Ann) of St. Petersburg, FL, and David Lambrecht of Atlanta, GA, and Highlands and by three grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to a charity of your choice. A memorial service will be held in St. Petersburg at a later date.

• MILESTONE •

Congressman Heath Shuler congratulates Eagle Scout Will Newman



Will Newman, a 14 year old freshman at T.C. Roberson High School, was awarded the rank of Eagle Scout at his Court of Honor this past Sunday at The North Carolina Arboretum in Asaheville.

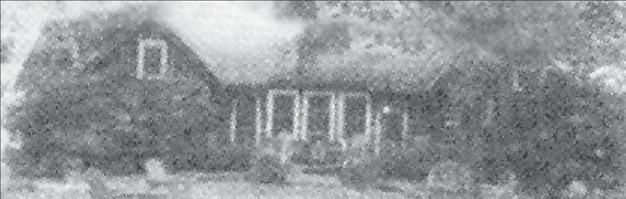
Congressman Heath Shuler was in attendance and presented Will with a flag which had been flown over the U.S. Capitol. Will is a member of Troop 8 of Daniel Boone Council and Tsali Lodge in the Order of the Arrow whose Indian Dance Team became national champions this past summer at the National Order of the Arrow Conference.

Newman is the son of Steve and Wendy Newman of Asheville and the grandson of Bill and Connie Newman of Highlands, NC, and of Frances Cheatham of Naples, FL.

For his Eagle project, Newman landscaped the band building at T.C. Roberson High School. He has taken karate for 10 years and won numerous awards for his photography which has appeared in national publications. Will is a well-known local musician who plays keyboards in the popular band, Jazz The Ripper.

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• LAUGHING AT LIFE •

Hey, David, take a hike!

Only kidding; actually I was rooting for ole Davy boy but couldn't write about it. I knew Kim wouldn't allow me to write about any politician before the election so I didn't try. She tries to stay fair and balanced.

Anyway David won by a huge landslide and kudos to him and his campaign workers for running such a smart campaign. Without sounding too gay, may I ask, "Is this a mandate???"

I'll miss Dr. Don 'cause I loved to make fun of his ideas and politics. The best was his "free money" idea....kinda like "free lunch"....or "free healthcare." I have this feeling David won't be supplying me with much to make fun of. There's not much foolishness in him. I can't wait to call him about my neighbor's barking dog.

During the four years Dr. Don was mayor, I never had the pleasure of meeting him. I once left a message for him to call me but he didn't. I guess we run in different circles....like way, way different circles. I'm a down-in-the-dirt kinda guy and, well, I guess the doctor doesn't get dirty too often. Still, I'm told by many he's a fine man. Not everyone needs to get down and dirty. I wish him well.

I first met David Wilkes when he and another guy owned the Happy Hiker. I knew him but he didn't know me. Later, when he opened the Highlands Hiker, I marched into his store, introduced myself and handed him one of my rappelling brochures. He looked at it, then looked at me, then looked back at the brochure. Then he said, "Let me get this straight. You want me to put these brochures in my store so people can call you and you can push them off of cliffs? I don't think so; too much liability. Take a hike." While I didn't agree with his decision, I understood his reasoning. David is a conservative thinker. So am I.

In time, David came to know I wasn't a flash-in-the-pan guy who just decided to come to Highlands and open a rappel business. He learned I had vast experience in the sport and heard from my customers about how professional our procedures and training were. He changed his mind.

When I finally got my foot in the door with a few brochures, it became an instant good match. I sent my customers to his climbing wall and to shop in his store. He sent me student rappellers. And



Fred Wooldridge

Feedback is encouraged!
email:
askfredanything@aol.com

isn't that a huge part of what being in business is about, helping one another, bonding together as business people for the betterment of Highlands? Of course, profit is the overriding goal.

OK, enough with the kudos. No more pussy-foot-in' around. David, I'm on my knees begging you to dump the embarrassing Dog Poop Park logo....oops, I mean Pine Street Park. It's a dad-gum vacant lot, not a park. It's only used for poop

and art. Stop calling it a park. In the majesty of these magnificent Nantahala National Forests, I'm appalled we call 5th and Pine Street a park.

One Sunday morning I walked out of church and headed for my car. A couple of tourists stopped me and asked for directions to Pine Street Park. "Right there," I said, pointing across the street at the vacant lot. They were stunned and I was embarrassed for my town.

If our town fathers are so proud of that stupid park why don't they use it? Why didn't they choose the park for the "After Christmas Parade" festivities instead of closing Main Street on a Saturday? Helloooo, the stupid vacant lot is just sitting there right around the corner. What's with that hair-brain decision? Hey, David, by this time next year I'll be blaming you for all this insanity.

There are so many things about Highlands that are perfect just the way they are. While it's good to get the deadly asbestos out of Town Hall, it doesn't need a major overhaul. We're a mountain town and our Town Hall should reflect that image. And next time, for crying out loud, make the town build the firehouse before they buy the fire truck. DUH!

If you could find a way to stick a few trees down the middle of Main Street without removing even one parking space, I would love it. It would soften the Main Street asphalt look. Whatever you do, don't stop thinking "mountain town." This is not New York City.

Most importantly, please don't spend money on "studies." I'll study whatever you want for free and I'm sure there's enough free talent in this town to do studies that don't require some city slicker from out of town to charge us a huge fee to tell us whatever we want him to say anyway.

And now....about my neighbor's barking dog....

• THE VIEW FROM HERE •

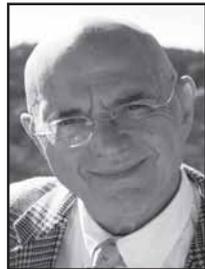
T-shirt screams racism

It may be the most beautiful day of the year. I decided that if I could see my computer screen in the sun's glare, I would write my column on the deck. An avid hiker who visited our house told me four states are visible from my deck and she pointed into the distance at the Appalachian Trail. Her eyes must have been a lot better than mine.

I carried my computer and Diet Coke to the deck. I discovered this November 8 was too warm for a sweatshirt. I found a favorite tee shirt in the closet. I don't wear it in public because many people would find it offensive. There was no one to be offended on my deck, so I pulled it on. It features several Confederate Civil War flags. I'll bet you didn't know there were three national flags and the first one didn't display the "Stars and Bars." I love flags. When I was a kid I studied national flags in the back of a dictionary. I learned the difference between the Swiss flag and the Red Cross. I found that Japan had both a mercantile flag and a battle flag. Japan's sneak attack on Pearl Harbor took place a mere 68 years ago. The final battle of the Civil War was 1865, but display of the Japanese wouldn't carry the impact of the Battle Flag.

I don't think anyone who knows me, either personally or through my writing, thinks I'm a racist. When I see the Confederate Battle flag flying from a rickety pole in someone's front yard, my initial reaction is that the resident is making a political statement rather than a historic or artistic one. If I were to wear my shirt in public, people would think the same of me. I'd rather relinquish my right to wear my favorite shirt. Bull loves the Union Jack and wears it on a shirt. It's been a long time since the British gave us any grief.

It's should be obvious why the Confederate still evokes such strong emotions. It is because American Blacks still aren't completely free and because some people don't want them to be. I know. I know. A few unqualified black kids were admitted to Yale and folks wrung their hands. Some white firemen sued because they were the only candidates who passed a promotion exam, and promotion was denied them



Dr. Henry Salzarulo

**Feedback is encouraged.
email:**

hsalzarulo@aol.com

because the city of Hartford wanted to promote minority candidates. It's not easy to undo hundreds of years of injustice. Sometimes the measures seem extreme, or down right unfair. But that doesn't mean that Blacks have an advantage, or even a level playing field.

There are plenty of explanations for the continuing plight of Afro-Americans, and some of them rest squarely at the feet of the Black population. Too many Blacks fail to get an education. Poor schools are only part of the problem. Drug use can't be blamed solely on Columbians and Mexicans. The people who buy the stuff must accept responsibility. There are far too many babies being born to teenage Moms and far too few fathers hanging around to make a family for their kids. Many Blacks, defiantly it seems to me, insist on language and attire that are disturbing to White Americans. It doesn't matter that skateboarders have adopted some of the trappings of the slums. When one is seeking admission to law school or interviewing for a job on Wall Street, he or she still has to look the part.

My Italian family endured just a few decades of discrimination. Dad and all his brothers went to college before the War. After the War, they returned to a new America where almost nobody cared that your grandfather was born in Italy. So my situation is very different. Lots of people still care deeply if your great-great-great-great-great grandfather was born in Africa.

In my lifetime I'd like to see America become truly post racial, a country in which nobody squirms when a black man kisses a white woman, in which parents aren't alarmed if their kid brings home a date of a different hue, where fear of a stranger isn't based on the color of his skin, and where the race of our President no longer matters.

There are many Americans who share my dream. For starters, Blacks might do what I've done with my tee shirt. Keep ebonics and outlandish attire behind closed doors and recognize that cultural and economic success are a far more satisfying way to say, "I am somebody," than clinging to relics of the slum.

County Flu Shot Clinics expanded

Due to recently increased supplies of the H1N1 vaccine, the Macon County Public Health Center has expanded its age-based eligibility criteria. H1N1 flu shot clinics have been scheduled for Friday, Nov. 13 and Friday, Nov. 20. Appointments are now being accepted for the November 13 clinic and appointments for the November 20 clinic will be accepted beginning Monday, November 16. These two H1N1 clinics are open to Macon County residents who fall into the following eligibility groups: children ages 14 and under (recently expanded from ages 4 and under), pregnant women, and caregivers of infants

less than six months of age.

In addition, seasonal flu shots for children ages 6 months through 18 years old are also available on additional dates by appointment.

The public is encouraged to use the Macon County Public Health Center's flu information and appointment line to keep up-to-date on flu shot clinics, the latest eligibility criteria, and for information on scheduling appointments. This line may be accessed by calling 349-2081 and following the flu information instructions.

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Highlands School exchange student Tucker Bates at a birthday party with his friends in Argentina

¡Hola de Argentina!

• *This is the first in a multi-part series by Tucker about his life as an exchange student in San Juan, Argentina.*

By Tucker Bates

“¡Hola! Me llamo Tucker Bates y soy de Carolina del Norte en los Estados Unidos.” That’s my standard introduction here in Argentina.

My name is Tucker Bates and I am on Rotary Youth Exchange in San Juan, Argentina. I am 16 years old, and until this year, I have lived only in the Highlands-Cashiers area.

I left the Charlotte Airport on Aug. 23 and was met on the 24th in Mendoza, Argentina by my host parents Bibiana and Arturo Pechuan, and my three brothers Pablo (21), Nicolas (19), and Ezekiel (10). It was at some point during that ride from Mendoza to San Juan, either while trying to communicate with the little Spanish I knew or holding on for dear life as we swerved to dodge the horse-drawn carriage moseying along the interstate, that it hit me; I really am in Argentina.

It’s hard to imagine a place more opposite to Cashiers than San Juan. Cashiers is in a rainforest, San Juan is in a desert. Instead of concern for torrential downpours or the pipes freezing, we have to worry about our dashboard melting or getting caught in a dust storm. In the two months I have been living here I have yet to see a drop of rain or even a cloud capable of producing rain. I actually miss the rain.

Living in a larger city has also taken some getting used to. There are over 112,000 people living in San Juan and our house is in the middle of it all. I’ve learned the public bus system, become a pro at catching a taxi, grown accustomed to crowded streets and crazy drivers, and learned to sleep through city lights and

noises.

The transition has been made easier by the helpfulness and kindness of the people here. It seems that the farther south you go the more “southern hospitality” you find. When I first arrived I felt pretty vulnerable, but my family and classmates have gone above and beyond to take care of me. My year is off to a great start thanks to the hospitality of the Argentine people.

In just two months I am already able to communicate in Spanish and I have become quite independent. I am learning my way around the city and can I walk or take the bus wherever I need to go. I am now a regular in the corner pastery shop and I am greeted by people I have met almost everywhere I go.

I am still trying to adapt to the Argentine schedule. I’ve grown accustomed to eating dinner at 10 pm and I take a siesta every afternoon. Going to bed before midnight is rare, and it is usually light out when we finally go to bed on the weekends.

Every weekend is filled with birthday parties, huge barbeques (called “asados”) with the relatives, and going out dancing with my friends. During one of my first weekends in the country I was invited to a 15th birthday party for one of my classmates. 15th birthdays are a huge deal here and I had no idea what I was getting into. The party was in the ballroom of one of the nicest hotels in San Juan and was beautifully decorated. Everyone arrived in their nicest suits and dresses at 11 pm for the dinner and the dancing started at 2 am. I left at 5 am, and I was one of the first to leave! Not being much of a dancer back home and being nearly a foot taller than almost everyone else on the dance

•See ARGENTINA page 9

• REFLECTIONS FROM TURTLE POND •

Jobs

Someone recently said to me: "You must be happy; everything's going your way!" What he meant was that since the Democrats were in control of Congress and the White House, I must like what is going on in Washington.

But it's not true. I can remember being mystified when conservatives I knew didn't think George W. Bush was a real conservative. I wondered how they could be unhappy when the Republicans were in control of Congress and the White House. Now I understand.

Here's a news flash: I have a lot of problems with what's coming out of Washington. High on the list is the Obama administration's economic policies. You can look back at a column I wrote soon after the election criticizing his economic appointees to see this is not a new thought ("Status Quo We Can Believe In").

In particular, the emphasis seems to be on saving large banks and Wall Street firms with almost no consideration given to people struggling to find work.

Last month a new Ken Burns series debuted on public television channels about the National Parks. One of the films had a section about the contribution the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) made to the parks, and how much the program meant to hundreds of thousands of hungry families.

The CCC was established almost immediately after FDR's inauguration. It was a public relief project providing jobs to unemployed young men, and the work they did was the conservation of our natural resources — erosion control and reforestation — and development of recreation areas in our national forests and parks.

There was a CCC camp in Horse Cove from 1934-1936, and at the intersection of Horse Cove and Rich Gap Roads you can see a U.S. Forest Service sign commemorating it. The sign declares that the men in this CCC camp "helped develop the Nantahala National Forest by building local roads, fighting fires, planting trees, and improving timber stands. Under U.S. Forest Service direction, Cliffside Recreation Area was constructed during this time."

You'll hear some people (mostly conservatives) say that FDR's New Deal policies didn't bring us out of the Great Depression; it was World War II that revived the economy. But I have also heard it said that WWII was the time of the greatest government management of the economy.



Katie Brugger
k-brugger@hotmail.com

Whether that is true or not, WWII was in effect a massive government jobs program.

In the 1970s a Youth Conservation Corps program was developed based on the CCC model, but for high school students during summer vacation. I was lucky enough to participate in 1973. I have extremely fond memories of the month

I spent in the Mark Twain National Forest in southern Missouri, building trails and campsites and fencing up the mouth of a cave to protect a rare bat. One of my favorite tasks was splitting rocks into slabs to decorate the concrete barbecue grills we had constructed in a campground.

The Youth Conservation Corps was in Highlands too: YCC participants built the wall at the Blue Valley overlook on Hwy 106. The wall is made of low stone pillars supporting wooden rails; inset in the central stone pillar is a plaque that reads "Constructed by the U.S. Youth Conservation Corps 1976."

Unemployment reached 10.2 percent last month, and this understates the true misery out there because the unemployment rate only includes people who have looked for work in the past four weeks. The underemployment rate — which also includes jobless workers who have not recently looked for work and people working part-time who want full-time work — is now 17.5 percent.

The unemployment rate for teenagers aged 16 to 19 is a record 27.6 percent.

Economic statistics such as the unemployment rate were not measured in the 1930s, but most estimates of the unemployment rate in the worst year of the Great Depression are about 25 percent.

It's a complete fantasy, but I'll indulge anyway: imagine a public works project for our time. A group called the Economic Policy Institute has drafted a plan for a jobs program which includes giving money to states and cities to hire people to paint schools, board up vacant homes, staff child-care centers, restore streams, improve city parks, provide home health care, and help to preserve historic buildings. Workers would be paid the going wage in the area. The cost: \$40 billion for a year. (www.epi.org/publications/entry/pm152/)

But the political situation in this country makes a public works project on the scale of the CCC unthinkable — imagine the howls of "socialism" that would pour from FoxNews if President Obama proposed such a program.

• See BRUGGER page 17

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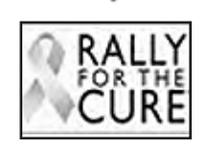
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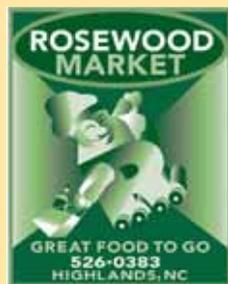
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Mark your calendars for Pearle's birthday party Saturday, Nov. 14



By Trudy Rogers Alexander

Pearle Rogers Lambert, turns 90 on Saturday, Nov. 14 and she's inviting all her family and friends to join her at the Highlands Rec Park from 2-4 p.m.

Everyone is encouraged to come by to enjoy some birthday cake with this remarkable lady on her special day. Of course Pearle says "No presents, just come as you are!"

Pearle was born in Scaly Mounain, Nov. 14, 1919, the sixth child of Henry and Lonnie Mason Carpenter. There were eight children in the family – two brothers, Dee and Zeb Carpenter, and five sisters, Ethel Miller, Bessie Cresswell, Elizabeth Littleton, Grace Edwards and Louise Lebre.

Losing her mother at an early age, Pearle learned to be independent, leaving home at the age of six to pretty much live at the Tamassee DAR School where she graduated.

When she finished Tamassee, she returned to Highlands to work at the Potts House which later became the Phelps House.

In the fall, Pearle entered Anderson Junior College where she took typing and other business related courses and worked in the dining room to help take care of her expenses. Education was cut short when she met and married the handsome and witty Arthur "Dusty" Rogers from Highlands.

Pearle and Dusty built a home on the Franklin Road where the covered bridge

leading to The Bascom now sits. They raised five children, Nora, Arthur, Jr., (Spec), Margaret, James (Jimbud) and Debbie (Trudy.) This resulted in 11 grandchildren, nine great-grandchildren and one great, great grandchild. Pearle has helped raise every one of them and is still helping!

Sadly, the family home was sold in 1966, Dusty died in 1967 and Spec died in 2001. The rest of the gang, including most of the grandchildren, still live in Highlands.

Pearle is known by many for her 34 dedicated years of working at the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. She started as an aide in the early 1960s, due to first-aid courses she attended there, taught by Miss Carter who was the hospital administrator.

Always ambitious, in 1967, she went back to school to take over as the X-Ray technician which had her on call 24/7. Along with the X-Ray, she was in charge of Central Supply, which came with the responsibility of keeping the hospital well supplied with what was needed, as well as cleaning and sterilizing the instruments and machinery. She loved every minute of her work at the hospital and even though she retired from there years ago, that doesn't mean she stopped working.

We actually had to convince her to take time off on Nov. 14! Thank goodness she has that "Birthday Attitude" and is looking forward to seeing all her family and friends. See you there!

• HIS & HERS •

Nancy counts on corruption

by John Armor

Nancy D'Alesandro Pelosi, Speaker of the House of Representatives, has regularly accused the Republicans in the House of displaying "a culture of corruption." Yet the critical vote to get the House version of the health bill out of the House, demonstrates that Speaker Pelosi not only likes corruption, she counts on it. Remember her middle name because it figures in the proof.

On 7 November at 11:15 pm House bill 3962 passed by a vote of 220-215. Votes in favor of that bill included the following: Norm Dicks (D-Wash), Jane Harman (D-Cal), Marcy Kaptur (D-Ohio), Alan Mollohan (D-WVa), Jim Moran (D-Va), Charles Rangel (D-NY), Laura Richardson (D-Cal) and Peter Visclosky (D-Ind). If just three had voted against the bill, or had not been in the House to vote for it, the bill would almost certainly have failed.

Why that curious comment about not being in the House? A staffer for the House Ethics Committee put an internal document on a home computer with file sharing capacities. As a result, the complete list of Members of Congress under ethics investigations escaped into the press. These yes votes on the health bill were provided by Members who might have been expelled, had their possible ethics violations had been promptly and adequately examined, decided and acted upon.

Now, who has the power with a wave of her hand, to speed up or slow down the ethics investigation of any Member of the House? Why, that would be the ultimate power, Speaker, Nancy Pelosi. She's been scrambling all this week to engineer the last few votes for passage.

Who would you expect to be the most reliable vote for the House bill, regardless of its contents, and regardless of whether the Member has read the bill? Logically, that reliable vote would come from a Representative who's grateful to still be in the House, because the Speaker has so far saved him/her from an ethics violation.

Is the drive to success, regardless of ethics, logic, or even criminal violations, a new style for Nancy Pelosi? I grew up in Baltimore, and for a brief time lived next door to Nancy D'Alesandro. She was the daughter of Tommy D'Alesandro, Jr., then the corrupt Mayor of Baltimore.

To be sure, Tommy, Jr., never got



**Michelle Mead-Armor &
John Armor**
michiamead@aol.com
John_Armor@aya.yale.edu

charged with any crimes. But it was no secret that his political machine was a cash and carry operation whose sole criterion was victory at the polls and then victory on every vote on every issue. When Tommy, III, came along and became Mayor, he was charged with political corruption, along with a close ally, City Councilman Mimi DiPietro. Just before their trial was to begin, the es-

essential witness against them disappeared.

The elected State's Attorney then went into court and dismissed the charges for "lack of evidence." The missing witness then promptly surfaced in a Las Vegas casino, one which may have had mob connections. Actually, the charges against the Councilman weren't finally dismissed until 1971, when I brought it up in a news story. No one ever said that the D'Alesandro Machine left any of its supporters "twisting in the wind." Loyalty was absolute, but like the drive for victory it was free of such minor concerns as ethics or legality.

Having used such tactics once, one should expect that Speaker Nancy D'Alesandro Pelosi will continue to use such tactics on close votes in the House, as long as she has enough grateful Democrats to work on. Oh, and expect the ethics charges for a corporate-paid trip to the Caribbean by five Members of the Congressional Black Caucus to be dismissed shortly.

It seems that the person assigned to investigate that particular charge is Ethics Committee Member, G.K. Butterfield, (D-NC) who has two advantages. First, he is a fellow member of the Congressional Black Caucus. And, it happens that he went on the same corporate junket the previous year. Could Speaker Pelosi possibly have suggested to the Committee Chairman that he pick Rep. Butterfield for this investigation?

The bottom line is clear: Speaker Nancy D'Alesandro Pelosi counts on corruption to get the votes she wants. She will likely continue to do that as long as she has the opportunity.

• About the Author: John Armor grew up in Baltimore, and spent s33 years practicing in the US Supreme Court. His eighth book, on Thomas Paine, will be published this year. John_Armor@aya.yale.edu

... ARGENTINA continued from page 6

floor made me a little uncomfortable, but as the night went on I started to get the hang of it. I've been to a few other parties since then and my dancing has continued to improve. It would be impossible to live in Argentina for a year and not learn how to dance.

It would also be impossible to live in Argentina and not fall in love with soccer. Soccer, or "futbol," is absolutely everywhere and everyone is passionate about it. I have seen friends not get on a bus and have to wait another half hour simply because the bus driver displayed a sticker or banner of a rival team. Argentines use the

same form of the verb "to be" to share general descriptions and identify with the team they support: I am a boy, I am tall, I am a fan of Independiente. Soccer is truly part of who they are.

There are two rival professional teams that have their home in San Juan, *Sportivo* and *San Martin*. *Sportivo's* stadium is directly, and I mean directly, across the street from my house so I didn't really have a choice but to become a fan of *Sportivo*.

The last game I attended gave me a

• See ARGENTINA page 21

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This is going to be fun

Some of you are probably aware that I have more than a passing interest in sports.

Fortunately, wifey is a sports lover, too, so there isn't any struggle for control of the remote in our house if there's a game on, and she's got her own if there is there is another game she'd rather watch.

Today, I had the pleasure of watching gold hit new highs that means we may have Christmas at our house after all. Then, I switched to the news and was met with the info that Obamacare legislation isn't likely to come down the chute this year missing another in a long list of his deadlines. This provides at least two months of opportunity for conservatives to interject sanity into the equation. This is a good thing.

So far, so good. At 7 PM, in the absence of a World Series game, we'll be watching the Bowling Green/Bufalo game, an annual favorite hereabouts. We'll be switching over to Fox to get the election results, which will provide the real entertainment for the evening. For those of you who have more important issues than caring who wins in Virginia, New Jersey and NY Conf. Dist. 23, (for example, a close friend of ours went into the hospital with acute appendicitis a few minutes ago), I'll bring you a blow by blow.

Voting on the Virginia's governor's race just closed, where conservatives may sweep the top three state offices. We'll see. Meanwhile, it's a toasty 42 degrees in Bufalo where the proceedings have commenced. By the way, I see where PETA, the animal rights people, have been beating on Gore for being a steak-a-holic and causing, not only the death of multiple bovines, but causing a water shortage due to the fact the beasts use up 2,400 gallons of water each as do salmon (?), not to mention the previously reported damaging flatulence of cows and pigs. Al, if you talk the talk, you ought to walk the walk. It's veggieburgers for you, you hypocrite. Bufalo just went up 7-0.

In Virginia, the (R) McDonnell has a 2-1 lead over (D) but with 1% in, it's not quite a final. Even though the polls in up-state NY don't close until 9 PM, I have a personal connection to that race. News reporting is coming out of Saranac Lake, (seven miles from Lake Placid, if you care about such things) where I worked for six months fresh out of college. I left there on December 22nd, which I think



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

was the first day of winter, by which time they had 88 inches of snow. It was good to get back to Minneapolis, a relative garden spot.

Bowling Green makes it 7-7.

McDonnell and the other two major conservatives running in VA are still enjoying a 2-1 margin. Our friend is in surgery. Bufalo, 14-7. Fox just called VA for McDonnell and crew by large margins just as the NJ polls close. Bufalo 14-13, missed XP. In

the big game, it's the People 1, Obama 0.

In NJ, governor Jon Corzine (he's filthy rich, you'd think he could afford to buy an "h") is facing a serious problem in retaining his office. Corzine previously was Chairman and CEO of Goldman Sachs and was moved out of the firm in 1998.

He divorced his wife of 33 years and was moved out of the house in 2003. He was elected to the Senate and moved out after five years to win the Governorship, an office in serious jeopardy. His Republican opponent, Chris Christie, is a real heavyweight (he's gotta go 300 if he's an ounce) and former Attorney General of the District of New Jersey.

Bufalo 21-13 at the half. Friend out of surgery sans appendix and doing well.

Christie has a small lead over Corzine that just got larger. This one is really a test of Obama's influence since he made several appearances on Corzine's behalf. If Corzine loses this one, it presents serious problems for the Dems.

Bufalo, 21-16.
 Christie continues to lead in NJ by a margin analysts say is large enough to ultimately win. Bufalo 29-16.

Bufalo 29-Bowling Green 23. This could get interesting.

Christie holds lead 50-44 with 74% in. This could be big. Owens up in 23rd.

Bowling Green takes lead 30-29 with 39 seconds to go. It's a thriller; and, it's a final.

On other matters, Christie is declared winner in New Jersey. People 2 - Obama 0

Our friend is going home from the hospital tonight? Unbelievable! When did an appendectomy become an outpatient procedure? As it turns out, she actually stayed the night when she found out the hospital food service was serving biscuits and gravy for breakfast.

• See SWANSOBN page 19

... DRUG PROBLEM continued from page 1

County Sheriff Department on two separate counts of obtaining a controlled substance by fraud/forgery.

He was briefly jailed in Macon County but released on a \$2,000 unsecured bond.

According to Macon County Sheriff Deputy Brian Leopard, a call went out for McCall's whereabouts after the pharmacist at Walmart contacted Dr. John Baumrucker of Highlands about a questionable prescription.

According to Magistrate Joseph Brogden's statement on the arrest warrant, "On or about Aug. 24, 2009, McCall unlawfully, willfully and feloniously did intentionally acquire and obtain 42 pills of methadone, a controlled substance included in Schedule 2 of the NC Controlled Substance Act, from Walmart Pharmacy by forgery in that McCall forged a prescription by Dr. John Baumrucker."

Deputy Leopard said Walmart called Dr. Baumrucker about the prescription and Dr. Baumrucker immediately "took a proactive approach" and called numerous other pharmacies in Franklin alerting them to the situation.

Some time after that incident, a pharmacy in Asheville alerted the Asheville Police Department about a suspicious prescription presented by McCall.

"We don't know to what extent the Asheville prescription was falsified," said Leopard.

The Asheville Police Department incident report was not available by press time. However, as in Franklin, McCall was arrested by the Asheville Police Department for obtaining a controlled substance by fraud/forgery and is logged in the North Carolina Court computer system.

Leopard said with today's technology, people are altering prescriptions and filling them out themselves.

Since McCall was living and working in Asheville at Ed Boudreaux's Bayou BBQ as a busboy at the time, the Asheville arrest occurred before the Macon County arrest even though the event followed the Macon County incident.

"I couldn't locate the man," said Leopard. "But once he was arrested in Asheville, he was in the system and I was able to find him."

Leopard said McCall turned himself into the Macon County Sheriff Department on Sept. 18 at 1 p.m. and was and has been "very cooperative."

As evidenced in the recent drug roundup in Macon County that resulted in 45 arrests and the Operation Pill Crusher campaign in April, the illegal use of prescription drugs tops the Sheriff Department's list of problems in the county.

"Prescription drug abuse has become a larger problem than all other drugs combined and is the leading cause of intentional and accidental drug overdoses," said Sheriff Robert Holland. "That is the reason I made

enforcement of prescription drug violations a priority and this was evident by the number of arrests this year."

During Operation Pill Crusher, which resulted in the voluntary collection and destruction of thousands of prescription drugs in several Western North Carolina counties, 144,000 pills were taken to drop-off centers. Macon County deputies collected 22,300 unused medications that day.

The U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration says almost seven million Americans are abusing prescription drugs — more than the number abusing cocaine, heroin, hallucinogens, Ecstasy and inhalants, combined. That number rose from 3.8 million in 2000, which is an 80 percent increase in just six years.

Sheriff Holland said during the past few years the county has seen a significant increase in individuals selling their legally obtained prescriptions resulting in the death of those abusing them.

A Highlands official who asked to remain anonymous, said small town communities like Highlands whose citizens, parents, employers and friends turn a blind eye to illegal activity or questionable behavior, do the person more harm than good.

"By sweeping illegal activity under the rug by not reporting it only causes addicts or criminals to escalate their behavior until

eventually they spiral out of control and become brazen in their actions. What authorities allege McCall has done is a common story happening in many small towns."

Authorities say methods of acquiring prescription drugs for abuse include "doctor-shopping," traditional drug dealing, theft

from pharmacies, the Internet and from friends and relatives.

McCall's felony indictment hearing in Asheville is scheduled for January 14, 2010 and on January 28, 2010 in Macon County.

— **Kim Lewicki**

from the history guy ...

Nov. 12, 1970

The Oregon Highway Division attempts to destroy a rotting beached Sperm whale with explosives, leading to the now infamous exploding whale incident. It was as pretty as you might guess.

**If you must dispose of a cetacean,
one method might be detonation,
tho please allow a good deal of room,
before you make a whale go boom,
cause half a ton of dynamite
can make an awful lot of whale take flight,
and you can not remove with ease
from your hair and clothes ambergrise.
So make sure you exit path is untrammelled
before you try to make a beach unmammeled**

Explore. Participate.

Exhibitions at The Bascom now:

- *American Art Today, Juried Works* (through Dec. 18)

Opening this Saturday (Nov. 14):

- *The Shopping Bag: Exemplary Art and Design*, 5-7 pm (runs through Dec. 18)

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• SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING •

How boring should church be?



COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH
Pastor Gary Hewins

Going to church should be one of the most enjoyable parts of the week. If it's not, something is wrong. Church should never be boring. The gospels are anything but boring. A church shouldn't be too predictable. Christ isn't that predictable. A church should challenge us to grow as ministers in our own right. Who needs a church that doesn't help you to be a better disciple? Isn't that the reason the church exists? Church needs to be celebratory not a downer. I think worshiping in a church should eventually help us become "mature." Whatever "mature" means.

Actually, I think I finally have an idea what spiritual maturity actually is. It's like most things in the Bible. It is the opposite of what we typically think at first. The Bible is full of paradoxes. For example, in our weakness He is strong. The last shall be first and the first shall be last. The meek shall inherit the earth and the humble will be exalted while those who exalt themselves will be humbled. The King of all Kings is born in a feeding trough and he washes dirty feet with a towel and a basin. God's ways are not man's ways. He who Himself is life willingly dies on our behalf. He who was without sin became sin on our behalf. Though He came not to condemn, He Himself was condemned.

I just turned 47 the other day. It took me this long to truly understand what "maturity" means. Maturity as a disciple of Christ isn't what you may think. It doesn't necessarily mean you lock yourself in a study and pour over biblical commentaries. It doesn't necessarily mean that you memorize scripture and wear fancy robes. These are intriguing things, but maturity as a believer means that you are growing to be more like a child everyday. The disciples were trying to figure something out apart from this important principle of living a fun, mature life.

At that time the disciples came to Jesus and asked, "Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?"

He called a little child and had him stand among them. And he said: "I tell you the truth, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. Therefore, whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven" (Matt. 18:1-4).

Children take authority at its word. Therefore the mature believer takes God at His word, at face value. Children trust. Despite economic down turns — mature believers trust in their Heavenly Father and don't fret. Children play and don't work all the time. Children laugh and laugh real hard. This is maturity. Jesus said unless you change and become like little children you never truly experience how incredible following Christ is. The true Christian life is fun, unpredictable, bewildering, full of curiosity and, as Jesus said, "abundant" in nature. Knowing Christ and experiencing Him on a daily basis is real, transforming, and exhilarating.

My prayer for you as a reader is that you experience the paradox of maturity. May you become increasingly more "childlike" than "childish."

Ask yourself this question: If following Christ doesn't bring a smile to your face when you think about it, then what is missing? Because joy is at the forefront of who He is. There is nothing boring about Christianity. There is nothing ordinary about the extraordinary Christ.

• PLACES OF WORSHIP •

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 a.m.

at First Baptist Church

Pot Luck Lunch last Sunday of each month.

CLEAR CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Everett Brewer

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

Prayer – 6:30 p.m.

Evening Service – 1st & 3rd Sunday -- 7 p.m.

COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH

www.cbchighlands.com • 526-4685

Pastor Gary Hewins

3645 U.S. 64 east, Highlands

Sundays: 9:30am Sunday School; 10:30 am

Childrens/Family Program; 10:45 Worship

Tuesdays: 9:30am Womens Bible Study

Wednesdays: 5pm Dinner; 6pm Pastors Bible Study

EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE INCARNATION

The Rev. Brian Sullivan – Rector: 526-2968

Sunday: Breakfast; 9 A.M. - Sunday School

10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist (Rite II)

Sunday Service on Channel 14 at 10:30 A.M.

Monday: 4 p.m. Womens Cursillo Group

Tuesday: 8 a.m. Mens Cursillo Group

4:30 P.M. Education for Ministry

Wednesday: 6:30 P.M. Choir Practice

Thursday: 10 a.m. Holy Eucharist (Chapel)

10:30 a.m. Daughters of the King

• Sunday Service on Channel 14 Sun. at 10:30 a.m.

FIRST ALLIANCE CHURCH OF FRANKLIN

Rev. Mitch Schultz, Pastor • 828-369-7977

Sun. Worship 8:30 & 10:45 a.m.; 6: p.m.

(nursery provided)

Sun. school for all ages 9:45 a.m.

Wed: dinner 5 p.m. followed by childrens

Pioneer Club 6 p.m.; Jr & Sr Youth Group 6:30 p.m.;

Adult Bible Study & Prayer Meeting 7 p.m.

Small groups available throughout the week.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Dr. Daniel D. Robinson, 526-4153

Sun.: Worship 10:45 a.m., 6:30 p.m.; School – 9:30

a.m.; Youth – 6:30 p.m.; Choir – 7:15

Wednesdays: Dinner – 5:30 p.m.; Team Kids – 6

p.m.; Prayer – 6:15 p.m., Choir – 7:30 p.m.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Dr. Lee Bowman, Pastor

Dr. Don Mullen, Parish Associate 526-3175

Sun.: Worship – 11 a.m.; Sun. School – 9:30 & 9:45.

Mondays: 8 a.m. – Mens Bible Discussion & Breakfast

Wednesdays – Choir – 7

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 – Womens Bible Study (nursery)

HOLY FAMILY LUTHERAN CHURCH – ELCA

Chaplain Margaret Howell

2152 Dillard Road – 526-9741

Sundays: Sunday School and Adult discussion group

9:30 a.m.; Worship/Communion – 10:30

HEALING SERVICE on the 5th Sunday of the month.

MACEDONIA BAPTIST CHURCH

8 miles south of Highlands on N.C. 28 S in Satolah

Pastor Matt Shuler, (828) 526-8425

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

Choir – 6 p.m.

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

MOUNTAIN SYNAGOGUE

St. Cyprians Episcopal Church, Franklin

828-369-9270 or 828-293-5197

OUR LADY OF THE MOUNTAINS ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

Rev. Dean Cesa, pastor

Parish office, 526-2418

Sundays: Mass – 11 a.m.

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.

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

For more information call 526-3212.

SHORTOFF BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Rev. Andy Cloer.

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

Wednesdays: Prayer & Bible Study – 7

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP

85 Sierra Drive • 828-524-6777

Sunday Worship - 11 a.m.

Child Care - 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Religious Education - 11 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

Youth from 8th - 12th grades meet the second

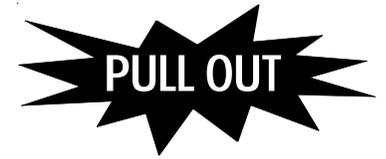
Sunday of each month from 5 - 7:30 p.m

WHITESIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Cashiers, Rev. Sam Forrester, 743-2122

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

Ongoing and Upcoming Events



Ongoing

• Republican women from Jackson, Macon and Transylvania Counties have initiated the formation of a Republican Women's Association. The core group of organizers headed by Melisa McKim of Cashiers includes Carol Adams, Glenville, Dinah Davis, Highlands, Melinda Barber, Cashiers and Debbie Sanderson, Sapphire. All Republican women, permanent and seasonal residents, are invited to join and participate as the group gets officially underway. Announcements about meetings and events will be made through local publications and radio stations. For additional information please call 828 200-0437.

Ruby Cinema

Hwy. 441, Franklin, NC
524-2076
Nov. 13-19

* Advance tickets for the movie
Twilight: New Moon are not on sale

2012

rated PG-13
Fri: 4, 7, 10
Sat: 1, 4, 7, 10
Sun: 1, 4, 7
Mon + Wed: 4, 7
Tues + Thurs: 1, 4, 7

A CHRISTMAS CAROL

rated PG
Fri: 4:10, 7:10, 9:10
Sat: 2:10, 4:10, 7:10, 9:10
Sun: 2:10, 4:10, 7:10
Mon + Wed: 4:10, 7:10
Tues + Thurs: 2:10, 4:10, 7:10

THE BOX

rated PG-13
Fri: 4:20, 7:05, 9:20
Sat: 2:05, 4:20, 7:05, 9:20
Sun: 2:05, 4:20, 7:05
Mon + Wed: 4:20, 7:05
Tues + Thurs: 2:05, 4:20, 7:05

THE FOURTH KIND

rated PG-13
Fri: 4:15, 7:15
Sat: 2:15, 4:15, 7:15
Sun: 2:15, 4:15
Mon + Wed: 4:15
Tues + Thurs: 2:15, 4:15

PARANORMAL ACTIVITY

rated R
Fri: 9:30
Sat: 9:30
Sun: 7:20
Mon + Wed: 7:20
Tues + Thurs: 7:20

Week Long

• The 2010 Highlands Historical Society calendars are available for \$10 each, and if you buy 4 you get a free cookbook. The calendars feature scenes of Highlands from the 1800s to the early 1900s. Calendars are available at Cyrano's, The Highlander Newspaper, Country Club Properties (Wright Square location), and The Chambers Agency. All proceeds benefit the Highlands Historical Society.

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

Sundays

• Refuge Youth meets every Sun. night at 6:30 p.m. downstairs at Cullasaja Assembly of God. Call youth ministers Matt and Candace Woodroof at 828-369-7540 ext 203.

Mon., Wed., Thurs.

• Yoga On the Mat at the Episcopal Church of the Incarnation on Main Street. Enter through single door facing Mountain Fresh. M/W @ 7:30 a.m., Thur. @ 10:45 a.m. Bring your mat. 828-482-2128. 12/31.

Mon., Wed., Fri.

• Step Aerobics with Tina Rogers at the Rec

Park, 8-9 a.m. \$10 per class or \$50 a month.

First Mondays

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

Mondays

• Closed AA meeting, 5:30 p.m. at the Episcopal Church at Fifth and Main streets.

Tuesdays

• Clogging Lessons at the Rec Park. 5 p.m. Leather shoes recommended and tap shoes can be ordered. For more information, call Joyce Doerter at 877-6618. \$30/mth.

• Highlands Rotary Club meets at noon at the Highlands Conference Center.

• Closed AA Women's meeting, 5:30 p.m. at the Episcopal Church at Fifth and Main streets.

Tuesdays & Wednesdays

• Zumba Classes at the Rec Park. Aerobic/dance/toning. No dance experience necessary. One-hour. \$5/class. Tuesdays, 11:30-12:30, Wednesdays Zumba Gold/Beginner, 9:30-10:15 a.m. Call Mary K. Bar-

bour at 828-342-2498.

Wednesdays

• The Highlands Mountaintop Rotary meets at Ruka's Table at 163 Main Street in Wright Square in Highlands at 7:30 a.m. Visitors are welcome. If you are new to the Highlands area we invite you to join us for breakfast and our meeting.

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

Wednesdays & Fridays

• Open AA meeting at noon at the Episcopal Church at Fifth and Main streets.

Every 3rd Wednesday

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

Thursdays

• Al-Anon meeting, noon at the Episcopal Church on Main and Fifth streets.

1st & 3rd Thursdays

• NAMI Appalachian South (National Alliance on Mental Illness) will have a support group meeting the first and third Thursday of each month. It is for people coping with serious mental illnesses (bi-polar disorder, depression, schizophrenia, panic disorder, etc) and/or their family members. We also do advocacy and educational programs. 486 W. Palmer St., Franklin, NC, 7-8 p.m., with snacks afterwards. For information contact Carole Light, Ph.D. at 828-526-9769 or Ann Nandea at 828-369-7385

Fridays & Saturdays

• At Fressers Eatery, Cy Timmons live from 6 p.m.

• At Highlands Wine & Cheese, at Falls on Main, complimentary wine samplings during business hours.

Every Third Saturday

• The Highlands Memorial Post #370 of the American Legion meets at the Shortoff Baptist Church. Breakfast is at 9 a.m. Meeting is at 10 a.m. All veterans are invited to attend.

Every Fourth Saturday

• Friends of Panthertown work days, are the fourth Saturday of each month. (Time and location varies). Volunteers needed to maintain trails. For more information, contact Nina Elliott at 828-526-9938 (ext 258).

Saturdays

• At Cyprus International Restaurant, live music beginning at 9 p.m. No cover.

• At Highlands Wine & Cheese, Falls on Main, Wine Flights from 4-6:30 p.m. Five wines, artisan cheeses and specialty foods. \$19 per person.

• NA open meeting every Saturday at 7:30 p.m. of the ACC Satelite Group at the Graves Community Church, 242 Hwy 107 N. in Cashiers. Call 888-764-0365.

• YOGA All Levels Class Saturday 9:30-11AM, Moonrise Yoga, 464 Carolina Way, 526-8880. (12/3)

Tuesdays, Nov. 17 & 24

• Ashtanga Dynamic Yoga Study Group Forming Meets Tuesday Early Mornings, Call Ashby Underwood for Details, 526-8880. (11/19)

Through Thurs., Nov. 19

• Pottery workshop "Open Studio for Ceramics,"

Alumni basketball weekend fundraiser for Varsity Girls BB Christmas Tournament

Calling all Highlands High School Alumnae back to Highlands School November 20-21 for a weekend of basketball, as well as reminiscing with old friends and meeting new friends.

On Friday, November 20, Highlands School basketball teams will be hosting Rabun County with junior varsity girls starting at 4 p.m., junior varsity boys at 5 p.m., varsity girls at 7 p.m., and varsity boys at 8:30 p.m.

There will be a hospitality room for all alumnae sponsored by the HHS Boosters Club and the parents of the current Highlander basketball players.

"We are also asking businesses and all HHS fans, students and alumnae to wear blue and gold on Friday, November 20," said Highlands Varsity Girls Coach Brett Lamb. On Saturday, Nov. 21, the HHS Lady Highlanders and HHS Boosters Club will be hosting a HHS Basketball Alumnae Game in the new gym. Beginning at 4 p.m., a BBQ dinner will be served and registration for all alumnae will begin. Special guests, current players and alumnae will be introduced beginning at 6:30 p.m.

Special guests will include former coaches and administrators Brooks Bennett, Greg Price, Donnie Calloway, Bill Lanford, Doyle Calloway, Donnie Edwards and Larry Brooks.

Raffle tickets will be sold during both the Friday night game and the Saturday night alumnae game featuring a variety of prizes donated by members of the community.

At \$1 a ticket or six for \$5, supporters

get a chance to win an original pottery piece by Pat Taylor (valued at \$35), gas certificate from Exxon of Cashiers, \$25 gift certificate from Sports Page, or a \$50 gift certificated from High Country Photo, or a manicure and pedicure session (valued at \$55) from Mountain Tan.

Other prizes include a \$25 gift certificate from Kilwin's, \$50 gift certificate from Annawear, \$40 gift certificates from Pescado's, \$50 gift certificate from Nick's, \$25 gift certificate from SweeTreats, \$25 gift certificate from Highlands Car Spa, \$75 gift certificate from Log Cabin Restaurant and \$50 gift certificate at Farmers Market or Citgo gas station.

Supporters can also purchase \$5 raffle tickets for a chance to win a blue sapphire and diamond bracelet (estimated value: \$3,000).

Raffle winners will be announced at 7:30 p.m. during the alumnae game Saturday night. You do not have to be present to win. Money raised from the raffles and the alumnae game will help fund a trip for the Highlands School Varsity Girls to a Christmas Tournament, December 17-19 at the Disney Sports Complex in Orlando, Florida.

"We would love to have as many alumnae as possible come back and participate," said Lamb, who is coordinating the Alumnae Weekend. "We're excited about all our current student/athletes. The motto at our school is Highlander Pride... Get It!"

For more information, contact Coach Lamb at (828) 526-2147 or email brett.lamb@macon.k12.nc.us



Ongoing and Upcoming Events

by Patrick Taylor, will be held at The Bascom for intermediate to advanced students. Two sessions: Mondays and Wednesdays, 6 to 8 p.m.; or Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Cost is \$375/\$350 Bascom members (basic materials and firing included). To register, call (828) 526-4949 or visit www.thebascom.org.

Fridays through Nov. 20

• H1N1 and Seasonal Flu shot clinics for children at the Macon County Health Center on Lakeside Drive in Franklin. For an appointment call 349-2081 during regular office hours and following the directions found on the flu information telephone prompt. Seasonal flu vaccine will be available for all children 6 months through 18 years old. H1N1 flu vaccine will be available for children 6 months through 4 years old; caregivers (parents and siblings) of infants less than 6 months old; and pregnant women. The shots are free of charge for children, but insurance will be billed for the administration fee. For more information call 348-2081.

Mondays Beginning Nov. 23

Yoga Class by Candlelight with Ashby Underwood. 5- 6:15 PM. Six-Week Series \$65/ \$13 drop-

in. Moonrise Yoga, 464 Carolina Way, 526-8880. (12/3)

Through Tuesday, Nov. 24

• Applications for the Highlands Emergency Council Christmas Program. Call 526-4357 to register to be a recipient of gifts, donations and food.

Through Wed., Nov. 25

• Signups are now being accepted for the upcoming Macon County Boys Basketball season at the Highlands Civic Center through Wednesday, November 25. New this year, the league is accepting six year olds, the age groups have changed, and the age cutoff date has been changed to Aug. 31. Players must be 6 years old by Aug. 31 to enter the league. The age of player as of August 31 will determine the age division in which he plays. The new age groups are 6 and 7 year olds in the development league, 8 and 9 year olds in the biddy league, 10 and 11 year olds in the junior league, 12, 13, and 14 year olds in the senior league, 15 through 19 year olds (must be in school) in the varsity league. Because of the overlap with the school season, players on school teams will not be allowed to play in the county recreation league this year. Players in the development league will play

only on Saturday mornings in Franklin. Teams in other divisions will play during the week, as well as on Saturdays in Franklin. There will also be games in Highlands on Tuesday nights for various age divisions. The cost is \$35 for the first family member and \$20 for the second. Please bring a copy of your child's birth certificate. Drafts will be held in each age division beginning Saturday, December 5. More details on the draft times and days will be released at a later date. Anyone interested in coaching or helping coach must fill out a coaching application and additional paperwork available at the Highlands Civic Center. For more information call Michelle Munger at 828-342-3551 or 828-342-3850.

Through Tuesday, Dec. 1

• Operation: Patriotic Pen: Mrs. Sizemore's first grade class at Highlands School would like to invite everyone (students, clubs/organizations, churches and the local community) to help us collect at least 2,000 Christmas cards, letters or small holiday craft items for our "Operation Patriotic Pen" project. These items will be sent to soldiers in Afghanistan, Iraq, other locations and in military hospitals. The soldiers who receive them will be asked to pass them out to other soldiers in their units. We want to let as many soldiers know that we honor them for their sacrifices. Our deadline for this project is December 1. Please help us find out the names and complete military address of some soldiers that are presently serving in full-time military service and will be away from their family during the

holidays. The person submitting the soldier's name and address should also include their name and address or phone number, in case there is any question about the address, etc. If you have a picture of the soldier, we will post it on the wall in the main hallway. If you have unused Christmas cards you would like to donate for students to use for this project, these can be sent to the school. To contact Mrs. Sizemore: Email: donna.sizemore@macon.k12.nc.us; Phone: Home: (828) 526-3212 School: (828) 526-2147, voice mailbox #415; School Fax: 828-526-0615 or write to Highlands School, PO Box 940, Highlands, NC 28741, Attention: Mrs. Sizemore.

Through Friday, Dec. 18

• *American Art Today, Juried Works* exhibition at The Bascom. Admission is free. For more information, call (828) 526-4949 or visit www.thebascom.org.

• Gifts and donations for distribution through the Highlands Emergency Council should be dropped off at area banks or at the Highlands Emergency Council on Poplar Street.

Thursday, Nov. 12

• The Hudson Library will be hosting a new book club, "Bookies" during the winter months. The first meeting will be held at 5:45 p.m. The group will meet once a month on the second Thursday and discuss a different book each time. The books will be chosen by individual members of the group, in order of sign-up for the club. Mary Lou Worley, librarian and charter member, has chosen the first book, "One Thou-

Galax Rose Workshop Nov. 20th



Katy Potts helping make an arrangement with her grandmother's roses.

All signs tell us that the Holiday Season is coming. Houses are decorated in mountain greenery and one of the most popular is the galax. The galax a shiny green heart-shaped leaf is in abundance in the forest. Sue Potts will teach a workshop on making galax roses on Nov 2 at the Highlands Historical Society's Museum from 1-4 pm. The workshop will cost \$15 and is donated to the Highlands Historical Society. All materials will be provided and each attendee will be able to take a rose home. If you would like to make more than one please bring some galax with you. Please call Sue Potts at 526-3163 to register for the class. If not available please leave a message and she will call you back.

Youth 'Saturday Art School' thriving at The Bascom

On Saturday mornings at The Bascom, one can hear the sounds of kids having a great time making what might appear to be "messes" any where else. But for teacher Susan Nastasic, this is the sound and look of creativity and learning.

By the end of class, the energy results in several works of art. This teacher has a knack for creating a fun filled environment while at the same time imparting important principles of art and design along with a smattering of art history.

Saturday Art School, begun just weeks ago, is held from 10 a.m. to noon every week. The first session runs through Dec. 12 and



The word is spreading as families from other communities join young Highlands art students from kindergarten through eighth grade, like those above, for Saturday Art School. Registration continues. Visit www.thebascom.org or call (828) 526-4949 ext. 100.

resumes in January.

The two-hour classes are designed to lay a strong foundation in the fundamentals of visual art. Each class opens with a drawing lesson before moving into some other medium. Parents are welcome to drop off their child and spend a morning in Highlands, or enjoy a cup of coffee and some quiet time in the Library at The Bascom.

Cost is \$64 for an eight-week

session, with all materials included. The Bascom is currently accepting late enrollment for the first session. To register, visit www.thebascom.org or call (828) 526-4949 ext. 100.

Ongoing and Upcoming Events



sand White Women" by Jim Fergus. The member who has chosen the month's book will also moderate the discussion for that book. The library has access to multiple copies of many books, so club participants won't necessarily have to buy books. If you are interested in signing up please call the Hudson Library at 526-3031 as the number of participants is limited.

Friday, Nov. 13

- At Cyprus Restaurant, Italian Pastry Kitchen Cooking Salon & Demonstration. Noon. \$69 plus tax and gratuity. Call 526-4429.

- At Wolfgang's Restaurant & Wine Bistro. Domaine Serene, Flavor Spectrum Luncheon. Each will be poured a taste of four different Domaine Serene wines to compliment four dishes. Noon. \$65 plus tax and gratuity. 526-3807.

- At Ruka's Table in Wright Square. Sake Tasting and Sushi Roll Demonstration. 2 p.m. Call for pricing. 526-3636.

- At Wolfgang's Restaurant & Wine Bistro. Wine Dinner with Crocker and Starr. 7 pm Champagne & Appetizers, 7:30 pm Dinner. \$150 plus tax and gratuity. Call 526-3807.

- At the Log Cabin, The 3rd Annual Grateful Palate Wine Dinner. This 5-course dinner features wine and food pairings that cannot be had anywhere else. 7:30 pm. Call for pricing. 526-3380.

Sat., Nov. 14-Fri., Dec. 18

- *The Shopping Bag: Exemplary Art and Design* exhibition will open at The Bascom in Highlands and run through Dec. 18. Admission is free. A public opening reception will be Nov. 14 from 5-7 p.m. Call (828) 526-4949 or visit www.thebascom.org.

Saturday, Nov. 14

- At Cyprus Restaurant, Fire Breathing Wok Cooking Salon & Demonstration. Noon. \$69 plus tax and gratuity. Call 526-4429.

- At The Dry Sink, Discover the Latest in Kitchenware. Product demonstrations and giveaways. Samples of our delicious specialty foods and snacks. 1-5 p.m.

- At The Highlands Smokehouse, (Call Ruka's Table for Info) Craft Beer & BBQ Tasting. Beer from Bell's, Stone Dogfish Head and Founders along with different types and flavors of in house smoked BBQ. 1-3 p.m. \$25 per person. Call 526-3636.

- With Fresser's, a Sunset Hike with hot steamy gumbo along with other delightful hors d'oeuvres and of course perfectly paired wines too. Call for time. \$32 inclusive. 526-4188.

- At Cyprus Restaurant, Maman dans la cuisine, Papa dans la vignoble. Dining in the family owned vineyards of Southern France with wines from Vintage 59. 7 p.m. \$79 plus tax and gratuity. Call 526-4429.

- At Wolfgang's Restaurant & Wine Bistro, Silver Oak Cellars Wine Dinner with Tom Johnson. 7 pm Champagne & Appetizers, 7:30 pm Dinner. \$160, plus tax and gratuity Call 526-3807.

- At Ruka's Table, in Wright Square. Vine Connections Wine Dinner, 5-course Argentinean dinner with Tapas and music. Call 536-3636.

- Community Bible Church is hosting Focus on the Family's Focus on Parenting Simulcast featuring Kevin Leman, Larry Fowler, Elisa Morgan, Mark Holmen, & Matthew West. 9 am-4:30pm. \$10 per person. Order tickets at www.cbchighlands.com or call

526-4685.

Sunday, Nov. 15

- The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a three-mile moderate hike on the Appalachian Trail from Wallace Gap to Winding Stair Gap. Meet at Westgate Plaza in Franklin (opposite Burger King) at 2:00 p.m. Drive 20 miles round trip plus a shuttle for one car at end of hike. Bring water, a snack if you wish; wear sturdy shoes. Call leader Kay Coriell, 369-6820, for reservations. Visitors are welcome but no pets please.

Tuesday, Nov. 17

- Macon County Commission continuation meeting and worksession at 6 p.m. There won't be a second meeting in November.

- HIARPT's Winter Dialogue. All are welcome. Only requirement is to read the material in advance. Carl Sagan's *The Varieties of Scientific Experience*. Coordinator: Don McCormick. Civic Center: 10-11:30 a.m.

- Macon County Planning Board Public Input meeting at the Keller Williams Realty at 10 am.

Thursday, Nov. 19

- A drop-in reception to say "goodbye" to Hospital CEO Ken Shull at 3:30-5 p.m. in the Level 1 lobby of the Jane Woodruff Clinic on the hospital campus.

- Taize service at Our Lady of the Mountains Roman Catholic Church at 5:30 p.m.

Fri. & Sat., Nov. 20-21

- On Friday, Highlands High School Alumnae weekend basketball. Hosting Rabun County with junior varsity girls at 4 p.m., junior varsity boys at 5 p.m., varsity girls at 7 p.m. and varsity boys at 8:30 p.m. Hospitality Room for alumnae. On Saturday it's a HHS Basketball Alumnae Game at 4 p.m. A BBQ dinner will be served and raffle tickets will be sold \$1 for a ticket or \$5 for six tickets for original pottery, gift certificates at Exxon of Cashiers, Sports Page, High Country Photo, Kilwins, Annawear, Pescados, Sweettreats, the Car Spa, Log Cabin Restaurant, the Farmer's Market or Citgo and manicure and pedicure at Mountain Rayz. All proceeds to benefit the HS Varsity girls Christmas Tournament trip to Disney Sports Complex in Orlando Florida. For more information, contact Coach Lamb at (828) 526-2147 or email brett.lamb@macon.k12.nc.us

Friday, Nov. 20

- All signs tell us that the Holiday Season is coming. Houses are decorated in mountain greenery and one of the most popular is the galax. The galax a shiny green heart-shaped leaf is in abundance in the forest. Sue Potts will teach a workshop on making galax roses at the Highlands Historical Society's Museum from 1-4 pm. The workshop will cost \$15 and is donated to the Highlands Historical Society. All materials will be provided and each attendee will be able to take a rose home with them. If you would like to make more than one please bring some galax with you. Please call Sue Potts at 526-3163 to register for the class. If not available please leave a message and she will call you back

Saturday, Nov. 21

- Greenway planting tree event. need: Tree planting experts — 2 people; Tree planters — 20 people; Operating CanyCom tracked wheelbarrow — 1 person; Operating Yanmar mini-excavator — 1 person. Lunch provided, so please register with Hillrie Quin at 526-2385 or hmquin@verizon.net. We will still meet in the large upper parking lot behind the Rec Park at 9 a.m. for a brief orientation session and then carpool to

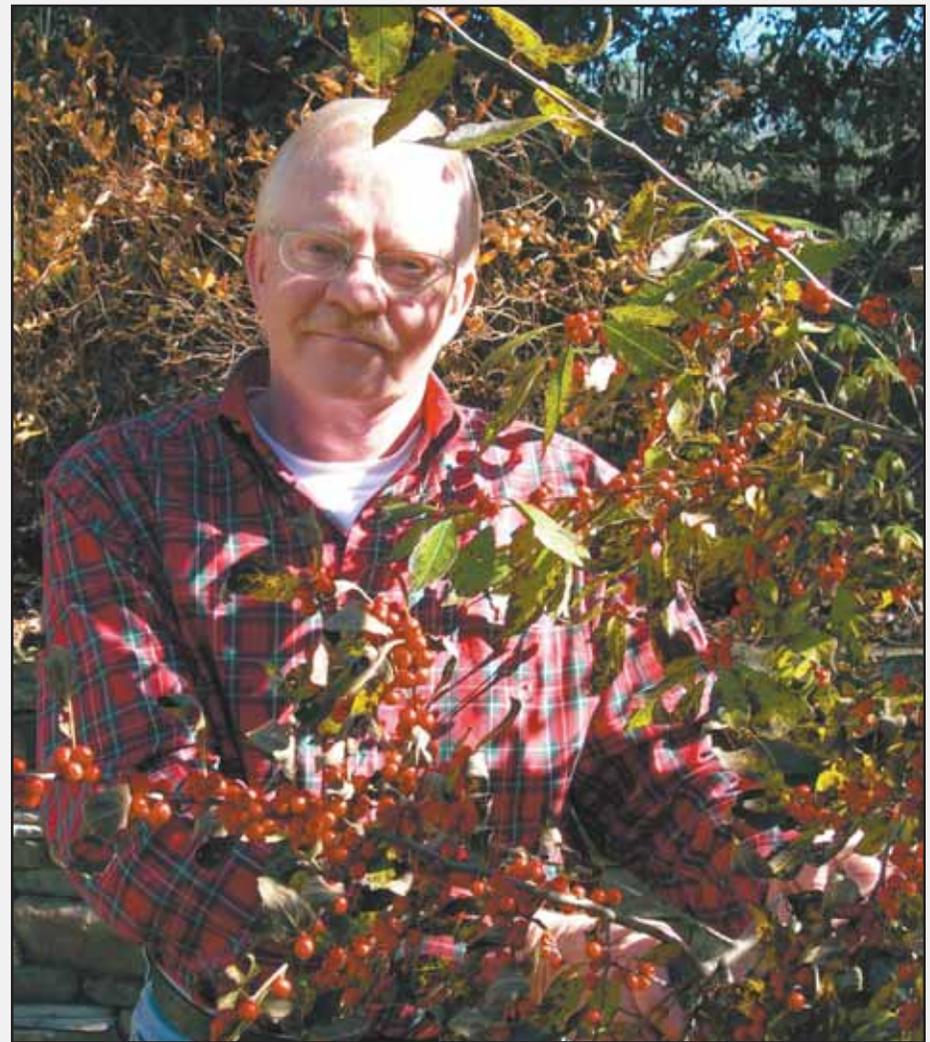
the different areas for tree planting. Participants will be furnished the necessary tools and safety equipment and lunch. Participants should bring water, rain gear, and a day pack to hold them. Wearing clothes that can get dirty is advised.

- The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a hike to

two waterfalls: a 2-mile moderate hike to Kings Creek Falls and an easy 1-mile hike to Spoon Auger Falls. Meet at Cashiers Wachovia Bank (in back) at 10 a.m. Drive 20 miles round trip. Bring water, lunch; wear sturdy shoes. Call leaders Mike and Susan Kettles,

• See EVENTS page 16

Historical Society's Christmas Showhouse is in historic Stewart House, Dec. 5 & 6



Designer Sam Gunter will be one of the decorators whose work will transform the Stewart House into this year's Christmas Showhouse and Sale for the Highlands Historical Society. Formerly of Atlanta, Gunter and his partner Dave Ebert now live and work in Highlands. Shown here checking out the berries on a deciduous holly that he might use, Gunter invites his clients and friends to come to the Showhouse scheduled December 5 and 6 from 1-5 p.m. The Stewart House, ca. 1890, is at 425 Brock Court off Hickory Street across from the ballfield. Shuttles will run from the Community Building. Admission is \$15 with proceeds benefitting the Historical Society. Tickets for the raffle of six art glass plates from Bryant Art Glass are \$1 each or six for \$5. There will also be quilts for sale and wreaths and garlands of fresh greenery. This year for the first time the Historical Society is selling fresh Fraser fir Christmas trees. 6' - 7' trees are \$55 each, and 8' - 9' trees are \$70.00 each. To place an order for one of the trees, call 787-1050. Your tree can be picked up on December 4 at the Highlands Historic Village on North Fourth Street next to the Civic Center.



Ongoing and Upcoming Events

743-1079, for reservations. Visitors are welcome but no pets please.

Monday, Nov. 23

• The Macon County School Board meeting is at 6 p.m. in Nantahala.

Tuesday, Nov. 24

• HIARPT's Winter Dialogue. All are welcome. Only requirement is to read the material in advance. "Obama's Faith Based Program," Coordinator: Creighton Peden. To be circulated by email. Civic Center:

'Shopping Bag' exhibition opens this Saturday at The Bascom



The community is invited to a free public opening reception for "The Shopping Bag: Exemplary Art and Design" this Saturday, Nov. 14, from 5 to 7 p.m. at The Bascom. Featuring wine, hors d'oeuvres and mingling, it is the last Bascom opening reception of the year. The exhibition continues through Dec. 18, Tuesdays through Saturdays, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is free. "Come see historical shopping bag samples from well known department stores and merchants to help get you in the mood for some holiday shopping," said Kaye Gorecki, Bascom artistic director. "When you're finished, pop downstairs to the Shop at The Bascom and find that perfect gift for a loved one." The exhibition is on loan from the Newark Public Library, N.J., and curated by William Dane. For more information, visit www.thebascom.org or call (828) 526-4949.

10-11:30 a.m.

• November's Ladies Night Out program will be on Tuesday, at 6:30 pm in the cafeteria at Angel Medical Center. Program topic will be influenza and other winter illness prevention. Speakers include Dr Jimmy Villiard, MCPHC's preparedness coordinator and Dr Fred Berger, Pediatrician. Come learn how to keep you and your family healthier this winter. Join us as we make new friends, win door prizes and learn important health information. For more information, call Jennifer Hollifield at 349-2439.

Thursday, Nov. 26

• Thanksgiving Wilson Reunion. Family members of the Herman, Hubert, John, and Mack Wilson families are invited to celebrate Thanksgiving together at the Highlands Recreation Park beginning at 12:30 p.m. For more information, contact Anne Tate at 526-2840 or Stephanie McCall at 526-4449.

Fri. & Sat., Nov. 27-28

• At PAC on Chestnut Street, "A Christmas Carol Revisited" Friday at 7:30 pm. Tickets are \$15. After the play the cast will lead the audience in a medley of Christmas Carols. On Saturday free Mask-Making workshop for kids from 2-4 p.m. Both events will be presented by "Once Upon a Blue Ridge" Theater Company from Meadows of Dan, Virginia. To purchase tickets, call the Performing Arts Center at 828-526-9047.

Friday, Nov. 27

Hospice it is: A new Christmas Dinner Beneficiary

Where to go for Christmas Dinner? Hmmm... Why not try a local tradition? For 8 years Highlands families and guests have feasted on sumptuous traditional holiday fare lovingly prepared by Highlands's premier chefs.

The beauty of our tradition is that all proceeds benefit local non-profits, and this year Highlands-Cashiers Hospice and Big Brothers Big Sisters of Highlands will be the recipients.

The all day affair is at Fresser's Eatery in Helen's Barn 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., \$35 per person \$25 for children under 10 for traditional holiday buffet. Call 526-8867 for reservations.

Chefs this year include Marty Rosenfield (Lakeside); Debbie Grossman (Fresser's Eatery); Donna Woods; and Martha Porter. Come join us: No planning, no cooking, no dishes... only the sweet satisfaction of a restful holiday with friends and loved ones sharing in the spirit and love of the season while supporting these noble causes which touch so many of our own, and our friends lives. We served almost 300 people last year, so call today!

• Free Yoga Community Class. 8-9 am. All are Welcome. Moonrise Yoga, 464 Carolina Way, 526-8880.

Saturday, Nov. 28

• Highlands annual Christmas Tree Lighting on Main Street at the Methodist Church.

• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a 6-mile moderate hike with an elevation change of 700 feet in Pantherdown Valley to Blackrock Mtn, Warden Falls, Granny Burrell's Falls, and Salt Rock Gap. Meet at Cashiers Wachovia Bank (in back) at 9:30 a.m. Drive 20 miles round trip. Bring water, lunch; wear sturdy shoes. Call leader Jim Whitehurst, 526-8134, for reservations. Visitors are welcome but no pets please.

• Macon County Planning Board Public Input meeting. At the Upper Cartoogechaye community center at 7 pm.

Sunday, Nov. 29

• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take an easy 3-mile hike on the Skitty Creek and Cliffside loop trails. Meet at the Bi-Lo Center in Franklin at 2 p.m. or, if coming from Highlands, call leader for alternate meeting place. Drive 30 miles round trip. Bring water, a snack if you wish; wear sturdy shoes. Call leader Kay Coriell, 369-6820, for reservations. Visitors and children over 10 are welcome but no pets please.

Tues., Dec. 1-Fri., Dec. 18

• Pottery workshop "Open Studio for Ceramics," by Patrick Taylor, will be held at The Bascom for intermediate to advanced students. Two sessions: Mondays and Wednesdays, 6 to 8 p.m.; or Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 12 pm. Cost is \$375/\$350 Bascom members (basic materials and firing included). To register, call (828) 526-4949 or visit www.thebascom.org.

Thursday, Dec. 3

• Taize service at the Episcopal Church at 5:30 p.m.

• A demonstration, "The Ancient Art of Spinning," by fiber artist Carol Singletary will be held at The Bascom in Highlands from 2-4 p.m. Admission is free. For more information, call (828) 526-4949 ext. 100 or visit www.thebascom.org.

• An American Red Cross Adult and Child CPR/AED and Infant CPR course will be conducted by the Macon County Public Health Center. The course

Sign up for Emergency Council's Christmas Program through Nov. 24

Applications for the Highlands Emergency Council's 2009 Christmas Program are available through Tuesday, Nov. 24

Gifts and or sponsorships should be returned to the banks or the emergency council no later than Dec. 18. Children on the list are up to 11 years old. Also, total family sponsorships are available from the Highlands Emergency Council office. For more information, call 526-4357.

will be held on Thursday, 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 pm at the Macon County Public Health Center at 1830 Lakeside Drive. **Participants must pre-register and pre-pay at the Macon County Public Health Center before Monday, November 30, 2009.** For more information on class fees, please call Jennifer at 349-2439.

Friday, Dec. 4-Saturday, Dec. 5

• Art class "Knit a Christmas Stocking" by Carol Singletary will be taught at The Bascom in Highlands from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Cost is \$135 for the general public and \$125 for Bascom members (supplies included). To register, call (828) 526-4949 ext. 100 or visit www.thebascom.org.

Friday, Dec. 4

• At PAC on Chestnut Street, "The Christmas Letters" with Barbara Bates Smith at 7:30 pm, \$15. From Off-Broadway... to Edinburgh... across the country to you: Barbara Bates Smith brings you stage adaptations of works by prizewinning authors such as Lee Smith, plus a variety of original scripts, with musical accompaniment by Jeff Sebens. To purchase tickets, call the Performing Arts Center at 828-526-9047.

Saturday & Sunday, Dec. 5-6

• Christmas Showhouse sponsored by the Highlands Historical Society at the Stewart House, ca. 1890, at 425 Brock Court opposite the ballpark on Hickory Street. Showhouse hours will be 1-5 p.m. \$15. Shuttle from the Community Building on US 64. An added feature this year will be a raffle of a set of six art glass plates from Bryant Art Glass. Raffle tickets will be \$1 each or 6 for \$5.

Saturday, Dec. 5

• Highlands annual Christmas Parade on Main Street at 11 a.m.

• Art class "Holiday Cards," by Fayne Ansley, will be taught at The Bascom in Highlands from 2-4 p.m. Students will make beautiful handmade cards for friends and family using rubber stamps and embossing, glitter, bells, baubles and ribbon. This is an inter-generational class for children and adults. Children under age 12 must be accompanied by an adult. Cost is \$25 for the general public and \$20 for Bascom members. To register, call (828) 526-4949 ext. 100.

• A demonstration, "Split Oak Basket Weaving," will be held at The Bascom in Highlands from 1-4 p.m. Admission is free. For more information, call (828) 526-4949 ext. 100 or visit www.thebascom.org.

• Alternative Giving Christmas, right after the Christmas Parade at the Highlands United Methodist Church. Free lunch and visit booths to see what the local non-profit agencies are doing in our community. There will be information showing what any size donation can do for the needy in this area. There will be attractive gift cards which will show what has been done in the recipient's honor. What a wonderful way to honor those who have so much by giving for the benefit of those who have much less!

• At PAC on Chestnut Street, The Dappled Grays, \$15 at 7:30 pm. To purchase tickets, call 526-9047.

• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take an 8-mile strenuous hike with an elevation change of 3,000 feet to Black Rock Mtn. in Jackson County. Meet at the Huddle House in Dillsboro at 9 a.m. Drive 60 miles round trip. Bring water, lunch, wear hiking boots. Call leader Don O'Neal, 586-5723, for reservations. Visitors are welcome but no pets please.

... BOE SEAT continued from page 1

McCall and Sue Potts.

However Breedlove said Potts had asked that her name be removed from the list.

Present at the meeting were candidates Weller, Murphy and Shearl.

Attorney John Henning said state law places the ability to replace a school board member solely in the hands of the board. "The only stipulation is that the selection be done in open session," he said.

Board member Tommy Cabe nominated Stephanie McCall – a parent of two students in Highlands School.

... BRUGGER continued from page 7

I am glad to report one jobs program by this administration: in June of this year Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar signed an order establishing an Office of Youth in Natural Resources at the Department of the Interior, the "signature program of which will be a 21st Century Youth Conservation Corps." Secretary Salazar said, "President Obama and I believe that during tough economic times, a new national youth program is needed to provide jobs, outdoor experiences and career opportunities for young people — especially women, minorities, tribal and other underserved youth."

A national poll in September found that 62 percent of Americans felt that "large banks" had been helped "a lot" or "a fair amount" by government economic policies, but only 13 percent felt the "average working person" had been. Unemployment ranked ahead of the deficit and health care as the number one economic issue, and 81 percent said the Obama administration needed to take more action on jobs.

There is a lot of rage building in the country about the disparity between the economic situation of the average American and that of the elite. I don't think the politicians in Washington get it. But maybe next year after they lose a lot of seats in Congress the Democrats may realize they missed something along the way. But as long as they are bought and sold by the corporate and financial world, I don't think they will be able to understand what it was they missed.

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

The other board members allowed to vote – Tommy Baldwin and Bobby Bishop agreed.

Neither Superintendent Dan Brigman or Chairman Breedlove were allowed to vote. Breedlove would only have voted to break a tie.

Though all three members said they didn't really know McCall, they said she had been overwhelmingly recommended by the citizens of Highlands "who were asked" they said.

They said they appreciated all the recommendations made by the candidates themselves and by the public.

McCall wasn't at the meeting but said she is flattered at being nominated and excited about being selected.

McCall graduated from Franklin High

School and worked as a Special Operation Manager for a heavy trucking specialty company for 16 years before helping with her husband's business and raising a family.

"My girls are receiving a phenomenal education at Highlands School and this is a way for me to give back," she said. "I have no agenda except to work hard serving the students, teachers and administrators of Macon County Schools."

She will be seated until the next regular election in Macon County which is in 2010.

At that point she can opt to run for the seat which would carry her forth for the next two years fulfilling Bennett's original term or she can opt out at the end of 2010.

"Right now, I'm just thinking about the next 11 months," she said.

– Kim Lewicki

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• COACH'S CORNER •

Friday is judgement day for Duke in the ACC

As college hoops gears up, it is likely that the next few years in the ACC will be shaped by a major announcement on Friday. The nation's number one recruit for 2010, Harrison Barnes, will announce the school that he plans on attending, and the announcement will likely be a turning point in the ACC for UNC, Duke, and other contenders from the nation's best college hoops conference.



Ryan Potts
tryanpotts@hotmail.com

The last 5 years of the ACC have been dominated by the Tar Heels, who have won 2 out of the last 5 National Championships. Once Roy Williams established himself at UNC, the nation's top recruits have been flocking to UNC in droves. Duke has not been far behind in terms of ACC success, having won 3 of the last five ACC tournament championships, but has struggled in the NCAA tournament and has lost out on several recruiting battles along the way. Duke has struggled at times athletically in the ACC, and head to head has beaten UNC only 2 out of the last 8 meetings. Right now the Tar Heels are at the top of the college basketball world, and that dominance could continue based on the results of Friday's press conference.

Barnes, a 6'6" silky smooth forward from Ames, Iowa, has drawn comparison's to Grant Hill. Barnes has narrowed his list to 6 schools including Duke and UNC at the top of that list. Hometown Iowa State and Kansas are still in the running, and UCLA and Oklahoma look like long shots for Barnes' services. Both Duke and UNC had strong recruiting classes again in 2009, but Duke is shaping up a potentially great 2010 class including top PG Kyrie Irving, and top 50 recruits Josh Hairston and Tyler Thornton. Add in Seth Curry as a transfer from Liberty University and one can see how the addition of the #1 recruit could give Duke an embarrassment of riches for the 2010 season. Conversely, losing out on Barnes to North Carolina could give the Tar Heels superiority over the Blue Devils for the consider-

able future, particularly considering the age of Mike Krzyzewski.

In some ways, the recent struggles of Duke and Coach K reflect that of North Carolina during the late 1980's. Carolina was synonymous with basketball success back then, but couldn't quite syncope their ACC success with NCAA tournament championships. People were beginning to wonder about Dean Smith and whether or not his age was catching up with him.

However, Smith quickly erased those issues with a NCAA tournament championship in 1993, followed by a bang up recruiting class that included Rasheed Wallace and Jerry Stackhouse. Soon thereafter it was Smith, riding off into the sunset as the winningest coach in college basketball history and leaving behind a legend in the south that can be remembered simply with the name "Dean." If Coach K wants to create that kind of legacy for himself, coaching the Olympic team may not be the way to go. In many ways, Barnes' decision is much larger for Duke than it is for Carolina. Carolina has their own top recruits coming in, and has reestablished themselves as the baseline for college hoops.

The school that produced Jordan is now producing names like Hansbrough, Lawson and Ellington and will soon deploy Ed Davis and John Henson into the NBA as potential stars. Duke's roster is thin on NBA level talent in 2009, but should win 25+ games and compete for an ACC title. If Coach K can find a way to bring Harrison Barnes to Duke next season along with the rest of the recruiting haul, Duke will be able to match UNC athlete for athlete, and we could have a replay of the 1988-1994 period in which Duke and UNC were competing not just for conference championships, but for national championships as well. For those of us who are lucky enough to live in North Carolina (yet favor Duke) we can only hope that the rivalry reaches that kind of pitch once again.

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• FROM THE STUDENT'S EYE •

What's good about 'Where the Wild Things Are?'

Since there has been so much talk and exchange of opinion about "Where The Wild Things Are," I decided I would see the movie for myself and try to settle the debate.

First off, let me say this: it was not what I expected. At all. The movie started oddly enough, with a dangerous snow fight between Max and some of his sister's friends. Then, he goes inside and gets the carpet soaked. While Max's mother has her boyfriend over for a drink, Max makes a fort in his bedroom and tries to get her to come pay attention to him. When that fails, he goes downstairs and throws a fit. He stands on the counter proclaiming, "Woman, feed me!" She tells him to get down, he yells, jumps on her and bites her, then runs outside. In my opinion, there could not have been a worse beginning. It set my standards for the rest of the film extremely low. But, the movie exceeded my expectations from that moment on.

From the second Max arrives at the island, the movie's quality shoots up the scale. The cinematography improves, the tone improves, and the film improves. As Max arrives, he comes across a very strange scenario. Carol, (A Wild Thing) is mad over K.W.'s leaving, so he is smashing all their houses. (Towards the end of the movie, we learn it is very characteristic of Carol to smash things when he happens to get upset.) Max sees that none of the other Wild Things are on Carol's side, so he decides to help. He runs in, smashing things, and just trying to do as Carol does. Then later in the scene, he lies to the Wild Things as they are about to eat him, telling them that he is a great king with unimaginable powers. Believing him, they christen him king. He promises to bring the happiness to the Wild Things that they desire, but soon they start to doubt Max. What can he do?

"Where The Wild Things Are" is quite the movie. It's not exactly a children's movie, an adult's movie, nor a teenager's movie. It seems to be reaching for a middle ground, and it reaches that middle ground surprisingly well. The story line is surprisingly good for a film based on a twelve-page book. Another exceptional thing about this film is its animation. The monsters are very realistic, and it's amazing to think how they got that much detail and expression into a CGI character. The Max-Monster interaction went very well too,



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and I commend Max Records for doing such a great job as Max. Most people seem to have found the movie slightly, or incredibly dark. But I found the movie in a more normal tone for a film. It did not seem too dark, or too happy. Like I said before, the film reaches that middle ground surprisingly well.

I personally liked the movie because of the fantastic cinematography, the well-developed characters and the quick pacing of the movie. Also the actors did a terrific job and

most of the characters were likable. Toward the end of the movie you could truly get emotionally involved with the Carol and Max chemistry. By then end Max had grown as a character and turned out to be a likeable boy. He was sad at what he had done and wished to be reconciled with his mother.

So, there you have it. My review, my opinion of the film "Where The Wild Things Are." Go ahead and see it, or avoid it at all costs. It's up to you. But, maybe, just maybe, you'll take this reviewer's advice and see this delightful film. I hope you do.

"Where The Wild Things Are" was written by director Spike Jonze and screenwriter Dave Eggers. The film is based upon the book "Where The Wild Things Are," by Maurice Sendak.

• Gardner Davis is the son of Dinah and Carter Davis, of Highlands. He will be heading up our new column "From the Student's Eye." The content will vary.

... **SWANSON**
continued from page 10

Remember 1993? Christie Todd Whitman, a Republican, won the Governorship of New Jersey, a Democratic stronghold. George Allen, a Republican, was elected Governor of Virginia. The following year, Newt Gingrich and the Contract for America swept in a Republican Congress of a distinctly conservative nature. This was two years after the country elected Bubba to the White House. A replay is in order. The only difference is Obama had better not plan on a second term. One is going to be more than enough.

Owens wins NY 23rd. R's screwed that one up big time.

Next week - Healthcare legislation explained.

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... **DISCRETIONARY** continued from page 1

School or any other school in the county must adhere to certain guidelines to stay at the school.

According to Principal Jetter, there were five discretionary students who were not adhering to the agreement their parents signed upon admittance to the school and as a last resort, and to get their attention, he notified them that their students' last day would be Friday, Nov. 6.

"We tried to contact the parents of these students numerous times by phone and letter and got no response. Declaring Nov. 6 their last day at Highlands School got their attention," he said.

The parents and Jetter have since had conferences where they were re-introduced to the agreement they were given when their

students first came to the school, and the agreement was signed again.

"In addition, all the students not in compliance with the requirements, have signed contracts that the requirements specified in the contracts will be met over the next few weeks, and continue to be met after that," he said. "Improvements in preparation, on task behavior, timeliness and cooperation have occurred since last week's parent conferences."

Jetter said follow-up conferences with all students will be in early December.

"As with so many adolescents, these are good kids that simply needed help in refocusing on what they needed to do to be successful," he said.

Discretionary Student policies give

schools an out if a student becomes an attendance, behavior, disciplinary or academic problem.

To be admitted to a Macon County School from another district, county or state, the board of education from the students "home" district must approve the student's request to transfer and release him or her; the Macon County Board of Education must approve the transfer and admittance and there must be extra seats to fill at the admitting school.

Upon acceptance, the student must maintain an exemplary attendance record and an exemplary discipline record and must maintain passing grades in all core subjects.

Though at least one parent contacted the Macon County Board of Education concerning Jetter's action, Superintendent Dan Brigman said Jetter was not in trouble with him or the board. "However, I did put a stop to

students being removed mid-semester due to academics," he said. "We have numerous tutoring programs and steps available to help them get their grades up and they must participate in those services."

Once a principal gets permission from the board of education (BOE) to admit students from out-of-district, the BOE is no longer involved.

"Disciplinary action concerning the discretionary students who don't abide by the agreement signed upon admittance is between the principal, the student and the parents," said Brigman. "However, the superintendent can become part of appeals process after that."

The five discretionary students involved in last week's action are from Franklin and Jackson counties.

— Kim Lewicki

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Village Square in Sapphire

... ARGENTINA continued from page 9

true taste of Argentine soccer. The visiting team, *Talleres*, is the best and most popular in the Third League, the league *Sportivo* plays in. *Talleres* is from Cordoba, the third largest city in Argentina, and therefore they have a lot of fans. Close to 2,000 came to cheer their team. *Talleres* and *Sportivo* are rivals within the league and there is a good bit of hostility between the two, so the *Sportivo* fans were out en force as well.

The fans of both teams came prepared. Both brought fireworks (to be used at the most inopportune moments), little pieces of paper (to be thrown in the air and litter the field), a marching band's worth of drums, along with anything else that could possibly make a loud noise or be thrown onto the field. When the players took the field the 2,000+ *Sportivo* fans (comprised mostly of singing, shirtless, overweight men with drums and fireworks) unrolled an enormous green and white flag (the colors of *Sportivo*) that covered the entire section the stadium from corner to corner. This was going to be a good game.

Talleres scored in the first minutes, and it looked like it was going to be a blow out, but slowly *Sportivo* regained control and managed to keep it 1-0 at the half. The equalizer finally came in the last minutes from a perfect header. I could feel the stadium shake as all the

fans erupted. Instantly, all the videos of collapsing soccer stadiums flashed through my head. Thankfully the stadium remained standing and the game ended 1-1.

After the game the *Talleres* fans decided they would rather stay and yell profane things at our fans than leave the stadium. This didn't please our fans or the riot police. The police began using tear gas and batons to encourage them to leave, and the *Sportivo* fans thought they would help out by using their leftover fireworks. Needless to say, that didn't make the *Talleres* fans happy, so they decided to climb the fence between the away and home sections and return fire with their remaining fireworks. This was all very entertaining from my comfortable seat on the other side of the stadium. This was another of those "I really am in Argentina" moments.

I love those moments that allow me to step back and soak in all that is Argentina. It's those moments that I will remember forever. After only two months I have already fallen in love with this country.

Thanks for all the prayers and support from friends and family back home! It really means a lot. I always love to hear from you. My email address is tuckerbates3@aol.com.

Saludos!

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• HIGHLANDS SCHOOL SPORTS •

Highlanders advance to second round, lose to Hendersonville



Coach Chris Green gets a 'traditional' icing after a recent match.

Photo by Noel Atherton

By Ryan Potts

The Highlander men's soccer team prevailed in an exciting double overtime match with Avery County to advance to the second round last Wednesday. Perhaps it was only fitting that at the last Highlander game at Zachary Field that the Highlanders finished with the same result that so many opponents have seen over the last ten years.

Highlands took the lead early on a goal from sophomore Isaac Beavers and led by a score of 3-1 after goals from Will Mathowdis and Samuel Wheeler. Highlands gave away the lead with some sloppy play late in the second half and the teams needed extra time to decide the match. In the second overtime period, Wheeler came through with the walk-off goal and the Highlanders were on their way to the second round.

Unfortunately for the Highlanders, Hendersonville has not been as kind over the years as Zachary Field has been, and Highlands found out the hard way that you can-

not come out flat against the Bearcats and expect to be victorious. Highlands came out flat on Saturday afternoon and ended up on the wrong end of a 6-0 score.

The Highlanders were understandably disappointed with the finish to their season, but most of the players feel like they had a great season and are excited about the possibilities of next year. Junior Michael Shearl is one player who reflects those sentiments. "I feel like we had a successful season," said Shearl, "and hopefully we can improve for next year and continue the soccer tradition we have here."

The Highlanders finished with an overall record of 15-5-1 and were the Smoky Mountain Conference Champions. Conference awards will be announced at the end of the state playoffs.

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POLICE, FIRE DEPTS. WEEKLY LOG

The following are the Highlands Police Dept. log entries from Oct. 31. Only the names of persons arrested, issued a Class-3 misdemeanor, or public officials have been used.

Oct. 31

- At 7:30 p.m., a woman at a shop on Main Street reported being sexually battered.

Nov. 1

- At 4:30 p.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident at U.S. 64 east near the RiverWalk entrance. There were no injuries.

Nov. 3

- At 5 p.m., proprietors at Bear Mountain Outfitters reported receiving 11 harassing phone calls from the same person demanding information from their credit card machine.

Nov. 5

- At 8:30 p.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident on U.S. 64.

Nov. 6

- At noon, a 26-year-old woman reported sexual battery at the home of the offender.

- At 10:15 p.m., the smell of propane gas was reported at the Hampton Inn. It was a malfunctioning furnace.

- A little after midnight, officers were called to assist another agency at a residence on Oak Street where a woman had fallen.

Nov. 8

- At 1:30 a.m., officers were asked to assist another agency with three intoxicated men. Officers followed them back to their home on Hicks Road.

- During the week, police officers responded to 13 alarms and issued 12 citations.

The following are the Highlands Fire & Rescue Dept. log

entries from Nov 5:

Nov. 4

- At 8:35 p.m., the dept. responded to an accident at U.S. 64 east near the RiverWalk entrance. There were no injuries.

Nov. 6

- At 10:22 p.m., the dept. responded to a reported propane gas leak at the Hampton Inn but it was due to a malfunctioning furnace.

Nov. 7

- At 1:46 p.m., the dept. responded to a Lifeline call but it was cancelled en route.

• CLASSIFIEDS •

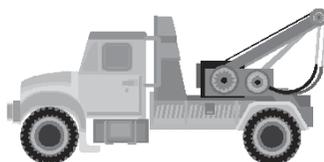


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THE LODGE ON MIRROR LAKE - Fish or canoe from deck. Available weekly, monthly, No min. Call 828-342-2302.

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

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ALL WEATHER LINED LONG COAT. - Dark blue. Size 12. \$20. Call 526-5367.

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PIANO - Gorgeous Fully restored. Late 1800s upright owned by the Vanderbelts and was in the Billmore Estates Plays Beautiful \$7,000 invested, worth way more Must sell. Will sacrifice for \$2,800. OBO. 828-524-7233 or 828-371-2129 (st. 10/22)

EMPIRE GAS LOGS, 28 inches wide, ventless, with remote control and ember material. \$250. 526-4594.

FIREWOOD 2 YRS OLD, split & dried hardwood plus cut kiln-dried kindling close to a cord U-Haul \$200. Can divide. 828-342-7028.

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PET DOOR - Almost New. White. fits into sliding glass doors. \$150 oBO. Call 828-526-3397.

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

FURNITURE - 1 cream tweed sofa (89" long) \$500; 1 sofa/loveseat combo in cream stria-suede \$500 set; 2 brown fabric w/ color stripe custom swivel chairs \$300 each; 2 small green fabric swivel chairs \$150 each; 1 vintage wood vanity w/ beveled mirror and 6 drawers \$300; 2 matching nightstands \$100 for both. Will e-mail photos if interested! 828-743-3071 or 828-787-1900. (st. 9/3)

TWO MATCHING QUEEN ANNE CHAIRS. Cranberry Red. Walnut legs. Excellent condition. \$300 for both. 828-226-2027.

COLLAPSIBLE LADDER - \$270. Call 526-5025.

COLEMAN 5000 ER ELECTRONIC GARAGE

DOOR. \$500. Call 526-5025. (st. 8/13)

PALLADIUM STYLE WINDOW - Mahogany two section 1-3/4" thick x 42" H x 70-1/2" W. \$160, OBO for photo call 828-526-2671.

WOOD BURNING STOVE W/ELECTRIC BLOWER. \$200. 342-3234.

OLD-FASHIONED PUSH MOWER - No gas needed! In great shape. \$50. Call 526-9027 or 342-6988.

OLD BRASS BALL FIREPLACE ANDIRONS WITH ACCESSORIES. Asking \$500 but negotiable. Call 526-0439.

4 PIECE OUTDOOR FURNITURE SET. Glider, 2 rocking chairs & table. Metal frame, with cushions. Great condition \$125 369-5863.

EPIPHONE 6 STRING ACOUSTIC GUITAR with hard case-great condition-\$250 828.482.2222

HIGHLANDS LICENSE PLATES - New Photo Designs by Cynthia Strain. Cashiers & Franklin, also. Mill Creek Gallery & Framing on oak Street. 828-787-2021.

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GE PROFILE WHITE COUNTERTOP GAS RANGE WITH DOWNDRAFT. Like new. \$185 Call 787-2232.

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MARTIN-C-1740 UNVENTED GAS HEATER - with oxygen depleting sensing system. BTU 40,000. H. 14 24 3/4 W. 25" D. 13". Fan blower-model B35. \$125. Call 526-5640.

AVON CAPE COD RED GLASS - 8 piece place setting. 64 pieces. \$385. Also, accessory pieces available. Call 828-524-3614.

GOLF CLUBS CLASSIC - Set of MacGregor Tourney 9 irons (2-9 P.W.) 1980. Persimmon Drivers, new. \$50. Used \$25. Also miscellaneous items cheap. Call 706-746-3046. (Sky Valley).

COLONIAL GLASS - set of 12 Sherbet Goblets, and dessert plates. \$35. Call 526-4063.

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

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

VEHICLES FOR SALE

1993 DODGE DAKOTA LE, 4X4, towing package, new C-rated tires, 127,000 miles, bed liner, new CD/radio, \$2995 OBO. 526-4594. (11/19)

2003 AIRSTREAM / 30' CLASSIC; One Owner, Extra Clean @ \$34,000. rear island queen, walk-thru bath w/sit down shower, & dinette. Airstream's top of the line, no pets, no smoking. Contact Charlie @ (828)526-8645 e-mail: chestnutcottages@yahoo.com (st. 10/29)

ONE OWNER 2007 CHEVY DIESEL DURAMAX 2500 W/6 SPEED ALLISON - PU with 26K miles, towing package, lineX bedliner, step rails, camper mirrors. @ \$22,000. call Charlie @ (828)526-8645, or email chestnutcottages@yahoo.com (st. 11/12)

2008 KEYSTONE OUTBACK FIFTH WHEEL CAMPER. - Used 4 times. Has slide-out and bunkhouse. \$26,000. 526-9107. (st. 10/29)

1997 NISSIAN PICK UP. - 5 speed. 140,000 K, 4-cyl., Great on gas! \$1,500. Call 526-4741.

2004 FORD EXPEDITION XLT - olive green, beige leather, 72,000 miles, Excellent condition, V-8 5.4 liter. \$13,500. Call 828-526-4707.

CADILLAC DEVILLE 2002 - Silver, 85,300 miles. One owner, garaged. \$8,950. See at 150 Shelby Circle, Highlands. 787-2310. (St. 7/9)

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ECONOMIC CONDITIONS GOT YOU DOWN? Need help processing feelings, creating an action plan? Contact Betty Holt, M.Ed, Licensed Professional Counselor at the Conscious Connection, 526-8885. Sliding scale, recession rates. (st. 6/25)

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• BUSINESS NEWS •

Highlands Lawn & Garden donates to Greenway

David Sims, owner of Highlands Lawn and Garden has donated 62 trees of various varieties to the Highlands Plateau Greenway. This donation provides the Greenway with a truly unique opportunity to improve the beauty of the town.

Several botanical experts are helping us to plan the best location for each tree. They will be placed next to a pre-dug hole before our planting event on Saturday, Nov. 21. We are expecting our regular greenway volunteers and members of the local garden clubs to participate in this event.

We need: Tree planting experts — 2 people; Tree planters — 20 people; Operating

CanyCom tracked wheelbarrow — 1 person; Operating Yanmar mini-excavator — 1 person

Heather Mangum will be providing lunch for everyone so be sure to register.

If you are interested in participating please register with Hillrie Quin at 526-2385 or hmquin@verizon.net. We will still meet

in the large upper parking lot behind the Rec Park at 9 a.m. for a brief orientation session and then carpool to the different areas for tree planting. Participants will be furnished the necessary tools and safety equipment and lunch. Participants should bring water, rain gear, and a day pack to hold them. Wearing clothes that can get dirty is advised.



Carol Austin with trees to be donated from Highlands Lawn & Garden

Bingo nets Girl Scouts \$1,700



This month the Rotary Club of Highlands and local Girl Scouts partnered to sponsor "Girl Scout Bingo." Net proceeds of over \$1,700 were donated to the Highlands Girl Scout troop. Shannon Calloway and her daughters Katy and Sydney won \$150 in the final Super Bingo game. They are shown here with Rotary member and Bingo caller Tay Bronaugh.

RBC Bank announces 'pumpkin contest' winners



The winners were Jessica Campbell from Ms. Miller's class (Indian pumpkin) and Emily Leonard from Ms. Cox's class (witch pumpkin). Each winner received a plastic pumpkin full of assorted goodies. Each student received a Little Leo coloring sheet and a box of crayons from RBC Bank. Leo's visit was a hit with all the students he encountered in classrooms along the hallway too! (Little Leo was "manned" courtesy of Highlands School's own LaDonna Rodriguez).

Mountain Garden Club presents 'Honorary Awards'



The Mountain Garden Club recently presented two honorary memberships, one to Barbara Smith and one to Betty McCall, for outstanding help to the club, especially with the club's annual plant sale. Above: Club members Caroline Cook and Virginia Worley, recipient Betty McCall, and club president Ann Maxwell



Club members Rebecca Schilling and Ann Maxwell, recipient Barbara Smith, and club member Linda David.

• THE PUZZLERS •

Hex-a-Ku[©] 2009

by Pete Sarjeant and Don Cook

OBJECT:

A mystery word or phrase using all different letters is designated by circled squares (other short words will appear when solving, for which a list of meanings is provided). Every puzzle has a different mystery word or phrase (no spaces). Assign different letters to each square of each column and row. In addition, 3x2 cells in the puzzle layout have the same different letters. (This is similar to Sudoku but uses letters instead of numbers.)

How to Solve:

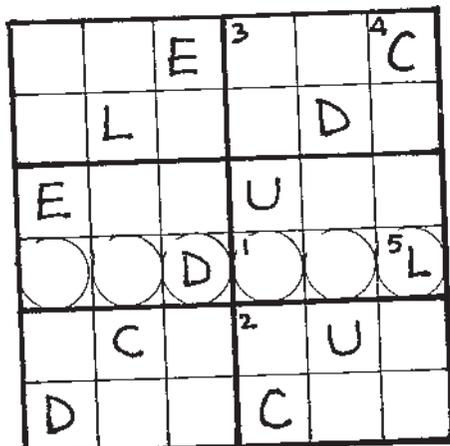
Determine the different letters among those given. Write in the mystery word using the clue and these letters. Other small words will appear in the puzzle. As in conventional crossword puzzles, a list of meanings for these Across/Down words is given and number positions shown. Doing them will speed up your solution to the puzzle. Using your powers of induction, inference and insight, place missing letters in blank squares according to the rules noted above. Focus your attention where the least number of letters are needed to complete a row, column or cell.

Mystery Word:
Wooden Club

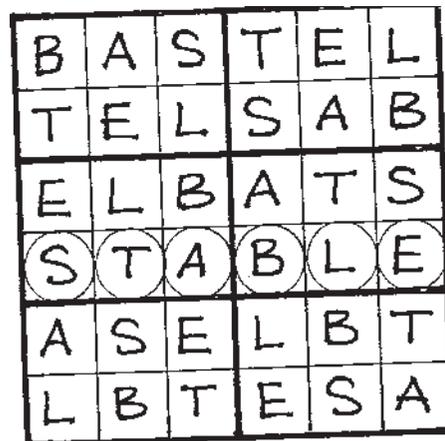
- Across**
- Jellied substance (3)
 - Owed (3)

Down

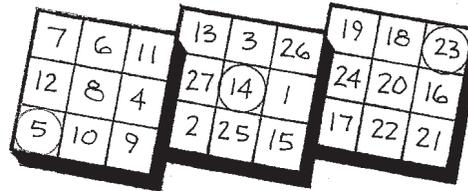
- The (Fr.) (2)
- Cow chew (3)
- Body part (3)



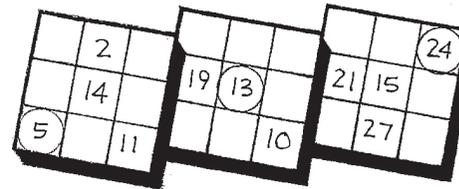
Solution to Nov. 5 Hex-a-Ku



Solution to #DN2B Pseudocube in Nov. 5 issue



#AN3B PseudoCube Level of Difficulty Easy



PseudoCube[©]

by Pete Sarjeant and Don Cook

THE SETUP:

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

THE CHALLENGE:

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

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