

Highlands' Newspaper

FREE

Volume 7, Number 44

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Thursday, Nov. 5, 2009

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| FRI  52 / 35F | SAT  55 / 36F | SUN  57 / 37F |
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This Week in Highlands

Through Sun. Nov. 8

• First Presbyterian Church of Highlands is accepting donations for the troops for its "Christmas for the Troops" campaign. Please drop off donations at the church.

Fridays through Nov. 20

• H1N1 and Seasonal Flu shot clinics for children at the Macon County Health Center on Lakeside Drive in Franklin. For appt. call 348-2081.

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 Macon County Boys Basketball season at the Highlands Rec Park. For information call Michelle Munger at 828-342-3551 or 828-342-3850.

Thursday, Nov. 5

• Taize service at the Highlands United Methodist Church at 5:30 p.m.
• Rotary Bingo with Highlands Girl Scouts from 6:30-8:30 at the Highlands Community Building.

Saturday, Nov. 7

• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a six mile moderate hike on the Coweeta Lab Ridge Trail with a spectacular view from Albert Mtn. Meet at Westgate Plaza in Franklin (opposite Burger King) at 9 a.m. Call leader Gail Lehman, 524-5298, for reservations. Visitors are welcome but no pets please.

Monday, Nov. 9

• Art class "Figure Study Sessions with a Live Model," by Laurence Holden, will be held at The Bascom from 5 to 7 p.m. To register, call (828) 526-4949.

• The Macon County Board of Education will have a special meeting at 6 p.m. to pick the new Highlands District 1 representative.

Tuesday, Nov. 10

• HIARPT's Winter Dialogue. "Why Do We Rape, Kill And Sleep Around," Civic Center: 10-11:30 a.m.

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. If interested call the Hudson Library at 526-303.

Zoning Board upholds Cooley's decision

The appeal hearing of the Zoning Administrator's decision concerning the use of a split-zoned piece of property on NC 28 was continued from the October Zoning Board meeting, Wednesday, Nov. 4.

After two hours of deliberation involving additional evidence presented by both Zoning Administrator Joe Cooley and appellate John

Shearl and his attorney Richard Melvin, the board ruled unanimously to deny Shearl's appeal and to uphold the Zoning Administrator's decision.

The town issued Shearl two violations for using the residential portion of his split-zoned property on N.C. 28 - the location of J & J Lawn and Landscape at 1663 S.

Fourth Street - for commercial purposes and because a storage shed sits within the right-of-way on the residential portion.

The Heddens, owners of the residential lot behind Shearl's, say his commercial business has been growing consistently since they bought their property in 1997 and

• See ZONING page 17



David Wilkes



Gary Drake



Amy Patterson

Highest voter turn-out since 2001 changes face of Highlands board

In the larger scheme of things, an off-year election of a mayor and two council members in a small town in the mountains of North Carolina may not be a big deal, but here in Highlands it's been "all the talk" since candidates announced their intentions this summer.

On Tuesday, Nov. 3, 429 of Highlands' 893 registered voters - a whopping 48.04% - turned up at the Highlands Civic Center to cast their vote and exercise one of the rights many Americans take for granted.

"Since the 2001 Highlands municipal election, this has been the largest turnout for the Town of Highlands," said Kim Bishop with the Macon County Board of Elections.

Incumbent Don Mullen and David Wilkes vied for the mayoral seat; Gary Drake and incumbents Amy Patterson and Hank Ross vied for two open board seats.

Wilkes beat Mullen by more than three to one with 385 votes or 77.7%, to Mullen's 108 votes or 21.82% of voters.

"I would like to express my sincere appreciation for your support," said David Wilkes. "The voters have sent a strong and clear message that they want a more fiscally sound approach to town government. At the same time, we want to continue to build on the theme of hospitality which is vital for our economy to continue to thrive. I look forward to working with the commissioners, town employees, and you, our

citizens to make our town even more special. Thank you for your confidence."

Mayor Mullen thanked the people of Highlands for giving him the honor of serving as mayor over the past four years.

"It has been a position which I have not taken lightly, and I have worked hard to help accomplish what I believe is right for our community and, quite frankly, I think that has been a lot. I am very proud of what has happened in Highlands in the past four years and I would do it again," he said. "I congratulate David Wilkes on his victory and have told him that I certainly am willing to help him all I can in this transition period. I also congratulate

• See TURN-OUT page 24

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Town Board establishes sustainability advisory committee

The Town Board at its regularly scheduled meeting on October 21 approved the establishment of a Sustainability Advisory Committee.

The idea of sustainability was discussed by Vice Mayor Amy Patterson at the retreat held on Sept. 23 at The Bascom.

"Recognizing that quality of life is linked to a healthy environment, it is vital to be good stewards of our natural resources" said Commissioner Patterson. "Highlands needs to take the lead in promoting sustainability."

The Sustainability Advisory Committee would provide feedback and advice to the Town Board on policies, ordinances and administrative procedures regarding environmental protection and the conservation of energy and natural resources. The general scope of work is to identify and assess policy alternatives for the Town Board to consider as part of the Town's strategic plan to expand leadership and implement cutting edge applications and standards for environmental stewardship and leadership.

To serve on the Sustainability Advisory Committee, please obtain application at Town Hall, 462 Dillard Road or on line at www.highlandsc.org

• THE PLATEAU'S POSITION •

• LETTERS •

Republicans not interested in 'real' health reform

Dear Editor,

In reading the various letters against the proposed health care bill, one recurring statement is made by the Republicans: "We know that health care reform is necessary...." Here are the facts:

Reagan was President for eight years and did nothing for health care reform.

Bush (the first) was President for four years and did nothing for health care reform.

Clinton was President for eight years and the Republican Congress defeated health care reform.

Bush (the second) was president for eight years and did nothing for health care reform.

So, over the past 28 years, the Republicans have done nothing for the millions without health care. They truly do not care for the uninsured or they would have not been a roadblock to this "necessary reform."

The Republicans are nothing but hypocrites.

Jim Hartje
Otto, NC

Discussion about 'socialized' medicine continues through the ages

Dear Editor,

Here's an interesting blast from the past news item from the Franklin Press and Highlands Maconian, which we have on file at the Highlands Historical Society's Archives. It's dated April 30, 1936, under the title, "Prizes Awarded in School Finals:" "Guy Paul, Jr., was the medal winner in the annual debate presented at Highlands school Monday evening. Other participants on the affirmative side of the question: 'Resolved: That the Several States Should Provide Socialization of Medicine,' were Steve Potts and Bruce Edwards. Upholding the negative side were John Beale and Guy Paul. The decision went to the affirmative side."

Ran Shaffner
Highlands Historical Society

• HAWK'S EYE VIEW •



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.

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Gnostics were first to 'question'

Dear Editor,

This letter is in response to Ms. Brugger's column on October 29th as she espouses the philosophy of Bishop Spong.

First of all, this attitude of philosophy is really not new. In the first century, as the early church was in its infancy, there arose teachers whom the scholars call Gnostics. These people claimed to have special secret revelations of spirituality known only to them and attempted to infiltrate the church and corrupt the teachings of Christ. The Apostle Paul, in his New Testament writings, warned the Church of this teaching numerous times in different letters to Churches of his day. For sake of brevity, I will cite the reference to these passages and allow the interested reader to more thoroughly research this. These are found in 2nd Corinthians 11:1-15, Galatians 1, Colossians 2:1-5 and 2nd Timothy 4:1-5.

In her letter, Ms. Brugger cited Bishop Spong as teaching that Jesus was not the Son of God. However, Jesus made many statements to those of His day, that He indeed is the Son of God (Matthew 16:13-28, John 8:48-59, 10:22-42, and 17:5). In the gospels, Jesus' favorite title when referring to Himself is the Son of Man. If this is traced back to Daniel 7:13-14, this title is expressive of Diety and an everlasting Kingdom.

The teaching of Jesus, that He is the Son of God leaves us with three possibilities. First, Jesus knew he was not God, but said He was. This would make Jesus a liar. Secondly, Jesus believed He was God but really wasn't. This would make Jesus a lunatic. Lastly, Jesus said He is God and in fact He is. This would make Jesus Lord.

You, as the reader, must make a choice to believe Jesus or not. If you will read Philippians 2:1-11, it is revealed that Christ did not have to seek to become God, but He laid aside the glory of His Diety and took on the form of man that He might be our Savior. I hope the readers of this letter will research for themselves these passages and decide for themselves if they want to believe the Bible and live by its wisdom.

Bob Lambert
Franklin, NC

Thanks to all

Dear Editor,

The Highlands Area Chamber of Commerce and Visitor Center extends a sincere thank you to the awesome resi-

• See LETTERS page 8

• OBITUARY •

Ruth Eva Keener Garland

Ruth Eva Keener Garland, 98, of Highlands, NC, died Wednesday, October 28, 2009 in a Clayton, GA hospital. She was born in Rabun County, GA, the daughter of the late Emory and Huldah Holbrook Keener. She was a homemaker and a member of the Highlands United Methodist Church where she was a member of the United Methodist Women's Association.

She is survived by two daughters, Rebecca Cragg of Coppers Cove, TX and Mary Garland Newton of Pendleton, SC; two sons, Dean Garland of Seneca, SC and Willard Garland of Highlands, NC. Seven grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren and two great-great grandchildren also survive. She was preceded in death by a sister, Mattie Cabe and three brothers, Lee Keener, Will Keener and George Keener.

Memorial services were held Sunday, November 1, at 2 p.m. at Highlands First United Methodist Church with Rev. Paul Christy officiating.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Umcor Fund, Highlands Methodist Church, PO Box 1959, Highlands, NC 28741 or to the Tamassee Alumni Association Scholarship Fund, PO Box 1, Tamassee, SC 29686.

Bryant-Grant Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements. Online condolences can be made by visiting www.bryantgrantfuneralhome.com

H1N1 and Seasonal Flu Shot clinics scheduled for children

Currently, the Macon County Public Health Center has scheduled a series of flu vaccination clinics for children ages 6 months through 18 years old. These clinics are by appointment only each Friday from November 6 through November 20th from 8 am to 12 noon and from 1 pm to 4 pm at

the Lakeside Drive location in Franklin.

For appointments 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

•See FLU SHOT page 7



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• LAUGHING AT LIFE •

It's safe to come out

Rest easy, Highlanders, I've left the area for scary South Florida. You can release the women and children.

We were going to take the famous Woodpecker Trail from Highlands to Jacksonville, FL so we could stop by the Naval Base and squeeze three of our eight grandchildren. Then, at the last minute, one grandkid was directly exposed to the dreaded swine flu and we couldn't take the chance. This would have been our last trip to Jacksonville because our Navy family will soon be packing up their Navy brats and moving to Norfolk. Darn!

Our trip to Palm Beach was uneventful so I won't bother you with boring details. Anyone who has ever driven through Florida knows the real meaning of boring.

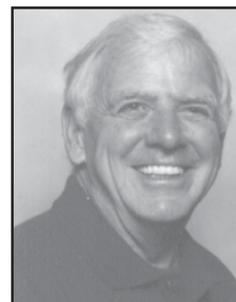
It was early afternoon of the following day when I finally turned off the car's engine and stared at our boarded up house. It had been almost six months since we'd seen it. Then I thought *did I forget to turn off the kitchen light before we left in May?*

I focused on the garage doors, wondering what adventures await us inside. As I pulled the decorative, impenetrable, cut-proof, tamper-proof cable-lock from the two large front door handles, three chameleons rushed forward to dash in. I shoed them away. Why are they so arrogant? Don't they know there's no food inside? Or is there? Are you aware we have lizards that bite?

When I pulled the front door open, the rubber seal around the door, designed to keep hurricane force winds out, made a loud swish sound, alerting any critters inside they better take cover. I'll have to lubricate that seal first thing in the morning to keep it soft.

Because the house is shuttered, it was dark inside. We threw on lights as we made our way, moving from room to room, looking for anything unusual, like an alligator sleeping in our bed. Ha, only kidding. Except for a few dead ants and one dried up chameleon, nothing unusual was spotted.

While the li'l missus started unpacking the car, I checked the outside of the house. I should tell you that, while we live right smack-dab in the heart of the city of North Palm Beach, we're less than



Fred Wooldridge

Feedback is encouraged!
email:
askfredanything@aol.com

a block from the Intracoastal Waterway (ICW) and right next to a large natural saltwater preserve full of critters. So it was normal when I found a five-foot snakeskin against our back fence. There's little doubt that some morning I'll wake to find the snake taking a dip in our pool, something it's probably been doing all summer. The pool also contained crabs, some dead, some alive. I'll fish them out after I lubricate the seal around the door.

Although we move 700 miles twice a year, critters are always a significant part of our lives. We just change critter types. Instead of bear, we have giant pythons, alligators and large land crabs. We also have your basic ho hum run of the mill rabbits, grey fox, raccoons and opossum who wander out of the preserve for a drink of chlorinated pool water...yuck! Last winter, the raccoons destroyed the gas burner feed tubes on our grill. Highlands' raccoons have never been that rude, but these are South Florida raccoons where any behavior is expected.

On our morning walks we spot magnificent blue herons fishing along the edge of the saltwater preserve. Egrets, hoards of goofy looking Ibis and an occasional pelican remind us we are no longer in Highlands.

Now for some tacky news. (You knew it was coming!) Because I'm always surrounded by critters no matter where I live, poop happens. Let me explain. Our preserve is also the home of scary looking turkey buzzards. They fly in packs of 10 or more. Have you seen those things up close? They have four-foot wing spans and oversized Tom turkey vulture heads. When they stare at me, I just know they're sizing me up for a meal. Eerie!

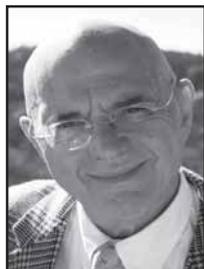
Anyway, each evening just before dark the buzzards head for the preserve to prepare for nighty-night. Before roosting, they land on the corner of our roof. They poop, preen, socialize and poop some more before bedding down. After months of being away, buzzard poop, now two inches thick and as hard as concrete, cover one corner of our roof. After lubricating the front door, fishing crabs out of the pool, I'll chisel buzzard poop off the roof. Remember, one buzzard poop equals 10chickadee poops. Better write that down.

PS – I had turned off the kitchen light.

• THE VIEW FROM HERE •

About red wine ...

I've recently started drinking a glass or two of red wine in the evening. It's not for the health benefits. I take a massive daily dose of resveratrol, the ingredient in red wine which is probably responsible for the health benefits of red wine. The French, whose diet is rich in fats but who drink red wine, have a lower rate of heart disease than citizens of other countries, a fact which led to a search for the active ingredient, which is resveratrol.



Dr. Henry Salzarulo

Feedback is encouraged.
email: hsalzarulo@aol.com

aficionados, adopted the term "wine bore" to describe them years ago. When these people start to discuss wine, they change completely, at least they surrender anything about themselves that seemed genuine. Even their voices changed, and their accents resembled William Buckley at a Yale reunion. I guess there really are people who can distinguish a French cabernet from a North

Carolina merlot, but I think most people's admiration of wine depends entirely on the price on the menu. It may be because I've never had much luck tasting the difference between Budweiser and Orange Crush. Nonetheless, I lumped wine bores with art lovers and ballet buffs. Years ago, I begged my sister to admit that she would rather see a really good movie than a really good ballet. She was resolute. I even promised that I wouldn't tell our siblings. No dice. To this day she stands by her story, but I can't help noticing that her accent changes from Indiana to England whenever we have the conversation.

I don't need any more reserveratrol. I would have to consume at least 100 liters of red wine to equal my daily dose. And some of you didn't think I was crazy, a fact that Republicans, doctors, and war mongers have known for some time. I'm not at all sure why I started. In fact, I have no idea. The only red wine I ever liked was strawberry Ripple, which I discovered in 1967. I think if you're going to call Ripple a red wine, you have to attach an asterisk. I don't think there was much resveratrol in Ripple. I don't think there was much of anything but alcohol, sugar, and artificial strawberry flavor. I don't know when chemists learned to synthesize whatever makes strawberries taste like strawberries, and not Mandarin oranges, but I doubt if a strawberry ever got close to Ripple. For those of you old enough, or given the demographic of my readers, young enough, to remember, Ripple tasted like sweet soda pop, and kicked like a mule.

I met Ripple on June 30, 1967. I remember the date because it was the night before I started my internship, an encounter from which my internship never recovered. New interns were to meet with the director of medical education at eight o'clock. I staggered in, unshowered and unshaven, at 10 after. I was still drunk, but my hangover had already begun. It takes a really good binge to experience both at the same time. To make matters worse, I interned at an Army hospital, where shaving was expected.

So here I am drinking wine, and I must admit I kind of enjoy it. Wine is not as easy to like as Coca Cola or a chocolate shake. It takes more time, more concentration. It's more complex, but it is interesting. Not interesting enough for me to dig a cellar, but definitely not boring. I haven't tasted the cranberry or cinnamon that aficionados rave about, and I don't suppose I ever will. If I get wine at a restaurant, I order a bottle I can afford without looking cheap. If I ever learn to taste the raspberry, I'll alter my strategy.

But now I live in fear that I'll examine the cork, swirl the wine around in my glass, take a sip, gargle it, allow it to trickle down my throat, wait an appropriate interval for the after taste, and declare it superb, only to discover that the waiter substituted a bottle of wine vinegar or Strawberry Ripple.

I've always been suspicious of wine

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• REFLECTIONS FROM TURTLE POND •

Human-induced Climate Change

Some global-warming deniers have been gleefully pointing out that many places in the United States had their coldest summer in decades this year — so global warming can't possibly be true. These same people seem to think that the reason the phrase "climate change" has replaced "global warming" is because of a conspiracy by the global-warming-nuts to hide the fact that the planet isn't getting warmer after all.

Of course the real reason people are using the phrase "climate change" instead of "global warming" is because the effects of an increase in greenhouse gases is more than just the overall warming of the planet. For example, rainfall patterns will change: some places will be dryer, some wetter.

In addition, the melting ice caps will change global systems such as the Gulf Stream. The ice caps are fresh water, and as they melt they desalinate the ocean which will alter the flow of ocean currents. The Gulf Stream brings warmer temperatures to Western Europe, and if this current is altered, Europe could actually be colder as a consequence of "global warming." That is why "climate change" is a much better descriptor of what is happening.

Other deniers are cleverer; they are willing to admit that climate change happens, but they are adamant that the climate is not being significantly altered by human activity. They claim that the climate changes in cycles and the current warming/change is natural.

Someone anonymously gave me a subscription to the conservative magazine *National Review*. I assume it's a reader of my column who thought that I could be "educated" out of my liberal philosophy. (To whomever you are, it's not working, and I'll probably have more to say about that soon.)

In the most recent issue there was an insert with a DVD produced by an organization called "The Idea Channel." The short film, "Unstoppable Solar Cycles" alleges that there are recurring patterns of heating and cooling on the Earth and that the main driver of our planet's climate is the Sun. It acknowledges that humans have an impact but a vanishingly small one compared to that of the Sun. The film jumps back and forth between two scientists — both well-known global-warming deniers — and you start wondering whether these were the only two scientists left on the planet willing to



Katie Brugger
k-brugger@hotmail.com

deny that humans are bringing about climate change.

The film used a favorite climate-change example: Greenland. The Vikings settled Greenland around 985 C.E. when the island was warm enough for agriculture. Thriving communities were established, but by 1400 or so all the settlements were abandoned because advancing ice sheets

rendered the island too cold for agriculture.

This was the Little Ice Age, which was a period of much cooler temperatures across the entire planet. The beginning of this cold spell is disputed, but if you look at temperature graphs it appears to really begin around 1400 and last until around 1850.

Some years ago I published a review of a book called *The Winds of Change: Climate, Weather, and the Destruction of Civilizations*, by Eugene Linden, which looks at a number of civilizations that mysteriously disappeared and argues that the cause of their downfall was climate change.

Mr. Linden picks out a number of past societies, among them the Mayans and the Viking Greenland colony, and attempts to prove that climate change is what did them in; drought in the case of the Mayans and cold in the case of Greenland.

There is also a discussion of climate science, and it took my breath away to see how complicated this science is. In order to understand Earth's climate a scientist has to take into consideration such facts as the magnitude of Earth's wobble and tilt as it processes in its orbit around the sun in patterns that last for tens of thousands of years.

Climate scientists are still uncertain about the cause of the Little Ice Age because it does not fit into the regular pattern of our planet's ice ages. The November issue of *Harper's Magazine* has an intriguing article about research by William Ruddiman, a palaeoclimatologist and professor at the University of Virginia ("The Cold We Caused," by Steven Stoll).

Mr. Ruddiman connects the Little Ice Age with the plague. In 1347 a ship entered the port of Messina in Sicily with sick people on board and within four years approximately 50 million Europeans were dead — at least a third of the population gone. This same disease had already decimated China, killing at least the same number of people there.

• See BRUGGER page 11

Highlands 3rd Annual
Culinary Weekend

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• COACH'S CORNER •

Darling, I want to destroy you

I don't really write about music in this space, mainly because it's a sports column and I am a sporting kinda guy. However, after buying the new AFI album (don't worry if you haven't heard of them, this will make sense in a minute...maybe) I was listening to a song called "Darling, I want to destroy you." It's an interesting tune about a once promising relationship gone bad. There's still quite a bit of love there (hence the term darling) but there is also the realization that the relationship has soured. So how is this going to relate to sports, who do I want to destroy...read on if you dare. (maniacal, yet mildly nervous laugh)

When I was a young lad at Highlands School, my favorite pastime was to wake up in the morning and watch Sportscenter. ESPN was still in its early years and had just obtained rights to MLB baseball. Sportscenter was just starting to take off with anchors Keith Olbermann, Craig Kilborn and Dan Patrick, and there was no better way to get sports news and info in the morning. ESPN was entering the forefront of sports, and it was great for a 10-year-old kid to be able to learn about sports, teams, etc., in a 30-minute window before school.

I begin to love ESPN, listing it as my favorite channel and "Sportscenter" as my favorite TV show in every survey imaginable. Soon, technology expanded, and ESPN.com became my default homepage on my computer. My sports addiction was growing and growing, and ESPN was my dealer of choice.

Flash forward to 2009. ESPN is now the "worldwide leader" in sports. They now broadcast 65 sports in over 150 countries, including five US channels. The overexposure of ESPN personalities has been mocked by satire on Saturday Night Live, Mad TV and numerous other media outlets. ESPN's saturation of opinion/fact rivals any cable news network, and their programming has given us the pleasure of Jim Rome's douchiness and Stephen A. Smith's screaming.

Watching my Saints receive ESPN's verbal bouquet on Monday Night



Ryan Potts
tryanpotts@hotmail.com

Football this week, I came to a stunning realization. I have come to despise ESPN, not because of the network itself, but because of the "analysis" and "opinion" that permeates every sports' broadcast. Despite the fact that it was MY team that they were giving the treatment to, it was

making me feel sick, and thus I can only imagine how Falcons fan must have felt. And thus, the decline begins...the sobering realization that the ESPN of my youth is no more-like finding out your sweet, average looking high school girlfriend is now in Hollywood.

Sure, she looks a lot better and has had some definite "enhancement," but the innocence is gone, replaced instead by fake laughter and even faker personality. ESPN, I want to destroy you.

Highlands Town Commissioner Gary Drake



Thank you for your vote of confidence!

I'm sure the new Mayor and Board will work together to carry our Town of Highlands into a more prosperous and wonderful place to live, all while preserving our heritage.

A special thank you to the dedication and hard work of the campaign committees and all our wonderful friends.

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... FLU SHOTS continued from page 3

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.

H1N1 immunizations will be offered through the Macon County Public School System for school-age children as the

quantities of available vaccine increase. Parents will be notified when these school-based immunization clinics are scheduled.

An adult seasonal flu clinic will be scheduled in November as soon as additional vaccine is received from the manufacturer. Please check the Macon County Public Health Center's flu information phone message at 349-2081 and local media for information about when this clinic is scheduled.

Commissioner Brian McClellan helps out in Kindergarten class



Brian McClellan visited with wife Julie McClellan's Kindergarten class and carved a pumpkin for the students. The children had been learning about pumpkins the weeks before, and journaled about their classroom pumpkin before and after the carving took place.



... LETTERS continued from page 2

dents, businesses and volunteers who braved less than ideal weather to make Halloween 2009 a special night for all

those young ghosts, goblins, witches, princesses and spidermen who prowled the foggy streets of Highlands last Saturday evening.

It all began with The Highlands Rotary Club Interact Club members distributing Chamber Chocolate to participating merchants on Thursday after school.

Dancing and swaying to the music was seen up and down the streets of Highlands as DJ Mike "Howlin' Wolf" Murphy entertained trick-or-treaters all evening from near Town Square close to the filming of Arthur Hancock and Katie Brugger.

Thanks to our Mayor and town council for allowing the use of our downtown area and Police Chief Harrell, Highlands Police and the many volunteers from the Highlands Rotary Club for providing a safe venue and traffic control.

The Fire Department and EMS also joined in the fun with the added treat of demonstrating the town's new ladder truck. The ever helpful Selwyn Chalker and his Recreation Department along with Engineer Lamar Nix and Highlands Sanitation assisted in too many ways to mention.

Kudos to Mountain Top Rotary – 1,200 hot dogs and soft drinks later the tented (thanks to Patrick Healey) food concession ceased operation for this Halloween. Local media, The Highlander, Highlands Newspaper, Laurel Magazine and WHLC FM 104.5 playfully promoted the event. Great events are created by the many who give selflessly of their time and Halloween in Highlands is among the very best every year. Over the years thousands of smiling costumed youngsters, adults and pets are our reward.

Bob Kieltyka
Executive Director
Highlands
Area Chamber of Commerce

Area Chamber of Commerce

• See LETTERS page 20

• HIGHLANDS ART GALLERIES •

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• HIS & HERS •

Shipping Out

By Michelle A. Mead-Armor

I wake up feeling conflicted. Before arriving in Italy, I assume that the cruise is going to be the big deal on our trip. Having tasted the joys of the Italian Lake District, however, it is difficult to move on. How can anything else match the sheer beauty and majesty of the Lake Como area?



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

Still, we were signed up for a Mediterranean cruise. As requested, all bags except our carry-on luggage are out in front of our door at an ungodly hour. We have no idea how familiar we were going to become with the term "ungodly hour." Another fabulous breakfast awaits us, and then it is on to our bus for the ride to Venice. Highways are highways no matter where they are. The Autostrada (toll highway) to Venice is particularly charmless. Fortunately, there are breaks in the trip to stretch our legs, and as my Dad would say "water our fish." These stops are at a chain of rest areas called Autogrills, a strange combination snack bars/grocery stores, which appear every 30 to 50 kilometers along the Autostrada.

Like everything else in a foreign country, you have to pay attention to what the locals are doing to see what to do. The trick about ordering food at the Autogrill is that you have to pay for your food before you place your order. Fortunately, the people behind the counter are used to tourists – and non-Italian speakers – and a smile will always go far to bridge the language gap. When it is our turn, I smile and gesture, walking away with a coke and pastry for John, a delicious sandwich for myself, and an enormous feeling of satisfaction.

Now, let me broach a delicate subject, since we're among friends. Bathrooms in Europe can be an adventure. No, let me restate that. Toilets can be an adventure. Europeans are very practical. They don't get all coy, calling things bathrooms (are you really going to take a bath?), the powder room, the little girls room, or that goofy string of euphemistic cutesy names we have for "the facilities." Nope, you're not going to find Scarlett O'Hara and Rhett Butler, Romeo and Juliette, or Elton John and Olivia Newton John written on toilet doors.

This brings me to another subject. Some things which are free in the United

States are not free in Europe. You may have to pay to use the toilet, or rent a chair and an umbrella at the beach. Many Americans are outraged by this.

Look at it from another standpoint, if you will. This is not ripping you off. This is providing you with a service, and why shouldn't someone make a living by doing this? Personally, I'd much rather pay a

small amount of money to use a clean toilet, in a safe environment. The toilet attendants are often friendly, pleasant people who nod and smile in your direction as you plunk down your coins while leaving. This is why it is vital to acquire small coins as soon as possible upon arrival in Europe (the coins are issued in 2, 1, 50c, 20c, 10c, 5c, 2c, and 1c denominations). The standard fee for using the toilet is around 50c, unless otherwise posted. If there is an attendant, it is tacky and rude not to pay.

Which brings me to a second awkward subject – you cannot use US currency everywhere. While you might get away with tipping tour bus drivers and tour guides in US money, there is no reason why local shopkeepers and restaurants in small towns should accept American money. What if someone from Europe tried to pay for gas in Highlands with Euros? By the time people pay exchange rates to convert the money into local currency they would lose hugely in the process. I have to chuckle at the nerve of the American lady who hands the Italian toilet attendant a dollar bill, and says "I'd like four quarters back, please," as if currency exchange is a service the attendant is supposed to provide.

At last, our bus ride comes to an end. We arrive in Venice, but where are the canals, the gondolas, and St. Mark's Square? Well, they are there, of course, but we learn that the city of Venice stretches across 118 small islands. Not only is it "La Serenissima," the historic city of Venice, but it is also a thriving modern port city, with both trade and cruise ships plying its waters.

I'll skip the unpleasantness of the boarding procedures, since I assume they are much the same if you're cruising the Adriatic or the Caribbean. There's a lot of hanging around and waiting, lining up with your passport, and aggravation, before you finally pose for your first photo,

your hand masterfully on something bearing the name of your ship. Up the gangway we go, for more security procedures, and the issuing of ID cards for the trip, a credit card-sized object which will be used throughout the trip. What we find out later is that every time we get on and off the ship, we must pass this card over a magic device, which then pulls up a particularly unflattering ID photo. John

and I note with despair that our ID photos make us look like crazed lunatics, and tired ones at that.

Finally on board, we are greeted by smiling crew members who point us in the direction of our cabin. Home at last! We open the door, and find a small, but nicely appointed, room. We run upstairs to see the view as we sail out of Venice.

See HIS & HERS page 11

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SportsPage



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You ain't going to get my meat

Planetcall.org tells us: "On December 12th the Copenhagen Climate Council will bring together business leaders from around the world at Hamlet's Kronborg Castle to help kick-start the low-carbon revolution."

If that doesn't send chills down your spine, it should. Without boring you with the reality of it all, if these loonies are successful in implementing cap-and-trade, which I assume is their aim, in round terms, \$300,000,000,000 will be pulled out of our collective pockets – EVERY YEAR.

Being a business type, I can understand the greed factor motivating Jeff Immelt (GE), Jim Rogers (Duke Energy) and the rest who will end up with your money in their till. However, the ultimate damage it will do to our culture is beyond calculation and beyond my imagination. The last I heard, Obama won't commit which has the organizers' shorts in a bundle. Well, good for him unless he has changed his mind by the time you read this.

I'm an old man. I will not feel the full effects of the greening of America, but I can commiserate with those of you who will. I thought Al Gore was nuts until I realized he was brilliant. Unfortunately, he was working for Al and not for you when he was Veep. But all that aside, something crossed my radar that really has me concerned.

A headline from the TimesOnLine. "Climate chief Lord Stern: give up meat to save the planet." REALLY? Well excuse me but this is carrying things a bit too far. I CANT BELIEVE IT. Just as I am entering this information, Glenn Beck is scooping me, but I'm going to report it anyway. "People will need to consider turning vegetarian if the world is to conquer climate change according to a LEADING AUTHORITY on global warming."

In an interview with The Times, Lord Stern of Brentford said: "Meat is a wasteful use of water and creates a lot of greenhouse gasses. It puts enormous pressure on the world's resources. A vegetarian diet is better."

"Direct emissions of methane from cows and pigs is a significant source of greenhouse gasses. Methane is 23 times more powerful than carbon dioxide as a global warming gas. Lord Stern, the author of the influential (to whom?) 2006 Stern Review on the cost of tackling global warming, said that a successful deal at the



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

Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen in December would lead to soaring costs for meat and other foods that generate large quantities of greenhouse gasses."

Let's just take a step back and review what they (the loonies) would like to put on us.

First, in 1992 as I recall, my nemesis (and a very wealthy one, at that) Al Gore wrote a book entitled "Earth in the Balance." Somewhere in there, Al advocated

putting an end to the internal combustion engine. I even went to the library to read it for myself just to see if what this crackpot was attributed to have said was true. It was. What does this mean? First, no shiny man car in the garage, or anywhere else. It would eliminate the biker world. It would kill all forms of fishing if you happen to use a boat with a motor. And your precious riding mower? Forget about it. And your non-riding power mower? Back to the scythe for you, dude. This is Al Gore's idea of where mankind belongs (except for the Gore household – he'd buy his way out). Sorry Al, bad idea.

Later, in a moment of honest candor and economic acuity, the President told us that "My plan would cause energy prices to skyrocket" referring to his cap-and-trade proposal. He went on to explain that this skyrocketing of energy prices would hopefully result in people pursuing cleaner energy sources. How about nuclear? Oh no, too dangerous. Wind is the answer. The environmentalists say the fan blades are dangerous to birds and bats. I'm sure solar presents a similar hazard to one creature or another. These fruitcakes just can't say yes.

And finally, this wacko (Stern) predicts that people's attitudes would evolve until meat eating became unacceptable. "I think it's important that people think about what they are doing and that includes what they are eating. People change their notion of what is responsible. They will increasingly ask about the carbon content of their food." In your dreams, you cookoo.

Sure, I'm going to walk to work, either fry my bacon or freeze my buns because my employer can't afford to cool/heat the place and go home for a plate of beans for dinner. Not in this lifetime.

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... BRUGGER continued from page 6

One hundred and fifty years later when the Europeans arrived in the Americas bringing strange new diseases like smallpox and influenza, another 50 million people were killed.

All in all, the global pandemics of these centuries killed off the equivalent of 25% of the world's population in the year 1500.

The devastation of the population meant huge tracts of land that had been in cultivation were abandoned. As the land grew up in forests, Mr. Ruddiman estimates that billions of tons of carbon were pulled out of the atmosphere. In addition there were fewer wood fires for heating and cooking — millions fewer.

It took centuries for the societies to recover and the human population to increase to the levels before the plague. But

as they recovered and the forests were cut down for fields and fireplaces the carbon dioxide levels rose again and the Little Ice Age came to an end.

This is evidence, Mr. Ruddiman suggests, that human activity does have a significant impact on the climate.

The Hudson Library has a new book questioning the "apocalyptic vision of climate change," which claims, as does the "Solar Cycles" film, that global warming is just a political fiction contrived to advance some green agenda ("Climate of Extremes" 551.6M). In fact there is an overwhelming consensus among scientists that climate change is happening and is human induced.

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

from the history guy ...

Nov. 5, 1605

Gunpowder Plot: A conspiracy to blow up the English Houses of Parliament is thwarted when a justice of the peace finds Guy Fawkes in a cellar below the House of Lords.

Remember, remember
the 5th of November?

Is there any reason to celebrate with things pyrotechnic?

Why, yes there is, if you can detect it.

You see, there was this potentially dangerous Guy, who conspired to blow up Parliament sky high, and all those legislators who had voted would end up being all exploded.

Why did he want to do this deed?

I think it had something to do with his creed.

A celebration today would not be outmoded, the anniversary of that bomb unexploded.

... HIS & HERS
continued from page 9

Now this is the real Venice we hoped for! Our ship, the **Costa Fortuna** makes its way through the historic city, like the grand lady she is. Tourists in small boats wave to us, and like royalty, we wave back. From our lofty perch, St. Mark's Square looks like it's swarming with ants. We watch as long as we can, then go downstairs to change for dinner.

Fortunately, our group has first sitting for dinner, which is at 7 p.m. Our table seats eight people, in our case, four couples. These are people from the larger Collette group, but not any of the folks we left with from Waynesboro. Our dinner companions are interesting, personable people, and it's going to be real treat to meet up with them every evening, and swap adventures.

Our waiter arrives, bearing menus. Oh, boy! This is going to be a week of gastronomic indulgence, followed by the attack of the killer waistbands. Like wise men bearing gifts, the waiters arrive with pumpkin soup, wild boar, and strawberry gelato, among other goodies. The meal ended, we say our goodnights, and head back to our cabins. Darn. They could have just set up a cot for me in the dining room.

- About the Author: Michelle A. Mead-Armor is a writer and translator who grew up in Waynesboro, Virginia, before wasting her youth and good looks in Baltimore, Sydney, Paris, and New York. She and her husband live on top of a mountain on the Continental divide near Highlands. They are members of the Highlands Writers Group. Michelle is currently suffering from gelato withdrawal.

WHAT'S FOR LUNCH?

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• SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING •

There is 'hope' in death



OUR LADY OF THE MOUNTAIN CATHOLIC CHURCH

Rev. Dean Cesa, pastor

There is a curious poem by Thomas Hood. After a long series of "no's" – no sun, no moon, no warmth, to flowers, no leaves, no birds, the poem ends with the word November. If you Google "November poem," you can see the whole poem. (I suppose copyrights would prevent me from reproducing it here in its entirety.)

The cold snap we had a few weeks ago and then the rainy and cold weather with which October finished reminded me of this poem. And yet, the first of November was anything but that. Sunny and brisk, what one might expect for a fall day in the mountains. It speaks of hope.

As we see dying going on all around us, we are reminded of our own end. Trees losing their leaves, color giving way to colorlessness, warmth giving way to cold – these are all reminders of death. And yet, there is hope. We begin November with a remembrance of all the saints (following all hallow's evening, Hallowe'en). They are the ones recognized for their holiness. The bleakness of mortal existence was transcended by their belief in a god that empowered them to live beyond their human limitations, here and hereafter. We honor them, ask for their help, as they now live a life fuller than the one we live now. They are close to God in eternity and, as we would ask only a person of holiness to pray for us, we seek their prayers for us. We admire their lives, not with envy or jealousy, but seeking to imitate their blessed ways. Where they have gone, we hope to follow.

Then we turn our attention to our own beloved dead. We remember those who have gone before us marked with the sign of faith. We entrust them to their creator. We pray as Christians have for millennia that they may find their eternal home with God. With confident assurances of faith, we move from grief over the loss to joy for what they have gained.

Even our country sees November as a time of this sort of remembrance. Later this month, we'll celebrate Veteran's Day. We'll remember those who have served our country. Though there will always be debate over the participation in armed conflict, one must at least admire the courage if not the cause.

It is also a time of another sort of goodbye. So many leave these beautiful mountains for warmer climes. Streets empty, businesses close earlier and earlier and then cease to open at all. Winter schedules are in effect. We drop our Saturday mass at Our Lady of the Mountains. It is a time that is much less busy. It is a time for more reflection, introspection, evaluation, assessment. It is a time to reflect on our own mortality. Certainly, both good and bad will surface. Dying must come to some things. We are encouraged by those who have lived good and holy lives before us. The hope of new life awaits the coming spring.

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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 Women's Bible Study

Wednesdays: 5pm Dinner; 6pm Pastor's 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. Women's Cursillo Group

Tuesday: 8 a.m. Men's 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.

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Small groups available throughout the week.

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Dr. Daniel D. Robinson, 526-4153

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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.

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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. – Men's 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 – Women's 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. Cyprian's Episcopal Church, Franklin

828-369-9270 or 828-293-5197

OUR LADY OF THE MOUNTAIN 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

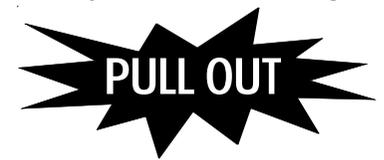
Sunday of each month from 5 - 7:30 p.m

WHITESIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Cashiers, Rev. Sam Forrester, 743-2122

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

Ongoing and Upcoming Events



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. Barbour 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 Satellite Group at the Graves Community Church, 242 Hwy 107 N. in Cashiers. Call 888-764-0365.

Through Sun. Nov. 8

• First Presbyterian Church of Highlands is accepting donations for the troops for it's "Christmas for the Troops" campaign. Care packages will be put together containing microwaveable meals and soups, snap-topped cans of tuna, chicken or soup, ramen noodles, cereal bars, cookies, hot cocoa, tea and coffee, spices, salt and paper, hard candy, nuts, canned snacks like Pringles, pudding snacks, etc. Also travel-size board games, dominoes, air activated heat wraps, hand warmers, word puzzles, DVDs and CDs, icy/hot patches and winter gloves. Please no chocolates, aerosol or perishable items. Please drop off donations at the church or mail a monetary donation to First Presbyterian Church, Christmas Care Packages, P.O. Box 548, Highlands, NC 28741.

Through Thurs., Nov. 19

• 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.

Fridays through Nov. 20

• H1N1 and Seasonal Flu shot clinics for children at the Macon County Health Center on Lakeside

Ruby Cinema

Hwy. 441, Franklin, NC
524-2076

Nov. 6-12

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, 9:20

Sat: 2, 4:20, 7, 9:20

Sun: 2, 4:20, 7

Mon + Wed: 4:20, 7

Tues + Thurs: 2, 4:20, 7

THE FOURTH KIND

rated PG-13

Fri: 4:15, 7:15, 9:15

Sat: 2:15, 4:15, 7:15, 9:15

Sun: 2:15, 4:15, 7:15

Mon + Wed: 4:15, 7:15

Tues + Thurs: 2:15, 4:15, 7:15

PARANORMAL ACTIVITY

rated R

Fri: 4:30, 7:20, 9:30

Sat: 2:20, 4:30, 7:20, 9:30

Sun: 2:20, 4:30, 7:20

Mon + Wed: 4:30, 7:20

Tues + Thurs: 2:20, 4:30, 7:20

Alumni basketball weekend fundraiser for Varsity Girls BB Christmas Tournament

Calling all Highlands High School Alumni 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 alumni 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 alumni to wear blue and gold on Friday, November 20," said Highlands Varsity Girls Coach Brett Lamb. On Saturday, November 21, the HHS Lady Highlanders and HHS Boosters Club will be hosting a HHS Basketball Alumni Game in the new gym. Beginning at 4 p.m., a BBQ dinner will be served and registration for all alumni will begin. Special guests, current players and alumni 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 Alumni 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 Pesca-do'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 Alumni game Saturday night. You do not have to be present to win. Money raised from the raffles and the alumni 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 alumni as possible come back and participate," said Lamb, who is coordinating the Alumni 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

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.

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 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. 5

• Taize service at the Highlands United Methodist Church at 5:30 p.m.

• Rotary Bingo with Highlands Girl Scouts from 6:30-8:30 at the Highlands Community Building.

• Franklin Community Blood Drive at the First Baptist Church (69 Lotla Street) noon to 5:30 pm. Please call 369-9559 for more information or to schedule an appointment. *Walk-ins welcome, appointments preferred.*

Friday, Nov. 6

• Angel Medical Center Blood Drive (120 River-view Street) 8 am to 5 pm. Please call 369-4166 for more information or to schedule an appointment. *Walk-ins welcome, appointments preferred.*

• The High Mountain Squares will dance this Friday night, at the Macon County Community Building on route 441 South from 7-9 p.m.. Hoyle Grose from Asheville, NC will be the caller. We dance Western Style Square Dancing, mainstream and plus levels. Everyone is welcome. For information call 828-349-0905, 828-369-8344, 706-782-0943, or www.highmountainsquares.org

Saturday, Nov. 7

• Searching for Liberal Religion? The Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Franklin, N.C. will present an introduction to liberal religion on Saturday from 9 a.m. to noon. The Fellowship is located at 85 Sierra Drive in Franklin, N.C. For further information including directions contact www.franklinfellowship.org or call 706/782-7978. All are welcome.

• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a six mile moderate hike on the Coweeta Lab Ridge Trail with a spectacular view from Albert Mtn. Meet at Westgate Plaza in Franklin (opposite Burger King) at 9:00 a.m. Bring water, lunch; wear sturdy shoes. Drive 20 miles round trip. Call leader Gail Lehman, 524-5298, for reservations. Visitors are welcome but no pets please.

• WNC 234th Marine Corps Birthday Ball will be celebrated at Harrah's Cherokee Casino & Hotel. All Marines, Navy, families, and friends are invited to attend this BLACK TIE event celebrating 234 years of the United States Marine Corps. Social hour will begin at 5:30 pm and Ceremony/Dinner/Guest Speaker to follow. Tickets are \$30 per person and \$50 per couple. Tickets are on sale until November 1, 2009. For tickets and information visit www.mcleague-973.org or contact Commandant Gregory Hunt at (828) 342-2024. This event is sponsored by Smoky Mountain Detachment 973, Marine Corps League, Franklin, NC.

Monday, Nov. 9

• Art class "Figure Study Sessions with a Live Model," by Laurence Holden, will be held at The Bascom from 5 to 7 p.m. for beginning to advanced

students. Cost is \$20/\$15 Bascom members. To register, call (828) 526-4949 or visit www.thebascom.org.

• The Macon County Board of Education will have a special meeting at 6 p.m. to pick the new Highlands District 1 representative to take the place of Frieda Bennett who resigned.

Tuesday, Nov 10

• HIARPT's Winter Dialogue. All are welcome. Only requirement is to read the material in advance. "Why Do We Rape, Kill And Sleep Around," Newsweek, 6-29-09 Robert Wright's "A Grand Bargain Over Evolution." Coordinator: Peter Gorday. Civic Center: 10-11:30 a.m.

• Macon County Planning Board Public Input meeting at the League of Women Voters meeting at Tartan Hall in the Presbyterian Church in Franklin at 12:00 pm.

Wednesday, Nov. 11

• Travel & Tourism Commission meeting at the Highlands Visitor Center at 9 a.m. to discuss Occupancy Tax issues.

Thursday, Nov. 12

• The Public Input Committee, composed of members of the Macon County Planning Board and Planning Department staff, is visiting communities and civic groups to give citizens the opportunity to participate in developing a Comprehensive Plan for Macon County. The League of Women Voters of Macon County will host a public input session with committee members. After a brief presentation on growth and demographic projections, participants will be able to tell committee members what issues are important to them and how they would like to see Macon County develop in the future. Areas that will be addressed in the comprehensive plan include land use, environment, housing, transportation, public services, education, recreation, economic development, health care, child care, and senior citizens' needs. The meeting will be held at Tartan Hall. Lunch will be served at noon by reservation. Call 524-5192. The program will begin at 12:15.

• The November meeting of The Western North Carolina Woodturners Club will meet 6 p.m. at the Blue Ridge School, in Glenville. Drive to the back of the school to the woodworking shop. Visitors are always welcomed. The club meets every second Thursday at the Blue Ridge School. Listen to WHLC (104.5 FM) at 5 p.m. for cancellation due to weather. Visit our web site at www.wncwoodturners.com

• 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 Thousand 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.

'Shopping Bag' exhibition comes to The Bascom this month

Historical shopping bag samples from well known department stores and merchants will be on display this month as "The Shopping Bag: Exemplary Art and Design" opens at The Bascom.

The shopping bag exhibition opens with a free public reception Saturday, Nov. 14, from 5-7 p.m., 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.

The exhibition is on loan from the Newark Public Library, N.J., and curated by William Dane.

"Shopping bags are an integral part of contemporary society and provide visual artifacts of our environment and popular culture," said Kaye Gorecki, Bascom artistic director. "These icons produced by department and chain stores in the 20th century reflect the changing trends in art, design

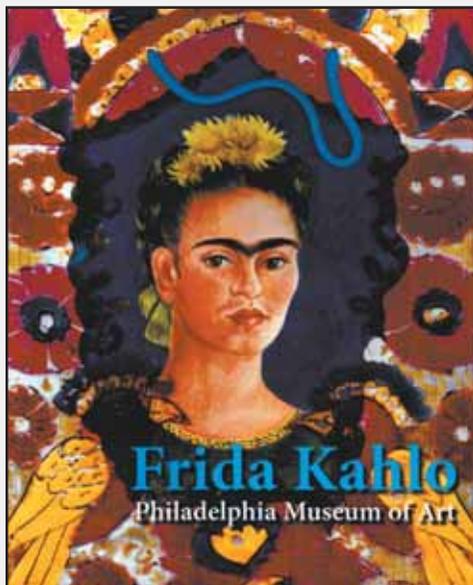
and marketing. In 1961, Bloomingdale's department store made retail history by introducing the first designer shopping bag. Artist Joseph Kinigstein was commissioned

to create a bag for promotional purposes. Since then, both famous and fledgling artists, architects, fashion illustrators and ad designers have created bags for various institutions, and almost overnight, they came into their own as design objects."

Shopping bags have been featured in art museums all over the world and are a part of many public and private collections including the Smithsonian's Cooper Hewitt Museum in New York and the National Museum of

American History in Washington, D.C.

For more information about the shopping bag exhibition or other Bascom offerings, visit www.thebascom.org or call (828) 526-4949.



This Freda Kahlo bag from the Philadelphia Museum of Art is one of the historical samples featured in "The Shopping Bag: Exemplary Art and Design" at The Bascom Nov. 14-Dec. 18.

Ongoing and Upcoming Events



• 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

• 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

• Adrop-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 Alumni 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 alumni. On Saturday it's a HHS Basketball Alumni Game at 4 p.m. ABBQ 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

Saturday, Nov. 21

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

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: 10-11:30 a.m.

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.

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 Panthertown 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 2:00 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.

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 intergenerational 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.

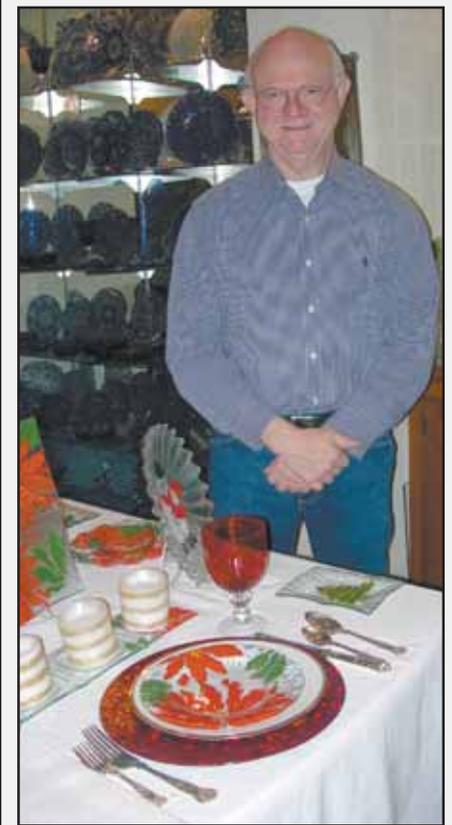
• A demonstration, "Split Oak Basket Weaving," will be held at The Bascom in Highlands from 1-4 p.m.

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

• See **EVENTS** page 16

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



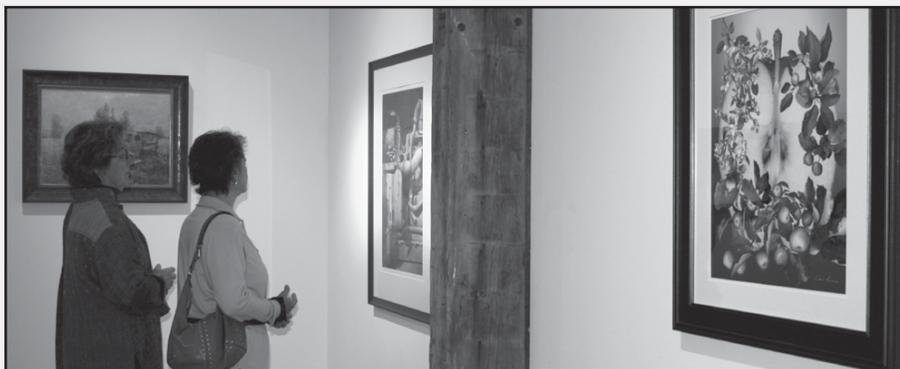
A special feature of this year's Christmas Showhouse sponsored by the Highlands Historical Society will be the raffle of six art glass dessert plates featuring red poinsettias, donated for the purpose by Dwight Bryant of Bryant Art Glass. Raffle tickets will be \$1 each, or six for \$5. The Showhouse and Sale will take place December 5 and 6 from 1-5 p.m., and will feature the Stewart House, ca. 1891, located at 425 Brock Court across Hickory Street from the ballpark. The house will be decorated for Christmas by local decorators. Tickets for the event will be \$15 each with proceeds benefitting the Highlands Historical Society. Shuttles will run from the Community Building beside the ballpark.



Ongoing and Upcoming Events

Local artists among winners of The Bascom's annual juried art competition

'American Art Today' continues through Dec. 18



"American Art Today: Juried Works" exhibition will be at The Bascom through Dec. 18. Admission is free. The Bascom is open Tuesdays through Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Several local artists were among the 11 winners of The Bascom's annual juried art exhibition, "American Art Today."

Five thousand dollars in cash prizes were awarded Saturday, Oct. 24, when the exhibition opened at The Bascom. The exhibition continues through Dec. 18, Tuesdays through Saturdays, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is free.

Distinguished curator and author Dr. Annette Blaugrund, former director of the National Academy of Design Museum and Fine Art School in New York, was the juror of the exhibition, which featured more than 40 pieces from artists all over the nation. Blaugrund came to Highlands to select the winners and give a gallery talk Oct. 24 on the exhibition.

"The Bascom exhibition reveals the diversity of subjects and media in which artists in the U.S. are now working," Blaugrund said that evening. "Feast your eyes, open your mind, and I hope you enjoy

the show."

The Bascom's juried exhibition is an annual event. This year's top honor, Best in Show, went to Dana Brown for "Passages," a watercolor. First place went to Tracy Deniszczuk for "Spirit Cradle I," mixed media. Second place went to Denise Stewart-Sanabria for "Donut Distress," oil on canvas. Third place went to Sean Meyers for "Dhuhr Salah," photography on canvas. Fourth place went to Highlands' Sallie Taylor for "Seven Eggs and Shadows," oil on canvas.

Honorable mentions went to James Cornell for "Teapot," high fire stoneware; Kellie Hamilton for "Nuts and Bolts," digital photography; Jo Ridge Kelley for "Emblazed," oil on canvas; Highlands' Leila Martin for "Maasai Warriors," oil on canvas; and Lee Sipe for "Vessel no.199," copper wire. A Juror's Honorable Mention went to Jerome Grimm for "Grounded," acrylic on canvas.



Highlands' Sallie Taylor, left, accepts her cash prize for "Seven Eggs and Shadows," oil on canvas, which won fourth place in the annual juried competition.

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.

• Mirror Lake Improvement Association Christmas Gathering at 6 p.m. at the home of Paul and Jane Wilgus, 1155 Hickory Hill Road. For more information, call 526-9939.

Sunday, Dec. 6

• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take an easy 3-mile hike with an elevation change of 200 feet on the Bartram Trail from Wallace Branch, including some side trail and a small waterfall. Meet at Westgate Plaza in Franklin (opposite Burger King) at 2:00 p.m. Drive 8 miles round trip. Bring water, a snack if you wish; wear sturdy shoes. Call leader Kay Coriell, 369-6820, for reservations.

Monday, Dec. 7

• Macon County Planning Board Public Input meeting at the Nantahala Community Center at 7 p.m.

Wednesday, Dec. 9

• Art class "Create a Holiday Centerpiece," by Margie Shambaugh, will be taught at The Bascom from 1:30-3:30 p.m. Students will create a 12-inch boxwood tree that will enhance one's holiday dining room table. Cost is \$25 for the general public and \$20 for Bascom members (materials included). To register, call (828) 526-4949 ext. 100.

Thursday, Dec. 10

• Highlands-Cashiers Players annual free Holiday Reading at 7 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 12

• Art class "Ceramic Ornament," by Norma Hendrix, will be taught at The Bascom from 10 a.m. to noon. This is an intergenerational 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 or visit www.thebascom.org.

Book Club to begin at the Hudson Library

Have you ever wanted to join a book club? Now's your chance! The Hudson Library will be hosting a new book club, "Bookies" during the winter months. The first meeting will be held Thursday, Nov. 12 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 Thousand 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.

Sign up for Emergency Council's Christmas Program now

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.

AngelFood

The November menu is available and orders may be placed and paid for at The Episcopal Church of the Incarnation, Main & 5th Streets through Monday, November 9th. Cash or EBT cards only. Distribution day is Saturday, November 14th from 9-10am at the church. **NOTE:** Steaks in a box of AngelFood are now thicker than ever before. Though there may be fewer steaks in a box, it's the same amount of meat but the quality is higher and the steaks are tenderer.

NEW! Online ordering is now available by going to www.angelfoodministries.com. Click on "Order Online or "Find a local site", type in your zip code (or 28741), and select Episcopal Church of the Incarnation. You may pay by credit card via this website.

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... ZONING continued from page 1

is now encroaching upon the portion that is zoned residential, thereby subjecting them to an eyesore.

However, Shearl says he bought his .9500 of an acre with no zoning attached that would restrict him from using it for his business.

He said he recorded his property with the county in Nov. 1993 one minute after the town recorded the plat with zoning stipulations showing B3 along the corridor and R1 along the back. However, he said he never saw that plat or knew anything about the property being split-zoned until this past August when he was cited by the town for running a commercial entity on the residential portion of the property.

He also contends that he was told by a past Zoning Administrator that he was allowed to put a storage building in the right-of-way because it was not permanent structure and could be moved.

However, Cooley read the zoning ordinance to show he was in violation and that storage buildings, garages and outbuildings can't be erected in the right-of-way.

Cooley also said Shearl's property not only changed uses over the years but that it was not used commercially for an extended period of time - more than 12 months - so any grandfathering Shearl might be able to claim concerning the entire parcel, split-zoned or otherwise, didn't apply.

Shearl contends the property has been used commercially since its inception, though a letter by Roger Wilson and admitted as hearsay evidence says it wasn't used commercially.

But, Larry Rogers testified that as long as he can remember the property has always been used commercially, first as a cabinet shop.

Zoning Board Chairman Bill Rethorst said even if that was so, the use changed from cabinet shop to landscaping which would have negated any grandfathering attached to the parcel.

Attorney Melvin said he believed the two business uses could be considered the same.

Since Shearl and Melvin cited old zoning maps and minutes from past Town Board meetings in their testimony Cooley supplied a timeline of zoning history along the N.C. 28 corridor in the vicinity of Shearl's parcel.

Beginning in 1983 through 1996, the town attempted to curb commercial uses along the corridor by split-zoning properties 230 feet from the centerline of NC 28 and later changing that to 150 feet. Property with in that footage was kept commercial - B2

and later B3 - and parcels with additional land after the demarcation was zoned residential - R-33 and later R1

As substantiated in Planning and Town Board minutes, in 1990 a new zoning code and map was adopted by the town. Even though the map can't be found, Cooley said the current zoning map coincides with the 1990 zoning map discussed in the minutes.

Attorney Melvin said the county's map of the plat doesn't show any zoning but Cooley said the county's maps aren't zoning maps but are tax maps where lots are often combined for tax purposes and have no bearing whatsoever on the Town of Highlands zoning map.

"A lot line is not a zoning line," he said. "Lots are often split-zoned in municipalities and it's perfectly legal."

By state statute, the board had to decide on the case based on the "finding of facts" and could only go by the current zoning map and ordinances by which Cooley made his decision.

"We don't have to decide if the map now in place is legal or arrived at in a legal fashion. That is a civil matter between the town and Shearl," said Eric Pierson. "This is about the map now in place. We're here to decide if Joe's decision to find Shearl in violation was warranted based on current information."

Member Tony Potts said the case isn't about the contract to purchase or that Shearl thought the entire parcel was zoned B3. He said it's up to the buyer to verify what he's buying.

Rethorst said the evidence before the board was consistent with what Cooley based is ruling on, that the back of the property is zoned residential.

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Local wins Hospital Auxiliary quilt



Virginia French of Chestnut Hill proudly displays the Wildflower Quilt that was raffled off earlier this month by the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital Auxiliary. This was the 15th year for the raffle. Proceeds from what has become a local tradition go to help purchase equipment for the hospital. Work on the 36 panels, each of which depicts an area wildflower, usually begins each winter when kits containing drawings, carefully selected colored thread, and fabric are distributed to approximately a dozen different embroiderers. When the panels are completed local quilter Hazel Miller assembles the panels into the finished product in time to be raffled off each October at the Fall Craft Fair.

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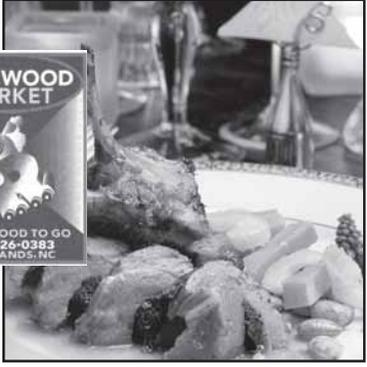
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• HOSPITAL NEWS •

Dr. Scott Baker joins hospital's medical staff

Area family physician J. Scott Baker, MD, has rejoined the medical staff at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital.

The hospital's medical staff and board of directors approved Dr. Baker for associate privileges at the end of September. In a related move, the hospital also announced that Baker will become a regular member of the hospital's emergency room staff.

Dr. Baker reopened his medical practice in Highlands last year, initially sharing space with long-time family physician John Baumrucker until he retired from active office practice last July. Baker previously practiced in Highlands from 1996 through 1999, before relocating his practice to Rabun County, and later to Franklin.

"I am very grateful to have been able to return to practice here and now be part of the hospital's medical staff once again. As my practice here has grown, it's been wonderful to see many of my former patients return," added Baker.

"We are happy that Scott has chosen to bring his independent medical practice back to our communities, particularly at a time when our area is underserved when it comes to primary care physicians," said hospital President and CEO Ken Shull. "Scott had a very loyal following of patients from his former practice here, and we hope his return as a member of the medical staff

will improve the access to the services they need."

Dr. Baker earned his medical degree from the Texas A&M University College of Medicine in College Station, TX, and completed his residency in Family and Community Medicine at Wake Forest University's (Bowman Gray) School of Medicine in Winston-Salem, NC.

He earned his undergraduate degree in pre-med from Baylor University in Waco, TX, where he was a member of the Alpha Epsilon Delta Honor Society and the Gamma Beta Phi National Honor Society. During college, he worked as a paramedic.

He is certified by the American Board of Family Practice. Board certification is required for all members of the hospital's medical staff.

Baker and his wife Rebecca have two children, Trenton Forrest (15), and Bailey Elizabeth (11). Becky Baker is a registered nurse at MedWest Health System (formerly Harris Regional Medical Center) in Sylva, NC. The family is active in the Highlands United Methodist Church.

His office is located in Suite 304 of the Jane Woodruff Clinic on the hospital campus. His office can be reached at (828) 526-1700.

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Dr. Scott Baker

Community invited to say 'goodbye' to Shull

Members of the community, hospital staff, and area physicians will have an opportunity to say goodbye to hospital CEO Ken Shull at a drop-in reception set for Thursday, Nov. 19 at 3:30 p.m.

The farewell event will be held in the Level 1 lobby of the Jane Woodruff Clinic on the hospital campus and last until 5 p.m. Refreshments will be provided.

Shull, who has been president and chief executive officer of Highlands-Cashiers Hospital for the past four years, announced his resignation last week. He is leaving to become president of St. Luke's Hospital in Columbus, NC. St. Luke's Hospital, which is similar in size to Highlands-

Cashiers Hospital, serves Polk County, including the towns of Columbus and Tryon. He will remain in his post here through Nov. 22.

"I'm looking forward to the opportunity to say good bye to the community and to many of those that I have worked with on the hospital board over the past four years," said Shull. "I will certainly miss working with the great group of people that comprise the staff here at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital, and those members of the medical staff who have done so much to advance the progress the hospital has made during my time here."

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... LETTERS continued from page 8

Georgia ForestWatch steadfast to boating prohibition

Dear Editor,

Georgia ForestWatch is gratified that the U.S. Forest Service wisely has granted Georgia ForestWatch's request to stay implementation of any boating on the headwaters of the Wild and Scenic Chattooga River pending resolution of the five administrative appeals filed in that matter.

We urge all interested hikers, picnickers, bird watchers, photographers, anglers, hunters, and lovers of this wild, backcountry area to urge the Forest Service to now closely review the Forest-

Watch appeal and consider granting its proposal to continue current "zoning" on the Upper Chattooga.

Everyone should understand that this administrative battle over these 21 miles of wild, backcountry river is far from over.

Of the five parties appealing the Forest Service decision to try to open the area to boating, only Georgia ForestWatch steadfastly has stuck to the position that the agency should continue its 30-plus-year prohibition on boating in

this pristine area of national forestlands. Three of the appellant groups are willing to accept some boating in this area. The fourth, the American Whitewater lobby group, which engendered the 4.5 years of study of this issue, still wants it all – boating anytime on the 21 miles of the Upper Chattooga.

For more on the various appeals and the stay go to <http://www.fs.fed.us/r8/fms/sumter/resources/Chattooga.php>

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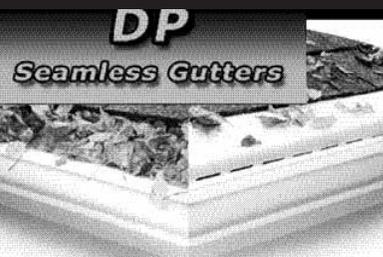
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Medical Assistant/Nurse needed at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital in one of our Physician Offices. Full Time position available. 3-5 years of experience required. Full benefits, or the option to opt out of benefits for an increase in pay, available after 60 days of full-time employment. We are now offering part-time employees, working at least 24 hours a week, medical insurance. Pre-employment screening required. Call Human Resources at 828-526-1376 or apply online at www.hchospital.org.

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Hospital in the Acute Department. Full-time and PRN positions available, night shift. Med/Surg experience preferred. Excellent wage scale, with shift and weekend differentials. Full benefits, or the option to opt out of benefits for an increase in pay, available after 60 days of full-time employment. We are now offering part-time employees, working at least 24 hours a week, medical insurance. Pre-employment screening required. Call Human Resources at 828-526-1376 or apply online at www.hchospital.org.

C.N.A I needed at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital in the Acute Department. Full-time and PRN positions available, night shift. Excellent wage scale, with shift and weekend differentials. Full benefits, or the option to opt out of benefits for an increase in pay, available after 60 days of full-time employment. We are now offering part-time employees, working at least 24 hours a week, medical insurance. Pre-employment screening required. Call Human Resources at 828-526-1376 or apply online at www.hchospital.org.

RN needed in the Emergency Room at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. Full Time position available. ER experience required. Full benefits, or the option to opt out of benefits for an increase in pay, available after 60 days of full-time employment. We are now offering part-time employees, working at least 24 hours a week, medical insurance. Pre-employment screening required. Call Human Resources at 828-526-1376 or apply online at www.hchospital.org.

RN's at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. Experienced Med-Surg Nurses needed in Acute/ER department. Strong leadership skills is a must. PRN positions available for 12 hour day and night shifts. Excellent wage scale, with shift and weekend differentials. Pre-employment screening required. Call Human Resources at 828-526-1376 or apply online at www.hchospital.org.

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

WANTED

WANTED TO RENT - Quality 3 or 4-bedroom home close to town. Upgraded kitchen, flexible on furnishings, easy access. Small, clean dog allowed. Long term lease. Possibly interested in option for the right home. Call 828-200-0815. (st. 10/22)

HARDWORKING COUPLE LOOKING FOR LANDSCAPING AND YARDWORK AND HOUSECLEANING WORK - Call Juan Diaz at 828-200-1038 or 828-526-1025.

ABOUT PETS

LOVING PART SIAMESE CAT - Needs a good home, loves People, loves Attention, very

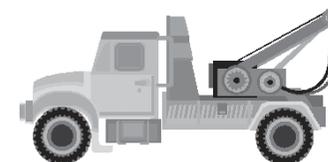


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Sweet. Only two years old. Interested? Call (828) 526-1536.

BEAUTIFUL FEMALE MALAMUTE MIX. FREE TO A GOOD HOME WITH REFERENCES. 12 years old, bred to be the head of a sled dog team and in excellent health. Must sacrifice. Owner's granddaughter has life threatening asthma. This is a very special animal and deserves a forever home. 828-526-3961 oremailstarpony@earthlink.net for pics and more info.

YARD SALE

MOVING SALE — BY APPOINTMENT. Houseful of Furniture Living Room, Dining Room, Bedroom, Bakers Rack, Office Furniture, Corner TV Cabinet, Console Tables, Accessories, too many to list. Highlands, close to Wild Cat Country Club. Call for appointment to see. 526-9577 (st. 9/24)

RAIN OR SHINE - 4156 Horse Cove Road. 9-4 ONLY.

RESIDENTIAL FOR SALE

TOTAL PRIVACY IN THE WOODS. 2 bed, 1 bath, 1.2 acres, gated entrance, located in Scaly Mountain, \$149,500. Call Ann at Cabe Realty 828-526-2475. 11/5

BY OWNER NO AC NEEDED. CLASSIC COUNTRY HOME, 4.2 acres. Perennial landscaping. 4 bed 3 bath, garage and shed 2900 sq. ft living space. 1,523 sq. ft deck. \$338,500, 743-5788 (st. 10/15)

LOT WITH A VIEW OF SATULAH MOUNTAIN, Hidden Springs Road, Highlands. Approximately 1/3 acre. Excellent neighborhood. Lynda Hamilton (912) 481-0174.

FIVE BEDROOM, 4 1/2 BATH HOUSE FOR SALE/LEASE WITH OPTION. Owner financing possible. Handicap accessible, separate office below. Close to town. See at

vrbo.com/208433 Call for details 808-443-7353 st. 8/27

FOR SALE BY OWNER - 535 N. 4th Street. Zoned Commercial. \$350,000. Currently rented at \$2,500 a month. Call 770-827-0450. (st. 2/19)

RESIDENTIAL FOR RENT

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

WALK TO TOWN FOR THIS 3/3 OLDER HOME. - Furnished. Oil heat. some utilities included for \$1,225 per month. Call 526-5558. (11/12)

ONE-BEDROOM APARTMENT IN TOWN - 535 N. 4th Street. \$600 a month. Call 770-827-0450. (St. 11/5)

BEAUTIFUL TWO BEDROOM CHALET FOR RENT. \$750 per month INCLUDING utilities. Two bed/two bath/screened porch/gazebo. Minutes from Highlands. Call Jeannie Chambers 526-3717 (office) or 526-8225 (cell). (st. 10/22)

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

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

HOLLY FOREST II SAPPHIRE NC YEAR ROUND Mountain View easy Access Furnished 3 Bedroom/3 Bath with 2 Car Garage \$1,850. month. 561-626-7467 11/5

ARCHITECTS PRIVATE HOME WITH STUNNING FEATURES. Three bedrooms, plus den, three full baths, and an open living area. Two Stone fireplaces and three decks overlooking stream and private stocked trout pond. Full Privacy. Designer furnished. Walking distance to town. Rate dependant on term. Non smokers only;

• See CLASSIFIEDS page 31

• CLASSIFIEDS •

no pets. Deposit required. Weekly, monthly or yearly rental. Call 678-358-9675 or 770-639-2682.

2 BED, 1 BATH HOUSE FOR RENT IN LAUREL FALLS. Few minutes from downtown Highlands and the hospital. fully furnished included w/d. Call 787-2423. St. 9/24

\$325/MONTH, one bedroom in 5-bedroom house. Utilities divided equally. Walk to hospital. Call: 828-200-1064. st. 10/1

ONE BED, 1 BATH, plus den with trundle beds – fully furnished, new construction, including utilities, cable TV, W/D, wireless Internet access. Smoke-free environment. 1,200 sq. ft. plus 2 outside decks. Walk to Main Street. Near new Bascom. \$950/month. Call 813-428-2359.

YEAR-ROUND HOUSE NEAR GLEN FALLS. Responsible adult for one bedroom, one and one-half baths, furnished or unfurnished. Wood and carpet floors, sunny deck with mountain and pond views, w/d, private. No smoking. \$650 furnished, negotiable unfurnished. First, last, security required. 828-421-7922. (st. 5/7)

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

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

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

SEVERAL HOUSES AVAILABLE – 4 bedroom, 2 bath MH close in \$ 1,000 per month; 2 bedroom, 2 bath Home Carport; \$1,000 per month; Garage apt, 1 bedroom, 1 bath \$1,100 per month. All homes are plus utilities and no pets.

Contact Terry Potts at Country Club Properties 828-526-2520. (st. 7/2)

APARTMENT FOR RENT – 1 bed, 1 bath, living area, kitchen and utility room. \$600 per month. \$300 security deposit. Rent includes utilities (electric, water heat). 1 year lease. Prefer nonsmoker. No pets. Unfurnished. good for 1-2 people. 838-526-9494.

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

APARTMENT FOR RENT – 1 bed, 1 bath, living area, kitchen and utility room. \$650/month. \$300 security deposit. First and last month rent. Rent includes utilities, (electric, water, heat, local phone) One year lease. Prefer non-smoker. No pets. Unfurnished. Good for 1-2 people. Call 526-9494.

FOR RENT AND SALE – 2/2 condo, LR, DR, Sun room, W/D. Walk to town. Available year round. Call 828-421-2144

FURNISHED 3BD 2BATH HOUSE IN MIRROR LAKE area available for 6-12 month lease \$1200+ utilities. Call 770-977-5692.

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

SMALL FURNISHED COTTAGE suitable for (1) occupant conveniently located @ 674 Chestnut Street. Queen bed, Living area and kitchen combined. Nice screen porch with sleeping loft. Quiet and private. No pets and no smoking. \$800. monthly plus \$300. security deposit with 6 months lease and references. Includes all utilities & satellite TV. Available 9/18/09. Contact Charlie

@ (828)526-8645.

COMMERCIAL FOR RENT/SALE

FOR SALE – BEST 'COMMERCIAL' BUY IN HIGHLANDS – 535 4TH STREET. ZONED MIXED-USE, COMMERCIAL AND RESIDENTIAL. RECENT REMODEL. GREAT RETAIL/OFFICE AND SEPARATE ONE-BEDROOM BASEMENT APARTMENT. \$389,000. CALL 770-827-0450. (ST. 11/5)

NEED A SMALL SPACE FOR YOUR BUSINESS? Two spaces, \$375 and \$475 or combine. Electric included. Near Bascom Gallery. Call 526-5558. (11/12)

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

RENTAL SPACE IN WRIGHT SQUARE – Half a building or two floors of one building. Call Harold Brammer. 828-526-5673. (st. 4/16)

VACATION RENTAL

ARCHITECTS PRIVATE HOME WITH STUNNING FEATURES. Three bedrooms, plus den, three full baths, and an open living area. Two Stone fireplaces and three decks overlooking stream and private stocked trout pond. Full Privacy. Designer furnished. Walking distance to town. Rate dependant on term. Non smokers only; no pets. Deposit required. Weekly, monthly or yearly rental. Call 678-358-9675 or 770-639-2682.

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

11/5)

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

ITEMS FOR SALE

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

6 ETHAN ALLEN LADDERBACK CHAIRS – rush seats. \$50 each. Call 526-3647.

GENERATOR – Winco, tri-fuel, 16HP, 9,000 watts. \$600. 828-526-1570. 11/5.

FRESH CUT CHRISTMAS TREES – Will cut to order. Can deliver. Sale Starts Nov. 21 on Main Street next to the Methodist Church. Call 526-3824. 11/29.

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

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

RECLAIMED BRAZILIAN CHERRY DINING TABLE. One of a Kind. \$1,200. 828-526-9012. Randy. (st. 10/22)

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

See CLASSIFIEDS page 24

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• SERVICE DIRECTORY •

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• HS SOCCER NEWS •

POLICE, FIRE DEPT. LOGS



Highlands Varsity Boys Soccer team again took the Smoky Mountain Conference and are #13 in the State for 1A schools. For the 2009 season, Highlands had 92 goals. Keeper, Cody St. Germain helped the team along every step of the way. He's shown here at Hayesville on Sept. 14 during a very challenging game.

Photos by Noel Atherton

Highlanders wrap up SMC Championship

By Ryan Potts

The Highlands Men's soccer team finished the regular season with wins over Swain and Andrews to win their 7th straight Smoky Mountain Conference Championship. The Highlanders are the #1 seed from the SMC and will face Wild Card Avery County in the 1st round of the state playoffs.

Last Monday, the Highlanders celebrated Senior Night versus Swain County, where they honored their senior midfielder Will Mathowdis. (See page 21 of the Oct. 29 issue of this newspaper.)

Being the lone senior on this team, Mathowdis has demonstrated leadership from the first day of summer workouts, and has continued to be a driving force for the Highlanders throughout the season.

"We call him the motor in the middle," said coach Chris Green, "He's always moving out there and it isn't very often that you can outwork him."

Having coached Mathowdis since middle school, Green speaks highly of his center midfielder's skill and tenacity on the field.

"He works hard, he loves soccer and most importantly he's been a great leader for us in a year where he had to be a leader as the senior on this team," he said.

It was only fitting then that Mathowdis scored the first goal of Senior Night on a PK against the Maroon Devils. The goal from Mathowdis put the Highlanders in charge and they went on to a 7-0 victory.

Last Wednesday, the Highlanders traveled to Andrews with a chance to win the SMC Championship outright against

the Wildcats. The Highlanders struck early and often on the way to a dominating 11-2 victory. Kevin Dickey scored his first goal of the season in the rout, and the Highlanders played many of their younger players in an attempt to rest up for the state playoffs.

The Highlanders hosted Western Highlands Conference wildcard Avery County last night in the first round of the state playoffs, but results were not available at press time. If the Highlanders are victorious they will play again Saturday against a yet to be determined opponent.

Mom Holly Roberts give lone soccer senior, son Will Mathowdis, a hug at Senior Night last week.



The following are the Highlands Police Dept. log entries from Oct. 28. Only the names of persons arrested, issued a Class-3 misdemeanor, or public officials have been used.

Oct. 28

- At 8:40 p.m., Jose Torres, 22, of Highlands, was arrested for NOL at Highlands Plaza.

- At 11:27 a.m., officers assisted with the involuntary commitment of a resident on Horse Cove Road.

- At 2:45 p.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident at S. 5th and Horse Cove Road.

Oct. 29

- At 9:50 a.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident at Oak and Maple streets.

- At 2:19 p.m., officers responded to a call of bear hunters on private property on Satulah.

Oct. 30

- At 6:15 p.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident at U.S. 64 and Poplar Street.

- Officers responded to a call of a bear on a porch at a residence on Chestnut Street.

Nov. 2

- At 7:55 a.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident at N. 4th and Foreman streets.

- At 9 a.m., officers received a report about vandalism of mirrors on a vehicle. The damage was valued at \$320.

- At 1:05 p.m., officers responded to a call of larceny of \$100 that fell on the floor at RBC Bank and picked up by someone.

Nov. 3

- At 8:20 p.m. officers on patrol found an open door at an area restaurant. It was secured.

Nov. 4

- At 1:30 a.m., officers on patrol found an open door at an area restaurant. It was secured.

- During the week, police officers responded to 5 alarms and issued 14 citations.

The following are the Highlands Fire & Rescue Dept. log entries from Oct. 29:

Oct. 29

- At 10:17 p.m., the dept. assisted with traffic at the site of a three-vehicle accident on U.S. 64 west. There were no injuries.

Oct. 30

- At 5:09 a.m., the dept. responded to a call of a tree on Dillard Road. It controlled traffic until the tree was removed.

- At 9:53 p.m., the dept. responded to an alarm at the Highlands Country Club caused by a problem with the stove hood.

Oct. 31

- At 1:57 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with a medical call at a residence on Split Rail Row. The victim was taken to the hospital.

- At 9:58 a.m., the dept. responded to call about a tree blocking NC 28 south. It controlled traffic until the tree was removed.

- From 5:30-7:30 p.m., the dept. assisted with the Halloween trick-or-treating on Main Street.

Nov. 1

- At 4:33 p.m., the dept. responded to a vehicle accident on Main Street.

- At 10:30 a.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm on Main Street. The call was cancelled en route.

- At 2:05 p.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at a residence on Mt. Lori Drive. It was false.

• CLASSIFIEDS •

hardwood plus cut kiln-dried kindling close to a cord U-Haul \$200 Can divide. 828-342-7028.

MAYTAG PERFORMA GAS RANGE \$100. Maytag Dishwasher \$50. 526-9107.

TWO STAIRSTEPPERS - \$100 each. Call 526-9083.

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.

BRAND-NEW, NEVER WORN, WEDDING DRESS AND VEIL. Beautiful; ivory with beading at waist and scoop neck. Size 6. Price tags: dress \$640 and veil \$265. Make offer. Please call 828-526-5733 or 601-316-3147.

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

SMALL EMERALD AND GOLD RING. Originally \$300. Asking \$175. 828-631-2675 after 5 p.m.

BABY LOCK SERGER MACHINE with extra spools of thread. \$200. 828-631-2675 after 5 p.m. Sylva area.

3-PIECE BEDROOM SET - Oak veneer. one dresser, one desk, one chest. \$300. Call 526-5772.

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.

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

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. (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. 10/29)

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

2000 BUICK CENTURY LIMITED, 70,000 miles, excellent mileage, great mechanical condition, good body, well maintained. Power seat, new CD. \$3995. 526-4594. 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)

SERVICES

HELPING HANDS will clean for you and do a good job. Also licensed C.N.A. services. Call 443-315-9547. (11/5)

THE HIGHLANDS HANDYMAN - Anything and Everything. From High End to Low Spend. Local References. Call a neighbor. Call Mark at 526-0031. 11/26

MARK'S SEDAN SERVICE - Airport Transportation, Easy Pickup Procedures. Call 828-524-2149 or cell at 239-292-3623. MC/VISA, AMEX, Cash, Check. 11/12

AFFORDABLE WINTERIZATION AND HOME WATCHING SERVICE - Call the Highlands Handyman. References. 526-0031. 11/26

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)

24-HOUR CARE FOR YOUR LOVED ONE - 16 years experience. Will travel to accommodate. \$2,800 monthly, negotiable. Call Clare Myers 828-349-3479 or 828-342-1603. 11/19

RELIABLE CHILD CARE IN MY HOME - Minutes from Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. Daily/Weekly. 12 years experience, references and Early Childhood credentials. \$5 per hour for first child, \$10 a day for second sibling. Call 743-2672.

FIREWOOD "Nature Dried" Call 526-2251.

HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL HEMLOCK WOOLLY ADELGID TREATMENT & FERTILIZATION - Great Results by J&J Lawn and Landscaping services. NC Licensed Applicator, Highlands, NC 828-526-2251.

J&J LAWN AND LANDSCAPING SERVICES - total lawn care and landscaping company. 20 years serving Highlands area. 828-526-2251.

TREE SERVICE - Complete Tree Removal, Trimming, Stump Grinding, Lot Clearing, Under Brushing, and Hemlock treatment and fertilization for "Woolly Adelgid." 828-526-2251

LANDSCAPING - Complete Landscaping Company, Design, Installation and Maintenance. Also featuring Plants, Trees, Hardscapes, Water Features, Rockwork, Fencing, Drainage, Erosion Control and RR-Tie work. 828-526-2251.

... TURN-OUT continued from page 1

late the electorate in the large turnout for this off-year election. You obviously had a lot to say in your voting and I accept that.

"The mood of our country locally and nationally is anger and frustration right now. You could see it in the elections all over the country on Tuesday. As a moderate I was caught in the middle. We, as a Board of Commissioners, have tried not only to enhance the beauty of Highlands but improve the infrastructure and government efficiency without raising taxes. In order to do that, we went outside the town to raise funds successfully. In making Highlands better in this way, we also strengthen the reason people come and enjoy Highlands, thus enhancing the business community.

"Finally, let me add that in the feeling of frustration many have shown in this election, I've seen a lot of negativity. I ask you to turn that negativity into a more positive attitude and not try to reverse some of the progress that has been made in our community. We have a lot for which to be thankful in Highlands and in working together with a more positive attitude we can move forward to continue to keep this place the best place in the country to live. I look forward to continuing to see you all around town as we move forward together."

Newcomer Gary Drake beat two-term commissioner Hank Ross with 339 votes or 43.74% to Ross's 190 votes, 24.52% of registered voters.

"My gratitude is for the confidence shown me at the poles and it couldn't have happened without the hard work and dedication of the campaign committee," said Drake. "I'm sure that the new mayor and board will work together to carry the Town of Highlands into a more prosperous and wonderful place to live, all while preserving our small town heritage."

Commissioner Ross thanked the community for its past support.

"I want to thank everyone who has had confidence in me over the years. I want to especially thank the town employees who hold the greatest role in our town," he said. "Whether I serve in an elected capacity or not, I will continue to work toward keeping Highlands a great place for everyone to live and work. Good luck to the new board members in the challenges ahead."

Amy Patterson who has sat on the Highlands Town Board since 1989 gleaned 234 votes or 30.19%.

"I appreciate and am grateful for the continued support of the community," she said. "I am looking forward to working with the new board and meeting the challenges ahead."

Interestingly, there were two write-in candidates for Highlands mayor; 12 write-ins for the two commissioner seats.

According to Bishop, the names of the Write-Ins are not published unless the same person receives five or more write-ins.

The Franklin election may mean more to Highlanders now that the Macon County Commission, and the Franklin and Highlands Town Boards are making an effort to work together.

Incumbent Joe Collins and Bob Scott vied for the mayor's seat. Scott lost narrowly to Collins — 241 to 255.

Bishop said there will not be a recount for the mayor of Franklin..

Only 10.9% (289) of the 2,651 registered voters in the town of Franklin showed up at the polls.

Highlands new officials will be sworn in during a special meeting, Wednesday, Dec. 2, 2009.

- Kim Lewicki

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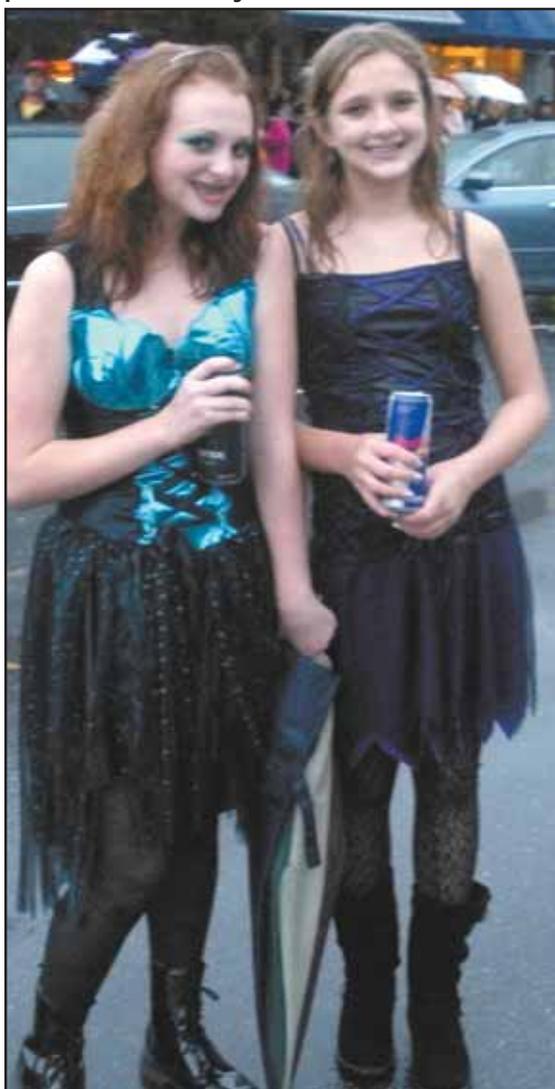
828-526-9450

It was a dreary, rainy night.....

... but that didn't stop hundreds of people from suiting up in costumes, donning wear gear and umbrellas and hitting Main Street in Highlands, Halloween night, Saturday, Oct. 31. The sidewalks were lined with people, the center of Main was open for walking and the restaurants were filled to overflowing with folks seeking cover from the elements.

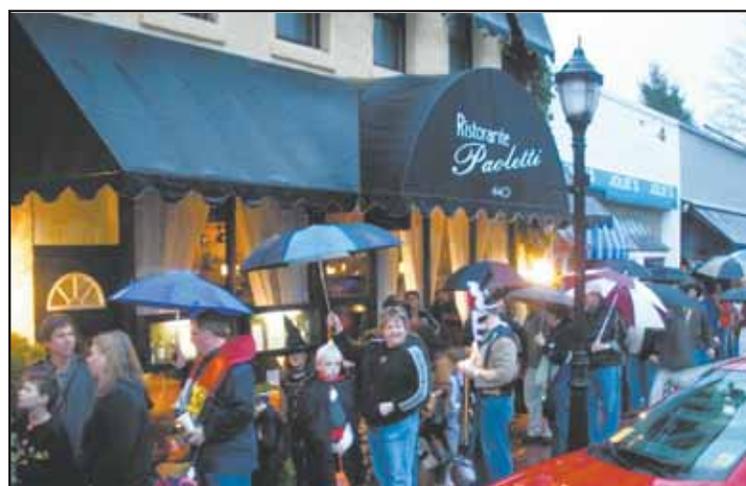


The folks at Harry Norman Realty submitted this photo. They gave out candy on Halloween night and the 101st trick-or-treater - Jessica Huff from Raleigh, NC — won a pinata full of candy.



Patrons and employees, like the Indian Chief and Raggedy Anne at Wolfgang's, both enjoyed the festivities and the crowds.

Photos by Kim Lewicki



• 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:

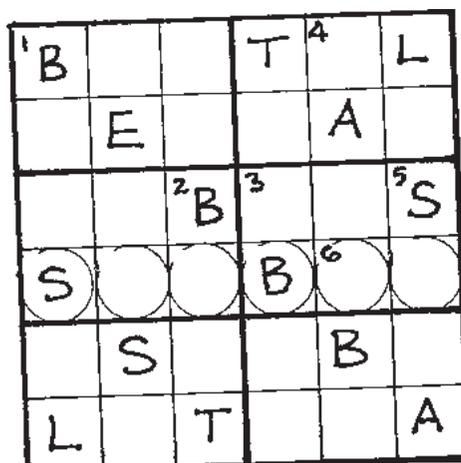
Determine the different letters among those given. Write in the mystery word using the clue and these letters. Other small words will appear in the puzzle. As in conventional crossword puzzles, a list of meanings for these Across/Down words is given and number positions shown. Doing them will speed up 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:
Horses' stalls

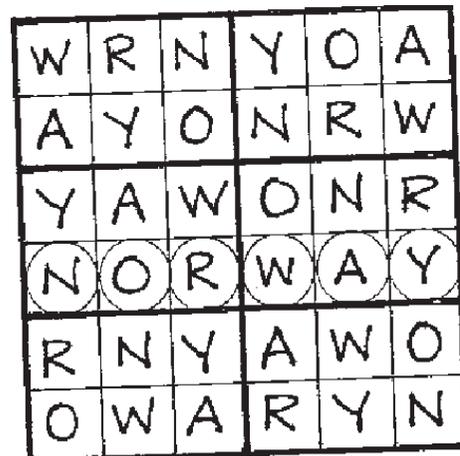
1. Cover with gravey (5)
2. Winged animals (4)

Down

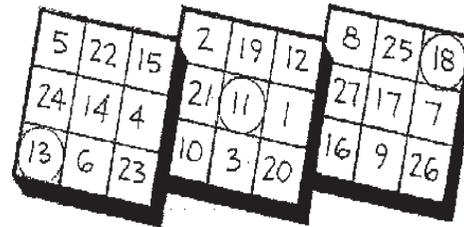
3. Capable (4)
4. Consume (3)
5. Group (3)
6. Pounds (abbr) (3)



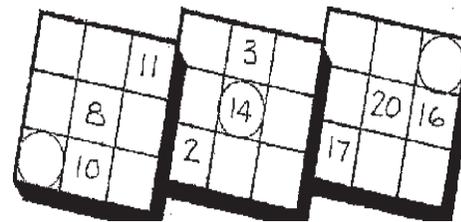
Solution to Oct. 29 Hex-a-Ku



Solution to #DN2B Pseudocube in Oct. 29 issue



#CZ3A PseudoCube Level of Difficulty Hard



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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2009 HIGHLANDS MAP

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- | DINING | LODGING | SHOPPING | SHOPPING |
|------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| 1 Cyprus | 1 Chandler Inn | 1 Ann Jacob | 22 T.A. Anderson |
| 2 Don Leons | 2 Chestnut Cottages | 2 AnnaWear | 23 Tin Roof Gallery |
| 3 Fressers | 3 Fire Mountain | 3 Bear Mt. Outfitters | 24 Twigs |
| 4 Golden China | 4 Hampton Inn | 4 C.K. Swan | 25 Village Kids |
| 5 Highlands Deli | 5 Highlands Inn | 5 Christmas Shop | 26 Wholesale Down |
| 6 Horacio's | 6 Highlands Suites | 6 Cyrano's | 27 Wine & Cheese |
| 7 Kelsey | 7 Main St. Inn | 7 Drakes Diamonds | 28 Whiskers |
| 8 Log Cabin | 8 Mt High Lodge | 8 Dry Sink | 29 Wits End |
| 9 Main St. Inn | 9 Skyline Lodge | 9 Elephants Foot | |
| 10 Nick's | | 10 Green Leaf Gallery | MARKETS |
| 11 Oak St. Cafe | | 11 Highlands Photo | 1 Bryson's |
| 12 Paoletti's | | 12 House of Wong | 2 Dusty's |
| 13 Pescado's | RENTALS | 13 JohnCollette Gallery | 3 Mtn. Fresh |
| 14 Pizza Place | 14 Chambers | 14 Needle Point | 4 Whole Health |
| 15 Rooster's | | 15 Peak Experience | |
| 16 Ruka's Table | REALTY | 16 Rarities | BEAUTY |
| 17 Skyline | 1 Century 21 | 17 Radio Shack | 1 All Seasons |
| 18 Smoke House | 2 Chambers | 18 Shiraz Rugs | 2 Creative Concepts |
| 19 SportsPage | 3 Country Club Prop | 19 Stone Lantern | 3 Gifted Hands |
| 20 Wild Thyme | 4 Green Mtn. | 20 | 4 Images Unlimited |
| 21 Wolfgang's | 5 Harry Norman | 21 Summer House | 5 Mtn Rayz |
| | 6 Prestige | | 6 Taylor Barnes |

Highlands' Newspaper
WINTER EVENTS
& Map Locations
Updated Weekly

Culinary Weekend
Nov. 13, 14 & 15
Go To Dining & Events

Town Christmas Tree Lighting
Sat. - Nov. 28th
Santa Arrives

Performing Arts
"Christmas Letters"
Dec. 4th - 7:30pm

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