The Zoning Board of Adjustment had a full plate Wednesday night, hearing a variance request, a request for a special use permit and an appeal of a recent ruling by the Zoning Administrator. But the issue that made the meeting longest in Zoning Board history involved the third item on the agenda, an appeal of a violation by John Shearl, owner of J & J Lawn and Landscape at 1663 S. Fourth Street.

The town contends that Shearl is using the residential portion of his split-zoned property on N.C. 28 for commercial purposes – uses Shearl contend have followed the property since its inception prior to the 1940s and up until he bought it from Francis Reed in Nov. 1993.

Conflicting evidence including testimony, offer to purchase contracts, and plats – contend the property was purchased continuously.

Just as the issue was being addressed, the town’s attorney requested an appeal of a recent ruling by the Zoning Administrator. The Zoning Board of Adjustment denied the appeal.

Advanced rated pilot, Nathan Bean rode the thermals off Whiteside Mountain last week. He is a member of the U.S. Hang-gliders and Para-gliding association. According to Bean, the sport is allowed from USFS as long as money isn’t charged and less than 75 people participate. Photo GPS Lon./Lat. @ www.HighlandsInfo.com/GPS.htm

The awaited Recreation and Park/Greenway Master plan Survey was mailed the week of October 12. It will be mailed to some 8,300 homes in the Highlands/Scaly Townships. All residents are asked to participate in the survey by filling it out and returning it to Town Hall by November 3.

If you prefer, you can go to the Rec Park/Greenway Master Plan Survey in the mail

• See SURVEY page 15

State puts mental health at risk in Macon

A large portion of Monday’s Macon County Commission meeting involved a dismal report from Smoky Mountain Center representatives on the state of mental health services in Western North Carolina.

In the 2009 session of the NC Legislature, the General Assembly eliminated community support services funded under the NC Medicaid Plan and the state-funded Integrated Payment and Reporting System that provides state funds for indigent mental health and substance abuse citizens.

“This action will have a serious impact on the state mental health system, because community support was the core service for many adults and children in need of mental health or substance abuse services,” said Brian Ingram, the new area director for Smoky Mountain.

He called the reduction in state funds to service citizens with mental health issues, substance abuse
Dear Editor,

To see the news these days, it looks like the classic Republicans versus Democrats, perhaps even more heated than usual. But if you dig a little deeper, we all need to wake up and realize it is us against Them, the Us being the majority of tax-paying citizens of this country versus Them, the politicians we thought we elected to serve our best interests.

Another typical example came up last week, as a special vote came up for an amendment to REMOVE $2.5 billion of funding for 10 cargo planes that the Pentagon specifically said they DID NOT WANT.

Guess what, both of our NC Senators, Republican and Democrat, voted to keep the funding. Clearly this was a “make work” project, and the end-user doesn’t want it! Surely some large corporation will make great profits, as they do for most any government project, and a few people will keep their jobs. But can’t you imagine a few better ways to spend that $2.5 billion and maybe create even more jobs and maybe even end up with something useful, such as new roads, better bridges, etc?

Even more novel yet, maybe NOT spend the $2.5 billion and reduce our huge deficit by a little bit? But clearly favors are asked, favors are granted, and our elected politicians enjoy spending our money with careless regard, no matter if they are Republicans or Democrats. Our Senators Hagan and Burr voted to help an aircraft manufacturer in California. I wonder what favors they get in return?

Don Twardowski
Franklin, NC

Essentially, abandonment is against the law; it is a crime. You could have gotten a spay/neuter coupon from CHHS to defray the cost of preventing the pregnancy in the first place. It’s not too late to do the responsible thing, and get your pet spayed/neutered before he/she brings more unwanted animals to Cashiers/Highlands. Call 743-5752.

Did you take advantage of Dr. Amy Patterson’s Rabies Clinic recently? It only cost $5 to vaccinate and by law, all dogs and cats have to have the rabies vaccination.

Other opportunities to get discounted vaccinations are coming up. Check with CHHS. Call 743-5752.

If you are having trouble providing food for your family much less your pets, the CHHS has a program which can help you with pet food. Call 743-5752.

Our pets are totally dependent on us to provide their basic needs. Start being a responsible pet parent.

E. Ann Maxwell
Highlands

Preemptive peace plan

Dear Editor,

Quiet the motorcycles

Dear Editor,

I expect that I am not the only member of our community who is disturbed daily by the excessive noise pollution caused by motorcycles.

Many riders have modified their exhaust system. These same cyclists often travel in groups that appear to thrill in the noise created as they rev their engines when changing gears. The resultant blasts echo through the mountains.

Anyone living along the Franklin Road as it approaches Highlands is bombarded with noise levels that seem to be well in excess of legal limits.

The enforcement of the N.C. statute for “Prevention of Noise, No Modification of Exhaust Systems” Sec. 20-128 should be enforced.

I respectfully request that the law enforcement both in Highlands and in Macon County help with this problem.

Lewis Flynn
Highlands

Dear Editor,

Oh the shock and awe of it! Our President is a Noble Peace prize winner and thus the U.S! What a great paradigm shift the world has given us.

I am thrilled and although many Americans scratch their heads, it’s very clear to me this is a preemptive peace proposal the likes we have not seen since Pres. Wilson when he took a new step with the League of Nations which evolved into the United Nations.

The last 8 years of the Bush administration shunned the UN and VP Cheney declared it “useless and inept.” Well the other nations see the hope of diplomacy in Pres. Obama and his ability to work multilaterally.

In his acceptance speech he acknowledged, “There are still hearts to open.” (10/10/09 C Span). I think we should embrace this hope and challenge and be joyful. If we are to stay an effective world leader on the globe we must shrug off the armour of war tactics and start using our minds and ears. A philosopher once said “We are given one mouth and two ears” meaning that we listen first, talk, and then take action.

President Obama is doing just that and the other countries are waiting and listening too. Our President Obama is at a very tough crossroads and I think he got the message.

In his own words, “Hope is stronger than hate.” Congratulations Mr. President.

Lee Hodges
Highlands

Fred is right on

Dear Editor,

I just saw Fred’s article “Acorns are falling on my head” in the Oct 1 edition of Highlands’ Newspaper. Very well written and right on target. You’ll probably get a lot of negative feedback due to subject matter so I wanted to say thanks for the article.

I also wanted to recommend a couple of books. One is ‘Beyond Terror’ by Ralph Peters. You may have heard of him as he is a commentator and has written several articles and books on security issues. The second book is the story of Ilario Pantano entitled ‘Warlord’.

This might be disturbing since you have your son-in-law serving but it is an inspiring story and does remind us to be ever vigilant about standing behind and supporting the people who are ensuring our survival.

Thanks again for the article.

Jerry Millican
Franklin
• OBITUARY •

Michael Vincent Crescenzi

Michael Vincent Crescenzi, age 77, of Franklin, NC, died Sunday, October 11, 2009 in a local hospital. He was a native of Union County, New Jersey, the son of the late Michael and Angelina Mirabella Crescenzi. He was a machinist for Deca Manufacturing, a US Army Veteran of the Korean War, and a Baptist by faith.

He is survived by his wife of thirty years, Martha McCall Crescenzi; two daughters, Diana McNair of Live Oak, FL, and Denise Caine and husband Roland of Tampa, FL; one son, Dave Crescenzi of St. Petersburg, FL; two step-daughters, Beverly Owens of Franklin, NC and Debbie Thomas of Highlands, NC; five sisters, Anna Testa of Tampa, FL, Mary Rose and Isabella Crescenzi both of Las Vegas, Nevada, Antoinette Crescenzi of Tampa, FL, and Lil Tiedmann of New Jersey; one brother, Rocky Crescenzi of Seminole, FL; five grandchildren, Shannon Holliday, Dalton McNair, Devin McNair, Stephanie Crescenzi Bechler and Nicholas Thomas also survive.

Graveside services were held Tuesday, October 13 at Mt. Moriah Cemetery with Rev. Greg Rogers officiating. Memorials may be made to Mt. Moriah Cemetery, c/o Mary Owens, 21 Pine Cone Drive, Franklin, NC 28734.

Bryant-Grant Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

... MENTAL HEALTH continued from page 1

issues and developmental disabilities “a magnitude unprecedented.”

“Unfortunately, the General Assembly eliminated this core service without an alternative comparable Medicaid service in place of community support,” he said. “We hope to be able to transition these consumers to other services they may qualify for but there will be a disruption of services which you as a commission are likely to hear about.”

SMC has been working urgently with community providers in Alexander, Caldwell, McDowell, Alleghany, Ashe, Avery, Watauga, Wilkes, Cherokee, Clay, Graham, Haywood, Jackson, Macon, and Swain to develop a transitional plan.

“So far, particularly the community providers in Macon County have been very helpful,” said Shelly Foreman, with SMC. “But, effective Sept. 28, no community support services can be authorized beyond a 90-day period.”

Foreman said community support services was the core service under the revised mental health reform plan SMC and others in the state have been working on prior to state cuts. It involves case management, skill-building, and therapeutic interventions delivered by a range of levels of staff.

She said the recommended transition services for consumers who have been receiving community support included a higher intensity of services but now communities are likely to see increased expenses due to higher hospitalization rates, increased referrals to Child and Adult Protective Services and greater involvement of persons with behavioral health disorders in the legal system since funding for transitional services has been cut.
Writer’s note: So Highlands doesn’t tar and feather the people I am about to write about, I’ve changed their names. But, for a small fee, call the house and I’ll hand them up.

When I saw the waiters had finished taking orders, I tapped my spoon against my water glass to call for quiet. I stood and, without using a teleprompter or even notes, I spoke. “Thanks, everyone, for coming. Tonight’s open discussion will be on sleep disorders. As always, I hope everyone will feel free to speak openly and truthfully about their sleep habits. I want this to be a frank discussion. Now who would like to begin?”

“I would….mostly because….well, my name is Frank….making it a frank discussion….alliteration and play on words but I see no one’s laughing. I have a severe snoring problem that wakes me. My wife suggested I go to a hypnotist for help and…..well, it helped a little but now I wet my bed and wake up with my fingers stuck up…”

“OK, thank you Frank.” I interrupted. “Would anyone else like to speak?”

“I would….mostly because….well, my name is Wilma and when I can’t sleep, I pray.”

“That’s wonderful, Wilma, what do you pray for?” I asked.

Wilma’s smug grin widened as she spoke. “I pray that God will give me the strength to not put a pillow over my husband’s face and permanently end his snoring problem. The prayers are working so far but I sense that God is beginning to see my side of this issue.”

“Well, I see your husband, David, is with us this evening. So I guess, so far, your prayers are being answered,” I responded. “My advice to David is to sleep in another city.”

“I would like to speak next,” Larry said. “I sleep in snatches.” The room grew quiet, waiting for Larry to continue. “I sleep a couple of hours, then wake for a couple of hours, then sleep a couple of hours, then wake a couple of hours, then sleep a couple of hours, then…. and…”

“OK, Larry, I think we have the idea. Does anyone else sleep in snatches?”

“I used to sleep in snatches but now I’m fine,” Sarah responded. “I keep this little book titled “I’m Moving Back to Mars” on my nightstand. If I wake, I read a couple of pages from the book and, before you can say Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, I shift off into a deep sleep for the remainder of the evening.” Everyone scrambled for pencil and paper, asking Sarah for the name of the book again.

“Can I go next?” George asked, not waiting to be called. “I roll out of bed a lot while sleeping. I have to put pillows all around the floor to break my fall. Sometimes it happens several times a night. I thought about buying bed rails to keep me in but then I can’t make it to the bathroom in time and, well….you know what happens then.”

“Take Viagra,” David blurted. “I used to roll out of bed all the time myself until I took the little blue pill. If that’s not suitable, use Depends diapers, leave the bed rails up and let ‘er rip.”

“I sleepwalk,” Alice said, not being able to contain herself any longer. “It got worse when my husband’s snoring was really loud. He always found me in the kitchen holding a large knife chanting “I can do this. I can do this.” I still sleepwalk but I don’t go for the knife any longer.”

“OK Alice, is your husband with us this evening?” I asked.

“Nah, he’s dead.”

“Well, that’s about it for our discussion this evening.” I said. “I’ve certainly learned a lot and….”

“How ‘bout you, Fred, do you snore?” Alice interrupted.

“Nah, I never snore,” I responded. “Before bedtime, I put a sock in my mouth and duct tape my mouth shut. I also shove these large tubes up my nostrils, widening my nasal passages. Then I put on a breathing mask that pumps anti-snoring fluids into my lungs all night. I’ve only swallowed the sock twice, causing minor bowel irritation and interesting bowel movements. Still, it’s worth it to keep the snoring fluid from giving me the elbow. Did I mention she has the sharpest elbow in Highlands?”

“Let me tell you about my bowel movements,” Alice blurted.

I interrupted, “Hold that thought until after dessert.”
It's been more than two months since Lizzie's Mom died. It seems longer.

Helen Bulluck knew a lot of people around town. She had friends at church, where she volunteered every Thursday. She knew Veterans of Foreign Wars and the American Legion. She must have known all the ladies at the thrift shop, and boy did she know conservative Republicans! A few years ago, Bull and I were building a flower box in her driveway. A neighbor stopped by to chat, which brought a halt to the project. It seemed rude to use my circular saw while he was complaining about Bill Clinton. His thesis was that Clinton was responsible for the collapse of morality in American youth. He cited an example of fifth graders engaging in oral sex in front of a cheering crowd, on a school bus. I told him I thought he was giving the former President too much credit for his influence on the children of America. We continued for several minutes, discussing a range of political issues. I was eager to resume our project, but knew that disengagement might seem a sign of weakness.

Finally Helen interrupted. "Bill," she said "Henry is a wonderful son-in-law. He's bright, but," she added apologetically, "I'm afraid he's a Democrat." That was Helen. I don't think it's cliché to say that everyone who met her loved her. She never had a bad thing to say about anyone, unless you count calling me a Democrat. She was so kind, so sensible, so accepting, and so impossibly positive in her outlook.

Helen volunteered for the Army Nurse Corps in World War II. She served in England and Germany. She delighted in revealing that she discarded her gas mask and used its bag to carry cosmetics. She had six kids, and worked until she was 80. Partly, it was because she loved working and being around people. Partly, it was because she needed the money.

Helen didn't have an easy life, but I never heard her complain. I like to think her life improved after she moved to Highlands. She was able to spend time with her beloved daughter, Lizzie, and watch Bull grow up. At least she watched him get a good start on growing up around town. She had friends at church, partly, it was because she loved working and being around people. Partly, it was because she needed the money.

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Reflections from Turtle Pond

Do as I do, not as I say

One of the parenting clichés we all hated as children was “Do as I say, not as I do.” It seemed eminently unfair, and, as we got older, quite hypocritical.

Some months ago I saw a quote from someone that said, and I am heavily paraphrasing when we think of ourselves we think of our dreams, our intentions; the person we want to be. When others think of us they think of what we have done, our actions, the person we are.

This idea has really stuck with me, because it relates to what I call my spiritual path. I don’t go to church or follow any spiritual discipline. I don’t think there’s a mystical bone in my body. My spirituality is completely practical.

My path is to accept reality the way it is with as little resistance as possible.

My day-to-day interactions with people are a clear indicator of where I am on the path: if I am mean or short with someone I meet during my day, I know I am not accepting what is. There’s no confusion — I am at peace, accepting, and loving or I am grumpy, impatient, and mean. I don’t have to wonder whether I am getting anywhere with meditation or some other discipline — the results are concrete and clear-cut. Just the way I like them.

You could say my spirituality and my behavior in the world are two sides of the same coin; they are inseparable. You will know me by my deeds.

Last weekend I read a blog posting by Karen Armstrong, “The Case for Faith not Belief.” Ms. Armstrong said she had written her new book, The Case for God because she felt that the debate about religion had gotten “aggressive and antagonsitic” (what a surprise in today’s America) after the publication of books attacking religious belief by Richard Dawkins and Christopher Hitchens, among others.

Ms. Armstrong has been studying the religions of the world for several decades now, and her observation is that people on both sides of the religious argument are incorrectly equating “faith” with “belief.” “This is a recent aberration and one that is peculiar to modern Western Christianity,” she writes. “It was only in the late 17th century that ‘belief’ came to mean an intellectual assent” to a theological position. At that time, science was challenging the absolutes of religious ‘truth’ in the West.

She continues, “We were losing the more traditional form of faith which saw religion as a practical activity. Like driving, swimming, dancing or gymnastics, you learn the truths of faith only by constant, dedicated practice — not by reading texts or adopting a metaphysical ‘belief.’ Like a myth, a religious doctrine is essentially a program of action. It makes no sense unless it is translated into practical action that helps you to dethrone egotism, selfishness and greed by practicing compassion to all living beings.”

As I was thinking about this passage, I happened upon an article I had saved from January 2008, “The Moral Instinct,” by Steven Pinker, professor of psychology at Harvard. He starts by asking who is more admirable, Mother Teresa, Bill Gates, or Norman Borlaug? Simple question on the surface, but very deep. Bill Gates is widely reviled for his domination of the PC world and his bug-riddled software, and who knows who that other guy is? And Mother Teresa was saint, right? She was given the Nobel Peace Prize (although that doesn’t mean much to my conservative readers), beatified by the Vatican, and ranked in an American poll as the most admired person of the 20th century.

But, Mr. Pinker writes, “A deeper look with a focus on the surface, but very deep. Bill Gates is widely reviled for his domination of the PC world and his bug-riddled software, and who knows who that other guy is? And Mother Teresa was saint, right? She was given the Nobel Peace Prize (although that doesn’t mean much to my conservative readers), beatified by the Vatican, and ranked in an American poll as the most admired person of the 20th century.

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Defense the name of the game in 2009

As I watched the LSU-Florida slugfest last Saturday night (after watching Alabama strangle Ole Miss, slowly) I came to the conclusion that if last year was the year of the offense, then 2009 is the year of defense.

Last year, Oklahoma, Texas, Texas Tech, Florida and Georgia were all ranked in the top 15 nationally in scoring offense. This year, of the top 15 teams in the nation, only one does not rank in the top 25 in scoring defense. (Thanks to ESPN’s Pat Forde for that particular bit of statistical goodness)

Both Florida and Alabama have stifling defenses, but they tend to use different philosophies in terminating opponents’ offensive strategies. The Crimson Tide’s defense starts up front with defensive tackle and part time behemoth Terrence Cody. Cody’s presence makes Alabama’s defensive line dominant because he must be blocked with two men, leaving linebacker Rolando McClain free to plug the gaps and stuff the run. Florida’s approach is a little different, as they defend from back to front with what is the best secondary in the nation—having recorded at least one interception in 17 straight games.

The Gators lead the nation in passing defense, only giving up a little over 100 passing yards per game. Corner Joe Haden shuts down the opponents’ best WR, safeties Will Hill and Major Wright patrol the middle and middle linebacker Brandon Spikes can drop deep into coverage or rush the passer. Because of the talent in the secondary, Florida can blitz from many different angles without having to worry about getting burned by a big play.

Lest anyone think that the SEC is the only place that they play defense, one can look at Boise State as another example of an offensive powerhouse bearing defensive teeth. The Broncos only allow 14 points per game and have forced two turnovers per game. Defense is not a new concept for stalwarts such as Ohio State and Virginia Tech—both teams captained by the concept of Tresselball (special teams and defense).

Much of the hubbub over recent years has been over the different variations of the spread offense, either passing based (Texas Tech, Oklahoma) or option based (Florida, West Virginia). With all of the new looks and offensive tinkering, it took some time for defensive coordinators to adjust to what they were seeing on the field. However, after several years to study the new looks, defensive coordinators have been able to make adjustments both in scheme and personnel to counter the spread attacks.

It remains to be seen whether or not we will have a 10-3 National Championship game, but it is looking more and more like a possibility in this, the season of defense.

... Brugger continued from page 7

someone I know who actually worked with Mother Teresa in the 1970s).

“It’s not hard to see why the moral reputations of this trio should be so out of line with the good they have done. Mother Teresa was the very embodiment of saintliness: white-clad, sad-eyed, ascetic and often photographed with the wretched of the earth. Gates is a nerd’s nerd and the world’s richest man, as likely to enter heaven as the proverbial camel squeezing through the needle’s eye. And Borlaug, now 93, is an agronomist who has spent his life in labs and nonprofits, seldom walking onto the media stage, and hence into our consciousness, at all.”

These examples show, Pinker says, that “our heads can be turned by an aura of sanctity, distracting us from a more objective reckoning of the actions that make people suffer or flourish. It seems we may all be vulnerable to moral illusions the ethical equivalent of the bending lines that trick the eye on cereal boxes.”

As Jesus said in the Sermon on the Mount, “By their fruits you will know them.”

All of Katie Brugger’s columns are available on her website: www.kathleenbrugger.com
They live among us; and they vote

For the past few years, I have lived a very narrow existence. My life pretty much revolves around political activism on one hand, and church on the other. Most of the congregation is of conservative persuasion, so as it happens, I don’t know many, if any, liberals, at least that I know of.

It is obvious that our country has been politically split over recent history as proved by the last several national elections. Naively, I thought, surely there are millions of liberals in the country, but certainly not around here. Of course there are plenty of Democrats, but they must be really conservative down deep.

Boy, did I get my eyes opened big time the other evening.

Wife mentioned there was an item in the paper concerning an upcoming forum in a local coffee house on the subject of Tea Parties (T/P), which I happened to be involved with. The premise of the dialogue was “Tea Parties: Legitimate Dissent of Fear-Based Politics.” Sounded interesting, I thought, so a friend and I showed up, if for no other reason than to understand where the premise is coming from.

It didn’t take long to find out. The moderator, who did an terrific job in keeping the conversation balanced and civil, announced that the attendance for this monthly gathering (who knew it had been going on for three years?) was the largest ever, and evidently by somewhat, so we were proud to be a part of history.

From the outset it was clear that very few of us had been to any tea parties and knew whereof we spoke. Two ladies up from Florida, who were passionate about the value of T/Ps, my coconspirator and I were pretty much the pro side of the issue and most of the rest, who obviously hadn’t bothered to find out firsthand what they were all about, were not.

Try as he may to keep the conversation on point, the moderator couldn’t steer several folks back on track. They wandered from the Iroquois’ part of forming our county and its government, to Jimmy Carter’s being right about conservative racism “spilling over” (Jeanine Geropolio said so — it must be true) to good health is a right, to Sarah Palin’s death panel issue (she’s related to Tea Parties?) and on and on.

One of the gentlemen asked what the T/P crowd stood for. I could have gone on for hours telling this fellow what we are about, but I was pretty sure it would have fallen on deaf ears, or created a ruckus that the moderator wanted to avoid, so I said, we stand for “Patriotism,” erroneously thinking it said something without being inflammatory. Well, how wrong I was. “When I hear the word patriotism, I always look for what’s behind it, what are you really saying?”

“Ha, what a laugh. Your man (Bush) rammed through the unconstitutional Patriot Act.”

Another fellow offered that when “you people start waving the flag, the good always starts flowing,” or something to that effect. “You people aren’t patriots, you’re Nationalists.”

OK, what’s that about? “Definition: love of country and willingness to sacrifice for it.” I plead guilty. Another definition:

“Devotion to the interests or culture of one’s nation.” I rest my case.

There was a noticeable lack of defending Obama or the liberal Congress or its policies, but a constant reversion to the evils of the Bush administration. I always assumed that story of the liberals’ hatred for Bush was overblown. Wrong. It seemed most of the conversation, rather than facing the reality of the present, was obscured by perceived injustices of the past.

Well, they must be pleased that their man, Obama, was named Nobel Peace Prize winner, joining other notables such as Mikhail Gorbachev, Yasser Arafat, Jimmy Carter and Martti Ahtisaari (last year’s winner in case you were wondering).

God save the Union.

On a lighter note, the Major League Baseball’s playoffs are off and running, however they just can’t avoid that pesky “global warming” issue. Or is it “climate change” these days? This Saturday (last Saturday to you) the Rockies-Phillies game is scheduled on a day that Weather underground says will have a low of 18 and a high of 32 with a 50% chance of falling ice pellets. I can’t wait for that one.

It’s a good thing the Cubs didn’t make it. According to NBC Chicago, “Snow could be coming to town as early as this weekend. That’s right, snow. Flurries and flakes. The forecast says that Saturday night rain will turn into the white stuff early Sunday morning. If the snow sticks, it would be the earliest recorded measurable snowfall in Chicago. The record was set just three years ago when it snowed on October 12th.” Global warming, indeed.
They say they bought their property after they saw the 1993 plat that verified that there was a "residential" buffer between them and the portion of Shearl's property he was using for his business. They entered into evidence numerous photos including aerial shots showing how the business has grown over the years encroaching more and more, they say.

However, Shearl contends he never saw a plat or knew anything about the property being split-zoned until this past August when he acted by the town for running a commercial entity on the residential portion of the property.

He said he bought the property with the understanding that it was commercial, obtained a commercial loan for the property and has been paying commercial taxes on the property all along.

Attorney Richard Melvin, who represented Shearl, said the property along NC 28 was zoned commercial when zoning was first enacted in the 1970s, but Code Enforcer Josh Ward said he can't find any documentation verifying that fact. He only found the copies of the plat designating the property as a split-zoned piece with the front, 200-foot, deep in, zoned B3 and the back portion zoned R1, residential.

After two hours, the board continued the hearing until Richard Betz, who was acting Zoning Administrator when Shearl bought the property in 1993, can testify as an expert witness as to the zoning designations along the NC 28 corridor. Melvin claims since zoning was enacted in Highlands in the 1970s, that portion of NC 28 has always been commercial – specifically B2, not B3 as now, but cites that as the reason Shearl is not in violation.

The board also held the continuation hearing of a setback variance request by David Watkins of 1222 Bowery Road.

Due to a lack of documentation – specifically a detailed plat of the property designating all setbacks, last month's hearing was continued until Wednesday night.

The owner changed the position of the proposed garage so instead of requesting an 18-ft. encroachment into the setback, only 10 feet was needed.

But the board denied the request on the basis that he can still make reasonable use of the property – in fact is currently using the property – and has other places on the property to put the 24 ft. x 30 ft. building.

Finally, the board OK'd a special use permit for a restaurant to June Webb who has purchased the old Hill Top Grill property. Though the use will continue – only this time the eatery will be called June's Place – the old special use permit ran out two weeks prior to closing on the property.

No exterior changes will made except for color, however interior changes will be made to the kitchen.

The next Zoning Board meeting is Nov. 11 at 5:30 p.m.

Kim Lewicki
Fall is here!

Fall pumpkins, gourds, Indian corn and inside floral plants. We also have fresh, NC apples and are already stocking up on holiday baking needs including a variety of nuts.

Don’t forget to shop our WALL OF VALUE at the front door featuring private labels and specials throughout the store.

COOKING ON THE PLATEAU

Cozy up to healthier favorites

Can cool-weather comfort foods ever be good for you? When you start with healthful ingredients, you can end up giving yourself a satisfying meal and a nutritional boost.

Tomato products should be a key ingredient for any meal as they are some of the healthiest foods you can have in your kitchen.

Scientific studies suggest that tomato products may protect the body against cardiovascular disease, inflammation and various forms of cancer. All of that, plus they are a very affordable way to get an extra serving of vegetables.

For more delicious ways to give your favorite comfort foods a healthful boost, visit www.tomatowellness.com.

Chili Colorado

Prep time: 20 minutes
Cook time: 2 hours, 20 minutes (mostly unattended)
Makes 4 to 6 servings

2 pounds beef round, cut into 1-inch cubes
1 large onion, peeled and chopped
1 14 1/2-ounce can Mexican-style diced tomatoes
1 6-ounce can tomato paste
1 4-ounce can diced green chiles
1 teaspoon minced garlic
1 teaspoon dried Mexican oregano leaves and ground cumin
1/4 teaspoon salt or to taste
Freshly ground pepper to taste

Diced avocado, shredded Mexican blend cheese, cilantro leaves (optional)

Stir together all ingredients except optional toppings and bring to a boil over medium-high heat. Reduce heat and simmer, covered, for 2 hours or until beef is tender. Remove cover and cook over medium heat until sauce is thick. Season with pepper and serve with diced avocado, shredded cheese and cilantro leaves, if you like.

Pulled Pork

Prep time: 20 minutes
Cook time: 5 hours to 10 hours
Makes 10 servings

4 pounds boneless pork loin roast, cut into 2-inch cubes
2 tablespoons brown sugar
1 tablespoon each: paprika and chili powder
2 teaspoons ground cumin and dried oregano
1 1/4 teaspoons each: garlic salt and cinnamon
1 28-ounce can crushed tomatoes
1/3 cup lime juice
1 1/2 cups chopped onion
2 to 3 minced chipotle peppers plus 2 to 3 tablespoons adobo sauce from can
Soft rolls or tortillas

Cut pork into 2-inch cubes. Stir together dry seasonings in a small bowl and sprinkle over pork, turning to coat all sides. Place in a large slow cooker with tomatoes, lime juice and onion. Cover and cook on high for 5 hours or low for 10 hours. Remove pork from slow cooker with a slotted spoon and place in a large bowl; shred using 2 forks or a potato masher. Stir in enough cooking liquid to make pork saucy and add chipotle peppers and adobo sauce to taste. Serve on warm rolls or tortillas with remaining sauce, if desired.
Candidates Weekly Forum

Gary Drake

I have never been a big fan of spending unless there is a definite need and my past career in the corporate environment taught me to weigh the WANTS against the NEEDS. Funds available do not justify spending, just because you can.

I’m in agreement with the improvements of the existing Town Hall facilities but I cannot support the building of a new Town Hall complex. In a very tough economy, it is only being monetarily responsible to hold off on anything that is not needed at this time. If the monies had to be spent, I for one, would rather see some contributions be made toward the Highlands Scholarship Trust Fund because after all, these will be the leaders of tomorrow.

Recently the town approved the purchase of new patrol cars. Although the cars were needed, there should have been a purchase plan in place to acquire these vehicles in a staggered amount of time. As the patrol cars age, the burden will once again fall on the town in about the same time frame. I support our police department and my wife and I have personally offered to carry the expenses of the canine patrol, Ruby.

Don Mullen

The Town of Highlands was quick to respond to the State and Federal government when the stimulus money became available, and we were awarded grants in the first round in amounts equal to any other town in North Carolina, including Charlotte.

Half of the money in the grants we received was free money and the other half was in interest-free loans to be paid over a 20-year period. This is a good deal for the town, as half the money is paid back in the same amount each year but with cheaper dollars. Let me just add that the town is in excellent financial condition in spite of the recession and we maintain a large reserve backing up the general fund. This reserve amounts to 42% of the General Fund whereas the State of North Carolina requires only an 8% backup.

Our town has only 30% of our homeowners who have town sewer to their homes. We are putting a program in place to extend sewer over the next few years to most homes in Highlands to bring us into a category which most towns enjoy. Extension of our infrastructure along with the conservation of our resources will be enhanced by the treatment of sewage, improvements in the quality of our water supply, and protection against stormwater damage. All essentials for town in the modern era.

While I would like to see these modern conveniences come to everyone, we do not intend to overextend our financial obligations and we need to continue to honor our heritage in appearance and activity.

Financially there are several ways to do this. We could do nothing which for me is not an option. We could raise taxes which we do not want to do. We could issue bonds which all must be paid back with interest. Or we can look for grants to pay for improvements in our infrastructure. I like this approach better and so does the majority of the Board of Commissioners. With this method we have been able to get free money in grants and some money that comes as a loan to be paid back in interest-free money. I think anyone would like to have a loan like that.

As a Board, we are financially responsible and have recently benefited greatly from the years of expertise of our Town Manager who had done a great job keeping other towns he has managed financially stable.

New ideas are sometimes difficult for some people to grasp. We all believe in the great traditions of our community but some changes in the way we do things are inevitable as we move on into the 21st century.

Amy Patterson

I agree that it appears that the Town is suddenly spending a lot of money. But the real question to answer is whether the Town is being fiscally responsible and making sound financial decisions that benefit the citizens of Highlands. Many of the infrastructure projects that the Town is currently starting are projects that have been in the planning stages for several years.

The recent availability of grant money because it was so fiscally sound and responsible. The grants seemed to go to the government bodies that were less financially sound and needed urgent funding to help or “bail them out”. The recent availability of economic stimulus money has created additional funding sources for towns to pay for infrastructure projects. The decisions about pursuing these funding opportunities and proceeding with planned projects still should be fiscally responsible. So let’s see if it makes sense.

We’ll use the Mirror Lake Sewer project as an example. One half of the project will be paid with a grant and one half with a no-interest loan. Essential the Town will be getting a project that was identified as a need 20 years ago for half of today’s project cost. Instead of saving or “squirreling away” the money prior to doing the project, the Town will shift the timetable and pay it’s half of the cost after the project is completed. The benefit to the town is a valuable asset at today’s cost rather than the high cost of today’s money.

Hank Ross

There are three seats open on the Town Board – two commissioners and the mayor’s seat. All three sitting representatives are running again for office and two citizens are vying for those seats.

Running for Mayor of Highlands is incumbent Don Mullen and David Wilkes. Running for commissioner are incumbents Amy Patterson and Hank Ross and Gary Drake.

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Financially there are several ways to do this. We could do nothing which for me is not an option. We could raise taxes which we do not want to do. We could issue bonds which all must be paid back with interest. Or we can look for grants to pay for improvements in our infrastructure. I like this approach better and so does the majority of the Board of Commissioners. With this method we have been able to get free money in grants and some money that comes as a loan to be paid back in interest-free money. I think anyone would like to have a loan like that.

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Amy Patterson

I agree that it appears that the Town is suddenly spending a lot of money. But the real question to answer is whether the Town is being fiscally responsible and making sound financial decisions that benefit the citizens of Highlands. Many of the infrastructure projects that the Town is currently starting are projects that have been in the planning stages for several years. The master sewer plan was done 20 years ago. The master stormwater plan was completed a few years ago and identified areas that needed to be addressed. All of the current projects were previously identified as needs for the Town. The question was always how to pay for the projects.

Traditionally, the Town has been both fiscally responsible and fiscally conservative. As one local accountant told me years ago, the Town has been “good at squirreling away money” so we could pay for projects as we go without the need to borrow money. The Town saves or “earmarks” money in the budget each year for a project until it can pay the cost and then it proceeds with the project — a good fiscally responsible and conservative approach. In the past, the Town has not received a lot of grant money because it was so fiscally sound and responsible. The grants seemed to go to the government bodies that were less financially sound and needed urgent funding to help or “bail them out”. The recent availability of economic stimulus money has created additional funding sources for towns to pay for infrastructure projects. The decisions about pursuing these funding opportunities and proceeding with planned projects still should be fiscally responsible. So let’s see if it makes sense.

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Each week now through Oct. 29, the candidates will answer a question. This is the third question:

Even though most funding is through grants or low-interest loans associated with the federal stimulus package, some citizens believe the town is embarking on too much spending as it applies to infrastructure — sewer, stormwater and town buildings, etc. the police department. What is your stance on this?
Walk to town from this charming cabin that has been lovingly upgraded by the architect that did the first renovation and further improved by the current owner. Main house features 3 bedrooms and 2 baths, guesthouse features 1 bedroom, 1 bath, with living room, art studio and workshop. Soothing sound of the water feature and great charm makes this a home to see! Offered at $729,000.

3 bedroom 2 bath totally renovated historic Satulah Mountain, Old Highlands Charm home. Walk to town. Renovations done within last 12 months. Offered at $669,500 mls #69058

Cullasaja Club – Ready for you to complete to your specifications is the new Top Quality Home located on the Cullasaja River in Cullasaja Club. 5 bedrooms, 5 ½ baths, 3 fireplaces, 2 car garage. This home is dried in and almost finished on the outside, has rough in electric and plumbing and is insulated on the inside ready to be completed to your specifications or builder will finish per his specifications. Offered as is for $950,000 or finished for $1,999,000. mls #69108

Custom built 3-2-2 Goshen Timber frame on 23.66+/ acres in Cullasaja Township, off the Franklin Road. Views, privacy and two branches make this a perfect retreat. This house is beautiful and loaded with amenities. Only $924,500. Call for details.

Harris Drive – Sought after Cabin on the Lake with 2 bedrooms, one bath in the Main House, it has cathedral ceilings in the main house with 2 fireplaces, wood floors, and heart pine cabinets. There is a bedroom, bath, kitchen and living room in the (peanut) guest house. Both cabins have been renovated and are in good condition. Offered at $875,000. mls #69084

The Highlands cabin everyone is looking for. 2 bedrooms, 2 baths on main level and guest suite on lower level. Furnished with a great cabin feel. New garage with breezeway attaching to house. Large screened porch adds another living area. Top of the line appliances and countertops. Stacked stone fireplace in great room. New metal roof. Offered at $379,000.

Home on the 2009 Garden tour in Highlands. Extremely beautiful home and gardens with many water features as well as outdoor living room and screened porch, dining, sitting and fireplace. There are 5 bedrooms or 3 suites, an office and a large media room or extra den/office. Very private and will take your breath away. Adjacent to HFCC. Offered at $1,495,000. mls #68911

HARRIS DRIVEIN TOWN CHARMER! This well maintained, 3BR/2Bath home is on two levels. New Metal Roof. Updated inside and out. City sewer. Listen to the Owls from one of the two decks that span the back of this house. WALKABOUT TOWN! Offered at $439,500. MLS #68901

Custom built 3-2-2 Goshen Timber frame on 23.66+/ acres in Cullasaja Township, off the Franklin Road. Views, privacy and two branches make this a perfect retreat. This house is beautiful and loaded with amenities. Only $924,500. Call for details.
er than at the higher future price of the project. The sewer customers added as a result of the new sewer extension will help pay for the project. This funding arrangement seems sensible, reasonable and beneficial to the citizens of Highlands. It may not be as fiscally conservative as project funding in the past but it is still fiscally responsible.

The funding for other infrastructure projects is different in detail but uses similar concepts and strategies to accomplish the Town’s goals. If anyone has questions about other Town projects, I would be happy to discuss them. Just give me a call.

Hank Ross

This is a very important question that has had much discussion around town. I am extremely glad to have this opportunity to set the record straight.

The grant funding is for high-priority master plan projects and the town has not had to raise the tax rate or spend beyond the budget for these projects. Some of these projects have been needed for decades or are just replacing necessary equipment. I feel that I would not be doing my job as town commissioner if I did not take full advantage of grant opportunities as they arise.

I believe that government should be run like a business as much as realistically possible. That is why I have been a strong advocate of our recent change to a manager form of government. Expertise in grant funding, finance, and engineering has enabled our town to quickly seize opportunities for the grants from the State and Federal governments. This year, our small town has received as much stimulus money as allowed in the first round and has received as much as a few grants from the State and Federal governments. This year, our small town has received as much stimulus money as allowed in the first round and has received as much as a few grants from the State and Federal governments. This year, our small town has received as much stimulus money as allowed in the first round and has received as much as a few grants from the State and Federal governments. This year, our small town has received as much stimulus money as allowed in the first round and has received as much as a few grants from the State and Federal governments. This year, our small town has received as much stimulus money as allowed in the first round and has received as much as a few grants from the State and Federal governments. This year, our small town has received as much stimulus money as allowed in the first round and has received as much as a few grants from the State and Federal governments.

Now our officer turnover rate is low and the officers are now more familiar with our community and thus doing a better job. There are not any plans to increase the current size of the police force (12). With the need for equipment, this force is sufficient for protecting people living, working and visiting our town.

Town Facilities - No grants have been received to date for our Town Hall renovation, however, applications have been made for energy efficiency. The decision to renovate the existing building and not to build a new facility was made after studies revealed the 20-year staffing needs and the condition of the existing building. Availability of the old ABC building for police was also a factor because it reduces our square footage requirements by 40%. The needed town facilities will now be substantially below the cost of new facilities. Sev-

... CANDIDATES continued from page 11...
Michelle Mead-Armor & John Armor
michimead@aol.com
John_Armor@aya.yale.edu

Fall Furniture SALE!
50% off all wood furniture in the store the month of October

and...

at the our

Warehouse Tent Sale
Fridays, Saturdays & Sundays

The Warehouse is on Cherry Wood Lane, past the hospital at The Meadows

• His & Hers •

Peace prizes for war and death

by John Armor

Below are all the American Presidents and Vice Presidents who have received the Nobel Peace Prize, in order from first to most recent. It was an educational experience to review all the awards since the first was given in 1901. That bears on whether the prize just awarded to President Obama is a positive or negative thing with respect to international war and peace:

• 1906 - (President) Theodore Roosevelt who “drew up the 1905 peace treaty between Russia and Japan.” This was an actual shooting war, which ended with the Treaty which Roosevelt negotiated.

• 1919 - (President) T. Woodrow Wilson as “Founder of the League of Nations.” The fatal failure of the League of Nations was a major contributing factor in the outbreak of World War II. Had the League acted against Italy for its brutal invasion of Ethiopia in 1935, Germany might have been discouraged from invading Poland three years later. Major powers had a veto power on League actions, so Italy and Germany could and did prevent the League from acting to protect its member state, Ethiopia. The UN shares the same veto defect.

• 1925 - (Vice President) Charles Gates Dawes as “Chairman of the Allied Reparation Commission.” The reparations required to be paid by Germany, and the schedule for those, are recognized now as one of other contributing factors to the German institution of World War II.

• 2002 - Jimmy Carter, Jr. for “his decades of untiring effort to find peaceful solutions to international conflicts, to advance democracy and human rights, and to promote economic and social development.” Anyone who chooses can look up the records of dictatorial governments, their murderous habits, and fake elections to keep them in power, which Carter has supported for decades.

• 2007 - Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and Albert A. Gore “for their efforts to build up and disseminate greater knowledge about man-made climate change...” Of course, the world is now cooling, not warming, so the mantra has been changed to “climate change.” The more prosperous any nation is, and the more of its people who are employed, the better their health and welfare. Damaging economies and putting people out of work so all Gore’s work based on false science will have negative consequences. The only question is, how bad will they be? 

• 2009 - Barack Obama “for his extraordinary efforts to strengthen international diplomacy and cooperation between peoples.” As even Barack Obama acknowledged in his remarks last week, he has not accomplished anything to justify this award. He therefore accepted it as “encouragement for his policies.”

One each of the prior US Presidents and Vice Presidents who received the Nobel Peace Prize received them for their policies coming out of WW I. That is Woodrow Wilson and Charles Dawes. The historians who have described the contributing causes of WW II, the deadliest war in human history, so far. Both of those men helped to create WW II, and that happened because of policies for which they had received the Nobel Peace Prize.

One of the questions raised about the award just announced for Obama is whether it is pure politics, intended to help Obama and set back his opponents. A bias in favor of peace at any cost is not new for this award. Just bring up the official winners since 1901, select all of the winning organizations which have the word “peace” in their names.

Look up the histories of those organizations, and you’ll find that the Peace awards have always been in favor of the “peaceniks,” as they are called, with limited recognition that peace sometimes depends on deterring powerful and dictatorial regimes.

If there is another world war, beginning in the Middle East, the deaths and damage may exceed those from WW II. And if that happens, part of the cause will be the policies of the man who will receive the 2009 Nobel Peace Prize. It will be 1919 and 1925 all over again.

• About the Author: John Armor practiced in the US Supreme Court for 33 years. John_Armor@aya.yale.edu His latest book, on Thomas Paine, is available here: www.TheseAreTheTimes.us (Note the suffix, .us)
CANDIDATES continued from page 13

... CANDIDATES continued from page 13

enty-five percent of the Town Hall renovation is funded by money saved the last few years for this purpose. Additional funding will come from the General Fund and future grants.

David Wilkes

The creation of new infrastructure and maintenance of existing infrastructure is an important function of town government. I am in favor of completing the Mirror Lake and Lake Sequoyah sewer projects with town oversight to prevent the damage and inconvenience that occurred during the Harris Lake sewer project. However, I am not in favor of spending any town funds on the drainage system designed for Pine Street park. The reason for this project, according to the Mayor, was to resolve the "historical flooding problem at 5th and Pine Street." There is no historical flooding problem at 5th and Pine Street. During the recent heavy rains in September when Mill Creek flooded Leonard and Horse Cove roads and 5th Street at Laurel, there was no accumulation at 5th and Pine. I believe the Town Board was correct in finally scrapping plans for a $5.5 million dollar Town Hall. However, the decision was reached after two years and more than $43,000 in architects' studies. The current cost for remodeling the existing Town Hall is something over $400,000. I have not seen any costs yet for remodeling the old ABC store for the police department, but I think the proposed purchase of $320,000 of new police vehicles should be reconsidered in light of the expected remodeling costs. My stance is that I believe in spending for building and maintaining infrastructure on a well planned, prioritized schedule that solves real problems and serves the greatest number of citizens while maintaining a safe financial balance of cash reserves to debt ratio.

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Local Hospice volunteers need donations to keep doors open

The Highlands-Cashiers Hospice volunteers want to keep their doors open by launching a campaign to raise at least $60,000 before the end of 2009, to support the 2010 program. The Hospice program, which became part of Highlands-Cashiers Hospital back in July of 2000, is vital to our community, but has not been self-sustaining for the past couple of years. “Our volume of patients does not approach a break-even level, reported Ken Shull, President Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. For the last several years, the hospital has been able to absorb the deficit but in these hard economic times, that is no longer viable.”

The volunteers recognize that the services Hospice provides to patients and their families are tremendously important according to Evie Byrnes and Peachy Wagner Stailey, long-time volunteers and Chairs of the fund raising efforts. The goal is to raise the funds needed to offset the gap between Medicare and insurance reimbursements and the cost of providing Hospice services. The Highlands-Cashiers Hospice currently serves Scaly Mountain, Highlands, Cashiers, Glenville and Sapphire. It has a wonderful group of very dedicated and committed people who truly care about those they serve.

The fund raising committee wants everyone to know that Hospice is much more than traditional health care. While hospice team members do provide pain management, symptom control, and nursing care, they also provide psychological support and spiritual care. Providing that care requires a team of medical professionals and specially-trained volunteers whose goal is neither to hasten death nor prolong life, but to create a loving, secure, and peaceful environment for the last months of a precious life. Locally that team includes doctors, nurses, caregivers, a dietitian, social worker, chaplain, pharmacist and others. Volunteers also play an important role in the program. Nearly two-dozen volunteers have been trained to assist patients and their families by regularly visiting them to listen, talk, read or help with needed errands. Volunteers also help provide much needed respite breaks for family members who are primary caregivers.

The volunteers are so committed to keeping Hospice active here in our communities, they have undertaken the urgent challenge of raising the critically needed funds by soliciting their own personal friends as well as the families of former hospice patients. They are also urging all caring members of our community to contribute to this effort now, so we can preserve the very existence of Hospice in the Highlands-Cashiers community.

Those wishing to make a tax-deductible gift dedicated to Hospice can do so by making their check to the “Highlands-Cashiers Hospital Foundation” and designating “Hospice Fund” on your check. All donations earmarked for Hospice will go into a separate account from general Foundation and hospital operating funds. Hospice is one of our most vital community programs, providing a wide range of services for patients, families, and caregivers. Please help the Hosipice and our volunteers keep it alive.

Contributions should be mailed to: Highlands Cashiers Hospital Foundation, Hospice Fund, P.O. Box 742, Highlands, NC 28741.
Then and now, 35 years later

This past summer the Jessup family found an old photograph of a visit to Bridal Veil Falls in Highlands. Together again, the siblings decided to stage a current show.

These two pictures are at least 35 years apart. Thomas Jessup, Highlands School Guidance Counselor, and his family used to pile into the family's WV van and make the road trip from Shreveport, LA to see his mother's family in Cullowhee, NC and Hazelwood, NC (now part of Waynesville, NC) and his father's family in Pilot Mountain. In the old photo from left is Jessup his brother Joe Jessup from Glenwood, AK, and their sister Elizabeth Henry from Alexandria, VA. Their other sister, Margaret Jessup Kinard from Shreveport, LA, took both pictures.

Flu forces Mission to prohibit visitors under age 18

Because H1N1 flu continues to spread, no visitors under the age of 18 will be permitted in Mission Hospital in Asheville, effective at midnight, Sunday, October 11, that is, 12:01 am Monday October 12. The advance notice is being given to allow families to make arrangements for children. The new restrictions will cover all areas on both the Memorial and St. Joseph campuses.

The H1N1 strain of flu is especially widespread among children and teens. They can spread the virus before they feel or get sick. During the past week, Mission has seen a significant increase in the number of people coming to the Emergency Department with influenza-like illness, and in the number being admitted for treatment.

“We know this restriction will be difficult for families, but our first responsibility is to protect our patients,” said Kathleen C. Guyette, RN, MSN, CNA-BC, Vice President and Chief Nursing Officer. “Even if you yourself are not concerned about getting the flu, nobody wants to be responsible for giving it to others unintentionally, especially somebody who is already ill or especially vulnerable, like pregnant women, children and the elderly. We appreciate the understanding and cooperation of the community in keeping our patients and the staff who care for them as healthy as we can.”

What’s for Lunch?

Hand cut fries, fresh angus burgers, grilled chicken, and weekly specials.

Expanded Fall menu including:
House-made Soups, Stews and Pot Pies
Indoor and porch seating, serving lunch 11 to 2 weekdays, 11 to 3 weekends
Meals to go, excellent wine selection and an abundant collection of craft and seasonal beers.

Mountain Fresh Grocery™ your Everyday-and-Gourmet Grocery

Corner of Fifth & Main in Highlands 828.526.2400
Rep. Shuler faces President on the basketball court

Rep. Heath Shuler had a great time playing basketball against President Obama and his White House team on Thursday night.

"The President is really good. He runs the court," said Rep. Shuler, D-N.C. "And despite being the President, he's not shown extra deference on the court."

Shuler was one of about 16 who played a pick-up basketball game with Obama on Thursday evening for about an hour and a half. Other players included: Secretary of the Treasury Tim Geithner, Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar, Rep. Brad Ellsworth, D-Ind., Rep. John Shimkus, R-Ill., and Rep. Rick Larsen, D-Wash.

Obama picked the teams and always chose his personal aide Reggie Love, who played football and basketball at Duke University, said Shuler, who ended up guarding Love. The only game Obama lost was when his team played the Blue Dogs, said Shuler, the Blue Dog whip.

"I had a great, great time. The president kept wanting to play another game, and we couldn't say no," said Shuler, who rushed to make his flight home still in his gym shorts.
On-going and Upcoming Events PULLOUT

Week Long
• YOGA - all levels all week, schedule posted
  Moonrise Yoga 464 Carolina Way. 828.526.8880
  www.yogahighlands.com.10/15
• Nantahala Tennis Club at the Rec Park, six
days a week at 9 a.m. Public invited.
  • At Health Tracks at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital,
    various exercise classes. Call 828-526-1F1T.

Sundays
• Refuge Yoga 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.
• Hal Phillips on piano at Skyline Lodge and
  Restaurant on Flat Mountain Road during the Cham-
  pign Brew 12-2pm.
  Mon., Wed., & Thurs.
• Yoga On The Mat. New location. The Episco-
  pal Church of Incarnation in Sandy Hook. Enter through
  single door facing Mountain Fresh. MM @ 7:30 a.m;
  Thurs. @10:45 a.m. Bring your mat. 828-482-2128
  10/29.

First Mondays
• Participate in your hospital by joining the Auxil-
  iary 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, 8 p.m. at the Episcopal
  Church at Fifth and Main streets.
Tuesdays
• Clogging Lessons at the Rec Park. 5 p.m. Leath-
  er shoes recommended and tap shoes can be or-
  dered. For more information, call Joyce Doerter at
  877-6618. $30.mnth.
• 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 & Thursdays
• Zumba Classes at the Rec Park. Aerobic dance/toning.
  No dance experience necessary. One-hour.
  $5/class. Tuesdays, 12-30-13, Thursdays, 8-9 am.
  and 1 p.m. Thursdays at Cashiers Rec Park. Call
  Mary K. Barbour at 828-342-2498. 9/26

Wednesdays
• The Highlands Mainstampilp Rotar 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 Fel-
  lowship 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
• The Zahner Lecture Series at the Nature Cen-
  ter at 7 p.m. Subjects vary.
• 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 (bipolar 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

2nd & 4th Fridays
• Community Drum Circle at the Highlands Rec
  Park, from 6-7:30 p.m. For more information call 421-
  0551.

Fridays & Saturdays
• At Fressers Eatery, Cy Timmons live from 6
  p.m.
• Hal Phillips on piano from 7-9:30 pm at Skyline
  Lodge and Restaurant on Flat Mountain Road.
• At Highlands Wine & Cheese, at Falls on Main,
  complimentary wine samplings during business hours.
• Highlands-Cashiers Music Festival Concerts
every Friday at 6 p.m. and 5 p.m. on Sundays at PAC
  in Highlands through Aug. 9. For tickets or more infor-
  mation, call (828) 526-9060 or visit www.h-
  Greeksmusicfestival.com

Every Third Saturday
• The Highlands Memorial Post #370 of the Amer-
  ican Legion meets at the Shorthold Baptist Church. Break-
  fast 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 Cypress International Restaurant, live music
  beginning at 7 p.m. No cover.
• At Highlands Wine & Cheese, Falls on Main,
  Wine Flights from 4-6:30 p.m. Five wines, artisan chees-
  es 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.

Thursdays
• ZUMBA classes at the Highlands Rec Park.
  Tuesdays, 12:30 p.m. and Thursdays 8 a.m. Classes
  are one hour long and cost $5 per class. Also at the
  Cashiers Community Center at 1 p.m. on Thursdays.
  Call 342-2498 for more information.

Through Out 10
• Exhibition Cat Chow: Beyond Fiber Art in the
  Loft Gallery at The Bascom. Admission is free. The
  Bascom is open Tuesdays through Saturdays from
  10 a.m. to 5 p.m. For information, call (828) 526.4949

• See EVENTS page 20

Ruby Cinema
Hwy. 441, Franklin, NC
524-2076
Oct. 16-22
WHERE THE WILD THINGS ARE
rated PG-13
Fri: 4:20, 7, 9, 20
Sat: 2:20, 4:20, 7, 9, 20
Sun: 2:20, 4:20, 7, 10
Mon + Wed: 4:20, 7, 10
Tues + Thurs: 2:20, 4:20, 7, 10

LAW ABIDING CITIZEN
rated R
Fri: 4:20, 7, 9, 20
Sat: 2:20, 4:20, 7, 9, 20
Sun: 2:20, 4:20, 7
Mon + Wed: 4:20, 7
Tues + Thurs: 2:20, 4:20, 7

COUPLES RETREAT
rated PG-13
Fri: 4:15, 7, 9, 15
Sat: 2:05, 4:15, 7, 9, 15
Sun: 2:05, 4:15, 7, 9, 15
Mon + Wed: 4:15, 7, 9, 15
Tues + Thurs: 2:05, 4:15, 7, 9, 15

ZOMBIE LAND
rated R
Fri: 4:30, 7, 9, 30
Sat: 2:20, 4:30, 7, 9, 30
Sun: 2:20, 4:30, 7, 20
Mon + Wed: 4:30, 7, 20
Tues + Thurs: 2:20, 4:30, 7, 20

From trainee to POW: Francis Gatins sported the jaunty beret of a French Army alpine pursuit unit during his military service in 1938. A fellow prisoner painted his portrait in a Nazi POW camp during 1940-43 (bottom left), while his gaunt face graced the phony German ID papers he used to craft a final escape.
On-going and Upcoming Events

To take in the colors, take a “Sunday Drive” down Horse Cove Road, through Whiteside Cove to Cashiers, Lake Glenville and Pine Creek.

The donkeys on this farm on Pine Creek are always ready for a visit.

Lake Glenville is rimmed with color.

Horses in the cove that bears their name.

Glenville and Pine Creek.

The donkeys on this farm on Pine Creek are always ready for a visit.

Lake Glenville is rimmed with color.

Horses in the cove that bears their name.
On-going and Upcoming Events

Monday, Oct. 19
• The Mirror Lake Improvement Association will meet at 6 p.m. at the Civic Center.
• The Jackson County GOP and the Western Carolina University Republicans will hold a joint meet-
ing on October 19th at 7 p.m. in the WCU University Center. The invited speakers are Republican pri-
mary candidates who are considering or have an-
nounced their candidacy to oppose Congressional District 11 Representative Heath Schulter in 2010. For
additional information call Dodie Allen, Jackson Coun-
ty GOP Chair at Republican Headquarters, 828 586-
9989 or visit the website www.jacksoncountygop.com.

Tuesday, Oct. 20
• Art class “Simple, Elegant Glass Painting,” by
Margie Shambaugh, will be held at The Bascom in High-
lands from 1 to 3 p.m. for beginning to advanced
students. Create your own simple-yet-elegant hand-
painted glasses and stemware. Cost is $25 for the
general public and $20 for Bascom members. To reg-
ister, call (828) 526-4949 ext. 100 or visit www.thebascom.org.
• Macon County Democratic Women will meet at
the Motor Grill Restaurant in Franklin at 1 p.m. for a
luncheon meeting. Democratic Franklin Town Can-
didates will be present. All Democratic Men and Wom-
en are invited to hear our candidates.
• Public Forum prior to the upcoming election for
Mayor and Town Commissioners at the Highlands
Community Center, 6-7:30 p.m. Refreshments will be
available.
• HIARP’s Winter Dialogue. All are welcome.
Only requirement is to read the material in advance.
“The Philosophy of Dr. Seuss.” Coordinator: John
Gaston. Reading for Oct. 27 will be distributed. Civic
Center, 6-7:30 p.m. Refreshments will be provided.

Saturday, Oct. 24, Friday, Dec. 18
• American Art Today, Juried Works exhibition will
open at The Bascom and run through Dec. 18.
Admission is free. A public opening reception will be
Oct. 24 from 5-7 p.m. The jurors, Dr. Annette Blaugr-
und, will speak at 5 p.m. For more information, call
(828) 526-4949 or visit www.thebascom.org.
• The High Mountain Squares will dance this
Wednesday night at the Macon County Community
Building on Route 441 South, from 7-9 p.m. Gary
Monday from Asheville NC will be calling the special
“Halloween Dance.” We dance Western Style Square
Dancing, mainstream and plus levels. Everyone is
welcome. For information call 828-349-0905, 828-
369-3344, 706-782-0943.

Thursday, Oct. 22
• The Macon County Democratic Party will be
hosting a chili supper from 5-7 p.m. at the Big Bear
Shelter on the Greenway. The chili supper will feature
homemade chili, cornbread, slaw, apple crisp and a
drink. Tickets are $10 and can be purchased in ad-
vance thru the Democratic Executive Committee mem-
bers, the Women’s Club of Franklin and at the door.
Please bring a non-perishable item for donation
to CARE-NET.

Friday, Oct. 23
• At the Highlands Civic Auditorium, 8 p.m. and 2 p.m
on Sundays. The group “Second Time Around” will
perform, age-appropriate art classes are held every
morning.” said Norma Smith Hendrix, the pro-
ducer of “Once Upon a Time,” by

This piece, “Once Upon a Time,” by
Jeann Blankenship, is one of dozens of
artworks in The Bascom’s annual “Members’ Invitational” exhibition. Featuring
works by Bascom members, the exhibi-
tion opens with a free public opening
reception this Friday, Oct. 16, from 5-7
p.m. and runs through Nov. 7, Tuesdays
through Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Exhibition admission is always free.
“It’s a great chance to see artwork by many of
your friends, plus enjoy free wine, hors
deuvres and the opportunity to network
with other art lovers on the plateau,” said
Kay Gorencki, Bascom artistic director.
For more information about the exhibi-
tion or other Bascom happenings, visit
www.thebascom.org or call (828) 526-
4949.

November 2009
Highlands’ Newspaper • Page 21

Saturday Art School for children starts next week at The Bascom

A student in a Bascom youth art class works on a project. A new program called Saturday Art School at The Bascom begins next Saturday, Oct. 24, for kindergartners through eighth graders. Registration is going on now.

The Bascom is taking its community youth art classes up a notch with a new Saturday program for elementary through middle school age children.

The art school begins next Saturday, Oct. 24, for kindergartners through eighth graders. Fun, hands-on, age-appropriate art classes are held every Saturday from 10 a.m. to noon. Classes are held for two different age groups: grades K-3 and grades 4-8.

The K-3rd Grade class will introduce children to all sorts of materials and methods of art making, with an emphasis on self-expression and immersion into the joy of creating.

The 4th-8th Grade class will cover the fundamentals of art while exploring a variety of media. While having fun with new materials and concepts, students will be gaining an understanding of the basic elements of art that form the foundation for future art study.

“Bring your child to art school for the morning,” said Norma Smith Hendrix, Bascom education director. “Parents can come and have coffee in The Bascom library while their child is in class, or they can drop off their child and enjoy a walk either on our nature trail or downtown Highlands.”

Cost is $64 for an eight-week session, with all materials included. Pre-registration is required and now open.

For more information or to register, visit www.thebascom.org or call (828) 526-4949 ext. 100.
Jim Costa to speak about Darwin at the Hudson Library

This year marks the one-hundred-fiftieth anniversary of the publication of Charles Darwin's Origin of Species. Dr. Jim Costa, the Executive Director of the Highlands Biological Station, has published an annotated version of Darwin's classic to celebrate his landmark in the history of science.

In addition, Dr. Costa has given some very popular lectures about Darwin this year, including a Zahner Lecture entitled “Darwin and Dixie,” tracing the many connections between Charles Darwin and the natural history of the southern United States. Dr. Costa is an excellent speaker, able to communicate difficult ideas in a clear and entertaining fashion. Some in the audience at his Zahner lecture said it was the best they had ever heard in the series.

Dr. Costa will give a talk at the Hudson Library on Friday, October 23, from 2-4 p.m., focusing on how Darwin came to his ideas about evolution over time and how he pitched his argument in the Origin of Species to what he knew would be a hostile audience—those who would see his ideas as an attack on religion. This talk will be a sneak preview of an article entitled “Darwinian Revelation” that will appear in the November issue of BioScience Magazine.

Dr. Costa is also Professor of Biology at Western Carolina University and has taught a college course on the Origin of Species for ten years in which the students use the book as a text and go through it cover to cover. Through discussion they learn not only about the book’s content but its social and historical context, its argument structure, and which arguments or points are thought to still be valid and which are not. This historical and scientific information has been incorporated into Dr. Costa’s book, The Annotated Origin: A Facsimile of the First Edition of On the Origin of Species, published this year by Harvard University Press. Each page contains a facsimile of the original edition side by side with Costa’s illuminating comments.

In the introduction, Dr. Costa wrote: “It is at once a founding treatise of a major scientific discipline, a philosophical argument for a novel worldview, and a masterful piece of science writing... In the grand journey of self-discovery that started with comprehension of the nature of our planet and star in the seventeenth century, Darwin’s Origin of Species is crowning achievement for humanity. This living document threw open windows on grand vistas extending back in Deep Time and sweeping forward to the uncertain future of the ever-ramifying Tree of Life—a profound step in self-awareness and self-understanding for a remarkable little primitive. I share Darwin’s exultation that ‘there is grandeur in this view of life’ Carl Sagan once described humans as ‘star stuff come alive, the very universe aware of itself. That awareness underwent a quantum leap on 24 November 1859.’”

In addition to publishing and speaking about Darwin in this anniversary year, Costa was Trip Leader lecturing on Darwin and Evolution on a Harvard-sponsored tour of the Galapagos Islands this past August, aboard the National Geographic Islander. A field naturalist who has studied insect social behavior from the southern Appalachian to Latin America and the Galapagos Islands, Dr. Costa is a long-time Research Associate in Entomology at Harvard’s Museum of Comparative Zoology and former Fellow of the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study. He is the author of The Other Insect Societies, published by Harvard University Press in 2006. In addition to his Origin of Species course, he has taught genetics, biogeography, entomology, and field courses in Hawaii and the desert southwest.

Dr. Costa’s passion for Darwin and the history of evolutionary biology also takes him to England each summer, where he teaches Darwin’s Origin of Species in Harvard’s summer program at the University of Oxford.

The Hudson Library lecture will be a presentation with slides and include some readings from Darwin’s Origin of Species. There will also be time for questions. The lecture is free and all are welcome. The Hudson Library is located at 554 Main Street.
Closing for the Season Saturday, October 24
Everything in the store on Sale!

The Elephant’s Foot Antiques
Since 1983

680 N. 4th Street • Highlands • 526-5451
A special bond is formed when someone rescues you from near-death.

Those emotions were evident Tuesday night at the Highlands Fire & Rescue weekly meeting when Gioia Holland came to visit.

On Sunday, July 19, Gioia, a visitor to Glen Falls off NC 106, fell 80 ft from the third tier of the popular four-tiered falls.

Holland, of Marion, NC, slipped and fell over the falls and landed about 15 feet from where 16-year-old Jason Jackson landed on June 16, just a month before. He, too, survived, but like Holland was badly injured.

When rescue workers got to Gioia at 7:39 p.m., they said she was wearing a bathing suit and according to witnesses had been sunbathing on the flat rock outcrop above the falls. They said her towel was still spread out on the rock above.

Highlands Fire & Rescue member Robbie Forrester said she was sitting up and conscious when they got to her.

“She was bashed up pretty bad, but she was talking to us,” he said.

After crews stabilized her, they carried her down the remainder of the falls and out to Blue Valley where she was airlifted by MOMA to Mission Hospital which began months of surgeries.

Holland sustained a broken jawbone and teeth, a collapsed lung, broken bones in her ankle, and back, and cuts on her head and in her groin area.

She has two metal plates in her jaw, and will soon receive a Maryland Bridge in her mouth, has a Crushed right ankle that was saved from amputation by two metal plates, 18 screws and a contraption she wears to keep it stabilized pending more surgeries. She broke two bones in her back, lost a tooth and suffered multiple abrasions.

Aided by her walker, Gioia presented members of her rescue crew with Fall inspired edible goodies and a photograph of herself standing, alive, and on the mend.

A Computer Information System senior at Western Carolina University, extensive and on-going surgeries kept her from classes this fall semester but she hopes to return this spring to continue her studies.

Though the contraption on her ankle is cumbersome to say the least, “At least they didn’t have to amputate it,” she said, “which was the first diagnosis.”

- Kim Lewicki

To see original story, go to www.highlandsinfo.com scroll down click on News and open the July 23 issue.
The US Forest Service announced today that it is permanently closing the Upper Tellico OHV trail system to correct serious erosion problems in the Upper Tellico River watershed in Cherokee County, NC.

“While we are closing the 39-mile OHV Trail System we will be keeping 13 miles of FS system roads in the area open year round or seasonally for highway vehicles. This will provide access for hunting, fishing and other recreation activities. We also will be paving and reconstructing a portion of HW 420-1 which accesses private land and serves as a through route from TN to NC for recreationists visiting the Tellico area. Closed roads and trails will be stabilized and rehabilitated to eliminate future sedimentation into the Tellico River,” Hilliard said.

Other national forest OHV trail systems in the area include:
- Wayahutta, Nantahala NF, 21 miles (21 miles ATV and motorcycle)
- Brown Mountain, Pisgah NF, 34 miles (6 miles 4WD, 27 miles ATV, 34 miles motorcycle).

The 39-mile Upper Tellico OHV Trail System is currently contributing unacceptable levels of sediment into the Tellico River and its tributaries, he said.

“The Forest Service is in violation of its own standards and North Carolina state water quality standards because visible sediment from the OHV trails is reaching the Tellico River and its tributaries in hundreds of locations. Many of the trails are on steep slopes and they all occur on very erodible soils. Much of the Tellico OHV trail system runs parallel to streams in the area, with over six miles within 100 feet of streams. The locations of the trails make it extremely difficult to prevent sediment from reaching the streams even if we are successful in repairing existing problems,” Hilliard said.

In February, 2009, the Forest Service sought public comment on a detailed environmental assessment which looked at six alternatives for future management of the Upper Tellico OHV trail system including a preferred alternative of closing the OHV trail system.

“We have been known to move mountains... figuratively speaking, of course!”

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EXCEPTIONAL CUSTOMER SERVICE. UNSURPASSED KNOWLEDGE OF HIGHLANDS AND CASHIERS COMMUNITIES AND A PASSION THAT DOESN’T STOP UNTIL YOU’RE SATISFIED. THAT’S THE HARRY NORMAN DIFFERENCE. COME EXPERIENCE FOR YOURSELF WHY WE’VE BEEN THE LEADING NAME IN REAL ESTATE SINCE 1930.

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(828) 526-2762

The Good Earth Pottery
Corner of 5th and Main• 787-2473
Annual Fall Festival is major fundraiser for Highlands School

The Highlands School PTO Fall Festival will be held on Saturday, Oct. 17 from 5-9. The festival has great food — BBQ dinner for only $5 — many thanks to the Mountain Top Rotary that are volunteering in the kitchen — and many exciting activities for children and adults.

Highlands Rotary Club is sponsoring the cash bingo where the winner takes half! The Chenoweth Cake Walk which is named after Steve and Kim Chenoweth who have emceed the event for many years even though their own children have graduated.

The senior class — under the experienced guidance of Cindy Pair — are preparing a thrilling haunted house in the middle school.

There will be a 20-foot inflatable slide and bounce house, hayrides, face painting and hair spray, fish pond, pirate dig, soccer, basketball and football booths, archery and a balloon dart toss — not to mention the popcorn, cotton candy and many more exciting activities!

Each class has prepared a theme box filled with great items that will be available for the Great Silent Theme Box Auction.

Mountain Fresh Fine Foods, Bryson's Food Store, Reeves Hardware and RBC Centura Bank have all donated $100 in gift certificates for the traditional Fall Festival Raffle where tickets are $1 each or six for $5.

New this year is a Christmas Cash Raffle that will be held on December 17. Chances to win $5,000 are $50 each.

We would like to recognize our $500 MapleSponsors for this year: Country Club Properties, Alan and Amanda Yates, Fern Creek Builders, Gates Nursery, J. W. Underwood Construction, Sports Page Sandwich Shoppe, and Subway of Highlands. All sponsors are featured on a banner in the front lobby of the school. Please take time to visit these businesses and thank the individuals and families that generously support Highlands School.

The senior class and parents donate their time and energy giving back to their school by running the game booths. In return, the PTO pays for the seniors' caps and gowns for graduation.

All teachers and staff at the school volunteer for at least two hours to receive money for their individual classrooms. PTO board members and parents fill in the remaining volunteer positions and bake cakes and goodies for the kitchen and cake walk.

It takes a community effort to make the festival a success. This success goes directly back into the classrooms and again reaches every child at Highlands School.

Bring your whole family for a night of affordable fun and support a great cause!

By Ryan Potts

The Highlander men's soccer team continued their Smoky Mountain Conference dominance with two victories and a tie last week, putting another conference championship in sight.

Wednesday, Highlands hosted Hayesville in what was a rematch of their closest conference game to date. The Highlanders came out strong, getting a goal from Sam Wheeler in the first five minutes of the contest. Hayesville equalized early in the second half, and then the stalemate began.

When no winner was decided in regulation, the game went to overtime. When one overtime period was not enough, the teams played another OT period before finally settling on a draw after 100 minutes of soccer. The tie gives Highlands the tiebreaker over the Yellow Jackets due to their victory in Hayesville earlier this season.

Thursday, Highlands hosted Murphy and prevailed 7-0. Many of the younger players received an opportunity to contribute and it was a nice conference win for the Highlanders.

Temba Lama scored two goals for Highlands and Bryon Neumann and Michael Shearl also added goals.

Monday, Highlands hosted Andrews and continued their winning ways, controlling the action from the first whistle to post an 11-1 victory.

Clayton Creighton, Will Mathowdis and Cody St. Germaine all scored twice for Highlands, and Cai Roman, Sam Wheeler, Justin Watson, Michael Shearl and Ricky Reyes all added a goal for the Highlanders.

Highlands (10-3-1) is currently ranked #15 in the state soccer poll, dropping a spot after the tie with Hayesville.
Highlands continues to score

Newcomer to the Highlands scene, Temba Lama scores at a recent game against Murphy

Photo by Noel Atherton

from the history guy....

On the day Oct. 15, 1582
Pope Gregory XIII implements the Gregorian calendar, and Oct 4th is followed directly by the 15th. Dates 5 thru 14 are dropped in Poland, Italy, Portugal, and Spain.

In an effort to make dates more regulated, the calendar has been Gregulated.

Did everyone accept this weekly rearranging of things weekly?

In one place if you conducted a Pole would the opinion be sad or drole?

Did the Portuguese and the Spanish adopt this in a way macho and mannish?

And the Italians, had they asked “Pergo, for giving us a way to make the day go?”

If my calculations are right, they lost almost a fortnight.
Sale
Oct. 16-17, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Moving to a smaller home!!

Quality furniture, antiques, oriental rug, TV sets, vintage wicker rockers, porch furniture, lamps, accessories, lodge-size dining table/ 8 chairs, Elk horn chandelier, leather sofa with recliner and fold-out bed, Native American signed pieces, art work, mirrors, dinnerware, linens, beds, treadmill, kitchenware, stainless refrigerator, upright freezer and more”.

Holly Forrest 1 Sapphire Valley
Follow signs
Directions: 64 E past Sapphire C.C. to Holly Forrest 1. Left on W Christy; Go 9/10 mi; right on Black Gum Court.

Former Brave Otis Nixon worked with the Macon County Little League last week, teaching them baseball fundamentals and the value of teamwork.
**HS Volleyball**

The Highlands School Varsity Volleyball team warming up for an upcoming Rosman game in their favorite attire -- tie-dye shirts they made themselves. Below juniors Marlee McCall and Sara Power go up for a block. The team is second in conference and plays Nantahala at home this Thursday, Oct. 15.

**EXCEPTIONAL VALUE WITH VIEW AND LARGE LOT.**

This large 3 bedroom, 2 bath home is on 1.80 acres and conveniently located to downtown Highlands. Well-maintained home has 2 large stone fireplaces, partially finished basement with outside/inside entry, spring-fed pond and view of Satulah Mountain.

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Contact: **Melanie Nix**

@ 828-200-0146.

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**Sapphire Valley Art and Crafts Festival**

**Saturday, Oct. 17**

**&**

**Sunday, Oct. 18**

10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

More than 80 artists and crafters displaying and demonstrating their original works

Live Bluegrass Music • Food • Drinks

Cashiers-Highlands Humane Society Stop ‘n’ Adopt

**FREE ADMISSION AND PARKING**

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For more information, call 828-743-1163.
The Ladies Night Out program continues to grow in our community with more organizations and clubs supporting the program.

Ladies Night Out is a collaboration between Angel Medical Center and Macon County Public Health Center. Ladies Night Out is monthly programs that focus on health and wellness education for women. These programs will be held the 4th Tuesday of each month at 6:30 pm in the cafeteria at Angel Medical Center starting on October 27th. (December’s meeting will be held on December 15th at 6:30 pm).

Monthly topics will include breast cancer awareness, influenza and winter illness prevention, healthy holiday eating, plus much more.

A message that will be a part of all Ladies Night Out events is the importance of preventive health screenings, such as mammograms, pap smears, etc. According to estimates from the North Carolina Comprehensive Cancer Program, in 2009, 41 Macon County women will hear, “you have breast cancer” and 7 Macon County women will die due to the disease. Also, in 2009, 41 Macon County men will be diagnosed with prostate cancer and 7 will die due to it. These deaths can be reduced by early detection and treatment.

Bi-Lo has become the first Corporate Sponsor of the Ladies Night Out program.

According to Jennifer Hollifield, Ladies Night Out coordinator with the public health center, the entire committee is thrilled to have Bi-Lo as a partner. They are 100% behind the Ladies Night Out program and we look forward to working with them on this program.

According to Lesa Jordan, Franklin’s Store Director, Bi-Lo is very excited to partner with Angel Medical Center and the Macon County Public Health Center on this project that will reach the community. “The employees of the Franklin Bi-Lo live and work in this community and want to help out their fellow neighbors however they can”, stated Jordan.

Several civic/community clubs area have provided financial support for the program through donations or grants – PEO, Beta Sigma Phi, Community Funding Pool, and the American Cancer Society.

At the October program, speakers will include Molly Black with the NC Comprehensive Cancer Program, Dr. Travis Petricek with Angel Medical Center, Teresa Mallonee and Amber Feagin, breast cancer survivors. For more information on the Ladies Night Out program, call Jennifer Hollifield at 349-2439.

Some of the Ladies Night Out Committee members celebrate Bi-Lo’s sponsorship of the Ladies Night Out Program: (L to R) are Deborah Verdonck, Roberta Swank, Kristy McGuire, Lesa Jordan, Jennifer Hollifield, Roberta Bowles, Lisa Marling, and Tim Hubbs.

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Highlands’ Wine & Cheese will host two benefit wine tasting events on Saturday, Oct. 24, with proceeds supporting The Bosnian Community Farm Initiative, Inc.

From 1-2:30 p.m., Scott Roddy and his staff will be pleased to welcome a representative from Riedel, USA to offer a guided tasting featuring Riedel stemware. Wine enthusiasts will enjoy a guided comparison between wines sampled from four distinct Riedel glasses and traditional stemware. Admission is limited to 45 participants and requires the purchase of a Riedel Vinum 4-piece tasting set (includes Bordeaux, Montrachet, Burgundy and Sauvignon Blanc glasses). This tasting set is specially priced for this event at $99 and can be reserved in advance by calling the shop at 526-5210.

A more traditional and informal wine tasting will follow from 2:30-4 p.m., with the Riedel representative available for more informal discussion. Admission is $30 and includes a Riedel Bordeaux stem. All wines for both events will be poured by Tryon Distributing, and will be available for purchase from Highlands Wine & Cheese.

The Bosnian Community Farm Initiative, Inc. (BCFI) is a local non-profit organization based in Sylva.

The BCFI grew from its roots at First United Methodist Church in Sylva, and includes Pastor Paul Christy of Highlands United Methodist Church as a member of its board of directors.

Under Paul Christy’s leadership and inspired by his commitment to peace and reconciliation, a core group of local volunteers has participated in the construction of five barns and offered five pregnant dairy cows to families in the Srebrenica municipality of Bosnia-Herzegovina.

The BCFI has chosen to focus its work in the Srebrenica municipality based on the region’s dramatic history and current need.

Representatives from the BCFI will be available during each event to answer questions and provide additional information about the organization.
NEW POLICY
One FREE Classified Ad for ONE
item less than $500
(Not animals, no commercial biz).
ONE AD PER FAMILY otherwise:
20 words for $5; $2 for each 10-
word increment.

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P.O. Box 2703
Highlands, NC 28741
828-526-0782

HELP WANTED

ART CENTER SEEKS YEAR-ROUND
ADJUNCT FACULTY FOR YOUTH AND
ADULT ART CLASSES. Ideal candidates
have undergraduate or advanced degrees
in studio art or art education, teaching
experience and a track record of
curriculum development. Send letter,
resume, three references, CD with 10-15
elements of personal artwork and 10-15
elements of student work by October 16
to Norma Hendrix, The Bascom, P.O. Box
766, Highlands, NC 28741. No phone
calls, please.

CNA OR CNA II needed at Highlands-
Cashiers 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, med-
cal insurance. Pre-employment
screening required. Call Human Resources at
828-526-1376 or apply online at
www.hchospit.al.org.

CNA II needed at Highlands-
Cashiers Hospital in the Acute
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positions available, night shift. Med/Surg experience
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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. 526-8577 (st. 9/24)

DAILY — Basement of OLD Highlands
Pharmacy at 238 Helen’s Barn Ave. 9 a.m.
to 4 p.m. until. Tools, lumber and housekeeping items.
EVERYTHING MUST GO!

MOVING SALE. Oct. 16 & 17, 9-4,
Quality furniture, oriental rugs, vintage
wicker, Indian artifacts, elk horn chande-
lier, accessories, pictures/paintings &
more. Sapphire area, Holly Forrest.

PORCH SALE. Oct. 16 & 17. 8:55
Franklin Road corner of Mirror Lake Road.
Household items, antique toys and more. 9 a.m.

RESIDENTIAL FOR RENT

GREAT HOME FOR RENT. $750 per
month. 3 bed, 2 bath, great room with
fireplace, deck, big yard in Scaly Mtn
behind Cabe Realty, utilities not included,
no pet. Call Becky 828-526-2475. 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; no pets. Deposit required. 
Weekly, monthly or yearly rental. Call 678-
358-9675 or 404-639-2682.

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.
10/1

ONE BED, 1 BATH. plus den with
trundle beds – fully furnished, new
construction, including utilities, cable TV,
WiD, wireless Internet access. Smoke-
free environment, 1,200 sq. ft. plus 2
outside decks. Walk to Main Street. Near

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. Cur-
rently rented at $2,500 a month. Call 770-
827-0450. (st. 2/19)

CLASSIFIEDS
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. 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.


**FURNISHED 3BD 2BATH HOUSE IN MIRROR LAKE area available for 6-12 month lease $1200+ utilities. Call 770-977-5602.

**3BR, 2BA COTTAGE NEAR MIRROR LAKE -** In town. $1,250 per month. Very clean. 770-977-5602.

**ON MIRROR LAKE -** 3 bed, 2 bath, fireplace, hardwood floors, W/D, dock, canoe, furnished, 3-sided lake views, pets OK. Available Nov.-May. $1,200 a month plus utilities. Call 770-435-0678.10/29

**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每月 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 -**

**TIRED OF PAYING MAIN STREET RENT?** Join new center, less than 2 miles from downtown as an owner, tenant, or rent to own. Two spaces, 1,575 square feet each, $299,900. Can be combined. Inquire for rental rates. Contact Betty Holt, Signature Properties, 526-4218 or Chris Gilbert, Carolina Mountain Brokers, 421-3161. 10/29

**OFFICE/RETAIL/SPA RENTAL SPACE -** 1,080 sq. ft. divided into four rooms along with full bath. Conveniently located on Spring Street. $750/mo. with the first month free. Call 352-245-3901. (st. 6/18)

**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 404-639-2682.

**RUSTIC FARMHOUSE –** 3br/2b, central heat/air, spring water, big yard, access to fish pond, bordered by Buck Creek located on Buck Creek Rd.; close to Highlands and Franklin, NC. $800 wkly or can be rented monthly. 828-524-6038

**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

**RESTORED FARMHOUSE ON SHORTOFF ROAD —** 2 bedrooms, 2 baths in a country setting. Well furnished with a large screened porch. See details and pictures at www.homeaway.com #23644 $800 per week. (912) 354-6917

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

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

**ITEMS FOR SALE —**

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

**QUEEN FUTON NATURAL FINISH PINE SOFA BED perfect condition $300.** Tibetan low chest $100 and Adirondack chair never outside, $50 Call 526-4340

**SINGER “FEATHER WEIGHT” SEWING MACHINE.** Excellent condition. $249. Call 526-4340

**ENCLOSED TRAILER, 10’X6’ Good condition $1,150 Call 828-526-8079. 10/22**

See CLASSIFIEDS page 34
**CLASSIFIEDS**

**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 all. Call 526-262-2671.

**WOOD BURNING STOVE WELECTRIC BLOWER** — $200. 342-3234.

**6X10 ENCLOSED TRAILER** — Classic 2 Dr. Good condition. $1,150. 828-526-8079, st. 7/30

**MARY KAY with L** — offering state-of-the-art skin care, new mineral makeup and other great products, as well as self-employment opportunities. Call Laurel at 349-6402 for more information. 10/29

**4-PIECE STONEWARE DINNER SET** — $15 or best offer. Call 526-5367.

**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. Good condition $125 369-5863.

**EPHON 6 STRING ACOUSTIC GUITAR** with hard case-good condition-$250 828-482-2222

**ETHAN ALLEN KING SIZE BEDROOM SET** — Very good Condition. $450. Call 787-1831

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


**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.


**AVON CAPE COD RED GLASS** — 8 piece place setting. 64 pieces. $385. Also, accessory pieces available. Call 526-5436.


**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

**MOTHER OF PEARLE JEWELS** — $15 or best offer. Call a neighbor. Call Mark at 526-0031. 10/22

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

**MAHOGANY TABLE** — set of 12 Sherbet Goblets, and dessert plates. $35. Call 526-4063.


**SERVICES**

**HELPING HANDS** — will clean for you and do a good job! also offering CNA services. Call 443-315-9547. Otto resident. 10/15

**HOUSE MANAGER** — 7 yrs of providing discrete, reliable customized 2nd home services, 24/7 Emergency Coverage. Contact J Kelly 828-526-2347 10/15 aspenkevkeeper@gmail.com


**THE HIGHLANDS HANDYMAN** — Anything and Everything. From High End to Low Spend. Local References. Call a neighbor. Call Mark at 526-0031. 10/22

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

**WINTERIZATION AND PEACE OF MIND** — The Highlands Handyman’s Home Watch Service is Just in Time. On call 24/7. References. Call a Neighbor at 526-0031. 10/22

**ECONOMIC CONDITIONS GOT YOU DOWN?** Need help processing feelings, creating an action plan? See CLASSIFIEDS page 35

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**Studio K Hair Salon**

Full Service Salon

“Trained at the Graham Webb Academy of Hair”

Featured on “The Learning Channel in 2000”

Color & Massage Specials!

Call 828-524-7606

1513 Highlands Road, Franklin

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**Highlands Storage Village**

• Units Available •

Highlands Storage Village • 828-526-4555

Cashiers Road
**CLOCK REPAIR** – Antique or modern, complicated antique clocks are my specialty. Experienced, dependable and courteous with house calls available in the Highlands area. Call 706-754-9631. Joseph McGahee. Clockmaker.  
www.oldclockrepair.com. 9/1

**DEPENDABLE LOVING PET SITTER** – for all types of pets! House sitting and landscaping services also available.  
Call 443-315-9547.  
**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 828-342-1803.  
**HANDYMAN SPECIAL** – Repairs and Remodeling, Electrical and Plumbing, Carpentry and more. Low prices. For free estimate call 288-342-7864.  
**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.  
**LANDSCAPE CLEANUP** – leaves, gutters and more. Call Juan at 200-9249 or 526-8525.  
**FIREWOOD** “Nature Dried” Call 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  
I Thirst

Chaplain Margaret Howell
Holy Family Lutheran Church - ELCA

What are you thirsty for?
Is there empty place inside you try so hard to hide? A hole in your soul that nothing seems to fill?

What are you thirsty for?
Have you tried and worked in vain to stifle that persistent pain, by striving and struggling all on your own?

What are you thirsty for?
When each day is done, do you feel like you have won, or is there something missing from your life?

What are you thirsty for?
Our Lord who hung upon the cross, seemed to cry in aching loss — “I thirst.” “I thirst.”

What was He thirsty for?
Was it really just sour wine, for holy lips upon to dine, or did he really desire so much more?

What was He thirsty for?
Upon this earth, our Savior lived, and in humblest way did give, his life as sacrifice for ours.

What was He thirsty for?
God gave up his only Son, so that the battle might be won, against the power of the evil and it’s lies.

What was He thirsty for?
The God of love wants only this — for us to live with Him in bliss. So Christ rejected everything that the world would give a king. As hard as it is to believe, for our souls God did grieve.

What was He thirsty for?
By Christ’s sacrifice of pain, humankind got all the gain.

What was He thirsty for?
To live with us in heaven’s bliss — Our beloved Savior died for this.

What is He thirsty for?
Such cosmic love cannot be bought; it is a gift of grace. It rushes in on Spirit’s wings, a miracle of faith. Earthly treasure loses its shine and all does rot or rust, but we are loved with Christ’s own heart, and in Him we can trust. So, beloved, when you feel that life has let you fall, turn your passions to the One who is the Lord of All. He knows our hunger and our needs, and through Christ can fill that empty whole deep in our souls that nothing earthly will.

What are you thirsty for?
Highlands’ Newspaper - Thursday, Oct. 15, 2009 - Page 37

**Police, Fire Dept. Logs**

**Big rig takes a tumble**

Saturday afternoon, Sheriff and Highlands Fire & Rescue crews responded to a call of a semi in a ditch on U.S. 64 east, near Eastover Drive, the Highlands side of the Whiteside overlook. Though the accident didn’t cause much of a stir when it happened around 1 p.m., the two-hour pullout created a traffic jam. The driver was taken to the hospital, and released.

Photo by Jim Lewicki

The following are the Highlands Police Dept. log entries from Oct. 5. Only the names of persons arrested, issued a Class-3 misdemeanor, or public officials have been used.

Oct. 5
- At 10:50 a.m., officers responded to two 9-1-1 hang-ups from a residence on Azalea Drive. Children had been playing with the phone.
- At 7:45 p.m., Gobierno del Estato De Guerreo, 30, of Highlands, was arrested for traffic violations – Driving without a license and without insurance – on at N.C. 106 near Buttermilk Road.

Oct. 6
- At 3:15 p.m., officers responded to a call for service concerning an open door at a residence on Upper Brushy Face Road. The house was checked out and the door secured.
- During the week, police officers responded to 1 alarm and issued 7 citations.

The following are the Highlands Fire & Rescue Dept. log entries from Oct. 8:

Oct. 8
- At 4:20 a.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at a residence on Buck Creek Road. It was false.
- At 7:55 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with a medical call at a residence on Pipers Court. The victim was transported.
- At 1:18 p.m., the dept. responded to a minor accident on U.S. 64 east involving a tractor-trailer. The driver was taken to the hospital and the fire department assisted with traffic control.
- At 7:40 p.m., the dept. searched for two lost hikers on Yellow Mountain. They were located at 9:38 p.m. on an old logging road. They were unharmed and had just taken the wrong trail.
- At 2:56 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with a medical call where a person had fallen on Main Street. The subject was transported to the hospital.
- At 1:57 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with a medical call at a residence on Wyanoak Drive where a child had fallen. The child was taken to the hospital.
- At 1:07 p.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at a residence on Hutchinson Court. It was false.

**The Puzzlers**

**PseudoCube©**

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

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

Email: thepuzzlers@yahoo.com.

**Mystery Word:**
Citizens of France

**Across**
1. Referee (abbr) (3)
2. Dear (Fr.) (masc.) (4)
3. Iron (Fr.) (3)

**Down**
3. This (Fr.) (2)
4. Egg-laying chicken (3)

**Hex-a-Ku©**

**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.

**Solution to Oct. 8 Hex-a-Ku**

**Solution to #CZ2A in Oct. 8 issue**

**PseudoCube©**

**#AN2B Level of Difficulty - HARD**

**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 equaling the total of the three center numbers. One of the diagonals is shown with circles.

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

Email: thepuzzlers@yahoo.com.

**Solution to Oct. 8 Hex-a-Ku**
Meet the Artist at Greenleaf Gallery
Saturdays in October

Above are Artist Sally Robbe and Rose Greenleaf at Greenleaf Gallery in Wright Square. Every Saturday in October there will be an exhibited artist on site. Next up is artist and faux painter Kimberly Lilley on Saturday, Oct. 17 and Robert Tino on Saturday, Oct. 24.

This past Saturday A Garden of Life had a million-dollar giveaway at Highlands Whole Life Market to promote good bone health. By “Taking the Bone Challenge,” A Garden of Life and Highlands Whole Life hope people will do what’s necessary to increase bone density and strength and reduce osteoporosis risk.

Bone density product give-away at Highlands Whole Life

Arts & Crafts galore at annual show

Quilter Liz View, critter house creator Jean Trott and jam, jelly and preserve maker Jodie Zoellner at the annual Highlands Own Craft Show this past weekend where the Highlands Civic Center was jammed packed with crafters from all over the southeast.

Photos by Jim Lewicki
Verizon Wireless’ HopeLine® phone recycling and reuse program donated its 80,000th refurbished phone with service to the 30th Judicial District Domestic Violence-Sexual Assault Alliance, Inc., a coalition of North Carolina agencies serving victims of domestic violence, dating violence, stalking and sexual assault. The phone will be used by a victim of abuse rebuilding her life.

“We represent a seven-county rural, mountainous region in western North Carolina. Isolation and travel barriers inherent in the region often make it very difficult for a victim of domestic violence and abuse to get help. The HopeLine program has created a lifeline for many victims,” said Denise Coleman, executive director of the 30th Judicial District Domestic Violence-Sexual Assault Alliance. “Distribution of the donated HopeLine phones through service agencies, and especially through our domestic violence programs and shelters, has made it possible for victims who didn’t have phones to retain contact with services and support and to know that help is just a phone call away. In a world of fear and violence, having a way to communicate is reassuring to victims and can, in fact, help to save their lives.”

HopeLine phones include 3,000 anytime minutes with calling features, including Call Forwarding, Call Waiting, 3-Way Calling, Caller ID and Basic Voice Mail. As with all Verizon Wireless phones, individuals can dial #HOPE to connect with the National Domestic Violence Hotline. Non-profit organizations interested in participating in the HopeLine program should use the Contact Us form available at http://about.us.vzw.com/communityservice/hopelineContactUs.html.

The generosity of consumers nationwide has enabled Verizon Wireless to provide these 80,000 phones – along with nearly $7 million in grants – to domestic violence victims and non-profit advocacy organizations nationwide that promote domestic violence prevention. Verizon Wireless collects no-longer-used phones at all Verizon Wireless Communications Stores or by mail through its HopeLine program. Since 2003, when phone recycling and reuse became key elements of HopeLine, wireless customers have donated nearly 6.5 million old phones to the program.

For additional information about HopeLine or to learn how to donate a phone using a postage-paid mailing label, visit www.verizonwireless.com/hopeline.

As of 2001, nearly 6.5 million phones have been collected, and more than 76,000 phones with 228 million minutes of service have been put into the hands of domestic violence victims. A simple act of recycling could be a lifesaver for some one in need. To donate, go to the HopeLine DVAM Information Center at www.verizonwireless.com/hopelineDVAM.