Zoning, dredging easements hot topics

A couple of months ago the United Methodist Church requested a zoning change from B3 to B1 for its property behind the church on the grounds that parking requirements in the B3 zone would eat up the property earmarked for future church expansion.

Commissioners weren’t comfortable granting the request or sending it to the Planning Board until they knew exactly what the church wanted to do with the property. At the Sept. 16 Town Board meeting, architect Jeff Wellers, representing the church, explained the church’s conceptual plans, and requested conditional-use B1 zoning rather than a straight B1 zoning designation as requested before.

Conditional-use zoning enables land owners to put projects not normally allowed in a specific zone but more importantly it allows the town to dictate stipulations.

Conditional-use zoning was first instituted in Highlands on property zoned single family next to the ball field where multi-family units have been built and again on residential property on Harris Lake.

“Conditional-use makes it a separated district and gives the town the opportunity to limit what can be built,” said Village Manager Ken Davenport.

H1N1 flu and Hudson Library topics at county meeting

The county’s health department is bracing for the flu season and for the H1N1 flu which is the culprit citizens are falling prey to now.

At the Monday night Macon County Commission meeting, members of the health department briefed the commission on the flu in the county.

“Since it’s not flu season yet, the flu cases and flu-like symptoms we’re seeing now are 98% H1N1 flu,” said Dr. Jim Villiard with the Macon County Health Department.

Jim Bruckner, director of the health department, said the CDC has stopped tracking anything but deaths and area hospitals aren’t required to report anything except hospitalizations due to H1N1 flu, which are verified by testing, but said the H1N1 – or swine flu – is in Macon County for sure.

Highlands Cashiers Hospital officials agree.

“Our emergency room is see-through,” said Village Manager Ken Davenport.

HS teachers honor their own

Each year teachers in Macon County’s 12 schools select co-workers as Teacher- and Teacher Assistant of the Year.

This year Highlands School picked Teacher Assistant Cindy Reed and high school social studies teacher and boys soccer coach, Chris Green as Teacher of the Year.

Cindy Reed is a graduate of Highlands School and has been a Teacher Assistant for 18 years – 17 of those with Great Beginnings Teacher Jane Chalker.

“This is a job I love,” said Cindy, “I feel very fortunate to be able to work with these precious children.”

Highlands School Teacher Assistant of the Year Cindy Reed and Teacher of the Year Chris Green.

Photo by Carol Bowen

Highlands’ Newspaper
Volume 7, Number 37
Thursday, Sept. 17, 2009
FREE


This Week in Highlands

Thursday, Sept. 17

• Mark Twain (Marvin Cole) at PAC at 7:30. Tickets are $15. Call 526-9047.
• Mirror Lake Improvement Association 6 p.m. at the Highlands Civic Center.
• Rabies Vaccination Clinic at the Highlands Community Building from 1-2:30 p.m. Call 706-746-2358.
• Harvest Bazaar at the Lodge of Sky Valley, in Sky Valley, GA, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. $5 (cash only) per pet.
• Highlands School Teacher Assistant of the Year Cindy Reed and Teacher of the Year Chris Green.

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Highlands School Teacher Assistant of the Year Cindy Reed and Teacher of the Year Chris Green.

Photo by Carol Bowen

This has been an astounding summer if you look at the international scene.

On Thursday, Aug. 27, veteran journalist and award-winning author of multiple books on the Middle East, spoke at the Center of Life Enrichment and gave an update on America’s linkage to the current political situations in the Iran and Afghanistan.

This is the first of a multi-part series made possible by Time Capsule Video.

This was an astounding summer if you look at the international scene.

What’s going on in Iran now and this past summer is a perfect example of the complexity of running foreign policy in the 21st century.

To fully understand the situation, we must go back to the 20th century and the cold war. Those of us who remember that period well,

• See inside page 6

• See FLU page 6

• See HONOR page 3

• See MACKAY page 18
USFS Dry Falls ‘park’ blemished

Dear Editor,

I have been a summer visitor to Highlands for over 40 years, and for the past 17 years, I have had the pleasure of owning property here. During this time, I have enjoyed visiting Dry Falls and showing my friends the beauty of this lovely area. This past week, I was able to once again head up to our property in the mountains and spend some time in my favorite place in the world. To my great delight, Dry Falls was open again, so my husband and I decided to visit the newly renovated spot. The parking lot and the viewing area from the top were fantastic – how nice that people who cannot make the stairs and steep descent can now enjoy the beautiful falls. The picnic tables were a very nice addition as well.

As I was waiting for my husband, who had ventured down to walk under the falls, a mini bus filled with teenagers pulled into the parking lot. Two of the boys made a run for the restrooms, just as quickly as they had run to the restrooms, they were running out – yelling and gagging. I thought it was just teenage antics, until my husband came up to get a paper towel to wipe the dogs feet with, and he came out of the men’s room with a look on his face that was indescribable. He started coughing and gagging and almost lost his lunch. He explained that the restrooms are no more than outhouses, without the benefit of lye to help with the odor or view. He said the holes (seats) were so large a small child could fall through. I took him at his word, as I had no desire to investigate.

My question is why would the parks department put such a thing in an area where you are only minutes from toilets that flush in Highlands. At this point, I wonder how long it will be before someone renames this lovely site to “Dry Heaves” – so if you are visiting the area, I would recommend holding it until you can reach town.

Judy Clifton Steighner
Melbourne, FL and Highlands

Zoning Board update

At the last week’s Zoning Board meeting, the board granted the SUP to Highlands Pharmacy so renovation to the bottom floor to house the pharmacy and barber shop in Wright Square can begin.

The setback variance requested by a Bowery Road owner was continued until the October meeting when proper documentation outlining property and setback lines is presented.

Kenneth Gerald Smoak

Kenneth Gerald Smoak, age 75, of Highlands, NC, died Sunday, September 13, 2009, at his residence. He was a native of Dade County, Fl, the son of the late Kelley Fulton Smoak and Effie Estelle Dooley Smoak. He was a Supervisor for a Construction Company. He was a US Navy Veteran serving during the Korean War, and a member of the Highlands American Legion. He was a member of Community Bible Church in Highlands, and started the intercessory prayer.

He is survived by his wife of 50 years, Linda Lott Smoak, a daughter, Suzanne Rowenton and her husband Kenneth of Highlands; a son, Thomas Kelly Smoak and his wife Kimberly of Melrose, Fl; five grandchildren Kenny Rowenton, Jr., Christina Leigh Mohammed, Andrew Kenneth Everson, Kenneth Christian Smoak, and Karleigh Christian Smoak; one great-grandchild, Julian Ramon Mohammed. He was preceded in death by a daughter, Lila Kay Smoak.

Funeral services will be held Saturday, September 19 at 11 am at Community Bible Church, with Rev. Gary Hewins and Rev. Walter Wilson officiating. Burial will be at Picklesimer Cemetery. The American Legion Post #108 and Franklin VFW Post #7339 will conduct complete military graveside rites.

Pallbearers will be Kenny Rowenton, Jr., Michael Gillett, Bill Vernon, Larry Smoak, Glen Smoak, and Christopher Smoak. The family will receive friends from 6-8 pm Friday evening at Bryant-Grant Funeral Home in Highlands, NC.

Memorials may be made to St. Jude’s Childrens Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105-9956. Bryant-Grant Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Online condolences may be made at www.bryantgrantfuneralhome.com.

Jean McCord Boone

Jean McCord Boone, 91, died Sept. 5, 2009 at the Fidelia Eckerd Living Center in Highlands, NC. She is survived by her son, Thomas Foster Boone, Jr., of Sawyers Bar, CA; her daughter, Martha MacMillan of Highlands; two brothers: Guyte P. McCord, Jr. of Tallahassee, FL, and James E. McCord of Dowling Park, FL; two granddaughters, Shannon E. Yaskowicz and Christal Boone Davis; one grandson, Foster B. Boone, and three great-grandchildren.

She is preceded in death by her husband, Thomas Foster Boone, a daughter, Jane Boone Eldridge, and a grandson, David Foster Eldridge.

A schoolteacher and homemaker, Jean was devoted to her family, giving heart and soul with great joy to the raising of her children. She was active in her two beloved churches, Faith Presbyterian in Tallahassee and Highlands First Presbyterian.

A fine seamstress from childhood, she completed a variety of sewing projects for her church and its missions, as well as for all her extended family. Jean was a faithful member of the Presbyterian Women and of the Seekers study group.

She was a consummate reader and enthusiastic international traveler, and throughout her life maintained an open mind and heart, ever receptive to new ideas and experiences... a genuine seeker of truth. Her warm smile and gentle, wry wit endeared her to friend and stranger alike.

A graveside service was held at Oakland Cemetery in Tallahassee on September 9. A memorial service will be held at Highlands First Presbyterian Church on Sunday, September 20 at 4 p.m. All are welcome.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Highlands First Presbyterian, the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital, or MemoryCare of Asheville, N.C.

See OBITUARIES page 3
... OBITUARIES continued from page 2

Margaret Mitchum Cole

Margaret Louise Mitchum Cole, 65, of Highlands, NC, formerly of Burke County, GA, died Sunday, September 13, 2009 in Highland-Cashiers Hospital.

Mrs. Cole a beloved mother was born August 12, 1944 to the late Dorothy Long Rushton, was a former employee of Plant Vogtle and former bookkeeper for Ped & Bailey, CPA. Mrs. Cole was a member of the Bethlehem Baptist Church.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Frederick Walter Cole, Sr.

Funeral services were at 4 pm Wednesday at the Bethlehem Baptist Church in Girard, GA, with Rev. Dan Bowen officiating. Burial followed in the church cemetery.

She is survived by her daughter, Michelle (Jody) Cole Crews of Franklin, NC; her son, Frederick W. (Mona) Cole, Jr. of Otto, NC and three grandchildren, various half brothers and sisters, and a niece and nephew.

Crowe-Fields Funeral Home of Millen, GA was in charge of arrangements.

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... HONOR continued from page 1

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Has the world gone mad?

Did the wicked witch sneak her secret potion into my well water? Have I gone mad and don’t realize it or am I completely sane and the whole world is wacky? When I was a policeman, my nickname was “Mad Dog.” Why did they call me that? Was it because I had gone mad or was it because I was more than mean to criminals? More study is needed.

I just celebrated the thirty-fourth anniversary of my thirty-ninth birthday so I’m definitely qualified to be several clicks off center. Age doesn’t necessarily bring on insanity….or does it? The world moves on, sometimes not for the better, but we geezers usually don’t like it. We get stuck in the past.

For example, I long to be seated in the driver’s seat of my 55 Olds with my girlfriend, soon to be my forever wife, snuggled next to me. She’s blowing in my ear and it’s distracting me from paying the cashier at the drive in movie. Whatever happened to forever spouses and drive in movies? Now everyone has throwaway spouses. There was a time, when people got married and, for better or worse, in sickness or good health, for richer or poorer, stayed together and toughed it out when hard times came. What happened to that? Yep, maybe I am a wacko!

And why don’t they make cars anymore where couples can snuggle next to each other in the front seat? A gear shift box has become an evil barrier between lovers. It has forced them into motels. And please put the dimmer switch back on the floor because you can’t dim your car lights with one hand on the wheel and your other arm around your girlfriend. Is this a conspiracy to purposely separate people or is it a plot by the motel industry? Or could it be my convoluted thinking?

If a man pats a girl on the fanny and she slaps him, the slap is acceptable behavior and she deserves it. But if a man pats a man on the fanny and the recipient slaps him, he’s homophobic and needs counseling. I hate going for counseling so I just put a wash rag between my teeth and endure the pat. Yikes, maybe I have gone mad.

I can’t go to the movies anymore because the movie industry has gone completely wacko. Now, people can actually fly without Cape’s. Will someone please tell me how that’s possible?

Because of widespread world news pumped into my living room 24/7, I realize there’s not an honest person with any morals left in Washington, DC. I defy you to name one. Whatever happened to statesmen? Or does anyone even know what statesmen are?

And whatever happened to the white man. I’m a white man but who cares? Unless you’re black, Asian, Hispanic or Indian, you’re a big nothing….you’re toast. If you happen to be a geezer white man, ha, you’re lower than whale dung.

Has the world forgotten about the white man’s contributions to America? It was the white man who originally came here and killed off half the Indians and snuffled the rest out of their land. I never got thanked for doing any of that. And it was the white man who brought black people to America as slaves to work for free. I never got thanked for that either. Also, it was white men who wrote the Declaration of Independence and the Bill of Rights. In there, it says all men are created equal but the writers all owned slaves. The wicked witch had definitely visited their well.

When I can’t take any more of this insanity, I head for the mountains of North Carolina to join my fellow loonies. Thousands of feet high, the world up here seems more normal….maybe not.

Each morning the TV musing and I take brisk morning walks. We pass other walkers doing the same except they’re carrying long poles. Not walking sticks, mind you, but long six-foot poles. I can only assume this is to keep bears away. Why else would anyone lug those stupid things around? You can tell when a fellow walker has had a bear encounter because their pole has been shoved up their…..well, you know. I hear the pole also keeps elephants and rhinos away.

PS - If reading this has made you….well, a little crazy, drop by the High Country News and ask Fred anything about me at fredanything@aol.com.
People can and should make their own end-of-life decisions

In recent columns, I’ve written a lot about the end of life. We have considered the dying person’s decisions, his or her choice to pursue palliative care or aggressive care. We touched on claims by terror mongers that health care legislation funds “death panels.” We’ve even suggested that at some point, we must prioritize and ration care.

I don’t believe that terminal patients should be granted or subjected to futile, aggressive, and expensive care. They key word is futility.

I asked you to consider if your enthusiasm for aggressive, end-of-life care, might be tempered if the tens or hundreds of thousands of dollars came out of your pocket or your estate. I raised a point that too often goes unrecognized, that procedure-based reimbursement creates a conflict of interest.

A patient approaches a doctor as a professional, while the fact is that he may be more a businessman than caregiver, with a motivation that differs little from a commission salesman. Do any of us think the guy in the appliance department at Sears, the Ford showroom, or the jewelry store in the mall really has our interest uppermost in his mind?

Today, we are discussing another, rarely considered, end-of-life possibility. Assisted suicide is legal in the European nations of Netherlands, Switzerland, and Belgium, and in the United States in Oregon and Washington. There is strong opposition to ending life and it evokes disgust, perhaps a result of a universal desire to survive, and perhaps conditioned by moral lessons we learned in childhood.

I hope I leave my life in such a way that when I die, I’ve left no loose ends. I hope that my affairs are in order, that those I love will be fully aware of my love. I trust that I will have forgiven those who have wronged me, and will have made amends to anyone I have injured. I will have no warning of my impending death, and I can hope for a painless, sudden demise without warning.

It is more likely that I, like many others could benefit from a little advance notice. If such is the case, I hope that I can be a source of strength and inspiration, that I can impress friends and family with my courage. I’d like to be a model for others.

Unfortunately, it is at least as likely that I will be a frightened, angry old man, who

• See SALZARULO page 13
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.

Next week, watch for our WALL OF VALUE at the front door featuring private labels and specials throughout the store.

Remember, we also have lots of healthy, organic items to pack in school lunches and to cut cravings afterschool and before dinnertime!

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

... FLU continued from page 1

ing sporadic cases of flu-like symptoms—seven in August, for example—but none have been hospitalized, hence they were not tested for H1N1 in accordance with CDC guidelines,” said Skip Taylor, community relations director with Highlands-Cashiers Hospital.

Bruckner reported 198 confirmed cases of H1N1 in North Carolina and nine deaths. “There have only been two confirmed cases—visiting in Macon County and no deaths,” he said.

The CDC and pharmaceutical companies are working overtime producing seasonal flu vaccines as well as H1N1 vaccine which are two different vaccines.

“It’s important that citizens of Macon County know that the seasonal flu vaccine will not protect them from the H1N1 flu and they will need to get both shots, when available,” said Villiard.

The health department has scheduled flu shot clinics across the county for the seasonal flu. The first one was in Nantahala last week. “We saw 130% more people come in for the flu shot this year than ever before in Nantahala,” he said. “But that one vaccine will not protect against the swine flu,” he said.

There is a seasonal flu clinic in Highlands on Tuesday, Sept. 29 from 2-6 p.m. at the Highlands Civic Center.

Bruckner said there won’t be a shortage of seasonal flu shots like in years past. “It’s a closed system because the CDC is trying to get the seasonal flu shot out first, but there’s plenty to go around and it’s comforting to know it will be here.”

The H1N1 vaccine is expected at the end of September or beginning of October.

For both types of flu, the health department is setting up flu shot clinics in each of the 12 Macon County schools to inoculate as many people in one contained place as possible. Permission forms will be sent home with students and must be signed and returned before students can receive the vaccinations.

Highlands School Principal Brian Jetter said the county has not supplied the permission forms yet, but expects them soon.

Currently, health department officials don’t know if the H1N1 vaccine will be one- or two-dose inoculation. But said all health care workers and employees in health care facilities will be required to get the vaccine.

“In the beginning, the CDC told health care workers who actually work with the ill would have to get the H1N1 shot but then they realized that clerical staff and administrators walk the same halls and touch the same doorknobs as everyone else,” said Bruckner.

Whereas the seasonal flu typically affects the elderly over 65 and the very young, 67% of the population affected by the H1N1 flu is 24 years and younger.

“They thought is that the elderly are more immune to the H1N1 strain because over the span of their life they have unknowingly been exposed to numerous and various flu strains,” said Bruckner.

When the H1N1 vaccine becomes available the first to receive it will be those in the health care business and 18-year-olds and younger, he said.

Because of rising H1N1 flu rates in the region and throughout North Carolina, Mission Hospital in Asheville is asking the public to help prevent the spread of flu within the hospital by limiting visitation. In some areas of the hospital where patients are especially vulnerable, visitation restrictions will be enforced.

Children and teens are asked not to visit the hospital at all, because of the high rates of H1N1 flu among younger people. Adult visitors should be limited to the patient’s immediate family or the patient’s designated caregiver.

People who do not feel well should not visit the hospital at all. Those who do visit are asked to use good cough etiquette—cough or sneeze into a tissue or into the elbow, NOT into the hand. Wash hands thoroughly before and after visiting the hospital.

The request also applies to pastors visiting members of their faith community except in end-of-life and critical situations, they said.

However, Taylor said Highlands-Cashiers Hospital isn’t limiting visitation to either the hospital or the Eckerd Living Center at this time.

“We are asking folks to avoid visiting if they aren’t feeling well and especially if they have flu-like symptoms and/or a fever. Signs have been posted most of the summer to that effect,” he said.

The Highlands-Cashiers Hospital will be offering a follow-up seasonal flu clinic but the Macon County Health Department will be handling all the H1N1 flu vaccinations, said Taylor.

Hudson Library

Members of the Hudson Library Board were at Monday’s meeting to solidify the relationship with the county—namely that the library board continue leasing the library property to the county for $1 a year, that the county continue footing the bill for operation and maintenance costs and that it allocate $106,250 from the fund balance to renovate the space previously occupied by The Bascom.

The current lease had run out and Attorney Lesley Moxley presented the new lease for discussion.

In addition, the board discussed the future relationship with the county which involves further expansion of the facility—by pushing out the back and adding a second floor and complete integration into the Fontana Library system. However, given the current economy, all agreed this was not the time to address future expansion.

Macon County crews will be doing the renovation work which will only cost about $34 per sq. ft. — a bargain, especially in Highlands, said commissioners.

The board agreed unanimously contingent upon the library board agreeing to the new lease.

The request also applies to pastors visiting members of their faith community except in end-of-life and critical situations, they said.

However, Taylor said Highlands-Cashiers Hospital isn’t limiting visitation to either the hospital or the Eckerd Living Center at this time.

“We are asking folks to avoid visiting if they aren’t feeling well and especially if they have flu-like symptoms and/or a fever. Signs have been posted most of the summer to that effect,” he said.

The Highlands-Cashiers Hospital will be offering a follow-up seasonal flu clinic but the Macon County Health Department will be handling all the H1N1 flu vaccinations, said Taylor.

Hudson Library

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Coach's Corner

Vengeance, real or imagined will come this Saturday

All week there has been talk of vengeance in this weekend's match-up between the Florida Gators and Tennessee Volunteers. Columnists from all walks of life around the nation and in the south have been playing up the battle between new Tennessee coach Lane Kiffin and his would-be judge, jury and executioner, Florida coach Urban Meyer.

The talking point this week is not whether or not Florida is going to beat Tennessee, but by how much, and in what fashion Kiffin will get his comeuppance. This hubbub over a game that holds little of the significance that it once did is mainly due to two things. The first mainly stems from the brashness of young Kiffin, who not only boasted that he would “Sing Rocky Top all night long at the Swamp,” but also because of his false accusations of cheating embarrassed both himself and the University of Tennessee.

The second stems from Urban Meyer's willingness to show vengeance in wins last year over both Miami and Georgia. Meyer ordered a late FG against Miami as punishment for Hurricanes boasting to the media earlier in the week. Meyer also called late timeouts in last year's blowout of the Dawgs in response to Georgia's creative celebrations the year beforehand. This once proud rivalry has been reduced to Meyer-Kiffin due to the decline of the Vols as national title contenders.

Last week Tennessee managed just one TD against UCLA, and will certainly have even more trouble against the nation's best defense. However, the real question Saturday is not the extent to which Tennessee will be defeated, but how badly, and what would constitute "victory" for the Vols? Will a score of 10-14 be considered a good thing amongst Rocky Top Nation? By playing into this "vengeance" storyline, has Kiffin actually managed to put pressure on the Gators?

How will Florida respond if they are only up by a touchdown at halftime? These are questions that will be answered on Saturday, and I will bet that I will not be the only one watching.

Chamber forms subgroup to promote Highlands

The Winter Arts and Business Group has been formed in Highlands to promote business and tourism here during the winter months.

The group of 16 local business leaders is a sub-committee of the Highlands Chamber of Commerce's business and community development committee.

Currently, the group is developing a calendar of activities highlighting the events planned by all businesses and nonprofit organizations in Highlands with the idea of marketing these events under a common umbrella to maximize awareness of the town. Event submissions are still being accepted and may be submitted to president@highlandschamber.org or mailed to the chamber marked: Attn: Business & Community Development P.O. Box 404, Highlands, NC 28741. Please include contact information on all submissions.

Once the calendar is finalized, the group plans to develop other activities that support the brand of Highlands and its arts, heritage, culture, and nature. The calendar will be provided to businesses to distribute to their own customers as well as posted on the Web site and available at the Visitor Center.

Some ideas for the upcoming holiday season include:

- Children’s Culinary Christmas with activities such as decorating gingerbread ornaments; ice skating; a sip and stroll; extended shopping hours with events and activities that encourage visitors to go to the shops and a Highlands After Dark initiative with music venues and other entertainment.

- This Holidays in Highlands calendar would then be provided to all businesses to market to their own database and audience. Because the objective of the group is to bring businesses to Highlands during all of the winter months, other events are being planned for January through April. The committee hopes to involve more members of the community by identifying ideas and activities. If any community member has an interest in contributing to specific areas such as music, culinary, heritage or the arts, this is a great opportunity to become involved in shaping these growth areas in Highlands. Those interested are asked to contact Highlands Chamber Executive Director Bob Kiefthy.
I hope everyone had a chance to get out to the Car Show this past weekend. It was spectacular with almost 100 classic cars which were over 30 years old. I remember the first car I bought was a 1950 Chevrolette coupe. I wish I still had that car. It was a beauty. Last year the car show, which was held at Kelsey-Hutchinson Park, a 1951 Chevy won the best of the show award and it was there again this year. The show raised over $3,000 for the Hudson Library last year. I do not have the numbers yet from this year but I am sure they did well in attracting a thousand or so people to Highlands.

Just a word about the threatened H1N1 flu outbreak. Thus far we have been fortunate in Macon County. I talked to an official at Western Carolina University in Jackson County where over 60 cases occurred when the students returned to school. They handled this outbreak in a way that prevented any further spread by confining the affected students to their rooms and most cases were very mild. As a physician let me just say that the best ways to keep from getting a disease like this are several very simple activities. Wash your hands thoroughly with soap and water often is the best thing you can do. If you do get fever, cough or GI symptoms, stay home and away from people to prevent spread. So far the strain has not been severe but the fear is that the virus will mutate into a much more lethal form. Taking precautions will help reduce spread and mutate. When the flu shots for H1N1 become available, get them. In the meantime, get your regular flu shots which are now available at the health department.

Let me thank the citizens who came out to the Rec Park this past week to give the town some input in which way they would like to see the Recreation center go in the future. Putting together a 10 year plan is important and we want to follow the lead of the public as to what they want. If you did not come to the meeting last Wednesday, it is not too late to let us know what you think about the activities offered at the recreation center and what you would like to see happen in the future. Call Selwyn Chalker at 526-3556 and let him know what you think. We have a great facility there and want to utilize it in the best ways possible.
Celebrating the freedom to read

The Hudson Library is celebrating the freedom to read with this display about censorship and the importance of intellectual freedom to our democracy.

The Harry Potter books have been banned from some libraries in this country because, it is alleged, the books advocate witchcraft. The author of the series, JK Rowling commented, “I have met thousands of children now, and not even one child has come up to me and said, ‘Ms. Rowling, I’m so glad I’ve read these books because now I want to be a witch.’”

Every September the American Library Association celebrates our nation’s intellectual freedom with “Banned Book Week.” The public library historically has been the institution that has safeguarded the public’s access to ideas and information.

Intellectual freedom is the right of every individual to seek information from all points of view so that any and all sides of a question, cause, or movement may be explored. An important component of the freedom to think is the right to read the free expression of others. Intellectual freedom is the basis of a democratic system.

This right to free thought is under continuous assault; every year books are challenged (in an attempt to have them removed from libraries) or banned as dangerous or offensive.

This month Hudson librarian Karen Hawk has put together a fascinating display in the library foyer, combining banned books and articles about censorship with arresting graphics.

The list of books that have been banned is long and often surprising, and includes childhood classics. The Complete Fairy Tales of the Brothers Grimm has been banned for being too violent, containing negative portrayals of women, and for being anti-Semitic. The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn, by Mark Twain, has been banned for many reasons, including for being racist. Little House on the Prairie, by Laura Ingalls Wilder, was banned in South Dakota because it contained statements deemed to be derogatory to Native Americans.

The books on display are from the Hudson Library collection, all of which have been challenged or banned in other libraries, including To Kill a Mockingbird, by Harper Lee. The Complete Works of William Shakespeare. It’s so Amazing! A Book about Eggs, Sperm, Birth, Babies, and Family, by Robie H Harris, Creationionism on Trial: Evolution and God at Little Rock, by Langdon Gilkey, and Lady Chatterley’s Lover, by DH Lawrence.

Judith Krug, the founder of Banned Book Week and a librarian, said, “Some users find materials in their local library collection to be untrue, offensive, harmful or even dangerous. But libraries are the place where information needs of all the people in the community — not just the loudest, not just the most powerful, not even the majority. Libraries serve everyone.”

The Hudson Library is celebrating 125 years of library service to the people of Highlands. On Sunday, September 27 from 2-5 pm the library trustees are throwing a birthday party and the entire community is invited. Refreshments will be served, and at 3:30 storytellers will recount some amusing and intriguing anecdotes from the Hudson Library’s past. For example, have you ever heard what was hidden behind the green curtain from the tender eyes of Highlands’ youth?

During the party there will also be recognition of the many volunteers who make both the Hudson Library and the library’s used bookstore, the Bookworm, possible.

The Hudson Library is located at 554 Main Street and is open Tuesday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information, please call the library at 526-3031.
It’s 6:30 AM Thursday morning and a bus load of us are ready to depart Statesville and head for the “Promise Land.” That would be DC. Unfortunately, the electronics in our motor coach got confused and we couldn’t go forward or backward. After a half an hour of fiddling, mysteriously, problem solved.

In the darkness of pre-dawn we set sail up I-77. Soon, it became painfully obvious that our driver, had hauled us around the country for years, was off his game. Going from shoulder to shoulder, then unsuccessfully trying to ride the center line, then nearly plowing into the rear of a well lit 18-wheeler, we exited the highway at Fancy Gap and enjoyed the hospitality and fine dining at the BP truck stop.

After an hour or so, our replacement driver found us and we were off again at 9:30. Evidently Joe, our original driver had a very negative reaction to a new medication he just started taking and didn’t realize that he was impaired. 50 folks on the bus had no problem reaching that conclusion. The rain stopped, the fog cleared and we had clear sailing.

We arrived in DC in mid-afternoon in time to perform our initial purpose, that was, to disburse to various congresspersons’ offices for scheduled appointments. A group of us had a little time to spare, so we dropped in on a friend, a Congressman from Georgia who welcomed us into his office. During our conversation with him, we learned that Speaker Pelosi told House members to leave town early irrespective of scheduled appointments.

It came time for our 4:30 visit to Rep. Shuler, an appointment that had been confirmed the previous day. We arrived at his office to find he had left town a few hours before. His staff person really didn’t make any excuses for him but claimed she had called the guy coordinating the trip to move the meeting up. A review of his Blackberry showed no attempt to reach him.

Very shortly thereafter TV reporting was interrupted by breaking news of a Coast Guard fracas on the Potomac very near the Pentagon where Obama appeared to speak. It was pouring. It poured on him as he spoke, uncovered in any way, getting soaked to the bone. No raincoat, nothing. Speech over, one would have thought he and Michelle would head for cover. Instead, they spent several minutes shaking hands with the assembled, looking like drowned rats.

Plans, especially when you are plowing new ground, often go awry, sometimes in a good way. Shortly after 10:00, Freedom Plaza could hold no more. People were spill-
Birth of a new political party

by John Armor

The last time a new American political party came into being, one strong enough to elect a President, was in 1854. As you have guessed, that was the Republican Party. Its first elected President was Abraham Lincoln in 1860.

Many third party and independent campaigns have been mounted since then. The Progressive Party around 1900 managed to elect Governors and majorities in the legislature of several states. Their high water mark was in 1912, when former President Teddy Roosevelt chose that Party as his vehicle to run again when the Republicans declined to nominate him, again. (No, there never was a “Bull Moose Party.” Don’t send letters and postcards claiming that there was.)

What is the relevance of this ancient history to the off-year, congressional election in 2010? Well, take a look at that history and see what seems familiar.

The Republican Party began with a meeting in Ripon, Wisconsin, in 1854. Present were members of the Free Soil Party (favoring continued homesteading rights) and Conscience Whigs (northern Whigs separated from their southern members over slavery). The meeting was led by a disgruntled Democrat (who also split with his Party on slavery). Remar...
Highlands fight hard for victory

Last week the Highlands Men’s soccer team split a pair of games as they finished up their non-conference schedule before heading into conference play.

Saturday, the Highlanders dropped a tough game 3-0 to non-conference foe Rabun Gap here in Highlands. Monday, the Highlanders began conference play by traveling to Hayesville to face the Yellow Jackets.

Hayesville is a much improved team and played a great game, giving a young Highlands team all they could handle.

The Highlanders were down 1-0 at the half but showed signs of a maturing team in the second half.

Michael Shearl came up big with a great goal off a free kick to tie the game in the first five minutes of the second half. A few minutes later Tyler Converse gave Highlands the lead. After a great start to the second half, the young Highlanders showed some fatigue and Hayesville was able to capitalize off a free kick. The game went into overtime and our captain Will Mathiowdis came up big under pressure and scored on a penalty kick to give Highlands a 3-2 victory.

Highlanders coach Chris Green was very happy with the effort, but stressed that there was still room for improvement.

“We have to do a better job defending set plays,” said Green, but “we won a tough fought game and I hope this will be the beginning of a great conference season.”

The Highlanders take to the road Friday to play Madison County, and will return home next Monday to face conference rival Murphy.

Stephanie Puchaz comes up with a dig last week. Highlands Varsity volleyball won two back-to-back matches Wednesday and Thursday night against Rabun County and Blue Ridge. For volleyball team shots see pages 16-17.

Photo by Stephanie McCall
finds it impossible to deal with his pain in a dignified manner, one who blubbers like a baby and rails at his caregivers. If that is the case, I can see no reason to hang around as a burden and an embarrassment.

Once I've lost the struggle to maintain my dignity, I'd like to choose my time to die. I don't understand why it's anybody's business.

The usual argument is that murder is murder, without exception, and that God chooses the time we die. My understanding of history is that God has been delegating the duty of death for millennia. The story of Joshua's victory at Jericho offers an example.

God, apparently a structural engineer with a special interest in harmonics, instructed Joshua's priests to blow their ram horns. The city walls came tumbling down and Joshua's army scaled the rubble to kill every man, woman, and child in the city, with the exception of a treacherous prostitute who housed spies of the Israelites.

We need not look so far back. Throughout history, governments and religions have declared themselves instruments of God's will in the practice of mass murder. In the 21st century radical Muslims are still killing for God, and let's not forget that President Bush referred to our Crusade in the Middle East.

It is time to reconsider the taboo against assisted suicide. Even where it is legal, few people exercise the option, but the option exists. I fail to understand society's interest in keeping alive people with terminal illness and who wish to hasten their death. Legislative safeguards can protect the innocent and the infirmed.

We need not fear that a law permitting assisted suicide with strict limits would lead to the kind of abuses seen in Nazi Germany. The “foot in the door” is a weak argument. It's 37 years since the Supreme Court of the United States decided Roe v. Wade, and we're still not killing deformed babies. It's time to acknowledge that every one of us will die, and under certain circumstances, it's not a bad idea to speed the process. Whose life is it anyway?
Hospital sees biggest revenue month ever, on pace to regain previous footing

Thanks to a major jump in surgeries, endoscopies, and other outpatient procedures, Highlands-Cashiers Hospital saw its largest single month of gross revenue ever this past July. That further boosted efforts to slash last year’s multi-million dollar operating deficit and return the hospital to relative financial stability.

“July was a milestone month for us in many ways,” said hospital President and CEO Ken Shull. “That not only resulted in a net profit larger than we had budgeted for, it was even large enough to cover depreciation costs for the month — something we don’t see very often at this hospital.”

The month, which generated nearly $2.8 million revenue before contractual and other expenses, saw a 52 percent increase in the number of overall surgeries, an all-time record for the number of endoscopies performed here in a single month by one physician,” said hospital President and CEO Ken Shull. “That not only resulted in a net profit larger than we had budgeted for, it was even large enough to cover depreciation costs for the month — something we don’t see very often at this hospital.”

The month, which generated nearly $2.8 million revenue before contractual and other expenses, saw a 52 percent increase in the number of overall surgeries, an all-time record for the number of endoscopies performed in a single month (96), and big jumps in the number of laboratory, radiology (up 25 percent) and respiratory procedures (plus 40 percent). All that and smaller increases in utilization of hospital services almost across the board led to a net profit of nearly $300,000 for the month (before depreciation).

Even before July’s figures the hospital was having a much better year financially than in the previous several years, when the loss of its general surgeon and gastroenterologist significantly reduced revenues. The hospital lost a record $3.4 million in the last fiscal year, before figuring in any depreciation costs.

The budget this fiscal year (which ends Sept. 30), slashed that deficit by more than half, and the hospital is on a pace to do even better than the $1.5 million loss it projected.

“With only a couple of months left in the fiscal year, we are currently forecasting the deficit to be between $1.2 and 1.3 million before depreciation,” said hospital CFO Mike Daiken. “Even our auditors have been impressed at how far we’ve come in just one year.”

If that forecast holds, the hospital’s operational annual loss will be virtually what it was back in 2005.

“Ken and his administrative team, with the help of our managers, and staff, have made remarkable progress in reducing the hospital’s operating deficit by holding down costs and thanks to the reestablishment of general surgery and gastroenterology services,” observed Bud Smith, chairman of the hospital’s board of directors. “One of the hospital’s top priorities two years ago was to recruit a general surgeon and a gastroenterologist who matched or exceeded the caliber of the physicians who left, and we did that. Now that investment is paying off, not only in the hospital’s bottom line, but also in the quality of care and the feedback we get from patients each and every day.”

“We are all certainly proud of the progress we have made this year, but we also understand there’s still more work to do,” said Shull. “We would like to reduce the operational deficit still further and the proposed budget for next year will do just that. However, it is equally critical that everyone out in
Citizens get tour of the hospital’s radiology department including the nuclear medicine camera.

‘Grand Rounds’ tours on-going at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital

The Highlands-Cashiers Hospital Foundation kicked off a series of “Grand Rounds” Tours Sept. 9. Open to the public, the morning sessions begin at 7:30 a.m. and include a complimentary breakfast. In addition to getting a real-world look at hospital facilities, the events provide participants with an opportunity to meet and chat with some of the hospital’s many physicians before touring the facility.

Above hospital Director of Community Relations Skip Taylor and Alex Lane CNMT, RT (R.N.), of the hospital’s radiology department show participants the nuclear medicine camera. “The tours offer excellent insight to our hospital.”

The aim of the “Grand Rounds” idea is for people to understand who we are and what we are about,” said Robin Tindall-Taylor. “People can better understand the scope of what is involved in patient care from the perspective of relaxed discussion and an insightful tour rather than from the perspective of a patient, when you’re preoccupied with the dilemma of your own illness.” Reaction to the first event was very positive: “I especially liked hearing the doctor’s perspective of the hospital,” said Emily Adkins, one of the grand rounds participants. “It was interesting to understand and appreciate how doctors interact with each other, as well as about their relationship with larger institutions when it is necessary to transfer patients for more specialized care.”

Other tours are scheduled on Sept. 18, Oct. 6 and 15. For more information about the Grand Rounds Tour series please call 526-1434.

... HOSPITAL continued from page 14

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... HOSPITAL continued from page 14

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Shull said that’s because the hospital serves an area with a very seasonal population and one that is predominately covered by Medicare. “There are simply not enough year-round people who are covered by private insurance plans for a small rural hospital such as ours to ever succeed financially based on patient revenue alone. We are always going to be dependent on donations to purchase capital equipment, replace facilities, and even to cover operations unless the current reimbursement system changes radically.”

“Our communities have an incredibly strong tradition of philanthropic support for their local hospital, at all levels, and we can all be very thankful for that,” said Robin Tindall-Taylor, executive director of the hospital’s foundation. “With the challenges we face here as a small critical access hospital, the MasterKey program, in which donors contribute $1,000 annually, is vital to continuing the programs, services and equipment we need to provide great medical care.”

While we’re fortunate that many people here recognize the importance of maintaining a strong community hospital, we need to renew and build on that enthusiasm to generate new donations,” she added. “We hope that others, particularly new residents to the area, will come to see how important it is to their own health and to that of the community as a whole, to have an outstanding hospital close by.”

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Highlands School
Girls Varsity Volleyball Team

Coaches Kyle and Caroline McKim and Lindsay Gearhart with the Varsity Team: Taylor Buras, Stephanie Puchaz, Sarah Power, Shelby Johnson, Jenny Coram, Marlee McCall, Brie Schmitt, and Courtney Rogers.

Elizabeth Gordon - JV
Jessica Gagne - JV
Katlin Lewis - JV
Marlee McCall - V
Sarah Power - V
Jenny Coram - V & JV
Sayne Cruz
Shelby Johnson - V
Stephanie Puchaz - V
Taylor Buras - V
Highlands School Girls JV Volleyball Team

With Coaches Kyle and Caroline McKim, and Lindsay Gearhart, the JV team: Katlin Lewis, Elizabeth Gordon, Jessica Gagne, Hayden Bates, Elizabeth Strawn, Elizabeth Coram, and Sayne Cruz

Photos by Stephanie McCall

The next three games are home games in the Highlands School new gym. Sept. 22 against Cherokee, Oct. 1 against Swain and Oct 5 against Blue Ridge.
... MACKEY continued from page 1

... think of it as so tidy. You had two super power players, they drew their lines in the sand, there were charts to see exactly how each team was doing, the number of nuclear weapons, the number of missiles and their throw weight, how many tanks in were in Europe and so on. Basically, the citizens of the US and USSR were left to pray that the threat of nuclear destruction would keep either government from doing anything rash.

Well, today we are faced with a whole new world and a whole bunch of other challenges, not that nuclear annihilation wasn’t a threat. But now there are these various centers of power around the world, competing with each other in this era of globalization, economic integration, competition for energy and of course, nuclear proliferation.

In addition, we have the problem of non-state players like Al-Qaeda and its ideological rivals who don’t operate within a state framework so that makes them very difficult to deal with. You literally don’t know what their address is or who’s going to hold them accountable for their actions. So that is very, very difficult.

You also have drug networks that are growing more and more powerful and in some areas operate law unto themselves in Afghanistan.

There is also a great danger from failed states — an area which has geographic borders but where no one is in charge. And the first that comes to mind is Somalia. In a sense, Afghanistan prior to 2001 was also a failed state from the standpoint that there was no one there who could exercise control. We’re also keeping an eye on Yemen. This is a new phenomenon that the world is facing and it’s a problem for us and the Russians who have the Chechyna, and the Chinese who have the Wegers, both areas that are trying to break away from those countries. And if they can, do they actually operate as a state?

There is no better example of how complex the successful execution of foreign policy is in this new age than Iran. So, I’m going to take you through what’s going on in Iran and what the best American response.

The US sees a number of threats from Iran. It has an implacable enmity of the US since 1979 and from the Iranian viewpoint, we have been an implacable enemy of the Islamic Republic, which is a fair assessment.

We are concerned about the present administration in Iran under Mahmoud Ahmadinejad that has been visibly trying to export the Islamic Revolution into the Arab World through Hasbahal in Lebanon and Hamas in Gaza.

We have seen since 2003 with American involvement in Iraq, Iran’s ability to frustrate US goals in that country. They are exercising influence in central Asia which is a concern of the US because you have all these new gas lines running out of central Asia to the Mediterranean port and of course the potential for Iran to develop nuclear weapons.

Let me talk a bit about the nuclear problem. This is something we hear about in the news everyday. What is Iran’s nuclear program? They claim they are developing nuclear power for peaceful uses, which they have the right to do under the non proliferation treaty. With that treaty, they undergo IAEA inspections, but there is evidence they are ultimately going toward a nuclear program from which they can derive nuclear weapons.

The problem for us is, that if they continue in that direction, we really don’t have a military option to stop that, nor does anyone else. And that’s something we just have to accept.

Air strikes against Iran are out because the nuclear facilities are geographically scattered and they’re buried in two mountain ranges, the Zagros and Elburz, which are not nice rolling mountains but instead very big mountains. Going over a huge mountain range and blowing it to smithereens just to reach a reactor is just not technologically very promising.

Invasion and occupation of Iran is out because Iran is a nation of 70 million people and the country is 636,000 sq. miles. This is a big country.

Iraq has 28 million people and 433,000 sq. miles and we have seen what a problem that has been for us. But the most important deterrent to military action is that the entire Iranian population is connected metaphorically by an intense sense of nationalism and the sacred soul of Iran. One military move on Iran unites the entire population.

We saw that phenomenon in 1980 when Saddam Hussein invaded Iran for the purpose of upsetting the Iranian revolution before it washed over into Iraq. And in that period in which you had the majority opposed to a clerical regime, you suddenly had everyone united behind Kolmendi as the symbol of Iranian nationalism. It was under Kolmendi that the Iranians endured eighty years of very, very bloody civil war during which they sustained one million casualties. So we are talking about psychological factors that have real meaning in political terms and in power terms.

Next week we will discuss what America can do under these circumstances.
The need for dredging is due to long-term, natural sedimentation. Due to sedimentation, the area around the town's drinking water intake apparatus has become too shallow. The shallow water impacts the quality and quantity of potable water that the treatment plant produces for Highlands' citizens.

Turbidity is one by-product of sedimentation which increases the cost of maintenance and causes the premature replacement of pumps. DENR and the Army Corps of Engineers have determined that the original streambed of the creek needs to be restored to its original location and that the island formed by recent hurricane which is impeding the channel be removed.

The proposed method for sediment removal is via a suction dredge which will enter the lake from town property and navigate to the Big Creek Arm where it will remove the sediment without contacting citizens' property on dry land.

"The only part of citizens' property which extends into the creek will be underwater as it portion touched in the procedure," said Coward. The sediment will be removed off-site.

When the dredging begins depends on funding, permits, easements and the bidding process, but the town has its required 100% local match.

To be eligible for funding, all necessary permits from appropriate agencies along with plans, contract documents, and easements must be in hand.

The problem is getting the easements from the property owners. The town is requesting permanent easements so it can do the work again if necessary, even if 30 years from now without having to ask property owners again.

At Wednesday night's Q&A concerning the project, property owners said they only want to give the town temporary easements. Coward didn't know if temporary easements would be allowed, but the board instructed Town Manager Jim Fatland to discuss that with the Army Corps of Engineers.

For a full discussion, it was agreed that five have said yes to the permanent easement and of another 14 asked, 13 said yes to a temporary easement if that was put on the table. Commissioner Larry Rogers said dredging the Big Creek Arm would make property along the creek more valuable. Property owners agreed, but wouldn't budge concerning the type of easement.

They are also concerned about Randall Lake upstream, whose sediment build-up was unleashed into Big Creek 10 years ago. It's a private lake and the town's only authority is that outlined in an Impoundment Ordinance which requires owners of lakes to disclose when and how their lakes will be drained for cleaning or dam repair so property owners downstream won't be surprised or affected as in the past.

The owner of the lake told Town Engineer Lamar Nix he would like it if the town cleaned the lake and repaired the ailing dam – a project estimated to cost $1 million.

Commissioner Patterson suggested moving ahead with temporary easements with property owners. "This way we're ready to get the money when allocated and we can work toward the Randall Lake project later instead of approaching it all at once," she said.

However, since dealing with Randall Lake would offer protection of the town's water source, and satisfy the Big Creek property owners at the same time, Fatland suggested bundling the projects -- the $2 million for dredging of the Big Creek Arm and the $1 million to clean and stabilize the Randall Lake impoundment -- and requesting funding for both projects.

The board requested him to discuss the bundling and temporary easement versus permanent easements with the Corps and also asked Coward to work up temporary easement requests just in case.

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"Everything for your Nest"®

...and more including furniture, accessories, art and gifts.

Hours: 10-5 Thursday-Monday; Sunday 10-4; Closed Tues. & Wed. • Cashiers Road about one mile from town. • 526-5551
**HELP WANTED**

**LINE COOK AND WAIT STAFF** needed. Highlands Bistro on Main drug-free rest 828-526-2580. st. 8/27

**LICENSED COSMETOLOGIST NEEDED** inquire by phone 828-526-3939.

**CNA I** needed at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital in the Acute Department. Full-time and PRN positions available. Excellent tips for an increase in pay, available after 60 days of full-time employment. We are now offering part-time employees, working at least 24 hours a week, medical insurance. Pre-employment screening required. Call Human Resources at 828-526-1376 or apply online at www.hchospital.org.

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

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

**YARD SALE**

**SATURDAY, AUG. 22** – 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. 174 Dolly Lane, Highlands. Mirror Lake Area.

**YARD SALE**

**DAILY** – Basement of Highlands Pharmacy at 238 Helen’s Barn Ave. 9 a.m. until. Tools, lumber and household items.

**RESIDENTIAL FOR SALE**

**2.03 +/- ACRES WITH A CREEK AND MOUNTAIN VIEW POTENTIAL**. Minutes from downtown Highlands and close to hiking and waterfalls! Call to listen to recorded property details: 1-800-526-1648 ext. 1248. Offered by Mary Abanyi of Green Mountain Realty Group. 9/17

**3BR/2BA LAKEFRONT HOME ON 97 +/- ACRE**. Only 2 miles from main street and totally remodeled down to the plumbing and wiring. Call to listen to recorded property details: 1-800-526-1648 ext. 1268. Offered by Janet Chestier of Green Mountain Realty Group. 9/17

**FOR SALE BY OWNER** – 6.28 acres, just off Buck Creek Road. Backed by USFS land. Great View. 826-9388. Leave message. 9/24

**FIVE BEDROOM, 4 1/2 BATH HOUSE**

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

**PATIO APARTMENT** – 1 queen-sized bedroom, 1 bath, all utilities included except phone. $650 a month. Call 526-2651. St. 9/3

**REAL ESTATE**

**FIVE BEDROOM, 4 1/2 BA – BASEMENT OF HIGHLANDS PHARMACY** at 238 Helen’s Barn Ave. 9 a.m. until. Tools, lumber and household items.

**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

**BEAUTIFUL 5 BEDROOM, 4 bath home in Wildwood. View at www.infoTube.net #215385 (st. 8/13)**

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

**RESIDENTIAL FOR RENT**

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

**PATIO APARTMENT** – 1 queen-sized bedroom, 1 bath, all utilities included except phone. $650 a month. Call 526-2651. St. 9/3

**HINGHAM MOUNTAIN CLUB CONDO** – 2 bdrm, 2 bath, next to Highlands Country Club, Central Heat/A/C, gas logs, hardwood floors, high speed internet, cable TV, fully furnished. Deck and screened porch. In city limits. Amenities include heated pool, tennis courts, road and entrance snow removal. Adults only. $875 per month includes utilities. Call for details. 828-200-0766

**COTTAGE APARTMENT** – Turn-key furnished. 1 queen bed, 1 bath, 2 TVs. Freshly painted. Near town. All utilities included. $700 a month, plus security. Call 526-1566. (St. 9/3)

**YEAR-ROUND HOUSE NEAR GLENN 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

**HOUSE FOR RENT** – Near Post Office. 2 bed/1 bath, central H/A, hardwood floors, fireplace, deck, basement, W/D, nice yard. No smoking. $850/month plus utilities. Call 526-4073.

**APARTMENT FOR RENT** – newly furnished one bedroom. 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 Carpet; $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)

**OPEN HOUSE LEASE/SALE**

**CREESIDE** – 3 bd 2 1/2 bth; hot tub; Sat/Sun 12-5pm, owners.com APA 2879; TWM 2568, 828 526 2759 (9/17)

**IN TOWN** – 1.500 sq. ft. 2 bed/2 bath, beautifully furnished apartment. Vaulted ceiling, AC, W/D. No pets. No smoking. $1,000 per month plus utilities. Call 828-526-5451 or 828-526-2729. (st. 7/12)

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

**GREAT 2 BEDROOM/1BATH APARTMENT** – Main Street, Highlands includes 9-foot ceilings, central heat & air, balcony, large laundry room with washer/dryer. $900 per month plus utilities. Lease and references required. Contact John Dotson 526-5687. (st. 5/21)

**HOUSE FOR RENT ON MIRROR LAKE** – 3 bed/3 ba, with W/D, central h/a, deck. $1,100 per month plus utilities. Security deposit required, yearly lease, no
smoking. 828-526-4073.

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


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

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

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. First month lease $1200+ utilities. Call 828-526-8645 e-mail: chestnutcottages@yahoo.com.

COMMERCIAL FOR RENT – 1080 sq. ft. divided into four rooms $17 weekly $17 weekly.

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)

2,300+ SQ. FT. OF OFFICE/RETAIL AVAILABLE for lease or rent to own. Excellent visibility! Location is 2271 Dillard Road. Asking $1,250 per month. 526-8953.

VACATION RENTAL

3BR, 2BA CABIN – Spectacular valley views available for rent in September and October. Near Glen Falls. $1,000 per week. Call 404-234-2830. 10/28


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 w/ 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.homesaway.com #23644 $800 per week. (912) 354-6917.

HIGHLANDS COUNTRY CLUB – Sor- ry, 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

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.

4-PIECE BEDROOM SET – Country Cottage. Solid Oak by Stanley. 9-drawer dresser with free standing winged-top mirror, night stand, queen bed with head and foot boards. Like new. Must see. $700. Call 526-3752. 9/17

MAYTAG W/D – EXCELLENT CONDITION. WHITE. $499. CALL 526-2710.

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.


COLLAPSIBLE LADDER – $270. Call 526-5025.

COLEMAN 5000 ER ELECTRONIC GARAGE DOOR – $500. Call 526-5025. st. 8/13


GM TRAILBLAZER CARGO ORGANIZER. Asking $100. Call 349-4930.

TWO AMANA WINDOW AIRCONDITIONERS. One Fan & Temperature Control. One Vent Control. Best Offer. Been in storage. 349-4930.st. 8/6

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

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

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

MARY KAY – 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

40-PIECE STONEWARE DINNER SET – See CLASSIFIEDS page 22
**CLASSIFIEDS**


**HOME WATCH. PLUS** – I’ll take care of your property while you’re away. Local and with references. Call 828-526-4184. (9/24)

**THE HIGHLANDS HANDYMAN** – Anything and everything. Call a neighbor. Call mark at 526-0031. 9/24

**MARK’S SEDAN SERVICE** – Airport Transportation, Easy Pickup Procedures. Call 828-524-2149 or cell at 239-392-3623. MC/Visa, AMEX, Cash, Check.

**WINTERIZATION AND PEACE OF MIND** – Call The Highlands Handyman. Call a Neighbor at 526-0031. 9/24

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

**CLOCK REPAIR** – Antique or modern, complicated antique clocks are my specialty. Experienced, dependable and courteous with housecalls 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! Housesetting 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 828-342-1603. 8/27

**HANDYMAN SPECIAL** – Repairs and Remodeling, Electrical and Plumbing, Carpentry and more. Low prices. For free estimate call 828-342-7864.

**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.


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**Vehicles for Sale**

- **$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. Great condition $125 369-5863.

**EPiphone 6 String Acoustic Guitar** with hard case. Great 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.

**Appliances**; white Whirlpool electric stove, like new, $200, white Frigidaire dishwasher $100 very good condition. 349-6402.


**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 spoons 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. $395. Also, accessory pieces available. Call 828-524-3614.


**Colonial Glass** – set of 12 Sherbet Goblets, and dessert plates. $35. Call 526-4063.

**Two Electric Water Coolers** for sale. Approximately 35” tall x 12” square. Put bottled water on top. $50 each. OBO. Call 526-3262

**Lenox Spice Jars**. full set mint condition, original price $45 each. Also jewelry call 369-0498. 7-9 p.m.

**2002 Mazda ES 626** Luxury leather and economy 30mpg. Low miles 58k, auto, alloy wheels, moon roof, all power, $7,800 please call 526-2780. (st. 8/13)

**1997 Nissan Pick Up.** – 5 speed. 140,000 K, 4-cyl., Great on gas! $1,500. Call 526-4741.

**2004 Ford Expedition XLT**. Olive green, beige leather, 72,000 miles. Excellent condition, V-8 5.4 liter. $13,500. Call 828-526-4707.

**Cadillac Deville 2002** – Silver, 85,300 miles. One owner, garageed. $8,950. See at 150 Shelby Circle, Highlands. 787-2310. (St. 7/9)


**Services**

**Clock Repair** – Antique or modern, complicated antique clocks are my specialty. Experienced, dependable and courteous with housecalls 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! Housesetting 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 828-342-1603. 8/27

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**Landscape Cleanup** – leaves, gutters and more. Call Juan at 200-9249 or 526-8525.

**Firewood** “Nature Dried” Call 526-2251.

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**Deluxe, Indoor Climate Controlled Self Storage With covered loading zone**

- **Units Available.** Highlands Storage Village • 828-526-4555 Cashiers Road

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**Patty Hearst is arrested after a year on the FBI Most Wanted List**

I'm not sure if she was the worst, young Miss Patricia Hearst. How did she get involved in these capers, this heireess to all those newspapers. W hat did they say to fob this idea of pulling off a bank job? By the way, who are the Symbionese? Tell me, where is Sybma, if you please. Anyway, her career as a criminal was arrestedas the FBI attested.

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**from the history guy.... On the day Sept. 18, 1975**
UPCOMING EVENTS

Week Long
• YOGA - all levels all week, schedule posted on Moonrise Yoga, 464 Carolina Way. 828-526-8880
  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 828-526-1PT.

Sundays
• Old-fashioned hymn-singing at the Little Church in the Wildwood at 7-8 p.m. Memorial Day weekend throughLabor Day weekend. For more information call Kay Ward at 743-5009.
• Refuge Youth meets every Sun. night at 6:30 p.m. downstairs at Cullasaja Assembly of God. If you are in grades 6th-12th then this is the place to be! The church is located at 6201 Highlands Rd. next to Exxon. For more info call youth ministers Matt and Candace Woodroof at 828-369-7540 ext 203.
  • Hal Phillips on piano at Skyline Lodge and Restaurant on Flat Mountain Road during the Champagne Brunch 12-2pm.
  • Yoga On The Mat. New location. The Episcopal Church of Incarnation on Main Street. Enter through single door facing Mountain Fresh. MW @ 7:30 a.m.; Thurs. @10:45 a.m. Bring your mat. 828-482-2128
  10/29.
  • Mon., Wed., Fri.
    • Step Aerobics with Tina Rogers at the Rec Park, 8-9 a.m. $10 per class or $50 a month.
  • First Mondays
    • Participate in your hospital by joining the Auxiliary of the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. Auxiliary meetings are held the first Monday of each month at 10 a.m. at the hospital.
  • Mondays
    • Closed AA meeting, 8 p.m. at the Episcopal Church at Fifth and Main streets.
  • Tuesdays
    • Clogging Lessons at the Rec Park, 5 p.m. Leather shoes recommended and tap shoes can be ordered. For more information, call Joyce Doerter at 877-6618. $30/mth. 9/26
  • 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, 12:30-1:30, Thursdays, 8-9 a.m. and 1 p.m. Thursdays at Cashiers Rec Park. Call Mary K. Barbour at 828-342-2498. 9/26

See EVENTS page 24
OLD FASHION
SOUTHERN BBQ &
DEMOCRATIC RALLY

September 26th
5pm to 7pm

TAKE IT OUT OR EAT ON PREMISES

PULLED PORK BBQ BRUNSWICK STEW w/COLE SLAW, SWEET PICKLES, & HOMEMADE COBBLER $12

Blackberry Hill
U.S. 64 east across from the Community Center

LIVE MUSIC & MEET YOUR REPRESENTATIVES

Honorable Sen. John Snow will listen to your state concerns
Commissioner Ronnie Beale and Commissioner Bobby Kuppers will listen to your county concerns
Sponsored by the Democratic Party of Highlands

The Highlands Cashiers Players are kicking off their 15th Season with a revival of A.R. Gurney’s The Dining Room. Kathryn Cochran and Kirk Howard will direct the play. The Production Coordinator is Ronmie Sipliton. The play will be performed at the Martin - Lipscomb Performing Arts Center October 15 – 18 and 22 – 25.

A delightful and charming play, the Dining Room was first staged by HCP in Highlands in 1997 and cast members Stuart Armor and Donna Cochran, as well as director Kathryn Cochran were in the original production twelve years ago.

The play is set in the dining room of a typical well-to-do household, the place where the family assembled daily for breakfast and dinner and for any and all special occasions. The action is comprised of a mosaic of related scenes - some funny, some touching, some Russell - which, taken together, create an in-depth portrait of the American upper-middle class. Dumping swiftly and smoothly, the varied scenes coalesce ultimately, into a theatrical experience of exceptional range, compassionate humor and abundant humanity.

A first for both HCP and the Martin - Lipscomb Performing Arts Center, this production will make use of a “thrust stage” built out from the present stage into the PAC auditorium with the audience seated on three sides. In this more intimate setting, the audience will have the feel of being seated at the dining room table. The Dining Room is sponsored in part by Buck’s Coffeeshop and Mirror Lake Antiques.

For more information on the Highlands Cashiers Players 2009 – 2010 season visit our website www.highlandscommunityplayers.org or call Mary Adair Leslie at Summit One Gallery, Tuesdays thru Saturdays, 828-526-2673, 10:00 to 5:00.
Local historians pen book

Highlands is not just home to cool mountain breezes, breathtaking views and world-class shopping and restaurants — it also boasts a rich and vibrant history.

What started as the dream of two developers in 1875 has grown from a tiny hamlet into a beloved home and home-away-from-home for many. Join sixth-generation Highlands native Isabel Hall Chambers and her husband, Overton Chambers, as they share charming tales of old Highlands, from lazy summer days playing “town ball” to ice-skating and celebrating Christmas in Remembering Highlands: From Pioneer Village to Mountain Retreat.

Woven into this collection of articles from the Laurel magazine are true stories of some of the area’s grand old homes, its traditions and an array of interesting residents and visitors through the years, as told by fathers and grandfathers, old postcards, letters, deeds and even tombstones. Everyone who loves this unique mountain community will delight in Remembering Highlands.

Isabel Hall Chambers, a Brenau graduate, is a sixth-generation native of this area and a Norton descendant through her father, Tudor Norton Hall, and grandmother, Meta Norton Frost Hall. Her memories of her family, knowledge of family history and growing up in Highlands are the basis for many of these stories. She is a founding member and the first president of the Highlands Historical Society. In addition, she was recently appointed historical archivist for the Episcopal Church of the Incarnation. This, along with her interest and knowledge of Highlands’ history, has caused her to be sought out by visitors looking up their roots. She is a storyteller and enjoys other storytellers.

Overton “Tony” Chambers was born in Chicago and Isabel’s husband. He came to Highlands with his family in 1936, and a year later they built a summer home in Highlands. At Dartmouth College, he majored in English. He and Isabel and their three sons returned to Highlands in 1972. He is a member of the North Carolina Writer’s Network and published his first novel in 2005. His interests are writing, genealogy and history. Meet the authors in Highlands Saturday, Sept. 19 from 1-3 at Cyrano’s Bookshop, 390 Main Street; Friday, Sept. 25 from 2-4 at the Hudson Library, 554 Main Street; and Saturday, Sept. 26 from 1-3 at the Highlands Historical Society on 520 N. 4th Street.

Upcoming Events


Thursday, Sept. 17
• Mark Twain (Marvin Cole) will perform at the Performing Arts Center on Chestnut Street in Highlands at 7:30. Tickets are $15, and may be reserved at 828-526-9047. 9/17
• PTO General Dinner-Meeting in the school cafeteria Thursday to coincide with the annual school Book Fair. A fundraiser dinner to benefit the basketball team begins at 5 p.m. with the meeting at 6 p.m. this way people can keep eating during the meeting. There will be a drawing for a $50 gift certificate at the Book Fair. The winning class during “class count” will receive a $100 for their teacher/classroom.
• Taize service at the Holy Family Lutheran Church at 5:30 p.m.
• The Thursday Library Movie Matinee is “Confessions of a Shopaholic” which will be shown at 3 p.m. in the Library Meeting Room. The series is hosted by the Friends of the Albert Carlton – Cashiers Community Library. This romantic comedy, released only six months ago, is the story of a college grad who lands a job as a financial journalist to support her shopping addiction and falls for a wealthy entrepreneur. It is based on the book by Sophie Kinsella. The movie and popcorn are free, but donations are appreciated. Movies are among the many services provided to the community by the Friends of the Library.
• Southern Living at Home products line, is hosting a fundraiser to benefit the New Jackson County Library. From 3 – 7 p.m., at the United Community Bank meeting room located at 1640 East Main Street in Sylva. All profits from the sales of these products to help furnish the new Jackson County Public Library Complex. If you have any questions about this fundraiser, please call Dale Cate at home 631-3860.
• Grand-Rounds Highlands-Cashiers Hospital Tour. Open to the public, the morning sessions begin at 7:30 a.m. and include a complimentary breakfast. In addition to getting an in-depth look at hospital facilities, the events provide participants with a chance to meet and chat with some of the hospital’s many physicians before touring the facility. For more information about the Grand Rounds Tour series please call 526-1434.
• Clear Creek Baptist Church Fellowship Hall Fundraiser at the Highlands Community Building (next to the ballpark) from 8 a.m. until. Featuring a HUGE yard sale, lemonade stand and bake sale. At 4 p.m. it’s a hamburger/hot dog dinner for $5 per plate. 4 p.m. rain or shine with hairstylist Lacy Jane Villardo, live music with Oliver Rice and The Blue ridge Mountain Band and duration.

Upcoming Book Signings

Sept. 19
Overton & Isabel Chambers
Remembering Highlands
1-3 pm

Cyrano’s Bookshop
526-5488 • Main Street
e-mail: cyranos@ntcv.com

Wolfgang and Mindy Green
Of Wolfgang’s Restaurant & Wine Bistro
Invite everyone to attend a “Meet the Candidate” Wine and Cheese Reception honoring

Gary Drake
“For Town Commissioner”

Sunday, September 27th
3:00 till 5:00pm

474 Main Street
Doug and Donna live also a live auction and much more.

- CLE presents Gastrointestinal Problems and Aging from 10 a.m. to noon at the Jane Woodruff Bldg. Call Dr. Richard Carter will discuss the gastrointestinal issues that often occur after age 65. Call 526-8811 for more information.

**Saturday, Sept. 19**

- Parent’s Night Out at the Highlands United Methodist Church from 5:30-8:30. Call Jennifer Forrester for more information at 342-1674.
- At Cyrano’s Bookshop, authors Overton and Isabel Chambers to sign “Remembering Highlands” from 1-3 p.m.
- The Nantahala Hiking Club is providing an easy 3-mile hike for children under ten with their adult(s) on the Park Creek Trail in the Standing Indian Campground area, with an option to wade in the creek. Meet at Westgate Plaza in Franklin at 9:30 a.m. Drive 30 miles round trip. Bring a drink, lunch, and wear sturdy, comfortable shoes. Call leaders Sharon and Bill Van Horn, 369-1983, for reservations. Visitors are welcome but no pets please.
- Benefit for Desiraya Drummond, daughter of Trysta Green and Ryab Drummond, granddaughter of Gene and Ann Green, Saturday, 5-9 p.m. at the Highlands Rec. Park. Turkey dinner with all the fixings, $6 per plate, $3 for child’s plate. Music by Mountain Top Bluegrass, Appalachian bluegrass and Nathan Parrish. There will also be a raffle and bake sale. 3-year-old Desiraya has Blounts Disease and requires extensive surgery.
- Harvest Bazaar at the Lodge of Sky Valley, in Sky Valley, GA, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Proceeds from this upscale bazaar will go to the Women of the Chapel of Sky Valley “Feed the Hungry” project. There will be original and handmade gifts, holiday items, white elephant items, baked goods, homemade jams and jellies and a boutique of designer accessories as well as a raffle of elegant crafts. For more information, call Maureen Platt at 706-746-2358.
- Rabies Vaccination Clinic at the Highlands Community Building by the ballfield from 1-2:30 p.m. with Dr. Amy Patterson. Dogs, cats, and ferrets over 4 months of age are eligible, as required by NC state law. The cost is $5 (cash only) per pet and all pets should be kept in vehicles, on leashes or in carriers. Call 349-2490 for a recorded schedule of other sites.

**Sunday, Sept. 20**

- The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a 2-mile moderate hike on the Glen Falls Trail off NC Hwy. 106 near Highlands. With an elevation change of 700 feet, this steep trail offers views of three 50-foot waterfalls as it descends along Overflow Creek. Meet at the Smoky Mtn. Visitors Center in Otto at 2:00 p.m., drive 20 miles round trip, or call leader for alternate meeting place. Bring water, a snack if you wish; wear sturdy shoes. Call leader Kay Coriell, 369-6820, for reservations. Visitors are welcome but no pets please.

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**UPCOMING EVENTS**

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- The Highlands Plateau Audubon Society will have a field trip around Highlands to look for fall migrating birds. Meet at the public parking area next to the town hall at 7:30 a.m. For additional information call Brock Hutchins at 828-787-1387. There is no charge to participate.
- A mystery-and-intrigue lecture by Atlanta attorney Jim Landon, “Issues Affecting Antiquities and Art,” will be held at 5 p.m. at The Bascom. Landon will reference the recovery of art plundered during the Second World War and the claims of countries of origin on antiquities now owned by some of the world’s most prestigious museums. Cost is $10/off to Bascom members. For information, call (828) 526-4949 or visit www.thebascom.org.
- From 10 a.m. to noon, The Bascom Needlework Circle meets at The Bascom in Highlands. Free. For information, call (828) 526-4949 or visit www.thebascom.org.
- A class “Artclass ‘Botanical Sketching and Watercolors,” by Faye Ansley, will be held at The Bascom from 2 to 4 p.m. for beginning to advanced students. Cost is $25/20 Bascom members. To register, call (828) 526-4949 or visit www.thebascom.org.
- Art Class “A Paint Night – Painting the Face” with artist Dan Streeter from 5-7 p.m. at The Bascom. Cost is $40/30 Bascom members. For information, call (828) 526-4949 or visit www.thebascom.org.
- A class “Japanese Tea Ceremony: The Art of Tea” with instructor Sherry Poff from 9 a.m. to noon. Cost is $40/30 Bascom members. For information, call (828) 526-4949 or visit www.thebascom.org.
- A class “Artclass ‘Botanical Sketching and Watercolors,” by Faye Ansley, will be held at The Bascom from 2 to 4 p.m. for beginning to advanced students. Cost is $25/20 Bascom members. To register, call (828) 526-4949 or visit www.thebascom.org.

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**‘Cat Chow: Beyond Fiber Art’ opens Saturday at The Bascom**

**NYC artist makes rare visit to North Carolina**

Critically acclaimed New York fiber artist Cat Chow was in the mountains recently for the installation and opening of “Cat Chow: Beyond Fiber Art,” the latest exhibition at The Bascom in Highlands. The exhibition, which runs through Oct. 10, showcases the beautiful yet eclectic artwork created by Chow that incorporates unusual items, such as zippers, measuring tapes, fish line, keys, wire and other materials.

Chow spoke about the spirituality and warmth she felt at The Bascom’s new six-acre campus. “I can rightfully say that this is by far my favorite venue to display my work,” Chow said. “The concept of transplanting the building, bridge and floor from different locations in the country not only is environmentally conscious but can also be seen as an art piece in itself. I feel honored to be part of this new stage in the history of The Bascom.”

Above, Chow speaks to the crowd gathered at the Director’s Circle Preview Party, a pre-opening event attended by members of The Bascom’s top-tier membership category.
Luxurious poncho, Greek cruise among many items to be auctioned at Oct. 2 Autumn Leaves Gala

A luxurious "moonlight" fox poncho and a seven-day Athens-to-Istanbul cruise are two of 17 lavish items to be auctioned off during The Bascom's Autumn Leaves Gala on Friday, Oct. 2.

Held at The Farm at Old Edwards Inn, the Autumn Leaves Gala also features a seated dinner from Executive Chef Johannes Klapdohr, as well as wine and spirits. Dozens of live and silent auction items will be up for bid. McCulley's Cashmere Store has donated a beautifully woven "moonlight" fox poncho, valued at more than $4,000, for the auction.

"This is the perfect garment for the mountains," said Donna Woods, Bascom events director. "At one size fits all, there is no reason not to surprise a loved one with this beautiful poncho."

For the travel-lover or anyone in need of a little relaxation, a fabulous Greek Odyssey seven-day Athens-to-Istanbul cruise is also up for bid. Set for May 8-15, 2010, one lucky winner will cruise for two aboard the Seabourn Odyssey, the newest of the all-first-class luxury yachts of Seabourn Cruise Lines. Sail from Athens through the sparkling waters of the Mediterranean, visiting the Greek Isles of Mylos, Rhodes, Patmos, and Khylos, as well as the ancient site of Ephesus, before arriving in Istanbul. Relax in a lavish appointed "V1" category suite #516, with a separate sitting area, walk-in closet, DVD home entertainment system and your own private balcony. Gratuities, open seating dinner, complimentary open bar and 24-hour room service are included.

Sponsored by Mark Squillante and Danielle Berry, Business Travel Consultants, the cruise is valued at more than $17,000. Bids start at $2,500.

"You will enjoy the highest level of service and the finest culinary experiences, with menus designed by celebrity chef Charlie Palmer," said Beth Nellis, event chair. "Don't miss this great opportunity for the cruise of a lifetime."

All items up for auction at the Oct. 2 gala are on sale. For tickets, purchase online at www.thebascom.org/autumnleaves or call (828) 526-4949, ext. 4.

Corporate sponsors are Old Edwards Inn & Spa as presenting sponsor; 21W Investments as gold sponsor; Donna Laird Graphic Design, Franklin Ford/Moss Robinson Cadillac, Highlands' Newspaper, The Hillsides Shops at Cashiers Village, InMed, The Laurel magazine, The Shopaw Group, and Zieke and Earl's Hot Dog Stand.

Quilt to be raffled at ‘White Elephant Sale’

This quilt will be raffled at the Satulah Club’s "White Elephant Sale" 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. This is a Mountain Primitive Crazy Quilt of wool and velvet made from recycled clothing. All material for patches was carefully washed in Woolite and dried in the fresh mountain air and sunshine. The wide black velvet border came from an elegant evening coat.
**Spiritually Speaking**

Who do you say I am?

Rev. Dean Cesa, pastor
Our Lady of the Mountain Catholic Church

*What's in a name?* muses Juliet about her Romeo. “That which we call a rose by any other name would smell as sweet.”

In last Sunday’s gospel reading from Saint Mark, Jesus put a question to his disciples. He asks first who the people say that he is. For the people, they are not so sure. Some think he is John the Baptist. This seems reasonable enough. Jesus did pick up where John left off. Certainly he went far beyond John’s baptism of repentance. Others say he is Elijah, the greatest of the prophets. This also seems like a good guess, as the Jews were expecting Elijah to return before the Messiah would come. Still others answer the question thinking Jesus is one of the prophets. He has been sent by God like the prophets; he does speak the word of God, more completely than any of the prophets.

Then he asks the disciples themselves who they say he is. It is Saint Peter who responds for the group. “You are the Christ.” This one word, Christ, sums up who Jesus is better than any other. Jesus is the anointed one of God, the Messiah, the King of Israel they have been waiting for so long. Peter’s got the name right, but Jesus must immediately silence the disciples. Why? Well, they have his name right but they have the wrong idea about what the name means.

For the disciples, the Christ was the One who would come as a powerful, military, political king. He would expel the Roman authorities and restore governance of Jerusalem to the Jews. They would experience once again King David. They would know for themselves the prosperity and security of David’s reign. Perhaps the disciples even felt proud that they had known Jesus from his humble beginnings. They may have thought they too would share in his power and glory.

So Jesus must silence them and state openly what this word “Christ” means. As the Christ, Jesus must suffer, be rejected by his own people, be killed and rise after three days. Evidence that the disciples were not ready to receive this news is Peter’s rebuke of Jesus. So, Jesus must in turn rebuke him. Peter who for that brief instant had thought as God does, falls so quickly to thinking as human beings do.

It was a long process for the disciples to come to Jesus’ understanding of who he is. Jesus will spend the rest of the gospel of Mark trying to get his disciples to understand what “Christ” means. He likens it to denying one’s self, taking up the cross and following him.

We may not have the same difficulty understanding what is in this name Christ. We know it is not Jesus’ last name. We have almost 2000 years of reflection preceding us. We who wish to come after Jesus, must deny ourselves, take up our cross and follow him.

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**Places of Worship**

**BLUE VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH**
Rev. Oliver Rice, Pastor (706) 782-3965
Sundays: School - 10 a.m., Worship - 11
Sundays: Morning Prayer meeting - 7 p.m.

**BUCK CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH**
Sundays: School - 10 a.m.; Worship - 11
Church: 706-746-2999
Pastor’s residence: 706-746-5770
Sundays: 10 a.m. - Worship
Holy Communion 1st Sunday of the month
Wednesdays: 9 a.m. Healing and Prayer with Holy Communion each service

**CHRISTIAN SCIENCE CHURCH**
Third and Spring Streets, Highlands
Sunday Service - 11 a.m.; Sunday School - 11 a.m.
Wednesday Testimony Meeting - 11 a.m.
3rd Wednesday of the Month

**CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS**
NC 28 N. and Pine Ridge Rd., (828) 369-8329
Rai Cammack, Branch President, (828) 369-1627

**CHRIST ANGLICAN CHURCH**
Father Jim Murphy: Office - 526-2320
Sunday: Holy Communion - 11 a.m.
Highlands Community Center
Monday: Evening Bible Study at 6 p.m.
Wednesday: Men’s Bible study at 6 a.m.

**CLEAR CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH**
Pastor Everett Brewer
Sundays: School - 10 a.m.; Worship - 11
Prayer: 6:30 p.m.
Evening Service - 1st & 3rd Sunday - 7 p.m.

**COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH**
www.cbchighlands.com * 526-4685
Pastor Gary Hewins
3645 U.S. 64 east, Highlands
Sundays: 9:30am Sunday School; 10:45am
Children’s/Family Program; 10:45 Worship
Sundays: 9:30am Women’s Bible Study
Wednesdays: 5pm Dinner; 6pm Pastor’s Bible Study
Fridays: 6:30pm Re:Act Middle & High School Gathering

**EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE INCARNATION**
The Rev. Brian Sullivan - Rector: 526-2968
Sunday: Breakfast: 9 a.m. – Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist (Rite II)
Sunday Service on Channel 14 at 10:30 a.m.
Monday: 4 p.m. Women’s Cursillo Group
Tuesday: 8 a.m. Men’s Cursillo Group
4:30 PM: Education for Ministry
Wednesday: 6:30 PM: Choir Practice
Thursday: 10 a.m. Holy Eucharist (Chapel)
10:30 a.m. Daughters of the King
* Sunday Service on Channel 14 Sun. at 10:30 a.m.
** FIRST ALLIANCE CHURCH OF FRANKLIN**
Rev. Mitch Schultz, Pastor * 828-369-9797
Sun. Worship 8:30 & 10:45 a.m.; 6:30 p.m.
(nursery provided)
Sun. school for all ages 9:45 a.m.
Wed: dinner 5 p.m. followed by children’s Pioneer Club 6 p.m.; Jr & Sr Youth Group 6:30 p.m.;
Adult Bible Study & Prayer Meeting 7 p.m.
Small groups available throughout the week.

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

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**
Dr. Lee Bowman, Pastor
Dr. Don Mullen, Parish Associate 526-3175
Sun.: Worship - 8:30 & 11 a.m.; Sun. School - 9:30 & 9:45.
Mondays: 8 a.m. - Men’s Bible Discussion & Breakfast
Tuesdays: 10 a.m. - Seekers
Wednesdays - Choir - 7

**HIGHLANDS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**
Pastor Paul Christy
526-3376
Sun.: school 9:45 a.m.; Worship 8:45 a.m., 11 a.m.;
5 p.m. Youth Group
Wed: Supper; 6:15 - children, youth, & adults studies; 6:15 - Adult choir
(nursery provided for Wed. p.m. activities)
Thurs:12:30 - Women’s Bible Study (nursery)

**HOLY FAMILY LUTHERAN CHURCH - ELCA**
Chaplain Margaret Howell
2152 Dillard Road - 526-9741

**HIGHLANDS ASSEMBLY OF GOD**
Sundays: Sunday School and Adult discussion group
9:30 a.m.; Worship/Communion - 10:30
HEALING SERVICE on the 5th Sunday of the month.

**MACEDONIA BAPTIST CHURCH**
8 miles south of Highlands on N.C. 28 S in Satolah
Pastor Matt Shuler, (828) 526-8425
Sundays: School - 10 a.m.; Worship - 10:45 a.m.;
Choir - 6 p.m.
Wed: Bible Study and Youth Mtg. - 7 p.m.

**MOUNTAIN SYNAGOGUE**
St. Cyprian’s Episcopal Church, Franklin
828-369-9270 or 828-293-5197
 OUR LADY OF THE MOUNTAIN CATHOLIC CHURCH
Rev. Dean Cesa, pastor
Parish office, 526-2418
Sundays: Mass - 11 a.m.

**SCALY MOUNTAIN BAPTIST CHURCH**
Rev. Clifford Willis
Sundays: School - 10 a.m.; Worship - 11 a.m. & 7:15
Wednesdays: Prayer Mtg. - 7 p.m.

**SCALY MOUNTAIN CHURCH OF GOD**
290 Buck Knob Road; Pastor Alfred Sizemore
Sundays: School - 10 a.m.; Worship - 10:45 a.m.;
Evening Worship - 6 p.m.
Wed: Adult Bible Study & Youth - 7 p.m.
For more information call 526-3212.

**SHORTWOOD BAPTIST CHURCH**
Pastor Rev. Andy Cloer.
Sundays: School - 10 a.m.; Worship - 11
Wednesdays: Prayer & Bible Study - 7

**UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP**
85 Sierra Drive * 828-524-6777
Sunday Worship - 11 a.m.
Child Care - 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Religious Education - 11 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.
Youth from 8th – 12th grades meet the second Sunday of each month from 5 - 7:30 p.m.

**WHITESIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**
Cashiers, Rev. Sam Forrester, 743-2122
**Police, Fire Dept. Logs**

The following are the Highlands Police Dept. log entries from Sept. 4. Only the names of persons arrested, issued a Class-3 misdemeanor, or public officials have been used.

**Sept. 4**
- At 9:50 a.m., officers responded to a call of two-vehicle accident in the parking lot of Nantahala Tire on N.C. 106. There were no injuries.

**Sept. 6**
- At 5:30 p.m., Francis Long, 59, of Highlands, was arrested for drunk and disorderly conduct and misuse of a 9-1-1 call. Officers found him laying on the side of Hicks Road. He retreated into his home and became combative.

**Sept. 10**
- At 2:06 p.m., officers were called to do a welfare check on a resident on Horse Cove Road. She was OK.
- At 6:41 p.m., officers responded to a call for service at a retail shop on Main Street over a broken watch. They determined it was a civil matter.

**Sept. 11**
- At 4:10 p.m., officers were called to a retail shop on Main Street concerning two suspicious men who were playing with wigs in the store. When questioned by police they said they were comedians just fooling around.

**Sept. 12**
- At 8 a.m., officers responded to a call about a bear in a yard on N.C. 106 that was eating the resident's bird seed. Officers shooed it away by shooting in the flank with a bean bag.

**Sept. 13**
- Officers on patrol found an unlock door at a business in Highlands Plaza. They checked out the premises and secured the door.

**Sept. 14**
- At 5 p.m., Mark Edward Wordell, 45, of Franklin, was arrested for DWI during which an open container was found in the vehicle. He was stopped on U.S. 64 for reckless driving.

During the week, police officers responded to 1 alarms and issued 29 citations.

The following are the Highlands Fire & Rescue Dept. log entries from Sept. 10:

**Sept. 10**
- At 10:32 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with person who had fallen at his residence on Stoney Creek Circle. He was taken to the hospital.

**Sept. 12**
- At 3:51 a.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. A water leak had set off the alarm.

**Sept. 13**
- At 12:45 p.m., the dept. responded to a vehicle wreck at U.S. 64 east and Crowe Drive where the vehicle was off the road.

**Sept. 15**
- At 12:39 a.m., the dept. responded to an alarm at Bowery Road. There was no problem found.
- At 2:16 p.m., the dept. responded to an alarm at OEI on Main Street. It was cancelled en route by the alarm company.

**Hex-a-Ku© 2009**

**PseudoCube©**

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

**Mystery Word:**
Pot Belly

**Across**
1. Father (coll.) (2)

**Down**
2. Head covering (3)
3. Play on Words (3)

**Solution to Sept. 10 Hex-a-Ku**

**Solution to #CZ1A in Sept. 10 issue**
Bel Canto performance Sunday evening was ‘over the top’

Traditionally, Bel Canto takes place the first Sunday after Labor Day at the Martin-Lipscomb Performing Arts Center. This year’s performance is set for Sunday, Sept. 12.

Famous author visits Highlands

Over Labor Day weekend, author Pat Conroy and his wife author Cassandra King were guests of the owners of Cyrano’s Bookshop, Claire and Arthur Simpson, at a cocktail party at their home Friday night. The next day, Saturday, Conroy signed copies of his newest release “South of Broad” at Cyrano’s Bookshop. Pictured above are Conroy and Katie Pierce, daughter of Claire Simpson. Below are guests with Conroy and the Simpsons at their home Friday night.

Bel Canto founder Richard Joel with Soprano Lynette Tapia and her 8-year-old daughter Ana Lynette Osborne at the dinner at Highlands Country Club following the sold-out Bel Canto performance at PAC. As always, the piano accompanist was Dr. Stephen Dubberly and for the second year in a row, opera singer and past Bel Canto performer Stella Zambalis was artistic director. This year, proceeds went to The Bascom, the Highlands School music program and the music program at HCCDC.

Tenor John Pickle and wife Suzanne Woods, a fine soprano in her own right, at the Bel Canto dinner reception at Highlands Country Club.

Photos by Kim Lewicki

Clear Creek Baptist Church Fellowship Hall Fundraiser

The day will start at 8am with a HUGE Yard Sale, Lemonade Stand and Bake Sale.

4pm Hamburger Hot Dog Dinner $5 per plate.

4pm Hair Cuts by Stylist Lacy Jane Vilarde

LIVE Music Featuring: Oliver Rice & The Blue Ridge Mountain Band (Bluegrass Gospel)

Doug & Donna Ivie (Gospel)

LIVE Auction to Follow Featuring Baked Goods, Books, Jewelry & MUCH MUCH MORE!

Contact: Stephanie McCall (828) 886-4499

DATE: 09/19/09
TUE: 8:00AM-?

Highlands Conference Center
86 W. 4th Street, Highlands

Over Labor Day weekend, author Pat Conroy and his wife author Cassandra King were guests of the owners of Cyrano’s Bookshop, Claire and Arthur Simpson, at a cocktail party at their home Friday night. The next day, Saturday, Conroy signed copies of his newest release “South of Broad” at Cyrano’s Bookshop. Pictured above are Conroy and Katie Pierce, daughter of Claire Simpson. Below are guests with Conroy and the Simpsons at their home Friday night.
Mountain Findings continues to give

Mountain Findings’ volunteer, Richard Joel was asked to present this check to the Highlands Cashiers Players because of his interest and passion for the arts. HCP’s president, Ronnie Spilton accepts with gratitude this generous donation from Mountain Findings.

Baumrucker joins morning Rotary club

Dr. John Baumrucker inducted into The Rotary club of Highlands Mountaintop. Due to his busy schedule during the day, Dr Baumrucker felt he could better serve our community through our early morning Rotary Club of Highlands. Shown above from left to right are Al Bolt, President, Dr. John Baumrucker, and Nicholas Bazan, Vice President of Mountaintop Rotary. Dr. Baumrucker has been a member of Highlands Rotary Club for many years. The Rotary Club of Highlands Mountaintop was chartered by Rotary International in April 2002 by a group of business and community leaders to accommodate Rotarians who prefer to start their day early to allow for other commitments. The Rotary Club of Highlands Mountaintop meetings are held each Wednesday, 7:30 a.m. at Ruka’s Table, 163 Wright Square, Highlands. Rotarians and guests are always welcome.