Big Creek dredging still on the books

A recent letter from the town to Big Creek property owners has raised frustration among residents. The letter, both filled with numerous typographical errors, states that the Town actually planned on dredging Big Creek. This project was mentioned by Councilman Richard Howard at a recent meeting.

“Mr. Coward’s March 23rd letter was the first time property owners were told that the Town actually planned on dredging Big Creek,” said Sarah Fenton, who lives in the area. Fenton’s husband Bob owns property on the creek and is concerned about the rising cost of dredging.

“This letter, along with the Town’s previous silence, is completely misleading,” Fenton said. “The Town has not been transparent about this project and has not kept our residents informed.”

HUMC ‘Living Cross’ exemplifies Easter

In Highlands, the Community of Christ Church where I run a Christian education program, the congregation has been planning for Easter for months. The church has created a “Living Cross” display as a way to commemorate the resurrection of Jesus. Participants can walk through the display and experience the story of Easter through different stations.

Service transfer may have affected 9-1-1 service

A wide spread telephone outage affecting 9-1-1 telephone service and some other telephone services in Macon County apparently included long distance service. Families were told that the Town actually planned on dredging Big Creek. This project was mentioned by Councilman Richard Howard at a recent meeting.

“The outage has affected 9-1-1 service in Macon County in the early morning hours of March 29,” said Carol Bowen, the town’s public information officer. “Service was restored around 9 a.m., but some people were not able to connect with the 9-1-1 system and instead would hear a busy signal, though some seven-digit lines were still operational.”

15 local candidates line up for May 4 primary

This issue begins our 5-week Q&A series with the Macon County candidates facing off for the May 4 primary.

- Michael “Bud” Rogers - County Commissioner District 1 (Dem)
- Allan “Ricky” Bryson - County Commissioner District 1 (Dem)

The impossible is almost complete

The goal of the town’s ordinance is to provide a clear and consistent set of regulations for development in Macon County. The town’s Planning Director, Allan Bryan, says that the goal is to create a system that is easy to understand and enforce.

“With the new ordinances in place, we hope to streamline the permitting process and make it easier for developers and residents to navigate the complex web of regulations,” Bryan said.

Letters: 

Letters to the Editor are welcome. Send them to info@HighlandsInfo.com. Please include your name and phone number, if you wish to be identified. Letters should be no more than 250 words. The Highlands' Newspaper reserves the right to edit letters for clarity and space.
WANTED
Communications Director for the Town of Highlands

Salary minimal, but satisfaction priceless. Must have flexible hours, a strong back to carry the burden, protective clothing for when the doo-doo hits the fan and a great sense of humor. Must know how to use the telephone to make and return calls. Must know how to use the computer to send e-mails and reply to multiple taxpayer and media concerns within 24 hours. Must be willing to reach out to taxpayers citizens regarding important Highlands issues as needed. Must have the ability to turn purple instantly if you avoid citizens, lie, tell a half-truth. Knowledge of web design would be helpful so that the Town website can be updated to reflect detailed information about important Highlands issues. Must have sufficient super hero power to be able to sneak into closed session Town Board meetings and let the people know what's really going on behind those doors. Please apply in person, but it may take a few days to find any power people around to take your application. Please keep trying and just remember — Town Hall needs YOU!

All semi-joking aside the Town really does need SOMEONE who can reach out and speak to people with full disclosure and no cryptic hidden agenda on a regular basis. There's no doubt that our new Mayor David Wilkes truly cares about what's best for Highlands. But, he is a man — who certainly has his hands full and can only do so much on his own. Early last fall, the Town instructed the Town attorney to send multiple letters and easement requests to Big Creek property owners, when all it really needed to do was have a conversation with us FIRST. Had the Town listened to property owners and considered their concerns in advance, there would only have been the need for one successful legal document and the clean-up of Big Creek could potentially move forward with ease.

From road pavings and closures, to Main Street parking, to normal income housing, to sewers, to treetrimming, to parks and doggy parks, to zoning and development issues, to our Town's water supply — the lack of real communication is legendary at this point. If the issues that face us were not so vital to the well being of our town, one might be inclined to laugh at the absurdity of it all. We trust that our new Mayor will be able to turn this communication thing around.

In a town the size of Highlands, some level of personal communication and respectful exchanges should be commonplace. Mayor Wilkes has made himself available, but if other town employees are too busy to communicate, and there's no money in the budget for a real communications person, ask for volunteers! The members of our community are perhaps our most valuable resource. Many are willing and able to help. Listen to our concerns. Consider our advice and warnings. Let us help you think outside of your comfortable, closed box so we can get things done. Allow us to work diligently with you. Work with us, not overly against us.

Be careful not to turn purple or need protectived clothing.

Sarah Fenton
Highlands (Big Creek)

Underwood defends early departures

Dear Editor,

I am writing in response to your article in last week's issue entitled “PB says ‘no’ to rezoning request” in which you make note of my leaving the meeting early.

Yes, I did leave early from the meeting. I told the chairman that I would be leaving in 10 minutes and at that time I told everyone that if they wanted my vote they needed to wrap up their arguments. At that time both the attorney and Mr. Shearl got up and started repeating what they had already said during the meeting.

I warned them I was leaving and I do what I say.

We in Scouts practice two deep leadership for the safety of the children. With my absence my hand had to join another den to follow the rules.

When I make a commitment I do my best to live up to my responsibilities. I was already 30 minutes late for the scout meeting and felt it was time to leave and fulfill my other commitments.

As for leaving any other meetings, I left for the same commitment, again after letting them know I would be leaving.

Have I not voted the way you would?

John Underwood
Highlands

Town’s lack of communication unsettling

Dear Editor,

I am writing to summarize my experience with the town officials regarding the dredging of Big Creek.

I have been surprised and perplexed by communications from the town and its legal representatives over the dredging of Big Creek. It was not made clear from the start that a permanent easement was needed for Army Corps of Engineering funding nor was it clear that the town intended to dredge regardless — as is implied in the most recent letter from the Town attorneys. It does not surprise me therefore that there was not the 100% positive response needed to move forward. In the most recent letter from the town attorney, I was told that the Town is abandoning plans to dredge the creek. This is the FIRST time I heard that the Town actually PLANNED to dredge the creek!

This is yet another poorly handled communication from the town. The whole experience does not instill confidence that building a home and owning land in Highlands was a wise move on my part. This is not rocket science and I do not think it’s too much to ask when I call for clear, transparent policies by the town on matters vital to its homeowners and taxpayers.

I urge the appropriate town administrator to write something for the newspapers outlining the town’s plans for our water supply and Lake Sequoyah. The uncertainty has lingered for years and it is time to end it before there is further damage to the credibility of our elected officials.

Ray Vito
Highlands, Atlanta

Letters to the Editor Policy

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

Highlands' Newspaper

“Our Community Service - A Free Local Newspaper”

Member N.C. Press Association

FREE every Thursday; circulation over 7,500
Toll Free FAX: 866-212-8913 • (828) 526-0782

Email: HighlandsEditor@aol.com
Publisher/Editor - Kim Lewicki; Copy Editor - Tom Merchant
Cartoonist - Karen Hawk; Digital Media - Jim Lewicki
Locally owned and operated Kim & Jim Lewicki
Adobe PDF version at www.highlandsinfo.com
265 Oak St.; R.O. Box 2703, Highlands, N.C., 28741

All Rights Reserved. No articles, photos, illustrations, advertisements or design elements may be used without permission from the publisher.
... CANDIDATES continued from page 2

Tool for 26 years. Past president, Highlands Jaycees; Highlands Volunteer Fireman 21 years (12 years as assistant chief); two terms Highlands Planning Board; past chairman, District One Democratic Precinct; two terms, Macon County Board of Commissioners. Born and raised in Macon County, NC.

Michael David Rogers
County Commissioner
District 1 (Dem)

Allan (Ricky) Bryson
County Commissioner
District 1 (Dem)

Jimmy Tate
County Commissioner
District 1 (Rep)

Brian McClellan
(Incumbant)
County Commissioner
District 1 (Rep)

Bob Simpson
(Incumbent)
County Commissioner
District 2 (Dem)

Carroll Poindexter
County Commissioner
District 2 (Dem)

Ronnie Beale
(Incumbent)
County Commissioner
District 2 (Rep)

Ron Haven
County Commissioner
District 2 (Rep)

George Lynch
Sheriff (Dem)

Ricky DeHart
Sheriff (Dem)

George Lynch
Sheriff (Dem)

Richard Davis
Sheriff (Dem)

Leatherman’s photo was not available by presstime.

Charlie
Leatherman
County
Commissioner
District 2 (Rep)

Ricky DeHart
Sheriff (Dem)

George Lynch
Sheriff (Dem)

Richard Davis
Sheriff (Dem)

Next week in the April 8 edition, Candidates will answer Question 2 – “Tell us why you are running for office, specifically what you like or dislike about what’s going on — and why you are the right person for the seat you are attempting to get or keep and why you can do it better than your opponents?”

... CANDIDATES continued from page 14

... CANDIDATES continued from page 14

I am very proud to say that my family has deep roots in the Highlands area. I recently stated that I am a fifth generation native of Macon County and my grandmother was quick to correct me. I am actually the sixth generation of my family to call Macon County home making my children, Ethan (age 7) and Eliza (age 5), seventh generation natives. I was born in Highlands and lived here until the age of seven when I moved to Homosassa, FL. Then I relocated to Fort Valley, GA and I graduated from high school at the Westfield School in Perry, GA. I then continued my education at the University of Georgia where I earned a BA of Landscape Architecture degree and most importantly met my wife, Allison. Even though I was not a full-time resident of Highlands for the majority of my childhood and adolescent years, I have always considered Highlands my true home. In 1997, I made the decision to move back to Macon County permanently. Since then, it has been very important to me to give back to this community. I am a 13-year volunteer for the Highlands Fire and Rescue Department and I have also worked as a full-time and part-time EMT-I for the Macon County Emergency Medical Services. Furthermore, I have had the privilege to not only serve but also chair the Highlands Appearance Commission, the Highlands Planning Board, the Highlands Land Use Committee, and the Highlands Zoning Board of Adjustment. Presently, I own and operate Tate Landscaping Services, Inc., was elected Captain of the Highlands Fire and Rescue Department and am a member of Highlands United Methodist Church. I also currently serve on the Board of Directors for the Highlands Cashiers Land Trust, the Zoning Board of Adjustment (alternate member), and the Macon County’s EMS Quality Management Committee. I have a deep desire to continue my service to our community, and I hope the residents of Macon County will provide me the

Leatherman’s photo was not available by presstime.

Charlie
Leatherman
County
Commissioner
District 2 (Rep)

Ricky DeHart
Sheriff (Dem)

George Lynch
Sheriff (Dem)

Richard Davis
Sheriff (Dem)

Next week in the April 8 edition, Candidates will answer Question 2 – “Tell us why you are running for office, specifically what you like or dislike about what’s going on — and why you are the right person for the seat you are attempting to get or keep and why you can do it better than your opponents?”

... CANDIDATES continued from page 14

I am very proud to say that my family has deep roots in the Highlands area. I recently stated that I am a fifth generation native of Macon County and my grandmother was quick to correct me. I am actually the sixth generation of my family to call Macon County home making my children, Ethan (age 7) and Eliza (age 5), seventh generation natives. I was born in Highlands and lived here until the age of seven when I moved to Homosassa, FL. Then I relocated to Fort Valley, GA and I graduated from high school at the Westfield School in Perry, GA. I then continued my education at the University of Georgia where I earned a BA of Landscape Architecture degree and most importantly met my wife, Allison. Even though I was not a full-time resident of Highlands for the majority of my childhood and adolescent years, I have always considered Highlands my true home. In 1997, I made the decision to move back to Macon County permanently. Since then, it has been very important to me to give back to this community. I am a 13-year volunteer for the Highlands Fire and Rescue Department and I have also worked as a full-time and part-time EMT-I for the Macon County Emergency Medical Services. Furthermore, I have had the privilege to not only serve but also chair the Highlands Appearance Commission, the Highlands Planning Board, the Highlands Land Use Committee, and the Highlands Zoning Board of Adjustment. Presently, I own and operate Tate Landscaping Services, Inc., was elected Captain of the Highlands Fire and Rescue Department and am a member of Highlands United Methodist Church. I also currently serve on the Board of Directors for the Highlands Cashiers Land Trust, the Zoning Board of Adjustment (alternate member), and the Macon County’s EMS Quality Management Committee. I have a deep desire to continue my service to our community, and I hope the residents of Macon County will provide me the
Communications and Frontier Communications have already restored phone service in the area after an outage earlier in the year. Communications and Frontier Communications have already restored phone service in the area after an outage earlier in the year.

We've never had so much stuff break all at once... or has it?

In our younger years, the li'l missus and I used to marvel at how cunning vendors and slick talkin' salesmen would con old folks out of their pensions. Now I'm wondering if we're next... or last. We've never had so much stuff break all at once... or has it?


We bought our Hoover about 18 years ago and paid a fortune for it. You pay extra for the Hoover name. It's self-propelled and top of the line. It still cleans well, even now with all the noise. Oh, by the way, my li'l missus used to work for a Hoover. He did not fix vacuum cleaners but he did suck the life out of organized criminals. But that's another story.

With our bills mounting, we decided to look into having it fixed. Does anyone actually fix old appliances anymore, we wondered? TADA! As luck would have it, there was an official Hoover repair shop only a mile away. I must have passed it a thousand times without noticing. It may be the only one between Palm Beach and Larry at Mountain Findings.

Eventually, the Carpet Nazi told us our Hoover transmission was rusty and needed to be replaced. I asked the shop lady if it had to be new, and she said, "No, she doesn't need a new transmission. But it does need a new upholstery kit and a new belt."

... 9-1-1 continued from page 1

I'm just sick of it. First it was our low mileage, four-year-old Toyota with a rusted drive train that would cost us a fortune to fix. Then our pool guy called to say there's a leak in the pool and it will cost mucho dinero to get it repaired. I see the brother of the Toyota service rep with his hand in our pockets? Worse, it's been a chilly winter in Palm Beach and... This is my first time writing for The Highlands' Newspaper. I hope you enjoy it as much as I enjoy writing it.

Before going to the repair shop, the li'l missus had to prepare it for service. Like Monica on "Friends," she got out her portable vacuum called a Shark, and thoroughly vacuumed the Hoover. No, she doesn't have a vacuum to clean her Shark... not yet. When she was finished, it looked brand new.

Cleaning old appliances for repair is a Venus thing. Kinda like making sure you're wearing clean underwear when going into the emergency room. Oh, here's a tip: Never wear underwear when going into the emergency room. Cause they'll cut them off. If you go often, buy Velcro underwear from your local strip joint.

Anyway, when we walked into the Hoover repair shop, we were stunned to see over 100 old vacuum cleaners waiting to be repaired. Without looking up from her paperwork, the lady said, "Just roll it over there with the rest and I'll get you a claim check." I hated leaving my beloved Hoover with such unsavory looking cleaners of every make. None of them looked as awesome as ours and, for certain, none were as clean.

"Well, look at that and call you tomorrow with an estimate. What's wrong with it?" the shop lady asked.

"She still sucks real good but makes a lot of noise," I responded.

Then I missus turned and walked out of the store. I smiled at the vacuum lady. "So we'll talk tomorrow? I'm sure it's not much," I didn't get a response. I should've known then I was dealing with a carpet Nazi.

Five days went by and we heard nothing. I called the shop and got their voice mail. We called and called until their voice mail was full. Then it hit me. This shop has a monopoly. Where else can I take my vacuum to get it fixed? I dubbed her "Carpet Nazi."

Eventually, the Carpet Nazi told us our transmission was rusty and needed to be replaced. "Do you have a brother who works for a Toyota dealer?" I asked. "No, you say, maybe a cousin who's a pool guy?"

"We left with our noisy vacuum. We'll use it until she blows. We've also decided to hunker down on costly repairs. The pool leak can... well, just leak while I get estimates on fill dirt. We'll use ear protectors when we vacuum but, best of all, we don't own a Toyota that's trying to kill us."
would like to thank you for taking the time to consider this matter,” read the letter.

Town Attorney Bill Coward, said the reason for the letter was because “the town doesn’t want to take property by condemnation for the project, unless absolutely necessary. “Condemnation would have been required due to the lack of full cooperation,” he said.

However, Fenton says she’s had contact with 20 of the 30 property owners and all 20 of those owners were willing to sign at least a temporary easement, in fact had told her they had signed and returned it to Attorney Coward, she said.

“And 100% of those 20 people would have signed a permanent easement had the Town made some adjustments to the original agreement language, and had owners been told that doing so was the only way to clean up Big Creek,” said Fenton.

Now property owners assume the project has been nixed but aren’t sure if it’s because not all the easement agreements were returned, or because they had to agree to a permanent easement versus a temporary easement. “There’s been no communication as to what the town’s intentions or plans are or what it exactly wants and needs from us for this project to take place,” said Fenton.

But Mayor David Wilkes and Town Manager Jim Fatland, say it’s all a misunderstanding.

Fenton said in a meeting Tuesday, Wilkes acknowledged that Coward’s letter had a fatalistic tone and could have been written differently.

In fact, on Wednesday, Fatland told Highlands’ Newspaper the dredging of Big Creek is still in the town’s Capital Improvement Project list. “We’re just waiting for the money to come in from the Army Corps of Engineers,” he said. In fact, he said the Corps of Engineers has said temporary easements would be fine.

The estimated cost for the project is $2 million, with $1.5 coming from grant funding and $500,000 coming from the town.

“But the point is, if we had the money to do the job today, we wouldn’t be able to do it because we don’t have easement contracts back from all the affected property owners. But since we don’t have the money anyway, we have time to work out the details and get all the easement contracts back,” he said.

Property owners feel there has been a lack of communication ever since the possibility of dredging Big Creek became a reality.

At the Town Board meeting in the fall, Attorney Coward said an easement agreement language and had owners been required due to the lack of full cooperation,” he said. However, the issue of “easements on Big Creek” has been the subject of a few closed sessions at Town Board meetings since the fall. When asked what transpired in those meetings, the press was told “No action was taken; no decisions were made.”

However, sometime after the most recent closed session on the issue—March 3, 2010—the letter was sent to property owners.

“... BIG CREEK continued from page 1

joined the meeting, which Fenton said was a surprise.

“It was encouraging to see the Baccus join the meeting, which Fenton said was a surprise.

“It was encouraging to see the Baccus join the meeting, which Fenton said was a surprise.

Kim Lewicki
from the history guy ...

April 1, 1957

The Spaghetti Tree Story was a famous 3-minute report broadcast on the British Broadcasting Corporation's current affairs program, “Panorama,” detailing work of a southern Swiss family hard at work during the Spaghetti Tree harvest season.

On the BBC, have you heard about this particular orchard? It’s from here you get what are best of the season’s spaghetti harvest.

It’s the first pick from the arboreal list, so get some and cover it with pesto. They have carefully grafted, grown and pruned, so don’t overcook it, it’ll be ruined. Ever been there to look and see a branch covered in semolina?

I’d like to go to where they grow these trees and ask them please and prego, let me pick some of this fruit of durum, take them home, cook and stir em, that’s what I want to get, see, this year’s crop of spaghetti.

---

by John Armor

I’ve been preparing for a series of appearances as Benjamin Franklin at several different Tea Party events in Dayton, Ohio, from April 10 -13. Despite his long and varied public career, Franklin had very little to do with partisan politics. Most of his service was as a diplomat, first in England and later in France.

There is one quality that all successful diplomats share. They know how to hold their tongues. Enemies now may become friends later, and vice versa. Therefore, effective diplomats make an absolute minimum of public, personal attacks on anyone in a position of power.

It was a proper choice for Franklin. It might just be a proper choice for this columnist in this time of crisis for the United States. With that said...

Last fall, a reporter asked Speaker of the House, Nancy Pelosi, whether the proposals for Health Care “Reform” were constitutional. She responded, “Are you serious?” To show how absurd she considered the question, she repeated her dismissive reply, “Are you serious?”

Now, the Health Care Act is passed and signed into law. We are only now discovering some of the requirements and taxes hidden in the nooks and crannies of its 2,700 pages, all told. At the same time, just days after the signing of the revised, revised bill into law, 13 sovereign states have already filed suit, claiming the Act is unconstitutional. According to press accounts, upwards of 24 other states may also file such suits.

Never in the history of the United States have 13 states (much less 30 or more states) claimed in court that any action of the federal government was unconstitutional. The only remotely similar event was when 11 of the then 33 states seceded from the union, precipitating the Civil War in 1861. The issue then, as now, was overreaching by the federal government.

Some who read about the multiplicity of state suits against the federal government look at the history of Supreme Court litigation and say, correctly, that this is slow remedy. They think a final decision might not come for three years.

Not so. The federal courts can and do move very quickly when there is reason to do so. (My first win in the Supreme Court went from final decision in the trial court to emergency relief in the Supreme Court just days after the signing of the revised, revised bill into law. The Court might even go as far as to revisit its most unfortunate Commerce Clause decisions, Hodel v Virginia Surface Mining, 1981, and Wickard v. Filburn, 1942. That should happen, but I am not hopeful that it will. Still, even if those cases remain standing, they don’t reach far enough to justify the Health Care Act.

The Court should not strike this law down because it will bankrupt the United States. It will, and only a series of lies, promulgated through the Congressional Budget Office and directly by the Administration have papered over that conclusion. The Court should not strike down this law because an obscured clause that protects the fees of liability lawyers.

Both those issues are a matter of political wisdom, and it is not the business of the courts to second-guess the politics of any legislative decision – in Congress or the states. The Court should bestruck down because both the Administration and Congress have acted in cavalier disregard of the provisions of the Constitution. Under the basic tenets of checks and balances, when two branches of the federal government have violated the Constitution, it is the duty of the remaining branch to uphold the Constitution.

It is a matter of whether at least five Justices of the Court will obey their oaths to protect and defend the Constitution. A majority of the House and of the Senate, and the President have all violated similar oaths. But the subject remains open.

---

Michelle Mead-Armor &
John Armor

michi.mead@verizon.net
John_Armor@aya.yale.edu

SALONS & SPAS

“Falls on Main”

Creative Concepts Salon

549 Main Street – Upper Level

Hours:
Tuesday-Friday • 9-5
Saturday • 9-2

Taylor Barnes
Creative Concepts

Color, Cuts, Up Do’s, Highlights, Massage, Facials, Pedicures, Reflexology, Personal Training
OPEN: Tues. • Sat. • Monday by appt. at our
Located behind Highlands Decorating Center on Highway 106 (The Dillard Rd)
NC LMBT #1429
(828) 526-4192

Images Unlimited Salon & Spa

225 Spring Street • Highlands

Hair Care ~ Nail Care
Skin Care ~ Waxing ~ Weddings
828-526-9477

All Seasons Salon

Signature Hair Designs for Men & Women
Razor Cuts • Color • Perms
Off the Alley Behind Wolfgang’s Oak & Fifth Streets
Barbara & Van • 526-0349 • Open Mon - Sat

---

His & Hers

Are you serious? Are you serious?

---

by John Armor

I’ve been preparing for a series of appearances as Benjamin Franklin at several different Tea Party events in Dayton, Ohio, from April 10-13. Despite his long and varied public career, Franklin had very little to do with partisan politics. Most of his service was as a diplomat, first in England and later in France.

There is one quality that all successful diplomats share. They know how to hold their tongues. Enemies now may become friends later, and vice versa. Therefore, effective diplomats make an absolute minimum of public, personal attacks on anyone in a position of power.

It was a proper choice for Franklin. It might just be a proper choice for this columnist in this time of crisis for the United States. With that said...

Last fall, a reporter asked Speaker of the House, Nancy Pelosi, whether the proposals for Health Care “Reform” were constitutional. She responded, “Are you serious?” To show how absurd she considered the question, she repeated her dismissive reply, “Are you serious?”

Now, the Health Care Act is passed and signed into law. We are only now discovering some of the requirements and taxes hidden in the nooks and crannies of its 2,700 pages, all told. At the same time, just days after the signing of the revised, revised bill into law, 13 sovereign states have already filed suit, claiming the Act is unconstitutional. According to press accounts, upwards of 24 other states may also file such suits.

Never in the history of the United States have 13 states (much less 30 or more states) claimed in court that any action of the federal government was unconstitutional. The only remotely similar event was when 11 of the then 33 states seceded from the union, precipitating the Civil War in 1861. The issue then, as now, was overreaching by the federal government.

Some who read about the multiplicity of state suits against the federal government look at the history of Supreme Court litigation and say, correctly, that this is slow remedy. They think a final decision might not come for three years.

Not so. The federal courts can and do move very quickly when there is reason to do so. (My first win in the Supreme Court went from final decision in the trial court to emergency relief in the Supreme Court just days after the signing of the revised, revised bill into law. The Court might even go as far as to revisit its most unfortunate Commerce Clause decisions, Hodel v Virginia Surface Mining, 1981, and Wickard v. Filburn, 1942. That should happen, but I am not hopeful that it will. Still, even if those cases remain standing, they don’t reach far enough to justify the Health Care Act.

The Court should not strike this law down because it will bankrupt the United States. It will, and only a series of lies, promulgated through the Congressional Budget Office and directly by the Administration have papered over that conclusion. The Court should not strike down this law because an obscured clause that protects the fees of liability lawyers.

Both those issues are a matter of political wisdom, and it is not the business of the courts to second-guess the politics of any legislative decision – in Congress or the states. The Court should bestruck down because both the Administration and Congress have acted in cavalier disregard of the provisions of the Constitution. Under the basic tenets of checks and balances, when two branches of the federal government have violated the Constitution, it is the duty of the remaining branch to uphold the Constitution.

It is a matter of whether at least five Justices of the Court will obey their oaths to protect and defend the Constitution. A majority of the House and of the Senate, and the President have all violated similar oaths. But the subject remains open.

---

About the Author: Never mind who I am. All citizens need to read, understand, and respect the US Constitution. Last step, they need to reject all leaders and judges who have not done the same.
Thoughts on a terrific weekend

What a wonderful hoops weekend as the Final Four is set for Indianapolis, big news from the college hoops coaching carousel, and we have a new world champion crowned at Wrestlemania. (ok, I know you are saying...“which one of those things doesn’t belong?”)

First off, we have to discuss everyone’s favorite Cinderella, the Butler Bulldogs. On one hand, we have to give credit to the work that Tom Izzo has done at Michigan State. The Spartans are a fantastic team, but if my favorite team is facing Izzo in the Final Four loss to Connecticut. Worst game I have ever seen...people who hate Duke and think that the referees favor them should watch that game and squall with schadenfreude.) This year, Duke leads the Final Four in three categories — offensive rebounding, number of people rooting against them, and lack of melanin.

Quick thoughts on coaches.

St. John’s made a good choice to hire Steve Lavin — he’s marketable and will connect to the New York area recruits well.

Boston College fires Al Skinner...dumb move. Skinner’s style of boring, but he could coach and had consistently overachieved at BC.

Auburn also made a good hire in Tony Barbee.

And finally, the granddaddy of them all, Wrestlemania! I was totally stoked to watch this with my buddy Matt; and a good time was had by all. Highlights included The Ladder Match, in which there were several amazing athletic feats including Kofi Kingston walking on ladders, and Evan Bourne doing a gainer off of a ladder. Randy Orton turning into a face (good guy/fan favorite) was nice because I have been a fan of his for a while now. The Edge-Cris Jericho match was very good as well.

I will close however by designating a paragraph to Shawn Michaels, who retired following a loss to the Undertaker. Michaels has been one of my favorite wrestlers since I was a kid growing up. The guy had it all — athleticism, work ethic and most of all, charisma. He was unmatched. Very few men have been able to work the crowd the way that Michaels did, from his expressions to his speeches, he always had us in the palm of his hand. Even today, at age 44 he could still put on a classic, and in a way I am glad that he is hanging it up relatively early and not embarrassing himself like Ric Flair and Hulk Hogan. At the end of the match, the crowd was chanting “Thank you Shawn” as he exited the ring...I just wish I had been there to chant along with them.

Highlanders split a pair of games

By Ryan Potts

The Highlands Lady Highlander soccer team traveled to Cherokee last Thursday to play the Lady Braves on their new soccer field. Unfortunately for the Lady Braves, Highlands did not make for a welcome guest as they dominated the Lady Braves to the tune of an 8-0 final score. Madison Taylor scored 3 goals, Jessica Gagne added 2, and Sayne Feina, Paige Strahan and Ali Cutshaw all added one goal apiece for the visiting Highlanders.

Tuesday, the Lady Highlanders looked to open the new Highlands School soccer field with a victory, and after dominating the first 30 minutes it looked like they might do so. Unfortunately, the Rabun Gap Lady Eagles were able to find their footing and scored a goal in the 39th minute of the first half to take a 1-0 lead.

The second half started as dubiously as the first half ended for Highlands, as Rabun Gap struck again in the first minute of the second half to lead 2-0. Despite winning numerous scoring chances, Highlandians could not find the back of the net. The frustration mounted, so did the goals for Rabun Gap as they pulled away with a 5-0 victory.

The Lady Highlanders would like to thank the commissioners who voted in favor of our new field, as well as Principal Brian Jetter and Assistant Principal Jim Draheim for their role in working to obtain our new field at Highlands School. Special thanks also go to Jeff Weller, Hank Ross and the Rotary Club for their immense help in preparing the field for this week’s games. The next Highlands home game is Wednesday April 14th against Swain County.
What’s mine is mine and what’s yours is mine

I was reminiscing through some old files and came upon a column, published on January 22, 2009, two days after the socialist takeover of our government. I guess I was a little short-sighted concerning the damage that could be wreaked and the short time it would take to wreak it. That column follows...

The government cannot give anyone anything that it does not first take from someone else.”

Who said that anyway? I’m not sure, but I am sure that Gerald Ford said “A government big enough to give you everything you want is big enough to take it from you.” Pithy. Who knew the President of the media loved to denigrate had such a profound grasp on reality.

We find ourselves somewhere in between the two statements. It’s too late to whine about it. The people have spoken and it is what it is. President Obama is the man. Speaker Pelosi is the woman and Harry Reid is... I don’t know. I do know that we have reached the tipping point that de Tocqueville saw at the end of us – “The American Republic will endure until the day Congress discovers that it can bribe the public with the public’s money.”

So what does it feel like to live in a Socialist society? Most of you all under 60 will doubtless find out in the next 20 years, 40 years tops. I can’t answer from personal experience however I did live in South Florida for 25 years and saw dozens if not hundreds of news reports of film rafts, leaky overcrowded boats and inner tubes loaded with Cubans risking their lives to escape the glorious Republic of Cuba.

Socialists advocate the creation of an egalitarian society (political, social and economic equality), in which wealth and power are distributed evenly. In order to achieve this, obviously, the have must give up some of what they have so that it can be given to the have-nots. Who orchestrates this transfer, you ask? Why, the government, of course. And we all know how efficiently the government handles wealth and property.

I suppose the socialist theory has a certain appeal to those who are on the receiving end of such unmerited goodies and don’t know they cost them their freedom.

The biggest threat to the free market economy that has prospered us since our beginning used to be the government taking over the healthcare system.

While this is certainly still on Obama’s radar, the activities of recent months put our entire economic system on the block.

With the recent bailouts and with those to come, the government has and will continue to take “a piece of the action” from businesses they “help”. They will insist on having representatives on the Boards of Directors. They will be involved in determining executive compensation and dividend policies. In time, labor unions will be revived, and will play an increasing part in management policy and decisions.

Cuba’s plight is a matured story. The U.S. assisted Cuba in its liberation from Spain in 1902. U.S. businesses invested in Cuba’s economy and, along with a strong economic injection from tourism, a healthy middle class developed and things were pretty good in Cuba. Fidel Castro, and his small band of malcontents managed a successful takeover of U.S. businesses and installed a socialist society. The U.S. threw up an economic embargo and Russia stepped in to help Cuba’s economy, now starting the inevitable downside.

With the collapse of the USSR, assistance to Cuba declined and additional misery ensued.

A more current example of evolving socialism is Venezuela, where Hugo Chavez is desperately trying to get the people to allow him another term as President since a term limit would end his reign before he could complete his social reform.

His opponents are calling his re-election proposals “anti-democratic, unconstitutional and against the national interest.” Chavez’ answer is to order them tear gassed and beaten – “the government cannot look the other way.”

So now we have an ultra liberal president, an ultra liberal House Speaker, a liberal Senate majority leader and many far-left members of the new cabinet and presidential advisory committees, not to mention liberal committee heads.

No checks, no balance, a liberal press to add to the tsunami – can full-blown socialism be far behind?

Just in case you doubt the politicians have the clout to pull it off, remember Obama’s campaign rhetoric about the need for a domestic police force “at least as large and well funded as our present military.” What do you suppose he had in mind when that was proposed?

SEAMLESS RAIN GUTTERS
23 colors including copper • Several styles of leaf guards available • Free Estimates
Dennis Perkins • 828-371-2277 • 828-526-3542
Serving Western NC and Northeast GA
**Ongoing and Upcoming Events**

**Ongoing**
- Registration is now open for the 2010 summer nature day camps at the Highlands Nature Center. Five different camps are offered: “WOW! – a World of Wonder” (ages 4-6), “Amazing Animals” (ages 7-10), “NaturesWorks” (ages 8-11), “Mountain Explorers” (ages 10-13), and “Junior Ecologists” (ages 11-14). Some camps are offered more than once during the summer. For complete schedules, costs, and other information, please call 828-526-2823 or visit www.wcu.edu/hbts.
- At Health Tracks at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital, various exercise classes all week long. Call 828-526-100.
- Mondays & Weds.
  - Yoga On the Mat at the Episcopal Church of the Incarnation on Main Street. Children are picked up at school, taken to the church, have a snack, helped with homework time and supervised playing on the playground and participate in a music program. Children are dismissed at 5:30 pm in time for dinner in the fellowship hall. For information, call 526-3376.
  - Highlands Rotary Club meets at noon at the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. Enter the hospital in the main or emergency entrance and follow the signs downstairs. Visitors are welcome. Come learn about Rotary and enjoy fellowship while listening to an interesting speaker. Meetings end at 1:30 pm.

**Sundays**
- Tuesday After School Classes for grades K-6 are held weekly at The Bascom in Highlands. To register or for more information, visit www.thebascom.org or call (828) 526-4949 ext. 100.
- Highlands Rotary Club meets at noon at the Highlands United Methodist Church. Children are dismissed at 5:30 pm in time for dinner in the fellowship hall. For information, call 526-3376.
- A FREE After School Program at Highlands United Methodist Church. Children are picked up at school, taken to the church, have a snack, helped with homework time and supervised playing on the playground and participate in a music program. Children are dismissed at 5:30 pm in time for dinner in the fellowship hall. For information, call 526-3376.
- The Highlands Mountaintop Rotary meets at 7:30 a.m. The new meeting place will be in the dining room at the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. Enter the hospital in the main or emergency entrance and follow the signs downstairs. Visitors are welcome. Come learn about Rotary and enjoy fellowship while listening to an interesting speaker. Meetings end at 8:30 am.
- Men’s Interdenominational Bible Study at 8:30 a.m. at First Baptist Church.

**TOWN OF HIGHLANDS**

**Town Board Meeting**
**COMMUNITY BUILDING**
**APRIL 7 – 7 p.m.**

**Call to order**
1. Public Comments
2. Approve agenda
3. Approve minutes of March 17, 2010

**Reports**
A. Mayor
B. Commissioners
C. Committees
D. Town Manager

**Consent Agenda**
A. Set Public Hearing for May 5, 2010 for John Shearl Zoning Request
B. Award Stone & Sand Bid
2. Public Hearing: Non Habitable Structures
3. Public Hearing: Stormwater Ordinance
4. Ordinance to Ban Dogs from Ball Park
5. Lease Agreement with Performing Arts Center
6. Lease Amendment with Highlands Community Theatre
7. Proposed FY11 Special Revenue Fund Budgets
   A. Fire Department Budget
   B. Recreation Fund Budget
8. Property Owners Request for Curb Cuts on Oak Street
9. NCLM Environmental Assessment Coalition Project Participation Agreement
10. Renovation of ABC Store for Police Department
    A. USDA Loan/Grant Resolution
    B. Architectural Services
11. Adjourn
Ongoing and Upcoming Events

- The Homegrown Buds, a homeschool 4-H club, meets at noon at the Macon County Library on Siler Road in Franklin at 1 p.m.
- Open AA meeting at noon at the Episcopal Church at Fifth and Main streets.
- Study sessions at the Universal Unitarian Fellowship Hall in Franklin. A $5 soup-supper will be served at 5:30 p.m. Study sessions will begin at 6:30 p.m. For more information call 828-524-6777 or 706-746-9064.
- All-AAnon meeting, noon at the Episcopal Church on Main and Fifth streets.
- NAMI/Appalachian South (National Alliance on Mental Illness) will have a support group meeting the first and third Thursdays of each month. For information contact Carole Light, Ph.D. at 828-526-8769 or Ann Nandea at 828-369-7385.

Thursday, April 1
- Noon. Stations of the Cross. A mini pilgrimage starting at Our Lady of the Mountains Catholic church and walking from church to church in downtown Highlands. Scripture and music as we go. All are welcome.
- On Good Friday, at 7 p.m. at Community Bible Church, bring a friend and enjoy a moving journey through the last week of our Lord’s life. Drama, dance, and moving worship will accentuate the depth of the love of Christ as He moves over so strongly on the cross. For more information, call 828-526-4685 or visit www.cbchighlands.com.
- Saturday, April 3
  - Annual Easter Egg Hunt at the Rec Park 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sarah Valentine will be taking photos. Also during that time, kids of all ages can get their face painted and enjoy refreshments (to include Chick-Fil-A sandwiches) from the Highlands United Methodist Church and Episcopal Church of the Incarnation Youth Groups, who are raising money for a mission trip to Haiti this summer.
  - Noon. Meeting is at 10 a.m. All veterans are invited to attend.

Friday, April 2
- Noon. Festal Communion and Worship Service.
- Noon. Stations of the Cross. A mini pilgrimage starting at Our Lady of the Mountains Catholic church and walking from church to church in downtown Highlands. Scripture and music as we go. All are welcome.

Saturday, April 3
- Noon. Stations of the Cross. A mini pilgrimage starting at Our Lady of the Mountains Catholic church and walking from church to church in downtown Highlands. Scripture and music as we go. All are welcome.

Sunday, March 28: Palm Sunday
- 9 a.m. Worship Service at Whiteside PCA Church facilities, 621 US 64 Hwy, Cashiers. Adult Christian Education & Fellowship to follow at Buck’s Coffee at the Cashiers Crossroads.

Monday, March 29:
- Seder Meal, 6 p.m., Boone House, Chestnut Hill Retirement Community.

Thursday, April 1: Maundy Thursday
- 5 p.m. Observance of the occasion of the Last Supper & New Commandment with opportunity to participate in Foot-Washing and Communion. Whiteside PCA Church, Cashiers.

Friday, April 2: Good Friday
- 5 p.m. Observance of the occasion of our Lord’s crucifixion and passion. Whiteside PCA Church, Cashiers.

Sunday, April 4: Easter Sunday
- 9 a.m. Festal Communion and Worship Service. No Adult Christian Education this morning. Whiteside PCA Church, Cashiers.

The Reverend Jim Muphy, Rector (252) 671-4011 or (828) 743-1701 www.christanglicanchurch.com

Annual Easter Egg Hunt at Rec Park to benefit Relay for Life, and summer mission trips to Haiti

The Relay for Life of Highlands is bringing the Easter Bunny to the town Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 3. The Easter Bunny will be at the Highlands Rec Park from 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. Sarah Valentine will be taking photos. Also during that time, kids of all ages can get their face painted and enjoy refreshments (to include Chick-Fil-A sandwiches) from the Highlands United Methodist Church and Episcopal Church of the Incarnation Youth Groups, who are raising money for a mission trip to Haiti this summer.

PAC Youth Theater presents a 4-day, 1-Act Play Festival April 22-25

Highlands-Cashiers Players mainstays Ronnie Spilton and Jim Gordon have joined forces to cultivate and perpetuate youth theater in Highland Communities.

Thanks to a $25,000 donation by Nancy Eckerd the PAC Youth Theater is now in session. Stipulations attached to the funds mandate they are used for youth theater and Spilton has been named overseer of the funds.

Students in grades 7-12 from Highlands School, Blue Ridge School, Summit Charter and homeschools have been invited to participate in a program which kickoff with a 4 day, one-act play festival at the Performing Arts Center presenting six plays April 22-25.

About 25 students are involved this time around which means finding an appropriate script. To ensure every student gets a specified part and decent stage time, Spilton and Gordon decided on six one-act plays.

“Doing it this way they are actually getting valuable one-on-one tutoring in theater,” said Spilton. “This affords them the opportunity to learn all the components of theater.”

April’s Youth Theater program will feature “The Appy Journey” directed by Gordon; “A Game” directed by Spilton; “He Done Her Wrong or Wedded But No Wife” directed by Spilton; “Impromptu” directed by Gordon; “The Girl Who Was Asked to Turn Blue” directed by Spilton; and “The Stronger Gender” directed by Spilton.

Also under the PAC Youth Theater umbrella, will be the “Act Up at PAC” program for children in Kindergarten through 3rd Grade which will teach the basics of acting. To register, call 526-9047.

Act Up at PAC will meet every Saturday in May from 10-noon and two weeks in June and will end with a perform at.

Additional funding came from Rotary and the Cullasaja Women’s Club.
Ongoing and Upcoming Events

Register now to ride in the
Tour de Cashiers set for May 1 at the
Village Green at the Crossroads in Cashiers

The 18th Annual Tour de Cashiers is
Saturday, May 1. Knock the snow off your
old bicycle and start getting in shape now for
the 2010 edition of the Tour.

This distant bicycling event is regarded as
one of the toughest yet most scenic rides in the
country. The event attracts hundreds of riders
from the surrounding states for this challenging
tour of the regional mountains.

This year the Tour de Cashiers is partnering with the Wahialla, SC ride (Issaqueena’s Last
Ride) for the Blue Ridge Double. Ride both
rides and you will have toured the Appalachian escarpment from bottom to top.

It will be held on consecutive weekends. Riders who complete the metric or
full century in both will receive a commemorative Blue Ridge Double hat.

The 18th Annual Tour de Cashiers is
Saturday, May 1. Knock the snow off your
old bicycle and start getting in shape now for
the 2010 edition of the Tour.

This distant bicycling event is regarded as
one of the toughest yet most scenic rides in the
country. The event attracts hundreds of riders
from the surrounding states for this challenging
tour of the regional mountains.

This year the Tour de Cashiers is partnering with the Wahialla, SC ride (Issaqueena’s Last
Ride) for the Blue Ridge Double. Ride both
rides and you will have toured the Appalachian escarpment from bottom to top.

It will be held on consecutive weekends. Riders who complete the metric or
full century in both will receive a commemorative Blue Ridge Double hat.

The 18th Annual Tour de Cashiers is
Saturday, May 1. Knock the snow off your
old bicycle and start getting in shape now for
the 2010 edition of the Tour.

This distant bicycling event is regarded as
one of the toughest yet most scenic rides in the
country. The event attracts hundreds of riders
from the surrounding states for this challenging
tour of the regional mountains.

This year the Tour de Cashiers is partnering with the Wahialla, SC ride (Issaqueena’s Last
Ride) for the Blue Ridge Double. Ride both
rides and you will have toured the Appalachian escarpment from bottom to top.

It will be held on consecutive weekends. Riders who complete the metric or
full century in both will receive a commemorative Blue Ridge Double hat.

The Tour de Cashiers features three
rides from 24-mile to a full 100-mile century ride. The Century is right up there as
one of the toughest rides in the country.

Started in 1992 by Clark Moore, the tour has grown into agreat regional
ride and trainer for some of the more competitive mountain
races in the area such as the assault
on Mt. Mitchell.

This year the Tour de Cashiers is partnering with the Wahialla, SC ride (Issaqueena’s Last
Ride) for the Blue Ridge Double. Ride both
rides and you will have toured the Appalachian escarpment from bottom to top.

It will be held on consecutive weekends. Riders who complete the metric or
full century in both will receive a commemorative Blue Ridge Double hat.

The Tour de Cashiers features three
rides from 24-mile to a full 100-mile century ride. The Century is right up there as
one of the toughest rides in the country.

Started in 1992 by Clark Moore, the tour has grown into a great regional
ride and trainer for some of the more competitive mountain
races in the area such as the assault
on Mt. Mitchell.

This year the Tour de Cashiers is partnering with the Wahialla, SC ride (Issaqueena’s Last
Ride) for the Blue Ridge Double. Ride both
rides and you will have toured the Appalachian escarpment from bottom to top.

It will be held on consecutive weekends. Riders who complete the metric or
full century in both will receive a commemorative Blue Ridge Double hat.

The Tour de Cashiers features three
rides from 24-mile to a full 100-mile century ride. The Century is right up there as
one of the toughest rides in the country.

Started in 1992 by Clark Moore, the tour has grown into a great regional
ride and trainer for some of the more competitive mountain
races in the area such as the assault
on Mt. Mitchell.

This year the Tour de Cashiers is partnering with the Wahialla, SC ride (Issaqueena’s Last
Ride) for the Blue Ridge Double. Ride both
rides and you will have toured the Appalachian escarpment from bottom to top.

It will be held on consecutive weekends. Riders who complete the metric or
full century in both will receive a commemorative Blue Ridge Double hat.

The Tour de Cashiers features three
rides from 24-mile to a full 100-mile century ride. The Century is right up there as
one of the toughest rides in the country.

Started in 1992 by Clark Moore, the tour has grown into a great regional
ride and trainer for some of the more competitive mountain
races in the area such as the assault
on Mt. Mitchell.

This year the Tour de Cashiers is partnering with the Wahialla, SC ride (Issaqueena’s Last
Ride) for the Blue Ridge Double. Ride both
rides and you will have toured the Appalachian escarpment from bottom to top.

It will be held on consecutive weekends. Riders who complete the metric or
full century in both will receive a commemorative Blue Ridge Double hat.

The Tour de Cashiers features three
rides from 24-mile to a full 100-mile century ride. The Century is right up there as
one of the toughest rides in the country.

Started in 1992 by Clark Moore, the tour has grown into a great regional
ride and trainer for some of the more competitive mountain
races in the area such as the assault
on Mt. Mitchell.

This year the Tour de Cashiers is partnering with the Wahialla, SC ride (Issaqueena’s Last
Ride) for the Blue Ridge Double. Ride both
rides and you will have toured the Appalachian escarpment from bottom to top.

It will be held on consecutive weekends. Riders who complete the metric or
full century in both will receive a commemorative Blue Ridge Double hat.

The Tour de Cashiers features three
rides from 24-mile to a full 100-mile century ride. The Century is right up there as
one of the toughest rides in the country.

Started in 1992 by Clark Moore, the tour has grown into a great regional
ride and trainer for some of the more competitive mountain
races in the area such as the assault
on Mt. Mitchell.

This year the Tour de Cashiers is partnering with the Wahialla, SC ride (Issaqueena’s Last
Ride) for the Blue Ridge Double. Ride both
rides and you will have toured the Appalachian escarpment from bottom to top.

It will be held on consecutive weekends. Riders who complete the metric or
full century in both will receive a commemorative Blue Ridge Double hat.

The Tour de Cashiers features three
rides from 24-mile to a full 100-mile century ride. The Century is right up there as
one of the toughest rides in the country.

Started in 1992 by Clark Moore, the tour has grown into a great regional
ride and trainer for some of the more competitive mountain
races in the area such as the assault
on Mt. Mitchell.

This year the Tour de Cashiers is partnering with the Wahialla, SC ride (Issaqueena’s Last
Ride) for the Blue Ridge Double. Ride both
rides and you will have toured the Appalachian escarpment from bottom to top.

It will be held on consecutive weekends. Riders who complete the metric or
full century in both will receive a commemorative Blue Ridge Double hat.

The Tour de Cashiers features three
rides from 24-mile to a full 100-mile century ride. The Century is right up there as
one of the toughest rides in the country.

Started in 1992 by Clark Moore, the tour has grown into a great regional
ride and trainer for some of the more competitive mountain
races in the area such as the assault
on Mt. Mitchell.

This year the Tour de Cashiers is partnering with the Wahialla, SC ride (Issaqueena’s Last
Ride) for the Blue Ridge Double. Ride both
rides and you will have toured the Appalachian escarpment from bottom to top.

It will be held on consecutive weekends. Riders who complete the metric or
full century in both will receive a commemorative Blue Ridge Double hat.

The Tour de Cashiers features three
rides from 24-mile to a full 100-mile century ride. The Century is right up there as
one of the toughest rides in the country.

Started in 1992 by Clark Moore, the tour has grown into a great regional
ride and trainer for some of the more competitive mountain
races in the area such as the assault
on Mt. Mitchell.

This year the Tour de Cashiers is partnering with the Wahialla, SC ride (Issaqueena’s Last
Ride) for the Blue Ridge Double. Ride both
rides and you will have toured the Appalachian escarpment from bottom to top.

It will be held on consecutive weekends. Riders who complete the metric or
full century in both will receive a commemorative Blue Ridge Double hat.

The Tour de Cashiers features three
rides from 24-mile to a full 100-mile century ride. The Century is right up there as
one of the toughest rides in the country.

Started in 1992 by Clark Moore, the tour has grown into a great regional
ride and trainer for some of the more competitive mountain
races in the area such as the assault
on Mt. Mitchell.

This year the Tour de Cashiers is partnering with the Wahialla, SC ride (Issaqueena’s Last
Ride) for the Blue Ridge Double. Ride both
rides and you will have toured the Appalachian escarpment from bottom to top.

It will be held on consecutive weekends. Riders who complete the metric or
full century in both will receive a commemorative Blue Ridge Double hat.
I am not sure how many of you have seen the new film Alice in Wonderland. If you have, you may have caught yourself feeling a sense of déjà vu or familiarity with Alice, because you know what it is like to fall into a rabbit hole (of sorts). I can tell you, a strange thing happens after you realize you have fallen. Upon impact, nothing really makes sense. It’s disorienting. It can be lonely and desolate and filled with wandering in complete darkness. A moment later you can be surrounded by people who are so wildly different than you that you can’t figure out how they made it down the same rabbit hole.

I can remember looking for a particular rabbit hole at a young age. I had learned a few words and some stories to help me find my way. But looking back, I am not sure how it happened. There was definitely no magical moment that I can look back on to let others know: “these are the directions.” I did have some numinous experiences that brought me closer, but I am convinced it had more to do with the ordinary events of life. It has taken years to decipher where I first realized I was in a wonderland. However, I can say without a doubt, it exists.

Let me describe it for you. The first thing you might notice upon entering is an obvious void. There is no judgment. You cannot even detect slight judgment, like the kind people describe when they say, “I don’t judge, but... you really don’t belong unless you think/believe/do it my way.” I suppose the reason for this void is the awareness everyone has of their own brokenness. Everyone is willing to admit that “I have moments when I goof up, say the wrong thing, and do the wrong thing.” Instead of holding them back, this awareness sets them free. There is no longer a need to dwell on how everyone else falls short, which gives people a freedom to forgive. And that might be the greatest byproduct of the absence of judgment – forgiveness, which enables everyone to admit they are no better than anyone else.

Other things that happen because of this void are understanding, empathy, patience, peace, compassion, and love. When you realize you are as broken as everyone else, you find yourself putting yourself in others shoes (empathy). When you’ve “been there, and done that” it allows time for people to find their way and for you to see there is actually more than one way to do things (patience). It’s easier to offer help, encouragement and create genuine friendships (kindness). There is lightness to the atmosphere when people realize they have more in common than they do differences (peace). And then one awakens to the greatest gift this wonderland has to offer, people sharing themselves with each other (love). As you look around something else is clearly missing – competition. It is no longer necessary, because everyone is helping and giving and serving everyone.

So how can you find “wonderland”? Imagine a person came along and embodied the source of all that I have just described. Now imagine this person dwelt among us and people began to follow him. You can imagine the influence such a person would have. Obviously being the only person living in such an attractive wonderland and teaching people how to get there, it would cause quite a disruption to the “normal” world. Questions would arise like, “what if everyone followed this way of living, without judgment or competition, the whole system would collapse?” Statements would be made...
Navigating the new real estate environment  
Part3 – Purchasing a Short-Sale Property

• Susie deVille Schiffli, ME, ABR, SFR, is a Broker with Harry Norman, Realtors.

Susie deVille Schiffli
Harry Norman, Realtors

Real estate investors are becoming ever more energized as the market begins to show signs of recovery. Understandably, bargain hunters are out, looking for properties that may offer them an unparalleled opportunity to either get into the Highlands-Cashiers market, for the first time or add to their existing real estate holdings.

And as a part of this process, buyers have the option of considering a short-sale property (a property being sold for below what the current seller owes on the property, and the seller does not have the funds to make up the difference at closing), among the other active listings.

Short-sale transactions are animals of a different stripe, so it is important for buyers to fully understand ahead of time if they are a good fit for pursuing such an investment. You may be an ideal buyer candidate for a short-sale property if you meet the following criteria:

• You are a cash buyer or your financing is in order (you are preapproved and can close at any time)
• You are willing and able to write an earnest money check and have those funds tied up until the deal closes
• You are willing to pay for a home inspection without knowing if you will actually go through or not
• You have few or no contingencies (e.g., your offer is not contingent upon the sale of another home)
• You understand the importance of offering a realistic purchase price (so the lender will accept your offer)
• You can handle the emotional roller coaster of not knowing until just days before closing whether it will actually go through or not
• You are patient and are not in a hurry to close (many short sales do not sell for 90 days or even longer)

Initial inspections completed, and formulate a rough estimate of how much it is going to cost to repair or renovate the property. Next, in partnership with your real estate agent, determine the property’s worth and its profit potential.

If you are still at this point, work with your agent to submit a reasonable offer (remember that the National Association of Realtors reports that “Freddie Mac has stated that their target sales price on a short sale is 88% of the broker price opinion”), with your earnest money (again, know ahead of time that this money may be tied up for sometime).

The short-sale contract is signed by the buyer and the seller (not the lender). The lender approves the contract (and is an additional contingency); therefore, even if the seller accepts the offer, there is no guarantee the bank will approve the contract.

The entire process becomes even more complicated if there is more than one lender involved. If there is a second mortgage or a home equity line of credit, you will need approval from all lenders.

Even though there has been quite a lot of discussion about the government and financial industry working together to enact a more streamlined, short-sale course of action, the reality today is that short sales remain a time-consuming process. If, however, you are able to handle the ups and downs of such a transaction, a short sale is definitely worth exploring, given the potential to snap up a great buy.

After becoming more knowledgeable about the short-sale landscape, you may decide you are not adventurous enough to proceed pursuing such a property. In that case, you might want to consider an REO transaction (REO stands for real estate owned), which is a property that the bank has already taken back in foreclosure.

Next, we'll delve into the sphere of foreclosed and REO properties and learn more about this world from both the seller’s and buyer’s perspectives.

Holy Week at Holy Family Lutheran Church
2152 Dillard Rd/Hwy 106

MAUNDY THURSDAY
April 1
5:30 PM – TAIZE-style service

GOOD FRIDAY
April 2
5:30 PM Service of Light/Darkness

EASTER SUNDAY
April 4
9:30 – Coffee Hour
10 – Easter Egg Hunt
10:30 – Service of Resurrection
with Holy Communion
opportunity to do so as an elected official.

- Brian McClellan – Incumbent, County Commissioner District 1 (Rep)

I am 53 years old and have been happily married to my wife Julie for twenty-four years. Julie teaches kindergarten at Highlands School. We have two sons, twins Matthew and Luke, who are freshmen at App State. Through my employment with Edward Jones Investments I use asset protection strategies to help people or nearing retirement to ensure that they don’t run out of money so that they have something to pass along to their children or favorite cause. I was born in Anderson SC and earned degrees from the University of SC and Clemson University. I am a member of the Highlands Rotary Club and a Past President. My family worships at Community Bible Church.

- Bob Simpson – Incumbent, County Commissioner District 2 (Dem)

I am 61 years old. I have been married for 34 years to Margaret Setser Simpson. We have four wonderful children, Caroline, Stephanie, Jeffrey and Sissy are 16-year-old twins. I grew up right here in Macon County, as has my wife and our children. I attended our local schools and attended Western Carolina University. I have been self employed since 1970. I am a life-long member of the First United Methodist Church in Franklin. Also a Paul Harris Fellow in the Franklin Rotary Club. I have been your commissioner since 2002 and seeking re-election for my third term.

- Carroll Poindexter – County Commissioner District 2 (Dem)

I was born in Franklin and grew up in Cowee Valley here in Macon County. I am 50 years old and my wife of 23 1/2 years and I live in the North Skaehnah Community which is just south of Franklin. We have two sons and six grandchildren. I am a General Contractor and a part-time instructor for Southwestern Community College. I have a business degree and I’m a licensed North Carolina General Contractor, Electrical Contractor, Home Inspector, State Approved Electric Instructor for Continuing Education. I am a member of National Fire Protection Association and a Life-Time member of Cambridge Who’s Who.

- Ron Haven – County Commissioner District 2 (Rep)

I am a 1975 graduate of Franklin High School. I am age 51. I am a native of Franklin, NC. My family for over 100 years were from Macon County. My wife of 24 years is Maricela from Los Angeles, CA. We have 11-year old twin sons Cody and Ryan. I have been in business for over 25 years in Franklin also. Although in my younger years I owned and operated several different type businesses, I am now a real estate investor and am owner or co-owner of four motels — The Franklin Motel, The Sapphire Inn, Budget Inn of Franklin, and Budget Inn of Hiawassee. GA. I currently serve on the Franklin Tourism Authority, Franklin’s First Step Program, and the Appalachian Trail Gateway Program.

- Charlie Leatherman – County Commissioner District 2 (Rep)

I am 59 years old and native Maconian. I am married to Melissa and we have three sons Lucas, McIach and Gabriel and one daughter-in-law, Lauren who is married to Lucas. I am a teacher employed by the Macon County Board of Education and work at the Macon County Middle School. I also own and have operated the Highlands United Methodist Church...
enforcement in Macon County. I will be here to protect and serve the community in any way possible, at all times being available to the people. I am 43 years old and I am native of Western North Carolina. One of five children to a single mother who worked so hard to give us the best chance to have a successful life. I grew up knowing the importance of hard work, integrity, honesty, and getting an education. I have been married to my wife and best friend, Rebecca, for 23 wonderful years. We have four beautiful children who bring us such incredible joy. We have also been blessed to have two wonderful grandchildren. Our family is very close we try and get together once a week. I went through BLET the spring of 1995 and graduated in the fall of the same year. I started as a Patrol Officer, Investigator, Captain, and Chief Deputy at the Macon County Sheriff’s Department. Each of these has helped me develop a strong understanding of what it takes to be a great sheriff. I have been very active in our community. I have been on the board of Bumingtown Volunteer Fire Department and a member of Franklin Church of God.

Robert L. Holland – Sheriff (Rep)

I am 43 years old and I am married to Marci, my wife of 16 years. We’re both members of Pine Grove Baptist Church. I’m the son of the late Arvil Holland, a native of Macon County. I was born in Naples, FL and moved here permanently 21 years ago. I am among the 6th generation of Hollands to call Macon County home. I have 19 years of law enforcement experience and I am serving my 8th year as Sheriff. I’m proud to be a Sheriff who has not forgotten the Highlands community—as evidenced by my implementation of 24/7 coverage for this area. Feel free to call me anytime — home 369-6096 office 349-2152.

Jimmy Goodman – NC Senate District 50 (Rep)

I was born in Lynchburg, VA and my education includes graduation from the Shenandoah Valley Academy, the Southern Adventist University where I earned a BA in Biology with a minor in Chemistry and was selected to “Who’s Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges.” After teaching science at the Highland View Academy I graduated from Loma Linda University School of Dentistry. I maintain dentistry licenses in NC, GA and CA. I practiced family dentistry here in Franklin while earning my Masters from Loma Linda University Graduate School with a minor in Clinical Research. I am board-certified in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery. I am married to Judith N. Salyers and we are members of the Franklin Seventh-day Adventist church where we have been a deacon, elder, class teacher and board member. I have been a member of the Franklin Jaycees, the Franklin Chamber of Commerce, the Franklin Lion’s Club, the Macon County Board of Health and I was a Macon County Commissioner 1996-2000, 2004-2008. In 2008 I ran for the commission unopposed; my term ends 2012.

Question 2, which will be answered in the April 8 issue is “Tell us why you are running for office, specifically what you like or dislike about what’s going on — and why you are the right person for the seat you are attempting to get or keep and why you can do it better than your opponents.”

POLICE & FIRE REPORTS

The following are the Highlands Police Dept. logs entries from March 24. Only the names of persons arrested, issued a Class-3 misdemeanor, or public officials have been used.

March 24

- At 3:30 p.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident at U.S. 64 and Spruce Street.
- At 10:35 a.m., a officers responded to a call of a trespasser at a residence on Lower Brushy Face Road.
- At 3:40 p.m., a canvas hand bag was found at the Rec Park and returned to the owner.
- At 10:25 p.m., officers on patrol found an open door at the Rec Park. It was secured.
- At 2:30 p.m., officers responded to a 9-1-1 from an address on Main Street. During the week, police officers responded to 8 alarms and issued 6 citations.

The following are the Highlands Fire & Rescue Dept. incidents from March 24:

March 24

- At 10:03 a.m., the dept. was first responders to assist EMS with a medical call at a residence on Oakland Street. The victim was taken to the hospital.
- At 9:36 p.m., the dept. responded to a call of an accident on Turtle Pond Road. It was unfounded.
- At 11:17 a.m., the dept. responded to a structure fire on Turtle Pond. There was minimal damage.
- At 8:05 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to assist EMS at a residence on Biscuit Rock Road. The victim was taken to the hospital.
- At 11:13 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to assist EMS at a residence on Clubhouse Trail. The victim was taken to the hospital.
- At 8:42 a.m., the dept. responded to an alarm set off by a water system at a residence on Country Club Drive.
- At 5:03 p.m., the dept. provided mutual aid to Cashiers. The call was cancelled en route.
- At 2:57 p.m., the dept. responded to an alarm at a residence on Country Club Drive. It was cancelled by the alarm company.

HELP WANTED


PRN-RN’s at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. Experienced Med-Surg and ER Nurses needed. Strong leadership skills is a must. Pre-employment screening required. Call Human Resources at 828-526-1376 or apply online at www.hchospital.org

CNA at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. Wage scale is $11.00 to $14.40 per hour with shift and weekend differentials. Pre-employment substance screening. Call Human Resources at 828-526-1376 or apply online at www.hchospital.org

RESPIRATORY THERAPIST at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. PRN position working 12 hour shifts. Must be on call at night and be within 20 minutes of the hospital. Intubation experience a must. Pre-employment screening required. Call Human Resources at 828-526-1376 or apply online at www.hchospital.org

HELP WANTED

Looking for Carpenter Work, Have tools. Please call Allende: 524-6304 or 371-2976.

• See CLASSIFIEDS on page 16

CLASSIFIEDS

NOTICE

CALL OF SPECIAL INFORMATION MEETING OF MEMBERS AND THE PUBLIC

A special information meeting of the Town of Highlands, a North Carolina public body, is hereby called to be held on the 7th day of April, 2010, at 10 a.m., at the Highlands Conference Center, for the transaction of business of said town, located at 869 Poplar Street, Highlands, North Carolina. It is desired by the Highlands Town Commissioners that a loan be secured from Rural Development, United States Department of Agriculture, to fund the construction of the Highlands ABC Store renovation for the relocation of the Highlands Police Department. All, or substantially all, of the assets and property of the project acquired as part of this project may be encumbered by the loan agreement.

Mayor David Wilkes
Town Manager, Jim Flatt
325, 41
ADORABLE 1/2 JOE WEBB LOG CABIN

One-bedroom, 1-bath log cabin nestled in the woods. Includes electric, heat, satellite TV, and wifi. Rent includes electricity $685/month. Pets negotiable. Call 526-1797 (st. 2/25)

Residential for Rent

For Sale – Best Commercial Buy in Highlands – 535 N. 4th St. Zoned mixed-use, commercial and residential. Recent Remodel. Great retail/office and separate one-bedroom basement apartment. $389,000. Call 770-827-8450 (st. 11/5)

Commercial for Rent

ONE-BEDROOM APARTMENT IN TOWN – $535 N. 4th Street. $500/month. Call 770-427-4950 (st. 11/5)


FULLY FURNISHED 4-ROOM CABIN SUITE off Glen Falls Road atop Loma Linda Farm. New kitchen, bed, kitchenette, large tiled shower, deck and view. Good for 1 person. $700/month. Includes electric, heat, satellite TV and wifi. Visit http://highlandscashiersrealestate.blogspot.com/ for virtual tour. Phone: 828-412-7952 (st. 11/12)


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

GREAT 2 1/2 BATH APARTMENT – Main Street, Highlands includes 9-foot ceilings, central heat & air, balcony, large laundry room with washer/dryer. $900 per month plus utilities. Lease and references required. Contact John Dotson - 526-5987 (st. 5/22)

COMMERCIAL FOR RENTSALE

RESIDENTIAL FOR RENT


PEACEFUL PRIVATE ROOM FOR RENT – 535 4th Street. Zoned mixed-use, commercial and residential. Recent Remodel. Great retail/office and separate one-bedroom basement apartment. $389,000. Call 770-827-0450 (st. 11/5)

CadiCareer

HIGHLANDS

Piano — Gorgeous Fully restored. Late 1800s upright. $950/month. Call 828-206-0207. (4/22)


Dennis and Tree Removal Cleanup — Roof and gutter repair expert. Call 828-1111 (st. 2/25)

The Highlads Handymen — Anything and Everything. Local References. Call a neighbor. Call Mark at 526-0031 (st. 7/9)

ATHLETES PRIV

DOWNTOWN

ONE-BED, ONE-BATH, FROM DOWNTOWN, $500/month, incl. utilities, satellite TV, access to washer/dryer. Call 828-4598 or 826-3612. (4/29)

LOCATION, LOCATION! 2BR, 1BA upstairs apt. Quiet area 1/2 block from Main St. 828-787-2021 or 526-358-9675 (4/1)

REALLY NEAT DUPLEX – Two bed, one bath. Screened porch, garage, etc. 122 Dog Mountain Road. $750/mth plus utilities and $200 deposit. Call 828-508-0664. (st. 11/6)


ARCHTECTS PRIVATE HOME WITH STUNNING FEATURES. Three bedrooms, plus den, three full baths, and an open living area. Two Stone fireplaces and three decks overlooking stream and private stocked trout pond. Full Privacy. Designer furnished. Walking distance to town. Non-smokers only, no pets. Deposit required. Monthly or yearly rental $2,500 per month. (st. 770-639-2682 or 678-366-9675 (4/1))

HIGHLANDS STORAGE VILLAGE

With covered loading zone

Cashiers Road

Units Available

Deluxe, Indoor Climate Controlled Self Storage

Allan Dearth & Sons Generator
Sales & Service, Inc.
828-526-9325
Cell: 828-200-1139
email: allandeart@gmail.com

J & M Collision Center
Auto Body Repair and Detail Shop
Owner: Jeff Miller
65 Brooks Rd.
Highlands
828-526-1507

Kim Lewicki

UDO from page 1

ment between now and summer.

Since the UDO is an amendment to the town ordinances, the planning board is re-
mquired by state law to review and make recom-
mendations on the Town Board. “Howev-
er, we are not at that point yet,” said Zoning Administrator Joe Cooley. “This has turned into a much larger task than even I had imagined.”

But it will be worth it.

Cooley said when the UDO is finished, it will be easy to understand and user-friendly for laymen, building professionals, committees and boards.

With the comprehensive UDO in hand, hopefully protracted Zoning and Planning board meetings interpreting conflicting definitions and regulations will end.

“Poor or no definitions of things like ‘cluster developments’ have caused big problems in the past,” said Planning Board and UDO Committee member Pat Taylor.

There is a detailed Table of Contents and numerous charts and tables in the UDO which incorporate several aspects of a scenario defined by codes – “P” for permitted, “L” for permitted with restrictions, a blank if not permitted, etc.

In addition, state statutes will be included in an appendix so people understand the regulations behind ordinances, said Cooley. Applications and permits, recommended plant lists, and a calendar outlining dates for application and permit submittal and review will also be in the book.”

A separate Specification Standards Manual will also be developed outlining construction specifications – things engineers need to know for the actual construction process, said Cooley.

For now, the Planning Board will look over the document and email suggestions back by April 6 so they can be incorporated in time for a mid-April meeting with the UDO Committee.
In hope that the language of the agreement could be modified to reflect these concerns, and the project could move forward.

Does the town feel that “100% cooperation” means “their way or the highway?” Why have there not been open meetings provided to communicate to the residents what the town DOES mean to do about this? When the town discusses Big Creek dredging, why does it go into “closed session,” preventing residents and even the newspaper from learning of their plans? And why do they seem to disregard the North Carolina Law which states:

143-318.9. Public policy. Whereas the public bodies which administer the legislative, policy-making, quasi-judicial, administrative, and advisory functions of North Carolina and its political subdivisions exist solely to conduct the people's business, it is the public policy of North Carolina that the hearings, deliberations, and actions of these bodies be conducted openly. (1979, c. 655, s. 1.)

§ 143-318.10. All official meetings of public bodies open to the public. Except as provided in G.S. 143-318.11, 143-318.12, and 143-318.13, all official meetings of all public bodies are open to the public, and any person is entitled to attend such a meeting.

Further, it states that: Every public body shall keep full and accurate minutes of all official meetings, including any closed sessions held pursuant to G.S. 143-318.11. Such minutes may be in written form or, at the option of the public body, may be in the form of sound or video and sound recordings. When a public body meets in closed session, it shall keep a general account of the closed session so that a person not in attendance would have a reasonable understanding of what transpired.

The property owners of Big Creek want full disclosure, answers, and a spirit of cooperation from the town, which can only come from open dialogue. The town’s decisions on the Big Creek issue affects the entire Highlands community, just as they do when money goes to new roads, new schools, landfill sites, etc., so everyone should be privy to the discussions and the plans. We urge the town to publicly clarify their position and plans for the cleanup of the town’s water source and to work with the community to achieve an agreement to move forward, should funding become available.

Frank and Jill Harrison
Highlands

...SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING from 12

like: “it will be total anarchy without someone in charge and a system to allow us to remain in power.”

One might find ways to keep things the way they are, even with this message in the world. One way might be to give people rules and strict ways to follow this message. One might set up institutions based on these rules. The institutions could look like the rest of the world, with hierarchy and power structures. Thus, people could rely on the familiar judgment and competition of the world. People could get back to defining each other by groups and maybe even deciding who is following the rules “the best.” We might invent categories for those good people, calling them: religious or holy or even deciding who is following the rules "the best." We might invent institutions based on these rules. The institutions could look like the rest of the world, with hierarchy and power structures. Thus, people could rely on the familiar judgment and competition of the world. People could get back to defining each other by groups and maybe even deciding who is following the rules “the best.” We might invent categories for those good people, calling them: religious or holy or even deciding who is following the rules "the best."
Sagee Woods. Excellent neighborhood and the most reasonable house in this area. 3 bedrooms, 3 baths, sunroom, fireplace, fresh paint, low maintenance roof. Two car garage, large storage shed. Great privacy with possible additional building site. Offered at $795,000. mls #69625 virtual tour

Cold Springs - Great condition and recently updated! This is a great year round or weekend getaway! Main floor has 2 bedrooms and 2 baths, open kitchen and living room with wrap around decks that have some view of the lake. Lower level has family room with fireplace, bedroom, bath and large workshop. Offered at $576,500. mls #69909

Quintessential Highlands Cottage- Cute, cute, cute. This one has it all! Features stone wood burning fireplace, hardwood floors throughout, vaulted ceilings, amazing vaulted, screened porch with rolling pasture view and a circular drive. This could be a family retreat or seasonal rental property. Only 5 minutes to Main Street and walking distance to Glenn Falls. Recently reduced 100K and priced for immediate sale! MLS 65968

Buckberry - Great year round home is mountain contemporary with clean lines and totally move in ready. Spacious rooms, screened porch, workshop, 2 car garage. 2 bedrooms, 2 baths on main level, Kitchen, living, and dining on main level, bedroom, bath, family room and workshop on lower level. Level access with circular driveway. Offered at $749,500. mls #70018

Cullasaja Club - Lovely Fairway cottage is great location walk to the Clubhouse! 3 bedrooms, 3 baths, fireplace and a gas stove. Carport, workshop. Meticulously maintained and a great course and mountain view! Wonderful stacked stone fireplace and screened porch. Offered at $645,000. mls #69425

Sagee Mountain - Wonderful privacy with this large lot located in one of the best residential areas in Highlands. Gentle yard with small pond and Spectacular View. House has been well maintained with 2 bedrooms, 2 baths on the main level, family room, bedroom, bath and computer room on lower level. garage. A great value for this View! Offered at $1,295,000. mls #6996

Views of Cashiers Valley from atop the plateau come with this lovely Highlands home located off Rhody Road. The owners kept the Old Highlands Charm of the original 1950 home and did a quality home renovation in the 1980s to give it the comforts of modern living. Large private lot! 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths. Ready for a new owner to personalize! Offered at $595,000.

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

Excellent condition 2 bedroom 2 bath home is close to downtown on Highway 64 near Lake Sequoyah and the Veranda Restaurant. Low Maintenance yard with small pond. Master bedrooms on main and upper level. A great starter or year round home that is in Move in condition. Offered at $249,900. mls #69377
Country Club Properties
“Your local hometown Real Estate professionals.”
3 Offices 828-526-2520
www.CCPHighlandsNC.com

**TWIGS at Highlands’ Edge**
“Everything for your Nest™”
...including furniture, accessories, art & gifts.
526-5551
Cashiers Road about 1 mile from town

- Annual Easter Egg Hunt
  11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Rec Park. Chick-Fil-A sandwiches for sale and photos, too.
- CBC EggFest at the ballpark at noon. Bounce House, petting zoo and prizes.