This past weekend’s storm event accelerated the Mayor’s plan to initiate an “emergency communication network” in town, and it reminded everyone that when all is said and done Mother Nature is in charge.

“Previously, citizens with problems after-hours like power outages or water line breaks, called the Town Hall number and got a recording directing them to call another number that went to the county where they typically got another recording,” said Mayor David Wilkes. “Since that number dealt with problems in the entire county, the chances of someone getting help in a reasonable amount of time was not likely. Now citizens will get a live person who will take their information and see that it gets to the person in charge.”

For medical or police related emergencies dialing 9-1-1 is still the appropriate number to call, but for non-emergency incidents, citizens can now call 526-9912 after business hours Monday through Friday or on holidays or Saturdays and Sundays to report electrical or water problems.

When calling the new number, people will get a live person so

The findings of the “Childcare Issue Committee,” which was appointed by the county commission on Feb. 9, 2009, verified what was expected – there is a significant and growing shortage of childcare capacity in Macon County, particularly in the care of children from birth through age two.

“In the childcare industry ‘adequate capacity’ is defined as having childcare slots available for half the child population,” said Chuck Sutton, chairman of the MC Childcare Issues Committee. “Macon County has a preschool (0-5 years) child population of 2,161 and a childcare industry capacity of only 678 children, or 31% of the population. Macon County is short 403 preschool childcare slots. Without new

A convoy of Duke Power trucks and contractors from Dillard-Smith rumbled through town Sunday morning on their way to repair a break in the electric grid.

Photo by Jim Lewicki

Mother Nature brings town to a standstill

Emergency updates, resolutions, rezoning requests and ordinances were key issues at the Feb. 3 Town Board meeting. Turnout, once the county declared a state of emergency 6 p.m. last Friday night and the town followed suit, that act entitled the town to recoup up to 75% of costs incurred due to the storm – namely, town employee overtime, use of equipment, cost of outside contract labor and possibly snow removal.

Once all the costs are tallied, the figure will be turned into the state which will budget to reimburse the town during its 2010-2011 fiscal year, which begins July 1, 2010.

Fire Chief James Manley said over the weekend 21 volunteers logged 196 man-hours responding to about 35 calls including numerous accidents and a structure fire.

Mayor David Wilkes and Town Manager Jim Falstad discussed the new emergency communication network being put in

State to refund town for storm expenses

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Grateful for help during storm

Dear Editor,

I am writing to thank all of the people who helped me in the ice and snow storm on Friday, January 29th. I started up the Dillard Road at around 5:30 p.m.

I had planned to arrive in Highlands long before the storm but was delayed by car trouble on my way from Atlanta.

Around Scaly Mountain, my car lost traction and momentum. A number of people helped push my car two different times. I am grateful to all of them for their caring kindness.

Specifically, I want to thank Steve Himman, a security guard for the Highlands Country Club, and his colleague (unfortunately, in the turmoil I failed to get his name), another security guard for HCC. After helping me a couple of times, it became apparent that the road conditions were too much for my car. Both of them helped push my car to a secure spot and then Steve actually drove me all the way to Highlands even though he was headed down the mountain after a day at work.

I don’t know what I would have done without their generous efforts since I was in an area with no cell phone service. The members of HCC are very lucky to have two such dedicated men looking after their members of HCC are very lucky to have an area with no cell phone service. The mountain was too slick, and there were already some cars stuck and blocking the road. So we came back home instead. We were a little bummed that we couldn’t see all the snow, but it was great to see the photos you posted. It gives us a feel for what it is like. Too bad about the damage to some of the houses, but hopefully none of it is too serious. Thanks!

Don Gentry
Atlanta, GA

Information posted at highlandsinfo.com is helpful

Dear Editor,

I just wanted to express our thanks for the updates on your website www.highlandsinfo.com.

We live in Atlanta, and have a weekend place in Highlands. We tried to come up on Friday, but the road coming up the mountain was too slick, and there were already some cars stuck and blocking the road. So we came back home instead.

Thanks.

Anne Wallis
Atlanta and Highlands

From columnist

Fred to Pat

Dear Editor,

This is a letter in response to Pat Taylor’s letter in the July 21 issue of Highlands’ Newspaper entitled “Are Fred and John one in the same?”

Thank’s so much for your complimentary remarks about me in your recent letter-to-the-editor. I am at a disadvantage because I have not seen the movie Avatar yet, but I’ll assume, coming from you, it must be a good thing. Thanks.

The bond between the Woolridges and Cleaveland is a card game called bridge. We both love Highlands very much and are, at times, critical when dumb, clown-like decisions are made that affect our great little town.

But you missed the boat on John. If you could see my list of deep throats, you would freak out and be surprised. Many of these people do not love Highlands or you and I dismiss their tips. Many hit the nail on the head so I write about it. Most of the things I have been told about you are not complimentary so I have dismissed them. I remember our meeting and you seem like a really great guy.

PS – I keep away from town meetings because I have a short attention span and bore easy.

Also, my opinion of politicians is not the greatest. If you would like to join my deep throat list, I would love to have you on board.

Fred Woolridge
Highlands and Florida

Dear Editor,

After reading Don Swanson’s column for years, I think I have finally realized exactly what he wants in our government.

First, a Republican president and vice-president.

Second, 100 Republican Senators and 435 Republican Representatives in Congress.

Third, nine conservative Supreme Court justices appointed by the aforementioned Republican president.

But wait, there’s more.

He also wants 50 Republican state governors with state legislatures comprised of Republicans only. And naturally, Republican mayors in every city, too.

Then, outlaw the Democratic Party. This appears to be Don Swanson’s utopia.

Have I got it right Don?

Jim Hartje
Otto

Highlands and PDF newspaper keeps me informed

Dear Editor,

I miss reading the Highlands’ Newspaper while I am away for the winter but when researching for the weather conditions, found that I can read it on the Internet, so this makes me very happy! I also like the WebCam — it makes me feel connected to our wonderful little town.

Many thanks for keeping your newspaper a local one. We can all read terrible news in other papers, on the Internet, and see it on TV, etc. I love reading about Highlands and the area with little else when reading your paper! Gratefully,

Marcia Davis, ASID
Atlanta, GA and Highlands

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

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MILESTONES

Dean’s List

The following are students new to the Dean’s List at Appalachian State University: Matthew Wilson McCliefian/English/Freshman; Callie Marie Rawlins/Performance/Senior; Angela Maria Sanchez-Colon/Elementary Education/Junior; Carolyn Irene Hornsby/No Major/Ug Level/Freshman; and Megan Hyatt Lewicki/Theatre Arts/Senior.

CORRECTION

In the Jan. 21 edition of Highlands’ Newspaper we reported that Ricky Bryson served as Chief of the Highlands Fire & Rescue Dept. for one year and as Assistant Chief for 12 years. Bryson never served as chief.

In the same story we reported that Roger Lee Wilson has had perfect attendance for 21 years—it’s 20 years. We regret our errors and are happy to set the record straight.
Doshie M. Wilson

Doshie M. Wilson, 102, of Highlands, NC, died Friday, January 29, 2009 at the Fidelia-Eckerd Living Center in Highlands. She was a native of Macon County, the daughter of the late Rufus and Albie Picklesimer McCall. She was married to the late Hubert Wilson, who died September 19, 1986. She was a homemaker and a member of Clear Creek Baptist Church. She loved farming and gardening. In addition to her parents and husband, she was preceded in death by several brothers and sisters.

She is survived by a daughter, Frances Wilson Reed of Highlands, NC; a son, Clarence Wilson, and wife Ella-Mae of Highlands, NC; eight grandchildren, 13 great-grandchildren, and 13 great-great-grandchildren also survive.

Funeral services were held Monday, February 1, 2010 at 11 am at Clear Creek Baptist Church with Rev. Walter Wilson and Rev. Everett Brewer officiating. Burial was in the church cemetery. Grandsons served as pallbearers: Ralph Hedden, John Munger, Tommy James, Charlie Reed, Roger, Edwin and Mike Wilson. Great-grandsons served as honorary pallbearers: Jason and Adam Woods, Matthew Wilson, Gerald Hedden, Robbie Reed, Joe Munger, and Thomas James. Memorials may be made to Clear Creek Baptist Church Building Fund, c/o Waylon Chastain, PO Box 1717, Highlands, NC 28741. Bryant-Grant Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Note: Doshie Wilson’s mother Albie Picklesimer McCall lived to be 103 as did her first cousin Irene Picklesimer James. Doshie’s mother and Irene’s father were brother and sister. Irene died May 2, 2009.

As a child, Doshie lived with her brothers and sisters in the McCall cabin which now sits on USFS property on Walden Way near Dry Falls.
The laundry Nazi

Dateline: Somewhere in the Gulf of Aden

Disgust and anger are thrown at the happy, oarsome sailors of the USS Farragut. It was a sight to see. The Brits, which make up about two-thirds of the ship, went crazy. The commodore announced to everyone that a US battle cruiser is coming along side and will escort us to Muscat. I raced to the promenade deck for a look.

Wow, there she was, the USS Farragut, about 200 feet off our starboard, a light cruiser of the kind they used to call destroyers. The commodore demanded, “Out.”

I haven’t seen Braun Hilda since the arrival of our American naval ship yesterday. Today, another small cruiser from Saudi Arabia pulled alongside our ship to aid in the escort. According to our commodore, this is a huge political statement by the Saudi’s. We exchanged horns and they took off. I haven’t seen them since.

As I was heading back to my cabin I spotted ole Braun arguing with another woman. I couldn’t resist so I moved closer. The woman was accusing Braun of wearing her dress. Just when it looked as if it was going to come to blows, another German woman approached and offered to translate. When Braun heard the accusation, she shouted “prove it” and folded her arms in defiance. I need to get off this ship.

Just before dinner, a Canadian warship met us just to let us know they were a part of the escort. I think the entire fleet of military vessels in the Bay of Aden is at our disposal. I feel more closely watched than a drunk in Highlands on a Saturday night.

In a few days I’ll be saying goodbye to the Queen Mary 2. I’m burning my tuxedo and trunks. As I was heading back to my cabin I saw Braun Hilda since the arrival of our American naval ship yesterday. According to our commodore, this is a huge political statement by the Saudi’s. We exchanged horns and they took off. I haven’t seen them since.

I’m having Braun Hilda nightmares.

Fred Wooldridge

Feedback is encouraged!

email: askfredanything@aol.com

notices

Coming soon, the Highlands Newspaper will present a three-part police drama titled “Tommy & Madison” taken from the life of a young couple and the unfairness of life. Every teenager in Highlands should read this dramatic story. Watch for it in February.
When I remember Haiti ...

I can't describe the enthusiasm with which our team attacked the task. A filthy store was magically transformed into a recovery room. Faroysa a warehouse uncovered a treasure trove of unused and previously unknown supplies. The hospital had neither bed numbers nor any way of identifying patients. Grace Deveney, R.N., with the aid of American doctors, nurses, and Haitian staff, transformed the wards, opened aisles so we could pass without stepping on mattresses, numbered beds, identified patients. Surgeons worked tirelessly, examining patients and prioritizing their care. Who must be cared for first? Who was stable enough to wait, and the hardest decision, whose injuries were beyond our resources to treat? When we left, a quadriplegic still clung to life, a patient with tetanus, the first I'd seen since medical school, remained alive, but just barely. I remember the Haitian staff, some welcomed us, while others resented our presence. We introduced standard of care that were alien to St. Marc, Haiti.

I can never forget the cohesion of our team, the solidarity, the pride. We called ourselves, "the pros from Dover" a reference from Mash. Our experience did resemble combat medicine. I regret that those who followed us could not gain full membership in our exclusive club. A team of French Canadians came close. The Canadian team included an anesthesiologist and an anesthesiologist resident but their sponsoring organization decided to split the group, leaving orthopedists and a plastic surgeon without anyone to anesthetize their patients. After we finished our last day, they were able to perform all but the simplest operations.

Miraculously, Sam, or maybe Sham, an anesthesiologist from Kathmandu, Nepal appeared an hour before our departure. He was one of the lucky and enterprising doctors, professionals eager to serve, but lacking sponsorship and organizational support. Luckily he found a place to work. I'm sure, with his help, the Canadians are operating today. For now, there are no Sundays in Haiti.

Lastly, I remember the change in our patients. They were dying when we arrived. We amputated arms and legs to save lives, but only those who consented. We debrided stinking wounds and treated horrible infections. When we left, the process of reconstruction and rehabilitation had begun. Much remains to be done. It's hard enough to live in Haiti with two legs. The world's community must assist in physical therapy and provide simple, effective prosthetic devices. Haiti is no place for high tech solutions. In a country where toilets rarely flush, American doctors, nurses, and Haitian staffs, transformed the wards, opened aisles so we could pass without stepping on mattresses, numbered beds, identified patients. Grace Deveney, R.N., with the aid of American doctors, nurses, and Haitian staff, transformed the wards, opened aisles so we could pass without stepping on mattresses, numbered beds, identified patients. Surgeons worked tirelessly, examining patients and prioritizing their care. Who must be cared for first? Who was stable enough to wait, and the hardest decision, whose injuries were beyond our resources to treat? When we left, a quadriplegic still clung to life, a patient with tetanus, the first I'd seen since medical school, remained alive, but just barely. I remember the Haitian staff, some welcomed us, while others resented our presence. We introduced standard of care that were alien to St. Marc, Haiti.

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The first nuclear-powered submarine, the USS Nautilus (SSN-571), logs its 60,000th nautical mile, matching the endurance of the fictional Nautilus described in Jules Verne’s novel “20,000 Leagues Under the Sea.”

If you think you ought to call for the very latest item nautical, something that should be on your radar might well be found by looking nectar. And by saying this, here’s what I mean, please consider the submarine, and not just any submersible, this one was sort of rehashable, (and on this I can not be laconic) for this one was the first to be atomic. Amazing, novel, and an intrigue, this one was in a separate league.

**His & Hers**

**Sex, lies, and the ‘State of Union’**

**by John Armor**

I’m just a semi-retired lawyer, living on a gravel road in the Blue Ridge Mountains. But I am also an avid consumer of news in all forms. This is a test. I read none of today’s analyses of the State of the Union speech. Here are the obvious lies I saw, off the top of my head.

**Lie 1:** “One in 10... cannot find work.” Government statistics show that unemployment is almost double that; 17% are out of work. But the “official” rate ignores the 7% who have given up looking for a job.

**Lie 2:** “To get a government that matches [Americans] dignity.” Is he totally unaware of the members of his Administration, or of his supporters in Congress, who are currently under investigation as tax cheats, perjurers, or other felonies? Or, does President Obama assume that they will all beat the rap?

**Lie 3:** “We made the [financial recovery] program more transparent and accountable.” Is he unaware that Congress is currently trying to find out where the new $850 billion bailout money went? Who got it, and why, and how?

**Lie 4:** “There are about two million Americans... who would otherwise be unemployed... because of the steps we took.” His own experts said the stimulus program would “keep unemployment below 8%.” His own people released a claim of jobs saved, district by district. That report listed more than a dozen congressional districts that don’t exist. The press has also gone into the gross inflation of many of the individual claims.

**Lie 5:** “Guard against the same recklessness [of the banks] that nearly brought down our entire economy.” He cannot claim ignorance of the laws promoted by Barney Frank in the House and Chris Dodd in the Senate, which forced banks to make loans to people unlikely to repay them. He can’t claim ignorance, because as a lawyer in Chicago he went to court to force banks to make such bad loans.

**Lie 6:** “The overwhelming scientific evidence on climate change.” He must know that leading scientists claiming the sky is falling because of global warming are being exposed and investigating for hiding and faking the data.

**Lie 7:** “National competition to improve our schools.” He cannot be so isolated and ignorant not to know his strongest possible supporters – the education unions – fight every possible effort to fire bad teachers, provide incentive pay, and allow real competition from private and charter schools and homeschooling.

**Lie 8:** “According to the Congressional Budget Office... our approach [to health care] would bring down the deficit by as much as $1 trillion....” A week after the CBO issued its first analysis, it issued a correction. It had made a half-billion dollar math error. Unless he and his entire staff were asleep at the switch, he knows his claim of deficit reduction is false.

**Lie 9:** Starting in 2011, we are prepared to freeze government spending for three years.... This starts late and covers only one-fifth of the federal budget. This is fiscal bullia – gorge yourself, then throw up a little, then claim you are being responsible.

**Lie 10:** “I called for a bipartisan Fiscal Commission... the Senate blocked a bill to [do that]... so I will issue an Executive Order... to go forward.” Anyone with even a passing familiarity with the Constitution knows that presidents can’t force money to be spent on this Commission, or any other purpose, without approval by Congress. Regardless of what he thinks, we are not a dictatorship. Yet.

**Lie 11:** “Last week, the Supreme Court reversed a century of law to open the floodgates for special interests – including foreign corporations – to spend without limits in our elections.” That case did not lay a finger on the long-standing prohibition of foreign money in American elections, nor the general barrier to corporate contributions. Either he was lying when he said this, or he should return his diploma to Harvard Law because he didn’t learn how to read and understand a Supreme Court case.

I skipped various lies about national security, because even casual readers of the news understand why it was wrong to...
O
tone of the questions
that I have been
asked a lot lately is
what is wrong with the
University of North Caroli-
a’s basketball team. Usually
my response is “Not a
damn thing, they have won
two National Champions-
ships in five years and have
owned Duke recently.”

However, with North
Carolina sitting at the bottom of the ACC
and struggling, I can understand why fans
of the Tar Heels are a bit skittish. Here are
some pieces of advice for UNC fans as
they attempt to make it through a tough
season.

1. Help is on the way, mainly in the
form of top recruit Harrison Barnes, but
also with 4-star PG Kendall Marshall and
SG Reggie Bullock. UNC’s backcourt has
been turnover-prone and unreliable this
year, but the infusion of new talent
should help the Heels. Additionally, even
if Ed Davis turns pro (probably 60-40 at
this point) UNC will still field a whop-
ing nine McDonald’s All American’s on
this team. As much as I would love to
see a hyperbaric chamber.

2. There is still time to make a run
this season. Even though UNC finishes
with six of their last 10 games on the
road, they are sitting at 13-8 and need
only seven wins to get into the tourna-
ment. Add in the fact that UNC is one of
the top three teams in the country just a year later.
With the impact of freshman
at the college level in
today’s game, teams are
just a recruit or two away
from a huge turnaround,
and Roy Williams is cur-
cently the best recruiter in the
game. Now that I have performed my good
deed for the year and talked all UNC fans
down off the ledge (so to speak), I have
more pressing matters to attend to.
There’s a game this weekend — you may
have heard of it… it’s called the Super
Bowl. I’ll be watching — probably from a
hyperbaric chamber.

3. Many of the glaring weaknesses
of this UNC team are coachable. If a team
like Western Carolina is struggling, it is
likely because of a personnel weakness.
Lower tier teams simply cannot recruit
the athletes necessary to compete at the
highest level (the ACC, Big East, Big 12,
ext). However, UNC has plenty of talent
and athleticism — if the light bulb goes
on then they are right back at the top of
college hoops.

4. In the event that UNC does miss
the NCAA tournament, it’s
not the end of the world.
Kentucky went to the NIT
last year and is now one of
the top three teams in the
country just a year later.
With the impact of fresh-
man at the college level in
today’s game, teams are
just a recruit or two away
from a huge turnaround,
and Roy Williams is cur-
cently the best recruiter in the
game.

... HIS & HERS continued from page 6

... HIS & HERS continued from page 6

There was a time when the press did any kind of research to challenge any falsehoods in the Presi-
dent’s State of the Union address. I hope I
have encouraged them in that direction.

• About the Author: John Armor
practiced law in the US Supreme Court
for 33 years. His latest book, on Thomas
Paine, will be published this year.
www.TheseAreTheTimes.us Reach him
here: John_Armor@aya.yale.edu
I waited until the State of the Union address to write this column and now I wonder why. I listened as long as I could and I thought, this isn’t the state of the Union, this is the state of his twisted psyche. Feeling the heat of a year of failure, he exhibited anger at the Supreme Court (tacky, disrespectful), Congress (mocked), Republicans in general, Bush in particular (that is really getting old).

He complained that it’s a hard job. Really? Goes the leader of the free (and unfree for that matter) world, a world in turmoil and a country in deep distress, and the boy genius discovers it’s a hard job. Amazing.

After a year of wasting time watching the unemployment rate rise, he says we must “continue” to emphasize job creation. He’s been emphasizing job creation! I must have missed that part of history.

Nothing of substance was accomplished because those pesky Republicans wouldn’t cooperate. He has/had a supermajority in the Senate, a huge majority in the House, strongarm leaders in both, and it’s the Republicans fault? No, no, no, it’s the fault of the people. The people who have made their feelings heard and the politicians were hearing them. Reality bites.

Remember the days when W was being ridiculed for shooting from the hip? You know, speaking before thinking? I guess. Let’s go back a year or so when Obama decreed that “evil” concentration camp in Cuba would be closed by now. Well, that announcement seems premature, doesn’t it? Might not have thought that one through. Then there was Eric Holder’s dastardly announce that the trial for KSM and the rest of the Trade Tower plotters would be held in Lower Manhattan. Any reasonable adult knew that it was a terrible idea on a number of levels, a fact that might be penetrating the consciousness of the administration at this point.

Pertaining to absolutely nothing. I tried to get away from it all for a few minutes and turned on the Duke/Georgetown game. Who was there at the announcers’ table? Who other than President Obama? He’s ubiquitous, and you can’t escape him. To add insult to injury, later I turned on Fox News and they covered his visit to the game and reported it complete with tape of him. ARRGGH!

Remember when we were coming out of a recession while W was running for his second term? The media riled him unfurlfully about the fact that it was a jobless recovery. At the time, the unemployment rate had dropped from 6.2% to 5.6%. Now that the unemployment rate is stuck in double digits, have you heard much about a jobless recovery? Me neither.

Enough of him. I’m really concerned about Pelosi. Do you remember the day she got elected to speaker? Man, oh man, there she was, first pumping and wild-eyed, leading the cheers for the success of womanhood. She looked a little over the top to me, but it was a momentous occasion.

The other week, I think it was the day after Brown was elected, she appeared on TV, looking like the wrath of God had visited upon her. She looked woe-begotten to the nth degree as she advised us there was no way she could get the health care bill through the House. Well, you can’t blame her for looking whipped; she really has been busting it for the last year.

Then, as she sat behind Obama as he gave his State of the Union address she bounced up and down, eyes boring and clapping madly at nearly every line he spoke. Biden, sitting alongside her, gave her the evil-eye numerous times as he felt he needed to join her in her callisthenics and didn’t want to. It was priceless.

A few days later, I believe she became completely unhinged as she announced in total contradiction to her earlier statement, that come hell or high-water, she was going to jam health care through if she had to “high jump” over something, and if that didn’t do it, she’d “pole vault” over something, and if that didn’t do it, she’d “parachute” into something. WHAT? To think that if some tragedy befell Obama, and Biden was certified incompetent, she’d be our president. The prospect of that would drive everybody nuts.

Go to highlandsinfo.com for weather related photos!
Ongoing

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

Sundays
• At-risk youth meets every Sunday night at 6:30 p.m. downstairs at Cullasaja Assembly of God at 6201 Highlands Road, Franklin, NC. Contact youth ministers Seth & Sarha Henegar at 828 369-7540 ext 203.

• Christ Anglican Church, Highlands-Cashiers will be sharing facilities with Whiteside Presbyterian Church (PCA) of Cashiers, beginning with the first Sunday of the New Year, Jan. 3, 2010. Whiteside PCA is located at 621 US Highway 64(W), Cashiers, NC 28717. The service time for Christ Anglican will be 9 a.m. each Sunday morning, starting on January 3. Everyone is invited to come and be part of this historic symbiosis of two orthodox Christian churches. Watch these pages for new worship and teaching opportunities.

Mon., Wed., Thurs.
• Yoga On the Mat at the Episcopal Church of the Incarnation on Main Street, Enter through single door facing Mountain Fresh. Upper Level Jones Hall. Winter Hours: Monday at 8:30 a.m. and Thursday at 10:45 a.m. Bring your mat. 828-482-2128. $10/hour.

Mon. & Wed., Fri.
• Step Aerobics with Tina Rogers at the Rec Park, 8:45 a.m. $10 per class or $50 a month.

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

MONDAYS

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

TUESDAYS

• Tuesdays 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.
• Clogging Lessons at the Rec Park, 5 p.m. Leather shoes recommended and tap shoes can be ordered. For more information, call Joyce Doeter at 877-6638. $30/month.
• Highlands Rotary Club meets at noon at the Highlands Conference Center.
• Closed AA Women’s meeting, 5:30 p.m. at the Episcopal Church at Fifth and Main streets.

TUESDAYS & WEDNESDAYS


WEDNESDAYS
• Wednesday Preschool Creativity Classes for Parent and Child (ages 2 1/2–5) 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.
• 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 526-5376.
• The Highlands Mountaintop Rotary meets at Ruka’s Table at 163 Main Street in Wright Square in Highlands at 7:30 a.m. Visitors are welcome. If you are new to the Highlands area we invite you to join us for breakfast and our meeting.
• Men’s interdenominational Bible Study at 8:30 a.m. at First Baptist Church.
• 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.

FRIEDAYS & WEDNESDAYS

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

Every 3rd Wednesday

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

THURSDAYS

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

1st & 3rd Thursdays

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

Every Third Saturday

• The Highlands Memorial Post #370 of the American Legion meets at the Shortoff Baptist Church. Breakfast is at 7 a.m. Meeting is at 10 a.m. All veterans are invited to attend.

Every Fourth Saturday

• Friends of Panther town work days, are the fourth Saturday of each month. (Time and location varies). Volunteers needed to maintain trails. For more information, contact Nina Elliott at 828-526-9398 (ext 258).
• Saturdays: Saturday Art School for grades K-8 is held weekly at The Bascom in Highlands. To register or for more information, visit www.thebascom.org or call (828) 526-4949 ext. 100.
• At Cyprus International Restaurant, live music beginning at 9 p.m. No cover.
• At Highlands Wine & Cheese, Falls on Main, Wine Flights from 4-6:30 p.m. Five wines, artisan cheeses and specialty foods. $19/person.
• NA open meeting every Saturday at 7:30 p.m. of the ACC Satellite Group at the Graves Community Church, 242 Hwy 107 N. in Cashiers. Call 888-764-0384.

Thursday, Feb. 4
• Highlands-Cashiers Hospital along with AmEd Regional Blood Center bloodmobile will be at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital Thursday 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. and at the Highlands’ First Citizen Bank from 12:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. Anyone 17 years or older and 110 pounds can give blood. If you are taking medication, it won’t usually prevent you from giving blood, however, you may want to bring the name of the medication with you.
• Free movie at the Cashiers Library at 3 p.m. “Angels and Demons.” The movies and popcorn are free, but donations are appreciated. Movies are among the many services provided to the community by the Friends of the Library.
• At the Smoky Mountain Center for the Performing Arts in Franklin on the Hwy. 441, the Booth Brothers. Tickets are $14 per person. Call 828-524-1598 or 866-273-4615 or go to greatmountainmusic.com.
• The High Mountain Squares will dance this Friday night, February 5th, at the Macon County Community Building from 7-9 p.m. Jim Roper from Colorado CA will be calling the “Graduation Dance.” We dance Western Style Square Dancing, main stream and plus levels. Everyone is welcome. For more information call 828-349-0095, 828-369-8344, 706-782-0943, or www.highmountainsquares.org.
• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take an easy 2-mile hike to Mud Creek Falls off Hwy. 246/206 near Blackwell Gap Trail. Meet at the Nantahala Club on Main and Fifth streets. Call leader Kay Coriell, 371-0183, for reservations. Visitors are welcome but no pets please.

Friday, Feb. 5
• At Health Tracks at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital, various exercise classes all week long. Call 828-526-1FIT.

Saturday, Feb. 6
• At the Smoky Mountain Center for the Performing Arts in Franklin on the Hwy. 441, the Booth Brothers. Tickets are $14 per person. Call 828-524-1598 or 866-273-4615 or go to greatmountainmusic.com.
• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a moderate-to-strenuous 4.5 mile hike with an elevation change of 1000 feet from the Standing Indian campground to Blackwell Gap Trail. Meet at the Nantahala Club House on Carl Slagle road in Franklin at 9 a.m. Drive 20 miles round trip with shuttle. Call Chris Shaw, 371-0183, for reservations. Visitors are welcome but no pets please.

Sunday, Feb. 7
• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take an easy 2-mile hike to Mud Creek Falls off Hwy. 246/206 near Blackwell Gap Trail. Meet at the Nantahala Club on Main and Fifth streets. Call leader Kay Coriell, 371-0183, for reservations. Visitors are welcome but no pets please.

To request ad rates and a publication calendar, email highlandseditor@aol.com

NEW POLICY

For-Profit Businesses and NonProfit Organizations requesting Promotional or Press Release space, must agree to an advertising arrangement.

Without an arrangement, only a listing in the upcoming events calendar will appear for NonProfits but no listing will be accepted for For-Profit Business events.

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: Mondays at 5 p.m.

DEADLINE:

RUBY CINEMA

Hwy 441, Franklin, NC 524-2076

DEAR JOHN

rated PG-13

Friday:4:20, 7:10, 9:20

Saturday:2:10, 4:20, 7:10, 9:20

Sunday:2:10, 4:20, 7:10

Mon + Wed:4:20, 7:10

Tues + Thurs:2:10, 4:20, 7:10

EDGE OF DARKNESS

rated R

Friday:4:20, 7:10, 9:15

Saturday:2, 4:15, 7, 9:15

Sunday: 2, 4:15, 7

Mon + Wed:4:15, 7

Tues + Thurs: 2, 4:15, 7

TOOTH FAIRY

rated PG

Friday:4:10, 7:05, 9:10

Saturday:2:05, 4:10, 7:05, 9:10

Sunday:2:05, 4:10, 7:05

Mon + Wed:4:10, 7:05

Tues + Thurs: 2:05, 4:10, 7:05

AVATAR

rated PG-13

Final Week

Friday: 4:30, 7:30

Saturday:1:30, 4:30, 7:30

Sunday: 1:30, 4:30, 7:30

Mon + Wed:4:30, 7:30

Tues + Thurs: 1:30, 4:30, 7:30
Ongoing and Upcoming Events

from 3 to 4:30 p.m. at the Peggy Crosby Center. Children are invited to participate in arts and crafts, as well as listen to a read-aloud of a Valentine’s-themed book. Loving Literacy is a free event and open to all children. Snacks will be provided. To RSVP or for more information, contact Goggins at 828-526-9938, extension 240.

Thursday, Feb. 11
• Town Board Budget Worksession at 4 p.m. at the Community Building.
• The League of Women Voters of Macon County will host a program on the 2010 U.S. census. At the censuses announcement meeting, County Manager Jack Horton and County Planner Derek Roland will explain the importance of the census to Macon County, how it will be conducted, and will explain the role of the CCC (the Complete Count Committee), a committee comprised of community and government leaders dedicated to building awareness of the 2010 census.

Pat Bonard will discuss census jobs. There will be a question and answer period. The meeting will be held at Tartan Hall in Franklin. Lunch is available at noon by reservation. Call 524-5192.

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

• The Needlers’ Needlework Club will meet on, at 3:30-5 pm at the Ag Center. Our members are currently making some challenging projects. Anyone (ages 5-18) interested in crochet, knitting, or embroidery is welcome to attend.

Saturday, Feb. 13
• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a moderate 4-mile hike from Rock Gap to Winding Stair Gap. Meet at Westgate Plaza in Franklin, opposite Burger King at 9:30 a.m. Drive 20 miles round trip with shuttle. Call leaders Bill and Sharon Van Horn, 369-1893, for reservations. Visitors are welcome but no pets please.

Sunday, Feb. 14
• Highlands Hop for Haiti rescheduled due to snow. 5-9 p.m. at the Highlands School Old Gym. Anyone you cannot make the new event, but would like to donate, can drop off their toy or monetary donations at the Episcopal Church of the Incarnation on the corner of Main and 5th streets in Highlands. The mission team is now looking to fly to Haiti; the week of Feb. 15, so postponement of the Hop will not delay the delivery of the donated items.

Monday, Feb. 15
• The Jackson County GOP will meet on Monday at 7 p.m. for a General Meeting at Ryan’s in Sylva. Among the items of business to be discussed are final plans for the group’s Red, White and Blue Gala to be held on February 26th at the Balsam Mountain Inn and the GOP County Convention scheduled for March 6th. For additional information call Dodie Allen, Jackson County GOP Chair at Republican Headquarters, 828 566-8895 or Ralph Slaughter Vice Chair at 828 743-6491.

Tuesday, Feb. 16
• At Hiawt, Ishmael by Daniel Quinn, Coordinator: Karen Hawk. Civic Center: 10:11-30 a.m.

Thursday, Feb. 18
• Free movie at the Cashiers Library at 3 p.m., “My Sister’s Keeper,” with Cameron Diaz. The movies and popcorn are free, but donations are appreciated. Movies are among the many services provided to the community by the Friends of the Library.

• The Jackson County GOP Glenville/Cashiers Precinct Meeting will be held on Thursday, at 7 p.m. at the Albert Carlton Library in Cashiers. Delegates to the District GOP Convention and State GOP convention will be nominated at this meeting. Also, general precinct business will be on the agenda. The Cashiers precinct includes Sapphire. Call Cashiers Precinct Chair, Jim Nichols at 828 508-8048 or Glenville Precinct Chair Jim Mueller at 828 743-3057.

Highlands-Cashiers Players preparing for ‘The Dixie Swim Club’

From left: Betsy Miller, Carla Gates, Jenny King, Mary Adair Leslie and Lee Lyons.

My children have said that they envy my teen years. According to them, I had much more fun in high school than they did. Actual they’re right.

At our Atlanta high school, we had social clubs. Within this group, we worked on school projects, played, studied, planned parties, and supported one another through the normal adolescent angst. Above all, we formed strong, deep bonds. Now, many years later, those bonds are still intact. Seven of us meet for a few days twice a year to reminisce, laugh, and catch up with each other’s lives. It’s relaxed, comfortable, and fun. Although different from each other in many ways, we continue to love and support each other through good times and bad.

The Dixie Swim Club, the upcoming play by the Highlands-Cashiers Players, is about a similar group of women. They all met in college when they were on the championship swim team. When the play opens twenty-two years later, they’re at their annual trip to the Outer Banks. Team captain Sheree is still the mother hen to the group and is played by Jenny King. Self-centered, vain, attractive Leslie is played by Betsy Miller. Successful, martini-drinking attorney Dinah is Carla Gates. Vernadette, the “Hard Luck Hannah” in the group is Lee Lyons, and Jeri Neal, the sweet, innocent nun with the big surprise is played by Mary Adair Leslie. When the play opens, the women are in their early forties, when is closes, they’re in their late twenties. In between, the audience shares the laughter and sometimes poignant moments in the lives of the champion Dixie Swim Club, directed by Rick Siegel.

Performances will be at the Performing Arts Center in Highlands, running Feburary 25-28 and March 5-7. Evening performances begin at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday matinees begin at 2:30 p.m. The box office opens for season subscribers on Thursday, Feb. 18 and Saturday, Feb. 20 for the general public. Call 828-526-8084.

Enrollment doubles for youth Saturday Art School at The Bascom

Saturday Art School is thriving at The Bascom. Here, Bascom art students work on a project. To register or for more information, visit www.thebascom.org or call (828) 526-4949 ext. 100.

For two hours every Saturday morning youth from Highlands, Cashiers and the surrounding areas eagerly attend The Bascom’s Saturday Art School. Started in the fall, the 10 a.m. to noon class teaches kids the fundamentals of visual art, with drawing, painting, clay work and more. Bascom Education Director Norma Hendrix knew the class would be popular, but she was thrilled to realize when the winter session began last week that enrollment had doubled.

“My sister and I had a cup of coffee and some quiet time in the Library at The Bascom. We realized we had zero kids in the class and thought that was weird. Then we realized that there had been a woodworking class and it was full. We decided to take a look at our enrollment numbers and saw that our Saturday class had doubled!” Hendrix said.

The class is currently accepting late enrollment for the spring session. Parents of students can spend a morning in Highlands, or enjoy a cup of coffee and some quiet time in the Library at The Bascom. To register or for more information, visit www.thebascom.org or call (828) 526-4949 ext. 100.
The ups and downs of the January 29-31 weekend snow and storm event

Photos by Jim and Kim Lewicki

Though at one time over the weekend 75% of all residents were without power, and vehicles lined the ditches of NC 106 and US 64, beauty was found and joy had while nature quickly reminded us who is in charge.
Why bad things happen

Rev. Brian Sullivan
Episcopal Church of the Incarnation

The past few days, we all have had plenty of time to reflect. What else is one to do in the dark, without electricity, or heat (except for a fireplace)? But reflection is somewhat a waste of time, when you begin to experience what comes afterwards — being set free.

I was amazed at the need we all had to share our common misfortune. After the big lockdown, (or in this case, “freeze-down”) the day began with a very succinct statement: “I will never be able to play another game of Uno.” With that one sentence, the stories came pouring out of us. By midday they continued at Rotary as our lunch conversation circled with escalating themes of inconvenience. Everyone had something to add to the conversation. By the end of the day, as I walked into Mountain Fresh, I was met with high-pitched laughter flowing in my direction from the coffee bar. The source — three haggard faces reflecting my feeling in one sentence: “Wefew, we happy few, we band of brothers.”

Despite these stories, I know well realize none of them compare to the tragedy of our Haitian brother and sisters. Their gaunt faces conjure up an image with more gravity than St. Crispin’s speech in Henry V about brotherhood. I can think of one quote: “If one member suffers, all suffer together with it.”

As a Christian, it is this image that I have when I see, experience, or hear about suffering. Paul shared this image in his first letter to a church in Corinth. The letter describes us as one body. A body so perfectly balanced that the inferior members are treated like the superior members, and vice versa. In other words, we are all the same, especially when tragedy strikes. Yet even in our sameness, we are individuals with incredibly diverse gifts. With this simple image in mind, I am always amazed at the energy spent trying to understand why tragedy happens.

This astonishment struck particularly hard in the aftermath of the Haitian earthquake. We have all heard some pretty amazing explanations for the reason Haiti is suffering. The explanations range from the politically absurd to the theologically inexplicable. And throughout the entire struggle to answer this question, I have only heard one story that makes any sense. A newspaper had the courage to show us the perishing and complicated answer: children playing. They were not looking back for an answer; they were chasing cars out of discarded water bottles. They were not wringing their hands wondering why; they were running around a playground.

They weren’t even reflecting pensive in the shade; they were running around a playground. They were not using words to answer the question; instead they were showing us how meaningless the struggle for an answer is. In the midst of tragedy they came together like a body in perfect unity — laughing, holding hands, and sharing their pain.

Why do bad things like earthquakes, snowstorms, terrorism, cancer, rape, torture, calamity, fire, and destruction happen? The answer is the greatest verb in our lexicon. It is something inherent in each of us. It is exactly what we have experienced in Highlands the past few days. It is exactly what is happening in Haiti at this very moment. It is greater than faith or hope. It is the answer to all our problems. There is only one answer when tragedy happens — love.
“Each unit of blood that is donated impacts someone's life. Whether it aids in fighting terminal diseases or builds one's immune system to keep them strong during treatments. “Maybe it's one time transfusion that saves a life,” says Ann Greenlee, manager of the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital’s laboratory. “Those who give blood usually never see the person they help, but every one of those patients has a face, a family, and loved ones. Each unit of blood someone donates affects many, many people.”

Highlands-Cashiers Hospital along with AnMed Regional Blood Center will continue their annual joint blood drive February 4th. Greg Johnson of AnMed Blood Center said “The community can play an important role in this winter’s blood supply.” The AnMed bloodmobile will be at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital on Thursday, February 4 from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. and at the Highlands’s First Citizen Bank from 12:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. “The number of blood products used for patients is largely increasing each year. More than half of the patients receiving blood from the hospital are your friends and neighbors. The blood that was donated last year made a real difference in those people's lives”, says Greenlee.

“Blood can be given at every age. There is never too much participation during times like these. “Blood we get now will last up to 42 days. So blood donated during your drive will help us during a time when collections are normally minimal,” says Johnson, which has supplied the hospital’s needs for blood products for over 20 years”.

HCH is installing a new multi-slice CT scanner (computerized tomography) that will not only scan patients faster but the technology also improves accuracy by enabling the images to be viewed in multiple planes.

The new CT scanner will take 16 image slices per rotation enabling our Radiologist to reconfigure the 2-dimensional picture images into different planes. “The multi-slice CT scanner is able to produce higher resolution images which are sharper and crisper. The multi-slice images are combined with the reconstruction software, allowing the Radiologists to better view the head, chest, abdomen, pelvis, and extremities, and get a more precise block of information for a quicker and more accurate diagnosis,” said Laura Ammons, Radiology Manager.

“The machine provides images from different angles to show a cross section of the body part in question but supplies much more detailed information than a traditional x-ray,” explained Staff Radiologist, Rodney Stinnett, MD. The scan takes “visual slices” of your body to help locate problems including aortic aneurysms, appendicitis and internal injuries. The images are then projected on a work station monitor for interpretation. A report is generated to be given to the patients' physician
c

Nursing staff at hospital continues to excel

HCH’s highly specialized nursing team includes individuals who have received nationally advanced certifications in critical areas of patient care. “Our hospital has over 75 nurses working alongside experienced and committed Medical staff with one goal in mind-to provide the best care possible. We work closely with our Radiologists to provide the highest level of care.”

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• See HOSPITAL NEWS page 14
... HOSPITAL NEWS continued from page 13

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- Fajitas for Two: $22
- Sea Love: $35

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Fatland said the town can return the money if it doesn’t use it but it’s best to say “yes” first. Word from FEMA concerning its pending grant money for stormwater remediation specifically at Fifth and Laurel streets is expected in 30 days.

The mayor also announced that Marilyn deVille is on the Business Group Committee.

“We have to commit to this to get the money, but we hope to be able to come back with change orders to use it elsewhere,” said Wilkes.

Specialist, has been working in the hospital’s Fidelia Eckerd Living Center for the past 15 years. Recently, Oakes has been certified as a CWS (Certified Wound Specialist) by the American Academy of Wound Management. By applying the latest treatment methods in wound care, wounds can heal faster and more completely with less likelihood of returning. “My certification gives me the confidence needed to give my patients the best care. We treat many residents and patients daily who have diabetic foot and ankle ulcers, surgical wounds, burns and pressure ulcers. We can implement the proper treatment plan for the best possible outcome,” said Oakes.

Along with Bryan Devinney’s CEN certification, he has also received his Certified Hospital Emergency Coordinator credential. By completing the CEC process, the Emergency Management Coordinator learns and validates the skills necessary to enable the hospital to better care for victims of natural or man-made disasters and various other public health emergencies, such as the recent H1N1 pandemic. “I feel that our hospital is better equipped to handle emergency situations when they arise,” said Devinney.

“We are very proud of the dedicated members of our nursing staff. They are committed to providing the best possible care to all of our patients. There are so many times our well-being is put into their hands; it’s time to express our gratitude for the exceptional care they continue to give,” said Frank Leslie, Interim CEO.
The following are the Highlands Police Dept. log entries from Jan. 28. Only the names of persons arrested, issued a Class-3 misdemeanor, or public officials have been used.

**Jan. 28**
- At 6:45 p.m., officers responded to a call about a vehicle on the side of the Azalea Drive.
- At 2 p.m., officers received a call about someone driving over surveyor’s equipment on Dogwood Lane.
- At 10:50 a.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident on NC 106 and Buttermilk.
- At 7:20 p.m., officers responded to an accident on US 64 west.
- At 5:30 a.m., officers responded to a call about a tree on a vehicle on S. 4th Street.
- At 3:20 a.m., officers on patrol found an open door at a business.

It was secured.

During the week, police officers responded to 16 alarms and issued 3 citations.

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

**Jan. 29**
- At 1:48 p.m., the dept. responded to multiple accidents on S. 4th Street. There were no injuries.
- At 2:21 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with a medical call at Chestnut Hill. There was no transport.
- At 4:49 a.m., the dept. assisted a stranded motorist on Turtle Pond Road.
- At 7:34 a.m., the dept. responded to a transformer fire on Azalea Drive. It was out upon arrival.
- At 9:35 a.m., the dept. responded to an accident on NC 106. There were no injuries.
- At 19:42 a.m., The dept. responded to a fire alarm at a residence on Big Bear Pen Road. There was no problem.
- At 7:19 p.m., the dept. provided mutual aid to Scaly Fire & Rescue for a chimney fire at a residence on Ritchie Road.
- At 8:01 p.m., the dept. responded to a possible structure fire at a residence on Walkingstick Road. The call was canceled en route.

**Jan. 30**
- At 12:58 p.m., the dept. responded to a call about a stuck vehicle on NC 106.
- At 5:57 p.m., the dept. responded to a carbon monoxide alarm at a residence on Many Road. It was cancelled.
- At 10:41 a.m., the dept. responded to a structure fire at a residence on Maplewood Lane. There was extensive damage, possibly due to a heater malfunction.

**Feb. 1**
- At 11:42 a.m., the dept. responded to a propane truck rollover on Shortoff Road. There were no injuries, minimum leakage. The driver was transported to the hospital.

**Feb. 2**
- At 6:48 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with a medical call on Main Street. The victim was taken to the hospital.

**Feb. 3**
- At 9:30 a.m., the dept. responded to an accident on NC 106. There were no injuries.

There were no injuries.

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**POLICE, FIRE & SHERIFF REPORTS**

**Woman arrested for felonies involving a child**

The Macon County Sheriff’s Office charged Jennifer Geane Iannuzzi with three felonies involving a minor child: Indecent Liberties with a Child, Felony Restrainment, and Abduction of a Child. The minor child was twelve (12) years old. She was charged with the offenses on Jan. 29, 2010. Her bond was set at $20,000. She was released on Feb. 11, 2010. Iannuzzi is a resident of Franklin and is 38 years old.

Sheriff’s Office Investigators consulted with the District Attorney’s Office throughout the investigation. This is an ongoing investigation and no additional information is available from the Sheriff’s Office at this time.

After receiving a report, Investigators worked numerous hours on this case and concluded the investigation and placed the arrest warrant.

The call was canceled enroute.

**Macon County Sheriff’s Office**

Sheriff Robert Holland. “I am confident that they will continue to conduct a thorough investigation and that the case will be successfully concluded.

MacDonough County Sheriff’s Office

Superintendent Dan Brignam echoed Holland’s remarks.

“This is a confidential matter involving a student, and I cannot discuss it at this time. The Board is very sensitive to the rights of the student, their safety and their privacy. We are aware of the matter and are assisting with the investigation in any way we can. Please direct any other inquiries to the Sheriff’s Office.”

**Jennifer Geane Iannuzzi**

“Winter Storm Statistics**

**POLICE, FIRE & SHERIFF REPORTS**

**Winter Storm Statistics**

1:30 p.m. Jan. 29 until 11 a.m. Jan. 31

- 9-1-1 received 460 calls for service
- Last week during the same time period they received 133 calls for service, which indicates a significant increase in calls due to weather related issues.
- There were 9 structure fires and/or chimney fires reported during this time period.
- There were 48 vehicle accidents, mostly with no injuries.
- There were 109 reports of trees and/or utility lines down causing hazardous situations.
- There were 16 EMS or Public Assist calls for service.

– Todd Seagle, Lead Telecommunicator Warren Cabe, MC Director of Emergency Services

**POLICE, FIRE & SHERIFF REPORTS**

**Winter Storm Statistics**

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– Todd Seagle, Lead Telecommunicator Warren Cabe, MC Director of Emergency Services
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Cashiers Road

• Units Available •
Highlands’ Newspapers
Internet Directory
HighlandsInfo.com had a record-breaking year for visitors coming to our Internet Directory in 2009 and now there have been more visitors in Jan. 2010 than any other Jan. recorded since 2003. Good news for Highlands... 2010 is looking like it’s going to be great from early indications.
Many restaurants will be open for Valentine’s Day/President’s Day weekend including...on the Verandah and Paoletti’s which are opening that weekend for the season. (See page 4 for all participating restaurants).
HighlandsInfo.com has also added videos to its Internet Directory Waterfalls & Area Events. Soon we will be adding a Highlands “Things To Do” video.
Any business or organization wanting to participate should contact: the Publisher of Highlands Newspaper 828-526-0782 / HighlandsEditor@aol.com
Our Internet Directory also has links to many Highlands Lodging, Dining & Real Estate professionals. It’s no wonder HighlandsInfo.com has been the most used Internet Directory about the Highlands area since 2003. There is no other place on the Internet that can offer more useful information about Highlands then HighlandsInfo.com. GOOGLE Highlands or Highlands NC or Highlands North Carolina and see where you would go if you were a visitor wanting to know more about beautiful Highlands.