

Highlands' Newspaper

FREE

Volume 8, Number 10

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Thursday, March 11, 2010

FRI	SAT	SUN
55 40F	45 35F	46 36F

This Week in Highlands

Every Thursday

- Census 2010 Application Test 9:30 a.m. at the Highlands Civic Center. "Get Paid to Make a Difference."

Through March 12

- Highlands School Book Fair in the Media Center 8 a.m.-3 p.m. daily.

Through March 12

- Highlands School will have a Scholastic Book Fair beginning Thursday, March 4 in the Media Center and is a major fundraiser for the library. The hours are 8 a.m.-3 p.m. daily. The Book Fair will also be open from 5-6 pm before the PTO meeting on Thursday, March 4.

Saturday, March 13

- The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a moderate 4.5 mile hike to Round Mountain on an old Forest Service road for a view of South Carolina from the top. The elevation change is 800-900 feet due to the several ups and downs along the way in and out. Meet at Cashiers Wachovia Bank (in back) at 10 a.m. Drive 12 miles round trip. Bring water, lunch; binoculars if you wish; wear sturdy shoes. Call leader Carl Blozan at 743-1765 for reservations. This hike will be limited to 15 people because of lack of parking space at the trail head. No pets please.

- Highlands Rotary presents its annual Monte Carlo Night at the Highlands Community Building. For tickets call 526-3571.

Sunday, March 14

- Daylight Savings. Spring ahead. Turn clocks forward one hour.

Tuesday, March 16

- At Hiart, Poems of Emily Dickerson. Coordinator: Bill West. Civic Center: 10-11:30 a.m.

Thursday, March 18

- Rotary's Literacy Bingo at the Community Building 6:30-8:30 p.m. \$1 a game.

Perscription drugs stolen from Hospital

On Saturday, March 6, a man attempted to get away with hundreds of perscription pills stolen from the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital Pharmacy.

Around 3:30 a.m., Jeremy Ivan Kempton, 25, of Franklin, broke into the pharmacy outside the hospital Emergency Room while his girlfriend was inside the ER receiv-

ing treatment.

Sheriff Robert Holland said doctors requested Kempton to wait for his friend in the adjacent waiting room.

Shortly thereafter, authorities allege he broke into the locked pharmacy room where he stuffed pills into his pockets and into a garbage can liner he had brought with him

from the waiting room.

A nurse saw him attempting to leave the building with the bag. A doctor called out for him to stop but he continued out the exterior door.

Once outside, authorities say he threw the bag containing the drugs and his cell phone over an

•See DRUGS page 15

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County to hear slope development ordinance

At the March 1 Macon County Commission meeting, slope failures at the Wildflower subdivision in Franklin were used to illustrate the necessity of a Slope Development Ordinance countywide.

After a year of 10 intense and comprehensive meetings, the Slope Development Strategies Subcommittee is ready to present its final draft recommendation to the Macon County Commission.

The short story is the committee believes development on slopes greater than 30%, without using proper construction methods, presents an array of potential problems that can lead to property damage, public safety issues, and potential loss of life. Consequently, it believes it is extremely important that the county develop a technically based ordinance to minimize the detrimental effects of such development.

In the Spring of 2009, the subcommittee was authorized by the Macon County Planning Board to come up with slope development strategies for the county.

The committee's seven members — John Becker, Realtor; Barry Clinton, Coweeta scientist; Susan Ervin, concerned citizen; Stacy Guffey, former county planner and

•See SLOPE page 14



Town crews prepare for the upcoming baseball season by erecting netting to keep baseballs from leaving the park. Next, someone has to pick up the piles of dog excrement littering the ball field - signified by yellow flags.

Photo by Jim Lewicki

Baseball teams and dog owners face off at town baseball field

Need for master plan and leadership evident

Implementing the Highlands Rec Park Master Plan can't come too soon — or at least its recommendation for a dog park.

About 70 piles of dog excrement — marked with yellow flags — covering the Highlands ballfield next to the Community Building on US 64 east (also dubbed High-

lands Dog Park) has Highlands School baseball coaches, staff and citizens disgusted.

"We're trying to get the field ready for practice and our upcoming game on March 27, and the people who use the park for their dogs, don't seem to care," said HS Baseball Coach Noel Buras.

Piles of poop are in both the infield and outfield — mostly in the outfield — and even if picked up, still leave remnants of excrement which will likely find its way onto the clothes and skin of players, he said. This, of course, becomes a health issue.

•See MASTER PLAN page 13

• THE PLATEAU'S POSITION •

• LETTERS •

Self-ordained Politburo has nerve

Dear Editor,

Pardon me, but in their definitions of "park," not Webster's, not Random House and not the O.E.D. even faintly mention an ice-skating rink.

And pardon me, but when the original fundraising committee for Pine Street Park asked for donations to buy and pay for the land, they never once mentioned an ice-skating rink. They never once mentioned commercial enterprises, and certainly not private commercial ventures, or that I, as a resident, a taxpayer and a contributor to the purchase of the land, would have the surprise privilege of footing the utilities bill and who knows what else. Well, count me out. This is a case-book example of "Bait and Switch" and I believe there are laws against it. In the event that Pine Street Park becomes anything other than a park, I want my money back. And apparently, so does the county.

And pardon me, since when have the Chamber of Commerce and The Winter Activities Group become the self-ordained Politburo in Highlands? I like their hubris in proposing that the town (i.e., we the residents and taxpayers) provide them with free land, free power source, free water, free installation and free utilities and possibly throw in a covered pavilion to boot. And then charge us \$10 an hour for the privilege of skating in our park which we bought and paid for in the first place.

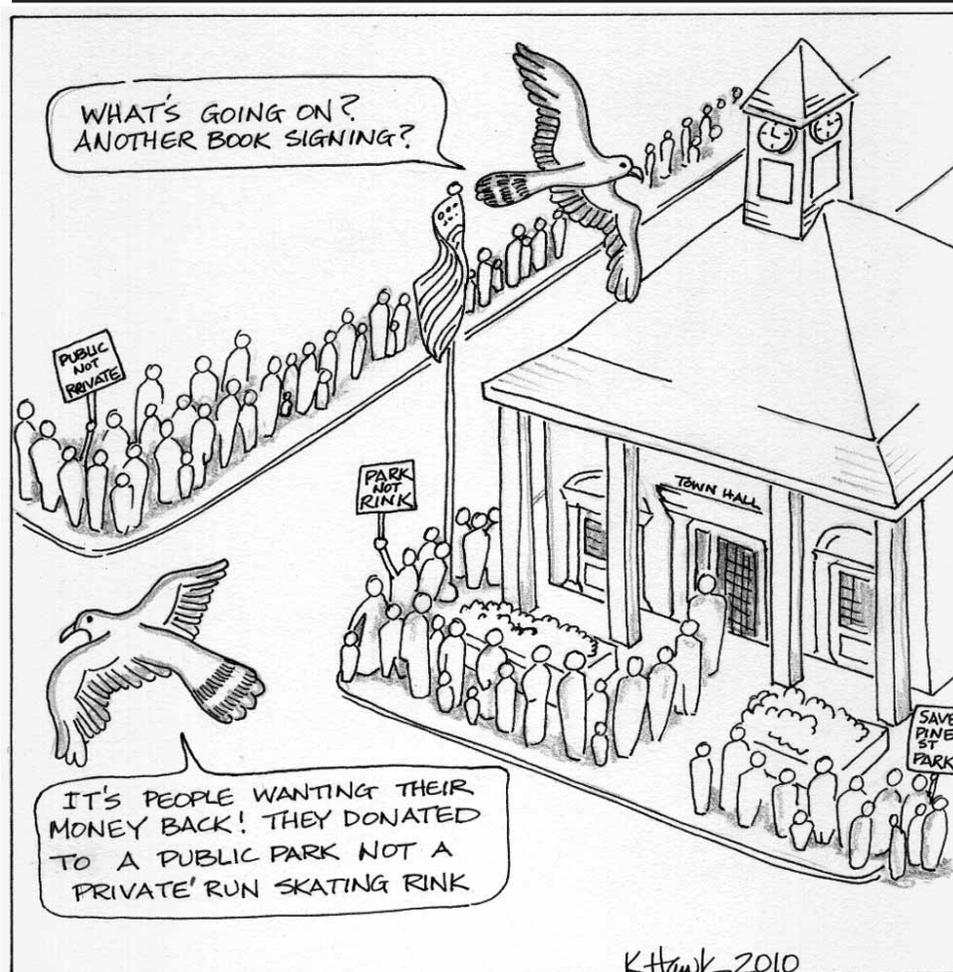
What is it about a plain ole park, a small uninterfered-with green space, that upsets and threatens the business owners, the money-makers, the various governing bodies in this town? This mercenary drive to develop and exploit every inch of Highlands and squeeze every last nickel out of it is repellent and avaricious. And counter-productive, 'tho the Politburo cannot understand that.

A park is a park is a park. Plain and simple. Green. Trees. Benches. Free,

So, pardon me, but the next time some seemingly well-meaning group proposes some seemingly well-meaning project and solicits funds to implement it, we will not be among the contributors. No, I do not hear anybody weeping over that. But I suspect I am not alone in my sentiments, and that there are others who share my belief that Truth in Advertising is important because it is synonymous with a person's, or a group's, word. And that's the bottom line.

Alice Nelson
Highlands

• HAWK'S EYE VIEW •



LETTERS-TO-THE EDITOR-POLICY

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

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• LETTERS •

Fred's series a telling departure

Dear Editor,

I'm writing in response to Fred Wooldridge's three-part series that ran Feb. 18, Feb. 25 and March 4 in Highlands' Newspaper.

Thanks, Fred, for an impressive piece, I spent the last two weeks waiting for the conclusion. Powerful and dramatic. I do like your comic work, but I think you are better at the drama/deeper material.

Stuart Armor
Brick Oven/Movie Stop

Time for dogs and their owners to be banned from town ballfield

Dear Editor,

I had my middle school softball team on the field next to the Community Building on U.S. 64 east over the weekend, and there was so much poop, it was like walking through a minefield.

It is disgraceful that our children have to put up with these inconsiderate dog owners. The field is used by children of all ages for soccer, baseball, and softball, and in its current state you could not even picnic on the field because you would not be able to find a large enough "poopless" spot for the blanket. Not to mention that this poop situation will be a real embarrassment for Highlands this 4th of July. It was bad last year so the town put up signs for owners to clean up after their dogs. This year it is actually worse.

It is now time to ban all dogs from the ballfield because these dog owners have proven they can't, or won't, act responsibly with their dogs.

Kevin Vinson
Highlands

• THANKS •

Money jars for Baty

The Roy Lee Baty family thank the community for making donations in money jars and thanks the businesses that allowed the money jars on their premises. Due to donations, the family was able to travel to and from Franklin for needed radiation and chemo treatments.

• OBITUARY •

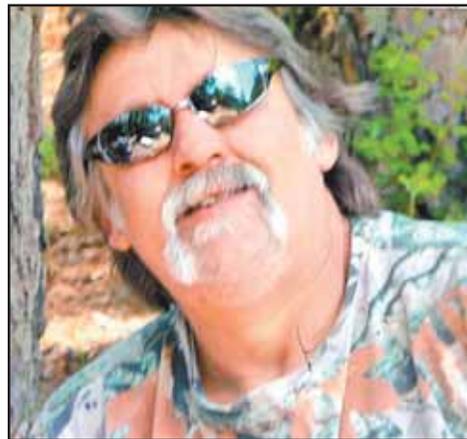
Robert "Bud" Eugene Crunkleton, Jr.,

Robert "Bud" Eugene Crunkleton, Jr., age 48, of Lonely Road, Salem, SC died Sunday, March 7, 2010 at a USA Hospital in Mobile, AL.

He was born in Knoxville, TN, the son of Sherry Johnson Crunkleton and Robert Crunkleton, Sr. of Salem, SC. He was a welder for a construction company and attended Flat Shoals Baptist Church in Salem, SC.

In addition to his parents, he is survived by his wife of 25 years, Sarah Jean Baty Crunkleton; his daughter, Rebecca Grace Crunkleton, his son, Adam Eugene Crunkleton, his sister, Karen Rogers and his brother, David Crunkleton all of Salem, SC.

Funeral services will be held Saturday, March 13 at 2 p.m. in the Chapel of Bryant-Grant Funeral Home in Highlands with Rev. Charles Kennemore, Rev. Frankie Porter and Rev. Junior Jenkins officiating. Burial will be held at the Miller Cemetery. Adam Crunkleton (son), Michael Rogers (nephew), Scott Williams (friend) Bo Fulbright (friend), Anthony Turner (friend) and Pat Sims (friend) will serve as pallbearers. Michael Bradley



(friend) will serve as honorary pallbearer.

The family will receive friends Saturday, March 13 from 1-2 p.m., one hour prior to service at Bryant-Grant Funeral Home in Highlands.

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

New meters to better track energy use

Slowly but surely the electric meters on homes in Highlands have evolved from the old, analog, eyes-on version to the new digital version referred to as Automatic Meter Reading (AMR) devices.

AMR is the technology of automatically collecting data from water meter or energy meters and transferring that data to a central database for billing and/or analyzing.

This means that billing can be based on actual consumption rather than on an estimate based on previous consumption, giving customers better control of the electricity they use.

Since the new digital meters with which the AMR technology is associated are more sensitive than the old mechanical versions, it also means utility companies, in this case the Town of Highlands, can track more consumption and charge for it.

"The new meters will pick up the L.E.D. screens on electronic devices as well as appliances that are plugged in but not turned on," said "Town Engineer Lamar Nix. "So,



consumers will have to be more mindful of their electricity use and be more energy efficient."

For the town it means more money, due to the decrease in man-hours it takes to collect the utility usage information, and because AMR devices are more sensitive and therefore collect more data.

"The town needs to recover all the energy it has purchased from Duke rather than lose it in the meter," said Nix.

At the Wednesday, March 3 Town Board meeting, Commissioner Amy Patterson said

this is one way the town can make up the rate increase Duke has imposed on the town as an electric provider.

Highlands buys electricity from Duke at a wholesale rate and resells it to its citizens.

AMR technologies include handheld, mobile and network technologies. Highlands uses the handheld version which when completely installed will decrease manhours as-

• See METERS page 15

Girls Clubhouse hams it up



Last Friday members of The Girls Clubhouse worked at the Highlands Emergency Council on Poplar Street where they organized donations made to the "household goods" room. There were sheets, pillows, blankets, table cloths and more to make tidy. Above McKinley Mosely, Shannon Welch, Veronica Garcia and Claudia Lewis have fun while they work.

Photo by Kim Lewicki

• HIGHLANDS SCHOOL GIRLS SOCCER •

Lady Highlanders start strong

By Ryan Potts

The Lady Highlander women's soccer team began their season on a high note Monday by defeating the Swain County Lady Maroon Devils 6-0. The Lady Highlanders return 7 seniors from last year and are hoping for a successful season.

After a slow start, Paige Strahan put the visiting Lady Highlanders on the board with a goal 17 minutes into the match. Strahan beat her defender with a nifty stutter step and then finished. The initial goal seemed to relax the Lady Highlanders, who then opened the offensive floodgates with two goals from Emily Munger, a goal

from Sayne Feria and another goal by Strahan to give the visitors a 5-0 halftime lead. The second half saw a number of Lady Highlander freshman play significant minutes in an opportunity to enjoy their first varsity soccer match. Strahan added another goal early in the second half to complete the hat trick for her and to close out the scoring at 6-0. Senior keeper Madison Taylor earned the shutout, and it was a good way for the Lady Highlanders to open the season.

The first Highlands home game will be March 30th at the new Highlands School Soccer field.

Team members and coaches

Katie Durham
Madison Taylor
Paige Strahan
Kate-Marie Parks
Susan Johnson
Carmen Damian
Jessica Gagne

Amy Fogle
Ana Damian
Monserath Reyes
Stephanie Smart
Sayne Feria
Emily Munger

Rachel Lamb
Hayden Bates
Rebecca Johnson
Caroline Christy
Karaline Shomaker
Ali Cutshaw

Coach: Ryan Potts
Coach: Brian Crook
Coach: Carrilea Potter

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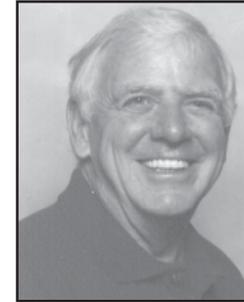
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• **LAUGHING AT LIFE** •

"Never say never"

No, no, no, I'm not talking about that 1982 song by "New Wave," played with that funky bass line and stupid jagged guitar. I'm talking about my favorite topic, "me." I have never learned to say "never say never."



Fred Wooldridge

Feedback is encouraged!
email:
askfredanything@aol.com

Way back when I was more stupid than I am now, I used to say dumb things like "never pay sticker price for a new car." Here's another "never say never own a wimpy blue car." And finally, never say to the li'l missus, "Let's trade the car, honey, 'cause I think our Toyota is trying to kill us."

Here's my "never say never" tale of woe and I'm not making this up. You can actually learn from this brilliant stupidity. Last week we're riding around town in our dastardly 2006 Rav 4 Toyota waiting for the gas pedal to stick and kill us when suddenly, without warning, every single warning light that could possibly go on lit up the dashboard, including the "no brakes, no ABS, no cruise and worse, the "you're gonna die" light. I immediately checked my gas pedal to see if it was stuck. It wasn't. I checked the brakes. Whew, they worked; A miracle!

The next thing I knew, my friendly Toyota service representative had his arm around me and telling me my drive train is rusted and the car is no longer under warranty and we're talking thousands to fix it and they don't care that the car has only has 18,000 miles on it and just sign right here and we'll get to it next week Maybe maybe not.

"The car is only four years old, for cryin' out loud" I shrieked at the rep. "I'm not dumping thousands into a four-year-old car."

The next day, the li'l missus and I are pouring through Consumer Guide books looking for another car. Research, research, research is the key to being able to say "never say never." Ha ... read on!

Since we couldn't drive around in our Rav 4 for fear it was still trying to kill us, we had no choice but to drive our 10-year-old Toyota Celica. We felt safer in that li'l sports car since it was built before Toyota manufacturers decided to

get back at Americans for winning World War II.

After an entire week of reading Consumer Report and spending countless hours of on-line research, we decided to purchase Motor Trend's car of the year, the Subaru Outback Limited. I fell in love with the car and hadn't even driven it. Big mistake!

First, know this. There are three things we'll never, never ever do when purchasing a new car. First, we'll never pay the

shipping charges to get the car to the dealer's lot. Why pay to have the car shipped to the dealer so they can gouge us on the price?

Secondly, we'll never ever pay "sticker price" for the car and, third, we'll never ever buy a blue car ... only wimps drive blue cars. Oh, there's one more. Never, never ever buy a Subaru Outback Limited 'cause well, there aren't any.

Subaru Manufacturers Inc had no warning that Motor Trend magazine would name their Outback the "Car of the Year." Currently, there are waiting lists to buy these cars. In New York, buyers are paying a grand more than sticker price. There are bidding wars. Do the research.

"Would you like to get on the list?" the salesman asked. We got up to leave.

In the front lot, I spotted a black Outback with the dealer's sticker still on the window. I raced to the salesman. "I want that car." I said.

The salesman smiled. "Came off the truck an hour ago and we just sold it; sorry." Glum, we turned to walk away. "There's also a blue one that came in with it but I'm holding it for a customer on my list. If I can't reach him, it's yours."

"Is this a scam, or what?" I asked.

The salesman laughed. "I'll bet you twenty bucks if you come back in four hours, the car will be sold regardless of what my customer decides. You can take this one now or chance not buying one for months."

Soooo, here's the deal. Never say never buy a blue car 'cause we did. Never say never pay the sticker price 'cause we did minus a few bucks and never say never pay shipping costs 'cause we did that also.

I'll never ever say "never say never" again.

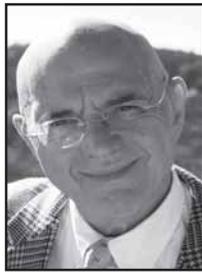
• THE VIEW FROM HERE •

The health-threatening side of vacations

We're all feeling a little pasty at my house. A little late winter, early spring, sun might be just what the doctor ordered. In this case I am the doctor. I don't usually take care of my family, but decided it would be appropriate to make an exception in this case. Most of our trips involve skiing, which while fun, leave a very unsatisfactory and very limited tan. It is distinctive and shouts, "I've been to Colorado," but it's not what we're looking for right now.

Lizzie told me about www.travelzoo.com, an internet site specializing in discounted vacations. I had read that a woman in Indianapolis has waged a five-year battle to discourage tourism in Aruba. The boycott is intended to force the government of Aruba to pursue the Natilie Holloway case. God rest her soul. The lady from Indianapolis won't. There are about 6,000 unsolved murders each year in the U.S. and as far as I know, no one has launched a boycott of Disney World. If the boycott had some momentum, I thought, there might be some real deals for our spring break. Apparently, Aruba has felt the pinch. They weren't many bargains, and none during Bull's spring break.

I did notice one hotel which advertised five feedings per day, which is like a cruise without being seasick. Motion sickness, it seems, is the only factor that limits weight gain on cruises. Many years ago my Aunt Margie went on a cruise. She gained so much weight that her shoes wouldn't fit. I was a little kid and don't remember the details. She must have flown home barefoot. She seemed proud that she had gotten her money's worth. I had the feeling she felt she'd put one over on the cruise line, like legal shoplifting. It's the same feeling that's so common in those, "all you can eat" joints. I can't imagine seven consecutive days at Golden Corral. Lizzie can't imagine one feeding there. It's Bull's favorite restaurant. The psychology of dining at "all you can eat" restaurants is shared by cruisers. Patrons don't want to leave any money, or food, on the table. The fact that gluttony doesn't reduce the cost of the trip, but increases the cholesterol level,



Feedback is encouraged.
email: hsalzarulo@aol.com

seems to elude them. When my sister goes on a cruise, she takes a larger gown for the departure party than for the welcome gala. I guess that represents a rare level of self-awareness, or too many cruises.

People who eat sensibility at home set their alarm clocks so they don't miss the midnight buffet. They're back for early breakfast, regular

breakfast, and mid morning snack. They consume three or four thousand calories before lunch. We once took a steamer from Bergen, Norway, to the Arctic Circle. The ship was primarily a mail carrier. It carried some cargo and some Norwegians who just wanted easy travel to the next fiord. We were on board with several other tourists, most of whom were German. The Germans were a real sight at mealtime. Although I suspect they were greedy, they appeared genuinely hungry. They planned the day around being first to the buffet table. It didn't really matter. If for some reason, they were delayed, they simply pushed to the head of the line. It was like the invasion of Poland, except the prize was not Warsaw, but pork roast. The Germans learned something from the Russian "scorched earth" strategy. They even devoured the Brussels sprouts. It nearly 50 years after the end of the war, so they'd had ample time to get over the post war famine. A friend of mine said, "When there's a lot, take a lot. When there's a little, take it all." That sums up the philosophy.

I wondered how much weight vacationers gain on a cruise. The answer is a closely guarded secret, but it seems to range from five to 10 pounds per week. I guess it's a good thing that everybody flies to Australia. Not only would their shoes not fit when they reached Sydney; friends and family wouldn't recognize them after the return voyage.

We haven't decided where to go for spring break, but I'm sure it will be some place with frequent, pre-paid meals and lots of Brussels sprouts. If I eat enough, the whole trip could be free, or win a XXXXL tee shirt with the message, "I'm a sea hog."

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from the history guy ...

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By Michelle A. Mead-Armor

I blame myself, actually. I am not an elegant person. Blessed with a chic, petite French mother, I am cursed with the fact that I look nothing like her. Reaching the height of 5'7" by the age of eleven, certain things became painfully clear. Blouses were not long enough for me, neither in the body nor in the arms. They pulled across the bust, too, a fact which caused me great mortification. All of my pants looked like Capri's, since the legs never reached my feet. Dresses didn't fit right, either. Other girls looked cute and perky. I didn't. Oh, I was slim in those days, but it didn't matter much. In a school full of Doris Days, I looked like Anna Magnani.

I thought this would clear up when I graduated from high school. I knew the

• HIS & HERS •

Crying over spoiled milk



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

curse had followed me, however, when one of my college professors described me as looking like an unmade bed. Things weren't so bad in Australia, where my rangy sort of looks weren't a problem. Paris was another story altogether. My hairdresser would sneak me in on slow days, at night, when it was raining. She would stare at me, pityingly. "You really should try harder," she urged. "You really should make more of an effort." New York was a little better. At least I could find shops with clothes that fit. Sort of. If you call large garments in hideous patterns fitting.

Then, I moved to Highlands, North Carolina. Oh, dear. Once more I found myself in the Land of Scarlet O'Haras. Dismayed, I encountered women in full make-up with perfect hair at the post office and grocery store. And there I was, the girl fellows used to ask out when they wanted to move heavy furniture.

With the ice and snow, it's been a particularly bad winter, sartorially speaking. My clunky shoes have been replaced by hiking shoes (ironically enough, from Highlands Hikers — of Glasgow!) and snow boots purchased in Jackson Hole, Wyoming. The layers of clothing add bulk to an already bulky frame. I look like the Michelin Man's wife. On the days I wear a dress, I don't look chic. I look Amish.

So, I suppose it's my looks that got me branded a crook. John was heading off to Washington, and I made a last minute trip to the supermarket, remembering to pick up a gallon of milk before he left. Halfway through his trip, I opened up the milk, and found to my dismay that it had gone sour. "No problem," I thought so myself, since the "sell by" date was days away. The penny pincher in me watched in dismay as I poured the foul-smelling liquid down the sink, and rinsed the jug. I didn't want to gross out folks at the supermarket, after all.

Once John was home, I headed off to the supermarket, my clean jug in hand. "Could I please speak to the manager?" I asked one of the nice check-out ladies. They paged the manager, and I waited. And waited. And waited. At least ten minutes later, a woman appeared, and I explained my situation to her. I showed

her the jug, pointing out the sell-by date. "Do you have your receipt?" she stated flatly. No, I did not have my receipt, noting that at the time of purchase, I hadn't thought I would need it. If you've ever seen our house, you know how the addition of every receipt for purchases made would distance me even further from being the Martha Stewart of Western

North Carolina. "You should have phoned," she continued, "So that at least we would have had it on record." Phoned? "Hi, I'm Michelle Armor, and my milk has gone off." Suddenly, I would have left the category of spoiled milk, and slipped into adventures in breast feeding.

You see, unbeknownst to most of us, there is rampant fraud invading our peaceful hills, folks. Insidious people are purchasing items from Fred's and the Piggly Wiggly, and then showing up in higher end supermarkets for refunds. I had been outed! I was not a badly-dressed local with an empty jug. I was the Bernie Madoff of Bad Milk. I was a member, perhaps even the leader, of the Bad Milk Brigade. This knowledge sent my head spinning. Here I was, in what I thought was an idyllic country town, and now I was confronted with a crime wave that shocked the former New Yorker I had been. What was next? The Moldy Bread Mafia? The Bruised Fruit Brigade? The Crushed Potato Chip Conspiracy? I shuddered to contemplate the size of the crime wave lurking just below the surface of this quiet country town.

"I'm sure you can understand that we have to have our rules and policies about this sort of thing," the manager said. "So, I'm just going to have to take a loss on this?" I said, incredulously, and with that, hung my head and slunk out. I learned, to my expense, that receipts are the "pre-nup" of the sales world, shielding you against claims of fraud.

I avoided the supermarket for a week or more. I shopped elsewhere. Then, as luck would have it, I ran out of bread and sour (ha!) cream, and being next to the same supermarket, slunk in, hugging the walls. "There you are! Where have you been! We missed you!" declared one of my favorite check-out ladies. "I'm so glad

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• COACH'S CORNER •

Final Four contenders

With March Madness rapidly approaching, it's time to look ahead to the NCAA tournament to predict who will come out as the champion of college basketball. We have learned this season that there are no "great" teams by definition as there was with last year's North Carolina team, but there is a short list of contenders who have the ability to win it all. Here they are, by order of championship likelihood.

1. Syracuse

Why they can win it: They have size/athleticism and a great 1-2 punch in Andy Rautins and Wesley Johnson. Coach Jim Boeheim has been here before and has his Orange playing their 2-3 zone to perfection.

Why they can't win it: Struggled to score in a loss at Louisville and Rautins only scored 4 points. If their backcourt does not make shots then the Cuse are vulnerable.

Dream Matchup: Kentucky. Syracuse's 2-3 zone would force the Wildcats to be patient, which is not the way that the young bucks from Kentucky like to play

2. Kansas

Why they can win it: One of the best 1-2 combos in the nation with Sherron Collins and Cole Aldrich. They have experience and depth.

Why they can't win it: Aldrich was a non factor in their losses this year, and sometimes they forget about the big fella inside.

Dream Matchup: Villanova. Kansas would pound Nova on the boards and Collins has the quickness to disable Villanova's pressure defense

3. Kentucky

Why they can win it: John Wall is arguably the best player in the nation and they have a great interior combo with Demarcus Cousins and Patrick Patterson

Why they can't win it: They have a lot



Ryan Potts
tryanpotts@hotmail.com

of inexperience, and John Calipari has never won a national championship.

Dream Matchup:

Duke. Kentucky is superior athletically and has the inside strength to keep Duke off the boards. Wall might go for 30 against the Blue Devils

4. Ohio State

Why they can win it:

Evan Turner-the other candidate for best player in the nation is a matchup nightmare at 6'7". The Buckeyes also have experience, and boast some great three point shooters.

Why they can't win it: Struggled a bit without Turner, can be contained if he can't get going.

Dream Matchup: Kansas. The Jayhawks have no one who can matchup well with Turner, and Ohio State's zone defense can stifle Aldrich inside.

5. Villanova

Why they can win it: They almost did last year, and return 4 starters from that team. They play a small, guard heavy lineup which is great in a tournament setting.

Why they can't win it: They get pounded when they can't force turnovers and that's tough to do against tournament teams in the Final Four.

Dream Matchup: Duke. Their quickness destroyed the Blue Devils last year and would provide the same result this season.

6. Duke

Why they can win it: The emergence of Brian Zoubek and the Brothers Plumlee give Duke an inside presence to go along with the perimeter trio of Kyle Singler, Nolan Smith and Jon Scheyer.

Why they can't: They still struggle with athletic guards, despite being great offensive rebounders, Zoubek and Plumlee (squared) are not offensive threats too score.

Dream Matchup: Syracuse.

Duke is one of the best three point shooting teams in the nation and have the experience and versatility to handle the Syracuse zone.

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NOTICE

An account has been set up at First Citizens Bank for Dan and Sabrina Rogers. In December, their 3-year-old son was diagnosed with ALL. Currently, he is in critical condition in the pediatric unit at Chapel Hill. They have five children living at home. If you would like to make a donation to the family, go to First Citizens Bank. For more information, call Rhonda Oakley at 526-1435.

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• CONSERVATIVE POV •

Iran: The face of Islam?

The subject of the current goings-on in Iran is of somewhat more interest to me than most since my parents met and married in Persia, the previous name of present-day Iran. My mother escaped the revolution in Russia, where her father was a General in the Tsar's army, and my father was in Teheran with Averill Harriman's company that was building the Trans-Caucasus railroad. But I digress.

I don't know about you, but I find the political situation in Iran quite difficult to comprehend. I always have. Even after a great deal of research, I have more questions than answers. The first revelation of my digging was to learn that the name of the country is not Iran, but officially is the Islamic Republic of Iran. That would lead one to believe that the Islamic religion has an integral role in the country's affairs. Without checking further, I think it is the only country with Islam in its name.

How is Iran governed? Who runs it? Herein lies the confusion.

First, Iran has a President, currently Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, hereinafter referred to as the little a... According to Wikipedia, the president is responsible for the "functions of the executive, such as signing treaties, agreements with other countries and international organizations; the national planning and budget and state employment affairs; appointment of ministers, governor and ambassadors subject to the approval of the parliament." Unlike our president, however, there is a higher power in the land.

The Supreme Leader (SL) of Iran is the country's highest ranking political and religious authority. The SL is currently Ali Khamenei, hereinafter referred to as the Big A... Again from Wikipedia, "More powerful than the President of Iran, the Leader appoints the heads of many powerful posts - the commanders of the armed forces, the director of the national radio and television network, the heads of the various religious foundations, the prayer leaders in city mosques, and the members of national security councils dealing with defense and foreign affairs." Everything clear? Evidently,

when push comes to shove, the Big A... trumps the little a... on important policy matters.

A few weeks ago, we traced the history of Islam from inception to the present. From the beginning, the Muslim nature (and mandate, evidently) was bellicose, and the expansion of Islam was achieved through conflict. This agenda exists through today, where we constantly see evidences of it in the news. Through high birth rates and migration, we see France falling to Islam influence with Great Britain close behind.

I can't improve on the words of Geert Wilders, a member of the Dutch Parliament, who spoke at the Four Seasons, New York last fall. I quoted him then and I'm quoting him now. "There is tremendous danger looming, and it is very difficult to be optimistic. We might be in the final stages of the Islamization of Europe. This not only is a clear and present danger to the future of Europe itself, it is a threat to America and the sheer survival of the West. The United States is the last bastion of Western civilization, facing an Islamic Europe."

He continues.

"All through Europe a new reality is rising: There are Muslim neighborhoods where very few indigenous people reside or are even seen. And if they are, they might regret it. This goes for the police as well. It's the world of headscarves, where women walk around in figureless tents. Their husbands, or slaveholders if you prefer, walk three steps ahead."

And,

"These are Muslim ghettos controlled by religious fanatics. These are Muslim neighborhoods, and they are mushrooming in every city across Europe. These are the building blocks for territorial control of increasingly larger positions of Europe, street by street, neighborhood by neighborhood, city by city."

Two themes are prevalent in the Iranian foreign policy. Denying the right for Israel to exist, and the promise to annihilate it, and its development of nuclear weaponry.

Here is where the confusion comes in.

Our State Department has turned itself inside out in preventing Israel from eliminating Iran as a nuclear threat. Our interference in those efforts in protecting its sovereignty is far beyond my imagination. Our insistence in allowing the ongoing land-grabs by the Palestinians of Israeli property is another head-scratcher to me.



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

Recently, the world powers (ha) talk and dither about the impending threat of the development of the Iranian's nuclear capability. We (they) continue to give them time to comply with our demands with threat of more sanctions (ooh - scary), and little a... goes public and tells anyone who will listen to take our demands and, well, you can finish the thought.

Meanwhile, while we wait for them to not comply, they add hundreds more centrifuges, the product becomes closer and closer to weapons grade, and Israel comes closer and closer to annihilation.

What drives our policy toward Iran and its snarky activities? I have no idea. I do know the policy transcends political parties and administrations. Is it to destabilize its government by causing civil unrest? Would getting rid of little a... solve anything? Who knows that his replacement would improve relations between us? It certainly wouldn't take the bulls-eye off Israel. Furthermore, the Big A... seems to call the big shots and he's not going anywhere.

I say let Israel loose and settle the issue.

... HIS & HERS continued from page 6

to see you! There was a big mistake! Everything has been straightened out!" I blinked back my tears. Once more, I could cruise the aisles with my head held up high. Once more, they would thinly slice my smoked turkey at the Deli Counter. Once more, I would have friendly conversations at the check-out of one of my favorite places in town. All was well.

My faith in humanity has been restored. And yes, I will try to dress a little more impressively when I go out of the house, really I will. I am happy to report that the Milk of Human Kindness is back to flowing in my little corner of Highlands, North Carolina. But just in case it shouldn't, I'm keeping that receipt.

• About the Author: Michelle A.

Mead-Armor is a writer and translator who grew up in Waynesboro, Virginia, before wasting her youth and good looks in Baltimore, Sydney, Paris, and New York. She and her husband live on top of a mountain on the Continental divide near Highlands. They are members of the Highlands Writers Group. The Armors go through so much milk that it has been suggested they purchase a cow.

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Ongoing and Upcoming Events



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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.

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

SUBMISSION DEADLINE:
Mondays at 5 p.m.

Rotary Bingo set for March 18

Expand a child's world through Literacy Bingo on Thursday, March 18 in the Highlands Community Building from 6:30 to 8:30 pm. The Rotary Club of Highlands and Highlands Literacy Council have partnered to offer Literacy Bingo as the first Rotary Bingo of the year.

Our format is the same: \$1 per card per game and there will be 15 games with the last game a full card Bingo and a Cash surprise! Half the money paid to play Bingo becomes prizes and the other half goes to Literacy. All donations and table ads given to Literacy Bingo go to Literacy.

Literacy Bingo is family entertainment – play one card or half a dozen and get ready for an evening of fun and a lot of laughs. Refreshments are free and will be served by young people in Literacy programs.

Literacy classes and tutoring are held in the Peggy Crosby Center and serve children, students and adults through donations by people whose interest is helping others learn to read; read better; tutoring for students and families looking for literacy competence.

The Literacy Bingo theme is simple: Expand a Child's World through Literacy.

The Rotary Club of Highlands is li-

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), "NatureWorks" (ages 8-11), "Mountain Explorers" (ages 10-13), and "Junior Ecologists" (ages 11-14). Some camps are offered more than once during the summer. Sessions run from Tuesday to Friday each week. For complete schedules, costs, and other information, please call 828-526-2623 or visit www.wcu.edu/hbs.

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

Sundays

• Aftershock 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,

• Pilates Classes at the Jane Woodruff Clinic, 1st floor, at H-C Hospital taught by Sandie Trevathan at 4 p.m. A mat class for all levels. For info call 526-5852. (4/15)

Mon. & 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. (4/29)

Mon., Wed., Fri.

• Heart Healthy Exercise Class at the Rec Park. 8:30-9:30 a.m. \$20/month.

• Step Aerobics with Tina Rogers at the Rec Park, 8-9 a.m. \$10 per class or \$50 a month.

First Mondays

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

Mondays

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

Mondays & Saturdays

• Yoga classes in March at Moonrise Yoga, 464 Carolina Way in Highlands. Mondays 5 to 6:15 p.m. and Saturday 9:30-11 a.m. 526-8880. All levels instruction.(3/25)

Tuesdays

• 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.

• Clogging Lessons at the Rec Park. 5 p.m. Leather shoes recommended and tap shoes can be ordered. For more information, call Joyce Doerter at 877-6618. \$30/mth.

• Highlands Rotary Club meets at noon at the Highlands Conference Center.

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

Tuesdays & Wednesdays

• Zumba Classes at the Rec Park. Aerobic/dance/toning. No dance experience necessary. One-hour. \$5/class. Tuesdays, 11:30-12:30, Wednesdays Zumba Gold/Beginner, 9:30-10:15 a.m. Call Mary K. Barbour at 828-342-2498.

Wednesdays

• 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 526-3376.

Wednesdays

• 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.

• 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.

Wednesdays & Fridays

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

Every 3rd Wednesday

• Study sessions at the Universal Uni-

tarian 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 sup-

• See EVENTS page 10

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rated R

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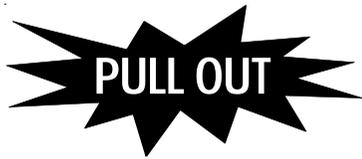
Friday: 7

Saturday: 2, 7

Sunday: 2, 7

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Ongoing and Upcoming Events

port group meeting the first and third Thursday of each month. For information contact Carole Light, Ph.D. at 828-526-9769 or Ann Nandea at 828-369-7385

Every Third Saturday

• The Highlands Memorial Post #370 of the American Legion meets at the Short-off Baptist Church. Breakfast is at 9 am. Meeting is at 10 a.m. All veterans are invited to attend.

Every Fourth Saturday

• Friends of Panthertown work days, are the fourth Saturday of each month. (Time and location varies). Volunteers needed to maintain trails. For more information, contact Nina Elliott at 828-526-9938 (ext 258).

Saturdays

• 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 per person.

• NA open meeting every Saturday at 7:30 p.m. of the ACC Sateleite Group at the Graves Community Church, 242 Hwy 107 N. in Cashiers. Call 888-764-0365.

Through March 12

• Highlands School will have a Scholastic Book Fair beginning Thursday, March 4 in the Media Center and is a major fundraiser for the library. The hours are 8 a.m.-3 p.m. daily. The Book Fair will also be open from 5-6 pm before the PTO meeting on Thursday, March 4.

Beginning Mid-March

• NAMI Family-to-Family education program, a 12-week class for relatives and friends of people suffering from mental illness, is being offered by NAMI Appalachian South in Franklin. This weekly class will start mid-March. Class size is limited. There is no charge but pre-registration is required. Contact: Ann 369-7385, Debbie (912) 481-2339, or Carl (706) 746-5139.

Thursday, March 11

• The League of Women Voters of Macon County will host Senator John Snow. Senator Snow will talk about issues coming up in the the next legislative session and answer questions on issues important to the citizens of Macon County. The program will be held at Tartan Hall in Franklin. Lunch will be available at noon by reservation — call 524-5192 or email lwwmacon@wild-do-mountain.info. The program will begin at 12:15. The public is invited.

• The March meeting of The Western North Carolina Woodturners Club will meet on Thursday 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. Meetings will be cancelled in the event that Blue Ridge School classes are cancelled.

• The Macon County Cancer Support Group will meet Thursday at 7 p.m. in the cafeteria of Angel Medical Center. Special guest speaker will be Deborah Gregory, 9-year Breast Cancer Survivor and Physician's Assistant at Angel Medical Center's E.R. Light refreshments will be served. Anyone who has been affected by cancer is invited to attend. For more information, call 369-9221.

Friday, March 12

• Angel Medical Blood Drive (120 Riv-

erview Street) 6:30 am to 6:30 pm. Please call 369-4166 for more information or to schedule an appointment. Carolyn Deal at 828-258-3888 ext. 405.

Saturday, March 13

• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a moderate 4.5 mile hike to Round Mountain on an old Forest Service road for a view of South Carolina from the top. The elevation change is 800-900 feet due to the several ups and downs along the way in and out. Meet at Cashiers Wachovia Bank (in back) at 10 a.m. Drive 12 miles round trip. Bring water, lunch; binoculars if you wish; wear sturdy shoes. Call leader Carl Blozan at 743-1765 for reservations. This hike will be limited to 15 people because of lack of parking space at the trail head. No pets please.

• Angel Medical Center and Macon County Public Health Center is having a Heart Health Walk at 10:30 a.m. and the 1-mile downtown Franklin walk will start at 11 a.m. at Tartan Hall (1st Presbyterian Church). After the walk, Dr. Kit Helm will be providing a brief presentation on heart health tips. The East Franklin Elementary School Jump Rope teams will be leading our walk.

• Highlands Rotary presents its annual Monte Carlo Night at the Highlands Community Building. For tickets call 526-3571.

Tuesday, March 16

• At Hiarpt, Poems of Emily Dickerson. Coordinator: Bill West. Civic Center: 10-11:30 a.m.

• Macon County Democratic Women will meet at the Sunset Restaurant at 1 p.m. Many of our Democratic candidates will be present to speak. All Democratic men and women are invited.

Thursday, March 18

• Rotary's Literacy Bingo at the Community Building 6:30-8:30 p.m. \$1 a game.

• "Time Traveler's Wife" is a romantic drama about a Chicago librarian who suffers from a rare genetic disorder that sends him hurtling through time whenever he is under extreme stress. When his future wife meets him in the library, they both know he is a time traveler, but she knows much more about him as he has not been to the places they have met before. The movies will be shown in the Library Meeting Room at 3 p.m. 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.

Friday, March 19

• A community Pancake Breakfast at Whiteside Mountain and Grill at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. Open to the public, Friday at 7:45-10 a.m. Breakfast includes choice of homemade pancakes (buttermilk, whole wheat, or choc. chip) with fruit topping, bacon or sausage and coffee/tea for \$3. For further details, call (828) 526-1419.

• The Jackson County GOP Convention will be held at the Barkers Creek Community Center on **Friday at 6:30 p.m.** At-

**TOWN OF HIGHLANDS, NC
REGULAR BOARD OF
COMMISSIONERS MEETING
COMMUNITY BUILDING
MARCH 17, 2010
AGENDA**

4PM

1. Call to order
2. Proposed renovation of ABC Store for Police Department
3. Adjourn

7PM

1. Call to order
2. Public Comments
3. Approve agenda
4. Approve min. of March 3, 2020
5. Reports
 - A. Mayor
 - B. Commissioners
 - C. Committees
 - D. Town Manager
6. Consent Agenda
 - A. Public Services Department
 - B. Police Department
 - C. Parks & Recreation Department
 - D. Planning & Zoning Department
 - E. Treasurer's Report for Month Ended February 28, 2010
 - F. Monthly Calendar
 - G. Grant Status Report
 7. Ice Skating Rink Proposal
 8. Consider Prohibiting Dog Run at Ball Park
 9. Development of a New Town Logo
 10. Adjourn

**Macon County Community Foundation
announces scholarship availability**

The board of directors of the Macon County Community Foundation announces that a variety of scholarship applications are now being accepted for students in Macon County through the N.C. Community Foundation.

Scholarships are available for students meeting various eligibility requirements detailed by county on www.nccommunityfoundation.org, where applications also can be downloaded. Applications also may be available at local high schools, by writing to the N.C. Community Foundation at 4601 Six Forks Rd. Ste. 524, Raleigh, NC 27609 or calling 1-800-201-9532. Deadlines for submitting applications vary by scholarship and are posted on the NCCF website.

The Macon County Community Foundation is an affiliate of the North Carolina Community Foundation (NCCF). For further information, contact the NCCF Western Regional Associate, Sue LeLievre at 800-201-9532 or slelievre@nccommunityfoundation.org, or visit the NCCF website at nccommunityfoundation.org.

Ongoing and Upcoming Events



tendeers are asked to bring a covered dish to share. All Jackson County GOP business is on the agenda including the election of delegates to the District and State Conventions. Announced Republican candidates for the May 4th primary and November general election have been invited and most are expected to attend. The Barkers Creek Community Center is located at Mile Marker 79 on Highway 74 heading west toward Cherokee. For additional information and reservations call Jackson County GOP Headquarters at 828-586-9895 or Ralph Slaughter at 828-743-6491 or go to the web site www.jacksoncountygop.com.

Sunday, March 21

- The Nantahala Hiking Club will take an easy 2-mile hike to Mud Creek Falls off Hwy. 246/106 toward Highlands. Meet at Smoky Mt. Visitor Center, Otto, at 2 PM or call leader for alternate meeting place if coming from Highlands. Drive 22 miles round trip. Call leader Kay Coriell, 369-6820, for reservations. Visitors and children over ten are welcome, but no pets please.

Tuesday, March 23

- Macon County Library Blood Drive (149 Siler Farm Road) 10 am to 7 pm. Please call 524-3600 for more information or to schedule an appointment. Carolyn Deal 828-258-3888 ext. 405.

Thursday, March 25

- The Macon County Special Olympics — Local Games will be held at the Macon Middle School track. (The rain date will be Monday, March 29). Opening ceremonies will be at 10 a.m. and for the first time local law enforcement will be participating in running in the torch and declaring the opening of the local games. For an athlete to be eligible to compete they must be at least 8 years old and meet the intellectual disabilities requirements set by Special Olympics, North Carolina. If you or someone you know is interested in competing and meets the qualifications, or if you would like to volunteer, or become active in Special Olympics — Macon County, please call Jennifer Garrett at 828-349-2428 or Tim Crabtree at 828-421-7534.

Saturday, March 27

- The Satolah, Georgia, volunteer fire department holds its annual benefit, Saturday at the firehouse on Route 28. Food is to be served at 5 p.m. Smoked pork barbecue or grilled chicken with all the trimmings, \$7.50 per plate for adults, \$10 for a combo plate. Whole butts (\$30) and whole chickens (\$10) also can be pre-ordered if you call (828) 371-1712, (828) 371-0798, or (828) 371-0722 by Saturday, March 20. Music starts at 7 p.m. with Foxfire and Oliver Rice and Blue Ridge Mountain Band. All proceeds benefit this volunteer fire station on Route 28. The public is invited.

- The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a strenuous 12-mile hike, with an elevation change of 2800 feet, to Newton Bald from Smoke Mont, returning on Mingus Creek trail to Mingus Mill. Meet at Huddle House in Dillsboro at 8 a.m.; Drive 80 miles round trip from Franklin. Bring water, lunch; wear sturdy shoes. Call leader Don O'Neal at 828-586-5723 for reservations. Visitors are welcome, but no pets please.

- The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a moderate 5.7 mile hike on the Park Creek and Park Ridge loop trails in the Standing Indian area. Meet at Westgate Plaza in Franklin at 9:30AM; Drive 26 miles round trip. Bring water, lunch; wear sturdy shoes. Call leader Bill Van Horn at 369-1983 for reservations. Visitors are welcome but no pets please.

Wednesday, March 31

- Highlands School Kindergarten Registration. 10 a.m. to noon. 10 a.m. parents arrive a Highlands School Media Center. 10:45 students arrive at school and join parents.

Thursday, April 1

- 2010 Census forms arrive in the mail. 10 questions. Fill it out. It matters.

Saturday, April 3

- The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a 4-5 mile moderate hike on the Coweeta Hydrological Lab upper trail, an old logging trail through the pines, ending up at Shope Creek with a secluded waterfall nearby. Meet at Westgate Plaza in Franklin (opposite Burger King) at 9 a.m. Bring water, lunch; wear sturdy shoes. Drive 16 miles round trip. Call leader Gail Lehman, 524-5298, for reservations. Visitors are welcome, but no pets please.

Tuesday, April 6

- Leadership Highlands; three-part program produced by The College of Business at Western Carolina University, The WCU Series: The State of the Local Economy will be the first in a series of three monthly programs addressing economic development and related issues in our area. The first program, "The Impact of Charlanta on Western North Carolina," is at 4-6 p.m. at the Highlands Community Building. Charlanta is an economic trade unit that encompasses an area from Atlanta to Charlotte to Raleigh to Knoxville to Birmingham. WCU Chancellor John W. Bardo will discuss the economic impact of WNC's location in the midst of the rapidly growing mega-region. For more information about these programs or Leadership Highlands, contact the Highlands Chamber of Commerce via e-mail at 828-526-5841.

Mon.-Fri., April 12-16

- Pat Dews will teach a watermedia workshop, "Great Starts, Great Finishes," at The Bascom Cost is \$525 Bascom mem-

bers, \$550 non-members. Registration is going on now. To register, call (828) 526-4949 ext. 100 or visit www.thebascom.org.

Tuesday, May 4

- Leadership Highlands contact the Highlands Chamber of Commerce at 828-526-5841.

Food, music and family fellowship benefit Satolah volunteer firefighters

Neighbors, friends and family from three states will gather Saturday, March 27 at the annual bluegrass and barbecue benefit for the Satolah, Georgia, volunteer fire department.

The volunteer firefighters and the hard-working women of the Station 8 auxiliary will begin serving food at 5 p.m., with the music starting around 7 p.m.

Chief James Reed is hoping for a stellar turnout, as the routine costs for properly outfitting just one volunteer takes almost \$1,000, costs borne by the volunteers. This family-friendly benefit always has been highlight of spring in these parts of the Blue Ridge Mountains. "So, we're hoping everyone will put this down on their calendars," Reed said. Here's the barbecue and bluegrass line-up:

- Food plates will include your choice

of a smoke pork barbecue or grilled chicken, served with baked beans. Cole slaw, applesauce, a roll and soft drink (\$7.50) or a combo plate with both chicken and pork for \$10. Those with a real appetite also can order a whole butt (\$30) or whole chicken (\$10) if they pre-order by Saturday, March 20. Call (828) 371-1712, (828) 371-0798, or (828) 371-0722 to pre-order.

- Then, starting around 7 p.m., get set for the inimitable bluegrass sounds of both Foxfire, and Oliver Rice and Blue Ridge Mountain Band.

The station is located 3.5 miles south of the Georgia-North Carolina line on state Route 28 (the Highlands-Walhalla Road) and about 2 miles from the Route 28 intersection with Warwoman Road. The public is invited — and bring all your friends!



Macon County Community Foundation accepting grant applications

Applicants must be received by April 30, 2010

The Macon County Community Foundation is currently accepting grant requests for community projects funded from its community fund, according to Tom Ritter, Grants chairperson. Funds are available for nonprofit organizations that serve general charitable needs in Macon County.

Applications are available at nccommunityfoundation.org (under "Affiliates"); or by calling the Macon County Community Foundation at 800-201-9532. Grant applications must be **received** by April 30, 2010.

The Macon County Community Foundation is an affiliate of the North Carolina Community Foundation (NCCF).

The community fund was established to help support local charitable needs through annual grants. In addition to Ritter, Grants Chair, the Macon County Community Foundation board members are: Karen Stiwinter, President, Larry Stenger, Theresa Ramsey, Daylon Plemens, Jim Breedlove, Jim Vanderwoude, Regina Lupoli, Debbie Nickerson, Louise Henry, Milam and Becky Beasley, Hammond Rauers, Michele Hubbs and Patti McClure.

For further information, contact any board member; the NCCF Western Regional Associate, Sue LeLievre at 800-201-9532 or visit the NCCF website at nccommunityfoundation.org.

• SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING •

The Disposition of God's people



Rev. Sam Forrester
Whiteside Presbyterian Church

What is going to happen to those people who have placed their faith and hope in Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior? II Corinthians 1:3 "Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort." This shows us the sweet mercy of God giving comfort to the apostle as he stirs in his heart a fullness that brings his tongue to life to praise God. This is an overflowing fullness, an abundance of thankfulness coming from his heart. This shows that he has tasted of the wonderful mercies and comforts of God.

From this we can observe the disposition of God's children. Once they have seen and tasted of God's great mercy, experienced the comfort of his promises and his love they will break into praise and thanksgiving. It is as natural for the new believer to do this as it is from the birds to sing after the night has passed and the sun risen. When the sun has climbed into the sky and warmed the nest the birds begin to sing out of joy and thankfulness for the warmth. So the new believer once he has seen his sin and rebellion against God as the darkness it is and the Sun of Righteousness has risen in his heart he will sing praises of joy and thankfulness. What could be more natural.

Jesus Christ came into this world to save sinners from their sin. He broke on this world like the sun on the night. He brought a warmth to the soul. He gives hope to the other wise hopeless. It is only natural that the person coming into this light, warmth and hope would become a person filled with praise and joy.

The reason for all of this is that a creature cannot know happiness until it is fulfilling that for which it was made. Every creature must do the work God created it to do. Why is this so important? Because when you do what God created you to do, you bring glory to him. As a believer you are given a wonderful privilege, to show forth the glory of God through your new life. This is to be the disposition of every one who names the name of Jesus Christ, to show forth God's glory.

The apostle Paul in Ephesians 1:3 declares "Blessed be God. The apostle Peter begins his first epistle "Blessed be the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath begotten us to an inheritance immortal and undefiled, which fadeth not away, reserved for us in heaven." Believer lift your voice in praise to God for all he has done for this is why he called you, that his glory might be seen and heard.

• This is a reprint of Rev. Forrester's column that ran in the Oct. 1, 2009 edition.,

• PLACES OF WORSHIP •

BLUE VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH
Rev. Oliver Rice, Pastor (706) 782-3965
Sundays: School - 10 a.m., Worship - 11
Sunday night services every 2nd & 4th Sunday at 7
Wednesdays: Mid-week prayer meeting - 7 p.m.

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

CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS
NC 28 N. and Pine Ridge Rd., (828) 369-8329
Rai Cammack, Branch President, (828) 369-1627
CHRIST ANGLICAN CHURCH
Rector: Jim Murphy, 252-671-4011
Worshipping at the facilities of
Whiteside Presbyterian Church, Cashiers
Sunday: Holy Communion - 9:00 a.m.

Sunday: Adult Forum - 10:30, Bucks Coffee Cafe, Cashiers
Monday: Evening Bible Study and Supper - 6:00 p.m., members' homes
Wednesday: Men's Bible Study - 8:30 a.m., First Baptist Church, Highlands
Thursday: Women's Prayer Group - 10:30 a.m., members; homes

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

COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH
www.cbchighlands.com • 526-4685
Pastor Gary Hewins
3645 U.S. 64 east, Highlands
Sundays: 9:30am Sunday School; 10:30 am; Children's/Family Program; 10:45 Worship; 5 p.m., Middle and HS student ministries;
Tuesdays: 9:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study
Wednesdays: 5 p.m. Dinner, 6 p.m. Children/student/adult programs

EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE INCARNATION
The Rev. Brian Sullivan - Rector: 526-2968
Sunday: Breakfast; 9 A.M. - Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist (Rite II)
Sunday Service on Channel 14 at 10:30 A.M.
Monday: 4 p.m. Women's Cursillo Group
Tuesday: 8 a.m. Men's Cursillo Group 4:30 P.M. Education for Ministry
Wednesday: 6:30 P.M. Choir Practice
Thursday: 10 a.m. Holy Eucharist (Chapel) 10:30 a.m. Daughters of the King

• Sunday Service on Channel 14 Sun. at 10:30 a.m.
FIRST ALLIANCE CHURCH OF FRANKLIN
Rev. Mitch Schultz, Pastor • 828-369-7977
Sun. Worship 8:30 & 10:45 a.m.; 6: p.m. (nursery provided)
Sun. school for all ages 9:45 a.m.
Wed: dinner 5 p.m. followed by children's Pioneer Club 6 p.m.; Jr & Sr Youth Group 6:30 p.m.; Adult Bible Study & Prayer Meeting 7 p.m.
Small groups available throughout the week.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
Dr. Daniel D. Robinson, 526--4153

Sun.: Worship 10:45 a.m., 6:30 p.m.; School - 9:30 a.m.; Youth - 6:30 p.m.; Choir - 7:15
Wednesdays: Dinner - 5:30 p.m.; Team Kids - 6 p.m.; Prayer - 6:15 p.m., Choir - 7:30 p.m.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Dr. Lee Bowman, Pastor
Dr. Don Mullen, Parish Associate 526-3175
Sun.: Worship - 11 a.m.; Sun. School - 9:30 & 9:45.
Mondays: 8 a.m. - Men's Bible Discussion & Breakfast

Wednesdays - Choir - 7
HIGHLANDS ASSEMBLY OF GOD
Sixth Street
Sundays: School - 10 a.m.; Worship - 11
Wednesdays: Prayer & Bible Study - 7
HIGHLANDS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Pastor Paul Christy
526-3376

Sun.: school 9:45 a.m.; Worship 11 a.m.; 5 p.m. Youth Group
Wed: Supper; 6; 7:15 - children, youth, & adults studies; 6:15 - Adult choir (nursery provided for Wed. p.m. activities)
Thurs: 12:30 - Women's Bible Study (nursery)

HOLY FAMILY LUTHERAN CHURCH - ELCA
Chaplain Margaret Howell
2152 Dillard Road - 526-9741
Sundays: Sunday School and Adult discussion group 9:30 a.m.; Worship/Communion - 10:30
HEALING SERVICE on the 5th Sunday of the month.

MACEDONIA BAPTIST CHURCH
8 miles south of Highlands on N.C. 28 S in Satolah
Pastor Matt Shuler, (828) 526-8425
Sundays: School - 10 a.m.; Worship - 11
Choir - 6 p.m.
Wed: Bible Study and Youth Mtg. - 7 p.m.

MOUNTAIN SYNAGOGUE
St. Cyprian's Episcopal Church, Franklin
828-369-9270 or 828-293-5197

OUR LADY OF THE MOUNTAINS ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
Rev. Dean Cesa, pastor
Parish office, 526-2418
Sunday Mass - 9 a.m.

Saturday Mass - Mem Day through Oct. - 6 pm
SCALY MOUNTAIN BAPTIST CHURCH
Rev. Clifford Willis
Sundays: School - 10 a.m.; Worship - 11 a.m. & 7
Wednesdays: Prayer Mtg. - 7 p.m.

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

SHORTOFF BAPTIST CHURCH
Pastor Rev. Andy Cloer.
Sundays: School - 10 a.m.; Worship - 11
Wednesdays: Prayer & Bible Study - 7
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
85 Sierra Drive • 828-524-6777
Sunday Worship - 11 a.m.

Child Care - 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Religious Education - 11 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.
Youth from 8th - 12th grades meet the second Sunday of each month from 5 - 7:30 p.m.
WHITESIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Cashiers, Rev. Sam Forrester, 743-2122
Sundays: School - 10 a.m.; Worship - 11

... MASTER PLAN continued from page 1

Though signs posted at the field require dog owners to pick up the poop prior to leaving, often times they go unheeded.

In fact, some, though not all, dog park users believe it's the town's job to clean the field when in fact Director of the Rec Park Selwyn Chalker says his staff has attached bag dispensers at the field specifically for dog owners to use after their dog makes a mess.

"They are supposed to police themselves," said park officials, "But I guess if they don't clean it up we have to do it."

In fact, some dog park users say they and their dogs have as much right to use the ball-field as students and teams. "The town pays people to pick up trash so they can pay people to pick up dog piles," one user was reported as saying.

However, since dog owners aren't doing their part, coaches and staff have to clear the field of excrement prior to practices and games with no guarantee it will stay clean game to game or even practice to practice.

Commissioner Larry Rogers said Highlands needs a dog park but it doesn't need to be the town ball field.

Currently, there isn't an ordinance requiring dog owners to pick up after their dogs, though such ordinances do exist in other communities.

But a dog park was just one suggestion made by Highlands Park and Recreation Master Plan consultants Jonathan Wood and Bert Lynn with Haden-Stanziale last week.

The purpose of the plan, which started with an open house and brief survey on Sept. 3 and segued to the mailing of a 26-question survey to 8,600 households on the Highlands Plateau, of which 867 were returned, was to devise a plan for the park and its offerings.

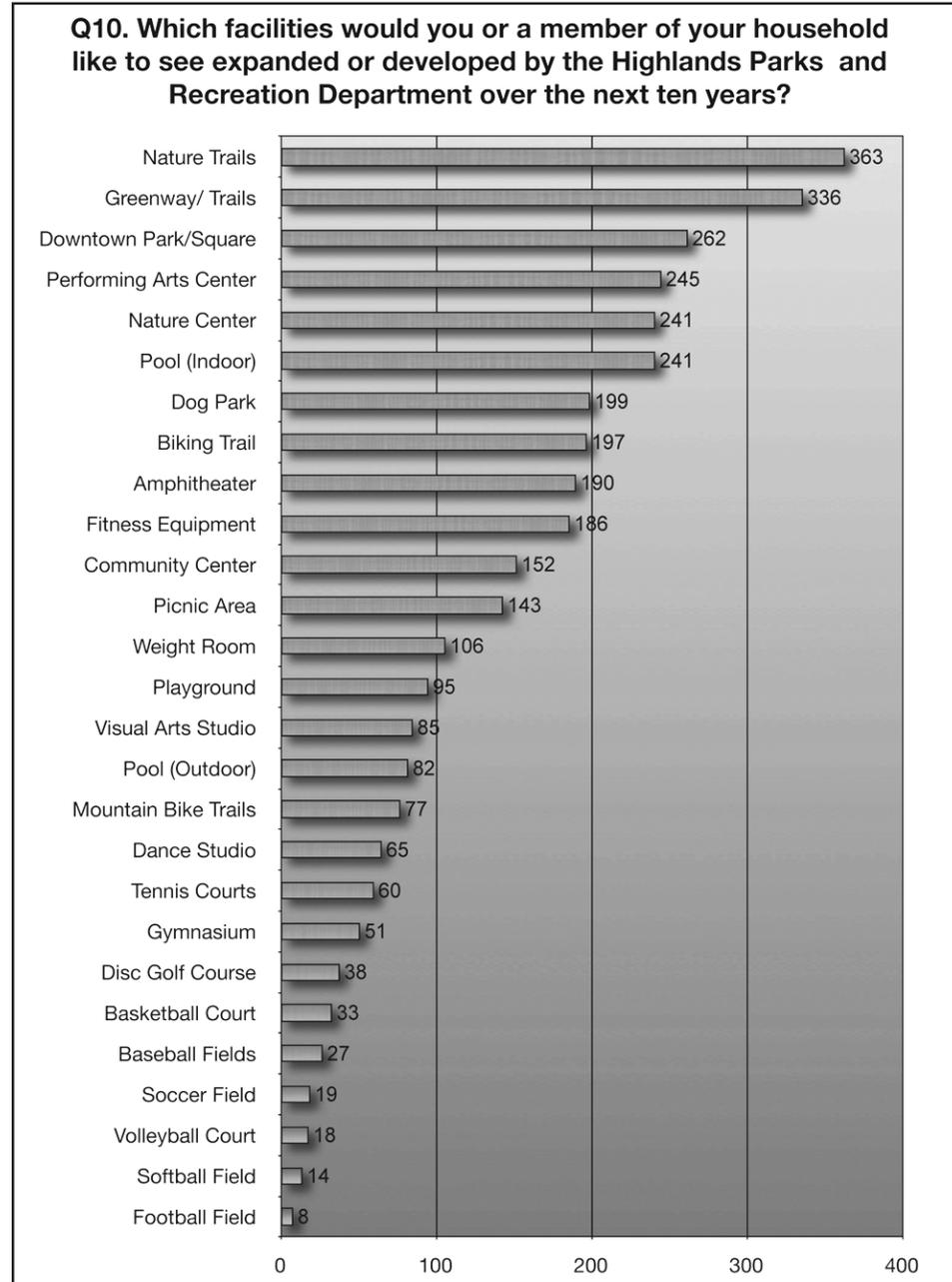
Specifically, its purpose was to evaluate recreational facilities and programs currently offered in Highlands, to gather input from town and area citizens on various recreational issues, and guide the town in the operation, expansion and provision of quality recreation services.

Consultants have devised a plan for overall recreation needs, parks and recreation program needs, parks and recreation facility needs and Highlands Plateau Greenway needs – all both near term (0-4 years) and long term (4-10) years.

The underpinning for the purpose reflects the Town of Highlands Mission Statement which reads: "To provide the citizens and guests of Highlands and Macon County's Highlands park area with quality recreational services that meet the current and future needs through comprehensive programming, facilities, parks, greenways and open spaces. We strive to be responsive to the growing and dynamic population through programming, services and facilities by reflecting age, gender and cultural diversity of that population."

Aspirations were decided based on answers received on the surveys involving programs, facilities and the Greenway.

Of those who responded, 36% were 65+



years old, 29% were 55-64, 11% were 45-54, 6% were 35-44, 3% were 25-34, 2% were 20-24, 4% were 15-19, 3% were 10-14, 3% were 5-9 and 3% were under five years old.

Aspirations include managing and maintaining the existing and future facilities to the highest levels of service and safety; providing information to and work with elected and appointed officials so recreation programs, services and facilities are given appropriate administration and budgetary resources; connect Highlands various venues with a multiuse greenway/trail system connecting downtown Highlands to neighborhoods, businesses, institutions, recreation and cultural facilities; connect downtown Highlands to Bridal Veil Falls and Dry Falls; connect downtown Highlands to Franklin; and connect downtown Highlands to Cashiers and Jackson County; to stay aware of and compliment Macon County Parks and Recreation Master Plan; and to encourage ongoing public input into the shaping of parks and recreation programming, services, and facilities

• See MASTER PLAN page 14

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... SLOPE continued from page 1

consultant; Reggie Holland, builder and Realtor; Paul Shuler, grading contractor; and Al Slagle, hydrogeologist, have looked at the subject from every angle.

To formulate a plan and to make an ordinance recommendation, the subcommittee has gotten help from county employees Matt Mason, Jack Morgan and Derek Roland throughout the process.

In addition, the group has taken field excursions, worked with geologists from the NC Geological division, dissected the MC Slope Movement Hazard maps and talked with regulators from other counties, professionals in the fields of engineering, geology and soil science, as well as Macon County citizens.

Early on, the committee determined that the purpose of the ordinance would be for public safety while attempting to minimize property damage. In addition, it determined that recommendations would be as technically and scientifically based as possible.

Understandably, property rights is considered a huge issue when any ordinance regulating land-use is suggested.

Therefore, the committee discussed the issue of property rights on several occasions and has strived to balance property rights of developers, property owners, homeowners, potential homebuyers, and other affected citizens.

It determined that property owners should have the right to use their property to the "highest and best use" provided the use does not infringe on or adversely affect the property rights of adjacent or downslope properties or endanger public safety.

In fact, the committee says there are other issues facing Macon County that are as important as construction and development on slopes such as stormwater runoff management and construction standards for all projects – not just those on slopes greater than 30%.

Highlands is ahead of the game when it comes to stormwater management and the public hearing for its new ordinance is at the April 7 Town Board meeting at the community building at 7 p.m.

The county's Slope Development Strategies Subcommittee believes it is paramount that ordinances and regulations be uniformly and fairly administered. To that end, it believes adequate funding for personnel, a system for tracking projects, and consistent

support from elected officials and higher levels of county government are necessary for addressing these concerns is necessary.

Most professionals in construction and development are more than willing to follow the requirements of various codes, regulations and ordinances, but feel disadvantaged when bidding a job if other contractors do not bid based on the same requirements, they say.

Macon County was the first county in the state to have Slope Movement Hazard Maps – which was a direct result of the Peek's Creek debris flow in 2004 which resulted in both loss of life and tremendous property damage.

Since Peek's Creek, there are numerous examples of slope failures in Macon County and the region, most of which can be related back to some form of slope modification.

The maps are very valuable tools and the subcommittee says they should be used in county planning and in developing a Slope Development Ordinance to minimize the probability of future development-related slope failures.

Based on the research over the past year, the committee recommends the Macon County Planning Board begin work immediately on an ordinance governing construction and development on slopes which are over 30% before construction, that it apply only to the land that is to be disturbed, and that it be adopted as soon as possible.

Specifically, the county should regulate all construction involving land disturbance for residential and commercial construction in the following ways:

- The County should incorporate construction standards into the existing subdivision ordinance and erosion and sedimentation control ordinance, as well as in a new ordinance dealing with slope development.

The standards should regulate cut slopes over 8 feet in vertical height which are steeper than 1 ½:1; and fill slopes over 5 feet in vertical height which are steeper than 2:1. All constructed slopes over 30 feet in vertical height should be regulated.

In addition, placement of fill material should meet the following minimum criteria: the area upon which the fill is to be placed should be stripped and grubbed, and all vegetative matter should be removed, a bench should be constructed at the toe of the fill, the fill material should be free of organic material and vegetative matter, fill material should be placed in lifts not greater than 8 inches in thickness, and compacted to a minimum of 90% Standard Proctor Density.

Also recommended is a stormwater runoff management ordinance which applies to all construction projects. This could be developed in conjunction with a slope development ordinance, or could be a separate ordinance. The committee recommends the consolidation of ordinances relating to construction and development, although it may be necessary to have a separate Erosion and Sedimentation Ordinance.

The committee stressed that the county must fairly and uniformly enforce all regulations involving land disturbance in order to "level the playing field" for contractors and other trades.

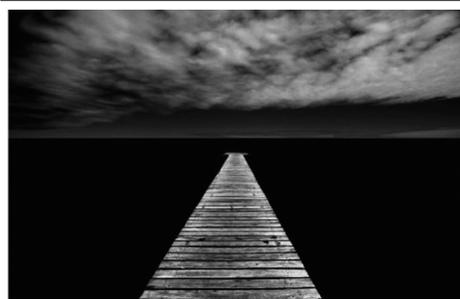
"This will require additional enforcement personnel and a county engineer. It is recommended the county purchase instrumentation to test for density of fill material as Haywood County has done. It is further recommended the County develop policies and/or standard operating procedures which insure uniform enforcement of ordinances," said committee members.

– Kim Lewicki



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- Spring and artist-in-residence workshops (pre-register now!)



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... MASTER PLAN continued from page 13

by conducting an annual open house to discuss issues and share ideas.

Near term overall park and recreation recommendations include distributing recreation information through the town website and newspapers, convening a Highlands Recreation Advisory Board made up people from the recreation department, the Town Board, the Greenway, a business owner, a seasonal citizen, an at-large citizen and a representative from Macon County Schools.

Near term parks and recreation program needs include upgrading the parks and recreation website, holding open houses, evaluating times and days of program offerings, gauging citizen interest, offering boating and fishing activities, community gardening programs, and expanding sports programs.

Near term parks and recreation facility needs include developing Pine Street Park (Kelsey-Hutchinson Park) – specifically, design it as an open gathering space with seating areas, picnic areas, hardscape elements, landscape improvements, restrooms and utility integration for special events.

The top 11 facility requests of survey tak-

ers were nature trails, greenway trails, a downtown park/square, a performing arts center, a nature center, an indoor pool, a dog park, biking trails an amphitheater, fitness equipment and a community center.

Both Wood and Lynn said some of those requests indicate that citizens, at least those who filled out the survey don't know Highlands already has many of those items which substantiated the need for a public awareness campaign.

Concerning Pine Street Park, they said with its natural amphitheater feel, outdoor movies could even be offered by projecting onto the back of the Village Square complex.

More near term facility needs include beginning town ball field improvements and expansion, establishing park facility standards (the branding of bench and component designs that say "Rec Park"), develop a dog park, relocate aerobics and studio space to the stage area of the Rec Park gym, and improve picnic facilities.

At last week's meeting, Rec Park Director Chalker also said if winters swing back to being cold and snowy, reestablishing the old

sled run on Oak Street and possibly developing an additional sled run across the creek on the Rec Park side would be a possibility.

That coupled with Town Manager Jim Fatland's investigation into incorporating an ice-rink within a set of tennis courts would establish outdoor winter offerings at the Rec Park.

Near term Greenway needs include expanded sidewalks, expanded trails, the creation of multiuse trails, expanded shared roads, new trailheads, new Greenway loops, a Greenway Map, and a NCDOT pedestrian master plan.

Long term needs on all counts are an expansion of the listed near term needs but also include locating and planning small west and south neighborhood parks on property already owned by the town and expanding picnic facilities.

The near term goals that require budgeting and financing will be considered during the ongoing budget worksessions in preparation for accepting the 2010-2011 Town of Highlands budget.

– Kim Lewicki

... DRUGS from page 1

embankment. He then attempted to re-enter the ER, but staff would not let him inside.

Meanwhile, hospital staff called Highlands Police officers who arrived on scene and stayed until the Sheriff's Department arrived.

When asked why he took the drugs, Kempton replied "In a moment of pure stupidity, I started stuffing pills into my pockets."

When officers found the discarded bag, they also found his cell phone. At first Kempton denied ownership of the bag or the cell phone but in the end gave a full statement admitting that the cell phone was his, and that he had broken into the pharmacy and stolen the drugs, said Holland.

Taken were about 100, 150-mg tablets of Tarazodone Hydrochloride, 100, 5-mg tablets of Diazepam, 200, 50-mg tablets of Morphine Sulfate, 100, 2-mg tablets of Diazepam, 100, 5-mg tablets of Oxycodone, 750, 500-mg tablets of Hydrocodone, 100 40-mg tablets of Oxycontin, 200, 20-mg tablets of Oxycontin, 100, 60-mg tablets of Oxycontin and various empty pill bottles. The property is valued at \$1,398.94 – street value \$15,000-\$17,000.

Kempton is charged with Breaking and Entering, Felony Larceny, and Possession of Stolen Goods/Property. After arrested he posted bond for \$10,000 and was released on Sunday. His court date is March 18. Sheriff Holland said additional charges against Kempton are pending.

Hospital staff said the hallway where the pharmacy is located is also where the bathroom and vending machines are and can be accessed via a door in the back of the waiting room.

They also said, due to the incident, entry into the pharmacy is being reconfigured so that it is more secure. – **Kim Lewicki**

... METERS
continued from page 3

sociated with the job by 12%.

Instead of walking up to the meter, the meter-reader can simply aim the device at the meter to gather usage information – or "read the meter."

This is sometimes referred to as "walk-by" since the meter reader walks by the locations where meters are installed rather going right up to them.

For Highlands, AMRs mean increased efficiencies, outage detection, tamper notification and reduced labor costs as well as easier connects and disconnects — basically less waste all the way around.

With timely usage information available to the customer, users will be able to manage their energy consumption.

Originally the town applied for grant funding to change out all the electric and water meters, but when the grant was denied, the town decided to replace the electric meters on its own.

So far 200 meters have been changed – about 50 a year — but there are about 2,700 to go.

Last Wednesday the board OK'd the purchase of 2,740 digital meters from Shealy Electric for the low bid of \$186,795. There was \$196,000 budgeted for the project.

The town's electric department will install the new meters and the job is expected to be complete by July 2010.

– **Kim Lewicki**

For 2010 ad rates and programs, email
highlandseditor@aol.com or highlandsinfo@aol.com

• CLASSIFIEDS •

HELP WANTED

HAMPTON INN is now accepting applications for front desk and Housekeeping. Must be able to speak English. Applications may be picked up at the Hampton Inn at 96 Log Cabin Lane Highlands. Resumes may be emailed to HLDNC_hampton@hilton.com. (3/25)

FULL TIME OR PART TIME JOB OPPORTUNITIES AT HIGH-END CLOTHING STORE. Retail sales experience necessary. Call 828-482-2118. (St. March 4)

EXPERIENCED SOUS CHEF FOR UPCOMING SEASON. Call Chef Wolfgang at 526-8396. (st. March 4)

SERVERS AND HOSTESS NEEDED AT ...ON THE VERANDAH. Part-time or Full-time. Under new management with new look and new menu! Please call Andrew Figel or Susan McDavid at 526-2339. (st. March 4)

NEEDED YARD CARE, LANDSCAPING WORKER FOR 2010 SEASON. Must be hardworking. Call Robert at 787-2367. (St. March 1)

(1) POLICE OFFICER, HIGHLANDS, NC. SALARY GRADE: (12) \$28,457.00-\$45,492. Full Family Medical REQUIREMENTS: Successful candidate must be 21 years of age; BLET-certified; and submit to an extensive background investigation, drug screening, and psychological evaluation. Applicant must possess a valid North Carolina, South Carolina, or Georgia driver's license, for the state which they reside in as a permanent resident. Applicant must successfully complete the Highlands Police Department application process. CLOSING DATE: Until Filled CONTACT: Highlands Police Department, Capt. R.L. Forrester, 310 Oak Street. Highlands, NC 28741. (828) 526-8734. (st. Feb. 28)

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. Our wage scale is \$11.00 to \$14.40 per hour with shift and weekend differentials. Pre-employment substance screening. Call Human Resources, 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

• See CLASSIFIEDS on page 16

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POLICE & FIRE REPORTS

The following are the Highlands Police Dept. log entries from March 6. Only the names of persons arrested, issued a Class-3 misdemeanor, or public officials have been used.

March 6

• At 3:20 p.m., employees at The Dry Sink reported seeing a female shopper put several items of merchandise in her purse. She then paid for items she placed on the counter, but not the items in her purse. They watched her get into a white car, recorded the Georgia license tag and called the police. At 4:30 p.m., Jane Tiden Pollard, 59, of Lilburn, GA, was arrested for larceny and possessing and concealing stolen property. She was released on a \$400 secured bond. Her court date is April 15.

March 9

• At 12:25 p.m., a storeowner on Main Street reported personal clothing belonging to his wife was stolen from his vehicle parked on Main Street. Taken were clothes and a fur. He also reported that on Saturday, March 6, a pullover and jacket of his had been taken from his vehicle parked on Main Street.

• At 9:30 p.m., officers responded to a one-vehicle accident at Bowery and Sagee Woods Drive where due to the state of the roads, his vehicle slid backward and off the road.

During the week, police officers responded issued 2 citations.

The following are the Highlands Fire & Rescue Dept. log entries from March 4:

March 4

• At 11:57 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with a medical call on Main Street. The victim was transported to the hospital.

March 8

• At 8:20 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with a medical call at a residence on NC 106. The victim was transported to the hospital.

• At 9:10 a.m., the dept. provided mutual aid to the Scaly Fire Department to fight a chimney fire. No fire was found.

Note:

At its Tuesday, March 9 meeting, members of the Highlands Fire & Rescue Dept. elected Calab Bowers and David Leffler to the force.

• CLASSIFIEDS •

online at www.hchospital.org

WANTED

LOOKING FOR CARPENTRY WORK

Have tools. Please call Alferdo: 524-9304 or 371-2976.

RETIRED AND BORED LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT – 38 YEARS EXPERIENCE. Wants to stay busy. Innovative ideas and solutions for existing site renovations; problems with circulation, drainage, erosion; and new site development. Please call so I don't have to take Latin Dance Lessons with my wife. Michael Ethridge 864-344-0715. (st. March 11)

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

ADORABLE 2/2 JOE WEBB LOG CABIN only a stone's throw from Mirror Lake. Completely furnished for only \$499K. Call 800-335-9215 and view pictures at www.HighlandsRentals.net/StonesThrowPics (3/11)

REDUCED – 3.5 acres, 3 BR, 2 BA manufactured home, large shop building, storage building, covered parking. Clear Creek/Blue Valley Area. \$205,000. 828-526-8191 (3/11)

TWO LOTS IN BLUE VALLEY – Dead-end Road. Water & Septic included. Subfloor and foundation on one, 70-ft. single-wide on the other. .55 acre and .65 acre. Borders USFS and great view of Satulah Mountain. Call 828-482-2052. (St. 11/24)

\$205,000 FOR BOTH. BY OWNER NO AC NEEDED. CLASSIC COUNTRY HOME, 4.2 acres. Perennial landscaping. 4 bed 3 bath, garage and shed 2900 sq. ft living space. 1,523 sq. ft deck. \$338,500, 743-5788 (st. 10/15)

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LOCATION, LOCATION! 2BR, 1 BA upstairs apt. Quiet area 1/2 block from Main St. (828) 787-2021 or 526-9227. (st. 2/25)

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.1/14)

ONE BED, 1 BATH, plus den with trundle beds – fully furnished, new construction, including utilities, cable TV, W/D, wireless Internet access. Smoke-free environment. 1,200 sq. ft. plus 2 outside decks. Walk to Main Street. Near new Bascom. \$950/month. Call 813-428-2359. (4/15)

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

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

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Farm. New queen bed, kitchenette, large tiled shower, deck and view. Good for 1 person. \$700/mo. includes electric, heat, satellite TV and wifi. Visit <http://highlandscashiersrealestate.blogspot.com/> for virtual tour. Phone (828) 421-7922. (st. 11/12)

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COMMERCIAL FOR RENT/SALE

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

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

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• CLASSIFIEDS •

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• BUSINESS NEWS •



Every March, Highlands-Cashiers Hospital and HealthTracks celebrate National Nutrition Month (NNM)

NNM, is an information and education based campaign sponsored by the American Dietetic Association. The campaign focuses on the importance of making healthy food choices and developing sound physical activity habits. This year's theme is "Nutrition from the Ground Up"

"Use this celebration to kick-off eating right by giving yourself a good foundation," said Jeanette Fisher, Wellness Coordinator and Personal Trainer. "A healthy lifestyle and healthy weight begins in the kitchen. Change doesn't have to be dramatic to make a difference."

People of all ages can benefit from a nutritious diet and active routine. Good nutrition habits help children develop and learn better, contribute to healthy pregnancies and lower the risk of many diseases including heart disease, diabetes and cancer. In addition to decreased risk of disease, Fisher said, "Nutrition and what you feed your body can even affect something as simple as blood pressure."

The experts at HealthTracks suggest ways to improve your nutrition from the ground up.

- Eat more fruits and veggies: "Both of these food groups are loaded with nutrition, vitamins and fiber. Water and fiber found in fruits and vegetables will satisfy hungry and at the same time increase energy levels. Adding more of these foods into your diet is important whether you buy frozen, fresh or organic."

- Watch your proportions: "Your eyes can play tricks on the mind. Measure the

correct proportion of the food you're eating decreasing the chance of over indulging. Portions of protein should measure the size of your palm, and carbohydrates should measure the size of your fist. "A rule of thumb; if you're still hungry, try filling up on green veggies and trick your sweet tooth by eating fruit."

- Do not eliminate carbs: "Your body needs them to function properly. Everything is good in moderation just stay from going overboard with carbohydrates."

HealthTracks at HCH offers health and wellness programs throughout the year. For more information, please contact Yvonne Smith at (828) 526-1438 or visit the website www.hchospital.org

"We encourage all of our residents to adopt nutritious eating habits and a regular exercise regimen. Our services are here to make a difference in our community," said Frank Leslie, Interim CEO

- "HCH is a community hospital that provides diagnostic, surgical and acute patient care to the public through on-site professional services, or as a referral to regional support providers. Our emergency care facility is Physician staffed 24/7 and treats patients promptly, monitoring their visit with personal care and attention. We make the extra effort to assure that you get "best of class care", and feel "special" every time you pass through our doors. HCH also provides Physician Clinics, a skilled Nursing Facility, Hospice Care, Skilled Rehabilitation, and Medically-Based Wellness Programs allowing individuals and families nearby access to professional care in these critical areas.



The Flipside crew -- Mitch Sheppard, Michael Goehagen and Charlie Hyland

It's Flipside for breakfast and lunch

Flipside – Highlands All American Burger Joint that serves 100% hormone-free Black Angus Beef – is open seven days a week 7 a.m. to 4 p.m., serving breakfast, lunch and an early supper if its light fare you crave.

Owner Charlie Hyland, who also owns Log Cabin Restaurant, Ruka's Table and the soon to open Highlands Smokehouse, has rearranged things and is excited about the upcoming season. Ruka's Table, which will sport a new entrance and a bar area, will be open for lunch, dinner and Sunday brunch.

Breakfast fare is now available at Flipside. Enjoy breakfast sandwiches, two-egg omelets, breakfast plates and "Flipcakes" with all the fixings.

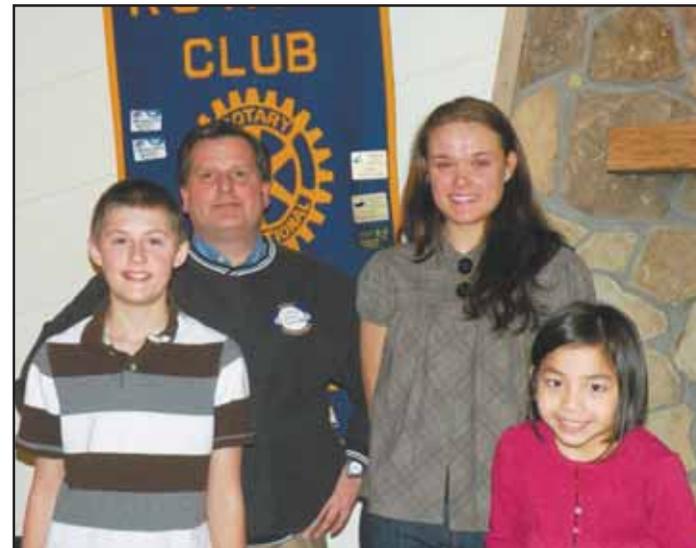
For lunch, Flipside offers favorite sides like loaded fries and onion rings, chicken tenders and wings; hot dog, corn dog and chicken tenders baskets, sandwiches and specialty burgers with your choice of sides and one of their 20 toppings.

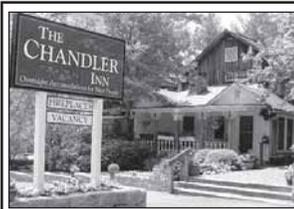
There are daily specials like 25-cent wings on Mondays, ice cream floats and shakes on Thursdays and \$1 Pabst Blue Ribbon drafts on Friday.

Coming up is a "Chicken Wing Eating Contest" and the winner drinks for free during the March Madness games. Reserve your seat now. For details, call 526-4241. Flipside is in the old Don Leon's spot behind Farmers Market.

Rotary honors students of the month

At its February 23 meeting, the Rotary Club of Highlands recognized Rotary's February Scholars of the Month. Pictured from the left are Kyle Gabbard (middle school, Tomas Jessup, school counselor, Jessica Gagne (high school) and Sarah Futral (grammar school).





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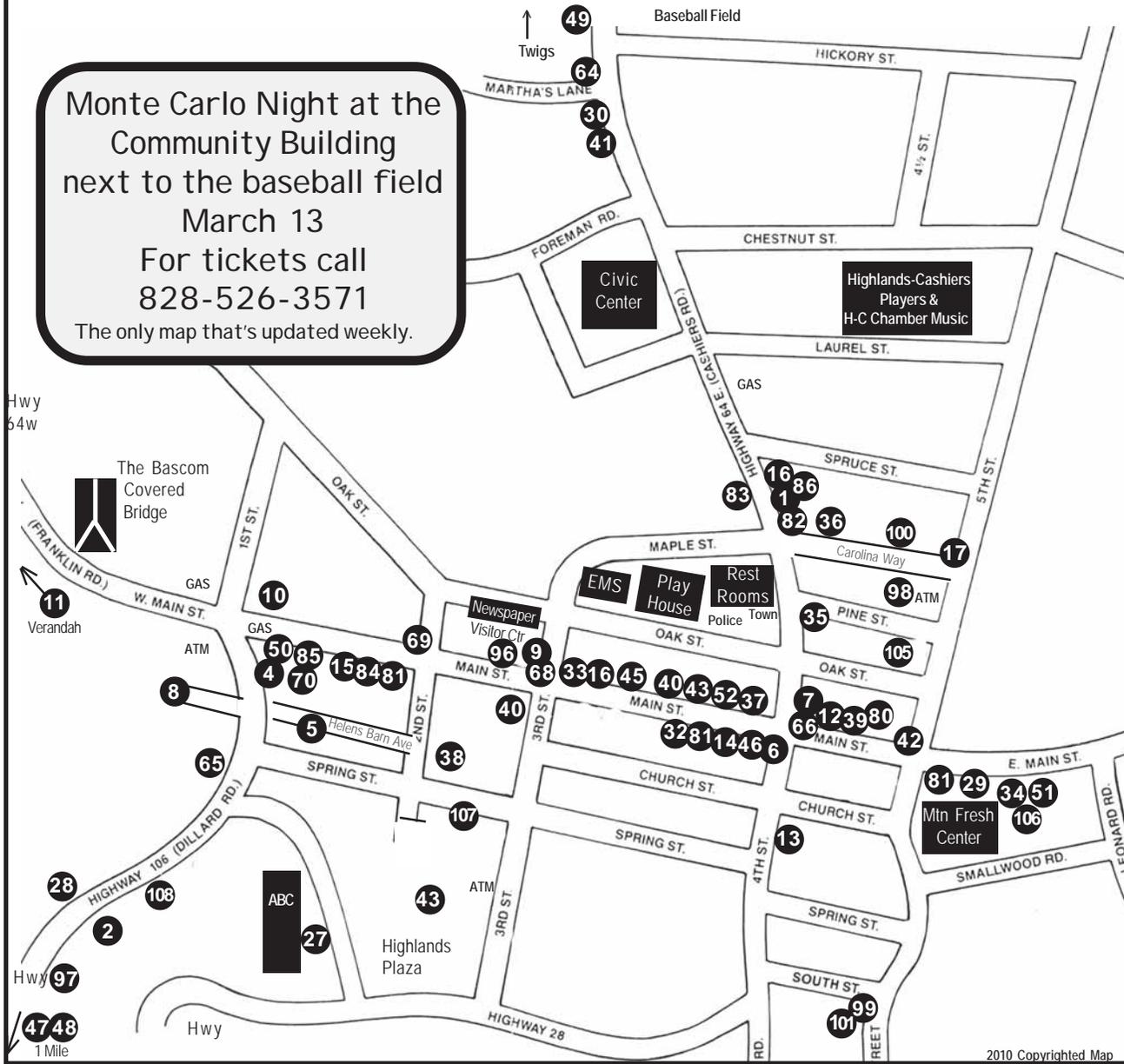
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8	Log Cabin	24		39	Dry Sink	55		71		87		103	
9	Main St. Inn	25		40	Reeves Hdware	56		72		88		104	
10	Nick's	26		41		57		73		89		105	All Seasons Salon
11	on the Verandah	MARKETS		42	Hen House	58		74		90		106	CreativeConcepts
12	Paoletti's	27	Brysons	43		59		75		91		107	Images Unlimited
13	Pescado's	28	Dusty's	44	Highlands Photo	60		76		92		108	Taylor Barnes
14	Pizza Place	29	Mtn. Fresh	45	Kilwins	61		77		93		109	
15	Ruka's Table	30	Whole Life	46		62		78		94			
16	SweetTreats	31		47		63		79		95			

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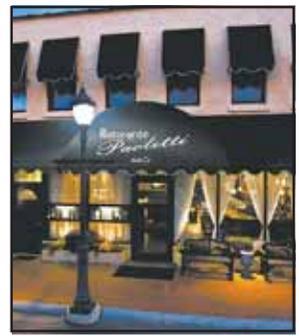
HighlandsInfo.com

**Highlands-Cashiers
Waterfall & Hiking Map**
Detailed Info Inside Newspaper



Map labels include: Cullasaja Falls, Lake Glenville, Sapphire Valley, CASHIERS, Norton Rd, Whiteside Mtn. Trail, Sliding Rock, Iron Bridge, Chattooga Trail, Silver Run Falls, White-water Falls & Brevard, Hwy 107n, Hwy 64, Hwy 64w & 28n To Franklin, Bust Your Butt Falls, Whiteside Mtn., Cliffside Lake, Bridal Veil Falls, Dry Falls, HIGHLANDS, Dry Falls, Hwy 106, Scaly Mtn., Sky Valley, Horse Cove Rd, Glen Falls, Iron Bridge Chattooga, Hwy 107s, and To >>> White-water Falls & Brevard.

PDF Inter-Active & Linked Map
HighlandsInfo.com/mapit.htm



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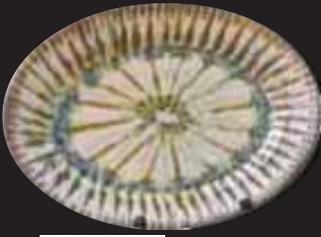
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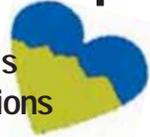
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