Snow predicted for Wednesday night began to fall steadily around 5 p.m. and by six commissioners agreed to postpone the Wednesday, Jan. 5 Town Board meeting to Wednesday, Jan. 12.

It's likely the same agenda will apply and some issues will be perfunctory.

More Snow on the Way!

To keep up with Highlands winter weather and activities go to www.highlandsinfo.com/wx.htm

'Thumbnail' comes up again

After more than two and half years, the subject of affordable housing in Highlands is back on the burner – scheduled for the Jan. 5 Town Board meeting at the request of Highlands Housing Inc., but with the meeting postponed due to inclement weather until Wednesday, July 12 at 7 p.m., it will be discussed then.

The last time a word was uttered was early August of 2008 – when the Town Board shut down the proposed Shortoff Woods facility on Buck Creek Road and again by the Workforce Housing Task Force at its culmination meeting at the end of the month.

"We need to keep our eye on the purse and not let the personal issues that came into play affect the ultimate goal," said taskforce member Christy Kelly. "We do need..."
Dear Editor,

I would like to thank Miss Etta Neely for stepping up to the bear hunting controversy in her letter-to-the-editor in the Dec. 23 issue. I’ve been reading all the hoopla and patiently waiting to see if any of our local bear hunters were going to speak up. Taking into consideration that most of the local people left in the area are the working class, juggling jobs and family and keeping appointments, we don’t have time for this crap. But thanks goes out to Miss Etta who found the time to speak up for us and now it’s time for me to put two bits in.

I’ve watched for many years, people coming into our area, putting their straw hat on and their overall’s and boots, and all of a sudden they know everything about everything in these mountains. We call them “Wannabes.”

First disagreement I had was their ideas that the rattlesnakes were extinct and we need to protect them. Being a chicken farmer and coming home and finding the slithering baby chicken thieves in the coop with the baby chicks in their mouths choking them down is something these people need to see. I say to them “Get off the beaten path folks!” They hike a few trails and decide they’re extinct. Get you a few chickens and really get down into these mountains, then come talk to me. What really got my goat was teaching the children that they would rattles before striking. What a joke! I had one jump out of the grass and strike my horse on the leg and didn’t rattles until it had already bitten. Once had a baby rattler less than a foot-long strike from underneath the bush, more full of venom than a grown snake. No rattle until after striking and then it sounded like a bumble bee. What are you teaching your children? We teach ours to keep their eyes open! Like the local’s, the rattlers hear so much noise and hoopla they just don’t bother to rattle anymore.

And what’s next...don’t kill the bats. Even though they carry rabies if they come in your house, don’t dare hurt them. Protect them. But let’s bring in the Perequins hawks that can pick off a bat in mid-air. Hope you are enjoying watching them pick off the little defenseless Hummingbirds right off your feeders, too. Keep protecting and multiplying them hawks, though. After the rattles and having bears tear my coops apart to have a free chicken meal I thought the chickens had a better chance free ranging. To have a free chicken meal I thought the hawks, though. After the rat- slithering baby chicken thieves in the coop we need to protect them. Being a chicken hunter, I say to them “Get off the beatern path folks!” They hike a few trails and decide they’re extinct. Get you a few chickens and really get down into these mountains and things. I’ve watched for many years, people coming into our area, putting their straw hat on and their overall’s and boots, and all of a sudden they know everything about everything in these mountains. We call them “Wannabes.”

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David John Buck

David John Buck, age 58, of Highlands, NC died after a courageous battle with cancer, Wednesday, December 22, 2010 at his residence. Born in Buffalo, NY he was the son of the late Warner and Mary Casper Buck. He was a native of Macon County and a member of the Highlands ABC store. David was a member of First Presbyterian Church of Highlands and was married to his wife, Elizabeth Wright Buck; one son, Marshall David Buck of Highlands, NC, Bailey McBride Buck of the home and Katrina Kenton of Wyoming.

Hattie Sue Ledford Reese

Hattie Sue Ledford Reese “our loving Mama Sue,” age 74, died Sunday December 26, 2010 at Memorial Mission Hospital. Sue was a native of Macon County and the daughter of the late Howard and Orpha Hastings Ledford.

She was a member of the Highlands First Baptist Church where she was active in GA’s and Sunday school instruction during her youth. She also was a retired member of the Highlands Woman’s Club at which times she helped co-found Ribber Maggie’s Closet in Highlands recognizing the need of second hand clothing, as a mother of four children.

Throughout her life she worked many trades to help provide for her family but in the end she retired with 23 years of service as manager and forefather of the Highlands ABC store. The job she enjoyed the most, however, was making her homemade jams and jellies which she sold at the Highlands Arts and Crafts Fair for 27 years. She had a passion for dancing, especially the art of clogging, of which she traveled throughout the south-east as a dancing judge. Her most important role in life, that she took most pride in, was the love and care that she gave to her family and friends as her heart was never ending.

She is survived by her husband of 55 years, Robert L. Reese, Jr. “Dug.” one son, Michael Lee Reese and three brothers, Derold, Harold and Hewell Ledford.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Highlands ABC store. The job she enjoyed the most, however, was making her homemade jams and jellies which she sold at the Highlands Arts and Crafts Fair for 27 years. She had a passion for dancing, especially the art of clogging, of which she traveled throughout the south-east as a dancing judge. Her most important role in life, that she took most pride in, was the love and care that she gave to her family and friends as her heart was never ending.

Sue is survived by four children, a son, Kevin Reese (Barbara) of Highlands, NC, a daughter, Karen Reese of Highlands, NC; fraternal twins, David Reese of Highlar NC and Donna Hoffman (Chris) of Carbondale CO; five grandchildren, Tara Reese (Chad), Devon Reese, Michael Reese, Au Reese, Alexa Reese and one great-grandchild, Channing Ray; two sisters, Deanne Raby (Bert) of Franklin, NC, Jewell Drake (Tom) and one great-grandchild, Devon Reese, Michael Reese, Austin Hoffman (Chad), Devon Reese, Michael Reese, and Jewell Drake (Tom). Five grandchildren also survive including Allie and Jonathan David.

Funeral services were Tuesday, December 28, 2010 at First Presbyterian Church, Highlands, NC with Rev. Lee Bowman and Dr. Don Mullen officiating. Burial was in Highlands Memorial Park.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the family in care of First Presbyterian Church, PO Box 5 Highlands, NC 28741.

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

Highlands' Newspaper - Thursday, Jan. 6, 2011 - Page 3

... LETTERS continued from page 2

a barrier between those areas and pedestrian walkways is the wrong approach. Many thanks to Jane Woodruff for making the offer and your acceptance of it. The new post office will be great gift to this community.

W. Stell Huie
Highlands

Consideration needed for year-rounders!

Dear Editor,

We are year-round residents of Highlands. I moved here in 1971 – yes, 40 years ago. We live on Upper Clear Creek Road as “The Forgotten People.” We were snowed in for four days with the last winter blast. My husband drove me to work going the back way – Blue Valley. It was very icy and precarious at best. If we were to screech for help, who would/could have helped? There is no cell phone reception! Even the main highway, NC 28, was a dangerous icy mess. Do we not pay taxes, work and stay active giving of ourselves to a community we love? We should have a home safe place to move to.

W. Stell Huie
Highlands

What’s for Dinner?

Your favorite lunch place now has homemade dinner to go. All served hot and ready to take home. Mon – Sat pick up from 4:30 pm until 6:30 pm.

Each Dinner feeds a family of four

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Meal Description</th>
<th>Price</th>
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<tr>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>Buffalo Wings or Chicken Tenders and hand cut fries</td>
<td>14.95</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tue</td>
<td>Premium in-house made soup and large salad and dinner rolls</td>
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<td>Wed</td>
<td>Chicken or Steak pot pie and a large salad</td>
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<td>Thu</td>
<td>Roasted Meatloaf, homemade mashed potatoes, and a large salad</td>
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<td>Fri</td>
<td>Wild fried shrimp, hand cut fries, handmade hush puppies, and coleslaw</td>
<td>18.95</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat</td>
<td>In-house smoked BBQ, coleslaw, apple and bacon baked beans, and yeast rolls</td>
<td>16.95</td>
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Mon - Sat open at 7 am and Sundays at 8 am.
Corner of 5th & Main, Highlands NC 828-526-2400

Mountain Fresh Grocery & Haul Market
...on this day from the History Guy
Jan 6, 1838
Samuel Morse successfully tests the first electric telegraph.

The clever Mr. Samuel Morse has devised a new form of discourse.
With it you can inquire of the news over the wire.
Need some data on what your broker sold and bought?
That can be delivered on the dot.
New born baby stock market crash?
Word can get there in just a dash,
and get there quickly and symmetrically,
cause it’s transmitted electrically.
Updates that can make you cry or laugh can now be sent by telegraph.

New additional block ad positions are available on both the Black and white map page and the full color back page for 2011.
Discounts apply through Jan. 2011, If interested, call 828-526-0782 or email highlandseditor@aol.com

Highlands Year-Round Fine Dining Establishments

WILD THYME GOURMET
Serving Lunch and Dinner Year-Round!
Gourmet Foods, Fine Wine and Beer
Wed.-Sat.: Lunch: 11:30 a.m.-4 p.m.; Dinner from 5:30.
Closed Sunday-Tuesday
Happy New Year and Thanks for a great season!
www.wildthymegourmet.com
526-4035 • 490 Carolina Way • Highlands

Ristorante Adetti
Uptown Italian Dining Since 1953
Downtown Highlands Since 1984
Exceptional Wines and Robust Cocktails
Dinner/Bar from 5:30, Fri.-Mon. • Reservations: 828.526.4906

Fressers eatery
Serving Highlands Since 1979
151 Helen’s Barn Ave. 828-526-4188
www.fressersateyhighlands.com
the Bakery at Fresser’s Express
420 Oak Street, Highlands 828-526-8867

-- Laughing At Life --

Dang-nab-bit, I missed the bear
But I nailed Grandma right between the eyes.

I never did get into the hunting and killing of animals thing but I’m not opposed to those that do. For me, hunting humans was much more challenging and sometimes they shot back.
Now that’s a thrill few have experienced and it’s not a good one.
Write this down! If you bought a handgun to ward off attackers, get rid of it immediately. Don’t shoot ‘cause you’ll miss and upset your attacker. You stand a better chance if you throw the gun at him and run.

Lately, there’s much ado about shooting bears in and around the Highlands area and, as usual there are strong feelings on both sides of the issue. I’m not sure how the bears feel but I’m guessing they’re not happy about gettin’ thinner out. Sittin’ safely in Palm Beach where bear hunters are nonexistent, I could say, “Ha, ha, ha, you can’t shoot me from here!” I won’t because it’ll get hunters’ shots in a wad. From what I’ve read so far, they’re pretty sensitive when it comes to killin’ stuff.

The really bad part about allowing a bunch of testosterone laden guys wearing John Deere caps permission to kill bears is, if they miss, where does the slug go? No one knows but hopefully not in Grandma’s head. Why bears need to be thinned out is my question? By the way, if you’re a hunter who eats his bear kill, my hat is off to you. Wow, you must have a steel lined stomach and beoneman man.

And here’s my warning to the everyday folks who live in the area or just came to visit for awhile. Be very afraid of the hunter. While skilled hunters seldom miss their target, there are also a bunch of downs out there who haven’t picked up a rifle since last hunting season, if then. And here’s another warning: It’s not a good time to be wearing your fur coat, especially when you’re passing garbage dumpsters.

Everyone, especially hunters, should watch the video of ex-convict Clay Duke open fire on the Panama City school board at point blank range. (See it on YouTube– warning it’s graphic). Clay came to kill school board members but wound up shooting himself in the head. Before Clay killed himself, he was wounded by a retired policeman who entered the room and put one round in him, dropping him to the floor. Just in case you’re not the sharpest tool in the shed … or maybe from Sanford (ha), the message here is: one trained cop, one bullet, one hit. Also, the message is: one angry untrained down, 10 shots and no hits. The video is a perfect example of how inaccurate an unskilled shooter is when firing a weapon at point blank range and why an untrained citizen shouldn’t have one. Watch the video, then take the gun from under your bed and, unless you fire the weapon often with accuracy, unload it and get rid of it. You’re going to miss your attacker and hit one of the kids … or Grandma.

One of the greatest things I learned from attending the best SWAT school in the country was learning how inaccurate a small handgun is in the hands of an inexperienced person. That factor helped keep me alive my whole career.

Moving on, please don’t tell Sarah Palin, but I don’t eat bear, deer, caribou, elk, moose, buffalo, squirrel, opossum or rabbit. Sarah’s an expert on identifying wild poop. She knows grizzly poop from caribou poop.
Being a poop expert will come in handy if she becomes our president since Congress is full of … well, you know.

Anyway, while killing bears might be the “in” fun thing this year, my question is what yahoo decided we had too many bears? And how many is too many? How many human deaths from bears did Highlands encounter this year? How many bear attacks have we had? Are our bears starving?

We could neuter bear cubs at birth like wedo with our house pets but would momma bear’s shorts be in a wad? Well, I guess we could shoot her first and hope the cubs survive … nah; the dogs would tear them to shreds. Besides, there’s nothing like havin’ a cute little stuffed cub on your mantle.

Finally, here’s my bottom line. Unless our bears start attacking and killing humans or we find them dead in the woods from starvation, leave them the hell alone. They are one of God’s beautiful creatures.

PS – Chew on this! Is war God’s way of thinning out the human herd?

• Read Fred’s column on-line all winter at www.highlandsinfo.com, click on LOCAL NEWS.
I don’t make New Year resolutions. Turning over new leaves is a good idea any time of year. There is always a rush on January 1. People identify their shortcomings and decide to rectify them. Nearly everyone who smokes would like to quit. Fat people want to be thin. Slugs want to get more exercise. Debtors long to escape the burden. The problem is that there is no compelling reason to choose the first of the year to turn a lot of leaves. Goals are desirable any time of year.

What is usually missing is the “teachable moment.” Unfortunately, that moment may come too late. Coughing blood may be a powerful incentive for a smoker, but unfortunately it probably arrives too late to be of much value. Better to realize that time is short when walking to the mailbox becomes a breathless chore, or when nicotinic addiction has an unrelenting grip. When the doctor’s office calls and says his patient needs a CT scan to follow up a suspicious chest x-ray, cigarettes lose much of their appeal, but the moment may have come too late. The cough that never clears, increasing shortness of breath, the need for a nightly nicotine fix are all clear warnings, and should alert a smoker that worse is on the way. If the New Year seems the moment to cast off the habit, that’s fine; Happy New Year and Good Luck.

My gym wasn’t crowded on New Year Day. It’s anybody’s guess if church services or hangovers were the reason. There were a few eager exercisers on January 2, but no waiting lines for the treadmill. Exercise is great as an aid to weight loss, to enhance cardiovascular fitness, maintain muscle tone and bone strength. It doesn’t matter if a person starts on January 1st. The point is to start. I hope that at least one reader will start on January 6, 2011, immediately after reading my column. I would love to be your teachable moment.

It’s a good idea to have a partner, someone to share the pain. It’s even better to find a partner to share the joy. It’s easy to call your training partner and offer an excuse. It’s easier to make the call the second day. Pretty soon, you just stop calling. On the other hand, you may choose a dog as your aerobic partner. He won’t take no for an answer. He’ll bark, or howl, or whine, depending on his breed and personality. He’ll canter joyfully to the door and back to your bed, reminding you that it’s time to get moving. He’ll never be too tired for his walk, never offer excuses, nor have conflicting obligations. A dog is the ideal companion. He won’t help your weight training, but it is easy to move to the weights after a brisk and lengthy walk. As time passes and fitness increases, you may decide to start jogging. You’ll get no complaints from Fido.

There are lots of worthy resolutions and 365 days a year to initiate them. Decide to wear a seatbelt every time you get in a car. Eat a healthier diet. Drink less. Play more. Decide to spend more time with your family, be more pleasant at work.

Any day can be ‘resolution’ day
... DRUG POLICY continued from page 1

The questions were: What is the purpose/goal of your policy? Who will be recovered by your policy? When will your policy apply? What behavior will be prohibited? Will employees be required to notify you of drug-related convictions? Will your policy involve searches? Will your program include drug testing? What will the consequences be if your policy is violated? Will there be Return-to-Work Agreements? What type of assistance will be available? How will employees be communicated to employees? According to the site, the purpose of a drug-free workplace policy is to send a clear message that the use of alcohol and drugs in the workplace is prohibited and it should encourage employees to voluntarily seek help with alcohol and drug problems.

“...Our bottom line principle should be that the people who are spending taxpayers’ money should get productivity out of employees and there should be a safe working environment,” said Commissioner Patterson. “We should apply that statement to every question.”

Concerning who will be recovered by the policy, the following statement is automatically included: any individual who conducts business for the Town of Highlands, is applying for a position or is conducting business on the Town of Highlands property is covered by Highlands’ drug-free workplace policy. Specific positions selected were full- and part-time employees, volunteers, interns, and applicants. Contractors will be required to verify that all their employees and any subcontractors used also comply with drug-free workplace policies.

Standard is the following statement which is included in most organizations’ policy so it will automatically appear in a policy generated by the program: It is a violation of the Town of Highlands drug-free workplace policy to use, possess, sell, trade, and/or offer for sale alcohol, illegal drugs or intoxicants. In addition, some organizations are addressing the rampant abuse of prescription and over-the-counter medications in their policies.

Through the Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988 requires any employee convicted of a drug-related offense in the workplace notify the organization in writing within five calendar days of the conviction. Some employees not subject to the act can choose to incorporate the requirement. However, the town will require disclosure.

The 1988 Act doesn’t require employers to perform searches due to legislation limiting and prohibiting them, but Attorney General Harrell said searches of town property – vehicles, lockers, desks, etc. – are allowed, but not personal items in desks, lockers, etc., like lunch boxes, pocket books, or other personal affects. Commissioners agreed that searches would only be conducted if there is suspicion of drug or alcohol use.

Likewise the 1988 Act doesn’t require employers to demand drug testing but it can be required under other Federal regulations applying to safety-sensitive and security positions. But private employers do have the right to test for a wide variety of substances. As part of the application procedure and if an employee is suspected of using the town will test urine for amphetamines, cannabinoids, cocaine, opiates and phencyclidine and will follow the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration’s standard guidelines.

North Carolina has a “Controlled Substance Examination Regulation” codified at Gen. Stat. 95-230 et seq. The law purports to protect individuals from “unreliable and inadequate examinations and screening for controlled substances” and to preserve an individual’s dignity to the extent practical, and focuses on chain-of-custody and laboratory testing procedures more than policy guidelines.

Commissioners were adamant about giving employees who test positive a chance to seek help through the town’s insurance - though at the employee’s expense - and give employees a second chance as long as they pass a Return-to-Duty test and sign a Return-to-Work Agreement. However, they are reserving the right to terminate an employee immediately and to terminate if the employee tests positive for drug or alcohol use a second time.

Applicants who test positive for drug use won’t be hired but will be allowed to reapply in a year’s time.

Once the Drug-Free Policy is amended, all employees will receive a copy and the policy will be explained verbally during orientation and at safety and other department meetings. All supervisors will be trained to help recognize and manage employees with alcohol and other drug problems.

... LETTERS continued from page 3

year-round? We love our church, wonderful friends and our involvement in Highlands. This is a nightmare!

We would love to see Highlands be a year-round destination for visitors – as well as ourselves. It’s too much to ask for well-maintained roads in 2011? I find this far more important than banners and fluff and new trees! I remember when we had trees on Main Street.

Make our beautiful town a safe one for ALL concerned.

Kim Lewicki

... LETTERS continued from page 12

Make our beautiful town a safe one for ALL concerned.

Jane Woodruff

Highlands

Post Office update

Dear Editor,

Our planned Post Office is advancing with the United States Postal Service for a long awaited decision toward the benefit of the Highlands community citizens and visiting patrons.

USPS required a seven-day notice prior to the public hearing on December 22. Notice was published by the local Postmaster in the current Post Office on December 15.

After receiving nearly 300 positive letters during July and August, I believe that our anticipated wishes for a new improved Post Office are about to come true. Many thanks again for all of your letters and verbal encouragement helping me to continue pursuing this improvement for Highlands.

I look forward to the official notification from USPS very soon.

Diane M. Rosazza

Highlands
I should be ready for Christmas. The week flew by. Frank, the activities coordinator, had a number of imaginative things planned. We played bingo. Groups came to sing. One day, a lady came to play the piano while we sang along. She chose tunes from a Christmas songbook which contained both the usual carols and some more modern fare. “Oh, here’s one from Elvis that you probably know,” she said, and began to play “Blue Christmas.” I’ll have a blue, blue Christmas without you,” the words went. Tears sprung to my eyes, and it took everything I had not to burst out crying. One of the nurses came over, and gave me a hug. She’d seen me from across the room, and came to my aid. Maman held my hand. It wasn’t going to be an easy time, this first Christmas without John, but at least I was with people who were caring and supportive.

When we were growing up in Waynesboro, we had a family tradition – every year Daddy would pile us into the car at night, and drive all around town to look at the Christmas lights. Since Waynesboro had a population of fewer than 20,000 at the time, the tour could easily take in the whole town. The poorer section often had the most lights, and we wondered how they could afford the electric bills. The richer section of town often boasted large mansions with elegant columns – one single light in every window and a huge wreath tied with an elegant red bow on the front door. We always came back from that ride with stars in our eyes, and Christmas in our hearts.

We found out that Clyde, the driver at Summit Square, was taking a bus around to see the Christmas lights, so we signed up. Clyde had a special treat for us. Every year, one house is decorated to the hilt with lights which are timed to go on and off to a soundtrack of music available if you tune in to a particular radio frequency. We stopped to watch the entire program, which took about ten minutes. Call it delightful or tacky. The entire bus was grinning and swaying to the music. Although there probably wasn’t a person among us under the age of 60, we were all kids again.

We did get our White Christmas, but much less of it than the rest of the East Coast. The cheesecake from Junior’s in Brooklyn arrived – Maman’s favorite – and I’d gotten her fresh raspberries and chocolate too. We ate a delicious meal in the main dining hall, and watched Rick Steve’s European Christmas DVD in the Gallery, where we’d listen to a hand bell choir the next day.

Before we knew it, I was packing my bags for the return to Highlands; atop full of adventure. Getting to Charlottesville Airport, I found out that there was no seat for me on a flight from Charlotte to Asheville. The recent snow storms had left planes and crew scattered all over the country. If I could only wait until the next day, they could confirm an 8 am departure. I was adrift. The cats had gone two days by themselves, due to the snowy roads in Highlands. The charming man behind the counter at USAirways, a pet lover himself, came up with a solution. He gave me a voucher for a cab to drive me and another passenger from Charlotte to Asheville. I spent the day with the best traveling companion ever – Deb, from Outward Bound in Bat Cave. We got our taxi – and its rather surly driver, who managed to get stopped for speeding. The cop must have seen our stricken faces, and let him off.

My friend, Lee, sent me Mark, a knight in shining armor, or rather a jeep, to pick me up in Asheville, and while the roads were pretty clear most of the way, there was still lots of snow in Highlands. I tramped up the long flight of stairs to my new home, and threw open the door. Two very puzzled cats looked at me, not sure of who I was. “Mama’s home,” I cooed. They weren’t so certain. Several hours later, however, life was back to normal. The snow dissipated; the Christmas lights on Main Street sparkled. I settled down to watch TV. Orion was perched on the back of the sofa, with his head on my shoulder; Weasel was asleep on my lap. I still got up to feed the cats, and after I put them down, I ran a hand through their hair, and feeling their fur, I knew this was exactly where I should be.
New Year’s Resolutions

By Ryan Potts

Over the Christmas holiday the Highlanders and Lady Highlanders traveled to Walhalla, SC to participate in the Apple Classic tournament held annually at Walhalla High School.

On the girls’ side, the Lady Highlanders took home a 2-1 record with victories over Upstate and Easley and a loss to Habersham Central.

Against Easley, the Lady Highlanders pulled away in the second half for a 53-34 win. Taylor Buras scored 11, Courtney Rogers scored 12 and Emily Munger scored 17 for the Lady Highlanders.

Against Upstate, the Highlanders pulled away early and finished with a comfortable 50-37 win. Munger led all scorers with 25 points for Highlanders.

In the boys’ bracket, the Highlanders finished 1-2 in the tournament with losses to Habersham Central and Easley and a win over Greer Charter School.

Against Greer Charter the Highlanders never trailed and dominated throughout in a 71-35 victory. Robbie Vanderbilt led all scorers with 19 points.

In their third game of the tournament, the Highlanders came up a few points short against Upstate in what was one of the best games of the tournament. While Upstate led the majority of the first half, the Highlanders came back to take the lead in the third period.

After Upstate regained the lead late in the fourth, a frantic Highlander comeback was derailed by two untimely turnovers and some questionable officiating. Logan Schmitt and Josh Delacruz each had 14 points for the Highlanders, and Vanderbilt added 12 in the 59-55 defeat.

The Highlanders traveled to Nantahala and Rabun Gap this weekend before returning home on Jan. 18 to face the Rosman Tigers.

Coach’s Corner

Every year at this time many Americans look forward to a new year by making some resolutions to follow. In that respect, I am looking forward to a terrific 2011 and have made the following resolutions to adhere to.

I resolve to cheer for the Atlanta Falcons in the event that the New Orleans Saints do not make it to the Super Bowl. Actually, no I don’t. If I could just cheer for the Falcons themselves it would be fine, but Falcons fans have turned out to be even more annoying than I originally imagined. Therefore, I resolve to cheer for Michael Vick and Philadelphia Eagles in the event that my Saints do not complete the “Two Dat.”

I resolve to continue hating Brett Favre with every fiber of my being. (By hatel mean “sports hate” not “I hope something bad happens to him” hate.) Not only did he completely embarrass himself this year with his laddiester performance on the field, but now he is caught up in two scandals involving inappropriate treatment of women. Normally at this point, I would begin to feel sympathy for Favre and lay off the old man, but all I have to do is just re-imagine Joe Buck slobbering all over him during last year’s NFC Championship game and instantly revive the sports hate flowing through my veins.

I resolve to no longer feel empathy for UNC fans, as now that they have won three straight games against terrible teams they have climbed back aboard the bandwagon. Note to self: UNC fans are not supposed to throw Roy under the bus until AFTER he goes. Note to UNC fans: you aren’t supposed to have climbed back aboard the bandwagon.

I resolve to no longer feel empathy for TCU’s defense in that no one wants to see TCU’s defense up against the winner of Auburn and Oregon?

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In a two-concert series, pianist Robert Henry and cellist Charae Krueger will perform Ludwig van Beethoven’s complete Sonatas for piano and cello. The first concert is Sunday, January 9th at 2 p.m., and will feature Sonatas 1, 2, and 4. The second concert is Sunday, January 16th at 2 p.m., and will feature Sonatas 3 and 5.

“This is a rare opportunity for lovers of good music to experience all five Beethoven Sonatas for Piano and Cello,” explains Robert. “I think these sonatas offer the same sort of musical biography as do the complete symphonies or the 32 piano sonatas. Everything is here, from the youthful bravado and classical lyricism of his early works to the mysticism and inward-looking spirituality of his later period — it’s all packed into five sonatas.”

With critically acclaimed debuts at Carnegie Hall and the Kennedy Center under his belt, Robert, pianist Robert Henry is Artist-in-Residence at Kennesaw State University, a Gold Medalist in four International Piano Competitions, has been hailed as a “consummate artist — brilliant, formidable, elegant, and the epitome of poise and control.” Dr. Henry released his award-winning debut CD, Twelve Nocturnes and a Waltz, in 2010.

Cellist Charae Krueger is Principal Cellist for the Atlanta Opera Orchestra and the Atlanta Ballet Orchestra. She is the Cellist Artist-In-Residence and professor at Kennesaw State University and performs with the KSU String Trio. She received her Bachelor of Music Performance degree from New England Conservatory in Boston. She also holds an Artist Diploma from the Longy School of Music in Cambridge, MA.

Future concerts at Incarnation include Bach’s Well-Tempered Clavier, BK I (1-12), to take place on Sunday, February 20 at 2 p.m., with pianist Robert Henry.

All concerts are free. Donations accepted.

Ongoing
• All Health Tracks at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital, various exercise classes all week long. Call 828-526-1171

Sundays
• Allershock 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.

Mon. & Thurs.
• On the Mat Yoga at the Episcopal Church of the Incarnation on Main Street. Upper Level Jones Hall. Mon., and Thurs. at 10:45 a.m. Bring your mat. 828-482-2129. $10/hour. (12/31)

Mon., Wed., Fri.
• Heart Healthy Exercise Class at the Rec Park. 8:30-9 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 first Monday of each month at 10 a.m. at the hospital.

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

Tuesdays
• Highlands Rotary Club meets at noon at the Highlands Conference Center at noon.
• Closed AA Women’s meeting, 5:30 p.m. at the Episcopal Church at Fifth and Main streets.

Tues. & Thurs.
• Study Hall at the Literary Council of Highlands in the Peggy Crosby Center from 3 to 5 p.m. Come do your homework, projects use the resources on site and get help from a tutor. For more information, contact Favola Olera at (828) 526-0205.

Wednesdays
• The Highlands Mountaintop Rotary meets at 7:30 a.m. 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. Meetings end at 8:30 a.m.
• 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 Unitarian Fellowship Hall in Franklin. A $5 soup-supper will be served at 5:30 p.m. Study sessions will begin at 6:30 p.m. Call 828-524-6777 or 706-746-9644.

Thursdays
• Al-Anon meeting, noon at the Episcopal Church on Main and Fifth streets.
• Every Third Saturday
• The Highlands Junior Women’s Club features “The Pink Ladies” 8:30 a.m. at the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. Breakfast is at 9 a.m. Meeting is at 10 a.m. All women are invited to attend.
• Saturdays
• At Pocket’s Restaurant, intimate Wine Tasting at the bar at 1 p.m. Great inexpensive wines from around the world, available for retail sales daily. Cheese and Crackers are served. Cost $20 per person refundable with case purchase.
• At Cyprian International Restaurant, live music beginning at 9 p.m. No cover.

Thursday, Jan. 6
• Franklin Community Blood Drive at the First Baptist Church, 69 Iotla Street, Franklin, 12:30 pm to 5:30 pm.
• Please call 369-9550 for more information or to schedule an appointment. Walk-ins Welcomed! Appointments preferred.
• All presenting donors have a chance to win one of two pairs of Delta Air Lines tickets!

Friday, Jan. 7
• NC Wildlife Advocates will meet from Noon to 3 p.m. at Lake Junaluska Conference and Retreat Center. Everyone is invited – bear hunters and non-bear hunters. Email wflylikearoadrunner@frontier.com.
• The High Mountain Squares will dance Friday night at the Macon County Community Building on Route 441 South, from 6:30-9 p.m. Ace McGee from Anderson, SC will be the caller. Western Style Square Dancing, main/ stream and plus levels. Workshop from 6:30-7. Everyone is welcome. For information call 828-349-0005 or 828-369-8344.

Saturday, Jan. 8
• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a moderate-to-strenuous, 1.5 mile hike up Chimneytop Mountain in Sapphire. The climb is quite steep near the summit with a 35 degree view. Meet at the Cashiers Wachovia Bank (on back) at 9 a.m.; Drive 6 miles round trip, returning to Cashiers between 12 to 1 p.m. Bring water, a snack, a walking stick; wear sturdy hiking shoes. Call leader Walker Taylor, 743-6977.

Jan. 8- Feb. 12

Saturday, Jan. 8- Feb. 12
• At The Bascom, Saturday Art School for students. Fun, hands-on arts and crafts, pre-school. Call 526-4949 for more information.

Sun., Jan. 9
• The newly formed Concert Chorale of Highlands and Cashiers will commerce rehearsals for the spring and summer concerts on Sunday at 3 p.m. at the Episcopal Church of the Incarnation. Interested singers may contact Grat L. Rosasza, conductor and musical director at 828-526-4278 for more information.
• At the Episcopal Church, “Beethoven at Incarnation” at 2 p.m. featuring pianist Robert Henry and cellist Charae Krueger performing Sonatas 1, 2, & 4. Concerts are free. Donations accepted.

Tuesdays, Jan. 11- Feb. 15
• At The Bascom, After School Art. Call 526-4949 for more information.

Tuesday, Jan. 11
• The Highlands Dialogue resumes its Winter/Spring Discussion Series with Putting Away Childish Things by Marcus Borg (available through most on-line booksellers). E. J. Tarbox will coordinate the discussion at the Civic Center from 10-11:30 a.m. For more on the Highlands Dialogue e-mail John Gaston johngaston@aol.com or Karen Hawk twincove@earthlink.net.

Friday, Jan. 14
• Angel Medical Center Blood Drive, 120 Riverview Street, Franklin, 8 am to 5 pm. Please call 369-4166 for more information or to schedule an appointment.

Fridays, Jan. 14- Feb. 18
• At The Bascom, Pre-School Creativity Classes. Call 526-4949 for more information.

Sunday, Jan. 16
• At The Episcopal Church, “Beethoven at Incarnation” at 2 p.m. featuring pianist Robert Henry and cellist Charae Krueger performing Sonatas 3 and 5. Donations accepted.

Sat., Jan. 22
• At The Bascom, Winter Barn Dance honoring educators from 7-10 p.m. Tickets are $5. Call the Chamber of Commerce at 526-2112 for more information.

Fri. & Sat., Jan. 28-29
• At The Bascom, Photography for Lovers with Greg Newington. Enjoy The Bascom year-round! In January and February, enjoy exhibitions, classes and Winter Barn Dances.

On Saturday, Jan. 22, from 7-10 pm, we’ll celebrate the service of our educators to the community. Enjoy the music of Highlands’ own “418!”

Tickets are $5 per person and can be purchased by visiting calling 828-526-2112. Admission for honorees complimentary.

Greg Newington returns to The Bascom on January 28-29 for Photography for Lovers. Part of Highlands Romance Weekend, learn how to add a sense of romance to your photos using light, filters and Photoshop.

Three exhibitions will be featured at The Bascom this winter.
• Out Back and Down Under: Jan. 7-March 25 - Recent works by photographer Greg Newington are featured. Works included will be from his recent Aussie tour, down under, and images from, out back, on our mountain plateau.
• From Jan. 8-Feb. 12, view The Bascom Collection featuring 20th and 21st century American art in numerous media.
• From Feb. 19-April 2, Regional Art Leagues will present their annual exhibition. Join us in celebrating the art and artists who offer a glimpse into the beauty of the plateau.

Youth Art classes this winter include:
• Saturday Art School (Jan. 8- Feb. 19) for fun, hands-on, age appropriate art classes.
• Friday morning’s Pre-School Creativity Classes (Jan. 14-Feb. 18)
• Tuesday After School Art (Jan. 11-Feb. 15)
• Thursday’s Paint Like a Master (Jan. 13-March 3)

The galleries and The Shop are open Fridays and Saturdays from 10 am-5 pm.
The practice of seeking God

**SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING**

**Pastor Dan Robinson**
Highlands
Central Baptist Church

There is an incredible verse of scripture found in Acts 17:26-27. It reads like this: “From one man he made every nation of men, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and He determined the times set for them and the exact places where they should live. God did this so that men would seek Him.” Theologians call this the doctrine of sovereignty. Clearly, the questions about sovereignty are many but the bottom line is simple. Namely, God loves the human race so much that He is acting, moving, changing and rearranging our “comings and goings” toward the end goal that we would see Him.

In my case, this meant a very brief move to San Diego in 1963. It was then and there that I became a Christian. God determined the time and the place where I should live. To view this doctrine from another angle, one writer puts it like this:

“What we owe to the unexpected and unplanned providences (sovereignty) in our lives is incalculable.”

The writer illustrates this by referencing the journal of David Brainerd:

“The list of missionaries who testify to the inspiration of Jonathan Edwards’s influence through the labor of love he expended in writing “The Life of David Brainerd” is longer than any of us knows. Francis Asbury, Thomas Coke, William Carey, Henry Martyn, Robert Morrison, Samuel Mills, Fredrick Schwartz, Robert M’Cheyne, David Livingston, Andrew Murray. A few days before he died, Jim Elliot, who was martyred by the Aucas in 1956, entered in his diary, “Confession of pride – suggested by David Brainerd’s “Diary” yesterday – must become an hourly thing with me.” For 250 years, Edwards has been fueling the missionary movement with his biography of David Brainerd.”

Again, God determined the time and place where Brainerd should live. Frankly, one might be tempted to shun this doctrine as foolish. Yet God says it’s true. And if I believe this truth, then I must draw a conclusion that says something like this: “If God has determined that I should live in Highlands at this time in my life, then “why?” Or, “What is His purpose in doing so?”

The Acts verse gives the answer: “God did this so men would seek Him.” How clear. How simple. Do that through prayer, reading the Bible, confessing your sins, going to church and giving yourself to Jesus Christ without reservation. The result of that kind of life really is incalculable.

**PLACES TO 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

**CHRISTIAN ARMS 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 - 10:45, Bucks Coffee Cafe,
Cashiers
Monday: Evening Bible Study at Whiteside Presbyterian Church; Cashiers

**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
3645 Cashiers Rd., Highlands, NC
Senior Pastor Gary Hewins
Sun: 9:30 am: Adult Sunday School
10:30 am: Middle School; 10:45 am: Children’s Program., Worship Service. 12:30 pm Student Arts Group, 5 p.m. High School
Wed.: 6pm: CBC University Program
EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE INCARNATION
526-2968
Reverend Dennis Franklin
Sunday: Breakfast: 9 A.M. - Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist (Rite II)
Monday at 4 p.m. Women’s Cursillo Group
Tuesday at 8 a.m. Men’s Cursillo Group
4:30 PM. Education for Ministry
Wednesday: 6:30 PM. Choir Practice
Thursday: 10 a.m. Holy Eucharist (Chapel)
10:30 a.m. Daughters of the King
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
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
Mondays: 8 a.m. - Men’s Prayer Group & Breakfast

HIGHLANDS ASSEMBLY OF GOD
Sixth Street
Sundays: School - 10 a.m.; Worship - 11
Wednesdays: Prayer & Bible Study - 7

HIGHLANDS CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH
Pastor Dan Robinson
221 N. 4th Street
Sunday: School; 9:30 a.m.; Morning Worship 10:45
a.m., Evening Worship, 6:30 p.m.
Wednesday: Prayer Service, 6:30 p.m.

HIGHLANDS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Pastor Paul Christy 526-3376
Sun.: school 9:45 a.m.; Worship 11 a.m.; 5 p.m.
Youth 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
St. Cyprian’s Episcopal Church, Franklin
828-369-9270 or 828-293-5197

MOUNTAIN SYNAGOGUE
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 BIBLE CHURCH
Pastor: Clayton Lopez • 828-743-9704
Independent Bible Church
Sundays:10:30 a.m. at Blue Ridge School
Weds: Bible Study 6:30 p.m.; Youth Group 6 p.m.

OUR LADY OF THE MOUNTAIN’S CATHOLIC CHURCH
Rev. Dean Cesa, pastor
Parish office: 526-2418
Mass: - 9 a.m.: Sun., Thurs. & Fri
Saturday Mass - Mem Day through Oct. at 4 p.m.

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.

SHORTSFORD 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

Most popular cosmetic surgery procedures

By Dr. Robert Buchanan
Center for Plastic Surgery

Plastic Surgery continues to grow in popularity. Last year alone there were 12,500,000 procedures performed by Board Certified Plastic Surgeons in the U.S. One and a half million of them were surgical procedures. The other 11,000,000 were minimally invasive procedures, such as Botox® fillers and peels. Because many other physicians are attempting to do many of these procedures, especially the minimally invasive ones, and there is no way to track them, that number does not include what they do.

The total number of cosmetic procedures is up 69% since 2000. Minimally invasive procedures are up 99% over the same period. What is most popular varies from one part of the country to another. Here are the most popular surgical procedures, arranged in order for our specific area with national numbers from last year in parentheses:

1. Eyelid surgery (203,000): Also called blepharoplasty, drooping upper lids and/or bags below the eyes are corrected by removing excess muscle and skin and rearranging fat. Women choose this far more often than men, though it is one of the most frequent procedures in men also. Recovery takes a week to 10 days.

2. Facelift (103,000): Although the older procedures really pulled rather than lifted, newer procedures finally live up to the name and lift the tissues back to where they were naturally. They are now also longer lasting and have a recovery of only several days to a week or so. Nationally, this is #5, though it is more popular in the south.

3. Tummy Tuck (115,000): The abdomen is flattened during the surgery when extra fat and skin are removed, the muscles tightened, and the waist thinned. Although this was a procedure for women after childbirth, it is now very popular among men and women who have lost significant weight. Full recovery takes two to four weeks.

4. Breast Lift (87,000): This procedure, also called a mastopexy, raises, reshapes and firms sagging breasts. It removes extra skin and repositions the remaining tissue and nipples into a perkier position. Recovery is relatively rapid.

5. Breast Implant Revision (20,000): Although our revision rate is only 2%, nationally it is about 20%. This can be from many reasons including deflation, hardening, or change in attitude.

6. Liposuction (198,000): Just as the name implies, fat is sucked through a tube inserted beneath the skin if out of areas where you don’t want it using a vacuum-like device. The neck, abdomen, buttocks, hips, thighs, and upper arms are frequent beneficiaries. We use this frequently with other procedures including facelift and abdominoplasty. Recovery times range from several days to a week or so, but it may take several months for all the swelling to go down.

7. Breast Reduction (78,000): Although many of these procedures are reconstructive, most of the ones I do are cosmetic since they don’t fit the arbitrary weight removed criteria set by the insurance companies. In spite of this, they are among the happiest patients I have. Recovery is rapid.

8. Male Breast Reduction (17,000): Removal of male breast enlargement, called Gynecomastia, takes many forms, depending on the amount of breast growth. This can be as large as that of a well-endowed woman. The numbers done do not reflect the relatively common occurrence of the problem.

9. Breast Augmentation (289,000): Nationally this is the most popular surgical procedure. Most are now done using new form stable silicone implants. The way I do it, recovery is only a day or so.

10. Nose Remodeling (256,000): Called Rhinoplasty, this is nationally the second most common procedure. It is the reshaping of the nose to make it bigger or smaller, to narrow the span of the nostrils, thin the tip, or to change the angle between the nose and upper lip. Rhinoplasty is popular with men and women. Recovery is rapid, though you have a protective splint over the nose for 7-10 days and it takes 6-12 months for all the swelling to completely go down.

11. Botulinum Toxin (4,795,000): This injection blocks muscle action that causes wrinkles. It is most popular between the eyebrows, lateral to the eyes and in the forehead.

Actually, “Blue” refers to how clear my world is after having LASIK vision correction at the Blue Laser Group. If you have ever imagined a life without glasses or contacts, call their Highlands office and ask how you can earn a $1000 credit toward the procedure!

Go on and make those bad eyes Blue.
... HEALTH MATTERS continued from page 11

though useful anywhere a muscle is causing a wrinkle.

1. Soft Tissue Fillers (1,722,000): These are natural substances injected into wrinkles, depressions or contour irregularities to correct them. The most common manufactured ones I use are Juvéderm® and Radiesse® because of their exceptional longevity. I also use a significant amount of fat. Though you have to harvest it, it's a permanent solution.

2. Chemical Peels (1,143,000): These are also quite varied. We use them to freshen the skin, remove spots, and to eliminate wrinkles and severe sun damage. I probably use them less than nationally, since we concentrate on other, less drastic, methods of skin rejuvenation.

3. Microdermabrasion (910,000): This painlessly removes the thinnest outer dead cell layer of sun-damaged skin to freshen it.

4. For more information on these or other procedures, contact the Center for Plastic Surgery at 826-2374, or go to www.PlasticSurgeryToday.com.

... JUST HERS continued from page 7

my lap, snoring. It was a scene that would have made John smile, and just knowing that made me smile, too.

-- J.H.

... AFFORDABLE HOUSING continued from page 1

to keep the taxpayers in mind and perhaps we should open our circle a little wider and ask people in the real estate community and others for help. We need to know what they know and we don’t. ‘

"Personal issues" included the opinions of the CrestHurst Hill Retirement community homeowners who opposed the proposed location of apartment complex on Buck Creek Road. The "views" were of Highlands’ taxpayers who want water and sewer offered in town before it is given outside town.

Paramount to the proposal’s success was water and sewer connections when supplying such, outside the town limits has been limited to the hospital, Zachary Field and most recently to Shortoff Baptist Church. Then-Mayor Don Sullivan told the taskforce not to get discouraged. "We didn’t anticipate the complaints. I naively thought everyone would hop on the band wagon but they didn’t," he said. "Every town similar to Highlands is working on getting a housing project through so it becomes a little easier for others for help. We need to know what they know and we don’t."

... LETTERS continued from page 6

Dog owners beware

Dear Editor,

We would like to share our story with your readers with the hope that other pet owners will avoid the incident that we experienced over Christmas weekend with our dog Jacob.

Innocently, we fed him a small piece of fat from a beef roast and then on the next morning we gave him a small piece of fat from a country ham.

He began to act sick a few hours later, then vomited and was very listless. This was on Monday.

We took him to see Dr. Brad Smith at the Wellness Animal Clinic on Tuesday and he immediately diagnosed a problem with his pancreas due to the ingestion of the fat, even though it was a small amount. Jacob’s body was unable to process the fat and due to the involvement of the pancreas and without Dr. Smith’s correct diagnosis, we could have lost him if we had waited another day.

Jacob was put on an IV drip for 24 hours and now we are giving him a special dog food for a few days along with antibiotics. He is now recovering and we are so thankful.

This letter is to warn pet owners to be careful in feeding your animal from the table, especially anything such as pork or beef fat.

Bill and June Hogue
Highlands

... CONSERVATIVE POV...

I hereby resolve...

Don Swanson
Feedback is encouraged. Email swansons@dentons.com

... TOWN BOARD continued from page 1

readiness and operational issues during and after storm events.

At least two other items—affordable housing and revision of town ordinances for con-sistency with the town charter amendment for council-manager form of government—will require discussion and more explanation.
HELP WANTED

KITCHEN MANAGER FOR HIGH-VOLUME, HIGH-QUALITY GRILL, DELI AND PREPARED FOODS IN THE HIGHLANDS/CASHERS AREA: seeking positive, reliable, detail oriented & organized person to manage operations, inventory & staff and become part of our management team; we are seeking a manager with hands on experience; extensive experience a must, pay commensurate to skills. Please email resume and salary expectations to jobs828@gmail.com

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

$103,000!! LOWER CLEAR CREEK, 5.5 miles from Main Street. 2 Lots. .55 & .95 acres. Septics installed. Bordering National Forest. 2005 2/bed, 2/bath. Very cozy with fabulous view. Call 828-482-2052. (st. 11/11)

LOST and FOUND

BROWN CAP WITH FISH ON FRONT, heirloom. Call 772-321-0881 or 526-5669.

RESIDENTIAL FOR RENT

3 BED, 2 BATH APARTMENT ON SECOND FLOOR OF HOME NEXT TO THE HOSPITAL. W/D and wood burning fireplace. Call 828-200-1064. (st. 1/6)

PRIME MAIN ST FRONTAGE COMMERCIAL RENTAL. 800 sq. ft. can expand into 1600 sq. ft. Large window display and good storage. Call 526-3363.

TURN-KEY FURNISHED 1 BED, 1 BATH COTTAGE. Freshly painted, new carpet and appliances. Includes two TVs plus TEVO. No smoking. No pets. All utilities included. 2.5 miles from town on cashiers Road. $650/month plus one-month deposit. Call 828-526-1566. (st. 1/6)

NICE 1BR CABIN CLOSE TO TOWN ON SMALL HORSE FARM. Private, well insulated, pretty view, W/D and gas heat/fireplace. Can provide some optional rent relief with occasional property maintenance. $600/mo. 421-7922. (st. 11/18)


ARCHITECTS PRIVATE 3BED/2BATH HOME. Stunning open living area. Two stone fireplaces, den, two decks overlooking stream and private stocked trout pond. Designer furnished. Walking distance to town. Non smokers only; deposit required. Call 770-639-2682. (3/31/11)

COTTAGE ON TURTLE POND ROAD NEAR DILLARD ROAD. 2/2, unfurnished, $600 a month plus utilities. Call 526-5838 ext. 230. (st. 9/30)

1 BEDROOM/1 BATH, in-town furnished apartment, totally renovated, 2 decks, hardwood floors, granite countertops, washer/dryer. Call: 526-9523 (st. 9/30)

SMALL PRIVATE ONE BR FURNISHED COTTAGE ON CHESTNUT STREET with screen porch. Additional sleeping loft. Three blocks to Main Street. Available immediately. $650. monthly plus utilities for six months lease. e-mail: chestnutcottages@yahoo.com or, contact Charlie @ (828)526-8645 (st. 4/22)

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT/SALE

3BR/2BA HOME. In Town, Hickory St, level landscaped lot, 24x36 2-car garage/workshop, $595,000, offers welcome. 352-494-1531 (Jan 6)

A STEAL ON GORGEOUS 3 BED/3 BATH – Monthly rental (or weekly) – Beautifully furnished home on 1.5 acres in a private community just off Hwy 64, between Cullasaja Club & Lake Osseroga. Central heat/air, lg. stone fireplace, large open living design, 1000 ft. deck, garage, many extras. (561) 212-2148 or (561) 239-2424 woodlandsview@bellsouth.net or see our place on www.vrbo.com/99644. Contact for special low monthly rates. Tell us you heard about it from this ad ... house is for sale(12/30)

PINEBROOK CONDO FOR LEASE OR SALE – 2/1 downstairs. Call for details. 200-0018 or 421-2144

FOR SALE/RENT – BEST COMMERCIAL BUY IN HIGHLANDS – 535 4th Street. Zoned mixed-use, commercial and residential. Recent Remodel. Great retail/office and separate one-bedroom basement apartment. $299,000. Call 770-827-0450. (St. 11/5)

ITEMS FOR SALE

2009 CAMOCLAGE ATV 250 CC BRAND- KAYAK has front and rear racks with helmet and trailer only 20 miles.Great Christmas Present or Great for Hunting Season! Paid $5,000, will sacrifice for $1,895 or OBO. 828-371-2129 or 828-371-2129. (st. 9/9)

AFGHANISTAN-VINTAGE RIFLE very rare. Collector’s Dream. Saw one at gun show for $7,000-$10,000. Great for Christmas for REAL gun collector. Over 100 years old. Will sacrifice for $1899 or OBO. 828-371-2129 or 828-524-7233 (st. 9/9)

BALDWIN ORGAN $100, Gulbransen Spinet piano $250, 828 526 4818 (st. 8/26)

PIANO — MAKE OFFER! Gorgeous Fully restored. Late 1800s uprt owned by the Vanderbelts and was in the Biltmore Estates. Plays beautifully $7,000 invested, worth way more. Must sell. Will sacrifice for $2,100. 828-524-7233 or 828-371-2129 (st. 10/22)

VEHICLES FOR SALE

2006 TOYOTA HIGHLANDER HYBRID. 4wd, excellent condition, $21,500. 828-787-1264 (1/13)


SERVICES


WILL SIT FOR ELDERLY, HANDICAPPED OR CHILDREN. Your home or mine. 13 years childcare experience. By the hour. Call 828-966-3988. References. 24-HOUR CARE FOR YOUR LOVED ONE – 16 years experience. Will travel to accommodate. $2,800 monthly, negotiable. Call Clare Myers 828-349-3479 or 828-342-4667.

TREE SERVICE – Complete Tree Removal, Trimming, Stump Grinding, Lot Clearing, Under Brushing, and Hemlock treatment and fertilization for “Woolly Adelgid.” 828-526-2251
**Police & Fire Dept. Reports**

Highlands PD log entries from Dec. 23 Only the names of persons arrested, issued a Class-3 misdemeanor, or public officials have been used.

**Dec. 23**
- At 11:30 p.m., officers responded to a noise complaint concerning the Highlands Smokehouse. The owner was issued a $50 civil citation.

**Dec. 24**
- At 7:35 p.m., officers responded to a call about a vehicle parked in the road on S. 4th St. The owner was found and told to move the vehicle.
- At 12:30 p.m., officers responded to a one-vehicle accident at NC 106 and Hudson.

**Dec. 25**
- Officers were called to assist another agency concerning a possible burglary in progress at a home on Billy Cabin Road. A window was broken, furniture was overturned and there was other damage. Due to claw marks and droppings, it was determined that a bear had been in the house for several days.
- At 7:48 p.m., the Sapphire Public Safety Chief reported a female in the area might have TVs stolen from several houses in Sapphire Valley. There was no identifying information as to appearance, age, or name, so there was little the police could do.

**Dec. 29**
- At 7:48 p.m., the Sapphire Public Safety Chief reported a female in the area might have TVs stolen from several houses in Sapphire Valley. There was no identifying information as to appearance, age, or name, so there was little the police could do.
- At 6:38 p.m., officers responded to a 9-1-1 hangup from a residence on Cobb Road. The phone had malfunctioned.

**Dec. 31**
- At 6:38 p.m., officers responded to a 9-1-1 hangup from a residence on Cobb Road. The phone had malfunctioned.

**Jan. 1**
- At 12:01 a.m., officers were notified that a patron at Cyprus Restaurant had left without paying at $255 tab. He was located and escorted to the restaurant by police to pay the tab.

**Jan. 2**
- Officers on patrol found two unsecured doors at Highlands Decorating Center.

**Jan. 4**
- A Dixon's Specialized Rockhopper 24" purple bicycle was found in the ditch along Walhalla Road.
- Officers are investigating the burglary of a vehicle, financial transaction fraud and fraudulent receipt of goods concerning five ATM transactions for $103 each from the ATM at Macon Bank. The owner of the debit card used says she didn't make the transactions. Video surveillance of the bank shows a woman approaching the ATM at the time of each transaction listed on the account summary. The case is under investigation.
- During the week, police officers responded to 5 alarms and issued 9 citations.

Highlands F& F Dept. log entries from Dec. 23:

**Dec. 23**
- At 3:11 a.m., the dept. provided mutual aid to Cashiers FD with a structure fire.
- At 9:41 a.m., the dept. responded to a CO2 alarm at a residence on Big Bear Pen Road.
- At 9:41 a.m., the dept. responded to a CO2 alarm at a residence on Cobbi Road. The phone had malfunctioned.

**Dec. 25**
- At 10:32 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Oak Street. The victim was taken to the hospital.

**Dec. 29**
- At 7:48 p.m., the Sapphire Public Safety Chief reported a female in the area might have TVs stolen from several houses in Sapphire Valley. There was no identifying information as to appearance, age, or name, so there was little the police could do.

**Dec. 31**
- At 6:38 p.m., officers responded to a 9-1-1 hangup from a residence on Cobb Road. The phone had malfunctioned.

**Jan. 1**
- A little after midnight, officers were notified that a patron at Cyprus Restaurant had left without paying at $255 tab. He was located and escorted to the restaurant by police to pay the tab.

**Jan. 2**
- Officers on patrol found two unsecured doors at Highlands Decorating Center.

**Jan. 4**
- A Dixon's Specialized Rockhopper 24" purple bicycle was found in the ditch along Walhalla Road.
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