Board crunches FY 2011-2012 budget

At a special Town Board meeting, Wednesday afternoon, commissioners met with department heads and administration to put the finishing touches on the 2011-2012 budget.

Though still not in stone – a public hearing on the budget is set for June 15 at 7 p.m. – the basics are there.

There won’t be any tax increases – property tax stays at $.135 per $100 assessed valuation and the fire tax stays at $.009 assessed valuation.

The garbage collection rate won’t increase this year, either, but both the water and electric rates will.

This is a third year in a three-year plan to make the Water Department self-sustaining so the town’s lucrative Electric Fund

This Memorial Day remember those who fought ... cherish their stories

Inset is of Highlander Dr. Bob Buchanan, of Center for Plastic Surgery, who served in the Vietnam War. The photo is of U. S. Marine Combat Base Baldy, 26 miles southwest of Da Nang, South Vietnam.

Highlands is a long way from South Vietnam

By Luke Osteen

Dr. Robert Buchanan of the Center for Plastic Surgery in Highlands, with his soft voice and incredibly unflappable manner, is the guy you want as your surgeon.

Part of that calm demeanor is no doubt an integral part of his personality, yet part of it was clearly shaped during his stint as a combat surgeon at U. S. Marine Combat Base Baldy, 26 miles southwest of Da Nang, South Vietnam during the Vietnam Conflict.

As a young doctor, he and his wife Pat were delighted when he was selected for a General Surgery internship at Parkland Hospital and trauma center in Dallas in the early 1970s.

• See NC SENATE page 23

NC Senate looking at deeper cuts for K-12 ed.

By Travis Fain
Carolina Public Press
www.carolinapublicpress.org

The state Senate, now in the driver’s seat on North Carolina’s budget, would cut kindergarten through 12th-grade education deeper than the House and be a bit gentler with the state’s university system, according to spending targets from the Senate’s top leadership.

The bottom line would still be less money for education than the state is spending this year, despite an expected increase in students. The budget would also end the temporary penny sales tax set to expire June 30, which Gov. Bev Perdue has proposed extending three fourths of to avoid the deepest education cuts and keep teachers assistants in classrooms through the third grade.

• See NC SENATE page 23
County’s Comprehensive Plan not good for economy

Dear Editor,

I attended the recent public hearing on the Comprehensive Plan and came away confused. First, according to the Division Engineer who manages Division 14 of the NC DOT, of which Macon is a part, all this hoopla about requiring a Comprehensive Plan or we’ll be cut off from road projects, is not accurate. Yet it seems that the County administration is under the impression that this is the case.

Aside from the confusion over why the Plan is necessary, I’m trying to understand its purpose, which, among other things, is ostensibly to create an environment that attracts jobs. Yet, there are many provisions and recommendations that make home construction more difficult and more expensive.

Considering the current plight of the construction industry and the attendant businesses including developers, realtors, well drillers, septic system contractors, landscapers, heating and air contractors, furniture stores, carpet layers, appliance stores, appraisers, cabinet makers, surveyors, interior decorators, tile contractors and so on, one wonders why County officials would consider the recommendations included in the Plan.

To trade the possibility of attracting job creators in the future, a task that has proven to be unsuccessful in the past, for the certainty of job destruction in the here and now seems like a fools game to me.

Don Swanson
Franklin

Post Office is on its way

Dear Editor,

There have been delays starting the new Post Office of several weeks, to make certain all the details, necessary requirements, paperwork and various Town Board meetings have been met. The new Post Office is now completely confirmed and I am very pleased to say with good weather this construction for Highlands will begin as soon as possible.

Jane Woodruff
Highlands

Letters to the Editor

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.

Keener and Cannon wed

Candace Keener of Highlands, married Matthew Cannon of Clayton, GA, on Sunday May 22 at the Sweetheart Ranch in Tennessee. Candace is the daughter of Denise Keener. The couple will reside in Clayton, GA.

Jenkins graduates

Chase Jenkins graduated May 8, 2011 from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, with a double major of Political Science and Asian Studies-Chinese. Chase was the 2007 Highlands School Valedictorian.
Judy Kathleen Lander, a native Houstonian, died Monday, May 9 in her “Birdhouse” home in the mountains of Highlands, NC where she had lived since 2002. She was 68.

Mrs. Lander, known as a sweet woman with a big heart, was the daughter of James Stratton Wax and Lolita Phillips Wax. She graduated from Lamar High School in 1961 and attended the University of Texas where she studied Classics. She graduated from the University of Houston with a B.A. in English after marrying Greg Martin in 1965. Also an accomplished pianist and vocalist, she combined her music and writing skills to help write and direct many amateur performances for her children’s schools and community organizations in New Orleans, Louisiana where she lived for 12 years.

When she moved back to Houston to help care for her parents, she met and married in 1987 the love of her life, Jack W. Lander, Jr. Together they enjoyed traveling, golfing, and working on Jack’s farm in Hallettsville, Texas. In 1998 they bought the house in Highlands where they could golf and enjoy the lush glory of the Nantahala National Forest. Jack died there in 2002.

She is survived by her brother and sister-in-law Robert and Debbie Wax and their son and daughter-in-law Todd and; her daughter and son-in-law Kathleen and Guido Faas and their children, Stella and Archer; her son and daughter-in-law Andrew and Bronwen Martin and their children Olive, Coral and Stratton; and her three beloved shih-tzus, Pandy, Foxy and Inzi.

A memorial service will held at George Lewis Funeral Home in Houston, Texas, on Saturday, May 28 at 11 a.m. In lieu of customary remembrances, the family asks that you donate money to The Preservation Resource Center at 923 Tchoupitoulas Street New Orleans, Louisiana 70110 or to pro-bono veterinary support at Cashiers Village Veterinary, 855 U.S. Highway 64 W, Cashiers, NC 28717-9557.
Is Highlands getting too big for its britches?

It only happened to me once as a rookie cop...long before I became too big for my britches. While sitting at a traffic light, a drunk jumped in the back seat of my squad car and demanded, “Take me to the Eden Roc Hotel,” with slurred speech. I turned in my seat and stared at him through the cage that separated us.

“Sir, are you aware you’re sitting in a police car? This is not a cab. The only place I can take you is the county jail. Would you like to go there?”

Panic set in. Speechless, he groped for the door handle. Of course, there are no door handles in the back seat of police cars. The light changed and I pulled away. He leaned forward, placing his forehead against the cage. “Officer, can we talk?” I pulled to the curb and asked my dispatcher to send a cab. When the cab pulled up behind me, I opened my back door to let him out. He wanted to give me a big hug but I stiff-armed him. Then he offered me money and I refused. In a last ditch effort, he asked, “Can I buy tickets to the policeman’s ball?”

“Wedon’t have a policeman’s ball. Just get in the cab because you’re beginning to aggravate me,” I said. The cabby helped him to his cab and off they went. Such is the life of a cop working in a resort town. That man is probably still telling that story to anyone who will listen.

While Highlands is nothing like Miami Beach, we do have one thing in common: DRUNKS. But no problem, we now have our own taxi service that can “dash” us away to wherever. The bad news is, just like Miami Beach, if every drunk called a cab instead of driving, we would need a fleet of cabs to get them to their destination.

Is Highlands getting too big for its britches? Do we have growing pains, or what? Highlands is still just a teeny, tiny, little mountain town, yet we have bars serving alcohol, a call-girl service, electronic gaming, a by-pass, traffic signals with walk/don’t walk signals and now taxi cab service.

I know I’m a dinosaur but back in my time bartenders and cabbies worked together. If a bartender could convince a customer he was too drunk to drive, he...
The day after the ‘end of the world’

According to my calculations we’ve cleared the first big hurdle. It’s already 8 PM in Jerusalem and no earthquakes yet. Events leading up to the end of the world were scheduled to start at 6 PM May 21, 2011. Who decided God is on Eastern Standard Time?

It’s a few minutes after one and I’m feeling pretty confident about tomorrow. When I got up this morning, I thought about skipping the gym. Why bother? Some people may work out for the sheer joy of sweating. I’m not one of them. I do it to feel and look better tomorrow. If there is to be no tomorrow, well you get the point.

I’m back from my workout, thinking about going to a gun shop and buying a few AK's and several rounds of ammunition, just in case the big show does begin at 6, our time. I’ll have to check their return policy. If nothing happens, I want to be able to take my arsenal back.

According to the prophecy, or is it the prediction, today is just step one. Good Christians are swept up to heaven while massive earthquakes shake the rest of us. It’s called the Rapture, so I assume they will be raptured. I’m not sure rapture is a passive verb, but there isn’t time to check. As I understand it, those of us who are neither raptured nor killed outright have several unpleasant months ahead of us before the last act, which is scheduled for October. Conditions will be so bad, even a Tea Partier would be shocked.

I’m not sure how people would react. If the initial prediction proved correct, I think most of us would assume the guy who predicted all this was on to something. Things would be a lot different if we knew we had only a few months to live. Remember, the massive earthquakes, the worst the world has ever experienced, would screw thing up pretty good. Food supplies would be disrupted.

Communication and transportation would be difficult. Emergency rooms around the world would be overwhelmed, assuming anyone showed up to work. The world’s economy would grind to a sudden stop. It wouldn’t seem to make much to do elective surgery on Monday. Gasoline supply would dry up quickly, so even if road were passable, we’d quickly run out of fuel. I’m filling my tank this afternoon, but I wouldn’t use it to drive to the surgery center on Monday morning. A trip to the market is in order, but don’t bother to fill your freezer. There’s unlikely to be electricity.

It’s hard to know how people would react. A lot of people would repent and try to catch the second wave of rapture, the ultimate expression of foxhole religion. Millions of survivors would go on the prowl in search of food and other necessities, although we’d quickly discover many of the things we consider necessary are not. I think it would boil down to food, water, and the latest generation I-pad. Anyone who had planned ahead and had food, or the means to produce it, would be targeted. In other words, it would play out pretty much as the survivalists have been telling us for years.

It’s a few minutes after 2 PM. Bull has finals next week and a presentation on Muhammad Ali and his influence on American history. I was tempted to let him wait until to work on it. We’ve decided to watch the movie, “Ali.” It’s an introduction to the subject, but it’s also entertaining, just the kind of activity one might pursue on the last day he has electricity.

Six o’clock has come and gone across the lower 48. Unless God is on Honolulu time it looks as if I’ll have to work on Monday, and that pesky Muhammad Ali presentation will go on as scheduled. Another kooky preacher has missed his gloomy prediction. I can’t help wonder about the folks who gave away all their possessions and moved into a cave and while awaiting the Rapture. I wonder how they felt about going back to work on Monday?
Those of you who have endured this column for any length of time know that I take periodic cheap shots at Hollywood bimbettes for their untoward behavior. Never let it be said that I do not honor feminist principals in the derision of folks on the way down.

It is as if some cosmic force pushed a button and caused the bottom to fall out. Not just one, not two, but three highly placed nineties were outed as severely damaged goods in the twinkling of an eye. In no particular order, let me start with The Governator.

Some of us seasoned citizens remember when Arnold emerged from the gymnasium and entered the wonderful world of California politics. Here we had a self-made, disciplined, champion body builder of Austrian decent who looked good, made good and seemed made to order for dealing with the wackoids that populate the halls of Sacramento.

The first indication that maybe he wasn’t the total package is when he married the bony, but well bred Maria Shriver. That was a head scratcher.

Maria’s father, Sargent, was a fixture within the Democrat Party: an Ambassador to France, first Director of Economic Opportunity under Lyndon Johnson, first Director of the Peace Corps under JFK and Johnson. From the sound of things, these are all admirable pursuits until you understand that LBJ was the father of the “Great Society,” the program that really kicked the nanny state philosophy into high gear. But I digress.

What is a fine, Austrian action

Oh, how the mighty have fallen

Don Swanson
Feedback is encouraged. Email swandonson@dnet.net

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Memories of Macho Man

As has been established in this column before, I have the unfortunate position of being a professional wrestling fan. Most of the time, those of my ilk are met with eye rolls and questions like “no, really…you like what?”

However, it is important to note that my wrestling fandom began at an early age, and perhaps the most influential figure in my conversion to professional wrestling was the “Macho Man” Randy Savage. Savage was the first thing I saw one day when I turned on the television, and I was instantly hooked.

At first, it had nothing to do with the gravelly voice or the colorful costumes, instead what caught my attention was the athleticism that was displayed every time that Macho Man was in the ring. Macho would fly through the air with cross body blocks, he would leap from the top rope to the outside of the ring, and then he would finish off his opponent with a devastating flying elbow drop. At this time, most wrestlers finished off their opponents with a hold or a simple body slam, but the Flying Elbow Drop was different… it actually looked real.

Macho Man became the first real icon in my life (behind my father, of course). I had two Macho Man wrestling figures, a Macho Man wrestling buddy, and I begged my parents to buy me a $70 video game because Macho Man was on the front. Now, I feel you think that my interest in a man who wore neon pink tights was a little strange — it was the ‘80s, and everyone wore pink. Plus, my Macho Man fandom had an added bonus, as I was able to perfect the Flying Elbow Drop on my brother each morning when it was time for him to wake up. (True story — just ask him. Make sure you have plenty of time, though because he has quite a list of wrestling holds that he experienced at a young age.)

The best thing about Macho Man, though — and this is looking back at it as an older guy — is that Macho Man had real problems. He was crazy over Miss Elizabeth, and sometimes he would get a little too crazy jealous and lose his temper. That’s some real problems — the kind that happen across the street at the trailer park, but real problems nonetheless. And maybe Macho had a reason to be a little jealous! Hulk Hogan may have been a balding (the term balding is generous — let’s go with skulletted — it’s a cross between a bald skull and a mullet, and it is what Hogan has sported for years) 30-year-old-man, but so was Macho Man, so it is plausible that Elizabeth would have left Macho for Hogan. Later in his career, Macho Man would go on to become more and more unstable before ultimately retiring quietly several years ago.

It was last week when the news came out that Randy Savage had died in a car accident. The news was relatively shocking, as most wrestlers who leave us early usually do so because of drugs or steroids. There have been many tributes to the Macho Man recently one of the best was current wrestler CM Punk breaking out a pair of Macho Man’s old tights — not the actual ones, because that would be gross, but you get the idea — and I think they have been well deserved. Savage helped bring wrestling to the masses in the 1980s and was a national figure due to his Slim Jim commercials. Rest in Peace Macho Man. . . . oooooh yeah.

Fouts arrested for 1st degree in August murder of Larry Ramsey

Investigators with the Macon County Sheriff’s Office and the NC State Bureau of Investigation arrested Randy Boyd Fouts on May 24th and charged him with the First Degree Murder of Thomas Larry Ramsey.

Fouts was indicted by the Macon County Grand Jury on May 23rd and had his First Appearance in Macon County Superior Court on May 24th. Fouts is being held on no bond pending the appointment of counsel. Fouts is 44 years old and is a resident of Macon County.

This joint investigation began in August of last year and also involved the District Attorney’s Office. Numerous items of evidence have been analyzed by the NC SBI Office.

No additional information will be provided at this time; however the Emergency 911 tape and Search Warrant from August 2010, were Ordered to be unsealed at Fouts’ First Appearance and those records are now available through the custodians of those records.

... on this day

May 26, 1873

Levi Strauss and Jacob Davis patented the blue jean with copper rivets at the stress points.

Though most of us would not choose to have ourselves a case of blues, Mr. Davis and Mr. Strauss this cause would strongly espouse. And it was not done at all meanly, in fact, it was done most seamly.

They weren’t the first, granted, to facilitate our being panted, but at the risk of being overly wordy, I must praise them, because they made them very sturdy.

They had a vision, a plan, a dream, to make some clothes out of serge de Nîmes, and have a strong and lasting garment, so well made that nothing could harm it. But what they did different, and this is pivotal, at critical junctions decided to rivet all.

If you wear these today and think you seem cool, thank these guys who improved the jean pool.

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You’ve got to hear about this one student!

Pastor Gary Hewins  
Community Bible Church

I recently attended the Highlands School 2011 Varsity Awards Banquet this past Tuesday night. High School awards banquets are cool. Athletes get to look back on a season with their teammates and remember the high points. They also get awards. Recognition is a cool thing in high school. Hard work and persistence pay off and at a banquet we are reminded of that. We also see the importance of coaches that model love to people.

In a smaller town, athletes provide a community with something valuable. Spectators are provided with excitement, entertainment and — let’s face it — something to do at times. Athletes are afforded personal attention and encouragement that may well be missed on a large college campus. Local athletes are kind of given elite celebrity status. The athletes at Highlands School are very special.

I need to tell you about one particular student. I devote my life to sharing the most noble, relevant, transforming message to ever be heard: the proclamation of the good news of Christ. Last night I saw the essence of that message displayed in one particular child’s life.

Elizabeth Gordon is not an athlete. She is the manager for the girls basketball team. Elizabeth doesn’t wear a uniform; she washes them. She doesn’t sit in a locker room at halftime and wonder how she will turn her game around in the second half. She fills water bottles, cleans the white marker board and picks up messes. On weekends Elizabeth offers to go to the school to do the team’s laundry. She shows up early and leaves late. Elizabeth cheers on the players to work hard and even harder during practice. When a body is needed to help in a drill — guess who stands in. When the game is over and people are cheering, hugging, or crying with the players, Elizabeth still has work to do. I find this kind of selflessness in a young person nothing short of refreshing.

Elizabeth volunteered to be the team’s manager. In a world where Americans are preoccupied with being consumers, she chooses to be consumed.

Jesus had a pretty good team too. He also volunteered to be His team’s manager. He preached the greatest sermon ever preached and didn’t utter a word. After that, He poured water into a basin and began to wash His disciples’ feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around

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<th>John 3:16</th>
<th>PLACES TO WORSHIP</th>
<th>Proverbs 3:5</th>
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Sundays: School - 10 a.m., Worship - 11  
Sunday night services every 2nd & 4th Sun. at 7  
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Pastor’s residence: 706-746-5770  
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**HOLY COMMUNION CHURCH**  
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Sundays: School - 10 a.m.; Worship - 11  
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10:30 am: Middle School; 10:45 am: Children’s Program; Worship Service. 12:30 pm Student Arts Group, 5 p.m. High School  
**EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE INCARNATION**  
526-2968  
Rerverend Denson Franklin  
Sunday: Breakfast; 9 A.M. - Sunday School  
10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist (Rite II)  
Monday: 4 p.m. Women’s Cursillo Group  
Tuesday: 8 a.m. Men’s Cursillo Group  
4:30 PM. Education for Ministry  
Wednesday: 6:30 p.m., Choir Practice  
Thursday: 10 a.m. Holy Eucharist (Chapel)  
10:30 a.m. Daughters of the King  
**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Dr. Charles Harris, Pastor • 526-4153  
Sun.: Worship 10:45 a.m., School - 9:30 a.m.; Evening Worship 6:30 p.m.  
Wed.: Men’s Bible Study 8:30 a.m.,  
Prayer Meeting - 6:15 p.m., Choir - 7:15-8:15 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  
Wedsdays - Choir - 7  
**HIGHLANDS ASSEMBLY OF GOD**  
**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)  
**HOLY FAMILY LUTHERAN CHURCH-ELCA**  
Chaplain Margaret Howell  
2152 Dillard Road - 526-9741  
Sundays: Sunday School and Adult discussion 9:30 a.m.; Worship Communion - 10:30  
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Sunday 7-8 p.m. Hymn Sing  
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Pastor Roy Lowe, (828) 526-8425  
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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.  
**SHORTOFF BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Pastor Rev. Andy Cloer.  
Sundays: School - 10 a.m.; Worship - 11  
Wednesdays: Prayer & Bible Study - 7  
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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**

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See SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING page 23
Ah, Spring!

Let me lay my cards on the table right away. I do not like summer. I realize that this is heresy to most people. Hating summer seems positively un-American. Yes, I love the cook-outs, the fireworks, the ice cream. It's nice not to be worried about snow in the driveway, and slipping on the ice and breaking your hip (or some other bone vital to your health and well-being). But, like most people who do not perspire much, summers are a time of quiet misery, when I purposely go into grocery stores, open the doors in the frozen food section, and stand there trying to look thoughtful for long periods of time. I find that looking pensively at the frozen corn is a good ploy, and use it often. White or yellow? Shoepeg? On the cob or in kernels? Birdseye? Generic? It's amazing how absorbed you can look, when what you're really trying to do is to resist climbing into the freezer, and shutting the door behind you.

I don't sleep well in the summer; either. In the summer before John died, I was having a particularly difficult night, tossing and turning, absolutely tormented by the heat. It must have been bad because John actually woke up, a rarity since he could sleep through global nuclear warfare. "Having a bad dream, Hon?" he inquired sympathetically. He reached over and gave me a big bear hug. "Oh, my God!" he exclaimed, recoiling in horror. "What's wrong with you?" John had noted that I was absolutely roasting. "I'm going through menopause," I explained patiently, through clenched teeth. "Didn't you go through that last summer?" he asked innocently.

But spring? I like spring. And what's not to like? Baby lambs, blooming flowers, the earth reborn and renewed. The nourishing rains falling on willing plants, or beating against the roof and windows. The first butterflies. The first time you walk out with a coat on, and run back inside to drop it off because you don't need it.

The cats love spring, too, after having spent most of the winter months hugging every heat source available, from heaters and fireplaces to old reliable Mama. They venture out onto the porch, nostrils flaring, and find a sunny spot in the sun to plop down on. Hours later, I look up from my computer to see my two cats sound asleep, furry bellies offered to the Sun God, the quiet broken only by the sound of buzzing bees and little feline snores. Spring is peace, proof that we have indeed made it through another winter.

With the spring comes the other phenomena, the Season, and its flock of returning sunbirds. When I first arrived to live in Highlands years ago, I didn't know what was the big deal. Later, as a year-round Highlander, I almost resented the returning residents who hadn't dug their way out of their driveways in February, and watched their thermometers in freefall for weeks on end. No, they'd been lolling on the beach somewhere, eating Cuban sandwiches washed down with drinks that had funny little umbrellas in them.

As time went on, though, I made friends among the summer people, and started looking forward to their return. One day, I'd look up and see Linda or Marda walk through the door of the Highlands Writers Group, and it made me feel positively biblical. Biblical? Here were all of my prodigal friends, returning to the fold after their winter exile, and were I ever happy to see them. Remember the story of the Prodigal Son? He was one of the characters I liked the least in the Bible. No, I identified with the Good Son, the one who did everything he was supposed to, only to find that the party belonged to the returning wastrel. Now the one I feel truly sorry for is the fatted calf. And fatted calf was what I felt like breaking out in a good barbecue, with a side of hush puppies and tangy coleslaw.

So what if the part-time folks hadn't been here when the parking lot of Bryson's was filled with snow? Maybe life wasn't a picnic for them, either; wherever they were...
The Seller’s edge: price and condition

You already invested in your mountain home, but it is time for a change. Perhaps you want to upgrade, downsize or move on. However, you are reluctant to list your home in a Buyer’s market. As a Seller, you still have an edge by controlling two factors: Price and Condition.

In this challenging market, there is a daunting inventory for Buyers to evaluate. Make your home stand out by pricing it more competitively than that of your competition. It is not wise to price your home with a large “negotiating buffer” because you will not attract any lookers. This is not the time to test the market, so if your home is on the market, do what you can to sell by pricing it right, by making any improvements to enhance curb appeal and to overcome any objections that Buyers may raise.

The next time you come home, stand across the street and look at your home as if you were a stranger. What is your first impression of the house and yard area? Remember, you never have a second chance to make a first impression. What are the best exterior features of the home and how can you enhance them? What are the worst features of the home and what can you do to minimize or improve them?

The “Wow” factor is essential in today’s market. Remodeling Magazine's 2010 Cost vs. Value reports that something as simple as replacing the entry-door increases value. Inside your home, remove as much “stuff” as you can to make it show like a model home. Buyers get distracted by pictures of family or pet items. Make your homeshine by washing windows, cleaning out closets and keeping it that way for showings.

If your home is in the million dollar and up range, you should consider whether you need to invest in more big-ticket items such as updating the kitchen or master bath. The kitchen is "King" today and needs to have the “wow” factor. Think like a Buyer and ask yourself what aspect of the home detracts from the experience of living there?

Since the majority of Buyers in this market are second home Buyers, they are generally not interested in major remodeling projects. You should consider renovating up to Buyers' expectations. This fact is difficult to accept if you are ready to sell, but if you do not do the renovations, it may sit on the market for a very long time.

Webelieve in this local market and we see a lot of interest and activity this season. Be proactive and help your Realtor by doing what you can to sell your home: think Price and Condition.

Jody and Wood Lovell own and operate Exurbia Sotheby’s International Realty with two locations: 211 S. 4th Street in downtown Highlands. Exurbia was the top selling agency in Highlands in 2010 and Jody was the top selling agent on the entire MLS on the Highlands/Cashiers Plateau. You can reach them at 828 526 4104 or visit their website at exurbiasothebysrealty.com.

... JUST HERS continued from page 9

Maybe they had a sick spouse, or an unemployed son or daughter. Maybe they were dealing with aging parents or adjusting to life after retirement. It’s too easy to see the complexity and sorrows of our own lives while simplifying the lives of others whom we assume are more fortunate.

And so we welcome back our friends, separated from us by time and distance. With eagerness, we catch up on their news and fill them in with the details of our winter lives. I strolled out the other day, in search of mail and groceries, and found myself eagerly walking down the street; savoring the warmth and the flowers. A couple approached me on the sidewalk. “Lovely day, isn’t it?” I called out. They beamed back at me. “Are you a local?” they asked. I thought about it for a few seconds, memories of Sydney, Paris, and New York briefly flooding my mind. “Yes, I am.” I replied. “Yes, I am.”

Michelle is a writer and translator who lives in Highlands with two extremely spoiled, and increasingly opinionated cats, Orion and Weasel. She is a proud member of the Highlands Writers Group, the American Translators Association, and the World War II Brides Association (she is a War Baby). After attending a concert recently during which two cell phones went off, she would like to become a charter member of Fletcher Wolfe’s “sit down and shut up” association of concert and theater goers.


**Properties for Sale**

**60 OWL PINE, HIGHLANDS.** Charming mountain cabin is a perfect Highlands getaway and truly affordable! Loft area is a 2nd bedroom and bath. GREAT rental history and 2.5 acres! Furnished! Call Charlie Dasher, developer/owner at 828-526-8645.

**91 BEARFOOT LANE, HIGHLANDS.** Custom 3/3.5 with majestic mountain views, stone fireplace, 2 large decks - Only $749,000 and 4 miles to downtown! Call Tammy Mobley, Broker, Highlands NC Realty. 770-337-1000.

**COTTAGES ON CHESTNUT STREET.** Highlands Best Kept Secret. Choice lots $79,000 - $150,000. Lots with cottages $119,000 - $209,000. Owner financing available. Call Charlie Dasher, developer/owner at 828-526-8645.

**156 RAINTREE LANE.** Quaint mountain home on 1.97+ gentle acres in a quiet setting featuring 2 bdrm home, 1 bdrm (as-is) guest house with kitchenette & workshop, $199,000. Call Ali McClure Moody (828) 508-3576.

**2 BD/2 BA COTTAGE WITH LAKE ACCESS.** Hardwood flooring, wood-burning fireplace, vaulted ceilings, open and covered decking, and a winter ridge line view. $299,500. Call Mal Phillips (828) 200-2642.

**THE KITCHEN.** Well established, catering business now an opportunity for new owner. Fully-equipped professional kitchen, Holly's catering is widely known for its sophistication and simplicity. Contact Mal Phillips at (828) 200-2642.

**THE HEART OF SCALY MTN.** 20 +/- acres, 360 degree, panoramic mountain views. Gentle building sites, gently rolling meadows, a creek, and spring heads. $1.195M. Call Susie deVille Schiffli (828) 371-2079.

**HIGHLANDS FALLS CC, 81 West Knoll.** An enchanting home, completely remodeled w/ 4 bedrooms, 4 1/2 baths, 5 fireplaces, & a study. View of Shortoff Mt. Lower level suite perfect for guests. Call Kay at Signature Properties: (828) 526-4101.

**Cullasaja Club, 68 Fairway Cottage Lane.** Overlooking 10th Tee and Fairway. 4 bed/4 bath home with lots of porches. Furnished. $899,000. Call Kay Deckman at Signature Properties at 526-4101; or on Kay’s cell: 371-3268.

**Peaceful 5+ acre mini farm less than 2 miles from Main Street.** Main dwelling, guest cabin, caretaker’s house, oak barn and pond – all with southerly views to deed restricted wilderness. Purchase all or part. Broker owned. Reduced to $1,089,000. Call Linda at Country Club Properties (828) 526-5010.

**101 POTTER LANE.** Exceptional 5BR/5BA property redone 3 years ago with huge great-room and master wings, and five fireplaces. Close to town. Patios or decks from each room and lovely spacious grounds. Offered at $1,125,000. Call Pat Allen Realty Group at 526-8784.

**140 MEL KEENER.** 4BR/3BA/2HB charming mountain cottage with wood burning fireplace, vaulted ceiling in great room, hardwood floors, lower living area. Screened porch and deck, double garage and carport. Offered at $639,000. Call Pat Allen Realty Group at 526-8784.

**90 BOBBY JONES ROAD.** This 4 BR/5BA home has been totally renovated and exudes old Highlands charm. A separate guest house and great mountain view complete this estate property. The view from the master bedroom deck is fabulous. Offered at $1,885,000. Call Pat Allen Realty Group at 526-8784.

**In-Town Commercial/Residential.** Zoned B-3 with hardwood floors throughout, 1 1/2 baths, kitchenette, open dining/living space (or office space). Renovated 2008. $325,000. Call Susie deVille Schiffli (828) 371-2079.

**Lodge-Style Log Home with Exceptional Mountain Views.** 4 bd/3 1/2ba, gourmet kitchen, 3 acre lot, high-end finishes, gated community, $798,000. Call Ali McClure Moody (828) 508-3576.

Ongoing

• The open air Highlands Farmers Market starts July 9th. If you have something you’d like to sell please call Andrea Gabbard 526-4858
• The Hudson Library parking lot will be closed to vehicular traffic for 6 weeks. Please park on Main Street and walk on the center sidewalk to the side door to enter the library.
• At Health Tracks at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital, various exercise classes all week long. Call 828-526-1FIT.
• Registration is now open for the 2011 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). Sessions run from Tuesday to Friday each week. For complete schedules, costs, and other information, please call 828-526-2623.

Sundays
• Hymn-sing service from 7-8 p.m. at the Little Church in the Wildwood in Horse Cove.
• 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. 828-482-2128. $10/hour.

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 $40 a month

Mondays & Wednesdays
• Pilates Mat Classes — Mondays and Wednesdays, 4pm, The Jane Woodruff Clinic, Main Floor, Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. Call 526-5852 for info. (6/23)

Tuesdays
• Closed AA meeting, 5:30 p.m. at the Episcopal Church at Fifth and Main streets.
• Monday Madness at Fressers Eatery in Historic Village Square and the Pine Street Park.
On going and Upcoming Events

Upcoming CLE classes

By Bettie S. Banks

The Season in upon us and the Center for Life Enrichment (CLE) is poised and ready to offer workshops and seminars for your education and enjoyment. There will be two offerings in May: Garden Whimsy: Making a French Concrete Trough and In Search of the Buddha.

The first class will be Garden Whimsy. This will be a hands-on experience, limited to six participants. Mary Guy Gunn, owner of Gunn’s Landscaping in Atlanta for 18 years, is the guest lecturer. She will instruct on how to make a garden trough just like the ones seen in Highlands on some of the garden tours. At the conclusion of the two-day workshop, participants will take home their newly created antique garden trough, ready to plant and transform into a whimsical miniature landscape. All materials will be supplied except for an apron and heavy-duty rubber gloves. Participants must bring along a lunch each day. Gardening clothes are recommended.

Garden Whimsy will meet at Mrs. Gunn’s home from 10 to 2 Thursday and Friday, May 26 and 27. The cost is $120 for members of CLE and $135 for non-members. Directions to Mrs. Gunn’s home will be given upon registration.

The second class is titled In Search of the Buddha. In this class, Victoria Hippard, Ph.D., will lecture on the philosophy behind Buddhist belief that “Everything in life and the universe is in an endless process of impermanence, change and decay.” She will use a power point presentation to help participants come to know and perhaps understand the richness of the Buddhist philosophy. Included will be the history of the tradition of meditation as well as the manner in which the teachings and practices of the Buddha are practiced. She promises that “Bodhisattvas and wrathful deities will join the group as it struggles to understand the enigmatic koans of Zen Buddhism.”

Dr. Hippard is a psychotherapist in New Orleans as well as an adjunct professor in Social Work at Tulane and in Religious Studies at Loyola. Her area of interest and study is in Mythological Studies with an emphasis on Depth Psychology.

In Search of the Buddha will meet at the Performing Arts Center on Tuesday, May 31 from 10 to 12. Fees for members is $20 and for non-members, $30.

To register for either of these classes, contact the CLE office at (828) 526-8811, Fax (828) 526-0066, or email: clehighlands@yahoo.com or visit the CLE office at the Peggy Crosby Center on South Fifth Street.

Exhibit ion quality dahlias available this Saturday at MG Plant Sale

By Emily Compost

Are you a dahlia shopper who wants something different?

Come to the Mountain Garden Club plant sale May 28. You’ll find tubers like never before, including those for waterlily dahlias. Real show stoppers!

The tubers are exhibition quality, which means they are identified by name, form, size and color.

Are you new to dahlias? They’re easy to grow.

Dahlias love living in the mountains, as well as in lower elevations. The blooms are beautiful in the garden and spectacular in cut flower arrangements.

All you need is a good, sunny spot with 6 hours or more of sun. Dahlias like rich, loose, well-drained soil and should be spaced 3 feet apart, or 2 feet apart for smaller plants. They like lime once a year and 5-10-10 fertilizer, but a big mistake with dahlias is overfeeding them.

Dahlias can be planted as tubers May 1 to June 30, or as plants from May 15 to July 15. When planting tubers, do not water or fertilize until the tubers have sprouted and there are about 2 sets of leaves.

Cut blooms in the early morning or at night and keep in fresh water.

Low-growing or dwarf dahlias are great for container growing. Select a container that will provide 12 square inches per tuber. For best results, mix 2 parts garden soil with 1 part potting soil. Provide good drainage and be careful not to overwater. Wet soil will rot tubers in pots.

The 29th Annual Mountain Garden Club Plant Sale will be held on Saturday, May 28, 9 a.m. to noon, at the baseball park on Hwy 64E, corner of N 4th & Hickory Streets.

Come chat with dahlia experts about growing, storing, and caring for dahlias. These plants that originated in Mexico and have won the hearts of gardeners worldwide.

Plus shop for locally grown perennials and mountain-hardy tomatoes. There’s something for everyone!
Shop Highlands Memorial Day Weekend

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On going and Upcoming Events

FEMA Distribution Center. Center in Tuscaloosa, AL which is a designated FEMA Distribution Center.

“Does your forest talk money?” 4:30-7 p.m. at the Cashiers library. Call or email Michelle Price mprice@j-mca.org. Want to know what it takes to make money from forest land? Need to learn the NEW wild crafting ginseng regulations? Want to know more about starting an Agro-Forestry business? Want to learn about green certification and branding? Want to grow and sell forest botanicals like shiitake mushrooms?

- The next regular meeting of the Macon County Republican Party will be on Thursday, 6 p.m. at the Boiler Room at the Fun Factory on Georgia Road in Franklin. Local media outlets will be recognized for their contribution to the community. Parts of the First Amendment are embodied in our media and their importance in a free and open society are immeasurable. Barbara McRae, editor of The Franklin Press will be the guest speaker and Major John Van Hook, a veteran of Iraq and Afghanistan will lead the pledge. 2012 goals will be discussed, committee positions will be offered, and there will be a draw for door prizes at the end of the meeting. Our party member elected officials have all been personally contacted and most if not all will be there. Let’s make this a great start for our 2012 win by attending the meeting and getting involved! Attendees may order off the menu if they wish to eat.

- Sat., May 28
  - The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a moderate 3-mile hike to Yellow Branch Falls, an unusual-looking falls, cascading over dark rocky ledges. Meet at the Highlands Bank of America at 10 a.m. or behind the Wachovia Bank in Cashiers at 10:30 a.m. Bring water and lunch. Drive 50 round trip into SC. Call leader Virginia Talbot, 526-2006.

2011 Annual SOAR June 6-11

This is the ninth year that the SOAR committee will be raising money for the Special Operations Warrior Foundation. The SOAR members are proud to say that they have raised $450,000 which will help over 800 children of fallen special operations personnel to have a college education. This success is, without a doubt, the result of dedication and work by many hands, hearts and heads of the volunteers and the generosity of Highlands, Cashiers, Sapphire merchants and donors. Simply stated, your support and assistance have, and always has been, critical to the success of the foundation’s mission.

The Special Operations Warrior Foundation (Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force) was established 30 years ago when special operations personnel were killed on the mission to rescue the American hostages in Iran. The foundation continued on to be sure that the children of all fallen special operations personnel would have a college education. They have raised $450,000, this includes scholarship grants, counseling and financial aid. The children range in ages from infants to college age. While the children are spread throughout the nation, North Carolina has the largest number of children in the program. Your help has also made it possible to assist the families of our wounded troops with immediate expenses incurred while traveling to be at bedside with their loved ones.

The Foundation’s commitment to the highest standards of honesty, integrity and transparent financial accountability was recognized with its fourth consecutive “Four Star” charity by the nation’s leading charity watchdog group, Charity Navigator.

SOAR Events

**June 6:**
Bill Horwitz Memorial Golf Tournament
Cullasaja Country Club
12 pm Shotgun Start/$125 per person
(includes, box lunch, dinner)

**June 9:**
Silent/Live Auction
Highlands Community Building
5:30 pm, $30 at the door
Food by Cyprus International Restaurant

**June 10:**
Spaghetti Dinner
Highlands Community Building
5:30-7pm
$7 per person

**June 11:**
Special Operations Adventure Race
Start 7 am, Main & 5th
Donations may be sent to SOWF at P.O. Box 923, Highlands, NC, 28741. For more information call Nancy Horwitz at 526-0224.
**On going and Upcoming Events**

4904, for reservations. Visitors are welcome but no pets please.

**Sat. & Sun., May 28-29**
- Memorial Weekend Village Square Art & Craft Show in downtown Highlands’ Pine Street Park from 10 to 5 Saturday and Sunday.

**Sun., May 29**
- First Baptist Church will have a Memorial Day service at 11 a.m. American Legion Post 305 will attend. Covered dish follows service.
- The Nantahala Hiking Club will take an easy 2-mile hike past an interesting old bridge to Mud Creek Falls near Sky Valley, GA. Meet at the Smoky Mtn. Visitors Center in Otto at 2:00 pm. Drive 12 miles round trip. Call Kay Coriell, 369-6820, for reservations. Visitors and children over ten are welcome, but no pets please.

**Monday, May 30**
- The American Legion Post 370 and the VFW are having a service on the Village Green in Cashiers at 1 p.m.
- At CLE, In Search of Budha at the Performing Arts Center from 10-noon with Dr. Victoria Hippard, a psychotherapist from New Orleans. $20 for members, $30 for nonmembers. Call 526-8811 or email clehghinds@yahoo.com to register Cost is $120 for members and $135 for non-members.
- Red Cross Blood Drive. Macon County Public Library, 149 Siler Farm Road, Franklin, 10 am to 7 pm. Please call 524-3600 for more information or to schedule an appointment. Walk-Ins welcome, appointments preferred! Through June 30, two donors will be selected at random to receive a pair of round-trip tickets.

**Tuesday, May 31**
- At CLE, In Search of Budha at the Performing Arts Center from 10-noon with Dr. Victoria Hippard, a psychotherapist from New Orleans. $20 for members, $30 for nonmembers. Call 526-8811 or email clehghinds@yahoo.com to register Cost is $120 for members and $135 for non-members.
- At the Nature Center, the Salamander Soiree kickoff at 6 p.m. A reception with fun and games for the whole family as well as an informative lecture on salamanders.
- At the Franklin Community Building, Hwy 441 South across from Whistle Stop Mall” from 6:30 to 9 PM. Music by “SWINGTIME BAND” playing Foxtrots, Swing, Waltzes, Latin, Line Dances, Country, Rock, Polkas. For more information call 828-369-9155.

**Saturday, June 4**
- Benefit Softball Tournament for Chelsea Moses Murray who has Wilsons Disease (Liver), at the Highlands Softball Field starting at 8 am. There will be food, raffles, a silent auction. To enter a team, call Michelle Johnson at 371-2064.
- The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a 2.5-mile hike, descending on a steep trail used by rappellers, to walk along underneath the vertical sheer granite south face of Whiteside Mtn. The hike is rated strenuous because of the 1,000 ft. change in elevation and the steep climb. Meet at the Whiteside parking lot at 10 a.m. Bring water, lunch, gloves; wear deep lugged boots. Call leader Jim Whitehurst, 526-8134, for reservations. Visitors are welcome but no pets please.
- The Concert Chorale, directed by Grat Rosazza, will be performing Sunday at 4 pm in the Episcopal Church of the Incarnation in Highlands. The members of the Chorale would like to extend an invitation to everyone attending to join them in Jones Hall after the program for a fine wine and cheese reception. Donations appreciated.

**Sunday, June 5**
- The Concert Chorale, directed by Grat Rosazza, will be performing Sunday at 4 pm in the Episcopal Church of the Incarnation in Highlands. The members of the Chorale would like to extend an invitation to everyone attending to join them in Jones Hall after the program for a fine wine and cheese reception. Donations appreciated.

**Lyons to perform in HHS ‘History Live!’ performance June 26**

Lee Lyons will portray Celia Hill, wife of Stanhope Hill, who is credited with connecting Horse Cove to Highlands by road, in the upcoming presentation of “History Live!” sponsored by the Highlands Historical Society. Lyons is seen at “Moses’ Rock,” a spring that started flowing during construction of the road in 1876 and has flowed ever since. The “Roads that Lead to Highlands” is the theme of this year’s historical event and will take place behind the Prince House on N. Fourth Street adjacent to the Civic Center on June 24 and 25 at 6 p.m. and at the Performing Arts Center on Chestnut Street June 26 at 4 p.m. Seats will be provided for all performances. Admission is $10 for adults with students admitted free. Park at the Civic Center for events at the Prince House.

**Monday, June 6**
- At Highlands-Cashiers Hospital, board certified physician’s Dr. Billy Noell, General Surgery and Dr. Scott Baker, Family Medicine present “When Surgery is Needed and When it is Not.” 12 noon to 1 pm on the first floor of the Jane Woodruff Clinic, hospital campus. Lecture Topic: Aliments, conditions, diseases that surgery can improve/resolve as well as “what to expect” when having surgery at HCH. Complimentary lunch will be provided and seating is limited, please call (828) 526-1313 to make your reservation.
- The Plateau Fly Fishing club will hold its first meeting of the season at the Albert Carlton-Cashiers library at 7 PM and features speaker Matt Canter general manager and lead guide for Brookings Outfitters. He will discuss off-the-beaten trail streams easily accessible in Western North Carolina and a recent fishing trip to Hazel Creek in the Smokies. For more information call 828-885-7130.

**‘Stand Where they Fought’ trip to feature Civil War trek – Oct. 8-16**

Carlton Joyce

Last year Carlton Joyce ran a 7-day tour to 30 eastern Virginia-Maryland-Pennsylvania battlefields from St. Petersburg to Gettysburg.

To complete the Virginia story this year he is starting the 7-day tour in Richmond, traveling west to Appomattox, Bedford to Lexington and north through the Shenandoah Valley to Winchester -- Oct. 8-16, starting and ending in Richmond, VA.

Participants will visit the site of Lee’s surrender to Grant, the National WW 2 monument to the 1944 D- day Normandy landings, the Virginia Military Institute, Stonewall Jackson’s home and burial site, Washington & Lee University, Lee’s home, office and gravesite, Thomas Jefferson’s and James Monroe’s homes, the Culpepper, Brandy Station, New Market battlefields, will enjoy a tasting of a vineyard fermented grape, see Stonewall’s headquarters, and witness a re-enactment of the battle of Cedar Creek.

Hotel, transportation, all meals, entrance fees and professional guides are included.

The rates are Double occupancy $2125 each and Singles are $2613

For local information call Paul Thompson (on Brushy Face) 828-536-3618.
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The Christmas Tree Shop
Call Jody at 526-4104

Saturday, June 4
Benefit Softball Tournament for Chelsea Moses Murray who has Wilsons Disease (Liver), at the Highlands Softball Field starting at 8 am. There will be food, raffles, a silent auction. To engage a team, call Michelle Johnson at 371-2064.
would call his friend, the cabbie, and get a kickback later. Everyone was a winner, especially the drunk. Also, bartenders would tell a tourist the cops were working the area looking for drunks behind the wheel. Once again, he would recommend a cabbie and get the tip.

I once wrote an article for this paper titled “I only drive when I’m too drunk to walk” and got blasted. Some people believed what I wrote. I had to tell them I was kidding. Highlands is trying to wear “big town britches” but we’re not there yet.

One thing for certain, cops never… I mean never drove a drunk to his destination….Well, maybe just once. The call came out “Man waving a gun—Kitty Kat Bar—all zone units respond.” Four squad cars headed for the Kitty Kat and mine was one of them. When we entered, guns drawn, we were stunned to find our commanding officer, drunk as a skunk, waving his gun and cursing. Customers were cringing on the floor and under tables. I holstered my weapon and approached him. “Ah, Captain, this is not good. What’s going on, sir?”

“Nobody shuts me off and orders me to leave. I don’t take orders from friggin’ bartenders. Where is that SOB?” he demanded still waving his gun.

The other officers joined with me in trying to calm him, suggesting this could turn bad if complaints were made to the district attorney. It seemed to quiet him and we subsequently got him into my car. We were in a no-win situation. Do I do the proper thing and arrest my commanding officer for reckless display of a firearm or do I take him home and save my career? During my era, arresting a drunken commanding officer would finish off a policeman’s career.

I won’t tell you what I did but I spent the next 26 years happy with my decision.

PS — Take your hand off the phone. I made up the part about the call-girl service….kinda!

Fred’s new book titled Deceived is now available at your local book store.

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**TB AGENDA**

**JUNE 1, 7 PM**

1. Public Comments
2. Approve agenda
3. Approve minutes of April 27, May 10 & May 18, 2011
4. Reports
   A. Mayor
   B. Commissioners & Committee Reports
5. Scholarship Awards
6. Report from Playhouse
7. Discussion of Noise Ordinance
8. Consider Appointment to Appearance Commission
9. Sand & Gravel Bids
11. Conditional Use Zoning Request from TRI Investments
12. Adjourn
Highlands School celebrates athletic achievements

By Ryan Potts

Highlands School celebrated the 2010-2011 season in athletics with their annual Athletic Awards Banquet on Tuesday night at the Highlands Civic Center. As is the custom, the Rotary Club provided a delicious meal of fried chicken with all of the fixins' in honor of the athletes of Highlands School.

Following the meal was the presentation of awards to the high school athletes, led by Athletic Director Butch Smart. Smart began by introducing the various special guests in attendance, including Superintendent Dan Brigman, Highlands School Board member Stephanie McCall, Highlands Administrators Brian Jetter and Jim Draheim, and countywide Athletic Director Dan Moore.

After all of the introductions of the guests, the athletes themselves were introduced by sport and given awards that included Player of the Year, Coaches Award, Highlander Award and Sportsmanship Awards.

Coach of the Year was also awarded to Kyle Mckim for the Lady Highlander Volleyball team, Chris Green for the Highlander Soccer team and Brett Lamb for the Lady Highlander Basketball team. Once the individual players and coaches received their awards, the senior athletes were presented with plaques that outlined their awards and participation in sports throughout their career.
Class of 2011 Valedictorian Marlee McCall was guest speaker during the banquet where all student athletes and coaches were recognized. Sports Page catered the banquet which was sponsored by the Highlands School Booster Club.

... ATHLETIC continued from page 20

Highlands School.

The highlight of the evening was when the Fan of the Year award was presented. The Fan of the Year is chosen by the athletes themselves through a vote done at the school, and this year the vote ended in a tie, so the Co-Fan of the Year award was presented to Noel Atherton and Lisa and Sam Osteen for their contributions to Highlands Athletics.

Ms. Atherton the Osteens are regulars at all Highlander sporting events and also assist in taking many pictures for the school website and the local newspapers.

The evening closed with a final thank you to the seniors for four years of achievements at Highlands School and the countless hours of support from the parents who have given their time and money to assist the fine young men and young women of Highlands School.

Sam and Lisa Osteen, as well as Noel Atherton, were named Fans of the Year, a title awarded by school athletes to the people who are the biggest fans of Highlands School sports. Ms. Atherton and the Osteens are regulars at all Highlander sporting events and take photos for the school website and the local newspapers. Not pictured is Noel Atherton.

Betty Wong Cordially invites you to a TRUNK SHOW May 27, 28, 29 and Sample Sale By appointment Only 10 am - 4 pm

Call 526-3865
... VIETNAM continued from page 1

It was an intense experience and the surgeons who came out of the program were considered some of the country’s best trauma surgeons,” said Pat.

Perhaps he wasn’t made for the spit and polish flourish that’s part of a naval officer’s life, but Dr. Buchanan was clearly trained for the life of a combat surgeon.

He was attached to a frontline Marine hospital and became part of a team that was a wounded Marine’s first and sometimes last chance for survival.

“It was a lot like the movie MASH, which we saw before he went overseas – they worked as fast as they could, patching up Marines and sending them on,” said Pat. “When he wasn’t working with the wounded, Bob was treating people in the neighboring village. There was always someone who needed attention. The hijinks of “MASH” actually happened and were what kept him and the other doctors sane amidst all the insanity.”

For instance, Buchanan said since no one looked over their shoulders, they could trade out their entire “Aid Station” equipment for a full hospital of equipment.

“Poor Quartermaster, when we were deactivated he could find nothing we were supposed to have. Everything was better, though. He wrote our equipment off as “destroyed by enemy action,” and we shipped the gear we had to other units, including the General’s Headquarters, that were staying,” he said.

As he neared the end of his tour of duty, Dr. Buchanan was offered the choice of going to Japan for a week accompanying a medevac plane or returning early to the States. With a young wife waiting for him at home, it was a very easy decision.

“The reason I came home early was because I had been ‘in the field.’ We, however, had it better than the groups at the hospitals since we ran things ourself,” said Buchanan. “We did not have to be military doctors. We were just doctors taking as good care of our charges as we could.”

Buchanan said he got to Quang Tri once or twice but was mostly around Baldy at his Regimental Aid Station or the Battalion Aid Station he was in charge, but for the last month, once his outfit was deactivated, it was in Danang.

Following Vietnam, he finished General Surgery residency in North Carolina and then did Plastic Surgery and Hand Surgery fellowship at Barnes Hospital/Washington University in St. Louis.

Those months spent saving gravely wounded Marines would come in handy in 1995 while Dr. Buchanan was on the University of Oklahoma faculty and Chief of Plastic Surgery at the Veterans Administration Medical Center in Oklahoma City. His previous field-tested skills proved invaluable in the wake of the bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building and earned him the American Medical Association’s Medal of Valor for Service.

Dr. Buchanan is a fellow of the American College of Surgeons, is an active member of the American Society of Plastic Surgeons and the American Society for Aesthetic Plastic Surgery and is Past President of the American Association for Hand Surgery. He operates the Center for Plastic Surgery in Highlands.

... BUDGET continued from page 1

won’t be used to subsidize Water Plant operations.

Commissioners agreed to go with the scenario discussed last week – an increase in the electric service base rate as well as an increase in kWh usage rates.

Residential and commercial customers will pay $10 more for base rate – up to $19.53 from $9.53 – and a 4.3% kWh increase.

“This will begin to address the shortfall, Duke is passing on to us,” said Town Manager Jim Fatland. “But it won’t fix the total shortfall.”

Town Engineer Lamar Nix said the town needed to do some serious analysis over the next few months to see if this increase will be enough in the long run.

“In other words, we won’t wait until the next fiscal year to raise rates again?” asked Commissioner Amy Patterson.

“The Electric Fund helps the town pay for capital improvements and helps offset costs in other departments so we have to keep the fund up,” said Nix. “It’s barely breaking even right now,” he said.

The Finance Committee made up of Commissioners John Dotson and Gary Drake presented the Non-Profit funding request allocations.

Of the 14 organizations requesting a total of $90,137, only five will get funding and those will only get about half of what was requested – a total cost to the town of $21,670.

The HCCDC is getting $5,000; the Literacy Council is getting $3,000; the Highlands Emergency Council is getting $4,000; the Highlands Playhouse is getting $6,500 and the H-C Land Trust is getting $3,170.

The town is considering a recycling center next to the Dog Park at the Civic Center for $73,800. It will be staffed by county employees so the town will reimburse the county for personnel costs.

Fatland said 11 capital improvement projects totaling $248,350 are slated for FY11-12 – funding with a combination of grant, fund balance and electric fund money. Projects are down from last year’s $488,785.

Still to be discussed: a fee of electronic gaming, accepting credit cards and reading water meters.

— Kim Lewicki
The House voted to fund those assistants in kindergarten and first grade only, and the Senate's proposal seems likely to follow suit, as well as another $100 million in cuts to K-12 education.

“Apparently we've determined that we're going to cut the House,” said Senate Minority Leader Martin Nesbitt, D-Buncombe. Nesbitt termed the cuts on the heels of cuts from previous years, “just a death blow” for public schools.

Republicans in the majority for the first time at the statehouse held a decidedly different view, saying the cuts may be painful, but they're better for the economy than raising taxes. The education system that emerges “may not be a Cadillar, but I think it's still a Buick,” said state Sen. Tom Apodaca, R-Henderson.

During the next few weeks, Senate leaders will “polish and perfect” a budget the House approved, said Apodaca, who is a key member of the GOP's Senate leadership team and a co-chairs of the chamber's education budget committee. The deeper K-12 cuts seem to be the key change in the emerging Senate budget, and the university system would benefit from that shift, getting more funding than the House proposed.

Macon County Schools Superintendent Dan Brigman said the BOE has known for two years, the state budget situation does not look promising for K-12 education. “Given the budget proposals coming out of the House and Senate, our state legislators in the House and Senate are allowing the temporary sales tax to sun-set in our state, further reducing our revenue available to offset the budget shortfall. We have taken measures to offset this state reduction,” he said. “Our local budget has been built around a 10% state reduction. With the proposal now out of the Senate, our budget impact will be nearly 14% including a required reduction. We are continuing to review each department and expenditure to ensure every dollar is maximized and classroom services preserved. Unless our legislators step up to the plate and support the extension of the state sales tax, we will clearly see the elimination of programs and services that directly impact children in Macon County.”

In addition, universities would get about $217 million less than they're getting this year under the Senate proposal.

Community colleges would also get less funding, though several Republican legislators have said they expect these colleges to take lower-achieving students out of the university system, particularly as the legislature cuts the state's need-based scholarship program.

“Many of those scholarship recipients don't graduate, and probably shouldn't be at a full-fledged university anyway,” said state Sen. Jerry Tillman. Tillman, R-Randolph, co-chairs the Senate's education budget committee.

Just how many jobs all these cuts would eliminate is unclear. Democrats, in the minority after decades of legislative control, paint a dire picture of layoffs not just for teaching assistants, but for thousands of teachers and thousands of regular state employees on top of that.

Republicans say many of the cuts will hit vacant positions, and that teaching jobs will be shaved through attrition, not layoffs.

But because the state sends money to local school systems, which implement their own budgets, it's difficult to estimate how many actual jobs would be lost. What is clear is that schools would get less money for salaries, school supplies, textbooks and technology.

“Not to put any general funds toward technology — I mean, come on — that's our future,” said budget committee member Sen. Linda Garrou, D-Forsyth.

State Sen. Dan Soucek, R-Watauga, and also a member of the committee, acknowledged that “there's going to be some harm done” as cuts are implemented. But the freshman senator said it's better than increasing taxes.

“I think that the most important thing we're doing is we're spending the amount of money we have coming in,” Soucek said.

Perdue has vetoed several pieces of Republican legislation so far and has indicated she won't sign the evolving budget.
Christie's International Real Estate strengthens position in NC with addition of a second affiliate

Harry Norman, Realtors—Highlands joins leading international network of Real Estate Brokers specializing in the marketing and sales of high-value properties

Christie's International Real Estate, the world's leading luxury real estate network, has awarded Affiliate status to Harry Norman, Realtors of Highlands, NC. The firm joins Cottingham Chalk Hayes to become the second Affiliate in the Tar Heel state, and will exclusively represent the Christie's brand in Highlands, Cashiers, and other communities throughout the Counties of Jackson, Macon, and Transylvania.

Wholly owned by Christie's, the world's leading art business, Christie's International Real Estate is represented in more than 40 countries. Harry Norman, Realtors—Highlands joins this carefully selected organization of brokerages with proven records of success in both high-end property sales and exemplary client service.

"The Harry Norman, Realtors—Highlands team has established a sterling reputation by offering superior market expertise and personalized professional client service," says Rick Moeser, Christie's International Real Estate Vice President of the Southeast Region, Caribbean, and Latin America. "They are well placed to service the growing number of buyers and sellers in this picturesque vacation destination and form an important part of our growing affiliate network in the region."

"I am thrilled to have been granted the affiliation with Christie's International Real Estate. Christie's global marketing will enable us to serve our clients at an unparalleled level," said Elizabeth Salzarulo, owner of Harry Norman, Realtors-Highlands. Christie's, originally founded in 1766 by James Christie, pursued an innovative real estate venture in 1995 by acquiring Great Estates, a luxury real estate network founded in 1987 by Kay Coughlin. Christie's International Real Estate is an Affiliate network by invitation only to the world's most proven and qualified real estate specialists.

Harry Norman, Realtors was founded to provide its clients with exceptional service and professionalism in the sale or purchase of a home. More than 80 years later, Harry Norman, Realtors has grown to be greater Atlanta's, and now Highlands and Cashiers, NC's, leading independent real estate firm.

For additional information on Harry Norman, Realtors—Highlands listings please visit their Web site at www.highlandsrealestate.com or contact Elizabeth B. Salzarulo at +1 828 526 8300.

The Center for Life Enrichment PRESENTS:
A Sampling of our Upcoming Classes and Events:

- May 31. In Search of the Buddha, 10-12 at PAC, presented by Victoria Hippard
- June 3. William Bartram's Travels, 10-12 at PAC, presented by James Costa
- June 4. The Fascinating Beauty of Orchids, 10-12 at PAC presented by Mark Alan Reinke
- June 5. OPENING PREVIEW PARTY, Barbecue, Bluegrass, Banjos and Beer, 4-6pm at PAC, Free to the Public
- June 8. Earthquake in the Middle East, 10-12 at PAC, presented by Sandra Mackey, $25/$35
- June 9-10. The Obit Kit: Creating Your Own Legacy, 10-12 at PAC, presented by Susan Soper, $60/$70
- Jun 13-24 (series) Beginning Drawing I, MWF 10-12 at Rec Park, presented by Mary Judernatz, $90/$100

Also make plans to take part in the bus trip to Brevard Music Center on Thursday, July 7 to see “La Traviata”. (Bus ride, boxed dinner and ticket to opera are included in price of $85 for members and $95 for non-members. Reservation deadline is June 15.)

Classes are $20 for members and $30 for non-members unless otherwise noted. For more information call 828 526-8811 or go to www.clehighlands.com for our full schedule.

Alison McClure Moody Joins White Oak Realty Group

Susie deVille Schiffli, Owner/Broker-in-Charge, has announced that Alison McClure Moody has joined White Oak Realty Group, a Highlands, NC real estate firm.

"I am thrilled to have been granted the affiliation with Christie's International Real Estate. Christie's global marketing will enable us to serve our clients at an unparalleled level," said Elizabeth Salzarulo, owner of Harry Norman, Realtors-Highlands. Christie's, originally founded in 1766 by James Christie, pursued an innovative real estate venture in 1995 by acquiring Great Estates, a luxury real estate network founded in 1987 by Kay Coughlin. Christie's International Real Estate is an Affiliate network by invitation only to the world's most proven and qualified real estate specialists.

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For additional information on Harry Norman, Realtors—Highlands listings please visit their Web site at www.highlandsrealestate.com or contact Elizabeth B. Salzarulo at +1 828 526 8300.

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Sat. • 10am-2pm

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Franklin, NC
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The museum will be open each
Friday and Saturday through the season
(Oct. 29) from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. (Maybe open at other times by appointment—call
787-1050 or visit the society’s website at
highlandshistory.com and use the
“Contact Us” button to set up an appointment.

The Museum is housed in the original
Hudson Library which is the 2nd oldest
library in the state of N.C. Also included
on the Historic Village property is the Prince House, the oldest house in the town
limits and one of the original “Bug Hill”
cottages, the TB sanatorium run by Dr.
Mary Lapham.

The museum will feature 2 special
exhibits this year-

Exhibit 1 “The Roads that lead to
Highlands” (from May 27-Aug. 13)
Exhibit 2 “The Importance of Golf on
the Plateau” (from Aug 19-Oct. 29)
Highlands Police Department Log entries from May 18.

- **May 18:** At 3:15 a.m., officers responded to an assault reported on Hicks Road, where a suspect was arrested.
- **May 19:** At 10:30 a.m., officers responded to a break-in at a residence on Hicks Road, where a theft occurred.
- **May 21:** At 3:25 a.m., officers responded to a break-in at a residence on Highway 106, where a theft occurred.
- **May 22:** At 4:02 a.m., officers responded to a break-in at a residence on Highway 106, where a theft occurred.
- **May 23:** At 4:37 a.m., officers responded to a break-in at a residence on Hicks Road, where a theft occurred.
- **May 24:** At 4:37 a.m., officers responded to a break-in at a residence on Hicks Road, where a theft occurred.
- **May 25:** At 4:37 a.m., officers responded to a break-in at a residence on Hicks Road, where a theft occurred.
- **May 26:** At 4:37 a.m., officers responded to a break-in at a residence on Hicks Road, where a theft occurred.

Highlands F&R Dept. Log entries from May 18.

- **May 18:** At 3:15 a.m., officers responded to an assault reported on Hicks Road, where a suspect was arrested.
- **May 19:** At 10:30 a.m., officers responded to a break-in at a residence on Hicks Road, where a theft occurred.
- **May 21:** At 3:25 a.m., officers responded to a break-in at a residence on Highway 106, where a theft occurred.
- **May 22:** At 4:02 a.m., officers responded to a break-in at a residence on Highway 106, where a theft occurred.
- **May 23:** At 4:37 a.m., officers responded to a break-in at a residence on Hicks Road, where a theft occurred.
- **May 24:** At 4:37 a.m., officers responded to a break-in at a residence on Hicks Road, where a theft occurred.
- **May 25:** At 4:37 a.m., officers responded to a break-in at a residence on Hicks Road, where a theft occurred.
- **May 26:** At 4:37 a.m., officers responded to a break-in at a residence on Hicks Road, where a theft occurred.

Highlands F&R Dept. Log entries from May 19.

- **May 19:** At 3:15 a.m., officers responded to an assault reported on Hicks Road, where a suspect was arrested.
- **May 20:** At 10:30 a.m., officers responded to a break-in at a residence on Hicks Road, where a theft occurred.
- **May 21:** At 3:25 a.m., officers responded to a break-in at a residence on Highway 106, where a theft occurred.
- **May 22:** At 4:02 a.m., officers responded to a break-in at a residence on Highway 106, where a theft occurred.
- **May 23:** At 4:37 a.m., officers responded to a break-in at a residence on Hicks Road, where a theft occurred.
- **May 24:** At 4:37 a.m., officers responded to a break-in at a residence on Hicks Road, where a theft occurred.
- **May 25:** At 4:37 a.m., officers responded to a break-in at a residence on Hicks Road, where a theft occurred.
- **May 26:** At 4:37 a.m., officers responded to a break-in at a residence on Hicks Road, where a theft occurred.

Highlands F&R Dept. Log entries from May 20.

- **May 20:** At 3:15 a.m., officers responded to an assault reported on Hicks Road, where a suspect was arrested.
- **May 21:** At 10:30 a.m., officers responded to a break-in at a residence on Hicks Road, where a theft occurred.
- **May 22:** At 3:25 a.m., officers responded to a break-in at a residence on Highway 106, where a theft occurred.
- **May 23:** At 4:02 a.m., officers responded to a break-in at a residence on Highway 106, where a theft occurred.
- **May 24:** At 4:37 a.m., officers responded to a break-in at a residence on Hicks Road, where a theft occurred.
- **May 25:** At 4:37 a.m., officers responded to a break-in at a residence on Hicks Road, where a theft occurred.
- **May 26:** At 4:37 a.m., officers responded to a break-in at a residence on Hicks Road, where a theft occurred.

Highlands F&R Dept. Log entries from May 21.

- **May 21:** At 3:15 a.m., officers responded to an assault reported on Hicks Road, where a suspect was arrested.
- **May 22:** At 10:30 a.m., officers responded to a break-in at a residence on Hicks Road, where a theft occurred.
- **May 23:** At 3:25 a.m., officers responded to a break-in at a residence on Highway 106, where a theft occurred.
- **May 24:** At 4:02 a.m., officers responded to a break-in at a residence on Highway 106, where a theft occurred.
- **May 25:** At 4:37 a.m., officers responded to a break-in at a residence on Hicks Road, where a theft occurred.
- **May 26:** At 4:37 a.m., officers responded to a break-in at a residence on Hicks Road, where a theft occurred.

Highlands F&R Dept. Log entries from May 22.

- **May 22:** At 3:15 a.m., officers responded to an assault reported on Hicks Road, where a suspect was arrested.
- **May 23:** At 10:30 a.m., officers responded to a break-in at a residence on Hicks Road, where a theft occurred.
- **May 24:** At 3:25 a.m., officers responded to a break-in at a residence on Highway 106, where a theft occurred.
- **May 25:** At 4:02 a.m., officers responded to a break-in at a residence on Highway 106, where a theft occurred.
- **May 26:** At 4:37 a.m., officers responded to a break-in at a residence on Hicks Road, where a theft occurred.

Highlands F&R Dept. Log entries from May 23.

- **May 23:** At 3:15 a.m., officers responded to an assault reported on Hicks Road, where a suspect was arrested.
- **May 24:** At 10:30 a.m., officers responded to a break-in at a residence on Hicks Road, where a theft occurred.
- **May 25:** At 3:25 a.m., officers responded to a break-in at a residence on Highway 106, where a theft occurred.
- **May 26:** At 4:02 a.m., officers responded to a break-in at a residence on Highway 106, where a theft occurred.

Highlands F&R Dept. Log entries from May 24.

- **May 24:** At 3:15 a.m., officers responded to an assault reported on Hicks Road, where a suspect was arrested.
- **May 25:** At 10:30 a.m., officers responded to a break-in at a residence on Hicks Road, where a theft occurred.
- **May 26:** At 3:25 a.m., officers responded to a break-in at a residence on Highway 106, where a theft occurred.

Highlands F&R Dept. Log entries from May 25.

- **May 25:** At 3:15 a.m., officers responded to an assault reported on Hicks Road, where a suspect was arrested.
- **May 26:** At 10:30 a.m., officers responded to a break-in at a residence on Hicks Road, where a theft occurred.

Highlands F&R Dept. Log entries from May 26.

- **May 26:** At 3:15 a.m., officers responded to an assault reported on Hicks Road, where a suspect was arrested.
- **May 27:** At 10:30 a.m., officers responded to a break-in at a residence on Hicks Road, where a theft occurred.
Glaucoma refers to a group of eye diseases, which left undetected, can lead to a significant decrease in sight or even blindness. This is due to the improper drainage of continuously produced fluid in the eye (aqueous humor) which leads to increased pressure within the eye, resulting in optic nerve damage. The underlying cause of glaucoma is unknown, and anyone can be at risk regardless of age. Regular eye exams can lead to early detection and treatment which often prevents loss of sight. Glaucoma symptoms vary depending on the type of glaucoma a patient is experiencing and it is possible to have no symptoms at all. According to the Glaucoma Research Foundation, it is estimated that over 4 million Americans have Glaucoma but only half of them know it.

Glaucoma remains the leading cause of blindness in adults in spite of readily available painless treatment. High on the list of causes is a remarkably high level of inadequate medication usage. The problem is easily understood by anyone who is required to use medications on a daily basis. This problem becomes even more difficult due to the high cost of medications, especially if they are not covered by insurance or Medicare and the patient is on a relatively fixed income.

A laser developed especially for glaucoma, the SLT, received FDA approval following years of clinical testing. The significant advantage of the SLT over previous lasers is its method of action. The efficacy and safety levels are so high that the treatment may now be recommended as the 1st line of treatment in glaucoma patients before considering glaucoma eyedrops. In our practice the treatment is so effective, that for the great majority of our glaucoma patients, the SLT may be the only treatment needed. The treatment is covered by insurance companies, Medicare and Medicaid. The procedure is performed in the examination room and takes less than a minute. Patients can return to normal activity immediately following treatment.

Dr. Blue introduced the SLT laser treatment for glaucoma to Northeast Georgia and now provides this remarkable laser treatment in Highlands and Franklin as well.
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SATURDAY, MAY 28 — 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 8106 Dillard Road in Scaly Mountain. Misc. some vintage, female toddler clothing, aquarium and lots more.

SATURDAY, MAY 28 — Two-Family. 9 a.m. until. NC 28 South, 10 miles from Highlands, right over the GA line. Watch for signs. A little bit of everything!

SATURDAY, MAY 28 — 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. 590 View Point Road, off Flat Mountain Road. Furniture, furnishings, accessories, kitchen ware and more. Garage-sale style items plus fine items.

RESIDENTIAL/COMMERCIAL FOR RENT

IN TOWN HOME — 6 months or year rental. Two bed/2 bath with bedroom and bath on lower level. Screened porch. Close to Bascom. Furnished or not. Single car garage. $750/month. Call 828-526-2044. (6/21)

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MAIN STREET APARTMENT. Furnished or unfurnished, Large 1/1, covered balcony, small pets allowed, reasonable rent. Call 526-0036 (day) or 526-4044 (eve) (st. 5/5)

ROOM FOR RENT ON A BEAUTIFUL HORSE FARM ON BLUE VALLEY ROAD. The very large room is more like an efficiency or an in-law suite on the bottom level of a very large home. Private entrance, private bath, refrigerator, microwave, hot plate and Furnished. $500 a month + 1/4 of utilities with a year lease. Call 828.787.1170 (st. 5/12)

COMMERCIAL SPACE ON CAROLINA WAY. 1200 SF +/- .Currently occupied by Mountain Fitness. Available May 1. $1200/mo. Call Tom Clark (404) 210-7979, (828) 526-4646. (St. 4/14)

DOWNTOWN ON MAIN ST APT FOR RENT. Unfurnished and spacious, small pets allowed, walk in closet, outside balcony. $700 / mo. 200-0036. (st 4/7)


3 BEDROOM/1 BA, 1/2 bath, 2/bath. Very cozy with fabulous view. Call 828-482-2052. (st. 11/11)

4 BEDR 2/1BATH. $650 plus utilities.No cell phone service.3459 Buck Creek Road 828-524-6038. (st. 3/3)

5/12)

$700 / mo. 200-0036.  (st 4/7)

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)

VACATION RENTALS

ON MIRROR LAKE – Lakeside, canoe & paddleboat, 3 private suites with bath, fireplace, kitchen, w/d. family and pet friendly. Call 828-342-2302. (9/1)

2/2.5 CLASSIC HIGHLANDS CABIN IN TOWN NEAR LAKE SEQUOYAH w/ central A/C. $750 weekly rental avail until July 9. 526-0974. (6/9).

COZY VACATION RENTAL COTTAGE FOR TWO ON MIRROR LAKE – fireplace, w/d, kitchen, bath, canoe and paddleboat access. Pet Friendly. Call 828-342-2302. (9/1)

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

CLASSIC 40S CABIN IN WEBB Mont AREA w/ 1+ ac. 2/2.5 w/ wormy chestnut walls. Completely renovated in 2000. Below REA at $399K furnished. By appt ONLY. 526-0974 (7/7)

IN TOWN HOME, HARRIS LAKE AREA. By Owner. 3 bed, 2 bath, $350,000. Call 828-226-6123. (6/30)

3/2 COTTAGE ON 3.46 ACRES (3 LOTS TOTAL), recently restored and renovated; 3 miles from town with great mountain views. By owner for $294,000. See photos and more information at this web page: https://sites.google.com/site/highlandsncottageforsale/ or contact Owner at 119DendyKnob@gmail.com. (st. 2/24)

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

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

SERVICES

DECORATIVE CAKES FOR CHILDREN AND BABY SHOWERS. Fun, innovative designs for your next celebration. Reasonable rates to fit most any budget. Please call Lisa @ 828-526-8709 for more information.(6/2)

HELPING OTHER PEOPLE – Are you disabled, ill, or know someone-who is? We can help. Fee-free tasks for those in need. To help, volunteer or donate money or equipment contact us. 378 Taylor Creek Drive, Cullowhee, NC 28723. 828-743-0048, 828-734-3833. ianwinged@aol.com, www.helpingotherpeople.org. David L. Cybul.

CR AWF LSPACE MOISTURE PROBLEMS? Musty smell in your home? Call 828-505-6780. (St. 4/28)

FACTOTUM – “An employee or assistant serving in a wide range of capacities.” Personal Secretary, Basic Services, Social Services, Home Maintenance, Physcial Aid. References available. Call 828-787-1515 or 828-506-1780.

MILT’S LAWN SERVICE. Lawn mowing, and weed eating, yard cleaning and light hawling. Call Bill at 828-526-8659 or Milton at 828-421-7681. (5/26)


WILL SIT FOR ELDERLY, HANDICAPPED OR CHILDREN, Your home or mine. 13 years childcare experience. By the hour. Call 828-966-3988. References.


VEHICLES

1999 CHEVY 4X4 TRAILBLAZER V6, power everything, tow pkg, leather interior $3900 call 828 200 0490 or 787-1515 (st. 5/1)

LEGAL S

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing will be held by the Town of Highlands Board of Commissioners at the Highlands Conference Center, 45 Poplar St., on the 15th day of June 2011, during their regularly scheduled meeting beginning at 7 p.m. for the proposed annual budget for Fiscal Year 2011-2012.

All interested residents/citizens are encouraged to attend and be heard. A copy of the proposed annual budget is located on the Town Website www.highlandsnc.org and on file at Town Hall for inspection by all between the hours of 8am to 4:30pm Monday-Friday.

Jim Fatland, Town Clerk
May 26 & June 2

Highlands Storage Village
828-526-4555 • Cashiers Road

Deluxe, Indoor Climate Controlled Self Storage
With covered loading zone

• Units Available •

Positions Now Available

ER & Med/Surg RN
Outpatient RN
C.N.A.
Physical Therapy Assistant
Respiratory Therapist
IT Support Technician
Receptionist/Medical Asst
Ex. Admin Asst/Medical Staff Coordinator

Full benefits, or the option to opt out of benefits for an increase in pay, available after 60 days of full-time employment.
Pre-employment substance screening. Call Human Resources, 828-526-1376, or apply online at www.hchospital.org.
Facelift at First Baptist Highlands

The side sanctuary ramp entrance and the front entrance are being replaced, enlarged, and improved. The former concrete and stone area had seriously deteriorated even with several repairs being made through the years.

The renovation project will include new poured concrete walls with a stucco finish; stone columns matching the current stone; a new lighting system on the columns; new black metal railings; and new landscaped flower beds. Several local construction firms are working on the project which will be completed in a few weeks.

“The improvements are needed and fortunately the church is able to afford to do it right,” said Pastor Dr. Charles H. Harris.

Rotary Club of Highlands sends vets on Honor Air Flight

Rotary Club of Highlands Rotarian, Bill Nellis accompanied World War II veterans Louis Batson and Pete King on the final Honor Air flight.

In 2004, the World War II Memorial in Washington, DC was dedicated to honor the Greatest Generation, those men and women who fought and sacrificed in the service of our country. The youngest survivors of that war are now in their late 70s, and many of them will never have the opportunity to visit the memorial this country has created for them.

Highlands Rotary sent these two great, local veterans to Washington DC on May 14th at no cost to them. Leaving from Asheville Regional Airport, the group was flown to Washington DC where an escorted motorcade took the veterans to a number of sites in the area.
Available

Friday & Saturday:
• Highlands Historic Village open 10-4.
  Saturday:
• Mtn Garden Club Plant Sale on ballfield: 9-noon.

Saturday & Sunday:
• Village Sq. Arts & Craft Show 10-5.