

# Highlands' Newspaper

FREE every Wednesday

Volume 9, Number 38 6,000 Internet Reads at www.HighlandsInfo.com • Click Local News Wednesday, Sept. 21, 2011

Thursday, Sept. 22

• NC-DOT info session on semi-truck turnarounds from 4-7 p.m. at the Cullasaja Fire Dept. Four turnarounds are being considered, one in Highlands.

• The Highlands Plateau Audubon Society field trip to the Blue Ridge Parkway for fall migrants. Meet at the public parking area next to the Town Hall at 7 a.m. Call Brock Hutchins at 828-787-1387.

• Eco Tour: Elk Excursion. Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust expedition to Cataloochee Valley. To sign-up call 526-1111.

Friday, Sept. 23

• Laurel Garden Club Patron's Party for Tour of Kitchens at Rainwater estate 6 to 8 PM. Tickets are \$125 each for the patrons' party. For tickets, call (828) 526-8334.

• Highlands Male Chorus with Angie Jenkins on the piano at PAC at 7:30 p.m. For tickets call 526-9047.

Saturday, Sept. 24

• Laurel Garden Club of Highland Tour of Kitchens 9 to 5. Tickets are \$50 per person. For tickets call (828) 526-8334.

• Highlands Farmer's Market in Kelsey-Hutchinson Park on Pine Street, 8-11 a.m. Homegrown and home-made.

• Pancake Breakfast 7:30-10:30 a.m. at the Old Scaly School house at the corner of Highway 106 and Buckknob Road in Scaly Mountain. \$5.50 for adults and \$3.50 for children.

Sunday, Sept. 25

• First Baptist Church "Homecoming" Sunday, "10:45 a.m. A covered dish lunch will be served following morning worship. Come all!

Monday, Sept. 26

• The Art League of Highlands monthly meeting at PAC at 5PM with a social and followed by a sculpture demonstration at 6PM. Free.

• Mirror Lake Improvement Association will meet at the Rec Park at 6 p.m.

Tuesday, Sept. 27

• Town of Highlands Public Hearing on ETJ at the Rec Park at 7 p.m.

## 'Stay healthy or pay;' Use of park an issue

The incentive for town employees to stay healthy will be the continuation of free health insurance.

That's the idea behind a Wellness program through Blue Cross Blue Shield, that could see the town net a renewal credit of up to

3%.

At the Sept. 20 Town Board meeting, Mike Morris with Wayah Insurance presented the Blue Cross Blue Shield (BCBS) program whose purpose is to encourage employees to stay healthy or get healthy to improve their quality

of life.

All town employees will be encouraged to take two, 20-25 minute, confidential, online tests on town time and at a town computer, whose results only BCBS will see or they can take the tests

• See HEALTHY page 19

## Silver Eagle loses ZB appeal

Though members of the Zoning Board of Adjustment sympathized with the owners of Silver Eagle, in a 4 to 1 vote last Wednesday night they upheld the decision of Code Enforcement Officer Josh Ward and denied Silver Eagle's appeal.

Deborah Nelson, co-owner of Silver Eagle on 370 Main Street, appeared before the board to appeal the town's citation for a sign violation as per the town's ordinance, Article 400 Section 405.2.

The Nelsons have moved Silver Eagle and the sign four times over the years – from Mountain Brook Center, to the east side of Main Street near Fifth Street to two locations on Main between Third and Fourth streets.

Nelson said she didn't realize they had to reapply for a sign permit when they moved from storefront to storefront. The sign has moved with them, but was only cited as a problem at the current

• See SILVER EAGLE page 6



NCRRS officials time how long it takes the dept. to empty water from the tanker truck into "tanks" on the ground.

Photo by Noel Atherton

## State 'times' Highlands Fire Dept. for ratings

Turns out there's a lot more to a home insurance ratings and subsequent policies than meets the eye.

Every five or six years, the NC Rating and Response System rates fire departments in the state to judge how adequate their fire protection capability is – which translates into insurance rates for homeowners.

Over the last six months, the Highlands Fire Dept. has collected reams of paperwork verifying its ability to fight fires up to six miles outside the town limits.

This includes maps showing all water points in and out of town verifying that from anywhere on the plateau – specifically up to five miles out – a fire tanker truck is

• See FIRE DEPT. page 19

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## Board to consider construction standards for slopes

The county's Slope Development Ordinance has been tabled for now, but the Planning Board has been hard at work devising construction standards for land disturbing activity in Macon County which will likely find its way into some kind of pared down ordinance.

At the Tuesday, Sept. 13 meeting, commissioners got a first look at construction standards which include definitions to accompany recommendations which will provide explanations for key terms in the proposal.

Considered a finished product by the Planning Board "it is now up to the commissioners to decide where, if and how we will use them in the future," said County Planner Derek Roland.

Those who lobbied against

• See SLOPES page 6

FRI	SAT	SUN
66   47F	65   45F	66   46F

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# • THE PLATEAU'S POSITION •

## • LETTERS •

## • HAWK'S EYE VIEW •

### I have to disagree...

Dear Editor,

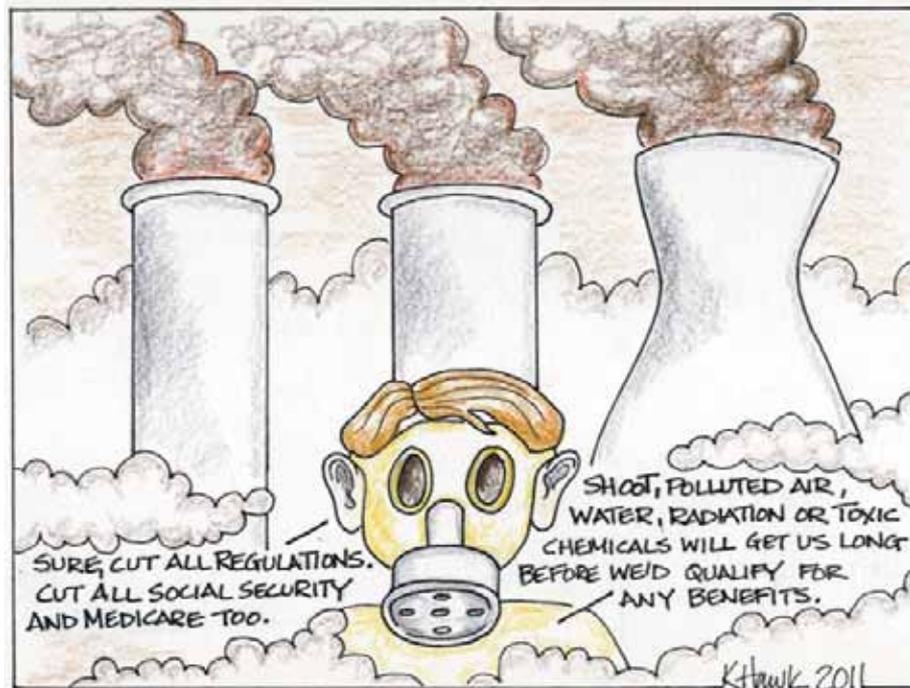
I am not a member of the Tea Party, but was so disgusted by the logic-chopping and ad hominem arguments in the letter of Justin Karr Conley, with the headline "Tea Party leader had facts wrong," in the Sept. 14 edition of Highlands' Newspaper that I had to respond.

Taking his (or her – the name "Justin" has been used by both members of both sexes) points in order, Conley asserts that Ms. Chapman was wrong in saying that the Tea Party was a phenomenon of the 21st Century, when in fact it advocated the "failed policies" of the 18th Century, without deigning to identify any particular Tea Party policy as dating from that century—unless, of course, Conley refers to the principles enunciated in the Declaration of Independence and Constitution, which have not yet failed, despite Conley's apparent dislike of those policies – principally the notion of a limited government, individual freedom, and protection of property rights.

Conley then says that the Tea Party cannot be independent and nonpartisan because membership in the Republican is a "predictor" of membership in the Tea Party. This is a non sequitur. There is no evidence that the Tea Party is dependent upon any other organization, or that there are no Democrats in the Tea Party.

Conley asserts, and is correct, that the overwhelming majority of Tea Party members are conservative, and that most of them voted against Mr. Obama. Indeed, the Tea Party is explicitly conservative, but that hardly says that the party is an arm of the Republican Party. Indeed, in many if not most primaries leading up to the elections in 2010, the Tea Party opposed the candidates supported by GOP leadership. For example, the Tea Party supported Senators Paul and Rubio AGAINST the candidates sponsored and supported by the GOP leadership.

Conley says, with absolutely no evidence, that Tea Party members have a "low regard for immigrants [and elsewhere Conley asserts the Tea Party members are Xenophobic] and blacks." Tea Party members—and most Americans—oppose illegal immigrants, and welcome le-



### LETTERS-TO-THE EDITOR-POLICY

We reserve the right to reject or edit submissions.

**NO ANONYMOUS LETTERS WILL BE ACCEPTED.**

Views expressed are not necessarily those of Highlands' Newspaper.

Please EMAIL letters by

Sunday at 5 p.m. There is a 500-word limit without prior approval.

## Highlands' Newspaper

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gal ones. Indeed, Tea Party members generally favor increased immigration quotas for skilled, educated, applicants, or those with sufficient capital to open businesses. The assertion that Tea Party members have "low regard" for blacks is beneath contempt and is yet another example of the Left's predilection to label anyone who opposes the Obama Administration as racist.

The Tea Party may contain members of the Religious Right, but social policy is no party of the Tea Party agenda, which is explicitly focused on economic policy, favors individual liberty, and opposes the increasing scope and sway of government.

John M. Capron  
Highlands

### A ridiculous, petty subject

Dear Editor,

It baffles me why Highlands merchants could honestly perceive us crafters as a threat for only four days in a whole year. I suppose we should be flattered!

The income potential we bring in far exceeds any threat and provides more than enough to go around.

Those attending our shows cannot possibly spend a whole day wandering around in the small park and so, to make the trip worthwhile, they continue their wandering downtown where they shop and buy food.

Along with local merchants, crafters draw repeat customers and their friends which adds to the economy. Our customers repeatedly comment on how they will or already have been downtown.

In reality, merchants should be thanking us for even being there and bringing in more business for them.

Thank you for allowing us to comment on what is an utterly ridiculous and petty subject.

Clyde and Maranee Bowen  
"Art 'N Iron"

### MC Commission wasted valuable resource

Dear Editor,

The North Carolina geological survey landslide hazard map prepared for Macon

• See LETTERS page 10

## • OBITUARIES •

### Arlene Louise Pezzoli Moore

Arlene Louise Pezzoli Moore, age 72, of Cullowhee, NC and Marco Island, FL, died Wednesday, September 14, 2011 at her residence. She was a native of New Bedford, MA, the daughter of the late Delmo P. Pezzoli and Flora Broggi Pezzoli. She was a school secretary at Tommie Barfield Elementary, and was a member of Our Lady of the Mountains Catholic Church in Highlands, NC and San Marco Catholic Church in Marco Island, FL.

She is survived by her husband of 50 years, Leonard Lewis Moore; two daughters, Sharon Elizabeth Ringo and husband Donald of Naples, FL and Diane Marie Jerrett and husband James of Marco Island, FL; one son, Leonard Lewis Moore, Jr. of Bonita Springs, FL; one brother, Edward Pezzoli of Bedford, MA; six



grandchildren, Anthony Michael Piccirilli, Jake Lewis Jerrett, Angela Marie Piccirilli, Alex James Jerrett, Emma Rose Ringo, and Elizabeth Anne Ringo.

Funeral services were held Saturday, September 17th at 11 am at Our Lady of the Mountains Catholic Church in Highlands,

NC with Father Dean Cesa officiating.

Memorials may be made to Tommie Barfield Elementary Art Program, 101 Kirkwood St., Marco Island, FL 34145 or Graceworks, 6037 Westpot Ln., Naples, FL 34116.

Bryant-Grant Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Online condolences may be made at [www.bryantgrantfuneralhome.com](http://www.bryantgrantfuneralhome.com).

### Frank Heyworth Baker, Jr.

Frank Heyworth Baker, Jr., 76, of Franklin, NC died Tuesday, September 13, 2011 at his residence. Born in Baltimore, MD, he was the son of the late Frank and Viola Gaston Baker. Frank had lived in Macon County for eighteen years and was a painter in construction; a veteran of the United States Air Force; a loving father, husband and grandfather and was of the Methodist faith.

He is survived by his wife of forty seven years, Charlotte Hook Baker; five daughters, Dorothy Baker of Cashiers, NC, Sheila Hopkins of Easley, SC, Terri Tew of Poquoson, VA, Vicki Taliaferro of Cashiers, NC and Kristine Newman of Tampa, FL; one son, Frank Baker of Cashiers, NC; one sister, Marion Petters of Mooresville, NC and one brother, Dale Kelly of Baltimore, MD. A number of grandchildren and great-grandchildren also survive.

No funeral services are planned at this time. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to your local

animal shelter. Bryant-Grant Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Online condolences may be made at [www.bryantgrantfuneralhome.com](http://www.bryantgrantfuneralhome.com).

• See DEATH NOTICE page 11

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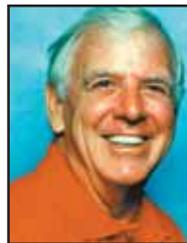
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## • LAUGHING AT LIFE •

### Mirror, mirror on the wall who's the slowest of them all?

A little circus music, please 'cause this is all too incredible to believe. First off, remember when a giant chunk of rock fell at Bridal Veil Falls and stayed there under the falls forever and a day while the US Forest Service did a study on why it happened? Of course, removing the boulder was out of the question because, first, they had to figure out why it fell. Second, they had to figure out what to do about it and, third, they had to figure out what to do about it. On Mars, they would have removed the rock immediately.

Finally, local contractor Bill Nellis got fed up, blew the damn thing up, hauled it away and became our town hero. The Forest Service is still scratching its head and looking for the rock. A year after that clean-up, our wonderful government finished its study and determined the cause of the fail-



Fred Wooldridge

Feedback is encouraged!  
askfredanything@aol.com

ure. A little drum roll and turn up the circus music. The rock fell because of... gravity.

And I'm sure you remember the government renovation of Dry Falls that took umpteen years to complete. Lest you forget, they weren't rerouting the falls or building

the tallest building in the world or anything spectacular like that, they were enlarging the parking lot and building an outhouse. HELLO...a parking lot and pit toilets.

Then Mayor Don Mullen was about to have an apoplexy over how slow the project was moving. It was affecting tourism. Well, it finally was completed and now I'm told the outhouse is so disgusting, you can't get within 10 feet of the building; once again, your government in action. Build it but don't maintain it. Fortunately, the contractor didn't mess with the falls and it's still beautiful. But go down there and give the parking lot a sniff.

Moving on to current events, many of you are aware I have snitches in and

• See WOOLDRIDGE page 21

## • Highlands Fine Dining •

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## • THE VIEW FROM HERE •

### Cherish your friends while you still can

Arthur C. Aufderheide, MD was once the subject of a feature article in the "New Yorker." I've known Art for 40 years. He's one of the best friends a guy could have.

We rode bikes together in Duluth, where he pointed out the marsh marigold, one of the first spring plants to challenge the Minnesota winter.

In 1976, we traveled together to Ireland where we toured the country by bicycle. We weren't part of a cycling club. There was no sag wagon to carry our clothes, repair our flat tires, and ferry us, if necessary, to the next destination. In fact, we had no set itinerary. We traveled with a rough map, drawn by an Irish immigrant friend of Art's. It directed us through what he recalled as the most beautiful spots in his native land.

I was acutely aware of the need to minimize weight and had condensed my possessions into two small bags which straddled the rear wheel. Art's bike, on the other hand, looked more like a tinker's wagon. In addition to saddle bags, Art had stacked various indispensable items on a frame over his rear wheel. He carried a book, three or four inches thick, which listed all the "bed and breakfasts" in the Irish Republic. It was not until the sun sank low at the end of a long Irish summer day that we would pause, check a road sign for a village in our path, and fetch the Bible of Irish Bed and Breakfast, locate an inn, and race the fading light.

After a few days I persuaded him to discard the pages of places we already visited and those which didn't lie ahead of us. It pained Art, who loves books, to rip out precious pages and throw them away. It was a wonderful trip. I learned that Art was a member of the first snow mobile expedition to reach the North Pole. In addition to other duties, he served as photographer for the team. He told me every photographer dreamed that one of his pictures might appear on the cover of Life magazine.

In June 1968, one of his polar pictures was scheduled to grace the cover. After the assassination of Senator Robert Kennedy, that issue was scrapped. A por-



**Dr. Henry Salzarulo**

Feedback is encouraged.  
email:

hsalzarulo@aol.com

trait of Kennedy was chosen instead. His picture never appeared on the US edition. In those days the European edition was published one day before the American, just enough difference that he made the European cover.

Art has been active in retirement. He became a full professor in both Pathology and Anthropology at the University of Minnesota, Duluth. He used a new technique on a tissue sample from a pre-Columbian Chilean mummy to dis-

prove the claim that Europeans had introduced tuberculosis to the Western hemisphere. He succeeded in retrieving and replicating tuberculosis DNA from the mummy's lung tissue. The finding excited Art as much as it angered those who believe European influence is the root of all evil. Few people realize that mummification occurs naturally under various conditions or that mummies have been found in nearly every continent. Probably even fewer care. Art, a father in the area of mummy research, a field which came to be known as paleopathology, cares a great deal. He has traveled the globe from the Andes to the Alps, to Scandinavia and beyond when called to examine a newly discovered mummy.

A few years ago I asked Art if he was still going on digs. He answered the shelves in his lab harbored some 7,000 unexamined tissue samples, enough to keep him busy for the rest of his life.

Last week I called Art. Bull's ninth grade history class was studying the Iceman of the Alps, a hunter who died and was trapped in a glacier 5,000 years ago. I suspected Dr. Aufderheide might know more than the text.

Art talked with, or should I say, lectured Bull for a long time. After a time Bull's brain was reeling with information overload and he signaled me to take the phone. I asked Art if he still teaches. He said he'd retired at age 87. He'd become a bit hard of hearing and reluctantly added that he suffered an occasional "senior moment;" not bad for 89.

The lives of friends, unlike mummies should be celebrated while they are alive. Thanks for your friendship and thanks for sharing both your knowledge and, more importantly, your wisdom.

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<b>Tue</b>	Oven off Night - 2 fresh <b>chicken</b> breasts, grilled with rosemary infused olive oil, served on a bed of mixed greens with spicy-sweet pecans, Ariston Balsamic Oil and Vinegar on the side, and two cups of house made gazpacho, stuffed brie and a french baguette.	<b>20.95</b>
<b>Thu</b>	Baby Back <b>Ribs</b> - cooked fall-off-the-bone-tender. Served with house made bacon/apple baked beans, and potato salad.	<b>22.95</b>
<b>Fri</b>	Properly Fried <b>Shrimp</b> - Wild caught large shrimp, lightly breaded in our seasoned corn flour mixture, and then properly fried in peanut oil. Served with hush puppies, cole slaw and rosemary sea salt broiled red potatoes, tarter and cocktail sauce.	<b>24.95</b>
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# Eateries



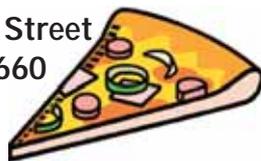
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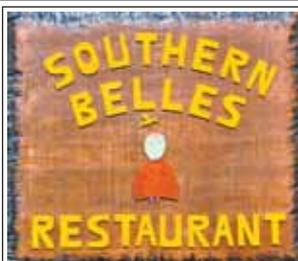
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## ....SLOPES continued from page 1

the Slope Development Ordinance are glad it's been tabled – saying regulations will stymie the construction business. Those who are for conservation in the form of some kind of regulations are angry and disheartened.

Tuesday night Mark Herstik who lives on Gold Mine Road used Duke's recent actions both on his property and on adjacent property as a way to breach the subject of slope development regulations.

He said Duke's use of herbicides to "maintain" its right-of-way has denuded a 40-degree hillside of all vegetation.

"What do you think is going to happen?" he asked commissioners. "We are just lucky that we haven't gotten double-digit rainfall. Rules and regulations are for the safety of people and yet we have people with ideologies against steep slope regulations calling the shots."

He told the board if there aren't laws on the books to protect citizens then it's simply because the board doesn't want them on the books. He asked each commissioner if they had signed a pledge of some kind or made a promise to a group which has kept them from doing what is right. They all said no.

## ...SILVER EAGLE continued from page 1

location at 370 Main Street.

Ward said the reason it's a problem now, is because of the size of the sign versus the store front. The current sign is 16 feet 2 inches and a sign 9.5 feet 2 inches is allowed on the 19-foot storefront.

Nelson's contention is two-fold – bringing the sign into compliance will mean cutting off the eagle and mountains which she considers an artwork-frame; furthermore, she says there are other merchants in town with signs that are too big for their storefronts so why is Silver Eagle being signaled out?

"We think the enforcement of the sign ordinance is arbitrarily being enforced and believe we have been unfairly held to a different standard for a reason we can't understand," she read into the record. "How is the enforcement of the code specifically for Silver Eagle while allowing other non-compliant signs to remain, constitutional-

Herstik's complaint is specifically with Duke but he said without the backing of the Macon County Commission via an ordinance or regulations, his only recourse with Duke is a civil action.

"This is a moral issue," he said. "Six people died and people lost money during the Peek's Creek tragedy."

He named about 20 people he called from the local level to the state level and even at the federal level and when they learned he was a resident of Macon County he said they literally laughed at him. "They said, 'Macon County hates environmentalists,'" he said.

Meanwhile, commissioners took the construction standards under advisement and will decide how much of them they want to use, if at all.

The recommendations are:

The area to be excavated or upon which fill is to be placed shall be stripped and grubbed and all organic material shall be removed from that area;

For cut slopes between 8 and 30 feet in vertical height, the maximum allowable slope is 1.0 vertical to 1.5 horizontal (1.5:1);

For fill slopes between 5 and 30 feet in

ly appropriate?"

As it turns out, Scudders Gallery and The Stone Lantern signs are also out of compliance and have been since 1997. New sign stipulations were enacted in 1990 and everyone was given seven years to come into compliance. Those two haven't.

"The town drastically reduced the size of signs in 1990, but people were given a grace period; we are working with them," said Ward.

Nelson received a Notice of Violation from the town concerning her sign and was told to submit a permanent sign application for 370 Main Street. She did, but the application was denied basically because it was a duplicate of the sign specs Silver Eagle has maintained since at the Mountain Brook Center – specs now out of compliance for the current location.

The town maintained that the continued display of the sign constitutes a civil

vertical height, the maximum allowable slope is 1.0 vertical to 2.0 horizontal (2.0:1);

The land disturbing activity shall not contain any graded or structurally stabilized slope in excess of 30 feet in vertical height in cut areas and 30 feet in vertical height in the fill areas;

Structural fill material must be placed in lifts not greater than 8 inches in thickness, and compacted to a minimum of 92% standard proctor density. The compaction will be verified at the discretion of the administrator;

A minimum 10-foot wide bench shall be constructed into the natural slope at the toe of the fill. One additional 5-foot wide bench shall be cut into the natural slope for every 10-foot increase in vertical height;

And finally, the requirements may be modified by a design professional in the related field provided acceptable technical justification is submitted to the administrator.

The administrator is the person appointed by the MC Dept. of Planning, Permitting and Development to determine the category of slope and other slope related duties or a duly appointed designee of said department.

– **Kim Lewicki**

penalty. The first citation is \$30, the second, \$60, the third \$120 and the fourth \$240.

Nelson cited the Bags on Main sign which is on an awning but learned the awning isn't considered the sign, only the words are, so the "sign" is measured from the "B" in Bags to the "N" in Main which makes the sign in compliance.

Zoning Board member Charlie Dasher voted against upholding Ward's ruling saying the sign is good looking and he could see no benefit in cutting off the eagle or the mountains to bring it into compliance.

"I think Silver Eagle is being arbitrarily targeted by competition and we shouldn't be reacting to this – it's a non-issue," he said.

Dasher suggested the artwork around the words was a frame and shouldn't count in the sq. footage just as an awning constitutes a frame of sorts.

But Zoning Chairman Tony Potts said according to the definition in the ordinance, artwork is incorporated as part of the sign.

In the end, they upheld Ward's decision and denied the Nelsons' appeal.

Potts said the Nelsons had three options: they could file for a variance from the Zoning Board, appeal the board's decision in Superior Court or lobby the town to change its sign ordinance. – **KL**

## Larry Rogers

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# • COACH'S CORNER •

## Random thoughts on weekend football

So, according to my wife I watched entirely too much football this weekend. (Which is certainly true, and I earned myself a year of diaper duty because of my football addiction) However, seeing as that I watched a ton of football this weekend, I had to have gained some knowledge on the subject.



Ryan Potts  
tryanpotts@hotmail.com

#1 Oklahoma showed that it has quite a bit of defense to go along with Landry Jones and their high powered offense. Coming in, I thought that FSU would be able to move the ball effectively, but both teams struggled to move the ball.

My number one team in the nation right now would be the LSU Tigers. Two wins over top 25 teams should make believers out of anyone, but to watch the Tigers is to appreciate their style. They have a swarming defense full of Louisiana Swamp Beasts, and that defense is terrifyingly deep as well. Add in a punishing running game and the Les Miles madness that we have all come to know and love and it adds up to a BCS frontrunner.

Will Muschamp may not have made his mark on the Florida program just yet, but his stamp can certainly be seen on the defensive side of the ball for the Gators. Florida held a high powered Tennessee attack to under 300 yards on Saturday and eliminated the running game for the Vols entirely. I'm still not sure that UF is ready for prime time just yet - they are still way too dependent upon one or two offensive players, and a team like Alabama or South Carolina will choke off those primary options.

I know I am a homer, but for all the talk about Tom Brady and Aaron Rodgers, people have already started overlooking how terrific Drew Brees is. Case in point - the Saints were pinned deep in their own end on Sunday and the Bears D-Line was not fooled by a play-action fake. With the rush bearing down, Brees calmly made a sneaky shoulder swing, stepped up in the pocket and got the pass off to avoid a safety. Plays like this often go overlooked, but that mobility is one of the things that makes Brees a part of the conversation about the top QB in the

NFL.

Go figure... the Bills and Redskins are both 2-0 after many had written them off before the season even started. Another 2-0 team that is not as surprising is the Detroit Lions, but I don't think anyone expected them to win two blowouts in two games. As long as Stafford stays healthy to buoy the offense, that defense is going to keep

the Lions in a lot of games.

And finally, the award for toughest performance of the weekend is an easy one... and no it is not Tony Romo playing with a broken rib (although that is definitely tough). The award for toughest performance goes to my wife, who dominated the delivery room and delivered our new daughter, Alexis, after 22 hours of labor. She is certainly the MVP of this household!

on this day ...

Sept 21, 1745

**Battle of Prestopans. A Hanoverian army under the command of Sir John Cope is defeated after a 10-minute-long battle by the Jacobite forces of Prince Charles Stuart.**

If you were wondering about the Battle of Prestopans and who was on the list of "Also rans."

the question comes up, "How well did the Germans cope?" Well enough? The answer has to be "Nope."

I think if you're in it to win it, you might tough it out for one more minute.

But really, your average Scot in battle can be pretty hot, and I may be prejudiced but I think that few are able to best a riled up Stuart.

— from The History Guy

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One egg, any style	1.99
Toast	1.99
Biscuit	1.99
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# • SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING •

## Remember to love ... it all



**Pastor Paul Christy**  
Highlands United Methodist  
Church

Don't we live in a beautiful part of the world? It seems I say that over and over but the truth of the matter is we do! And with Fall upon us we will get to see the tapestry of the beauty of God's creation up close and personal with the changing of the color of the trees and mountains.

We will have people coming from near and far to see where we call home and they will come and marvel at the beauty of these mountains. So take a moment and stop to take a good long look at the different colors, the beauty of the waterfalls, and take a walk on one of the many trails. In other words, we need to take a moment to understand why all these people want to come here on the weekends.

But that's not all I want to say this week because as always I want to share a simple story with you and hope that it brings a point for all of us to remember this week. This story takes place in a very special place for me a place called camp Grace.

Camp Grace is a camp that I have been involved with for about 29 years. It's a camp especially for Special Needs adults. He or she comes to camp for the weekend and is paired with a special friend who is with them the whole weekend. They get to enjoy things like canoeing, zip line rides, nature hikes and dancing.

I want to tell you about my friend Alice. Alice has been at camp for the last 10 years and she always enjoys camp. She always wants to read the scripture on Sunday morning worship service — that is just her thing.

This year Alice came as she normally did, but this year not only did Alice want to talk to me on Saturday about worship on Sunday morning but she wanted to share with me why worship is important to her.

We sat in the rocking chairs on the porch of the dining hall and Alice a 60-year-old special needs woman said: "Paul I want to read some scripture this weekend on love because the way I see the world now, we need to hear more about loving each other. People just don't get it, do they Paul? It is about loving that we see God, it is about loving each other that we see the best in each other, and it is showing love that we can change the world." I tried to say "yes" to Alice, but she continued "I know you think you're a preacher Paul, but if you don't tell people to love their families, love their homes, love their friends and love the trees and the stars and your feet, then you are not much of a preacher."

I said thank you Alice and she left and read the scripture about love on Sunday and she did a good job but I thought about that holy conversation I had with my friend Alice because I think she has something to say to each of us — love each other, your friends and yes, even the trees.

As we see the colors change this month and particularly in October, remember to love. And my hope is that we remember that we have a God who loves us enough to paint and weave a beautiful tapestry called Fall.

John 3:16

# • PLACES TO WORSHIP •

Proverbs 3:5

### 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  
Sundays: 10 a.m. – Worship  
Holy Communion 1st Sunday of the month  
Wednesdays: 9 a.m. Healing and Prayer w/Holy Communion

### CHRIST ANGLICAN CHURCH

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Sun.: Holy Communion - 9 a.m.; Adult Forum - 10:45 at Buck's Coffee  
Cafe, Cashiers  
Mon.: Bible Study & Supper at homes - 6 p.m.  
Wed.: Men's Bible Study - 8:30 a.m., First Baptist Church  
Thurs.: Women's Prayer Group - 10 a.m., Whiteside Presbyterian Church;  
Healing Service at noon

### CHRISTIAN SCIENCE SERVICE

Third and Spring Streets  
Sundays: Service, 11 a.m.  
Monthly testimonial: 5 p.m. on the 3rd Wed.

### CLEAR CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Jim Kinard  
Sundays: School – 10 a.m.; Worship – 11  
Wednesdays -- 7 p.m.

### COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH

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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. HS  
Wed.: 6pm: CBC University Program

### EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE INCARNATION

526-2968 • Reverend Denson Franklin  
Sunday: Holy Eucharist Rite, 8 a.m., Breakfast; 8:30-9:30 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; Bible Study 10:30 a.m. Reverend  
Howard L'Enfant

Thursday: 10 a.m. Holy Eucharist (Chapel)

### FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Dr. Charles Harris, Pastor • 526-4153  
Sun.: Worship 10:45 a.m.; School – 9:30 a.m.; Evening Worship 6:30  
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  
Wednesdays – Choir – 7

### GOLDMINE BAPTIST CHURCH

(Off Franklin/Highlands Rd)  
Rev. Carson Gibson  
Sunday School – 10 am  
Worship Service – 11 am  
Bible Study – 6 pm

### HIGHLANDS ASSEMBLY OF GOD

Pastor, Randy Reed – 165 S. Sixth Street  
828-421-9172  
Sundays: Worship – 11

### HIGHLANDS CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Dan Robinson  
670 N. Fourth Street (next to the Highlands Civic Center)  
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.; Worship 8:30 & 10:50 a.; Youth 5 p.  
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

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Pastor Roy Lowe, (828) 526-8425  
Sundays: School – 10 a.m.; Worship – 11  
Choir – 6 p.m.

Wed: Bible Study and Youth Mtg. – 7 p.m.

### MOUNTAIN SYNAGOGUE

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828-369-9270 or 828-293-5197

### MOUNTAIN BIBLE CHURCH

Pastor: Clayton Lopez • 828-742-2583  
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(4.5 miles from NC 107)  
Weds: Bible Study 6:30 p.m.; Youth Group 6 p.m.

### OUR LADY OF THE MOUNTAINS CATHOLIC CHURCH

Rev. Dean Cesa, pastor – Parish office: 526-2418  
Mass: – Sun: 11 a.m.; Sat: 4 p.m.; Thurs & Fri.: 9 a.

### 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 • 526-3212  
Sundays: School – 10 a.m.; Worship – 10:45 a.m.; Worship – 6 p.m.  
Wed: Adult Bible Study & Youth – 7 p.m.

### SHORTOFF BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Rev. Andy Cloer.  
Sundays: School – 10 a.m.; Worship – 11  
Wednesdays: Prayer & Bible Study – 7

### UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP

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Religious Education - 11 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.  
Youth 8th - 12th grades meet the 2nd Sundays 5 - 7:30 p.m.

### WHITESIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Cashiers, Rev. Sam Forrester, 743-2122  
Sundays: School – 10 a.m.; Worship – 11

# • CONSERVATIVE POV

## The storm before the calm

Among the multitude of emails I received the other day was one sent by a fellow, unknown to me other than that he is seriously conservative. His newsletter listed two items – (1) The Frankfurt School: the plot to Softly Destroy the West; and (2) George Soros' Plan to Softly Destroy the Dollar. Never having heard of the Frankfurt School, I was interested enough to start going through it. After about 15 minutes of plowing, I realized I was intellectually unequipped to go farther, and there was a good deal farther to go.

It started out innocent enough, and I'll quote the first few paragraphs to give you an idea of where it goes.

"The people of North America and Western Europe now accept a level of ugliness in their daily lives which is almost without precedent in the history of Western civilization. Most of us have become so inured, that the death of millions from starvation and disease draws from us no ore than a sigh, or a murmur of protest. Our own city streets, home to legions of the homeless, are ruled by Dope, Inc., the largest industry in the world.

At the same time, a thousand smaller horrors are so commonplace as to go

unnoticed. Our children spend as much time sitting in front of the television sets as they do in school, watching with glee, scenes of torture and death which might have shocked an audience in the Roman Coliseum.

Music everywhere, almost unavoidable – but it does not uplift, nor even tranquilize – it claws at the ears, sometimes spitting out obscenities. Our plastic arts are ugly (?), our architecture is ugly, our clothes are ugly. There have been certain periods in history where mankind has lived through similar kinds of brutishness, but our time is crucially different.

Our post-World War II era is the first in history in which these horrors are completely avoidable. Our time is the first to have the technology and resources to feed, house, educate and humanly employ every person on earth, no matter what the growth of population. Yet, when



**Don Swanson**  
Feedback is encouraged. Email [swansonson@dnet.net](mailto:swansonson@dnet.net)

shown the ideas and proven technologies that can solve the most horrendous problems, most people retreat into implacable passivity. We have not only become ugly, but impotent."

So begins the treatise. Someone else must have taken over from there because the narrative gets very elevated and I could only grasp a limited amount of what was written. The piece goes on to explain how and why we

have reached this point. To be very brief, it is the continuum of Marxist thought from the conclusion of the renaissance to the present. I know Marx wasn't born for hundreds of years after the renaissance, but ideas similar to his originated long before he became the poster boy of Communism.

The Frankfurt School is not bricks and mortar. As I understand it, it is a school of thought that says anytime capitalism is the economic policy of a nation

it must be attacked, but softly. Evidently softly means slowly, insidiously, until the common people reach the point of dissatisfaction that they take to the streets. An environment of doom, gloom and hope-

• See SWANSON page 21

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## ...LETTERS continued from page 2

County is a valuable resource for our county planners, citizens and property owners. The considerable cost developing this resource has been borne by the taxpayers of North Carolina. The Macon County planning Board has spent extensive time and effort reviewing the information and discussing how it could be used.

The development of this map utilizes considerable fieldwork and data collection on the ground by North Carolina geological survey geologist with over 60 days "on the ground effort." Over 600 locations were investigated in that aspect of the study. Serial aerial orthophotography reviewing studies from the years 1954, 1953, 1998, 2005 were included in this investigation. Light detecting and ranging digital elevation data (LiDAR) was utilized to develop a base map for on site data to be embedded upon. This combination is the best available mapping technology on a countywide scale, even in comparison to existing topographical maps and digital elevation maps.

Stability Index Mapping information is useful in showing where landslides and the resulting debris flow would more likely occur. Data from existing soil survey maps of the Macon County were also utilized to calibrate Stability Index Maps according to where slope disturbances have already happened in the past. It took over \$500,000 in taxpayer funding and nearly a year to accomplish this project.

In a recent survey, the majority of Macon County residents believe data like this could help mitigate hazardous situations and should be utilized in some format.

A minority of property owners believe this could interfere with future development and property values.

With the considerable funding, work

and effort used to develop these maps, it would be a shame not to utilize them in a useful manner.

It appears that our county has decided to shelve this study. That sounds very much like big government at the federal level instead of a common sense approach that our county officials could represent.

Tom Harris  
Franklin, NC

## Happy Trails, Bill!

Dear Editor,

It is with great sadness that upon my return to Highlands I have learned of a great loss in our community. My favorite hiking buddy, Bill Crosby, has passed, but he has left a great legacy.

Bill loved the trails of Highlands and it was an honor and joy to hike with him. He loved the sounds and sights of nature, but his real legacy was the way that he treated all that he met. Bill was a gentleman to all and always had a kind word for fellow hikers. He will be greatly missed. Happy trails Bill!

Ron and Pat Ovarlet  
Highlands/Tampa

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## • DEATH NOTICE •

### Burke Allen Miller

Burke Allen Miller, 54 and previously of Franklin, NC, went to be with Jesus on Saturday, September 17, 2011. A memorial service will be held on Saturday, September 25, 2011 in Naples, FL.

There will be a Celebration of Burke's life held locally in early October.

A full obituary will be in this newspaper next week with more information about the local Service and for contributions to a college fund for his four grandchildren in lieu of flowers.

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## Real Estate....Is this the right time...

To sell?...the answer lies in the motivation of each seller. There are numerous reasons for people to put their property on the market. In Highlands it seems that for many, the time has come and gone for enjoying a home in the mountains, often due to health reasons, aging or lifestyle changes.

Another good reason is the desire to either scale down to a smaller home or families have grown and there is a need for a larger home. Sometimes it is for financial reasons.

I am constantly being asked the question, "When is this market going to turn around?" I wish I had a crystal ball. It took a lot of years of an inflationary market to get to where we are today. It is obviously not turning around quickly. The current condition of our country has a long way to go.

The Fed thinks keeping interest rates down will help increase the housing market. It is not working thus far. A large

reason is that those who qualify for a mortgage today are the very ones who



**Lynn W. Kimball**  
Signature Properties  
Owner/Broker

don't need a loan to purchase a home. I have finally come to the conclusion that it could be 5 or 10 years before we see a big change for the better. I am holding out great hope that I am wrong.

I am still telling clients that this is not a good time to sell based on the low prices, but time is clicking by and some do not have 5 to 10 years to wait.

If selling is something that needs to happen, then properties need to be offered at the lowest end of their competition in order to get buyers to look at them.

Although it is a good sign that there has been an increase in real estate sales in Highlands over the past three months, there are still too many available properties and too few buyers to meet the demand.

Those who are selling are selling low, so we need to remember that buyers who are willing to step out in these uncertain times are expecting a bargain. If one seller isn't willing to come down, then buyers will find another seller who will.

There is a huge light at the end of the tunnel for those who wish to sell in order to purchase another property. For those, this is a PERFECT TIME TO SELL because of the apples to apples effect. You can sell low and buy low and it all comes out in the wash.

To buy?...another benefit to this market is there are so many wonderful opportunities out there for those who can buy real estate today. People are making deals from 30% to 50% less than three years ago. Those who have always wanted to have a second home or a primary residence in God's country, now have a golden opportunity.

For those who have IRAs and 401Ks, they can be borrowed against or in some cases it's even worth cashing them in and paying a penalty. In time, appreciation possibilities look a whole lot better than interest rates on CDs or Treasury Bills. Not to mention the schizophrenic trends of the stock market. And the best is that you can start enjoying that home right now.

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# Highlands Area Upcoming Events


**PULL OUT**

## Daily

• CORE classes at Mountain Fitness on Carolina Way. Tues., Thurs., Sat., 9:30; Mon., Wed., Thurs., 5:15. \$10 per class or ask about specials. Call 526-9083. (st. 6/9)

## Mon-Fri

• The Nantahala Tennis Club meets at the Rec Park at 9 a.m. All are welcome.

## Mon., Wed. & 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.; 7:30 a.m. Wednesday. Bring your mat. 828-482-2128. \$10/hour. (9/29)

## Mon., Wed., Fri.

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

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

## Mondays

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

• Monday Madness at Fressers Eatery in Historic Helen's Barn. \$5 burgers, \$1 off beers all day.

## 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.

## 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 am.

• Men's interdenominational Bible Study at 8:30 a.m. at First Baptist Church.

• The Homegrown Buds, a homeschool 4-H club, meets at noon at the Macon County Library on Siler Road in Franklin at 1 p.m.

## Wednesdays & Fridays

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

## Every 3rd Wednesday

• Study sessions at the Universal 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 706-746-9964.

## Thursdays

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

• The Highlands Writers Group meets at 1 p.m. at the Hudson Library on Thursdays. Free writing exercises. Bring a seven-minute writing piece to read. Newcomers are welcome. Call Anne Doggett at 526 8009.

• At the Highlands Nature Center, 6-7 p.m. through Labor Day, an exciting new program each week and they are free.

## Every Third Saturday

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

## Thursday, Sept. 22

• DANCE at the Franklin (NC) Community Building, Hwy 441 South-across from "Whistle Stop Mall" Thursday from 6:30 to 9 PM. Music by "SWINGTIME BAND." For more information Call 828-369-915

• DOT info session on semi-truck turnarounds from 4-7 p.m. at the Cullasaja Fire Dept. Four turnarounds are being considered.

• The Highlands Plateau Audubon Society will have a field trip to the Blue Ridge Parkway for fall migrants. We will return mid-afternoon so bring a light picnic lunch. Meet at the public parking area next to the town hall at 7 a.m. For additional information call Brock Hutchins at 828-787-1387.

• Eco Tour: Elk Excursion. Join Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust for an expedition to Cataloochee Valley. Learn about the elk reintroduction program, taught by elk specialists, and then enjoy free time to view the elk in their natural habitat. For information and to sign-up contact: Julie.hitrust@earthlink.net.

• Friends of Pantertown 2nd annual membership picnic and free public concert will be held from 5 - 8 p.m. at The Village Green in Cashiers, NC located at the crossroads of NC107 & US64. Live music and entertainment. Bring your own picnic supplies (basket, food, beverages, blanket, chairs, etc.), bring your friends and come on down to the Village Green to enjoy some great mountain music in a beautiful setting.

## Fri. & Sat., Sept. 23-24

• The North Carolina Missions of Mercy (NC-MOM) will be setting up shop on Friday and Saturday at the Jackson County Health Department in Sylva. NCMOM provides free dental care to those who cannot otherwise afford it on a first come-first served basis. Doors will open at 7 AM both days. The weekend is sponsored by the Blue Ridge Free Dental Clinic in Cashiers and the Jackson County Health Department.

## Friday, Sept. 23

• Laurel Garden Club Patron's Party for Tour of Kitchens at Rainwater, one of Highlands' glamorous mountain top estates, 6 to 8 PM. Tickets are \$125 each for the patrons' party. A limited number will be sold. Tickets can be purchased online from the club website [www.HighlandsLaurelGardenClub.com](http://www.HighlandsLaurelGardenClub.com), and by mail, at Laurel Garden Club, P.O. Box 142, Highlands, NC 28741. Call (828) 526-8334 for more information.

• Highlands Male Chorus with Angie Jenkins on the piano at PAC at 7:30 p.m. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. For tickets call 526-9047. A reception follows.

## Saturday, Sept. 24

• Laurel Garden Club of Highlands, North Carolina, is planning a Tour of Kitchens 9 to 5. Tickets are \$50 per person for the tour. A limited number will be sold. Tickets can be purchased online from the club website [www.HighlandsLaurelGardenClub.com](http://www.HighlandsLaurelGardenClub.com), and by mail, at Laurel Garden Club, P.O. Box 142, High-

• See EVENTS page 16

## Male Chorus performs Friday at PAC



"Put your glad rags on and join me hon." The Highlands Male Chorus performance with Joe Powell, guest conductor, on Friday night, 7:30 PM, Sept. 23, at the Performing Arts Center in Highlands will be an entertaining evening for all.

The show will include oldies from the '20s and '30s, rock and roll from the '50s, several barbershop favorites, and a taste of patriotic music. Best of all, a special unnamed guest will make his very first public appearance in Highlands.

The choir was formed in 2005 by Orville Wike, director, and Angie Jen-

kins, accompanist, under the auspices of the Performing Arts Center. Choir members live in Highlands, Cashiers, Sapphire, and Scaly Mountain. The group has performed an annual 4th of July patriotic concert for wall to wall crowds with overflow in the Presbyterian church lawn. They have also had one or two other concerts each year either in Highlands or Cashiers.

Tickets (\$12) can be purchased in advance by calling 526-9047 or can be purchased at the door. Doors open at 6:30 with the performance at 7:30.

## Homecoming at First Baptist Church Sun., Sept. 25



First Baptist Church, Highlands, will have their annual Homecoming, Sunday, Sept. 25<sup>th</sup>. Dr. Charles Harris, pastor, will be preaching a sermon entitled "The Supremacy of Christ." They will have a covered dish lunch after morning worship. They will be celebrating their 127<sup>th</sup> birthday. The public is invited, especially friends and former church members for a "Day of remembrance and celebration." For more info call the church office (826-526-4153).



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# Autumn Home Improvement

## Improve Your Home's Curb Appeal

(StatePoint) – Even if you aren't considering selling your home anytime soon, it's always a good idea to keep it looking great.

Seasonal upgrades can help you improve your home's curb appeal and make it the envy of the neighborhood. From landscaping to remodeling that increases energy efficiency, now is a great time to give your home a facelift.

There are several ways you can improve your home's exterior:

### Details Matter

Simple weekend jobs, like replacing or painting your front door in an eye-popping color, can give your home an instant update. If you decide to paint, look for a warm, inviting color that complements existing materials such as the siding, trim and other accessories. Don't be afraid to pick a bold color for the door. For example, rich red colors work well and a gloss or semi-gloss exterior paint



Seasonal upgrades can give your home a timely facelift.

works best.

### Crystal Clear

The easiest way to give your home a quick facelift is to clean your windows. The glass can be rinsed with plain water and cleaned with regular or ammonia-based glass cleaners. Use some elbow grease to make them sparkle. Then, clean the vinyl frame with a solution of mild soap and water.

You also should consider replacing your windows with ones that are more energy-efficient, which can help you save money on your energy bills. For example, an Alside Double-Hung Window with optional ClimaTech TG2 insulated glass is near-

ly 96 percent more energy-efficient than a standard double-paned unit, keeping you warmer in winter and cooler in summer. To learn more, visit [www.alside.com](http://www.alside.com).

### Landscaping Design

Landscaping is a great way to enhance your home's external appearance for a reasonable price and with minimum bother. Consider adding planters to both sides of the entrance-way. Use flowering plants and trees, or native perennials that do not need a lot of maintenance. Make sure to clear broken branches, twigs, or leaves from the yard. Trim shrubs and trees to freshen your home's appearance.

### "Green" Your Home

Many homeowners are familiar with Energy Star ratings on appliances, but are surprised to learn that insulated siding can also improve a home's energy performance. In fact, additions such as Alside's Prodigy insulated siding does this by creating a blanket of insulation around your home. And the siding looks like it's hand-crafted from wood and comes in a variety of traditional and bold colors — saving you money without sacrificing beauty.

Get started today on making your home more beautiful and energy-efficient. You and your wallet will be grateful you did.

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# Autumn Home Improvement

## Easy Tips To Upgrade Your Home



**Wide open spaces can evolve with your needs over time.**

(StatePoint) As the weather turns cooler, many Americans look to upgrade high-trafficked areas like the living room, bedroom and bathroom. But big projects can be daunting, not to mention burdensome on your pocketbook.

Fortunately, you don't have to go big to upgrade this season.

"Home renovations don't have to result in complete overhauls of your living spaces — and they certainly don't have to create major dents in your bank accounts," says David Shove-Brown, a member of the American Institute of Architects' Small Project Practitioners Committee.

"Thinking through how you live in those particular rooms is key to making fall improvement projects manageable," he adds. "From there, a natural game plan will emerge."

To help get you started, Shove-Brown offers some useful advice.

### Think Flexible Spaces

Whether you're a newly-married couple hoping to start a family or a senior citizen looking to age in place, consider creating open, flexible spaces that grow or evolve with your needs. For example, connecting the kitchen and living room into a single, large live-and-play area can help a family spend time together, even if engaged in separate activities. For older citizens, one large living area makes it easy to get around if mobility ever becomes limited.

### Create a Home Oasis

Is your definition of bliss reading a good book? Or maybe getting a spa treatment? Then consider some small changes to key rooms to create a new hang-

out space to unwind and relax at home.

For example, switching out your standard showerhead for a more powerful one and adding flex lighting can instantly transform a bathroom into a more relaxing, meditative environment. Or, install some bookshelves in your bedroom and add a cushioned window nook or comfortable couch to make the space just as cozy as your favorite corner coffee shop. **Take it Step by Step**

One of the most difficult things homeowners face when it comes to renovations is the desire to do everything at once. But by working with an architect,

you can create a plan for completing renovations that work with your timeline and budget.

There are also many small things homeowners can do themselves before bringing in a professional to finish the job. For example, buy raw materials like tiles or light fixtures and then ask a professional to install them. Shove-Brown says that an architect can help map out what you can first do on your own to ensure the job gets completed the right way.

If you can also remember to relax and get a little creative, you may even enjoy the overall process of dreaming up renovations!



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# Highlands Area Upcoming Events

## Internationally known artist to do sculpture demonstration



Painter-Sculptor, M L Carpenter will present "A Demonstration in Sculpture" on Monday, Sept. 26 for the Art League of Highlands. This will be held at PAC with a social beginning at 5 pm where participants will have a chance to "Meet the Artist," followed by the demonstration at 6.

Carpenter's recent move to the area is the fulfillment of a lifelong dream. "I have always wanted to live in place that has beautiful natural surroundings," said Carpenter, "and a wonderful community spirit. Highlands has both." A member of REACH, The Bascom, and the Mountain Garden Club, Carpenter also teaches art classes and conducts workshops in the area.

Well-known for her vibrant abstracts and equally adept in three dimensional mediums, Carpenter's work is fluid and sophisticated, reflecting her surroundings and emotional responses to life and nature. Shown and collected nationally and internationally, her work is featured in many major collections including Emory University, University of Alabama, the JFK Plaza lobby in New York, and the University of Kentucky Hospital in Lexington.

After studying sculpture in Italy in the 1980s, Carpenter brought home a love of seeing the clay or marble come to life in her hands. Be sure to attend this event and hear more about M L's journey and techniques, and meet others in the area who are interested in the arts. Guests are welcome at no charge. For information call Dottie Bruce at (828) 526-743-7673.

lands, NC 28741. Call (828) 526-8334 for more information.

- Highlands Farmer's Market in Kelsey-Hutchinson Park on Pine Street, 8-11 a.m. Homegrown and home-made.

- Pancake Breakfast is this Saturday 7:30-10:30 a.m. at the Old Scaly School house at the corner of Highway 106 and Buckknob Road in Scaly Mountain. The price is \$5.50 for adults and \$3.50 for children.

- The Nantahala Hiking Club will sponsor one or more short hikes appropriate for children to encourage family hiking. Look for hike details and how to sign up on [www.appalachiantrail.org/familyhike](http://www.appalachiantrail.org/familyhike).

- Mark your calendars to attend the Benefit Pancake Breakfast at Fatz Café to benefit Ladies Night Out Gap Services on Saturday from 7 - 10 a.m. \$7 per person. Tickets are available at Angel Medical Center and Macon County Public Health or can be purchased at the breakfast.

### Sunday, Sept. 25

- First Baptist Church, Highlands, has recently completed its renovation and landscaping project. The public is invited to their "Homecoming" Sunday. Dr. Charles Harris, Pastor, will be preaching a sermon entitled "The Supremacy of Christ." The morning worship will begin at 10:45. A covered dish lunch will be served following morning worship. Fellowship activities are being planned after lunch. Call First Baptist (828-526-4153) for more info.

- Coweeta Baptist Homecoming Service at 10:30 a.m. with covered dish to follow. No Sunday School.

### Monday, Sept. 26

- The Art League of Highlands will have their monthly meeting at PAC starting at 5PM with a social and followed by a sculpture demonstration at 6PM by noted artist M L Carpenter. Guests are welcome at no charge.

- Mirror Lake Improvement Association will meet at the Rec Park at 6 p.m.

### Tuesday, Sept. 27

- Town of Highlands Public Hearing on ETJ at the Rec Park at 7 p.m.

- HIARPT — "The New-Economy Movement" by Gar Alperovitz and "A New Grassroots Economy" by Sally, *The Nation*, pp. 20-25, June 13, 2011. Coordinator: Creighton Peden. For more information about the Highlands Dialogue or if you desire to be added to our mailing list, please e-mail John Gaston [johngaston@aol.com](mailto:johngaston@aol.com) or Karen Hawk [hwkncrw@earthlink.net](mailto:hwkncrw@earthlink.net).

- At the upcoming Ladies Night Out Program, the topic will be Ovarian/Cervical Cancer Awareness. Guest speaker will be Dr. Ashley Case, from Hope Women's Cancer Centers. Hope Women's Cancer Centers are dedicated to providing women with the best possible health care and specialize in gynecologic and breast cancer treatment. Also, you can sign up for the BCCCP program and, if you qualify, schedule a mammogram

for October 25, 2011 For more information about Ladies Night Out, please contact Dawn Wilde at (828)349-2426.

### Wed., Sept. 28

- Eco Tour: Elk Excursion Join Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust for an expedition to Cata-

loochee Valley. Learn about the elk reintroduction program, taught by elk specialists, and then enjoy free time to view the elk in their natural habitat. For information and to sign-up contact: [Julie.hitrust@earthlink.net](mailto:Julie.hitrust@earthlink.net) or (828) 526.1111.

## Fine craft art in The Bascom's Celebration! Art, Design, Craft Live Auction. Don't miss Christmas in October

Tickets are still available for The Bascom's annual auction-themed fundraiser, *Celebration!, Art, Design Craft* featuring a gala dinner and auction on Saturday, October 1 on The Bascom Terrace. This elegant affair features live and silent auctions of exquisite works of fine craft art. Just a sample of the items in this year's live auction are works from Sonja Blomdahl, Frank Fleming, Brian Boggs, Philip Moulthrop, Matt Moulthrop, the Gee's Bend Quilters and Charlie Lucas; art-themed trips to New Orleans, Point Clear, Alabama and Abaco in the Bahamas; and a "Mississippi" Hunt Supper for 10.

Featured during this year's live auction, "Touching a Heart Through Art", a paddle raise in support of the Bascom's goal of offering creative interactions with art and furthering the center's charitable and programming mission by donating to these enrichment activities geared to all ages and stages of learning!

Other upcoming activities at The Bascom:

In preparation for the The Bascom's popular Spooky Raku firing under the Halloween moon from 6-8 pm on Monday, October 31, Frank Vickery offers a course on Raku firing on Saturday, October 8, 15 and 22 from 10 am-12 noon. Students will be given a bag of clay to create pottery pieces for the Halloween Raku firing. Tuition for the course is \$100 Bascom members/\$125 non-members.

Mark your calendar! Christmas in October is almost here and The Shop at The Bascom is your perfect solution for finding a perfect, one-of-a-kind gift for everyone on your shopping list. Featuring quality, handmade, affordable pieces from regional artists and artists who have exhibited at The Bascom, Christmas in October at The Shop at The Bascom is your perfect solution to getting your gift shopping done early!

"Put your holiday gift shopping be-



George Beasley's site-specific Iron Pour installation and performance on Saturday, September 10, was a fascinating display of "fireworks" and artistry at The Bascom. For more information on The Bascom, visit [www.TheBascom.org](http://www.TheBascom.org) or call 828.526.4949.

hind you," said Leila Griffith, retail operations manager of The Shop at The Bascom. "People always want to get their Christmas shopping done early and The Bascom wants to make it easy and affordable with distinctive gifts."

The Bascom is now open year-round - Monday through Saturday, 10 am to 5 pm and Sunday, 12 noon to 5 pm. Enjoy workshops, exhibitions, special events and quality programs throughout the year at The Bascom. For more information, to register for Bascom workshop offerings or for more details on all Bascom activities, visit [www.TheBascom.org](http://www.TheBascom.org) or call 828.526.4949.

# CLE's 'Conversation with Sandra Mackey' – Palestine

Since February, all America has watched as the Arab world has roiled in the turmoil of political unrest and dramatic change. Now the Palestinians are going before the United Nations to ask for a declaration of statehood. The ramifications for the United States are enormous and

dangerous.

The Center for Life Enrichment (CLE), as part of its commitment to education in vital issues, invites the community to join Sandra Mackey for a conversation on the Palestinian petition to the United Nations. Ms. Mackey

is the author of six books on the culture and politics of the Middle East and is a sought after speaker on the issues of the region. Among the topics she will discuss with the audience is:

• See **MACKEY** page 20

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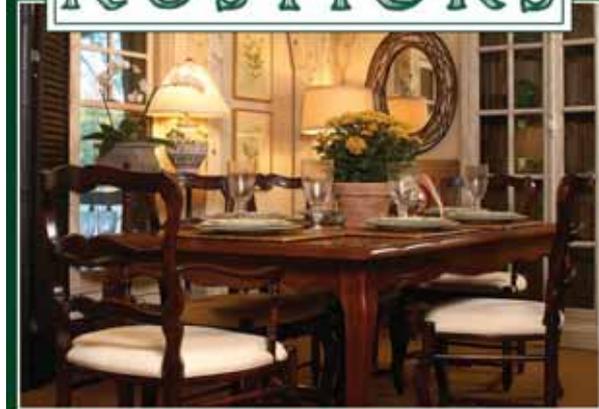
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# • HIGHLANDS SCHOOL SPORTS •

## The Highlanders -- Boys Varsity Soccer Team -- 2011



Andrew Renfro, Isaac Beavers, Cody St. Germain, Tyler Converse, Tim Fogle, Bryon Neumann, Clay Dunn, Clay Creighton, Dylon Tucker, Taylor Osteen, Temba Lama, Jake Shelton, Dax Lloyd, Felipe Ruiz, Ryan Vinson, Matt Rodriguez, Tyler Munger, Javier Montalvo, Philip Murphy, Kenan Lewis, Jacob McElroy. Not pictured is Jacob McElroy.  
Head Coach: Chris Green,  
Assistant Coach: Jesse Munger

## Highlanders romp over rival Blue Ridge

By Ryan Potts

The Highlands High School soccer team hosted Blue Ridge on Monday evening in what is the second conference matchup of the season for the Highlanders.

Highlands wasted no time jumping on Blue Ridge early, getting a goal from Temba Lama early in the first half. Unfortunately for the Bobcats, Lama was just getting going, as he ultimately provided three more goals for the Highlanders en route to what was a dominating 6-0 victory.

Philip Murphy and Tyler Converse both added goals for the Highlanders to round out the scoring. Highlander coach Chris Green was pleased with his team's performance on what was a foggy Monday evening. "We could have had a bit of a letdown with it being Monday and the weather being what it was," said Green, "but we were able to come out and possess the ball early and Temba was able to do a good job finishing for us."

The Highlanders will travel to Swain on Wednesday to face the Maroon Devils in another Smoky Mountain Conference matchup. The next home game for the Highlanders is next Wednesday, when the Highlanders will host conference rival Hayesville in what will be a crucial matchup in the SMC race.

## Intersession Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test (PSAT) at Highlands School

October 10-12 8am-11:30am  
Science Annex of Highlands School  
(Mrs. Holt's room)

Cost \$15

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October 10<sup>th</sup>:

Verbal Practice, Test Taking Strategies

October 11<sup>th</sup>:

Math Practice, Test Anxiety Workshop

October 12<sup>th</sup>:

Test Administration

NOTE:

Open to Highlands High School  
(9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> grade) students until Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup>  
then remaining seats will be open to  
Homeschool Students.

Homeschool kids will need to call the school for availability starting Sept 26<sup>th</sup>.  
They need to attend all 3 days.



## Celebration!

● Art ▲ Design ■ Craft

Friday, September 30

"Motown in the Mountains" Party  
The Terrace at The Bascom  
"Sensational Sounds of Motown"  
Cashiers Farmers Market BBQ  
Tools in Motion Exhibition Opening

Saturday, October 1

Celebration! Auction Gala and Dinner  
The Terrace at The Bascom  
Live and silent auction



The Bascom hosts the 2011 Celebration! Exhibitions, Seminars and Events



## ... HEALTHY continued from page 1

on their own computer at home.

One is a risk assessment test and the other is a healthy living module. Both must be completed by Nov. 30, 2011.

The other two components of the four-prong program is an annual physical with their provider and then preventive screenings that are age/gender appropriate, both due by January 31, 2012.

The disincentive for employees not participating or not completing the tests on time, could be paying 20% of the insurance premium the town now pays for them – not to exceed \$100 a month.

Though the board agreed unanimously to participate in the Wellness Program the incentive/disincentive component was not set.

• During the public comment period Lynn deVillie read a statement into the record requesting the board to formulate a policy regarding use of public spaces in town.

“Since these properties were partially purchased and maintained with Highlands in-

come taxes, I am of the opinion that it is inappropriate for these properties to be used by outside groups or individuals for commercial or profit-making purposes – especially when these activities have the potential of infringing upon the livelihoods of the very people paying the taxes,” she said.

Mayor David Wilkes said the business committee, of which he and deVillie are members, had discussed the issue and requested that parameters be set concerning the use of Highlands public spaces.

Commissioner Amy Patterson reminded the board that those parameters have already been set and are in the possession of Recreation Director Selwyn Chalker. He was asked to bring them to the Oct. 4 meeting.

• Having already spent \$170,000 in design work for the Lake Sequoyah Sewer Project, the board unanimously agreed to put \$30,000 more into the project to be eligible for a \$600,000 grant to be used to plan, design, permit and construct sewer lines and a pump station to extend public sewer to residential areas with documented failed septic systems around

Lake Sequoyah and its tributaries. A \$200,000 match is needed by the town.

• After much discussion, commissioners voted 4-1 to partially finance the radio-read water meters. \$408,000 will be financed at 1.97% interest for 59 months at a payment of \$89,297 per year and the balance of the project, \$408,000 will be paid from the fund balance.

Commissioner Patterson voted against the motion because she didn't want to deplete the fund balance in case the town needs it for something else. She was more in favor of financing the project for 10 years but only if there wasn't a pre-payment penalty – something that was unknown.

• Since the town hasn't been diligent about charging late fees, disconnect/reconnect fees or even security deposits of utility customers, a committee consisting of Mayor Wilkes, Interim Town Manager Bob Zoellner, Commissioner Larry Rogers and Public Service Director Lamar Nix will work up a policy.

• After the third try, commissioners unanimously approved

the ordinance forbidding weapons on town property – public gathering places including K-H Park, the Community Building, the Playhouse, the Performing Arts Center, as well as Town Hall. This ordinance prohibits carrying permitted concealed or open weapons, as well as discharging firearms or other mechanisms.

• The board voted 4-1 to fill the police officer position former-

ly held by Erica Olvera. No extra money will be budgeted – it's already in the budget; it's been open for more than a year. Commissioner Gary Drake voted not to fill the position. The board met in closed session to discuss candidates.

The board will begin interviewing nine candidates for the Town Manager position the first part of November. – **KL**

## ... FIRE DEPT. continued from page 1

only 1 ½ miles away from a water source. In the six-mile district, mutual aid departments come into play but it's because of those mutual aid departments that the six-mile district rating is nine – it could be a 10.

The fire dept. had to present all its training records, pre-plan procedures, and documentation of structure fire calls up to 20 calls back. In addition, the dept. phone number must be in three easy-to-read places in the phone book.

“The purpose of all this is to lower insurance premiums for homeowners,” said Robbie Forrester and Bobby Houston. “The inspection is to maintain our rating, but we hope to lower it.”

Currently, the in-town rating is 5, the five-mile district is a 9s and the six-mile district is a 9e.

The “5” rating is related to many things, one being that there is a fire hydrant every 1,000 ft in town.

Besides paperwork, hy-

drants had to be inspected and a flow test performed, all commercial buildings had to have a pre-plan showing how a fire would be fought and a total measurement taken to know how much water would be needed to put a fire out.

Plus, the trucks and all materials had to be inspected and tested to see how fast tankers can be filled with water and how fast they empty. Flows can vary from 3,000 gallons per minute to 500 gallons per minute.

Everywhere, mutual aid departments play a big part in insurance ratings, but due to the topography of Highlands and six miles out, it's really crucial.

That's why during the testing, mutual aid departments from Cashiers, Cullasaja, Satolah, and Scaly were also involved.

Over the last few days, inspectors timed the dept. as they “set up at a fire” starting with the arrival of the engine followed by the tanker truck then the filling of the tanker from a water source – like Har-

ris Lake — or filling constructed tanks from the tanker truck and transferring water from one tanker to another.

Based on 2010 figures for a standard HO-3 policy for a 1978 frame construction home valued at \$90,000, a Class 6 rating averages, \$367.59; a Class 7 is \$454.36, a Class 8 is \$506.95 and a class 9 is \$547.27 per year.

“We're hoping for a four,” said Houston. The department will know if the plateau's fire ratings will stay the same, decrease or increase by December of this year.

– **Kim Lewicki**



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# Veteran actor to perform at Highlands Playhouse in 'Hear What's in the Heart' for fall run Sept. 30-Oct 9



Steve Scionti coming to the Playhouse for "Hear What's in the Heart" Sept. 30-Oct. 9. Call 526-2695 for tickets.

Steve Scionti, actor and co-writer has performed "Hear What's in the Heart" to sold-out performances in Los Angeles, Westchester NY, Las Vegas, Palm Springs and New York City and now he's coming to the Highlands Playhouse.

"Hear What's in the Heart" garnered two L.A. Drama-Logue Critics Awards (Best Performance and Best Writing) and was selected for the prestigious HBO Workshop and was then chosen for Off-Broadway's New York Fringe Festival where it received outstanding reviews.

Scionti made his Broadway debut in Legs Diamond starring as the late Peter Allen. He performed the lead role of Freddy opposite Ralph Macchio in the critically acclaimed Off Broadway

play Magic Hands Freddy. Other Regional credits include A Chorus Line, West Side Story and Fiddler on the Roof.

Film credits include "Late Watch (Tribeca-Film Festival), The Borough Kings (starring Olympia Dukakis) The Glass Jar (C. Thomas Howell), The Sleepless and Disney's Invisible Dad opposite Karen Black.

In Hear What's in the Heart, Scionti paints a theatrical family portrait in a series of humorous and poignant vignettes transforming himself into various family members and friends, jumping back and forth through time to affecting moments

on his journey into adulthood.

Eight characters are portrayed in all, including his grandfather; his father Sebastiano; his mother Rosetta; brother Antonio; uncles Amadeo and Manny; Jerry, the local neighborhood pizza-maker; and Brother Connelly, a teacher from Xavier High School in Middletown, CT.

Don't miss what promises to be a spectacular performance Sept. 30-Oct. 9 at the Highlands Playhouse. Call the box office at 526-2695 for tickets.

## • POLICE & FIRE LOG •

Highlands PD log entries from Sept. 14. Only the names of persons arrested, issued a Class-3 misdemeanor, or public officials have been used.

Sept. 14

• At 8:20 a.m., Israel Vega-Luna, 33, of Franklin, was arrested for DWI and driving with a revoked license when he was pulled over on Laurel Street for failing to yield right of way.

• At 10:30 a.m., officers directed traffic for the Highlands Fire & Rescue while it was undergoing fire training on Hickory Hill Road.

• At 4 p.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident on Main Street.

Sept. 18

• At 6:12 a.m., officers responded to a 9-1-1 hang up from the Old Edwards Inn pool house. It was unfounded.

Sept. 19

• At 11:40 a.m., Brian Charles Connallon, 27, of Franklin, was arrested for larceny from Reeves Hardware.

• During the week, police officers issued 9 citations.

Highlands F&R Dept. log entries from Sept. 16

Sept. 16

• At 9:05 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Mirror Lake Road. The person was taken to the hospital.

• At 5:38 p.m., the dept. responded to a motorcycle accident with no injuries at US 64 east and Flint Mountain Road.

• At 11:06 p.m., the dept. responded to a motorcycle accident with one injured on Rainbow Road. The person was taken to the hospital.

Sept. 17

• At 1:26 a.m., the dept. responded to a vehicle accident with no injuries on US 64 east.

• At 5:27 p.m., the dept. extinguished an electric line fire on Windy Hill Road and stayed on scene until the power company arrived.

Sept. 19

• At 11:16 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to Main Street. The person was taken to the hospital.

### Rabies Clinics – Saturday, Oct. 1

The Macon County Public Health Center will hold Rabies Vaccination Clinics throughout the Franklin and Highlands on Saturday, October 1.

Area veterinarians will vaccinate dogs, cats, and ferrets over 4 months of age, as required by NC state law.

The cost is \$5 (cash only) per pet and all pets should be kept in vehicles, on leashes, or in carriers.

Call 349-2081 and choose the rabies clinic option to listen to a recorded schedule of locations and times.

### ... MACKEY from page 17

• Why this appeal by the Palestinians to the international community so seriously impacts US strategic interests.

• How the Israeli political climate has frustrated negotiations between Israel and the Palestinians.

• What the tensions are within Palestinians society.

• Why the United States has pledged to veto the petition in the Security Council.

• What price the US will pay in the Arab world including the Persian Gulf.

This "Conversation with Sandra Mackey" will be held Friday, September 23 at 10 AM at the Performing Arts Center. Admission is \$10 for both CLE members and nonmembers. There is no need to pre-register. Questions can be directed to the CLE office at 526-8811.



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## ... SWANSON continued from page 9

lessness is created by confusion, uncertainty, actions that defy understanding. That would seem to describe current conditions.

Take, for example, why do we get mired in endless wars in hellholes not seemingly worth the effort? Why can't we win the war on drugs? Why don't we close the borders? How have we allowed abortion to flourish? Why don't we manage our economy in a manner that prospers all those willing to work?

There are contributing factors to all these horrors but these and others share one common impetus – politics.

Take our current economy. If you listen to financial news as I do about 10 hours a day on and off, one word is continually used to explain the lack of hiring and the ongoing unemployment. That word is "uncertainty." No coincidence in my mind. What will Obamacare cost us? What more expensive and onerous regulations will emerge from his administration?

James Carville is a name familiar to many of us as a lead strategist of the successful presidential campaign of then Arkansas governor Bill Clinton. He remains to this day a Democrat pundit of some repute.

In a CNN op-ed, Carville recently declared, in a message to Obama – "It's time to panic." Pointing to the special election results losing two prior Democrat House seats to Republicans, Carville said "Democrats are 'past sending out talking points' and said he would tell the president, 'The time has come to demand a plan of action that requires a complete change from the direction you are heading.'"

Drudge headlines the day I'm writing – "The Most Popular Pol in the World!!" It refers to Hillary Clinton. Sounds like the natives are restless. To prove the point, hear what wnd.com has to say. "Fight 'market dictatorship.' 'People of the world rise up!' 'We are legion.' 'Take to the streets.' These and other battle cries were posted on the recent Twitter feed of a group calling itself Take the Square. The organization is one of the social media planners behind the 'Day of Rage' protest slated to target Wall Street on Saturday.

WND previously reported how the U.S. section of the protest, complete with a planned tent city in downtown Manhattan, is closely tied to the founders of ACORN and leaders of major U. S. unions, including the Service Employees International Union, or SEIU."

The storm is upon us and, God willing, calm will return as a result. Stay tuned.

## ... INVESTING continued from page 12

and will be grateful for the opportunity. Signature Properties has been serving the Highlands/Cashiers real estate community for over 26 years. You are invited to contact Lynn Kimball, Owner/Broker at 828-526-4101 or by email at [lynn@signatureproperties-nc.com](mailto:lynn@signatureproperties-nc.com) to recommend the right agent to list your property or to help you find the property that most fits your needs and desires. I encourage you to search properties on our user friendly website at [www.signatureproperties-nc.com](http://www.signatureproperties-nc.com).

## ... WOOLDRIDGE from page 4

around Highlands. Sometimes the stories I get are so unbelievable, I have to check them out myself, like the Mirror Road bridge project sponsored by the good ole North Carolina Dept. of Transportation. This might be one of President Obama's "shovel ready" projects in disguise.

For starters, are you aware that the NCDOT is boasting that for every \$1 million spent on transportation, a whopping 30 jobs are created? Wow, isn't that great. That comes out to be about \$333,333.33 per job. Wow, aren't ya just feelin' a lot better knowing all those jobs were created at practically no cost to the taxpayer. Is it any wonder our country is prospering?

Anyway, back to the Mirror Lake project, it was tough getting in the right position so I could see what was going on. I wedged myself between a giant pussywillow and a peacock bush in someone's back yard. Wearing my camo outfit, I was practically invisible.

I spotted a total of eight employees, five of them sitting and doing nothing. The other three were actually standing up and I think the project was to remove sand from the road and throw it to the side. Remember, I'm not making this up. Only one of the three men had a shovel but being good Americans, they had learned to share.

The first guy scooped up some sand and pitched it. Then he handed the shovel to another guy who shoveled up some sand and pitched it. Then the guy handed the

shovel to the third guy who had to stop and scratch before pitching his sand. This went on until the project was finished. Oh, I forgot to mention they did stop and take a well deserved break. The other five guys never moved. I know they were breathing 'cause their chests were moving. My back was starting to hurt so I left.

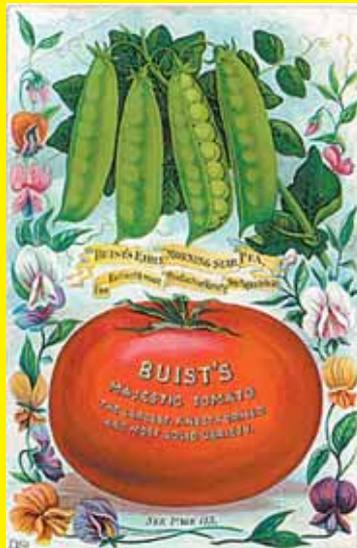
I'm sure the folks living on the other side of the bridge are excited about the speed of this project. And praise the Lord they did this work during the summer when the area is packed with visitors. We wouldn't want our workmen to get chilly, would we?

So, after watching the Mirror Lake project, I'm excited about our president's new multi-billion "shovel ready" projects plan coming soon. I'm applying for the flagman's job, the most powerful job on the road.

PS – The peacock bush comes from Kenya and became popular after the last presidential election. Caution...it requires a lot of manure to keep it healthy.

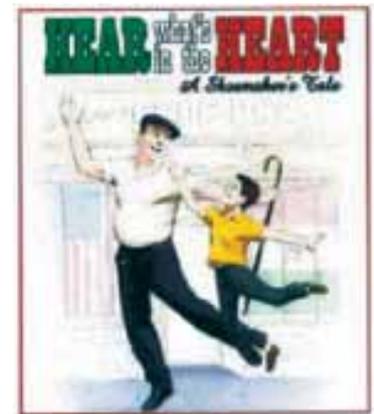
*Deceived*, a mystery/thriller, would make a great Christmas present. Pick it up at Shakespeare's book store, the book nook at The Toy Store or Chapter Two in Cashiers.

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# • HOSPITAL NEWS •

## Hospital receives grant for bone density scanner

The Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) has awarded a \$25,000 grant to the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital Foundation to go toward the cost of a new bone density scanner project to address prevention and treatment of osteoporosis, a

bone disease that can result in fracture, back pain and deformity.

"This grant from The Appalachian Regional Commission is a major step forward in the Foundation's efforts to help the hospital fund this vitally needed

program for our community demographics," said Robin Taylor, Executive Director of the Hospital Foundation. "We are very pleased that the board of the ARC recognized the importance of the role of this new equipment in meeting real medical

needs in our community."

A large portion of the aging population served by Highlands-Cashiers Hospital (HCH) is at risk for Osteoporosis. The needs for prevention, early detection and monitored treatment of this oftentimes debilitating disease will be addressed by having an on-site scanner as well as support programs for exercise and nutrition through HealthTracks.

The Dual Energy X-Ray Absorptiometry, or DEXA, scanner will provide patients bone density measurements conducted in the Hospital's own Radiology Department. With onsite convenience, patients will no longer have to wait weeks for appointments, weeks for results or travel off in the mountain for other locations. Test results will also be stored electronically on the hospital's PACS (Picture Archiving and Communication System) system that can be virtually sent to the patient's primary care physician and stored year to year for comparisons.

"Local access to an on-site bone density scanner provides the most comprehensively validated test to detect and prevent fracture outcomes, said Hospital President and CEO, Craig James. "Ultimately, the surrounding communities will benefit through reduced risk of life threatening hip fractures, chronic back pain and deformities which commonly occur when osteoporosis goes undiagnosed and untreated."

The remaining cost of the equipment and installation will be funded through contributions from community members to the Campaign for Community Healthcare Excellence. To date an additional gift of \$10,000 has been donated by Wicke and Rufus Chambers through the Cul-

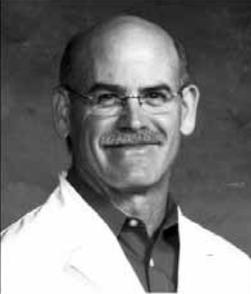
lasaja Cares Fund.

The new equipment is expected to begin serving patients at HCH in early 2012.

"Our Foundation, strives to assure that the Hospital has the latest in diagnostic equipment to provide the highest possible standard of care to our communities. We are deeply grateful to the ARC, as well as our generous community donors who come together to help us keep pace with state-of-the-art technology for our patients. We are also fortunate to have our medical staff of board certified physicians and registered technologists who are vital to the quality of care provided here," she added.

The Appalachian Regional Commission is a regional economic development agency that represents a partnership of federal, state, and local government. Established by an act of Congress in 1965, ARC is composed of the governors of the 13 Appalachian states and a federal co-chair, who is appointed by the president. Local participation is provided through multi-county local development districts.

Each year ARC provides funding for several hundred projects in the Appalachian Region, in areas such as business development, education and job training, telecommunications, infrastructure, community development, housing, and transportation. These projects create thousands of new jobs; improve local water and sewer systems; increase school readiness; expand access to health care; assist local communities with strategic planning; and provide technical and managerial assistance to emerging businesses



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# • HEALTH MATTERS •

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### By Dr. Joseph Wilbanks, DDS

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**Tooth colored fillings:** Composite resins and ceramics are not only used to

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**Recontouring/Reshaping of the Teeth:** In some instances, simple reshaping of the front teeth may produce dramatic results to correct jagged, chipped, or slightly uneven teeth.

**Gingival Sculpting:** Uneven gums can create a misshapen smile. Teeth may look slanted, or unusually large or unusually shaped. We can correct a "gummy smile" by sculpting them to better frame your teeth.

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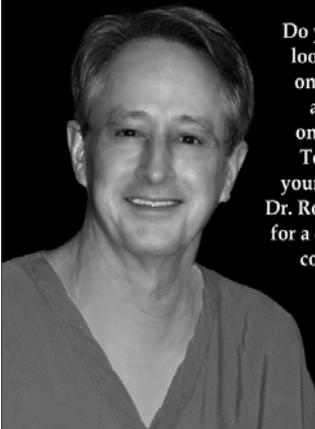
~ Richard Blue, M.D.



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good parking Rental applications subject to credit, and/or criminal check. Call The Chambers Agency, 526-3717 or email jsc@chambersagency.net or come by 401 N. Fifth Street. (8/31)

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**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)

**HIGHLANDS GARAGE APARTMENT**- Within town limits. Quiet, cozy, wood panelled. Living room, bedroom, bath, kitchen, balcony, carpeted. One person. No pets. Six month minimum, partially furnished. \$425/mo, incl. utilities, except electric. Call 404-892-2090. (st.4/14)

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## • BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NEWS •

Glenda Bell, Mtn. Findings Volunteer presents a check to Highlands Historical Society's VP, Buck Trott, to assist the Society in their improvements and upgrades to the Prince House, the oldest house in Highlands and one of the three structures that make up the Historic Village.



### Wildcat Cliff's Ladies Golf Asso. raises money for hospital



On behalf of the Ladies Golf Association at Wild Cat Cliff's Country Club, Rally for the Hospital Committee members presented a check for \$19,625 to support Hospital projects and fundraising this year. The funds helped to purchase new furniture for the hospital's Radiology waiting room as well as to support the Foundation's Campaign for Community Healthcare Excellence. Robin Taylor, Hospital Foundation Executive Director, said "Wild Cat Cliff's Country Club has demonstrated in many ways their support and concern for this hospital. We are truly thankful for their continuous support." From left: Rally for the Hospital Committee Members Rozzy McCoy, Pegi Williard, Cecil Hines, Pam Campbell, Midge Rothermel, Hospital Board of Directors President Charlie Sheehan, Hospital Foundation Executive Director Robin Taylor and Hospital President and CEO, Craig James.

### Big Brothers Big Sisters volunteer recruitment drive begins

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Highlands is recruiting volunteers to become mentors for the 2011-2012 school year. In an hour a week, you can help a child to achieve better grades, to behave better in the classroom, and to have more self-confidence. The child-adult matches will meet every Tuesday, from 3-4: PM, at the Highlands School for a variety of individual and group activities.



**Program Coordinator  
Debbie Lassiter**

This year is the ninth anniversary for the program in Highlands. Our goal is to match 20 young students, who are referred by their teacher, with a caring, consistent adult. Debbie Lassiter is our new Program Coordinator and she brings over 20 years of experience in working with children and a ton of enthusiasm to the position. Debbie will select the child-adult pairings and provide professional support to all of the matches in order to maximize the positive outcomes achieved

by the children.

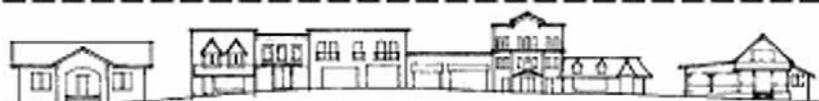
A recent nationwide Harris Poll found that having a Big in their life has a significant impact on the child. In the poll, former Little Brothers and Little Sisters reported the following:

- 52% stated that having a Big kept them from dropping out of high school.
- 62% reported achieving a higher level of success than youth not involved in Big Brothers Big Sisters.

We invite you to get involved. Join us and see how in the time you usually take to have lunch or go to the grocery, you can change a child's life and yours for the better.

To volunteer as a mentor, call Debbie Lassiter at 526-4044 or visit [www.bbbswnc.org](http://www.bbbswnc.org).

Your time today can Start Something Big! in the life of a child. Start Today!



## EVENTS IN CLAYTON, GA!

**FIRST FRIDAY FESTS - 6-8pm**

**"Music and Food on the Lawn!"**

**Oct. 7**

**Shop Clayton!**

Get a "to-go" from our downtown restaurants, bring a chair, pick a spot on the Rock House Lawn

and enjoy the music!

**Mon., Sept. 12**

**Rhapsody in Rabun Info.**

**Sat., Oct. 1 - 10am-5pm**

**Foxfire-Mountaineer Festival**

**Civic Center in downtown Clayton**

**Sat., Oct. 22 - 10am-1pm**

**Halloween Hay Day**

**Thurs., Nov. 24 - 8 a.m.**

**Clayton Clucker's Turkey Trot Race**

**Raising money for Rabun County Food Bank**

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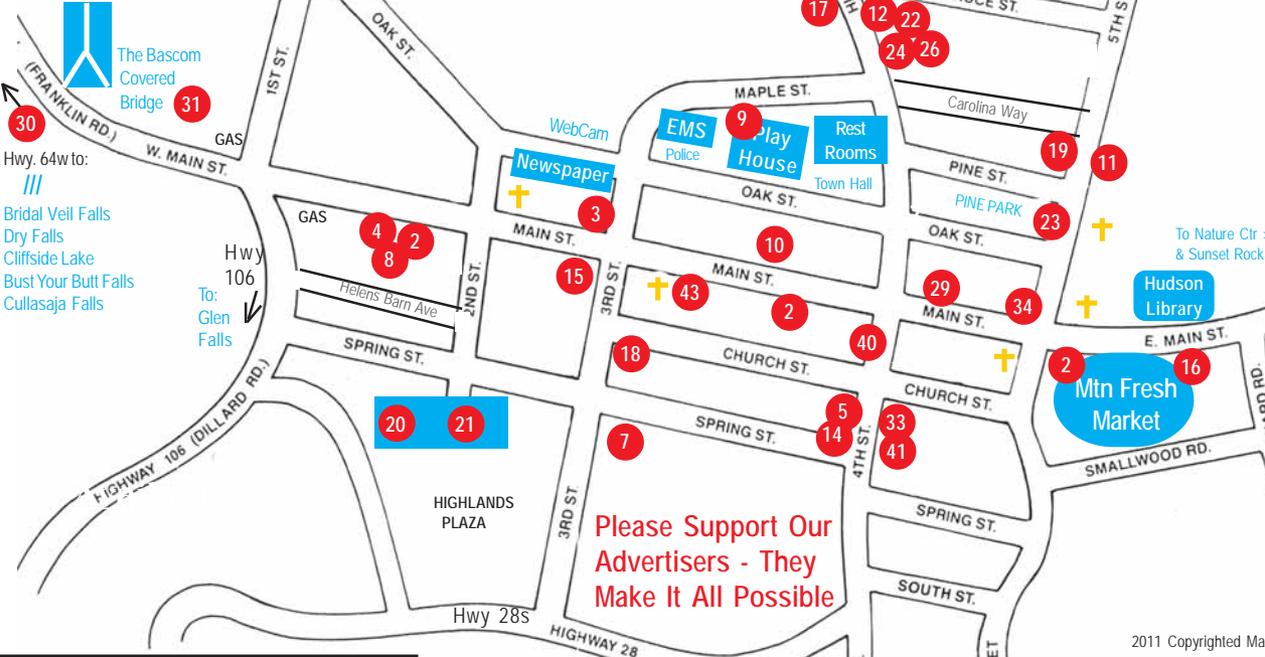
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**Friday, Sept. 23**  
 • Highlands Male Chorus with Angie Jenkins on the piano at PAC at 7:30 p.m. For tickets call 526-9047.  
**Saturday, Sept. 24**  
 • Highlands Farmer's Market at Pine Street, 8-11 a.m. Homegrown and home-made.  
 • Pancake Breakfast 7:30-10:30 a.m. at the Old Scaly School house at the corner of Highway 106 and Buckknob Road in Scaly Mountain. \$5.50 for adults and \$3.50 for children.



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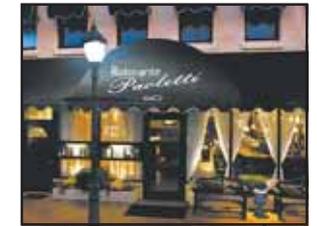
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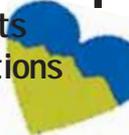
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