

# Highlands Newspaper

FREE every Thursday

Volume 10, Number 34

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Thursday, Aug. 23, 2012

Thurs.-Sun.

• Live music at Altitudes at Skyline Lodge. Call 526-2121 for info.

Thurs.-Sun. Aug. 23-26

• HCP's comedy, "The Fox on the Fairway." Evening shows, 7:30p., Sunday matinees, 2:30p. Call 526-8084 for tickets.

Thursday, Aug. 23

• At the Zahner Lecture series 7p at the Nature Center.

• At Hudson Library, Michael Hardy. Lecturer on Civil War in WNC. 4:30 p.m.

Fri. & Sat., Aug. 24-25

• At the Hen House on Main Street. Ray Pottery Signing. Fri., noon-5, Sat. 10:30-4:30.

Saturday, Aug. 25

• Scaly Mountain Pancake Breakfast, 7:30-10:30a at the Old Scaly School House, NC106 and Buckknob Road. \$5.50/ adults, and \$3.50/children.

Sunday, August 26

• Relay for Life "Live Auction" Scuders Galleries, 3-5pm, featuring one-of-a-kind items, packages and vacations.

• At First Presbyterian Church, Kirking of the Tartans at the 11 a.m. service.

• Ron Rash will sign copies of his books, including his new novel, "The Cove" at the OEI conference center from 1-3p and at Shakespeare & Co. at 4p.

Monday, Aug. 27

• Bolivia mission fundraiser at the Cullasaja Club at 5:30p. \$125 includes dinner, a silent and live auction. For tickets 526-3605.

Tues.-Thurs., Aug. 28-30

• At The Bascom, a Empty Bowls-a-thon workshop. Goal: 1,000 bowls. 10a-4p. To participate, call 526-4949.

Tuesday, Aug. 28

• CLE presents Syria: A Conversation with Sandra Mackey at 7p at the Highlands Playhouse. \$10.

• At the Hudson Library, Gary Carden with stories from, "Outlander" play about the the Smoky Mountains National Park at 4p.

Wed., August 29

• At CLE, Presidents I Have Known with Jack Edwards, 10:30a-12:30p at the Hudson Library. \$10/\$15. Call 526-8811.

## Town says 'no' to free utilities requests

Utility requests from two entities were the main subject at last week's Town Board meeting.

The Wright family, represented by Linda Wright, requested water from the town to periodically hydrate a memorial garden being constructed in the back corner of

Wright Square.

Over the years, the property was sold and developed except for the small plot between two buildings that border Helen's Barn Avenue. This parcel was set aside for a monument to commemorate the contributions the Wright fam-

ily has made to Highlands. Instead a memorial garden with a simple brass plaque is planned; construction begins in September.

Wright requested a free water tap and unmetered water for an underground water source for ini-

• See UTILITIES page 17

## J-MCA offers sustainable solutions for town

— Part 1 —

By Michelle Price  
J-MCA

The issue of "sustainability" is a hot potato in political circles — considered by those against it as government encroachment; while those for it see it as a way to preserve the environment while promoting business and quality of life.

The Jackson-Macon Conservation Alliance (J-MCA) recently presented its Sustainable Solutions Report to the Town of Highlands. The report findings were the result of 10 forums — Native Plants in your landscape, Sustainable Energy Solutions, Energy Audits for Highlands Civic Center and Community Building, Eco-Economic Development, State of our Forests and Streams, Sustainable Tourism, Local Food Production, Cultivating Mushrooms, Gardening 101, Air Quality local Issues and Solutions,

• See J-MCA page 13

## Annual 'Kirkin' this Sunday



Kirking of the Tartans at First Presbyterian Church at 11 a.m. Dr. Thomas G. Long, from the Candler School of Theology at Emory, will serve as special guest minister

## New Post Office opens Sat.

The Highlands Post Office will discontinue operations at the current location on NC 28 and Highlands Plaza after Saturday, Aug. 25.

Post office boxes will be moved to the new Highlands Post Office located at the corner of NC 106 and US 64 west.

Post Office boxes will be unavailable from noon-4 p.m. on Saturday Aug. 25.

Customers may access Post

Office box mail in the old location until noon, Aug. 25. After noon, on that date, customers will need to retrieve mail at the new post office location.

The Post Office box key(s) currently used at the old location will open Post Office boxes in the new location.

Questions? Call the Highlands Post Office at 526-2667.

— Richard Moninghoff  
Postmaster

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## Why should we care about Third World countries?

By Alex Osteen

Should the U.S. do development work in the Third World? With billions of dollars and lives at stake, it's not just a worthwhile question for tax-payers, donors and American citizens in general, it's one that sparks serious debate both domestically and abroad.

Some contend that, as the leader of the developed world, the United States has a moral obligation to help poor countries. Others argue that, with a perpetual government deficit and an exploding national debt, the government has higher domestic priorities: "We should focus on us first."

Having seen firsthand how some projects work and others waste money and/or do more harm than good, I have a mixed opinion, but ultimately I believe helping pays off in the end.

Some foreigners call U.S. development work just a front for 21st century imperialism that pushes American ideals of greed and consumerism on the honest and decent people of rural plac-

• See THIRD WORLD page 16

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# • THE PLATEAU'S POSITION •

## • LETTERS •

### Feeding the bears



Dear Editor,

I just wonder why all the bears are breaking into homes with a nose for dog food. Could it be that some of us have more money than common sense? I just could not figure out why we had so many more bears and coyotes on our property feasting on our livestock this year until just recently when I found an empty dog food bag in the road nearby with baling twine tied to it.

That seemed odd until, upon further investigation, I found Two more dog food bags hanging in the trees on neighboring property in front of our home. I realize that some folks think they are protecting the bears if they can just keep them on their property but that isn't going to happen. That saying "a fed bear is a dead bear" is so true.

If the bears come into my house to get my dog food or in my barn for the livestock feed it will be a dead bear! It is all we can do to afford dog food for our dogs while others are stringing it up for the bears and teaching them killer habits.

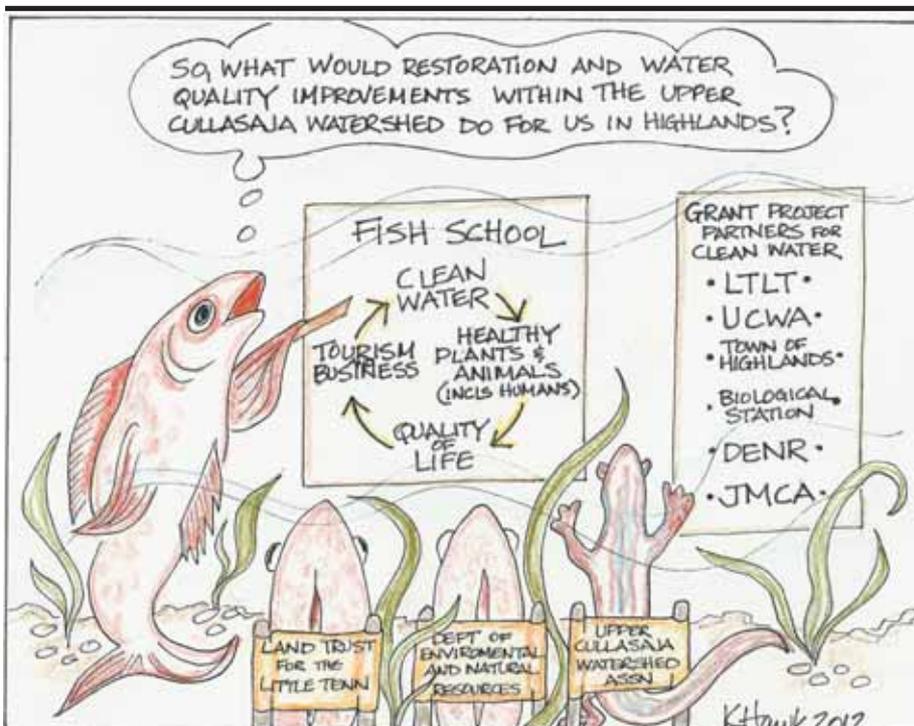
Don't we advise our visiting campers to hang their food in the trees. While others teach them where to find it. Where do you suppose they will go if you do not continue providing their meals? Hence, more money than common sense!

And I don't think they are feeding the deer and turkeys dog food from the trees so let's not even go there.

It seems that we all have lessons to learn about living with nature as well as learning how to live with our neighbors. A little more thought and consideration can go a long way in both cases.

Audrey Keener  
Highlands

## • HAWK'S EYE VIEW •



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### Fred has a soft side

Dear Editor,

I just finished reading Fred Wooldridge's column on the Sikh's in the Aug. 16 edition.

He showed his sensitive side, which I admire and like to see being demonstrated. Thanks, for a great column.

Jack Miller  
Highlands

### Let's help Stephanie

Dear Editor,

Thank you for your wonderful paper. I drive up to the Otto, NC, Post Office every week from Clayton, GA, just to get your paper and read it. I love it!

What a wonderful article you wrote on Stephanie Stanley and her family. Brought tears to my eyes.

My heart goes out to Stephanie Stanley and her precious boys. God bless her for trying to do the best she can. Stephanie and her family need our prayers so everyone, please pray that God will touch her and her family to get through all the difficult times that lie ahead. God does open hearts and doors.

There is no way that Stephanie will never keep her head above water. She absolutely has not future what so ever to lead a normal debt-free life. She could work five jobs and never be able to get ahead with her high medical bills. She's doing everything she can to provide for her children and doesn't want a free hand out like half of America, but she needs some help.

It seems that legal hard working struggling Americans can't get any help.

It's time for the American people to stand up and be heard. Somebody has got to start looking out for America and its own people.

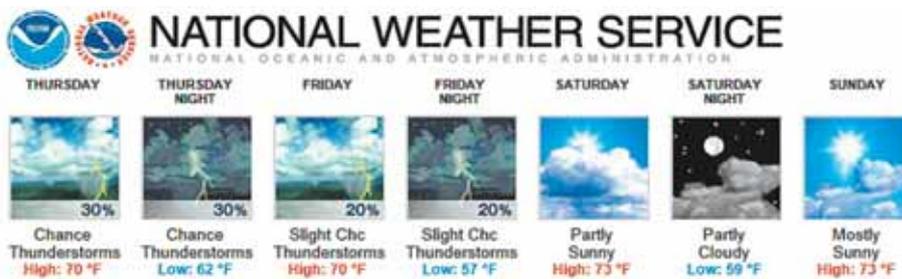
I pray people will open their hearts and wallets and help Stephanie find some solution to all her on-going problems. She needs our help now.

Maybe someone could set up a bank account for her and the boys and people could help out when they can. Keep praying and God will open a door. God does work miracles. He is the only one with the power to do so.

God bless Stephanie and her family. Keep your spirits up. Good things are about to happen. All things are possible through our Lord.

Darlene Carver  
Clayton, GA

• See LETTERS page 6



# • OBITUARY •

## Donald H. Elliott

Donald H. Elliott, age 80, of Highlands, NC and formerly of Delray Beach, FL, died Friday, November 25, 2011. He was married to the late Phyllis E. Elliott, who died November 6, 2010.

He is survived by three sons, Larry E. Elliott and wife Karen of Delray Beach, FL, Donald E. Elliott and wife Lisa of Cullowhee, NC and Philip N. Elliott of Franklin, NC; a half-brother, Eugene R. Elliott, Jr. of Delray Beach, FL; six grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. In addition to his wife, he was preceded in death by a son, Richard Elliott.

Memorial services will be held Saturday, August 25, 2012 at 2 PM at the Church of the Valley in Cashiers, NC with Rev. Steve Kerholas officiating.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations

Mailing address for Stephanie Stanley:  
1551 Goldmine Rd.,  
Highlands, NC 28741

A bank account has been set up at PNC Bank  
in Highlands for Tristen/Stephanie Stanley.

Mailing address: PO Box 1090,  
Highlands, NC 28741

may be made to Christ Church of the Valley, PO Box 2863, Cashiers, NC 28717 or the charity of one's choice. Bryant-Grant Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Online condolences may be made at [www.bryantgrantfuneralhome.com](http://www.bryantgrantfuneralhome.com).

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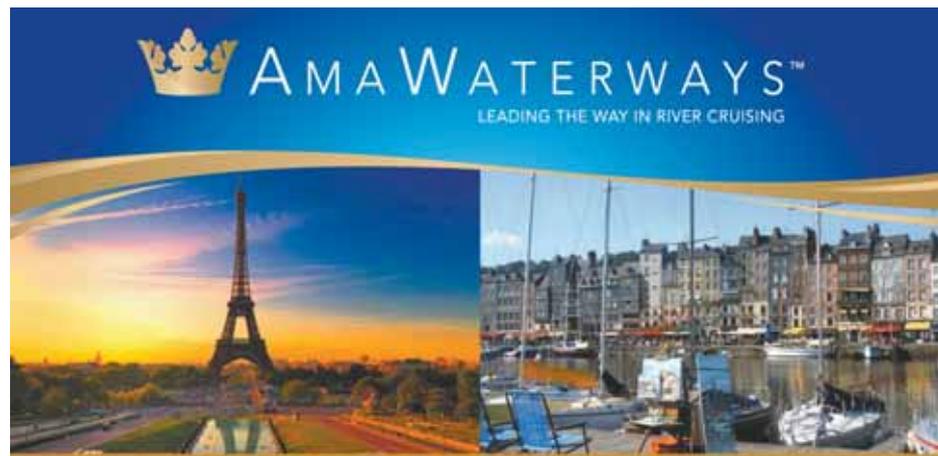


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• LAUGHING AT LIFE •

**I've become a Bridge slut**

I know it's my fault. I'm not blaming anyone but myself. Now I wander the streets of Highlands looking for someone to play Bridge with me. It's worse than trying to find a black person living in Highlands....there just aren't any. I've become a Bridge slut and here's how I became such a tramp.

It was mid summer when I announced to my loyal Bridge friends I couldn't take it anymore. I was drowning in systems. I was having Mel's rule of two dreams. I wanted to beat up a person I didn't even know named Cappelletti. I also dreamt the li'l missus divorced me and I was forced to marry Bridge czar Audrey Grant. Ahhhh! Then I had a dream I died and went straight to hell where everyone is forced to play Bridge 24/7. I woke in a cold sweat.

So I told my friends, "I can't take it anymore. I'm taking a



**with Fred Wooldridge  
Feedback is encouraged!  
askfredanything@aol.com**

sabbatical from Bridge." It was good at first, being off Bridge drugs. I cleaned the garage and got everything organized. I found tools I hadn't seen in years. I watched old movies while the li'l missus fed her addiction with a new partner. But I had forgotten I'm an addict.

I should have known I couldn't do the "cold turkey" thing. Few addicts can just quit. Now, my problem was I needed to get back in the game and because I'm a less than ho hum player, no one wanted me. (Tissues, please)

More time went by and I was becoming desperate. I made a large sign and stood at 4th and Main streets. It asked, "Will you play with me?" Bad, bad move. Oh, I got lots of takers but none of them played Bridge. I realized the sign might be worded wrong. My next sign said,

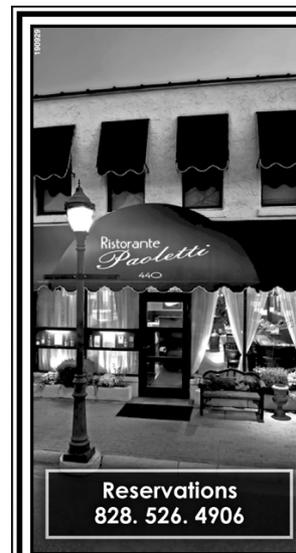
•See WOOLDRIDGE page 19



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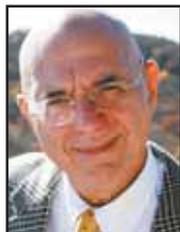
## • THE VIEW FROM HERE •

### There's no place like home

**W**e really wanted to come home from Key West last Monday, after arriving Sunday, but bravely stuck it out until Saturday, our scheduled return.

Last week, I wrote about our first night at the hotel. We ended up staying in the same room with an armada of fans and an open freezer door. I can best describe the Key West experience as spending six days on a treadmill; without Cafe du Monde. We limited ourselves to one activity a day. We visited the Hemmingway House.

Lizzie heard another tourist say she had felt the presence of Hemmingway's ghost, but when we bought our tickets, didn't know a personal visit was an option. We went scuba diving on the Vandenburg, a Navy missile tracking ship which was sunk as a diving adventure. According to our dive master, the sinking was eight years in the planning and cost



**Dr. Henry Salzarulo**

**Feedback is encouraged.  
email:**

**hsalzarulo@aol.com**

\$2,000,000. Your government at work! We were surprised to learn there are only a few tiny beaches on Key West, all of them man made.

We met a Jamaican couple on a sunset cruise. It was too cloudy to see the sun, but it got dark so I didn't feel like we could ask for a refund. I did jokingly request a discount for a future cruise. The somber answer was, "we don't control the weather". The Jamaican couple was charming. Warren is the chef at Kelly's Caribbean Grill. One day's activity was to have lunch prepared by Warren, which wasn't as bad as most of our meals. We skipped Ripley's and Fort Zachery Taylor, but on an impulse, bought \$50 worth of tickets for a raffle sponsored by Bikers against Drunk Driving, or some similarly named club. The grand prize is a replica Shelby Cobra and a Harley Davidson. Bull

•See SALZARULO page 18

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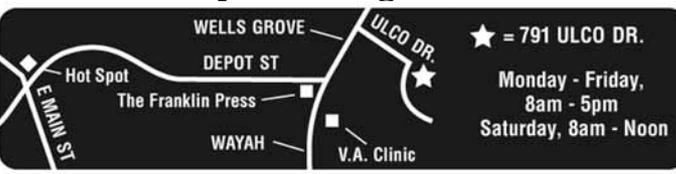
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... LETTERS continued from page 2  
**Transparency is key**

Dear Editor,  
 I read the letter from Mr. Gary Drake in the July 26 edition of Highlands Newspaper about his integrity being questioned concerning violations of the North Carolina "Sunshine Law" by Publisher/Editor Kim Lewicki about which she also asked Town Attorney Bill Coward.

As a past city official for a city in Florida and current consultant to several Florida cities, I am very sensitive about the Florida "Sunshine Laws" that are much more restrictive than the North Carolina laws. There are actually two sets of laws in North Carolina that relate to the issue at hand of two or more elected Town officials meeting in private. One is the North Carolina "Sunshine Law" and the more appropriate

set of laws is the North Carolina "Open Meetings Law".

The North Carolina Sunshine Law concerns the right of the media and the general public to obtain records of public meetings and business of a town or other public agencies referenced in the law.

The North Carolina Open Meetings Law addresses the official meetings of public bodies like town council meetings saying that these official meetings are to be conducted openly.

In the article as described by Mr. Drake, it is obvious that no law is being broken relative to several Town Council members meeting together with the town manager as long as there is not a quorum of council members meeting on town business.

While there is no violation of North Carolina law taking place, there is certainly a violation of the "Spirit of the law."

This was a serious problem in Florida a number of years ago which came to the need for the State of Florida to improve the Florida Sunshine Laws.

In Florida, it is now against the law for any two elected city officials of a city to meet in private or even socially and discuss any business of the city. Such a violation results in the immediate termination of the elected officials from office. This law is carefully discussed by the city attorney of most cities on an annual basis in a city council meeting to remind all of the elected officials of their duty to obey the Florida Sunshine Law and be properly informed of what the law requires.

While meetings of two Town Council meetings with the Town Manager to discuss town business is not a violation of North Carolina law, it would appear that such meetings are not good policy.

The Town Manager is responsible to communicate with all of the elected officials in a manner acceptable to each elected official, however, such transfer of information should be done in an equal basis and not performed in small group meetings with some elected officials included and others not included. Such meetings give the appearance of inappropriate political strategy even though this may not be the case.

I suggest that the Town consider, in a public meeting, the best means of communication between the Town Manager and each elected official and that meetings of two or more elected officials concerning town business be avoided to improve the transparency of Town government by Town operations policy.

Bob Brotherton  
 Dunedin, FL

**Abel's words  
 not true**

Dear Editor,  
 In Margery Abel's letter to the editor in the Aug. 16 edition of Highlands Newspaper, she criticized Senator Jim Davis supporters for wearing red T-shirts at the League of Women Voters August 9th public candidate forum, calling it "red shirt tactics." Abel also mischaracterized enthusiastic

• See LETTERS page 11

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# • COACH'S CORNER •

## It's a long season

When I was a kid, I used to love base ball for several reasons, but the primary reason was because I played. While I have chronicled a few of my earlier baseball experiences in this space, I forgot something about baseball that I haven't had to realize in the past 19 years. See, since the Pirates were always at the bottom of the standings in May or June, I forgot just how long the baseball season really is.

While I must admit that I am enjoying watching meaningful baseball in August, I have a newfound appreciation for baseball players and the grind that they must endure throughout a 162 game season. 162 days is a long time, particularly when you are spending 81 of those days in a different city other than your hometown-it is pretty amazing the mental focus that these players must have in order to play day in and day out.

While the game itself is somewhat physically taxing, I think the real issue for these guys is to avoid mental fatigue, and I think that the mental aspect of the game is very underrated. After all, how else could you explain how a guy like Rick Ankiel can go from one of the best pitchers in baseball to not being able to throw a strike...but I digress.

Anyway, football is starting soon, and I think that one of the reasons that Americans love football so much is because it is great for people like us who have short attention spans. The NFL season only lasts 16 games, so every game has a ton of meaning and can have a profound effect on a team's season.

In baseball, teams go on hot streaks and cold streaks over the course of the season (as Lou Brown would say, "gentlemen, we won last night, we won tonight, if we win tomorrow, that's called a winning streak. It has happened before.") Therefore it is hard for one regular season game to keep us on the edge of our seats in the way that a NFL game might. While it may



**Ryan Potts**  
tryanpotts@hotmail.com

be difficult, this season I have remained on the edge of my seat each night, watching my beloved Buccos despite their current struggles. (I'm pretty sure that Chase Headley takes it personally that the Pirates didn't trade for him, as he has single handedly destroyed the Pirates this season.)

The Pirates aren't going to make the playoffs-primarily because I jinxed them a few weeks ago-but also because they are too young in some places and too old in others. The weight of a play-off race has begun to take its toll on the shoulders of Andrew McCutchen, and teams like St. Louis and Los Angeles are just flat out better. However, the most enjoyable thing about this season has been rediscovering what it feels like to care about regular season baseball again.

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# • CONSERVATIVE POV

## Bang bang you're dead

Wikipedia says this: "A hollow-point bullet is an expanding bullet that has a pit or hollowed out shape in its tip, often intended to cause the bullet to expand upon entering a target in order to disrupt more tissue as it travels through the target."

The hollow point bullet has several purposes – hollow points are designed to increase in diameter once within the target, thus maximizing tissue damage and blood loss or shock."

I'm going to commit the cardinal sin – asking a question, not knowing the answer and I'd like to hear back from you.

Why are various governmental agencies placing large orders for hollow-point bullets?

From rt.com (the first Russian 24/7 English-language news channel – see, I really do scan the globe to bring you the "right stuff": "After 9/11, the United States government created the Department of Homeland security



**Don Swanson  
Feedback is  
encouraged.  
Email**

**swanson@dninet**

to prevent future acts of terrorism and deal with other domestic issues. Now, in order to keep doing such(?). the agency is asking for 450 million hollow point bullets. This was followed by another DHS solicitation asking for a further 750 million rounds of assorted bullets, including .357 mag rounds that are able to penetrate walls.

The DHS has signed off on an "indefinite delivery" from defense contractors ATK that will include, for some reason, nearly 500 million high power ammuni-

tion for .40 caliber firearms. The department has yet to discuss why they are ordering such a bevy of bullets for an agency that has limited need domestically for doing harm, but they say they expect to continue receiving shipments from the manufacturer for the next five years, during which they plan to blow through enough ammunition to execute more people than there are in the entire United States."

Somehow, you can almost understand why an agency with the words Homeland Security in their name may have some need for arms. If the Department of Justice, through the ATF can play with fire, why shouldn't DHS get into the arms race? From Infowars: "The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) has put out a contract for 46,000 rounds of hollow point bullets along with 500 paper targets.

Despite initially asking the bullets to be delivered to the National Weather Service, NOAA claimed that this was a 'clerical error' and insisted the ammunition was being sent to the Fisheries Office of Law Enforcement. Why powerful hollow point bullets that are designed to tear apart internal organs are needed for practice shooting at paper targets has not been explained."

Continuing on from Infowars: First it was the Department of Homeland Security, then it was the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and now..... the Social Security Administration is set to purchase 174,000 rounds of hollow point bullets that will be delivered to 41 locations across the country. A solicitation posted by the SSA on the FedBizOpps website asks for contractors to supply 174,000 rounds of .357 Sig (?) 125 grain bonded jacketed (worst of the worst) hollow point pistol ammuni-

• See SWANSON page 18

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# • HIGHLANDS SCHOOL SPORTS •

## Highlanders drop opener to Brevard

By Ryan Potts

The young members of the Highlands Highlander soccer team opened the season with a 4-1 non-conference loss to the Brevard Blue Devils.

Brevard traveled to Highlands with 11 seniors, and it became apparent early on that the Blue Devils strategy was simply to make the game as physical as possible. The young Highlanders held up well for a half, only trailing 1-0 at the break, but the experience and physicality of Brevard began to wear down the Highlanders in the second period.

Ryan Vinson scored the lone goal for Highlands in the 4-1 defeat. Highlander Coach Chris Green felt like his charges played well, saying that "it says a lot about what we have done in recent years in that we are expected to win games like this, but the fact remains that they are a much larger school who brought up 11 seniors and 7 juniors, so it was a little much for the young guys on our team to overcome." Green also added that "people may look at the score and think one thing, but we actually played pretty well, we just had some bad luck on our chances and that made the score look a little worse than it actually was."

The Highlanders will continue non-conference play this week with road games against Franklin and Tuscola.



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# • JUST HERS •

## Aging Ungracefully

I recently celebrated my 62nd birthday. Unlike many women who hide their age - as well as their dress and shoe sizes - I embrace getting old-

er. Maurice Chevalier, a compatriot of mine, said a number of things which were witty and wise. "Many a man has fallen in love with a girl in a light so

dim he would not have chosen a suit by it." The finest Chevalier quote is still the one for which he is best known. When interviewed at his 80th birthday party, and asked how it felt to be so old, he quipped, "Old age is not that bad when you consider the alternative."

I am enjoying my birthdays more as I get older. Although I have a few friends in Highlands who are my age - or younger - many of them are a bit older than me. When I mention having a birthday, and give my age, it's great to hear choruses of "Why, you're still just a kid!" and "You sure don't look your age!" I should ask for it in writing.

One good thing about aging is the ability to celebrate birthdays whenever and however we choose. In the United Kingdom, the birthday of the reigning monarch has been celebrated since 1748. King Edward VII was born November 9th, but moved the ceremony to the summer, hoping for good weather. The current Queen's birthday is celebrated on the 1st, 2nd or 3rd Saturday in June, even though she was actually born on April 21st. The big event of the day is the Queen's Birthday Parade called "Trooping the Colour." Please note the wording of this expression, because it is often erroneously called "the Trooping of the Color."

This error is probably made by the same people who insist on calling our town "The Highlands." Watch the weather forecasts on local TV stations. They divide the weather patterns into "Mountains" and "Upstate", not "The Highlands" and "Upstate." Locals stifle a chuckle when they hear people boast, "My family and I have been coming to The Highlands for years!" The Highlands? Still, you can understand the dilemma. Men walking around the streets sporting kilts, fiddle and bagpipe music played on the local radio stations, and the proliferation of haggis in the supermarkets and served up in local restaurants can really play tricks on you. It was a relief to see the photograph in last week's paper which actually shows the new sign in Kelsey-Hutchinson Park. There it is, clearly marked "Highlands" - no "the" in sight, though rumor has it that the Highlands police will be patrolling the area nightly to make sure no one sneaks over to

amend the sign.

This year, August 17th wasn't just my birthday, but it was the day of the Relay for Life event at the Highlands Recreation Park. It certainly wasn't the most cheerful way to celebrate, but it was a very important one. Naturally, I would rather have been out drinking champagne, but then, so would



**Michelle Mead-Armor**  
michiemead@aol.com

John. This Monday, August 20th, will mark the second anniversary of John's death. Any event for cancer has to walk a fine line between celebrating the lives of cancer survivors, while acknowledging the folks who didn't make it. Because of this, I often feel a bit awkward at these events. The first lap of the evening was for cancer survivors, while their caregivers were asked to join them for the second lap. I hesitated. Are you still a caregiver when the person you cared for did not survive? Well, I guess you are. I looked over at the survivors, who must have seen my hesitation. They held out their arms, and I rushed out to join them.

Of course, my husband would have had an opinion about all this. As Ben Franklin, John had a very public persona, but he was essentially an extremely private person. He didn't like people knowing his business, and questions about his health made him uncomfortable. In spite of his cancer diagnosis, he was determined not to become the poster child for it. John insisted that his cancer was the least interesting thing about him. He hated what he called "cancer-speak," all the euphemistic language he felt sugar-coated the reality of the disease. Comments like "your journey with cancer" made him wince. John attended cancer events reluctantly, but he was enormously proud that his article "The End of My Cancer" encouraged a number of family members, friends, and perfect strangers to schedule colonoscopies. He even helped save a few lives that way, and lived long enough to know it. John was a rare and complex man, so his reaction to this

disease was as unique as he was.

I'm grateful to the people who have shown their appreciation for the series of columns I wrote about becoming a widow. I hope that in telling my story - and John's story - it made someone else's grief a bit easier to bear, and let them

know they weren't the only ones to try to make sense of death and widowhood. There are also people who disliked the same columns, and they have not hesitated to share that with me, too.

I received a phone call from a high school friend on Friday. While it was nice to hear from him, I was puzzled by his advice that I should "move on." What does that mean? I don't wear black any more than any other woman in town. I volunteer, take courses, and sing in the choir. I regularly attend concerts and plays. I studied for and got my Learner's Permit. I try to be a good friend and a good neighbor. I continue to write this column. While I still talk about John, I certainly don't talk about him all the time. In what way have I not "moved on?"

Should I stop wearing my wedding and engagement rings? Surely that's nobody's business, but mine. Should I never mention John's name, or the time we spent together? If so, how do I explain my presence here in Highlands? Was I just minding my own business in Manhattan when one day I was swooped up and deposited here by fairies? What makes people so uncomfortable? I don't know what their problem is, but it isn't mine.

I guess that in the end, you just have to live your life the best you can, and realize that you can never please some people. If only they would heed the words of old Ben Franklin: He that would live in peace and at ease, must not speak all he knows nor judge all he sees.

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## ... LETTERS continued from page 6

supporters as exhibiting "loud inappropriate bursts of applause and stomping" and "arriving early to grab strategic seats." There were no inappropriate bursts of applause or stomping, and there was adequate seating for all as evidenced by photographs in the Franklin Press. In addition, Mrs. Abel even suggested that supporters were stealing lunches at the event. If there is compelling evidence of that, which I doubt, Senator Davis and the Republican Party will compensate the League. I'm sure that won't be necessary.

The forum was a question and answer format between Republican and incumbent State Senator Jim Davis and former Democratic Senator John Snow. Snow is running against Davis in the General Election. While the forum is described by the League as a "non-partisan informational forum", it's hardly that considering it's a modified debate between a Republican and Democrat, with attendees of both major political parties as well as independents in attendance.

A subsequent email to me from the League's forum coordinator and moderator Susan Ervin read in part, "it was great to see such a good turnout for the forum.... We look forward to seeing you at the upcoming forums and hope you will become a member."

The wearing of a red T-shirt with the words "Re-Elect Senator Jim Davis," "Responsible Governing" is one of those basic examples of (free) political speech that makes us the free people we are. Individual citizens entering a forum wearing a T-shirt in support of their candidate honors the political process that makes us such a great nation. We do support a policy of not bringing signs into the forum as it may distract and visually impair attendee's ability to see the candidates.

If Mrs. Abel is to describe one candidate's great numbers of supporters as "high jacking"

an event just because the other candidate had a poor showing of his supporters, than she is doing the process itself an injustice. Senator Davis supporters are not responsible for the poor turnout Mr. Snow had.

We will continue to show support for our candidates by wearing T-shirts (of any color) and other appropriate and legal means and will applaud supporters of other candidates who do so as well. We appreciate League Coordinator Susan Ervin's well run forum and look forward to participating in future ones.

**Chris Murray,, Chair  
Macon County GOP**

## League conducts ed. forums not rallies

Dear Editor,

Recently, the League of Women Voters started a membership campaign and in our invitation, we stated that at campaign forums conducted by the League, to maintain the spirit of a non-partisan informational forum, there should be no partisan or candidate signs, banners, t-shirts, hats, or other campaign paraphernalia.

We have had objections to this policy from the local leadership of one of the political parties, based on the right to freedom of speech.

The League is proud to be nonpartisan, neither supporting nor opposing candidates or political parties at any level of government, but always working on vital issues of concern to members and the public. (For more information on League positions and history, please visit [www.lwv.org](http://www.lwv.org).)

We have worked for voters' rights and voter education throughout our 92 year history. At our forums, we wish to provide a balanced, fair, educational, comfortable space to all candidates and to all of those in attendance, and this is the reason for our preference for no cam-

paigned displays.

We have been conducting forums in Macon County for over 15 years, and are well-regarded for the quality and fairness of our forums. However, in respect for freedom of speech, we will not apply the no campaign display rule to non-objectionable t-shirts or other apparel.

Campaign signs and banners cannot be displayed. Those

officially representing the League may not wear or display any candidate or partisan materials, though individual members may, at their own discretion.

We do ask that guests respect the fact that we choose to conduct educational forums rather than rallies.

**Susan Ervin and Maethel Shindelman  
Co-coordinators,  
League of Women Voters  
of Macon County**

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PULL OUT

# Highlands Area Upcoming Events

## Art Rosenbaum: Voices Takes Center Stage at The Bascom Labor Day Weekend includes Artists' Talk and Barn Dance



"The Stone Mountain Wobblers," pictured, will be a part of Art Rosenbaum: Voices at The Bascom.

Art Rosenbaum: Voices, featuring a small collection of monumental paintings of one of Rosenbaum's favorite subjects: American Folk Musicians, opens in the Loft Gallery at The Bascom on Saturday, September 1 with a reception from 5 - 7 pm.

Rosenbaum's works depicting rural Southern life are combinations of both real and imagined people, places and events. Ethnographer, as well as artist, he brings storytelling to view in the form of folk tale paintings full of vibrant, sweeping color.

His most recent painting completed for this exhibition is "The Stone Mountain Wobblers". The exhibition runs through November 10th.

In addition, during Labor Day weekend:

- Margo Rosenbaum's black and white photographs of the folk musicians in Rosenbaum's paintings will be on display in the permanent collection space in the Balcony at The Bascom.
- On Sunday, September 2 from 2-3 pm, Art and Margo Rosenbaum will present an Artists' Talk at The Bascom.
- The Bascom Barn Dance on

September 1 from 7-10 pm will feature the music of The Stone Mountain Wobblers who are represented in Art Rosenbaum: Voices. The Bascom Barn Dances, sponsored by The Bascom, The Ugly Dog Pub, the Highlands Historical Society and Mountain Fresh Grocery, bring back the nostalgia of Highlands' yesteryear.

Plus, Highland Media Works, in conjunction with The Bascom cordially invite you to attend the 3-D Projection Mapping installation performance on Tuesday, August 28 at 7 pm at The Bascom. 3-D Projection Mapping is classified as a form of augmented sculpture using light and is a revolutionary digital artform.

The Bascom is 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.

Thurs., Aug. 23-26

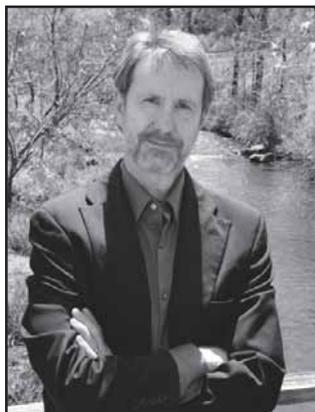
• HCP's presents Ken Ludwig comedy, "The Fox on the Fairway." Evening performances at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday matinees at 2:30 p.m. Call 526-8084 for tickets.

Thursday, Aug.23

• At the Zahner Lecture series 7p at the Nature Center, Dr. Karen Kandl, associate director at HBS, will speak on "Biodiversity of the Southern Appalachians: Learning outside of the classroom." She will discuss examples of place-based learning at the HBS, and how teachers can use these methods with students of all ages.

• At Hudson Library, Michael Hardy.

## Rash book signing at CLE & Shakespeare & Co.



Ron Rash will sign copies of his books, including his new novel, "The Cove," when he lectures for the Highlands CLE ("The Cove: An Exchange") at the Old Edwards Inn conference center from 1-3 p.m on Sunday, August 26. Rash is the author of the New York Times best-selling "Serena" and other highly praised novels and short-story collections; he is a recipient of the O. Henry and Sherwood Anderson prizes, and holds the John Parris Chair in Appalachian Studies at Western North Carolina University. "Burning Bright," his most recent short-story collection, won the Frank O'Connor Award. Rash is a great speaker and reader: if you can enroll in the CLE course, do so; if there's no more room, stop by Shakespeare and Co. Books for an informal book signing after 4p on Sunday. For more information call Highlands CLE at 526-8811 or Shakespeare & Co., 526-3777.

Lecturer on Civil War in Western North Carolina. 4:30 p.m.

• Ballroom Dancing 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"

Fri. & Sat., Aug. 24-25

• At the Hen House on Main Street. Ray Pottery Signing, Fri., noon-5p; Sat. 10:30a-4:30p.

Saturday, Aug. 25

• Putt Putt For Life, 9-11a Highlands Fall Country Club. Come enjoy championship quality putt putt golf in Highlands! Special Fred Gehrish designed 18 hole putt putt course on the Croquet Field at HFCC. Cost is \$20 and prizes for kids, teenager, and adult categories. Call Mike Murphy at 828-526-1841. Bring a putter or use ours.

• Audubon bird walk around Lake Fairfield in Sapphire. Meet at 7:30 AM in Highlands Town Hall Parking lot near the public restrooms or at 8 AM behind Wendy's in Cashiers. This is two- to three-mile walk on a good path which is fairly level. Call Brock Hutchins, 787-1387 if questions.

• Friends of Panthertown is seeking volunteers to help with trail work in Panthertown Valley on Saturday. Volunteers will meet

at the Salt Rock Gap entrance at the end of Breedlove Road in Cashiers at 9:30 a.m. and will maintain the Blackrock Trail, Overlook Trail, Carlton's Way, North Road Trail, and Panthertown Valley Trail with stops at the Overlook Trail and Salt Rock Gap overlooks. Hand tools and instructions will be provided and all ages and skill levels are welcome to join. Bring lunch, plenty of water, and wear good shoes. Expect to hike about 5 miles on easy to moderate trails and be finished by 2:30 p.m. Call (828) 269-HIKE (4453) or visit [www.panthertown.org](http://www.panthertown.org).

• Scaly Mountain Pancake Breakfast, Saturday, 7:30-10:30 a.m. at the Old Scaly School House on the corner of Highway #106 and Buckknob Road. The cost of the breakfast is \$5.50 for adults and \$3.50 for children. You can also order "take out," if you choose. Come to the breakfast and join the friendly folks in Scaly Mountain for an unforgettable breakfast in the mountains. You will find our new cookbook "Second Helping," aprons and dish towels at the Scholar Store at the breakfast. For additional information, contact Susan Bankston (828) 526-9952. [www.scallymountainwomensclub.org](http://www.scallymountainwomensclub.org)

Sunday, August 26

• Relay for Life "Live Auction" Scuders Auction House, 3-5pm, featuring fabu-

## Bel Canto Sold Out

For the first time the Bel Canto Recital has sold out three weeks prior to the event and has raised a record amount for the three beneficiaries. A waiting list has been created and a request has gone out to our subscribers that may not be able to attend due to unforeseen circumstances asking them to return their tickets for resale. "This is a wonderful state of affairs for Bel Canto" said Stella Zambalis, artistic director, "but an unfortunate one for those who waited to purchase their tickets."

This year is the 20th anniversary concert and will feature four vocalists and Dr. Stephen Dubberly as accompanist. Dr Dubberly has performed at Bel Canto for every concert since Bel Canto's inception. Two new performers will appear, Carol Sparrow, mezzo-soprano, and Percy Martinez, tenor. Returning for the first time since the tenth anniversary will be Mark Walters, baritone, and for her fifth appearance, Stella Zambalis will sing soprano. Stella has not sung at Bel Canto since taking over the



Stella Zambalis

duties of artistic director in 2008.

For more information and to get on the waiting list, please call 828.526.1947 or 828.526.2609. You may also want to call to be put on the mailing list for next year's performance so as not to miss out on another wonderful concert of "beautiful singing."

# Upcoming Events

**PULL OUT**

... J-MCA continued from page 1

lous one-of-a-kind items, packages and vacations. Questions? Call Debbie Grossman at 828-421-2144 or Ellen Bauman at 838-787-1826.

- At First Presbyterian Church, Kirk- ing of the Tartans at the 11 a.m. service. Dr. Thomas G. Long, Bandy Professor of Preaching and Coordinator of the Initiative in Religious Practices and Practical Theology at the Candler School of Theology at Emory, will serve as special guest minister for that worship service. To carry a banner call Skip Taylor at 526-4280 or 526-3175.

- Ron Rash will sign copies of his books—including his new novel, "The Cove," when he lectures for the Highlands CLE ("The Cove: An Exchange) at the Old Edwards Inn conference center from 1-3p on Sunday

- Ron Rash will sign copies of his books, including his new novel, "The Cove," at Shakespeare & Co. in Village Square at 4 p.m.

## Monday, Aug. 27

- The main fundraiser for Dr. Baum- rucker's Bolivia mission, an auction at the Cullasaja Club on Monday, begins at 5:30p. The \$125 cost of admission includes dinner, a silent auction and a live auction conducted by Al Scudder of Scudder Galleries. Vallet parking will be provided. The auction features jewelry fashioned by local jewelers from stones brought from Bolivia, many Bolivian artifacts and several golf packages donated by local country clubs. Tickets can be purchased or more information obtained by calling 526-3605.

- HPAS program: Dr. Jeremy Hy- man will speak on "Song Sparrows," at the Highlands Civic Center. Refreshments at 7 PM, followed by the program at 7:30 PM

## Tues.-Thurs., Aug. 28-30

- At The Bascom, a Empty Bowls-a- thon workshop whose goal is to make 1,000 bowls. 10a-4p. To participate, call 526-4949.

## Tuesday, Aug. 28

- American Red Cross, Blood Drive. State Employees Credit Union Blood Drive, 245 Cunningham Road, Franklin 10a to 2:30p. Please call Lawren Cress at 369-3536 for more information or to schedule an appointment. All presenting donors are auto- matically entered into a drawing for \$3,000 gift card!

- CLE presents Syria: A Conversa- tion with Sandra Mackey is scheduled for August 28 at 7p at the Highlands Playhouse. CLE has designated this program as part of its outreach to the plateau community. There- fore admission will be \$10 for both members and non-members.

- At the Hudson Library, Gary Carden will be presenting stories from his latest play,

"Outlander," a story relating to the creation of the Smoky Mountains National Park, at 4 pm, Hudson Library, 554 Main St. Highlands.

- Folksinger/story teller, Lee Knight on stage of the Village Commons in Cashiers "Before bluegrass-Ancient and Old-Time Music of the Southern Appalachians," at 7 p.m. For more information call 526-1111.

- At The Bascom, 3-D Projection Map- ping Installation Project at 7 p.m.

## Wed., August 29

- A free Interlude concert at 2 pm. Dress is casual at the Episcopal Church.

- The High Mountain Squares will dance Wednesday night at the Macon County Com- munity Building on Route 441 South from 6:30 to 9 PM. Bob Morrison from Winder, GA will be caller. Call 828-349-0905, 828-524-4930, 828-524-2280.

- At CLE, Presidents I Have Known with Jack Edwards, 10:30a-12:30p at the Hudson Library. \$10/\$15. To register, call 526-8811.

## Thurs., August 30

- Movie at the Cashiers Library at 4p. The King's Speech.

- At the Zahner Lecture series 7p at the Nature Center, Dr. Jennifer Frick-Ruppert on an exploration of the "Nocturnal Adaptations of Plants and Animals."

## Thurs. - Sun., Aug. 31-Sept. 2

- HCP's presents Ken Ludwig comedy, "The Fox on the Fairway." The play con- cerns two rival country clubs who are prepar- ing for their annual golf tournament against each other—a contest which the Crouching Squir- rel Club always wins. Tickets: 526-8084.

## HCP's 'Fox' opens this weekend!

Quail Valley Coun- try Club member Pamela Peabody, played by Ronnie Spilton, shares a moment of cele- bration with club manager Henry Bingham, played by Stuart Armor, in the Highlands Cashiers Players production of the Ken Ludwig comedy, "The Fox on the Fairway," running Aug. 23 - Sept. 2, Thursdays through Sundays, at the Performing Arts Center.



"Fox on the Fairway," a new comedy opens the Highlands Cashiers Players new season on Thursday, August 23 at the Per- forming Arts Center in High- lands. The play is phenomenally funny, written by the acknowl- edged master of farce, Ken Lud- wig, whose many comedies, such as "Lend Me a Tenor," have been produced on Broadway and from coast to coast in regional theaters.

Here's the basic plot of "Fox:" Quail Valley Country Club, desperate to end its five year los- ing streak against Crouching Squirrel Club in the annual golf tournament, attempts to find a crackerjack player who will join their club and lead them victory. Thus begins the belly-laugh mar- athon of non-stop action, clever

dialogue, and improbable ro- mance, full of ups and downs, but an unlikely surprise ending brings everything to a happy conclusion. Director Tanji Armor and the cast, some of HCP's best ac- tors, Ronnie Spilton, Stuart Ar- mor, Michelle Hott, Chris Hess, Lance Trudel, and Laura Zepeda urge all to join them for an evening (or matinee) of fun on the fairway!"

"FOX" runs Thursday, Aug. 23, through Sunday, September 2, Thursdays through Sundays, at the Performing Arts Center on Chestnut Street in Highlands, with evening performances at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday matinees at 2:30 p.m. For reservations, call 828-526-8084.

and Upper Cullasaja Watershed Plan Review.

There were also six partner- ship meetings including over 30 entities. All tolled, approximately 350 people directly participated in the events and the local media reached about 2,500 households on a weekly basis where it's esti- mated 1,000 people were engaged through reading.

The purpose of this project was to foster community involve- ment in planning that builds on natural resources and encourages sustainable development. Sustain- able development includes the social, environmental and eco- nomic needs of the community.

J-MCA with help from project partners used the methods and principles in the Region A Tool- box as a guide to complete this project.

The Toolbox is an economic development guide published by the Southwestern Commission.

Highlands was one of the few communities in Region A – the seven most western counties in NC – that was not using the tool- box as a guide for economic de- velopment and growth.

J-MCA took the Region A Tool- box off the shelf and began the process of engaging the commu- nity – to document its ideas and to capture best practices from tech- nical experts for the benefit of the Town of Highlands.

In the process, the commu- nity discussed the current state of the environment and technical experts explained the best ways the Town of Highlands can grow more sustainably. Sustainable growth balances the needs of the local economy and residents while working to protect and preserve the natural environment.

Solution topics included Eco- nomic Sustainability -- Eco-Eco- nomic Development. Sustainable Tourism; Environmental Sustain- ability -- Water Resources, Storm- water Management, Forest Re- sources, Air Quality; and Social Sustainability -- Energy Efficiency and Energy and Water Conserva- tion, Human Health, Local Food Production, Solid Waste Manage- ment, Drinking Water- Source Water Protection.

Governor Beverly Perdue proclaimed May 16th as Tourism Day in North Carolina, celebrat- ing travel and tourism as a major industry that is vital to the eco- nomic stability and growth of the state.

Domestic travelers spent a record \$18.4 billion in 2011, an increase of 8.2 percent from 2010. Each North Carolina Household saves over \$430 in state and local taxes as a direct result of visitor spending in the state.

Highlands offers a natural and scenic beauty to residents and visitors that cannot be exported. Highlands is unique with a rich environment and historical and cultural heritage that should be embraced and celebrated with residents and visitors.

With cooperation and col- laboration, the Highlands com- munity can be made more livable and more economically viable – a community that cares for its residents and visitors and ensures a high quality of life for all.

To ensure success, stakehold- ers, technical experts, decision makers and funders need to come together to develop and imple- ment solutions. Community so- lutions developed after thought- ful consideration and collabora- tion will maximize the chances for healthy growth.

The Highlands Sustainable Solutions Project fosters commu- nity involvement in planning that builds on natural resources and encourages sustainable de- velopment which includes plan- ning for economic, environmen- tal and social needs to ensure fu- ture generations have a function- ing local economy, a functioning natural environment, clean wa- ter to drink, and fresh food to eat.

For instance: jobs can be de- veloped that help Highlands grow without the negative side effects.

• Next week in Part 2:

The specifics per category: Economic Sustainability, Sustain- able Tourism, Preparing for a Year-Round Community; Envi- ronmental Sustainability, Social Sustainability and more. Plus, town officials will weigh in.

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 &amp; 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**

Rector: Jim Murphy, 252-671-4011

Worshipping at the facilities of Whiteside Presbyterian Church, Cashiers

Sun.: Holy Communion - 9 a.m.; Adult Forum - 10:45 at Buck's Coffee

Cafe, Cashiers

Mon.: Bible Study &amp; 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 CHURCH**

283 Spring Street

Sunday Service: 11 a.m.

Testimony Meeting: 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**

www.cbchighlands.com • 526-4685

3645 Cashiers Rd, Highlands, NC

Senior Pastor Gary Hewins

Sun.: 9:30 am: Adult Sunday School

10:30 am: Middle School; 10:45 am: Children's Program., Worship

Service. 12:30 pm Student Arts Group, 5 p.m. HS

Wed.: 6pm: CBC University Program

**EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE INCARNATION**

526-2968 • Reverend Bruce Walker

Sunday: Education for children &amp; adults and choir rehearsal beginning at 9am. Holy Eucharist Rite I-8a; Holy Eucharist Rite II-10:30am in the Main Nave of the Church.

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.

Wed.: Men's Bible Study 8:30 a.m., Prayer Meeting - 6:15 p.m., Choir - 5 p.m.

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

Dr. Lee Bowman, Pastor

Dr. Don Mullen, Parish Associate 526-3175

Sun.: Worship - 11 a.m.; Sun. 8:30a communion service June-Labor Day; School - 9:30

Mondays: 8 a.m. - Men's Prayer Group &amp; 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**

Randy Reed, Pastor

828-421-9172 • 165 S. Sixth Street

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 9:45a.; Worship 8:30 &amp; 10:50.; Youth Group 5:30 p.

Wed: Supper; 6; 7:15 - children, youth, &amp; 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.

**LITTLE CHURCH IN THE WILDWOOD**

In Horsecove

Sunday 7-8 p.m. Hymn-sing

Call Kay Ward at 743-5009

**MACEDONIA BAPTIST CHURCH**

8 miles south of Highlands on N.C. 28 S in Satolah

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**

St. Cyprian's Episcopal Church, Franklin

828-369-9270 or 828-293-5197

**MOUNTAIN BIBLE CHURCH**

Pastor: Clayton Lopez • 828-743-9704

Independent Bible Church

Sundays:10:30 a.m. at Big Ridge Baptist Church, 4224 Big Ridge Road (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.; Thurs &amp; Fri.: 9 a. Saturday, 4pm

**SCALY MOUNTAIN BAPTIST CHURCH**

Rev. Dwight Loggins

Sundays: School -10 a.m.; Worship -11 a.m. &amp; 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 &amp; Youth - 7 p.m.

**SHORTOFF BAPTIST CHURCH**

Pastor Rev. Andy Cloer

Sundays: School - 10 a.m.; Worship - 11

Wednesdays: Prayer &amp; Bible Study - 7

**UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP**

85 Sierra Drive • 828-524-6777

Sunday Worship - 11 a.m.

Child Care - 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Religious Education - 11 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

Youth 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

# • SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING •

## A comedian I'll never be



**OUR LADY OF THE MOUNTAINS  
CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
Rev. Dean Cesa, pastor

"I am the living bread that came down from heaven; whoever eats this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world." John 6:51

This is a pretty outlandish statement from Jesus. The people who heard it respond to it with the question, "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?"

Now Jesus has been working with them bit by bit trying to get them to understand the depth of what he is saying. This verse follows just after he has fed the five thousand. They continue to think only physically, materially. And to that way of thinking, Jesus would be asking them to be cannibals. To eat his flesh and drink his blood sounds like cannibalism.

Which reminds me of a joke.

Two cannibals are eating a clown. One asks the other, "Does this taste funny to you?"

Ok, maybe it is not that great a joke. But what is the basis of all jokes? It is a word play. A word has two meanings and that's what makes the joke funny. Funny means strange but it also means something that makes you laugh. Well, if a joke needs to be explained, then it is not a very good joke.

How about this one: Three guys walk into a bar. The fourth guy ducks.

If this works as a joke, it is because of the two meanings of bar. A place to have drinks and something to hit your head on.

Ok, I know that explaining jokes doesn't work. If you have to explain it, it's not funny. But isn't this the basis for what Jesus is saying? Not telling a joke. He is more serious though than a play on words or a joke. Jesus uses things that are material, that are part of our physical world to point to something of greater importance, the spiritual world.

In the Church, whenever we celebrate a sacrament, like baptism, we do the very same thing. Water is poured which is a way to wash ourselves physically, to make us clean. But what happens is a deeper spiritual reality: sins are washed away.

This is what Jesus is talking about. We are in this world now; we hope to be with the Lord in a world beyond space and time - heaven. For now what do we need? Jesus gives it to us.

First the physical. As I said before, Jesus miraculously fed the five thousand. But that only satisfied them temporarily. They wanted more and he gives them more. More than transient bread. He gives them bread that comes down from heaven. Bread that really satisfies. Bread that is more than bread. It is Jesus himself, entirely, completely. If they eat this bread, they will no longer hunger or thirst. They will be raised on the last day. It is true food, true drink, not just digested and wasted. It remains with the person who eats it and it ultimately brings life.

Do you want this life? Satisfaction now, eternal life with the Lord? Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

No joke.

# • INVESTING AT 4.118 Ft. •

## Who let the buyers out?

As we approach the end of August instead of asking: "Who let the Dawgs out?" (Yes, I'm a Georgia fan!) brokers are asking "Who let the buyers out?" And for real estate in Highlands and Cashiers that is a great thing and great question!

Sales this year are already up 24% compared to the same time last year! What has prompted this? I did some research when I had time to catch my breath!

The Bush tax cuts are on the chopping block and will expire at the end of this year that allowed for a \$250,000 per single and \$500,000 per couple capital gain reduction on the sale of your home. A new 3.8% real estate tax implemented as part of Obamacare will begin on January 1, 2013. Therefore sellers want to sell this year and have priced their homes to sell quickly or are willing to negotiate. Mortgage rates are historically low and inventory is high. Good news for buyers.

Buyers now see that we have reached the "bottom." Affluent buyers are in a shopping mood! Research by Barclays found that 57% of the wealthiest want to increase their residential property portfolio in 2012. What better place to invest and own property than the Highlands/Cashiers Plateau! We will be glad to help, of course.

If, on the other hand, you are a seller, I can't stress enough that your home must be well-maintained and have excellent curb appeal. The potential buyer knows within eight seconds if they are interested in your house according to statistics!

The price must be seen as a true value because the competition is so great with over 1,300 homes for sale in Highlands and Cashiers! If you have had over eight showings without an offer, stats show you are over-priced.

If you've been listed over 90 days with only a few or no showings, it is time to lower your price to stimulate interest.

I suggest you have a home inspection yourself and do repairs to offset buyers using their own inspection to negotiate much lower because it "needs work." We can show you competitors in your price range as listings have been added since yours went on the market.

We, as brokers, are so glad that this year we have seen a change from the "foreclo-



Pat Allen, Broker-in-charge  
patallenrealtygroup.com

sure seekers" to serious buyers who understand the value of buying in Highlands. It is on Barron's list and ranked #14 in the country as the BEST place to invest in a second home! Or move on up and join us as a full time resident. We would love to welcome you as part of our great "hometown" community!

Pat Allen is BIC/owner of Pat Allen Realty Group and a Certified Luxury Home Marketing Specialist. She is consistently ranked as a top seller and was voted Best Realtor in Highlands by the readers of The Highlander. Contact Pat at 828-526-

8784 or 828 200 9179. Email her at pat.f.allen@gmail.com and check out her website at PatAllenRealtyGroup.com Also on Facebook and Twitter.



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... **THIRD WORLD** from page 1

es. That irks me, but if we're being honest, the U.S. hasn't always been totally innocent in other countries over the years. In Central America alone, according to locals' perspective, our companies and government are responsible

for practically enslaving fruit workers, overthrowing more than one sovereign government and, by getting involved with the Sandinista-contra rebellion, fostering regional instability.

Also, as a Peace Corps volun-

teer I witnessed how even the well-meaning intentions of some non-profits or government projects can have unwanted negative consequences at the local level. One way this happens is when charities actually undermine local start-up businesses and thus the economy by giving away free products to poor people who would otherwise seek to buy them from their neighbors.

Of course, another example is when aid money gets funneled through local political channels and often doesn't reach its intended beneficiaries in its entirety. As a case in point, my town's coffee co-op was involved in a Canadian government environmental project and of the approximately \$7 million Canadian investment, about \$2 million was going to the local administrators' salaries and to big Honduran banks. Yikes. In fact, I was invited to a huge barbecue paid for by this Canadian project that, needless to say, didn't do a whole lot to promote the environment. Corruption of all shades and colors does exist in the Third World.

If you only focus on the nega-

tive side of foreign involvement, however, you're missing a crucial part of what's going on.

Development is not the same as implanting McDonalds, Wal-Marts, SUVs, parking lots and rush hour traffic in the Third World. It is helping people meet their basic needs first and foremost: a poor person can't worry about going to school, recycling or starting up a business if they are sick or aren't getting enough to eat or don't have clean water to drink.

But once people's basic needs are met, development becomes about building human capacity levels, allowing people to see what they want to change in their lives and getting them to the place they need to be in order to make those changes. In fact, the hope is that Honduras and the rest of the developing world will develop even better than we did and then, one day, will have something to teach us.

I think that what makes development happen is taking fresh perspectives on the current state of things, being creative about their solutions, and getting people enthusiastic enough about

changing them to actually change them, all while helping them attain the appropriate training and skills they need.

And really, who better to do that than a dynamic foreigner with a warm heart, someone with an outsider's perspective who is easy to work with and who wants to help? That being said, if people choose to live rural, poor lives, and get happiness and satisfaction out of it, then excellent, perfect. Nobody should do anything to change that. That would be imposing our ideals on them. But we should help make sure they actually have that choice.

Considering the globalized world we live in today, it simply isn't practical to promote isolationism. In the end, every dollar that the U.S. government or non-profits spend on well-designed development projects throughout the Third World is an investment. It's an investment in the world's future that ultimately benefits us all. The freedom to live your life how you want to; having access to adequate health, nutrition and education; personal empowerment; friendship and mutual understanding are all end-goals of development. They're also fundamental human rights and don't happen spontaneously or overnight.

If we can achieve this level of development, future generations will live in a productive world, full of innovative people able to solve problems, who aren't tempted to join gangs, drug cartels or terrorist organizations but who rather seek peace and prosperity. In my opinion, these are the best of America's ideals.

•Note: I am grateful for all I learned as a Peace Corp volunteer in Honduras. I have also been inspired by the generosity of people in Highlands who have donated over the months to the Health Clinic project that is still happening in my town. The project is moving forward very well. I will carry all my experiences in Honduras with me to graduate school at Duke University where I am studying the cross sections of energy, the environment, and practical economic solutions.

H

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ALSO UPCOMING

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WE HATE, SOME WE EAT

An entertaining look at how  
we view the animal world

Presenter: Hal Herzog  
Wednesday, Sept. 5, 10:00-12:00  
at the Performing Arts Center,  
\$20/\$30

**THE COVE**  
Presenter: Ron Rash  
Sunday, Aug 26, 1:00-3:00 at Old  
Edwards Hall, Church Street behind  
Old Edwards Inn, \$20/\$30

**SYRIA: A Slow Motion Civil War**  
Presenter: Sandra Mackey  
Tuesday, Aug 28, 7:00-8:30  
at the Highlands Playhouse, \$10

**PRESIDENTS I HAVE KNOWN**  
Presenter: Jack Edwards  
Wednesday, Aug 29, 10:30-12:30  
at the Hudson Library, \$10/\$15

Walk-ins Welcome, but registrations  
appreciated.

For more information and complete schedule:  
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## • POLICE & FIRE •

Highlands PD log entries from July 6. Only the names of persons arrested, issued a Class-3 misdemeanor, or public officials have been used.

### July 2

- At 11 a.m., officers received a call about a missing Porche key and Mauu Jim sunglasses valued at \$250 missing from a retail establishment in Town Square.

- At 3:55 p.m., a suspicious person was reported at Colonial Pines Inn.

- At 10:30 a.m., vandalism was reported at a church on Spring Street where a wall and bush were damaged.

### July 4

- At 4 p.m., officers received a call about vehicle parts valued at \$15 missing from a vehicle.

- At 7:15 a.m., officers received a call about sports/rec equipment valued at \$2200 missing from a vehicle on Hummingbird Lane.

### July 7

- At 6 p.m., officers received a call about \$87 worth of clothing stolen from a store in Town Square.

### July 18

- At 11:03 p.m., Ashley Marie Adams, 39, of Highlands was arrested for DWI when stopped for speeding on US 64 east.

### July 21

- At 4:20 p.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident at Main and 5th streets.

### July 23

- At 11:45 a.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident in Highlands Plaza at NC 28 south.

- At 6 p.m., officers received a call about damage estimated at \$200 to a vehicle parked on N. 4th Street.

### July 27

- At 11 a.m., a cocker spaniel valued at \$300 was reported stolen from the OTV parking lot on US 64 west.

### July 28

- At noon, officers responded to a two-vehicle accident at Dusty's parking lot and NC 106.

- At 1:53 p.m., Victor Manuel Marquez, 25, of Highlands was arrested for DWI while driving left of center on NC 28 south with on a revoked license.

### July 29

- At 1 p.m., officers received a call about a missing iPod, 4G valued at \$359.

### Aug. 2

- At 1 p.m., officers received a call about computer equipment valued at \$3,809 stolen from a hotel room on Main Street.

### Aug. 3

- At 1 p.m., a trespasser was reported at a resident on Many Road.

### Aug. 8

- At 9:30 a.m., illegal parking was reported by a merchant on S. 4th St.

During this period, officers issued 21 citations and responded to 6 alarms.

**Highlands Fire & Rescue Dept. log entries from Aug 1**

### Aug. 1

- At 3:54 p.m., the dept. responded to an alarm on Bowery Road. It was false.

### Aug. 3

- At 10:44 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to Williamsburg Court. EMS transported to the hospital.

- At 5:09 p.m., the dept. assisted Cullasaja carry out a person out of the gorge.

### Aug. 4

- At 2:43 p.m., the dept. responded to a roll-over on Buck Creek Road. The victims were transported to hospital in Franklin.

### Aug. 5

- At 6:51 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to N. 4th Street.

- At 9:30 p.m., the dept was first-responders to Hickory Hill Road. EMS transported to the hospital.

- At 10:46 p.m., the dept. responded to an alarm on Flat Mtn. Road. It was false.

### Aug. 6

- At 9:41 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to Cullasaja Club Drive where a woman had fallen at a job site. EMS transported to the hospital.

- At 12:43 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to Spring Street where a person had fallen at work.

- At 1:02 p.m., the dept. provided mutual aid to Cashiers-Glenville FD and Glenville-Cashiers Rescue to help carry a person who had fallen.

- At 2:30 p.m., the dept. responded to an alarm on NC 106. It was false.

## ... UTILITIES continued from 1

tial construction and maintenance of the garden.

According to Town Manager Bob Frye, the cost of a 3/4-inch residential tap is \$1,000 and the minimum monthly residential charge for water is \$32 per month.

He recommended against the request. "We have received requests in the past but we have not waived tapped fees," he said. "We would not recommend the waiver of the tap fee or of the installation of an unmetered water source for this particular project."

Commissioner Gary Drake said he wasn't comfortable with the idea. "I just don't like the idea of something being out there that someone could use, and we have no way of knowing if it's being used if we don't have a meter. There is the potential for someone to steal the water."

Commissioner Amy Patterson said she didn't think she could justify allowing it for a project on private property.

In the end, the board suggested Wright ask the neighbors for water.

Jack Calloway, who sits on the ABC Board, was there to request free electricity for the ABC Store in Highlands Plaza.

He said for years the store was fortunate to operate rent-free, but now with increased operational costs and the fact that there may soon be an ABC Store in Cashiers the store is counting its pennies.

"A store in Cashiers has us greatly concerned about the long term viability of this store," he said. "The decrease in revenue to this store could be somewhere between \$200,000 and \$400,000 a year, but that is just an estimate."

He said the town hasn't been charging the store for water and other utilities, so wondered if it would waive electricity, too. Later Town Manager Bob Frye said the ABC Store pays all utilities.

"We currently charge the ABC store for all utilities. I'm not sure where Mr. Calloway got that they don't pay the utilities," he said.

The ABC Store pays about \$480 a month for electricity – about \$5,400 a year – and \$54,000 a year in rent. After operational expenses, including the cost of goods sold, by law, ABC stores in North Carolina give 70% of net profits to their county or municipality. In Highlands, profits go to the Highlands General

Fund, Scholarship Fund, the Police Department and to Alcohol Education.

Calloway said if the store didn't have to pay for electricity, there would be more to give the town.

Commissioners Brian Stiehler and Eric Pierson spoke in favor of waiving electricity fees.

"I share concerns about Jackson County and the ABC Store is something we want to keep in Highlands for the sake of the economy and everything else," said Stiehler. "I don't think this is an unreasonable request."

Pierson agreed, saying ABC Store proceeds benefit the town.

But Commissioner Amy Patterson said the \$5,400 a year is a drop in the hat when considering the potential of losing \$200,000.

"But besides that, I have raised electric rates 20% for everyone else, commercial, residential, so I would be giving them a pass – someone who is generating in-

come."

Even though ABC Store profits go to the town, Patterson said the money isn't going into the Electric Fund, which is an enterprise fund that pays for itself.

"It's not coming back in where it's going out," she said. "It's not a significant value for me to say 'Ok, you don't have to pay electric.'"

Commissioner John Dotson agreed.

"Initially, I was probably for the idea, but in light of Amy's input, we've raised everyone else's rates and yes, the money is coming back, but to the wrong place. We wouldn't be making money to keep things going. At some point we would have to raise rates again because we appropriated it somewhere else – to scholarships or wherever."

In the end, the board voted 3-2 to deny the request. Stiehler and Pierson voted to grant the request.

– **Kim Lewicki**



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## ... SWANSON

### continued from page 8

tion.

The synopsis to the solicitation adds that the ammunition is to be shipped to 41 locations within 60 days of purchase. A separate spreadsheet lists those locations, which include the Social Security headquarters in Baltimore as well as major cities across the country including Los Angeles, Detroit, Oklahoma City, Dallas, Houston, Atlanta, Denver, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh and Seattle.

It is not outlandish to suggest that the SSA is purchasing the bullets as part of preparations for civil unrest. Social Security welfare is estimated to keep around 40% of senior citizens out of poverty. Should the tap run dry in the aftermath of an economic collapse which the Federal Reserve has already told top banks to prepare for, domestic disorder could ensue if people are refused their benefits."

Let me quote one more time from a speech given by Obama in July of 2008.

"We cannot continue to rely on our military in order to achieve the national security objectives we've set (what are those objectives, we wonder). We've got to have a civilian national security force that's just as powerful, just as strong, just as well funded."

Why are various governmental agencies placing large orders for hollow point bullets to be distributed around the country? I have my thoughts, but I'd be interested in yours.

We're going to try something new - a newspaper blog. Why do you think the government is rushing to scarf up all the ultra-destructive bullets they can and have them delivered around the country? Email me your answer in 25 words or less and I'll print some of the replies next week.

You must give your name and agree to have it printed. I really do want to know what you think.

## ... SALAZRULO

### continued from page 5

has laid claim to the Harley. Lizzie, when she heard I'd spent fifty, scheduled a psychiatric examination for me. I bought the tickets from a pleasant person on unidentifiable gender. My only explanation for the impulse buy was that I was hypnotized by his/her tongue ring.

Duval Street may not be much different from Bourbon Street or the Atlantic City boardwalk. There are probably equally tasteless avenues in L.A. New York, and Chicago. Maybe Myrtle Beach and Branson, Missouri are more family oriented, but I have never seen such vulgarity as was displayed in the shops on Duvall. I wondered who would wear the suggestive, and downright dirty, tee shirts, until I saw folks wearing them. One featured a dog, contorted into a doughnut, licking his butt. The caption read, "I can't believe it's not butter. Then there was the corpulent man, stethoscope around his neck, saying, "I'm not a gynecologist, but I'll take a look". My favorite trinket was a President Obama bubble head doll titled "beatin' Obama." I won't describe it except to say the box boasted, "See him stimulate his own package."

Perhaps the most unusual sight I saw was a guy carrying a camera. It was a purple point and shoot with a little wrist strap. Everyone else was taking pictures with cell phones. It hadn't occurred to me that cameras, except long lens models for professional photographers and tourists on photo safaris, are rapidly going the way of the dinosaur. Somebody should make a clever tee shirt, a T. Rex, holding a camera, saying, "Smile. You're on Cretaceous camera." At least a kid could wear it to school.

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## ... WOOLDRIDGE continued from page 4

"Will you be my partner?" Another, bad, bad move. Same results. I gave up.

Finally, just as I was about to be strapped to a table at the funny farm, a Bridge player took pity on me. He said, "I like you, Fred, but you're dumb as toast when it comes to Bridge. But you're not a rule-a-holic and I like that. Let's forget about all those stupid rules and play by instinct."

I wanted to hug him but I knew that would start rumors. We played well and my need to beat up someone named Drury, who I also don't know, began to wane. Other players began to

notice my scores and picked me up. I'm making a comeback. The li'l missus still wants no part of me but I'm bettin she'll come around once I apply a little new minor forcing, coded nines and grill her a slab of fresh salmon.

And if my column has made you want to rush out and take Bridge lessons, please call me at 1-800-bad-habit.

Fred is at the Farmer's Market each Saturday morning peddling his books. Drop in and play a few hands with him. Bring cards and money.

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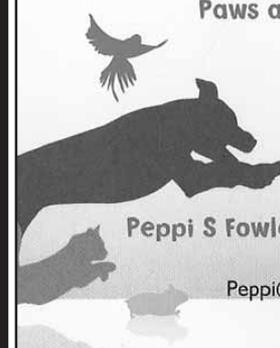
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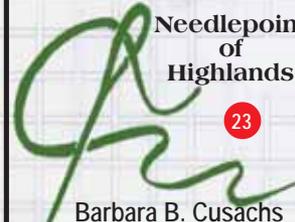
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