

Highlands Newspaper

FREE every Thursday

Volume 10, Number 23

Internet PDF Version at www.HighlandsNewspaperPDF.com

Thursday, June 7, 2012

Thursday, June 7

• Live music at Altitudes at Skyline Lodge, 470 Skyline Lodge Road off Flat Mountain Road, Norma Jean. 6:30-9p.

• Highlands Nature Center for the annual Owl Prowl at 7 pm. Children welcome.

Saturday, June 9

• Live music at Altitudes at Skyline Lodge, 470 Skyline Lodge Road off Flat Mountain Road, 2-4p.

• The Highlands Farmers Market 9am-12 through October at Highlands School.

• At The Lost Hiker Bar & Lounge on Carolina Way, live music at 10p.

• At The Bascom, Family Fun Day on Saturday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Join us for a day of exploration, creativity and art including a scavenger hunt, fun facts about The Bascom Nature Trail presentations and self-guided birding activities. Plus as an extra treat, local youth band "Heed the Warning" will perform!

• The Highlands Plateau Greenway is first ever hike of the newly completed trail. The hike will include: lunch, guided hike, shuttle and one year individual greenway membership all for \$25. The food cost and shuttle gas is being covered by a grant from the Cullasaja Women's Outreach. To sign up please send an email to Hillrie Quin at hmquin@frontier.com or call 526-2385.

Monday, June 11

• Dr. Paul Cabiran, Board Certified Dermatologist, will present a program on the major types of skin cancer, risk factors, treatment and prevention entitled "Skin Cancer Answers," Monday at noon, HCH Campus Jane Woodruff Clinic, First Level Classroom 103. A complimentary box lunch will be provided. Reservations: 828-526-1313.

• Highlands Middle School students, under the guidance of science teacher Stephanie Smathers, will give tours of the crumbling Middle School Courtyard at 'Lemonade in the Courtyard' from 1-2 p.m. to bring awareness to a fundraising campaign in the works to renovate the courtyard.

Impact of Jackson C. referendum pending

By Ryan Potts

On May 9th over 9,000 Jackson County voters approved four separate referendums to allow the sale of beer, wine and mixed drinks in Jackson County.

These referendums make

Jackson county one of three counties in Western North Carolina that allow countywide sales, and will also permit the opening of a county-run ABC store.

The sale of alcoholic beverages in Jackson County will also have

potential ramifications for Highlands, as the town was an option for many Cashiers residents who were looking to purchase spirits.

How much impact the referendums will have on Highlands

• See IMPACT page 3

Tests reveal little drug use among MC Schools athletes

If drug screens are any indication, few student-athletes in the Macon County School system take drugs.

According Macon County Schools Board of Education policy 470, all students in grades 7 - 12 who participate in interscholastic athletics must agree to participate in the "Student Athlete Drug Testing Program."

At the May Macon County School Board meeting held at Nantahala, drug testing results for the 2011-12 school year were presented.

A total of 1,144 drug tests were administered on student-athletes across the system and those who tested positive as first- or second-time offenders had to complete section 5A under the Macon

• See DRUG USE page 15

K-1 students learn about Monarch butterflies



Using several activities recommended by the University of Florida, students in Highlands School K-1 classes took five weeks to learn about monarch butterflies. The program was designed by Mountain Garden Club members Elizabeth Little and Dr. Becky Schilling, who worked with teachers Julie McClellan and Donna Sizemore. Students participated in many craft-like activities to reinforce their knowledge about the monarch butterfly life cycle. As each generation hatched, student caterpillars crawled into large green crawl tubes, the chrysalises. This program was funded by proceeds from last year's annual Mountain Garden Club plant sale. Where proceeds from this year's sell-out plant sale will go is yet to be announced, but the funds are sure to do good somewhere in the Highlands community! Above is James Earp emerging from the chrysalis. For more on garden club projects, see page 3.

Photo by Mary Lou Bilbro

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'Patching' to begin next week

After a pre-construction conference Wednesday afternoon, a preliminary paving schedule has been set for US 64 from Walnut Creek to NC 106.

• See PATCHING page 3

Highlands budget hearing set for July 21

Commissioners had little to say during the Special Budget meeting last Thursday afternoon, but may say more once the public weighs in during the required public hearing at the June 21 Town Board meeting.

The budget was accepted as proposed and will be officially presented at the June 7 Town Board meeting but won't be officially accepted until after the Public Hearing where the public is encouraged to speak about issues within the document.

At that point, the budget will either pass as presented or it could

• See BUDGET page 11

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• THE PLATEAU'S POSITION •

• LETTERS •

On living with pain...

Dear Editor,

I enjoyed Henry Salzarulo's thoughtful, courageous essay on "The Good and Bad about Pain" in the May 24 edition of Highlands Newspaper. His suggestions on living with chronic pain work for me as I have dealt with it similarly since I broke my back in 1993.

When pain serves no useful purpose and is a constant companion during the dying process of a person, it is a different matter. Unfortunately, much of medical care is directed towards prolonging the dying process not improving the quality of the time left. For the dying patient, anything to create comfort should be employed.

Another aspect of dying falls in the "choice" category. Three states now have "Death with Dignity" acts, allowing terminal patients to acquire drugs to end their lives if and when they want to. In our book, "Choice Matters," my husband and I write about another option open to mentally competent adults suffering from a fatal or irreversible illness or intractable pain, when their quality of life is personally unacceptable and the future holds only hopelessness and misery. It is a group called, "Final Exit Network."

Barbara Gerhardt
Sapphire, N.C.

One-way out

Dear Editor,

I understand it now...

The Town Board, in its infinite wisdom, will continue making our streets one-way until all streets point out-of-town and the people who aren't supposed to be here will all have to drive away with no possibility of being able to return.

What silliness!

John Gaston
Highlands

Amendment 1 controversy

Dear Editor,

The voters of North Carolina recently passed Amendment 1 that states "Marriage is the union of one man and one woman at one time and that no other relationship shall be recognized as a valid marriage by the State." This is not unique to this state as the majority of other states (29) have similar laws.

Some say this is an infringement on our civil rights; however, Amendment 1 does not prohibit private parties, individuals, or anyone from having other contracts, partnerships, wills or other legal arrangements made; therefore, I'm of the opinion that our civil rights have not been revoked.

This country was founded by pilgrims who left England and found their way to this country. They along with others that followed can be considered this country's foundation and were the ones that believed in God and were responsible for the saying "In God we trust" that can now be seen on our currency and

many of our country's government buildings.

Based on this country's foundation along with the assumption that one believes the Holy Bible is the inspired word of God and relies strictly on the words in the Bible, it is absolutely clear that marriage, according to the scriptures, is between one man and one woman (see Genesis 2:18-24, Matthew 19: 4-6, Ephesians 5:31-33). Additionally, nowhere in the Holy Bible does it refer to a marriage being constituted between individuals of the same sex. In fact, there are numerous places in the Bible where this issue is addressed and the best known one is when God destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah because of it's sinful ways when men were with men as described in Genesis 19: 4-29, also see (Leviticus 18:22, Romans 1:24-27).

One does not even have to consider what ministers, biblical scholars or others teach or say on this subject, although in my opinion they are very important, but just read the Bible for yourself and come to your own conclusion.

Paul S. Horvath
Highlands

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.

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P.O. dedication: June 15

Everyone is invited to the new Post Office official opening June 15 at noon.

We appreciate the overwhelming positive actions and help from people here and beyond. Please enjoy the safety and convenience it provides for you. The Postal Service is finalizing the necessary paperwork to complete the move.

Jane Woodruff

• OBITUARY •

Ray Hensley Houston



Ray Hensley Houston, age 68 of the Yellow Mountain Community, died Thursday, May 31, 2012 at his residence. He was born in Macon County, the son of the late William Sam and Rachel Izola Moss Houston. He was a former employee of the Sapphire Golf Course. He loved to fish and hunt and attended Yellow Mountain Baptist Church.

He is survived by his sisters, Wanda Houston of Flat Rock, NC, Betty McClure of Highlands, NC, Bernice Shope of Asheville, NC, Faye Sands of Hobe-sound, FL and Laverne Hooper of Pickens, SC; his brothers, Clinton Houston of Highlands, NC and Steve Houston of Yellow Mountain. Several nieces and nephews also survive. He was preceded in death by his sister, Ella Mae McClure and two brothers, Sammy Houston and Vernon "Bud" Houston.

Funeral services will be held Sunday, June 3, at 2:30PM at Yellow Mountain Baptist Church with Rev. Keith Ashe officiating. Burial was held at Buck Creek Baptist Church Cemetery. Nephews served as pallbearers.

Bryant-Grant Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Garden clubs unite to renovate school courtyard

Students to give courtyard tours on June 11

By Dr. Becky Schilling

Highlands Middle School students, under the guidance of science teacher Stephanie Smathers, will give tours of the crumbling Middle School Courtyard at 'Lemonade in the Courtyard,' June 11, 1-2 p.m.

Last fall, Smathers worked closely with members of the Mountain Garden Club, Jim Tate of Tate Landscaping, and architect Wendy Stiles of Summit Architecture to develop plans for renovating the courtyard which is run down, disintegrating and not conducive to education.

So far, 20% of the estimated \$32,000 project cost has been secured. The Laurel Garden Club and the Mountain Garden Club have each pledged \$3,000, and the Highlands School PTO plans to contribute \$300.

"Our membership is enthusiastic about the project," said Lila Howland, grant chair of Laurel Garden Club.

Planned renovations for the courtyard include removing crumbling concrete, correcting drainage problems, installing planters, boulders and a sitting wall, and

planting native plant species, including high elevation bog plants. Everything about the design is geared to creating spaces for students to conduct experiments.

But first more money is needed.

"Our goal is to start demolition in early October and complete construction and planting within a few weeks," Smathers said.

In its present state, the courtyard has crumbling concrete sidewalks, poor soil with patchy weeds, and a bricked area that is buckled because of tree roots.

During periods of heavy rainfall water accumulates in the courtyard because the volume of rain water that falls from the flat roof of the middle school building overwhelms the drainage system.

Highlands School is located at 545 Pierson Drive. The courtyard is behind the main school building at the end of the parking lot on the left.

Send donations to: 'Highlands School'. Write in the memo line: 'Middle School Courtyard Project' Mail to Principal Brian Jetter, PO Box 940, Highlands NC 28741.

... PATCHING from pg 1

According to Brian Burch, division construction engineer, beginning Monday or Tuesday of next week – June 11 or 12 – patching will begin at the Franklin-end of the Highlands Road at Walnut Creek utilizing one-lane closures a lead truck and flagmen.

Patching crews will skip the 1.1-mile narrow part of the gorge and patch and pave that all at once when the section will be closed to through traffic for 3-5 days.

Burch said once NC DOT knows how productive and fast the patching is going, it will announce its paving schedule two or three weeks in advance.

There is some talk of patching from Walnut Creek to NC 106 in Highlands and then going back and closing the 1.1-mile portion of the road to get that over with as early as possible in the summer, but nothing has been decided at this time.

– Kim Lewicki

... IMPACT from page 1

remains to be seen, and many local business owners are taking a "wait and see" approach as they prepare for competition from Jackson County.

Lenny Metrick, owner of the Farmers Market Exxon and the Highlands Express

•See IMPACT page 9



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• LAUGHING AT LIFE •

I have the crabs....again!

Dateline: Summertime - North Palm Beach, Fl.

OK, summer is here 'cause I've got the crabs....again. While it's fun living near the water during the winter, it's not fun to have crabs in my pool. My next door neighbor's pool is salt water and the crabs prefer theirs over ours. Ha, they currently hold the record for crabs. The pool guy fished out 56 crabs

splashing about, some doing the backstroke while I had only six or seven. Time to crank up the ole BBQ. Yummy for my tummy. Are you paying attention?

Usually by this time we have left our fellow Floridians behind and are safely back in Highlands before this onslaught begins. Oh, and that's not all that are driven to take a dip in our pool when we're not looking. A mommy mouse came out of the preserve (I call it a swamp) next to our house and decided to take her three youngens' for a swim. Everyone



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

jumped in and had a grand time splashing around but only mom was big enough to get out. Her youngens' were found in the skimmer. A moment of silence, please 'cause I now hold the record for dead mice (or should I say mousses?) found in a skimmer. Are you writing this down 'cause I'm not making this stupid stuff up? How wonderful is it to be in Highlands? Big time wonderful.

And no, I won't be writing another of my famous children's stories and wadding

some Highlander's shorts about how a mom mouse displayed such carelessness. And you may be wondering why I don't screen our pool and avoid all this hassle....maybe not. Anyway, I hate screened pools. They're big, ugly and high maintenance. I lovingly refer to them as hurricane missiles. I love the open California style of pool, like at the Rec. Park. Besides, why should I deprive critters from taking a dip while I'm in North Carolina? Raccoons are my favorite visitors, like little bandits splashing about.

In one incident, a huge screened-in porch from our last house was ripped

• See WOOLDRIDGE page 19

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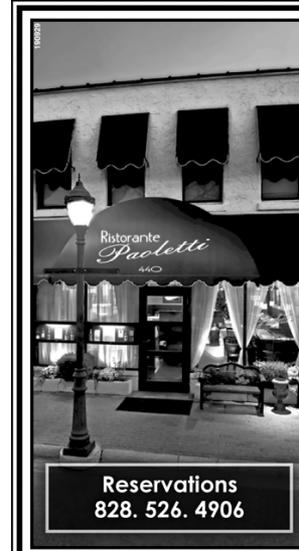
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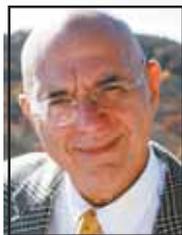
• THE VIEW FROM HERE •

Writers are the true cannibals

Most writers are parasites. I include myself. New ideas are a rarity. Think about endless Broadway revivals and Hollywood sequels approaching double digits.

We scour the news and rummage through the attics of our memories in search of a deadline beating story. The trick is not to find a new idea, but a novel twist, so when Bull suggested I write about the impending zombie apocalypse, I did a little research. Face eating maniacs are grist for the blogger mill. I had no trouble finding disturbing reports of crimes of the flesh in the most literal sense.

There was an account of a Japanese chef who described himself as asexual, and now truly is. He had his testicles surgically removed, prepared a tasty dish,



Dr. Henry Salzarulo

Feedback is encouraged.
email:

hsalzarulo@aol.com

and served them to lucky diners. I found myself hoping they weren't eating sushi with just a little wasabi. There is a time for deep frying.

Then there was the Swedish guy who ate his wife's lips. He suspected her of cheating with a younger man, punished her by cutting off her lips, and eating them so they couldn't be reattached. There was no mention of what she was doing while he was carving and dining. These stories may not be as uncommon as we imagine. I was in the process of "Googleing, "man eats wife's lips." Before I got to lips, arm and placenta popped up.

Within the past week, a man in Hackensack, NJ, repeatedly stabbed himself with a 12" knife and threw bits of intestine. Would it

• See SALZARULO page 19



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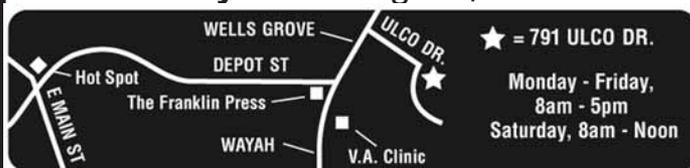
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• BACK DAYS •

**The story of the family of Ethel Mae Potts Paul ...
descendants of WT and Mattie Potts**

(Continued from page 6 of the May 24 edition ... see
www.highlandsnewspaperPDF.com)

By Guy Warren Paul

The literature also emphasized the benefits of good health to be derived by those suffering any sort of lung problems. Hiram Paul, our grandfather, had served in the Civil War in the Union forces, participating in campaigns down through Virginia. He took a liking to the mountains of Virginia and upon reading the literature on Highlands, he decided to venture south. He came with his wife and many children. The family settled in the Butter-milk level section of Highlands under the sponsorship of H.M. Bascom for whom Granddaddy Paul worked until he opened its own business on Main Street.

The clan was for the most part Seventh Day Adventists and for a time contemplated beginning a school, but apparently gave up to the Baptists and Methodists. Anyway, they settled on what later became the Gus Holt Farm and the Clara Dove farm. Grandpa Paul had a mill which later was operated by Rich Cobb. He also went into the mercantile business in Highlands. His son Guy was an ambitious determined sort of fellow who won the hand of Ethel Mae when she was just 16. They married in 1907 at the Central House by none other than the father of the bride and settled down to housekeeping in quarters provided by the bride's parents on Sanatorium Hill. In 1908, they were blessed by their first child, Martha Francina. Seven more children were to follow, all born in different places.

From Sanatorium Hill, they moved into a new cottage erected near the Cleaveland Mill, where Guy worked. It was while they lived there that Guy and Ethel were in time in charge of Mrs. Corinne Froneberger's son Jim, a young adult with a mental deficiency. And it was in the same house that



Guy and Ethel Mae Potts Paul

– Courtesy of the Highlands Historical Society

James Frank Paul was born in 1910. The place was later occupied by Jamie and Helen McKinney Cleaveland.

Seeking year-round work, as have so many Highlanders down through the years, Guy and Ethel Mae, with Frances and Frank, moved to the area around High Point, NC, and for a time lived with Guy's parents who had preceded them there. Their next two children were born in the suburbs of High Point: Mary Lucille at Trinity in 1912 and Charles William at Archdale in 1914. For reasons unexplained, perhaps a bit of homesickness on the part of Ethel Mae, the family returned to Highlands for a time and lived at Billy Cabin, the Potts farm near Mirror Lake. It was there that Corinne Elizabeth was born in 1918.

Then it was back to Main Street. Guy bought the old residence vacated by Baxter T. White, first postmaster of Highlands. Guy Warren (Butchie) was born there and later laid claim to being born in the "White House."

As if to keep the record intact

of no more than two children being born in the same residence, the old "White House" was razed and a new house built on the spot in time for the birth of Clarence Eugene in 1924. Another move was made in 1925 when the house on Main Street was sold to Dr. E.R. Gilbert and the Pauls moved into a newly constructed home on Walhalla Road. Herbert Mason, born in 1926, claims this as his birthplaces.

The original "White House" and its successor, a rather large bungalow type dwelling with 1 1/2 stories, were situated between the Methodist Church to the west and a grove of pine and hardwood trees and grass to the east. The new house had a commanding presence on Main Street. Beyond the church was the Masonic Hall and beyond the grove of trees was the W.M. Cleaveland residence with a picket fence all around and a garage and ice house on the lane that ran along the rear of the property.

•To be continued ...

• INVESTING AT 4,118 FT. •

Highlands...A Precious Gem

Real estate activity has already increased dramatically this year as evidenced even through the winter months. Have you noticed the sense of energy on Main Street? I am hearing from shop owners, restaurateurs, inn-keepers and Realtors that business is way up. The recession hit Highlands later than other areas and for many reasons our local economy is turning around sooner than most. I am encouraged, yet not at all surprised.

I have often been asked, "What makes Highlands so special?" What initially brought most of us here is the beauty of these mountains and all the hidden treasures that they hold. Then there are the cool summer temperatures and generally mild winters with just enough snow for our enjoyment. Our quaint small town with a flair for the refined offers a casual atmosphere and a laid back lifestyle. The exceptional variety of restaurants, lodging, boutiques and shops are second to none to any small mountain community. We can thank the generosity of our local and summer residents for their gifts of time and funds that offer us fine arts, cultural events, music, performing arts and many other interests that are rarely found in a small community.

Perhaps the greatest natural asset found in Highlands is the warm and welcoming spirit of its people....always willing to reach out to new residents and visitors alike. Our people enjoy a strong sense of community and a hardy desire to share it with others who appreciate the same.

If you are wondering what all of this has to do with real estate....our economy in Highlands is driven by those who visit and discover that this is their choice for a second or third home. It is becoming evident that those who have been waiting for the market to bottom out are now ready, willing and able to purchase their own mountain home. This peak in interest will ensure that our real estate market recovers and that all our businesses return to the success we have come to know and enjoy.



Lynn Kimball
Meadows Mountain
Realty

To the members of our Highlands business community....let us seize the opportunity for an exceptional season with an attitude of gratitude toward our visitors, our residents and each other.

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tain Realty has two Highlands' locations, one downtown on Church Street in the Old Edwards Inn complex and the other on the Cashiers Road across from Highlands Falls Country Club. Lynn Kimball may be reached at 828-526-4101 or by email at Lynn@MeadowsMtnRealty.com.



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When it rains, it pours

It has been brought to my attention more than once lately that I have become soft and when was I going to take the gloves off and start blasting away?

I'm shocked at the thought of becoming strident in pursuit of a Conservative victory in November. I had hoped readers would have been pleased that I have tried to reveal my serene side, but that doesn't seem to satisfy their bloodlust. If they want red meat, so be it.

Let's start off with the results of the recent Democratic primaries, shall we? On May 8th, a fellow by the name of Keith Judd got 41% of the vote in the West Virginia primary. Well, aside from the fact that Mr. Judd is in a federal prison in Texarkana, Texas and has a long history of wacky behavior, I'd say Obama did just fine in getting 59%.

Incidentally, WV Democratic Senator Joe Manchin and Democrat Governor Earl Ray Tomblin have recently suggested that they may not vote for Obama. I guess the folks are a little upset that the Prez has just about destroyed the only thing the state has going for it – coal. Keep up the good work, Barry.

OK, that was a freaky deal and doesn't mean much. Really? On May 23rd, Arkansas and Kentucky held their primaries. In Arkansas, a fellow named John Wolfe, Jr., an unknown attorney from Chattanooga, who is not in prison at this time, gave Obama a minor scare by garnering 42% of the vote to Obama's 58%.

Not to be out done, Uncommitted gathered a like amount of votes -- 42% -- in Kentucky's primary on the same day. I guess that means that approaching half the voters would prefer anyone other than the Golf-in-Charge.

For the brilliant job the Obama campaign brain trust did in 2008, they seem to have lost the magic and are blundering along a bumpy road.

First, they tried to make a big deal about Romney taking a trip with their dog in a carrier secured to the roof of the car twenty years ago. WOW, that's hot. Frankly, I think it was pretty clever myself, and the dog enjoyed it, but I digress. The expose' backfired, however, when we learned that dog was frequently served as an entrée at the Obama's dinner table.



Don Swanson
Feedback is encouraged.
Email

swanson@dntnet

From WesternJournalism.com: "President Obama and his wife, the health nanny in chief, obviously don't know when they have gone too far in their crusade to socialize and Obamatize America. They couldn't stop pushing for the Obamacare mandate that would force religious organizations to pay for coverage of abortion-inducing drugs, contraception and sterilization for their employees regardless of the institution's moral or religious objections.

Now they are sorry. They've awakened the sleeping giant – the Catholic Church. And they are going to pay the political price. Last week the University of Notre Dame and 42 other Catholic institutions sued the administration to overturn the mandate, which would also apply to all employees of a church's social services, such as schools, hospitals and food banks.

It's not just a bureaucratic fight over who Barack and Michelle think should be forced to provide contraception for their employees – without fees or co-pays. The mandate is an attack on the First Amendment's protection against federal meddling in religion. As Notre Dame President Father John Jenkins wrote, what's at issue is the freedom of a religious organization to 'live its mission'.

The Obama campaign, which didn't count on such a forceful response by the Catholic Church, has managed to give Republicans a huge gift in the middle of a presidential campaign.

By standing up to the Obama administration on moral grounds and engaging it on moral grounds, the church has effectively joined forces with Romney. It keeps him from being distracted by issues designed to make him look anti-woman and allows him to concentrate on what ultimately will make or break his campaign – economic issues."

From the Chicago Tribune: "Laments that President Obama has been been beastly to Bain Capital in his effort to cast Mitt Romney as a blood-sucking private-equity vampire have lately been coming from Democrats as well as Republicans. Such minor voices in Obama's own party as

This week at CLE

By Bettie S. Banks

Another week of smorgasbord from CLE with rich and varied lectures and workshops to choose from that will satisfy almost every palate. Newly added subjects are birds, philosophy, and biography. These are in addition to music, art and technology.

Jazz as Chamber Music, Saturday, June 9, 10-noon at PAC. \$25 for members; \$35 for non members; with Dr. Dwight Andrews, Associate Professor of Music Theory and African American Music at Emory University.

Common Birds of the Highlands Plateau, Monday, June 11, 9:30-noon at the Highlands Nature Center. \$20 for members; \$30 for non members; with Curtis Smalling, Mountain Region Biologist and NC Important Bird Area Coordinator.

Evil: The Intimate Enemy, Tuesday, June 12, 10-noon at PAC. \$20 members, \$30 non members; with Victoria Hipard, Ph.D is a social worker in New Orleans where she has both a private practice in psychotherapy and an adjunct teaching position in social work at Tulane and in religious studies at Loyola.

The Joy of Watercolor: Explorations for the Beginner. Tuesdays and Thursdays series, June 12, 14, 19, 21, 26, 28, 10 to noon, Highlands Civic Center, Members \$100; non members \$120, LIMIT: 12; with instructor P. Knight Martorell. Basic drawing experience helpful. A list of supplies needed will be provided to registrants

... IMPACT from pg 3

Citgo, is one business owner who is waiting to see the effects of the ruling. "I would think it is going to be at least a year before we can really tell anything (about the ruling)," said Metrick, "at this point, I think it will be minimal, but you have to look at the numbers after a year to really tell."

Restaurant owners in Highlands also remain open minded about the ruling, partially because Highlands just recently allowed restaurant establishments to serve mixed drinks five years ago and Cashiers area restaurants primarily allowed brown bagging.

The consensus among restaurant owners is that restaurant patronage is unlikely to be affected in a major way by the new Jackson County laws. "I'm not sure how much it will affect sales or anything like that," said Brian Crook, who is the General Manager at the Old Edwards Inn

• See IMPACT page 11

Duchess of Windsor, Thursday, June 14, 10 to 12 noon, Hudson Library (back entrance) Members \$20; non members \$30; with long-time Windsor family friend, Richard Rene' Silvin will show photographs, video clips and tell little-known stories with a power point presentation.

CLE's 20th Anniversary and Free BACK TO THE MOUNTAINS PARTY at the Rainwater Estate at Highlands Country Club. R.S.V.P at 526-8811.

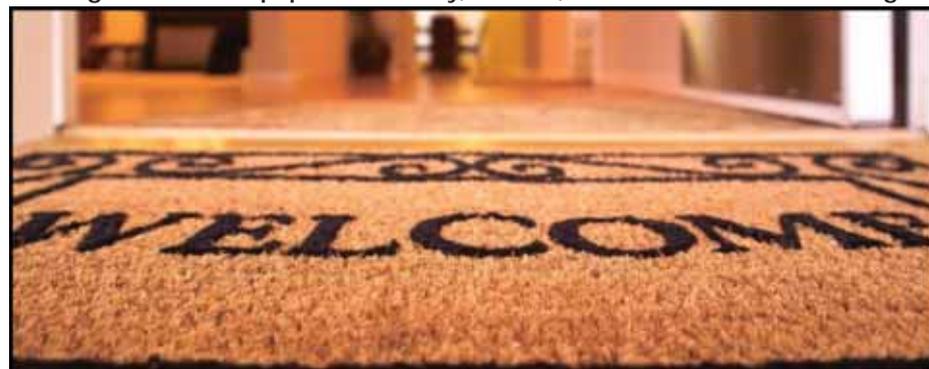
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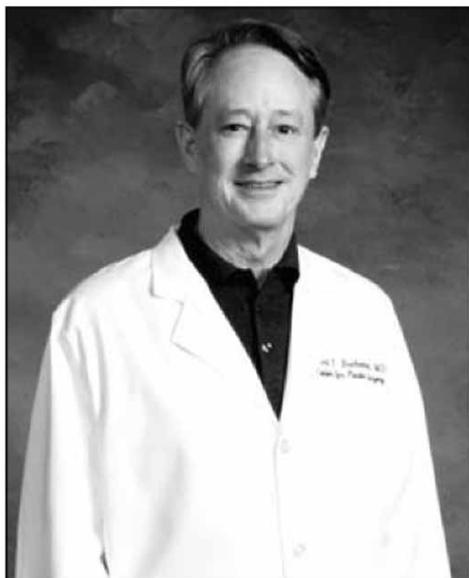
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• JUST HERS •

The good old days, Part I

I sure am glad I was born when I was. Why, just think, if I'd been born only a short time later, I might have missed The Good Old Days altogether! Of course, both of my parents lived through The Good Old Days. My father called his "the Depression." My mother didn't call hers anything, because she didn't talk about it that much. My French grandmother was a different story, or rather a series of different stories. We didn't get told bedtime tales of dragons and princesses. Instead, we were sent to sleep to stories of downed Allied fliers, standing in endless lines for obscure cuts of meat we wouldn't feed to our pets these days, and how my great great grandmother stood up to a Nazi officer, and almost got us all shot. It sounded very daring and exciting. We had nothing like it in our lives, and thought that, oh, if only we had a war, our lives would be exciting, too!

Fortunately, we did have a little drama. Two weeks after I was born in Key West, Florida, a category five hurricane hit the East Coast. It was the strongest of the whole year, and the Key West Hospital phoned to get my mother and me back where we would be safer, since the hospital had an emergency generator, along with other life saving facilities. My father, having lived through the Depression, however, knew firsthand the importance of experiencing The Good Old Days. He and his friends nailed sheets of plywood over the windows, and we hunkered down. We must have made it, too, since nine months later, we moved to Manhattan, Kansas, so my father could attend college on the G.I. Bill.

I was one month away from my first birthday when The Good Old Days struck big time. We had arrived at Kansas State just in time for the Great Kansas Flood of 1951. The heaviest damage by the flood crest was to the downtown business district of Manhattan, which wound up under eight feet of water, and caused two fatalities. We were evacuated by canoe via a window, and lived with many other married students and their families in Quonset hut emergency housing. All of us received a regular battery of injections against waterborne diseases, eating old Army rations left over from the



Michelle Mead-Armor
 michiamead@aol.com

war. My French grandparents, fearing that my brother and I had seen enough of The Good Old Days whisked us off to live with them in Paris, thus assuring that Eric and I would live long enough to lose our baby teeth and enter the First Grade.

Eventually, we wound up in Waynesboro, Virginia, a pleasant small town nestled in the Shenandoah Valley. My father worked for General Electric, and my mother taught French at Stuart Hall, in those days an exclusive boarding school for girls. We rode our bicycles without helmets, and played with fireworks unsupervised by adults, mostly unaware of the danger. In the back of our minds, however, boomed the voice of my father, telling us about how, in The Good Old Days, his cousin had eaten a jam sandwich while lighting a firecracker, subsequently losing a finger.

Unlike most of the other children, who were driven by their parents, my brother and I were given bicycles to ride to school. This was supposed to be a character-building exercise, and give us material with which to bore our future progeny. Every day, we sailed down the streets; boldly taking the dangerous short cut we swore to our parents we never took. Sunny days, we saw the other children look at us with envy as we soared past on our bikes. On rainy days, we looked wistfully as parents' cars splashed us peddling miserably in the side of the road. The rare days when it snowed, we soldiered bravely on, so bundled up in our loden coats and scarves that we looked like circus penguins who'd been trained to ride bicycles. Any hint that we were being badly done by would encourage my father to launch into his story about The Good Old Days, when he and his brother earned money to help support their family by shoveling snow off the railroad tracks in Schenectady, New York.

Folks in Highlands wax lyrical over many things from the past, among them the Galax Theater. I'm sorry I wasn't living here at the time, because I know how

... BUDGET continued from page 1

be tweaked. By state law, it must be accepted by June 30, 2012.

As reported earlier, the town will pay 100% insurance coverage for both employees and their dependents.

Town Manager Bob Frye said the town will stay with the current carrier and network through 2012, but the insurance committee may consider changes for 2013.

He also said for next year, at his suggestion, the committee will consider capping the amount the town pays toward employee-dependent insurance at the 2012-'13 rate which is \$290,000.

Since the town still plans on using the Electric Department Fund Balance to fund other departments as well as capital projects, the electric rates are set to increase another 6% Jan. 1, 2013.

Currently, the Electric Fund combined with the rate stabilization fund is at \$1.7 million — \$1.4 million in the electric fund and \$300,000 in the rate stabilization fund.

"My recommendation to council is to let the fund build to \$2 million (from the current \$1.4 million) before resuming fund transfers to other departments," said Frye.

He said with the current electric rate and the upcoming Jan. 2013 6% increase, the electric fund will hit the \$2 million mark within two years.

"The rate increase passed this past January and the one we're looking at for January 2013, gets us through the worst Duke increases and has stabilized the Electric Fund and the Stabilization Fund," he said. "As long as we are conservative with our expenditures over the next two years, I think our outlook is good. We are fortunate to

be able to fund the number of projects we have done despite Duke depleting our reserves faster than we anticipated. But we can build the fund back," he said.

At one point, a couple of commissioners had talked about raising the Ad Valorem tax a penny or two to raise revenue rather than raising electric rates, which is mostly shouldered by year-round residents.

However, Frye is proposing no increase for taxes. As per the draft budget, the rate will still be .135 per \$100 valuation. An additional cent could generate \$189,625.

The Highlands Fire District Ad Valorem tax rate is proposed to increase from .009 per \$100 to .010 per \$100 valuation.

Since the idea is to make all of the town's enterprise funds self-sufficient, the board had nothing to say about the 15% increase in sanitation fees effective July 1, 2012 and a 20% increase in sewer use fees effective July 1, 2012.

The town also has an unappropriated General Fund Balance — separate from the Electric Fund Balance — which can be used at the board's discretion.

"We are projecting to end the year with approximately \$1.7 million in the undesignated fund balance and propose in the FY 2012-'13 budget to appropriate roughly \$155,000 of that, which would leave the undesignated General Fund Balance at around \$1,545,000," said Frye.

The General Fund Balance stands at 30% — a little more than the minimum 25% suggested by the NC Institute of Government. There should be enough money in a municipality's undesignated General Fund Balance to run the town for at least three months.

The Recreation De-

partment is the only enterprise fund that isn't self-supporting. New this budget year, the Performing Arts Center and the Playhouse have been taken out of the Recreation Department budget and put in a new Public Buildings budget.

Frye is budgeted for a 50% fuel increase.

Commissioner Gary Drake and Mayor David Wilkes questioned the need for police officers to take cars home — especially when considering the cost of fuel and the wear and tear on the vehicles.

The federal mileage rate has increased to 59-cents per mile which could be paid to officers using their own cars to travel to and from work, but Police Chief Bill Harrell said the cars are a perk that has kept the department intact.

He said prior to initiating the take-home car program over the previous 10-year period, the department lost 16 officers to other area law enforcement agencies who had a take-home car program but hasn't lost any in the last several years.

Commissioner Brian Stiehler said the town needs to be careful about this. "This is a perk that is justified," he said.

But Mayor Wilkes said police officers get plenty of other perks and though most communities can say the police cars are a deterrent when parked at officers' homes, in Highlands the officers can't afford to live here, so Franklin is getting the "deterrent" perk.

Chief Harrell said having the cars on the roads in and out of Highlands is a deterrent and does cause drivers to be more careful on the roads. In addition, Highlands' officers provide mutual aid to Franklin, Highway Patrol and the Sheriff's office in those cars.

He said Highlands Police officers take pride in

their vehicles and take care of them but said if fuel and repair costs exceed what has been budgeted, then cars will have to be parked.

There is \$15,000 allocated for non-profit funding with \$5,000 going to the Highlands Community Child Development Center, the Emergency Council, and the Peggy Crosby Cen-

ter.

There are a number of Capital Projects for the water, street, sanitation, electric and MIS/GIS departments slated for 2012-'13 — a total of \$1,024,000.

The Small Town Main Street Program submitted a proposed budget for fabrication and installation of way-finding signs of between

\$33,000 and \$44,000.

Frye budgeted \$20,000 and suggested the Chamber of Commerce or Room Tax proceeds supply the rest.

The proposed budget for FY2012-'13 has revenues and expenditures totaling \$13, 019,315 million.

— Kim Lewicki

... IMPACT continued from page 9

and Spa. "If anything, it will be good for the area overall in that it will attract more people here who may stay in Highlands but eat one night in Cashiers or stay in Cashiers and want to try the places here in Highlands...so it could be a win-win for all of us."

As of June 1st, The Orchard, Cornucopia and Tamburini's are the only restaurants in Cashiers that have applied for permits, but that list will likely grow in the coming weeks as paperwork is completed and filed.

Local grocery stores will also likely feel some effects from the new Jackson County

• See IMPACT page 16

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Member: Sigma Theta Tau
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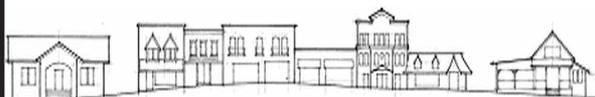
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SAT. OCT 27, 1PM

Halloween Trick or Treat

Main Street, Clayton

SAT. NOV. 17, 5PM-7PM

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THURS. NOV 22, 8AM

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FRI. NOV 23, 5PM - 8PM

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FRI. NOV 23, 11AM-6PM &

SAT. NOV 24, 10AM-5PM

Holiday Shopping Extravaganza and

Festival of Trees

Rabun County Civic Center

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SAT. DEC 1, 5PM

Christmas Parade

Main Street, Clayton

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• Step Aerobics with Tina Rogers at the Rec Park, 8-9 a.m. \$10 per class or \$40 a month.

• Zumba at the Rec Park, 9:05a-10a. \$5 per calss. First class free. Call Mary Barbour for Franklin schedule: 828-342-2498.

Mondays

• Mountain View Group of Alcoholics Anonymous will be held in the Faith and Fellowship Center of First Presbyterian Church. Enter via the entrance on 5th St. and proceed a few steps down to the library.

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 Presbyterian Church at Fifth and Main streets.

Wednesdays

• The Highlands Mountaintop Rotary meets at 7:30 a.m. in the dining room at the H-C 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 Presbyterian Church at Fifth and Main streets.

Thursdays

• Live music at Altitudes at Skyline Lodge, 470 Skyline Lodge Road off Flat Mountain Road, Norma Jean. 6:30-9p.

• Al-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. Call Anne Doggett at 526 8009.

• Free dinner at the Cashiers Community Center from 5-7 p.m. Mostly organic, healthy food. Donations accepted. Call 743-5706 for more information. Volunteers needed!

Saturdays

• Live music at Altitudes at Skyline Lodge, 470 Skyline Lodge Road off Flat Mountain Road, 2-4p.

• The Highlands Farmers Market 9am-12 through October at Highlands School.

• The Art Room, 45 East Main St. in Franklin is having free Make & Take Classes from 10am to 12:30. Come make a Card...Ages 15 and up please! Call Dianne 828-349-3777 or Robin 828-421-9891.

• Bascom Community Knitters welcome all knitters, crocheters, smockers and needlepointers to join us on the Terrace at the Bascom. 10 until noon. From now until Thanksgiving! Come and knit or come and watch. mscarolray@yahoo.com

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, June 7

• The League of Women Voters of Macon County will host a program by NCDOT district engineer Brain Burch. Mr. Burch will speak on the state's Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and how projects are planned, prioritized, and carried out. Noon at Tartan Hall in the First Presbyterian Church in Franklin. For lunch call 371-0527.

• Join Audubon members and others at the Highlands Nature Center for the annual Owl Prowl at 7 pm. Children welcome.

Friday & Saturday, June 8-9

• Farms and Flowers Garden Tour to benefit R.E.A.C.H. of Macon County 10 a.m. to 4 pm. Tour transportation begins either at the First United Methodist Church, 66 Harrison Ave., Franklin, or Swiftwater Farm 5500 Tessentee Road. Adults \$25 in advance, \$30 at the door. Children under 12 \$5. For more information or to purchase tickets visit REACHofMaconCounty.org.

Saturday, June 9

• At The Lost Hiker Bar & Lounge on Carolina Way, live music at 10p.
• GOP Congressional Debate hosted by The Macon Chapter of FreedomWorks between the candidates in the July 17th run-off Election for the 11th Congressional District, Mark Meadows and Vance Patterson. The event will be held at the Angel Hospital cafeteria meeting room at 8:30 a.m. and will last one hour. Sen. Jim Davis will be the moderator.

• North Jackson County GOP Candidate Meet and Greet Hot Dog Roast with all the Fixin's on Saturday from 1-4p at the Sylva Republican Headquarters Office at 58 D Sunrise Park, a retail complex located opposite the intersection of Highway 107 and the Asheville Highway. Call Ralph Slaughter, Jackson County GOP Chair at 828 743-6491, Rick Murrin, Meet and Greet Event Chair at 828 421-4945

• At The Bascom, kick off the season with Family Fun Day on Saturday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Join us for a day of exploration, creativity and art including a scavenger hunt, fun facts about The Bascom Nature Trail presentations and self-guided birding activities. Plus as an extra treat, local youth band "Heed the Warning" will perform!

• The Highlands Plateau Greenway is sponsoring the first ever hike of the newly completed trail. The hike will include: lunch, guided hike, shuttle and one year individual greenway membership all for \$25. The food cost and shuttle gas is being covered by a grant from the Cullasaja Women's Outreach. The basic hike will be from Mirror Lake, through the Rec Park, up the Kelsey Trail, over Big Bear Pen, through the Highlands Biological Station, ending on Sunset Rock. We may be surprised along the way by several historic figures. To sign up please send an email to Hillrie Quin at hmquin@frontier.com or call 526-2385.

Monday, June 11

• Dr. Paul Cabiran, Board Certified Dermatologist, will present a program on the major types of skin cancer, risk factors, treatment and prevention entitled "Skin Cancer Answers," Monday at 12 noon, HCH Campus Jane Woodruff Clinic, First Level Classroom 103. A complimentary box lunch will be provided. Reservations are necessary. 828-526-1313.

• Highlands Middle School students, under the guidance of science teacher Stephanie Smathers, will give tours of the crumbling Middle School Courtyard at 'Lemonade in the Courtyard' from 1-2 p.m. to bring awareness to a fundraising campaign in the works to renovate the courtyard.

Wednesday, June 13

• At the 5 p.m. Sapphire Community Center Bear & BBQ at 5 p.m. Bear Stories and Photography with Bill Lea

Thurs., June 14-Sun., July 8

• At The Highlands Playhouse, The Spitfire Grill. Call 828-526-2695 for ticket information.

Thursday, June 14

• Annual Highlands School Scholarship Golf Tournament at Wildcat Cliffs Country Club. The event kicks off at 7:30 a.m. for breakfast and use of the driving range and practice green. A 9 a.m. shotgun start followed by cocktails, lunch and an awards ceremony. The cost for the event is \$150 per player. For sponsorship information or to sign up, please contact event co-chairs, Brian Stiehler (787-2778) or Rebecca Shuler (526-2118).

• At The Nature Center, from 1-4p, a basket weaving workshop and a lecture with Doug Elliott, local storyteller, naturalist, and harmonica wizard. If you have them, bring a sharp knife and if possible a pruning saw, a rotary leather punch, and pruning shears. This workshop is open to all ages but there will be some knife use so an adult should accompany children. Please register in advance; the \$35 registration fee includes all materials.

Highlands Area Upcoming Events


PULL OUT

- At the Nature Center amphitheatre, Doug Elliot shares his Woodlore and Wildwoods Wisdom: Stories, Songs, and Lore Celebrating the Natural World at 7 p.m. Elliott has been on PBS-TV and the History Channel.

Friday, June 15

- Friday Night Live from 6-8p in Town Square on Main Street. Mountain Hoo Doo with Lisa & Steve McAdams.

Saturday, June 16

- Annual Reese Family Reunion at the Rec Park from 10a to 2p. Call Ann Wilson for more information at 864-888-1111.

- Live music at Altitudes at Skyline Lodge, 470 Skyline Lodge Road off Flat Mountain Road, with Jacob Deaton, jazz, blues, soul, 2:30-4p. 526-2121.

- Friends and family of Woodrow Cunningham, native of Franklin and Western Carolina who is suffering from usually fatal brain tumors, are holding a benefit at the South Macon Elementary School at 5 p.m. in the school cafeteria. All donations will assist to defray his medical bills and expenses. A hot dog dinner and dessert will be provided by the school employees. \$5 donation. Please mail any funds on or before June 10th to Woodrow Cunningham c/o his sister, Louise Dills at 52 Pastureview, Franklin, NC 28734

Wednesday, June 20

- Adult Movie at The Hudson Library at 2 p.m. Secretariat.

Thursday, June 21

- At the Nature Center, Lamar Marshall will take a group on an Ancient Cherokee Trails Hike from 10a-2p. Lamar Marshall is the Wild South Cultural Preservation Director, and is part of an initiative to find and restore the trail and road system of the Cherokee Nation in Western North Carolina. This event is free but please register in advance. Call 526-2221.

Fri.-Sun., June 22, 23, 24

- History Live sponsored by the Highlands Historical Society. The theme this year is "Our Mountains and the People Who Named Them." Friday and Saturday's production is at the Historical Village on N. 4th Street from 6-7:15 p.m. Sunday's production is at PAC on Chestnut Street at 4 p.m. Tickets are \$10 for adults and students are free.

Friday, June 22

- Friday Night Live from 6-8p in Town Square on Main Street. Johnny Webb.

Saturday, June 23

- Highlands-Cashiers free health screening at Blue Ridge School beginning at 7:15 a.m. Those wishing to take advantage of either screening can register by calling the Hospital at (828) 526-1435.

- Live music at Altitudes at Skyline Lodge, 470 Skyline Lodge Road off Flat Mountain Road, with Jacob Deaton, jazz, blues, soul, 2:30-4p. 526-2121.

Saturday, June 24

- Honduran "baleada" luncheon fundraiser at 12pm in the Methodist Church on Sunday. \$10 for baleadas and Honduran coffee. Alex Osteen will present the video that his townspeople made about the Health Clinic as well as show pictures of the people involved as well as of the Health Clinic itself. Everybody is invited. Take-out will be available. All proceeds from the event, plus any donations go to the construction materials for this Health Clinic project. Contact Alex at 828 200-2360.

Saturday, July 21

- Highlands-Cashiers Free Health Clinic starts at 7:15 am. Appointments are required. Call the Foundation office 828-526-1435.

Mon.-Fri., June 25-29

- The Highlands Biological Station, as part of their series of field-based courses, is pleased to offer "Mountain Biodiversity for science educators" with Karen Kandl, associate director of the Station. The course is a fantastic and affordable opportunity for science educators to continue to improve as teachers. They can receive CEU's or graduate credit, and the course and housing fee is only \$150. There are no pre-requisites and the course is open to educators of all levels.

Thursday, June 28

- At the Nature Center, Salamander Meander from 9pm. Please call 526-2221 in advance to register.

Friday, June 29

- Friday Night Live from 6-8p at Town Square on Main Street featuring the Foxfire Boys Band from Clayton, GA.

Saturday, June 30

- Live at Altitudes at Skyline Lodge, 470 Skyline Lodge Road off Flat Mountain Road, Jacob Deaton, jazz, blues, soul, 2:30-4p. 526-2121.

July 2-7

- The Playhouse Acting Camp. 9a-noon for children ages 6-10 and from 1-4p for ages 11-14. Cost is \$195 per student. For more information call (828)526-2695 or go to highlandisplayhouse.org.

Monday, July 4

- Rotary cook-out and first ever Rubber Duck Derby. The cookout begins at 11 a.m. and the derby begins on Mill Creek at the Spruce Street culvert at 1:30p. \$5 gets you a luncheon plate. Two flights back to back with cash prize of \$250 for first place. Ducks are available for purchase the day of the event. One duck is \$10, Quack Pack is \$50 for six ducks. The Super Quack Pack for \$100 gets you 13 ducks. All proceeds fund Rotary community projects. For more information, call Brian Stiehler at 787-2778.

Friday, July 6

- Preview Party & Auction (the precursor to the Follow the Star... Bazaar at Highlands United Methodist Church 5:30-7:30 p.m. \$15 per person includes preview party and auction with heavy hors oeuvres.

Saturday, July 7

- Follow the Star... Bazaar at Highlands United Methodist Church 8a to 4p. Breakfast will be available from 8-10a; and lunch from 11:30a-1:30p

- Live at Altitudes at Skyline Lodge, 470 Skyline Lodge Road off Flat Mountain Road, Jacob Deaton, jazz, blues, soul, 2:30-4p. 526-2121.

Thurs., July 12-Sun., July 22

- At The Highlands Playhouse, Walter Cronkite is Dead. Call 828-526-2695 for ticket information.

Fri.-Sun., July 13-15

- The Bascom's Mountains in Bloom Garden Festival. On the 14th, it's eight gardens in the Ravenel area. Tour participants will also enjoy a gourmet box lunch served on the Terrace at The Bascom between 11:30 am-2:30 pm. Tickets for the garden tours are \$80 per person. Group discounts are available. At The Bascom campus, on Friday and Saturday, July 13-14, from 9a-5p, free-admission juried Flower Show with nationally recognized judges. Then on Sunday, July 15 it's a private tour from 1-3 pm tour. Benefactors are also invited to the premier event for Mountains in Bloom, the "Flower Drum Song" Benefactor Party on Sunday. Stroll through the magical and enchanting, lushly landscaped gardens at The Farm at Old Edwards Inn. Music by Jim Gibson of Hickory Cove Music. A seated candlelight dinner with exquisite cuisine prepared by New Mountain Events will follow. For information call 787-2866.

July 16-27

- The Playhouse's Musical Theatre Camp from 9a-noon for ages 6-11 and from 1-4p for ages 12 and up. Learn the basics of Musical Theater with a focus on Acting, Singing, and Dance Cost is \$195 per student. For more information call (828)526-2695 or go to highlandisplayhouse.org.

Thursday, July 19

- Live at Altitudes at Skyline Lodge, 470 Skyline Lodge Road off Flat Mountain Road, Jacob Deaton, jazz, blues, soul, 6:30p. 526-2121.

Sat., July 21

- All day at the Sapphire Valley Community Center, Wilderness Wildlife Days with B.E.A.R. members and Bill Lea.

- Live at Altitudes at Skyline Lodge, 470 Skyline Lodge Road off Flat Mountain Road, Jacob Deaton, jazz, blues, soul, 2:30-4p. 526-2121.

Tues., July 24

- At Fat Buddies in Franklin program at noon. Living in Bear Country.

Thurs, July 26-Sun., Aug. 19

- At The Highlands Playhouse, Dames at Sea. Call 828-526-2695 for ticket information.



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July 26 - August 19



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Hit the links for Highlands School graduates

June 14 marks a special date in Highlands because that's when the Wildcat Cliff Country Club will host the annual Town of Highlands Scholarship Fund Golf Classic.

The scholarship fund began in 1975 through the generosity of a local businessman Jack Taylor.

His gift of \$5,000 was the initial funding for this scholarship program enabled by special legislation in the NC General Assembly making Highlands unique in the state with the ability to administer such a fund for the benefit of Highlands School graduates who are committed to higher education through college, university or vocational training.

In succeeding years Jack Brockway along with other prominent concerned citizens became increasingly involved in the development and promotion of the Town of Highlands Scholarship Endowment Fund which at the time exceeds \$780,000.

Through the ensuing years, various Clubs including Highlands Falls, Cullasaja, and now Wildcat Cliffs, have graciously provided each of their unique golf course and clubhouse facilities for the purpose of creating an annual one day "fund drive golf tournament."

The historical generosity has been essential in building and sustaining the endowment fund with the ultimate goal of providing financial and moral support to our young highland school graduates.

The event kicks off at 7:30a with breakfast and use of the driving range and practice green. A 9am shotgun start is followed by cocktails, lunch and awards ceremony.

The cost is \$150 per player. For sponsorship information or to sign up, please contact event co-chairs, Brian Stiehler (787-2778) or Rebecca Shuler (526-2118).

In memory of Clem Henry

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... DRUG USE continued from page 1

County Schools Board of Education policy 470 – Consequences of Positive Tests.

The maximum punishment for first and second offenses is ineligibility to participate for the remainder of that particular sport's season, but the school principal may shorten the suspension if: the student agrees to professional counseling outside of school; the student and his/her parents/guardians/legal custodian agree the student should undergo a drug and alcohol assessment provided at a state-approved alcohol and drug agency by a qualified alcoholism or drug counselor prior to participating in another sport; and the student and his/her parents/guardians/legal custodian agree to sign a release for the purpose of sharing the student's pertinent information between agencies; and the student agrees to undergo future tests.

Third offenders are ineligible to participate in interscholastic athletics indefinitely.

At Highlands School, 207 drug screens were completed on athletes. Two results of two student-athletes were forwarded to the lab for further analysis. One result was negative and one result was positive. The student that indicated positive was referred to complete section 5A under the MCS BOE policy 470.

Franklin High School conducted 554 drug screens. Three student-athletes chose to no longer participate in interscholastic athletics upon completion of the initial drug screen process. One student refused to complete the initial drug screen process and one admitted to using drugs prior to completion of the initial screening. Both of those students were referred to complete section 5A under policy 470.

The results of 17 students were forwarded to the lab for further analysis. Thirteen results were negative and four were positive. Of the four positive results, two students chose to no longer participate in interscholastic athletics. Two students who indicated positive were asked to complete section 5A of policy 470, one of which indicated positive for the second time and so was referred to complete section 5B under policy 470.

At Nantahala School, 38 drug screens were done. One result was forwarded to the lab for further analysis. The result was positive and the student chose to no longer participate in sports.

At Macon Middle School, 345 drug screens were completed and the results of seven tests were forwarded to the lab for further analysis. All seven were negative.

First there is an initial mandatory test, and then random tests conducted throughout the year.

The student athlete and his or her parents/guardians/legal custodian must sign a "Consent Form" and return the form to the student athlete's coach prior to the beginning of the sport's season and the first athletic practice.

"All student-athletes are tested in the Macon County School system," said Dan Moore, director of personnel. "At this point in time it is not legal to test all students."

Highlands School was the first school in the system to test all student-athletes at the beginning of the school year rather than randomly test throughout the year. Recently, the Macon County School system followed suit.

The student athlete or his or her parents/guardians/legal custodian may revoke the student's consent to drug testing at any time by completing a "Withdrawal of Drug Testing Consent Form;" however, once revoked, the student athlete will no longer be eligible to participate in any interscholastic athletic activities for the remainder of that school year.

The "Student Athlete Drug Testing Program" is only one element of the Board's mission to educate students on the dangers of alcohol and drug abuse and to maintain safe, drug-free schools. The consequences of testing positive under this policy may be different than a student would receive from a positive test under a different testing program or for a student found possessing or using alcohol or drugs on a school campus or at a school event.

"We hope that this ultimately serves as a deterrent," said Moore.

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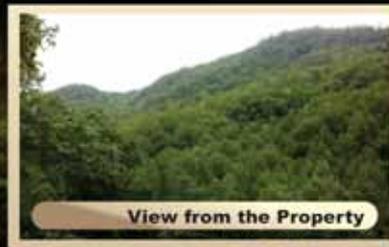
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... IMPACT continued from page 11

referendums, but both Bryson's Supermarket and Mountain Fresh Grocery workers are optimistic that they will continue to thrive despite the new competition.

With Ingles Supermarket in Cashiers already up and running with their beer and wine department, area shoppers will now have an option in both Cashiers and Highlands for beer and wine sales. However, while Ingles might seem like it would provide competition in the beer and wine market, shoppers may not necessarily be comparing apples to apples. "Most of the wines that we sell are hand selected," says Don Reynolds of Mountain Fresh Grocery. "JT (Fields) travels extensively throughout the country selecting specific types of wines for our customers, and so we don't necessarily carry the same types of wine that you may find at a chain store."

Nan Presley, Wine Manager at Bryson's Supermarket, echoes that sentiment. "One thing we have to sell to our customers is our service. We do a lot of special ordering for our customers to help provide them with what they are looking for, so we hope that our regulars will continue to shop with us because of the personal service that we can give them."

Both Presley and Reynolds agree that there will undoubtedly be some residual effects of the new competition from Jackson County businesses, but there will be no real way of measuring those effects until at least six months down the road.

One of the four referendums passed

May 9th also allows for a county-run ABC store to be built and operated in Jackson County. The city of Sylva, having allowed alcoholic beverage sales earlier, has an ABC store that is operated by the city. The town of Highlands also has an ABC store, and those two stores were the only options for residents of Cashiers, Tuckaseegee, Sapphire, Glenville and the surrounding areas to purchase liquor for their homes.

Most observers feel Cashiers will be the area chosen by Jackson County in which to build an ABC store run by the county. While Cashiers area country clubs and private clubs were already required to purchase their liquor within the county, a new store in Cashiers could directly affect liquor sales at the Highlands ABC store. Many Cashiers residents purchase spirits in Highlands rather than Sylva due to proximity, but that would likely change if Jackson County indeed chooses to open in Cashiers.

For many Highlands business owners, the passing of these referendums in Jackson County was inevitable and signals the change in philosophy in Western North Carolina towards alcohol. With the economy scuffling, many business owners are looking for ways to increase their sales, and for Jackson County residents, the ability to sell alcohol and bring in revenue was an easy decision. However, as with everything else, every action has a reaction, and it will likely be a year or so before Highlanders can determine just how much reaction they can expect.

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... JUST HERS continued from page 10

vital a movie theater is to the life of a community. Growing up in Waynesboro, we were blessed with two movie houses, or rather, we were blessed with one, and got the other as a bonus. The Wayne Theater, Waynesboro's first vaudeville/silent movie theater, opened its doors on January 18, 1926, and with its neo-classical façade, stylish interior, and even an organ, it was a state of the art facility in its day. My family and I only knew the Wayne after its 1949 remodel, but over the years, we saw such films as *The Endless Summer*, *My Fair Lady*, and *Sink the Bismarck* there.

The Wayne Theater is in the process of being renovated, and hopefully, will regain its role in the community. Sadly, gone forever are the local passion pit, the Skyline Drive-In, and the Cavalier Theater, a down market movie house whose seats it was claimed were so infested with fleas, that the cinema was more often referred to by its nickname, "the Scratch." As of last year, there is a brand new multiplex cinema in town, but whether generations of families will feel the same about it as we did our movie houses remains to be seen. Our world was much smaller then, and much simpler, too. After all, it was *The Good Old Days*!

Early on, we learned that you never told your parents you were bored, especially during summer vacation. The reply was usually, "I'll give you something to be bored about," followed by a broom, dust rag, or shovel being placed in our hands. Being bored resulted in cars being washed, lawns being mowed, and dishes being washed, dried, and put away. We learned to keep ourselves busy, or we would be kept busy. Doing chores was our way of participating in the life of the family, and with both parents working fulltime, there was always plenty to do. We didn't feel badly done by, but were always puzzled how our friends never seemed to be similarly occupied. Boy, now that they are grown up, and have children and grandchildren of their own, I'll bet they are sorry they missed out on *The Good Old Days*. What do they find to talk about?

• Michelle is a writer and translator who moved to Highlands after years of living in Baltimore, Sydney, Paris and New York. She lives in town with her two very spoiled cats, Orion and Weasel. Michelle and her late husband, John Armor, married on June 7th, 2008, here in Highlands. She hopes that you give a special thought to John this Thursday.



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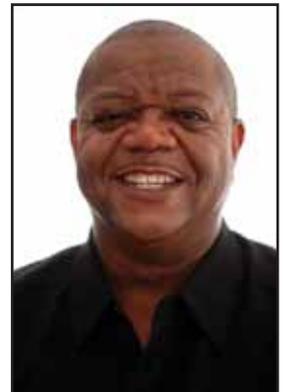
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John 3:16

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Proverbs 3:5

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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

CLEAR CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

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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

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Tuesday: 8 a.m. Men's Cursillo Group; Bible Study 10:30 a.m.
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Dr. Don Mullen, Parish Associate 526-3175

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Labor Day; School – 9:30

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Wednesdays – Choir – 7

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Worship, 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday: Prayer Service, 6:30 p.m.

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Road (4.5 miles from NC 107)

Weds: Bible Study 6:30 p.m.; Youth Group 6 p.m.

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Rev. Dean Cesa, pastor – Parish office: 526-2418

Mass: – Sun: 11 a.m.; Thurs & Fri.: 9 a.

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Rev. Clifford Willis

Sundays: School – 10 a.m.; Worship – 11 a.m. & 7

Wednesdays: Prayer Mtg. – 7 p.m.

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p.m.

Wed: Adult Bible Study & Youth – 7 p.m.

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Pastor Rev. Andy Cloer.

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• SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING •

Remember to marvel at God's work

Father Dean Cesa
Our Lady of the Mountains
Catholic Church



Henry Ossawa Tanner visited Highlands in the late 19th century and painted at least three landscapes, one of which is one of my favorite hikes – Sunrise Rock which is immediately opposite Sunset Rocks. It is surprisingly easy to miss Sunrise Rock, though the trail is marked. You have to pay attention. I missed many times until someone pointed it out to me.

Tanner, I imagine, is better known for his religious paintings, one of which is a depiction of the Blessed Virgin Mary as she receives the message from the Archangel Gabriel that she has been selected to be the mother of God's son. Unlike most depictions of this scene, Mary is not shown in magnificent clothing with halo, but as a simple young girl, seated on her bed, awakened by the angel. She sits up in bed bowing forward slightly and looking up. She holds her hands in such a way that show she is startled if not frightened. This response to an angelic appearance is not unique. Quite often in sacred scripture, the first words out of the mouth of an angel seem to be, "Do not be afraid."

But what is more remarkable about the whole scene is how Tanner shows us the angel. It is not in human form with wings and harp like we so often see angels in artwork. It is just a vertical strip of very bright light. Scientific examination of the canvas shows evidence that he had originally planned for a more human-like angel and many have speculated about what changed his mind.

One likely theory is his attendance at a technology fair. At this fair, Nicola Tesla was demonstrating new methods of producing electric lighting unlike the incandescent bulb of his day. These were more akin to what we know today to be fluorescent lighting. In one exhibit, he displayed a long thin tube that glowed without any wires being attached to it. When Tanner saw this unearthly glow, perhaps it inspired him to give up on the more traditional depiction of the angel for this other-worldly one.

It is remarkable that Tanner allowed his experience to influence his art. He did not simply copy what he had seen other artists do. He did not only paint what he saw. Instead, he let his experience form his art in ways that open the viewer to new interpretations of stories from sacred scripture. In this way, it was not just a personal interpretation. Instead, a new perspective is opened up for everyone to encounter. It became in a religious sense an extension of revelation.

God is always communicating with us, revealing himself to us. Most of the time, I find myself not paying attention, dulled to the experiences I am having, missing opportunities like the trail to Sunrise Rock and its beautiful view of Horse Cove. May the Lord provide us with a greater attentiveness to what we experience that we too can paint a masterpiece with our lives.

... WOOLDRIDGE from page 4

from its foundation during a hurricane and wound up in the pool next door. Half of it landed on a neighbor's roof. I told the new owners not to put in a screened porch and pool enclosure but I think they're Yankees and you know how they are; you can't tell them a thing.

Well, I hope my short story has not made you too crabby. And if you're a mouse lover...too bad. Chill out...or you can call me at 1-800-who-cares and vent your feelings.

• I'm Moving Back to Mars is full of worse nonsense than this. Look for it at Amazon or Barnes and Nobel and download it on our Kindle or Nook.

... SALZARULO from page 5

surprise you that he had a history of psychiatric illness? Most widely reported is the story of a naked man in Miami who was shot and killed by police while he was literally eating another naked man's face. There are lots of Haitian immigrants in Miami, so maybe the guy was an escaped zombie. We really need to tighten up border security.

Until recently I was unaware of serious concern among less than serious citizens of an impending zombie apocalypse.

Television star Ellen Crawford to appear at the Highlands Playhouse

After the critically acclaimed performance of film star Frank Collison last year, the Highlands Playhouse is excited to be bringing incredible talent to Highlands again this summer. Although the season is still a week away the cast and crew of the first show, The Spitfire Grill, are hard at work on rehearsing, designing, and building. The stars of the show include nationally-renowned television star Ellen Crawford and up-and-coming theatre actress Candice Shedd-Thompson.

Ellen Crawford is best known for playing Nurse Lydia Wright on NBC's hit show ER. Crawford appeared in 113 episodes of the show over the course of the 15 seasons of the series. Her most recent TV work was on Grey's Anatomy, in the episode titled "Have You Seen Me Lately?" and on Desperate Housewives with a two-episode arc



Ellen Crawford

in 2010. She has also appeared on such notable series as Boston Legal, Diagnosis Murder, China Beach, Murder, She Wrote, and Three's Company. Crawford will be in Highlands for two productions this summer. In addition to starring in The Spitfire Grill she will be appearing in the second show, Walter Cronkite is Dead.

Candice Shedd-Thompson comes to Highlands from Chantilly, Virginia. She is a rising junior at James Madison University in Harrisonburg, Virginia where she is majoring in Musical Theater. Shedd-Thompson will be playing troubled young woman Percy Talbott in The Spitfire Grill.

For tickets to The Spitfire Grill contact the Highlands Playhouse at 828-526-2695. The show runs from June 14th through July 8th.

I was aware of brisk sale of firearms in response to the fear that, if reflected to a second term, President Obama might move to restrict gun ownership. The run on gun shops has further been fueled by fears of some ill defined societal collapse, with some of the less stable among us arming themselves and honing their survival skills. For some reason which is unclear to me, these fears dove tail with the end of the Mayan calendar on December 21, 2012, which some worry warts equate with the end of the world.

A student in Maryland confessed to murdering his roommate before eating his heart and brain. A Canadian porn actor killed his male lover, then raped the corpse and dined on body parts. The fear prompted the CDC to deny the existence of zombies. David Daigle, a CDC representative, said that his agency knew of no virus or condition that could reanimate the dead or produce zombie like symptoms. I'll bet he didn't clear that one with higher ups. Some things are best ignored by the world's leading organization for the study and control of communicable diseases. For Mr. Daigle's sake, let's hope his boss has a sense of humor.

Which brings us back to writers, the true cannibals. We feed on the ideas of others as surely as the Swede dined on his wife's lips. We should be eliminated. I should be shot with a silver or have an oak stake driven through my heart. Or is that vampires?

... SWANSON from page 8

Mayor Cory Booker of Newark and former White House aide Steve Rattner have joined the chorus. They have essentially cautioned the president against biting the hands of Wall Street Heavyweights who have contributed major money to his campaign and also to the Party."

Lately, Obama's campaign has been challenging Romney's business acumen and claims his own policies are working, which is a fairy tale. As his bad luck would have it, last week the employment figures were horrible, sending the unemployment rate up to 8.2%, which translates to 14.8% if you are honest about it, with revisions for the last two months which reflected a much worse situation that was originally announced.

Obama's campaign strategist David

Axelrod provided some real fun last week when he held a press conference outside the Massachusetts State House, quite near the Romney's National Campaign Headquarters. A squadron of Romney staffers got wind of it and turned out en masse to heckle and shout down Axelrod and his twisted message. The media coverage was a joy to see. I mean, really, Dave, didn't you see this coming? As I said, the magic is gone.

I could go on for days, but let's leave foreign policy blunders until next week - same time, same place. See ya.



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• See CLASSIFIEDS page 22

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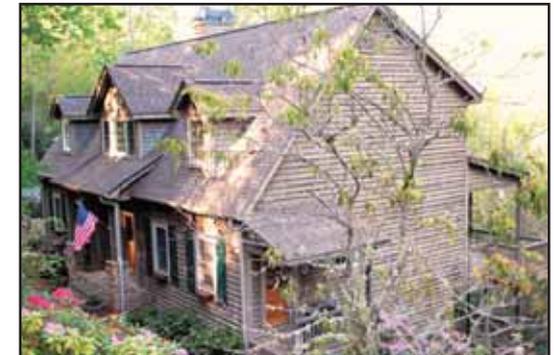
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LEGALS

Town of Highlands Notice of Public Hearing

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing will be held by the Town of Highlands Board of Commissioners at the Highlands Community Building, 71 Poplar Street, on the 21st day of June 2012, beginning at 7:00 p.m., for the proposed annual budget for Fiscal Year 2012-2013.

All interested residents/citizens are encouraged to attend and be heard. A copy of the proposed annual budget is located on the Town Website www.highlandsc.org and on file at Town Hall for inspection by all between the hours of 8:00am and 4:30pm Monday through Friday.

Rebecca R. Shuler, Town Clerk
(6/7, 6/14)

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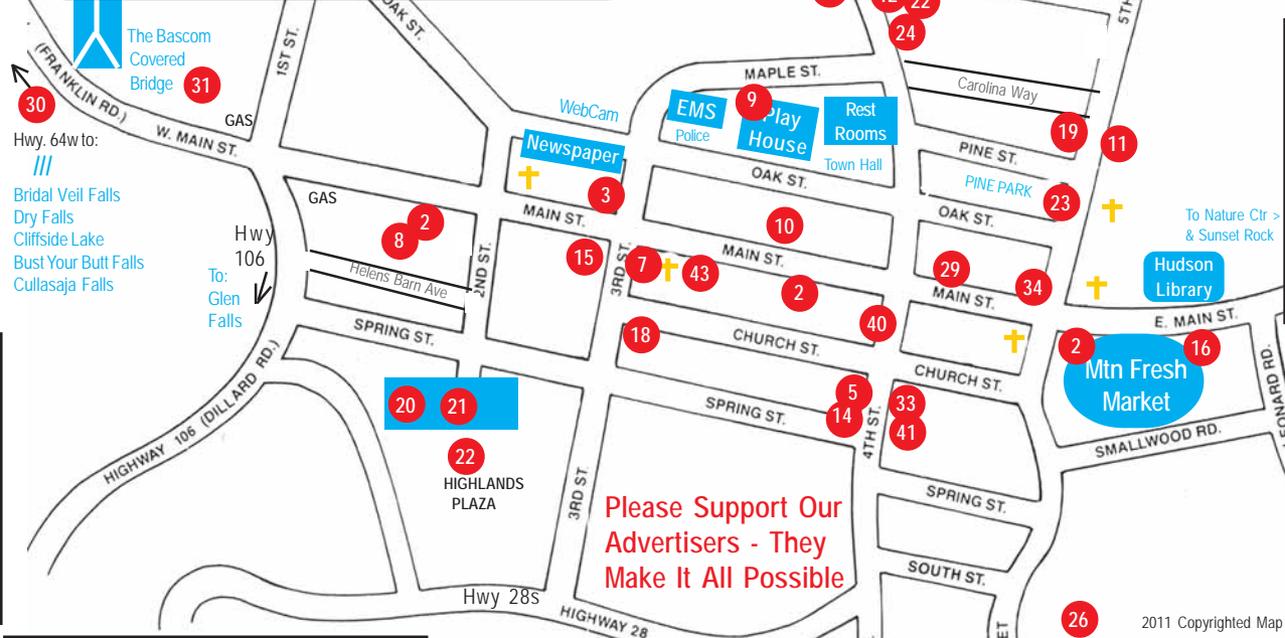
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Thursday, June 7
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• Highlands Nature Center for the annual Owl Prowl at 7 pm. Children welcome.
Saturday, June 9
• Live music at Altitudes at Skyline Lodge, 470 Skyline Lodge Road off Flat Mountain Road, 2-4p.
• The Highlands Farmers Market 9am-12 through October at Highlands School.
• At The Lost Hiker Bar & Lounge on Carolina Way, live music at 10p.

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