Ongoing
- Eastern Star is selling pecan pieces and pecan halves from the 2012 crop. 16-oz bags are $9/bag. Call Naomi Chastain, Worthy Matron, at 526-3487 and leave a message.

Through Wed., Nov. 21
- Registration for Macon County Boys Basketball signup at the Highlands Recreation Park. Please bring a copy of your birth certificate. The fee is $35. Call Michelle Munger at 826-342-3551.

Fri. & Sat., Nov. 9 & 10
- Live music at Altitudes Restaurant at Skyline Lodge. 6-9p
- At CK Swan – a Regina Imbsweiler, goldsmith, Trunk Show. Meet the artist 11a to 4p.
- The Macon County Public Libraries will be closed Friday for Employee Training.
- Free driver 4-hour safety course for veterans and their families regardless of age at the H-C Hospital, Jane Woodruff Clinic, Ste. 201, 1-5 p.m. Call Earlene or Sheraldine at 526-1345 to register.

Sat. & Sun., Nov 10-11
- Chef Louis Osteen, James Beard Award winner, will be in the kitchen at Mountain Fresh Grocery on Saturday and Sunday during breakfast and lunch.
- Sallie’s Jams tasting at the Hen House on Main Street 10:30a to 5p.

Saturday, Nov. 10
- At Highlands Playhouse, “Scotland Fever” wine tasting/Low Country Boil/Silent Auction featuring the Caribbean Cowboys. 5-8p. Tickets are $15. Call 526-2695.

Monday, Nov. 12
- The Macon County Public Libraries will be closed Monday for Veterans Day.

Tuesday, Nov. 13
- Come and listen to stories at the Story Swap on Tuesday, 7:30 pm, at the Ugly Dog Pub at 294 S. 4th St. in Highlands. If you have a 3-7 minute story to tell or read, call 526-8322.

Election results bring local changes

After a grueling campaign season full of speeches, Q&As, and mudslinging both locally and nationally, Tuesday, Nov. 6 came as a relief.

A palatable slowing of the normal day-to-day frenzy was evident in anticipation of the answer to the question, “Who will win?”

President Barak Obama is the 44th president of the United States bringing in 303 electoral votes and 50.4% of the popular vote as of 2:30 ET Wednesday.

(Florida’s electoral votes were outstanding by press time.)

The local and statewide breakdown of races is interesting.

There are 25,196 registered voters in Macon County; 17,390 voted as of 2:30 ET Wednesday.

Snow on Election Day!

Whiteside Mountain trail beckons regardless of the weather. Photo by Kim Lewicki

Highlands Town Square design wins award

The Town of Highlands and Lupoli Construction have won an award by the Main Street Program of the State of North Carolina for the Town Square Renovation and Revitalization project.

Administered through the NC Department of Commerce, “Small Town Main Street” (STMS) is part of the National Main Street program designed for municipalities with less than 7,500 people. STMS employs a four-point approach to downtown revitalization: Organization, Promotion, Design, and Economic Restructuring.

Highlands was admitted into the Small Town Main Street Program in 2009. Regular public meetings over the past two years invited and involved community leaders, business owners and citizens to provide input on branding and way finding, establish objectives and establish a plan.

The USFS waives fees at two sites this weekend

In honor of Veterans Day, the U.S. Forest Service is waiving day-use fees at Whiteside Mountain and Whitewater Falls in the Nantahala National Forest Nov. 10-12.

The fee waivers are offered in cooperation with other federal agencies under the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act. Day-use fees will be waived at all standard amenity fee sites operated by the Forest Service.

This is our way of saying thanks to the brave men and women—past and present—who put their lives on the line to keep us safe at home,” said U.S. Forest Service Chief Tom Tidwell. “We encourage veterans, their families and all visitors to take time out over the holiday weekend to enjoy the benefits that nature provides at forests and grasslands throughout the country.”

Honor our Veterans

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Bar & Lounge on Carolina Way
Featuring full bar, live music and billiards!
Your Place for Saturday and Sunday Football Games!
cast ballots making for a 67.63% turnout – a turnout that is consistent with presidential elections, says Macon County Board of Elections Director Kim Bishop. For the 2008 presidential election, 17,466 Maconians cast ballots.

Democrats who voted the straight ticket represented 39.43% of the electorate in Macon County; statewide 55% of Democrats voted the straight ticket - 1,414,448 voters. In the Republican camp, 43.50% or 1,108,227 voted the straight ticket.

In Macon County, Obama got 33.83% of the vote; Romney got 64.30%; statewide Obama got 48.29% of the vote compared to Romney’s 50.45%.

In Macon County, Republican Mark Meadows, candidate for U.S. House of Representatives District 11, got 58.90% with 9,761 votes compared to contender Democrat Hayden Rogers’ 41.10% and 6,811 votes. Statewide, Meadows got 57.40% and 188,227 votes to Rogers’ 42.60% and 139,673 votes.

In Macon County, NC State Senate District 50 Republican incumbent Jim Davis beat Democrat John Snow 59.06% (9,814 votes) to Snow’s 40.94% (6,804 votes).

Statewide, Davis got 57.14% of the votes to Snow’s 42.86% of the vote.

Local races included three Macon County Commission seats and three Macon County School Board seats.

Incumbent Republican commissioners Kevin Corbin and Jim Tate ran unopposed and so held onto their seats; incumbent Democrat Commissioner Bobby Kuppers lost to Republican Paul Higdon – 42.92% (7,069 votes) to Higdon’s 57.08% (9,400 votes). The North Franklin precinct was the only precinct carried by Kuppers.

Incumbent Macon County School Board members Jimmy Breedlove from District 4 and Stephanie McCall from District 1 ran unopposed.

Incumbent Macon County School Board member Tommy Baldwin of District 3 lost to Melissa Bateman Evans, 52.93% (6,426 votes) to Baldwin’s 46.65% (5,663 votes).

NC Superintendent of Public Instruction Democrat incumbent June Atkinson held onto her seat against Republican John Tedesco, 54.24% to Tedesco’s 45.76%.

Republican Pat McCrory beat Democrat Walter Dalton for governor with 54.68% of the vote compared to Dalton’s 43.16%.

 Luckily, voters in Macon County didn’t experience the long lines voters withstood in other areas of the country. Director Bishop attributes “the smoothest election so far” to early voting. “All precincts had reported by 8:40 p.m.,” she said.

In 2012, 9,325 citizens took advantage of early voting; 411 of those in Highlands not including 178 absentee votes.

“One-Stop Voting (early voting) is something that is going to continue to grow which means shorter lines on Election Day,” she said.

– Kim Lewicki
Margaret Nichols

Margaret Nichols set a wonderful example for her children, Alan Nichols, Gail Craig and Jean Bailey; her grandchildren, Matthew, Hadley, Anne Beaumont and Andrew and her great grandchildren, Haley, Tyler, Luke, Cole and the most recent, identical twins, Liam and Beau.

She was, as long as anyone can remember, a woman of deep abiding faith. Her enthusiasm for anything involving her beloved family, the First Presbyterian Church of Highlands, her many friends, and the beautiful North Carolina mountains, was contagious.

Peggy lived with an attitude of gratitude for every blessing in her life.

She was born in Miami, Florida on March 12, 1915, to Charles A. Johnson and Frances I. Smith.

After graduating from Miami High School, where she could still recite from memory every member of her graduating class, teacher as well, she then attended Florida State College for Women and later graduated from the Jackson Memorial Hospital School of Nursing. She married her sweetheart of many years, Daniel Beaumont Nichols and enjoyed 33 years of marriage before Dan died in 1972. She retired from over 20 years of public health nursing in 1975 and then spent most of the rest of her life living in her much loved mountains in Highlands, North Carolina.

Peggy will be sorely missed by her family. She set a splendid example of the love of God and the promise of life everlasting.

The family requests that, in lieu of flowers, contributions be made to the First Presbyterian Church, Highlands, North Carolina or the Nature Conservancy.

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

An oriental rug was mistakenly sold during the Highlands Playhouse Oct. 13 yard sale. It belonged to the owner’s 98-year-old mother and her mother is very upset. If the purchaser will return the rug, the money will be refunded. Call 526-2695 with information.
I’ve been jerking chains a long, long time. It’s what I do and I’m not entirely sure why. It might be in my genes. The cliché ‘jerking chains’ originated back during America’s not so proud days of slavery. Slaves would sit on an auction block in the hot sun for hours waiting to be sold while prospective buyers would look them over. If an auctioneer caught a slave napping, he would jerk the chain fastened around his neck to wake him. Hard to believe, isn’t it? Since there are no black people living in Highlands, there’s little chance one will read this but in the unlikely chance a black tourist wanders into town, I want to apologize even though I wasn’t around back then and not responsible for slavery. I’m old, but not that old. Hey, I’m trying to stay politically correct here.

Anyway, after flunking the first grade for just not giving a hoot, I was more than incensed when I learned I would have to repeat the grade. Who knew? I threw a brick through my classroom window to get even. (Could I make this up?) Of course I got caught but I didn’t care ‘cause I had jerked the school’s chain. The school invited me to seek an education elsewhere. My parents chose the Catholic school down the street. It was the best and most scary thing that ever hap-

Feedback is encouraged!

askfredanything@aol.com

Jerking chains 101
(Why some love to hate me)

with Fred Wooldridge

*See WOOLDRIDGE page 16*
Springing ahead and falling back

Dr. Henry Salzarulo

Feedback is encouraged.
email: hsalzarulo@aol.com

I know to "fall back and spring forward." I've just never understood exactly what it means. I invariably begin by telling myself, "Let's see, I turned the clock back, so when it says five o'clock, it's really six o'clock, or is it four?"

OK, if I "fall back" I reset the clock from six to five. That part is easy enough. Figuring out what it means is another matter.

I start this conversation by saying to myself, "OK, it says five o'clock, so it's really six, so that means it gets light either earlier or later."

About that time I realize that although I get up at 5a every morning, I don't know what time it gets light. I pretend if it were yesterday, it would be 7a. Now I repeat the mental exercise of falling back and conclude it's 6a.

After some mental gymnastics, I conclude the sun will rise earlier because of the time change. It's more a matter of faith than actually understanding it. I hate to admit it, but I'll go through the same process, morning and evening, for several days until I just accept the time on the clock is the "real time." Right now my watch says 6:12p, which I tell myself is really 7:12p, which doesn't help me one bit.

This time thing shouldn't be so hard to understand, although I've met a good many people who share my boat. The best description I ever heard of daylight savings time was that it was like cutting a foot off one end of a blanket and sewing it on the other end. Ben Franklin was a genius. Maybe his greatest genius was that he not only understood "summer time," as daylight savings time is also known, but he invented it. He thought people would enjoy having a extra hour of sun on pleasant summer evenings. Somehow, he reckoned that required "springing forward." Of course, the trick didn't actually lengthen the day. By moving the clock hands forward, an eight o'clock sunset became a nine o'clock dusk. It might have been just as easy to start work at nine instead of eight and leave the clock alone. Ben could explain it better than I, but I think the result would be the same.

A number of countries have abandoned daylight savings time, probably...
I stole the title from Drudge because it was too apropos not to. I'll explain later.

The Monday morning, shortly before Sandy made landfall, I was at my usual post (in front of the computer).

For the first time in over 100 years, the New York Stock Exchange was closed due to weather, so the financial news channels were without financial news to report.

The general news channels were full of either political bickering or reporting on the storm, so I resorted to the Weather Channel, where the experts were observing and prognosticating.

The weather folks were charting the path of the storm and calling its track beyond unusual. People who have been in the weather business for 40 years were saying, “I've never seen a track like this.”

As you know, tropical storms/hurricanes, if they run up the east coast, may touch land on the way up, but ultimately, they gain speed in forward movement and veer off to the east into the Arctic to die.

Not this cookie. For days before landfall, they predicted that the storm would take a hard left and head into the most populated areas on the coast. As the time grew closer, they stuck with their scenario—a severeturn into some-

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

where between DC and Boston, and finally, NY and NJ. “Never before,” “a storm of Biblical proportions,” “damage will be devastating,” and on and on.

I looked up at the screen at the most amazing picture. This is going to be hard to describe, so bear with me. Millibar contour maps are used to display levels of atmospheric pressure. They resemble, in a way, topographical maps, with lines measuring pressure instead of elevation. Hurricanes have unusually low pressure at their center, with uneven lines indicating rising pressure, as you get further away from the center.

The lines, which generally are irregular circles, look like you are looking through hallucinogenic glasses, all wiggly.

What I saw was a series of perfect concentric circles, each one larger than the last, emanating from the center, which is the epicenter of the storm, just about to make landfall in the New York, New Jersey area. The circles were evenly spaced, like a child might do with a compass (when is the last time you thought of a compass?). It looked, for all the world, like a bulls-eye, with the Jersey Shore in the crosshairs. It was dramatic.

Now, being a believer of the Word, I referred back to Genesis and reviewed the time preceding the flood. “The earth was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence. So God looked down upon the earth, and indeed it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted their way on earth.” So God sent the rain, and you know the rest of the story.

There is no doubt in my mind that God controls the weather. I wrote a column after Katrina, pointing out the absolute precision of the storm events which occurred to cause the maximum damage to the area, in and around New Orleans.

As the damage became known, Gov. Christie was speak-

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From GA/NC line, go north on 441/GA Rd, 3.1 miles - Located on the right
**Coach's Corner**

Time for Georgia is now

Newly re-elected President Barack Obama ran his campaign this year on the message of moving forward, and I think that Georgia Bulldog fans need to take a page out of the Presidential playbook in the coming weeks. After they beat Auburn on Saturday (Auburn is a dumpster fire right now, seriously) the Dawgs will trot into the SEC Championship game with a tremendous opportunity.

Folks, Alabama is vulnerable. Sure, they are still Alabama, and they are still #1, but LSU handled them fairly easily in Baton Rouge until Les Miles decided he was going to do Les Miles things and ended up costing LSU the game (For those who don’t know, “Les Miles things” include fake field goals, onside kicks, eating grass and generally looking confused at all times). But back to Alabama—they struggled to move the ball against LSU’s defense, and their secondary was shredded by a guy who hadn’t thrown for over 200 yards ALL SEASON.

Back to Georgia, though. Many of my Georgia folks have been back and forth on Mark Richt because he is a wonderful human being and continues to bring in great recruits year after year...and yet Richt and company can never seem to get over the hump and contend for a National Championship year in and year out. This year, they were blitzed early in Columbia and never recovered in a blowout loss to South Carolina. Then, they just barely squeaked by Florida, mustering only 17 points despite forcing 6 Gator turnovers. That was yesterday, though. Today, I am here to tell you that this Georgia team has the talent to defeat Alabama, and they can’t dwell on lackluster performances in their two big games this year (USC and Florida) and instead look forward to what’s at stake.

Notre Dame and Kansas State are likely to stumble in the coming weeks (if Colin Klein is indeed injured as has been reported) and thus the winner of the SEC Championship game will face Oregon in the BCS Championship. For the first time in a long time, Georgia is in position to get there, but if they want to do it, they are going to have to not look back on past performances and instead only look forward.

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Everyone is familiar with the old cliché of “location, location, location” when it comes to real estate, and with good reason. One thing about clichés is that they became “cliché for a reason, and that is usually because they are often repeated as advice or common knowledge over the years. However, while location may be the premier factor in buying or selling a home, there are different aspects to “location” that can be more important than others. For example, while we often talk about homes in Highlands that are within a walking distance of town, a property beside the school may be appealing to a family with children but less appealing to a retired couple looking for a mountain retreat.

Other factors can influence location, such as proximity to golf, hiking, water or other natural features and, of course, mountain views. As always, supply and demand will play a factor in home values as well. The Highlands market is unique due to the limited area for new construction combined with high demand. A house in need of many repairs might be low value in a normal market, but with a high demand location could still retain high value in the Highlands market. Much in the same way that an apartment can have a high value in New York City, a small one bedroom chalet with a view can have good value in Highlands because of its attractiveness to a couple looking for a summer getaway home.

That same one bedroom home, if located in a small town in the Midwest, could have a very different “value” due to the location and lack of demand.

Market niches can also play a part in the ability to sell a home. A market niche is not necessarily a location such as a lake or view home; sometimes a niche can refer to a certain range of prices. For example, homes priced between $600,000-$700,000 could be selling relatively easily within a market simply because they are “on the lower end of high or on the higher end of low” so to speak. Foreclosures within an area can sometimes lower the value of surrounding homes, but they can also be appealing to buyers when located in a high demand market and can retain much of their value. Additionally, employment opportunities can play a factor in determining the value of home within a local market niche, although that typically has not been a major influence within the Highlands area.

For RE Snapshot advertising information, call 526-3228 or email highlandseditor@aol.com
The next RE Snapshots are scheduled for Nov. 22 and Nov. 29

Outstanding View Lot
Overlooking Lake Sequoyah

2.04 acres, town water & sewer available, sub-dividable, frontage on US 64. Reasonably priced at $247,500.
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Gentle land makes for easy building and fewer erosion problems. Plenty of parking, child friendly; a great place to walk.

Come Visit!
From Main St., take Hwy. 106 (The Dillard Road) 1.8 miles just past the Glen Falls sign, turn right on Ml Laurel Dr., go 3 tenths of a mile turn left on Moonlight. The entrance is on the right.

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Contact (onsite owner) or your broker for plats, prices & a guided tour.
828-508-9952.
Lake front setting! Gardens with paths, streams, bridges & arbors, golf frontage, too. 3br/3ba. MLS# 71974 $657,000

Mountain estate at Highgate. Barn wood accents, beams, keeping room, 5br/6.5ba, great mtn views, balconies, 2 car garage. MLS# 76240 $1,975,000

Bear Pen Mtn cottage with great mountain views. Heart pine floors, 3br/3ba, large deck, carport & in town! MLS# 66149 Only $598,000

Great downtown cottage. Living room w/ vaulted wood ceilings, pine walls & stone fireplace. Long mtn views! MLS# 71520 $699,000

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Lake View, wooded 1 acre
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Broker Owned. Call Andrea Gabbard at The Pat Allen Realty Group 828.526.8784 or andreagabbard@gmail.com

Cold Mountain. 13.80 +/- acre estate. 3/3 home with mountain views & several building sites. Seller financing! MLS #74052. $445,000

Highlands Falls Country Club. Furnished 3/3 with stone fireplace, large covered deck, golf cart storage, 2 car garage. MLS #76006. $487,000

Flat Mountain. One level 3/3 cottage, wood floors, waterfall feature, large lower level. MLS #74251. $498,000

Mirrormont. 3/3.5 cottage, 1.07 +/- acres, covered porch, lovely flat yard. Walk to Mirror Lake. MLS #73333. $295,000

Updated Condo w/Amenities

Lovely 2 bedroom, 2 bath end unit with a wooded view. Completely updated with tile, wood, carpet flooring & granite counter tops. Stone fireplace with gas logs, large storage closet and screened-in porch. Amenities include clubhouse, pool & tennis. Minutes to town and easy living! MLS #76224, $249,000.

Mountain View Home Adjoining USFS

In Queen Mountain only 8 minutes to town, this home is on 2.20 +/- acres, adjoins USFS, and boasts beautiful views of Blue Valley & Satulah Mountain. Lovely & spacious 3BR/3BA with wood floors, cathedral ceiling, brick fireplace and screened porch. Rock garden with water feature, 2 car garage, and partially finished basement with storage and generator. MLS #75732, $475,000.

In-Town Retreat w/Views!

Completely renovated/updated, this 2BR/2BA, in-town retreat sits atop the special enclave of Little Bear Pen. On 2 lots, w/multiple range views from every room. Wood floors, cathedral ceilings, screened porch, garage, stone fireplace, built-in sound/TV system, open floor plan & upscale chef's kitchen. MLS #76211, $628,000.

The Perfect Escape

Enchanting 2BR/4BA home and 2 (1BR/1BA) guest cottages. Views of Whiteside's rocky face and distant ranges. 25.15 +/- acres (sub-dividable) adjoining National Forest. Cathedral ceilings, open chef's kitchen, 2 living rms, 2 fireplaces, interior/exterior dining areas, bar, library/study & mudroom. Waterfalls, too! MLS #76207, $4,688,888.

In Queen Mountain only 8 minutes to town, this home is on 2.28 +/- acres, adjoins USFS, and boasts beautiful views of Blue Valley & Satulah Mountain. Lovely & spacious 3BR/3BA with wood floors, cathedral ceiling, brick fireplace and screened porch. Rock garden with water feature, 2 car garage, and partially finished basement with storage and generator. MLS #75732, $475,000.

Lovely 2 bedroom, 2 bath end unit with a wooded view. Completely updated with tile, wood, carpet flooring & granite counter tops. Stone fireplace with gas logs, large storage closet and screened-in porch. Amenities include clubhouse, pool & tennis. Minutes to town and easy living! MLS #76224, $249,000.

Mal Phillips, Broker
mal@WhiteOakRG.com

Tammy Mobley, Broker
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Highlands Falls Country Club. Furnished 3/3 with stone fireplace, large covered deck, golf cart storage, 2 car garage. MLS #76006. $487,000

Flat Mountain. One level 3/3 cottage, wood floors, waterfall feature, large lower level. MLS #74251. $498,000

Mirrormont. 3/3.5 cottage, 1.07 +/- acres, covered porch, lovely flat yard. Walk to Mirror Lake. MLS #73333. $295,000

Highlands - Adorable, furnished chalet, 2 mi from Main St. Only $249,000!
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Highlands NC Realty
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Beautiful lot across from community dock. 20-acre private lake, tennis, pool, trout streams, waterfalls & fitness center.

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Lake View, wooded 1 acre
Lake Catatoga S/D – Only $144,900! –

Beautiful lot across from community dock. 20-acre private lake, tennis, pool, trout streams, waterfalls & fitness center.

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or contact CLE at 828 526-8811 and leave a message.
Or, email CLE at clehighlands@yahoo.com

CLE cordially invites you to attend its last event of 2012
Saturday, November 10 • 10:30 a.m. • Pack Auditorium
In conjunction with Culinary Weekend ...
Participate in a panel from Western Carolina discussing Home Grown versus Store Bought
FREE and open to all!

Ongoing
• Eastern Star will also be selling pecan pieces and pecan halves from the 2012 crop. The pecans are in 16 oz bags and will be on sale for $9/bag. Please call Naomi Chastain, Worthy Matron, at 526-3487 and leave a message with your name and phone number. Call backs will be made once the pecans have been received in mid-November.

Through Wed., Nov. 21
• Registration for Macon County Boys Basketball signup at the Highlands Recreation Park. Please bring a copy of your birth certificate. The fee is $35. The league is open to boys ages 6-18. Must be six by August 31, 2012. There are five age divisions: Developmental - 6-7 year old; Biddy - 8-9 year old; Junior: 10-11 year old; Senior: 12-14 year old; Varsity: 15-18 year old. Anyone interested in coaching should fill out a coaching application and other forms, also available at the Highlands Recreation Park. For more information, contact Michelle Munger at 828-342-3551.

Thurs., Nov. 8
• On Thursday, the League of Women Voters of Macon County will host a program on the Macon County Heritage Center at Cowee School. Stacy Guffey, county coordinator of the project, will speak about plans to convert the historic Cowee School into a community and heritage center. The program will be held at Tartan Hall in Franklin, beginning at noon. Attendees are invited to bring their own lunch and drink.

• The November meeting of The Western North Carolina Woodturners Club will meet on Thursday at 6p at the Blue Ridge School, in Glenville, N.C. Drive to the back of the school to the woodworking shop. Visitors are always welcomed. The club meets every second Thursday at 6p., March through November.

• The Macon County Cancer Support Group will meet Thursday in the cafeteria of Angel Medical Center. In recognition of Lung Cancer Awareness month, guest speaker will be Dr. Angela Connaughton, Pulmonologist, with Western Carolina Pulmonary & Sleep Consultants. A $50 gift certificate will be given away. There will be light refreshments. Everyone is invited to attend. For more info, call 828-369-9221.

Fri. & Sat., Nov. 9 & 10
• Live music at Altitudes Restaurant at Skyline Lodge. 6-9p

Fri., Nov. 9
• At CK Swan – a Regina Imbsweiler, goldsmith, Trunk Show. Meet the artist 11a to 4p.

• The Macon County Public Libraries will be closed Friday for Employee Training.

• Free driver 4-hour safety course for veterans and their families regardless of age. Any military personnel, active, retired, guard, reserve is eligible to participate in the class free. This includes spouses (widows and Widowers) and their children. The course is being offered at the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital, Jane Woodruff Clinic, Suite

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- Cranberry relish
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The Feast
Serves 6 ~ $210

- A 10-12 pound turkey, all the above
- Accompaniments
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Dinners may be picked up by appointment between 11 a.m. Wednesday and 10:30 a.m. Thursday at Ghangi Asian Fusion Restaurant
490 Carolina Way, Highlands (828) 526-4035
While you are “Sipping and Strolling,” come by the Hen House on Main St. for a little Southern Drop-In Saturday, from 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m!

Sample Sallie’s famous Pork Tenderloin smothered with her Blackberry Sage Reserve Sauce and her other jams over in-house Artisan cheeses!

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... AWARD from pg 1

jectives and help set the direction of the program. In July of 2012 all direct assistance from State personnel phased out according to plan, and a local sub-committee now oversees activities in each of the four main areas. The local committee was not directly involved in the project, but was fully supportive throughout the reconstruction.

To celebrate the accomplishments by participating Towns and Cities, the NC Main Street Program recognizes a project in each of the four categories annually. Lupoli’s Town Square is being awarded in the Design category. Town Planner David Clabo, who submitted the nomination, says “We are very proud of this addition to Highlands’ Main Street. And we are pleased that the judges recognize the investment and design improvements to our town’s business district and have bestowed this Award of Merit on Lupoli.”

The new Town Square in Highlands features more than 21,500 square feet of beautifully designed retail, office, and restaurant space in addition to an expansive courtyard area that blends beautifully with the mountain vernacular of Highlands.

Town Square has already become the popular site of the Friday Night Concerts that were sponsored by the Highlands Area Chamber of Commerce throughout the summer. And a new hallmark of Town Square are charming red market umbrellas that welcome visitors to the outdoor patio of the newly relocated Wild Thyme Gourmet Restaurant. Other businesses surrounding the courtyard include Kilwin’s, C. Orrico, Colonel Mustards, TJ Bailey for Men, Potpourri, Spoiled Rotten and Prestige Realty.

Perhaps one of the most welcome amenities at the new Town Square is the much anticipated public restroom facility. The Town of Highlands was involved in the renovation from this perspective, because the public use qualified the project for North Carolina Main Street Solution Funds.

Mayor David Wilkes says, “I want to congratulate John and Regina Lupoli and their staff and tenants for the beautiful job they have done in rebuilding Town Square. This has been a prime example of cooperation between private enterprise, city, and state government. All of Highlands can be proud of the results.”

Many others have offered “Congratulations” to the Lupoli firm as well. All the statewide winners of the Main Street Program will be recognized at the Main Street Awards Program on January 31, 2013 at the Annual Conference in Salisbury, NC.
L ast week we celebrated Halloween. For the past several years there has been some controversy regarding the celebration of Halloween. Some view it as glorifying evil or gluttony or pleasure. Like most religious holidays, it has been overtaken by growing secularism, so there is little to be worried about it becoming sacrilegious. It can be just innocent fun, an opportunity to scare someone or use creative talents to make a great costume. But let’s not lose sight of the day after Halloween or All Hallows Eve, which of course is followed by All Hallows Day or All Saints Day. We take a day to look at what we do not consider holy — ghosts, goblins, zombies, and follow it with a day to remember the holy, the saints.

Even the word “saint” has many meanings, from all those who worship God to a more restrictive group of those we believe have now spent eternity with God. The Roman Catholic Church has its own process for acknowledging these saints. Just last month a few more were added to the list of saints — Kateri Tekakwitha was among them. But I don’t want to talk about that process. I’d like to instead speak of what it is to be a saint.

First of all, saints are not perfect. They are sinners. There was a great scandal with regard to Mother Teresa when her writings revealed the great struggle she had with being holy, saintly. This scandalized many. But the secular notion of the dichotomy of saint versus sinner denies the reality: all saints are sinners. No one is perfect (save the savior). What makes the saints different is their acknowledgment of their sinfulness, their constant seeking of reconciliation with God and those they have sinned against and their desire to do better with God’s help. Their willingness to cooperate with God is what makes them honorable. They did not seek what was vain. They knew that sort of pleasure was fleeting. They sought the face of God, knowing that it would lead to blessing and eternal reward. They lived their fallen human life and triumphed over sin, often in tremendous ways. The witness they provide, that one can be holy, is one that inspires us to be holy as well.

The Catholic Church encourages people to select a patron saint, one who is like you perhaps in profession or state of life. Knowing about a saint and the struggles that they endured in situations similar to ours can give us hope that if we too cooperate with God as they did, we too can be saints.

No one is perfect, everybody sins. But with God’s help, following the example of the saints, we all can be saints too. Even if you think that you can never be a saint, remember that nothing is impossible for God. Leave what is vain behind. Seek the face of God that leads to the blessings and eternal reward the saints already enjoy.
In Catholic school, I peed on my second grade teacher, a Dominican nun. This is just not done, especially if you’re a pagan student like me. Even though it was an accident, she went into a rage. I had accidentally jerked her chain and didn’t mean to. It didn’t matter. Cuddled up on the school’s bathroom floor in a fetal position, I patiently waited for her to stop beating me.

While growing up, I loved to jerk my parents’ chains and did it continuously. Finally they became so exasperated with my behavior they threatened to send me away to a live-in military school. Yikes, maybe I had gone too far? My choices were to continue to face scary school teacher nuns with triangular rulers hidden up their sleeves or even scarier looking men wearing Nazi fashioned uniforms. I begged my parents for forgiveness and removed the psychological chains from their necks. I may have been a smart-ass kid but I wasn’t stupid.

Realizing I couldn’t jerk the nuns’ chains without brutal consequences and having been deprived of taunting my parents for fear I would be exiled, I turned to kids my age. I became a prankster, jerking the chains of my fellow students. It was fun, fun, fun until Eddie Crawley grabbed me in the schoolyard and beat me to a pulp for peeing in his milk. Wow, was he upset and could that kid fight!

Jerk people’s chains was becoming hazardous to my health so I decided to lay low for a while and just grow up…kinda…a little!

When I joined the Miami Beach police department a wonderful and amazing thing happened to me. Large police departments realize they hire all types of personalities and so they try to fit the employee with what they’re suited for best. For example, milk-toast personalities are given administrative duties and soft street jobs. I knew cops who retired with years of service and never made an arrest. Some cops spent their entire careers off the street or as the school safety officer…stuff like that.

It was only a short time before police administrators realized I was an untrained chain jerker. They sent me to the best chain jerking schools America had to offer, like DEA (Drug Enforcement Administration) Academy and later to the FBI National Academy. Now those teachers know how to jerk chains and they fashioned me into an expert. The police department was now paying me a handsome salary to jerk the chains of criminals. I thought I was in heaven.

Working undercover, I faked being a drug user for over four years and jerked the chains of drug users and their dealers. They hated me and I loved it. Because of how disheveled I looked, folks from my church who didn’t know me gave me dirty looks when they saw the wonderful wife and three small children I was with. I didn’t mind and actually enjoyed the dirty looks because I knew, in an abstract way, I was jerking their chains.

But four years as an undercover narcotics officer was too long to be jerking the chains of dangerous drug dealers so, after a couple of close calls, they put me in an organized crime unit and ordered me to jerk the chains of organized crime figures.

I became more white collar and creative. I found ways to decrease zeros from their yearly take by following the money. I used more brains and less muscle. Anger set in. One afternoon I was called to the chief’s office where I met two seasoned FBI agents who informed me of a contract, known as a hit, had been ordered on my life. ...
WOOLDRIDGE continued from page 16

(I am not making this up.) Lucky for me, the guy hired to kill me was a DEA informant who blew the whistle on the hoodlum who hired him. My chief ordered me to leave town (yes, I headed for Highlands) while the FBI contacted a major crime boss in New York to have the contract squashed. It worked. Back in the day, you didn't off a cop, especially if the police department was aware of the contract. Organized crime bosses would never bring that much heat on themselves. Today, I'm not so sure. I was eventually promoted to a command position and ran the department's SWAT teams and the Criminal Investigation Division. There, I taught my officers how to jerk chains. Remember, you are judged by your enemies and how well you jerk their chains. Once, a milk-toast police administrator said to me, “You should be kept in a cage.” I was so proud. What a compliment he paid me.

So folks, here I am, years and years later, jerking chains for the Highlands Newspaper. I will admit it’s not as exciting as jerking chains for the police department, but I still enjoy it...kinda. But it just might make some of my detractors realize just how little I care about those who verbally attack me. They are milk-toast compared to what I’ve experienced. Just pee on a nun and you’ll see what I mean.

Fred’s column can be read on-line all winter. You can send your hate mail directly to him or his editor. Also, his two books, Deceived and I’m Moving Back to Mars can be purchased as an e-book or hardcopy at Amazon.com.

WOOLDRIDGE continued from page 16

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Certification: American Academy of Nurse Practitioners
Member: Sigma Theta Tau Honor Society of Nursing

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Winter is on its way, but this weekend you can close your eyes, put a lei around your neck, sip a margarita, and listen to the sweet sounds of Caribbean music – while supporting the Highlands Playhouse.

Come to The Playhouse Saturday, Nov. 10th from 5-8p for “Island Fever” – a diverse and exciting event that coincides with the Highlands Culinary Weekend’s annual Sip and Stroll.

The ticket price is $15 and includes a wine tasting from Northeast Georgia based winemaker – Crane Creek Winery and a Low Country Boil. A high-end silent auction will allow people to support the Playhouse while getting great deals on some unique and desirable items.

At 6:30p the Asheville based Caribbean Cowboys will perform some of their most notable songs on the Playhouse stage. There will also be a Jimmy Buffet trivia contest, and the Playhouse will be selling wine margaritas throughout the evening.

Tickets to Island Fever can be purchased by calling the Highlands Playhouse Box Office at 828-526-2695, or just stop by 362 Oak Street in Highlands to pick them up in person.
Two years ago, Highlands Cross Country runner Hayden Bates qualified for the NCHSAA championship in Cross Country, after an exchange year in Brazil, she returned to the state competition as a Senior and finished 17th out of 128 runners.

The NCHSAA Cross Country Championship was held in Kernersville, NC last Saturday, with 128 qualifiers participating in the 5000 meter course at Beeson Park. Thanks to her appearance in the NCHSAA finals two years ago, Bates was “more prepared” and “less nervous” than she was in her debut in 2010. “I’m pretty happy with how I performed,” said Bates, “this was a really fast group of runners compared to two years ago. Last year the winning time was 19:40 and this year it was around 18:30, so it was a much stronger group this year.” Bates finished with a time of 20:44, which is 11 seconds better than the 20:55 time that she posted in 2010.

Bates said that she appreciates all the support that she has been given this year, and laughs as she calls it somewhat of a “community effort.” “Everyone, from Coaches (Ryan) Kean and (Jonathan) Phillips to Morris Williams and the Roadrunners club to the people at the school and my parents have been such a great help this year. Morris, in particular, helped me look at diet and maintenance as part of training and helped me to learn about how to approach competitive running. They pushed me and helped me to get better each day, even on days where it probably wasn’t much fun for them, they were still there and I improved because of it.”

Bates is considering attending Davidson University in the fall and possibly pursuing cross country at the college level, but has not finalized her collegiate plans. “I haven’t decided whether my love for running will translate to a competitive involvement. I know I am not through running just yet... I would love to get my time under 20 minutes, and I think I can do that.”

Hayden Bates at the NCHSAA championship run.

By Ryan Potts

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By Ryan Potts

The Highlands Highlander Soccer team advanced to the third round of the NCHSAA playoffs on Saturday with a dominating 7-0 victory over the Swain Maroon Devils. Tyler Munger notched a hat trick for the Highlanders, who were never threatened in this matchup. Taylor Osman added two goals for Highlands, and Kenan Lewis and Colin Weller added a goal apiece.

Highlands improved to 16-9 on the season and will host nemesis Henderson in the third round.

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**See SOCCER page 19**
Gabbard represents Highlands at NCHSAA Golf Championship

By Ryan Potts

Highlands School Junior Emily Gabbard represented the Highlanders at Foxfire National Course in Pinehurst, NC last week as she competed in the NCHSAA Golf Championship. Gabbard’s score of 103 at the Regionals qualified her to compete in the State Championship, and her score of 214 placed her 60th at the state level.

Gabbard, who is the daughter of Wildcat Cliffs Country Club Pro Kevin Gabbard, said that her first taste of State Championship competition was a good one. “I wasn’t really that nervous,” said Gabbard, “with it being my first time there I just wanted to try and have fun.” Gabbard credited Coach Barbara Reese, as well as Highlands School for being very supportive of her throughout the season, and also noted how supportive her parents have been of her as well.

Gabbard hopes to improve her score in the offseason by practicing regularly. “I think my goal next year is to finish top 30 in state,” said Gabbard, “basically to cut my score down as much as possible so that I can only have about half of the people in front of me that I did this year. I think the experience of going this year will be helpful to me, and hopefully I can build on it for the future.”

Emily Gabbard with her dad, Kevin.

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

Oct. 6
- At 9:30 p.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident at Main and 4th streets.

Oct. 15
- At 10:40 a.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident at US 64 east and Riverwalk Road.
- At 5:18 p.m., Jessica Elizabeth Keener, 26 of Highlands, was arrested for DWI when stopped for a traffic violation on Wilson Road.

Oct. 17
- At 9:22 a.m., officers were called to the Farmers Market at Main and NC 106 concerning a shoplifting incident.
- At 2 p.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident at Spring and Third streets.
- At 2 p.m., officers were called about a larceny from a vehicle at Mountain High Lodge where a Smith and Wesson valued at $500 was taken.
- At 3 p.m., officers were called about damage to the side of a van.

Oct. 20
- At 10 a.m, officers were called to a residence on N. 4th Street about a door handle broken off a door.

Oct. 22
- At 9:30 a.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident at N. 4th and Oak streets.
- At 7 a.m., officers issued a nuisance animal citation to a resident on Wingina Place concerning a dog barking excessively.
- At 3:15 p.m., officers were called to Potpourri on Main Street concerning a shoplifting incident where a pair of sunglasses valued at $175 were taken.

Oct 23
- At 5:25 p.m., officers were called to The Bistro at Main Street Inn concerning drunk and disorderly conduct of a patron.

Oct. 25
- At 1:15 a.m., Peter Valentine Wood, 30, of Highlands, was arrested for DWI when stopped for driving left of center on NC 28 south.
- At 10 a.m, officers were called to The Stone Lantern concerning a shoplifting incident where $4,650 in arts, antiques and collectibles were taken.
- During this timeframe, officers issued 9 citations (warnings, ordinance violations and citations).

Highlands Fire & Rescue Dept. log entries from Oct. 25

Oct. 25
- At 9:33 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to Raoul Road.
- At 4:58 p.m, the dept. was first-responders to Main Street.
- At 8:11 p.m, the dept. was first-responders to West View Way.

Oct. 27
- At 3:56 p.m, the dept. responded to a report of a brush fire on NC 106 but it was unfounded.

Oct. 28
- At 11:33 a.m, the dept. was first-responders to Mack Wilson Road.
- At 12:27 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to N. 4th Street.
- At 8:24 p.m., the dept. responded to an alarm at Falls Village Court. It was due to the furnance coming on.

Oct. 29
- At 8:19 a.m, the dept. responded to a call about a tree on a house and a power line down. There were no injuries. Residents were evacuated.

Oct. 31
- At 9:58 a.m., the dept. responded to a report of a fire around a fireplace at a residence on Martha’s Lane. It was out when they arrived.

Nov. 4
- At 1:50 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to S.Old Walhalla Road where a 13-year-old boy had been hit with a rock.

Nov. 5
- At 7:34 a.m, the dept. was first-responders to Clubhouse Trail.

... SALZARULO from page 5

because large percentages of the population couldn’t get it straight. How do you say, “spring forward, fall back” in Chinese, and what if the Chinese don’t use the terms, fall and spring? Does vernal forward and autumn back have the same impact? It would probably leave a lot of Chinese scratching their heads.

Proponents say light saving time saves energy, so I guess we’re more likely to turn on the lights or TV at night than in the morning, or do I have it backwards again. If it’s really a boon, why not advance the clock two hours in the spring, or stay on daylight saving time year round? We could arrange for sunset at midnight and sunrise about 10a. We could move to the Arctic and enjoy sunlight 24 hours a day for a few weeks, but no amount of clock manipulation would alter the long Arctic winter.

In a few days, I’ll forget about the time change and just obey the clock. Then, next spring, I’ll try, once again, to understand it.
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... SWANSON continued from page 6

...ing on TV, I had one ear cocked and I kept on hearing “Jersey shore,” “Jersey shore,” “Jersey shore.” Isn't there a reality TV show named “Jersey Shore?” I looked it up and there is. Now, please forgive my backwardness, but we don't watch MTV, nor have I ever watched a reality based show so I knew nothing about it.

I researched the subject and what I found was eight young adults who live in the same house and 72 cameras follow their every move. I'm certain there are some interesting moves. The show upset the Italian community, and lost some major sponsors, and I'll just bet there was sex flying around that place like a poltergeist. I find it ironic that the storm squarely hit the Jersey shore, and they are sorely suffering.

Breezy Point, Queens, was completely destroyed by a raging fire, driven by the high winds – thus, “Hell and High Water.” The south end of Manhattan was flooded out, no power, no lights, no stock exchange business, no other business – big deal, a really big deal. Was it being targeted because of the “corruption” that allegedly goes on in lower Manhattan?

The hell continues (as I write) for the folks on Staten Island, and other locales, who are still stuck in their flood- ed homes, in their cars in hours-long lines, no food, no heat, no dry clothes, no lights, no cell service, no nothing – except hope. I don’t begin to know what God’s purpose was in sending the storm where He did. “No man knows the mind of God.” I pray He is merciful to the USA.
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