

Highlands Newspaper

FREE every Thursday

Volume 10, Number 42

Internet PDF Version at www.HighlandsNewspaperPDF.com

Thursday, Oct. 18, 2012

Through October

• Pumpkins at Highlands United Methodist Church. Call Jennifer Forrester at 526-3376.

Fri. & Sat., Oct. 19-20

• Live music at Main Street Inn, outside.

• Fall Colors Fine Art Show at the Recreation Center. Fri, noon-6; Sat. 10a-5p

Friday, Oct. 19

• Daddy-Daughter Dance at Community Bible Church at 7p. \$5 at the door for Daddy and Date.

Saturdays Oct. 20, 27

• Create your own spooky ceramic work at The Bascom from 10a to 4p. To register call 526-4949.

Saturday, Oct. 20

• At Lulu Bleu, Lyndsay Mahaffey O'Dell Jewelry Trunk Show.

• At the Hen House, Sallie's Jams Demonstration 10:30-4:30p.

• Dancing Date Night for couples at Community Bible Church. \$10 per couple.

• At Greenleaf Gallery, Artist Robert Tino all day. 381 Main Street.

• At PAC Nashville Bluegrass Band in concert. It's Sold Out. Call 526.9047 to be put on the waiting list.

• At The Bascom, a book signing with Cynthia Strain's "Highlands Through the Seasons" from 5:30-6:30p.

• At Chivaree Gallery in Cashiers, Kristi Hyde Jewelry Trunk Show. 11a-5p. Cashiers Commons, near Zoller Hardware.

• Greenway monthly work trip. Register at 828-526-5622.

Sunday, Oct. 21

• Westminster Chorale at First Presbyterian Church at 1:30 pm. Also at 11am worship service.

• An Afternoon at the Opera with the Atlanta Opera, 3-4:30 p.m. at PAC. Call 526-9047 for tickets.

• Empty Bowls at First Presbyterian Church, 11:45a-1:45p. \$20 per handmade bowl. Call 526.0890 x 252

Tues., Oct 23

• Highlands Dialogue at the Hudson Library from 10-11:30 a.m Wittgenstein. Coordinator: E. J. Tarbox

PB to hear Conditional Use requests

If all goes as planned, two Conditional Use Zoning requests will be OK'd enabling Old Edwards Hospitality Group to turn another Highlands historic property into a wedding/event venue and enable the Town Place devel-

opment to enter phase 2 on its site.

At the Monday, October 22 Planning Board meeting held at 5:30 p.m. in the Community Building, members will discuss and make recommendations to

the Town Board concerning Phase 2 at Town Place at Chestnut/Hickory and US 64, where three new buildings will house nine townhouse-type units with garages.

Currently approved is the

• See REQUESTS page 12

Swan at home on Mirror Lake



Photo by Ken Kreutzer

New program to keep mercury out of landfill

At the Tuesday, Oct. 9 Macon County Commission meeting, the residential and commercial disposal of light bulbs containing mercury was discussed at length and now a program regulating commercial disposal will go into

effect Jan. 1, 2013. It will cost 75 cents per 8-ft. bulb.

"There is no new law requiring counties to manage mercury containing products - these products have long been banned from Municipal Solid Waste (MSW)

landfills because they are hazardous waste — we are simply getting more requests for better management of both commercial and residential mercury containing

• See MERCURY page 14

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Kuppers and Higdon face off at League Q&A

On Thursday, Oct. 11, the League of Women of held a question and answer forum with Macon County Commission candidates incumbent Democrat Bobby Kuppers and Republican Paul Higdon.

The questions revolved around the question "What is the role of county government?"

Susan Erwin, president of the league, said both locally and nationally there seems to be increasingly apparent differences in philosophy about the role of government.

"We have more potential contradictions here in Macon County, a rural mountain county with a tradition of independence and some fear of government interference, yet we rely on the continued health and beauty of our natural environment and the in-

• See LEAGUE Q&A page 15

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• THE PLATEAU'S POSITION •

• LETTERS •

• HAWK'S EYE VIEW •

About racism ...

Dear Editor,

Referring to Dr. Salzarulo's column in the Oct. 10 edition, he may be correct. Racism may be thriving throughout the USA, but nothing he offered would lead one to such an ominous conclusion.

Let's see if I understand. A funnel cake vendor, who Dr. Salzarulo felt necessary to identify as a Hawaiian which is a tad racist in itself, made highly racist comments during the sale of a funnel cake therefore: racism . . ."is a cancer which thrives throughout our country." Not just in north Georgia and the Ozarks of Arkansas, but racism thrives in all 50 states including Hawaii. Should we not have a little better sampling of data from funnel cake vendors and Hawaiians?

I am not sure I understand how a man from the scientific community could arrive at such a conclusion on such limited research. This is far and away the most egregious case of anecdotal data I have witnessed in a lifetime of reading op ed items and opinion columns.

Joe Pollock

Highlands summer resident

Our religious freedom is at stake

Dear Editor,

Referring to Fred Wooldridge's column in the Oct. 10 edition, wow, what a powerful statement. Having lived in Broward County from 1967 until 2005 (now in Martin County), I well remember the Mariel Boat lift and how grateful I was not to be any closer than Lighthouse Point.

I know he attends Mass in Highlands as I do in Sapphire. Is he as surprised as I that no mention of "vote your faith, study the issues, pray for guidance" has come from the altar or the diocese. I've seen nothing physical in our church even hinting at the important election that is to take place.

I do know the church risks losing its tax-free status if it recommends a candidate; but since 54% Catholics put Obama in office, I think the Church has an obligation to remind those who are sleeping that our religious freedom is at stake.

Jeri Spinella
Sapphire



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The Obamas are racist

Dear Editor,

Referring to Henry Salzarulo's column in the Oct. 10 edition: Nice article in the paper. Too bad he did not finish it.

Racism exists on both sides. Many blacks hate the whites and many with good reason.

Our President and especially his wife are very racist. There hatred of white is quite obvious.

Bryan Phegley

Boat lift story strikes cord

Dear Editor,

I am a Miami, FL resident, but my father is from Highlands, NC, and have always spent much time there and hold it dear to my heart. I keep in touch with my second home, by always reading the paper. Fred Wooldridge's column in the Oct. 10 edition really struck a chord with me. Although I am too young to remember the Mariel Boat Lift, I see everyday, the effects that linger. I greatly enjoyed reading the article I could so closely relate to, and look forward to reading more

Kayla Baer
Miami, FL

Loss of craft fairs sad

Dear Editor,

My husband and I have been coming to Highlands for many years and have owned a place here since 2000.

Over the years, we have really enjoyed the craft fairs held in Pine Street Park. There we have found items not sold in shops in Highlands and have enjoyed owning or gifting hand-crafted treasures created by local artists.

During holiday weekends, we've often taken our company there, eaten lunch downtown and shopped in the stores on Main Street afterwards.

It is very sad to me that there will be no more craft fairs held on that property that should be for the use and enjoyment of the public.

I understand only one of the town board members, Buz Dotson, voted to continue the fairs. Kudos to you, Mr. Dotson. I'm a summer resident and don't vote here, but I'm adding my voice to the others who have said: "Bring back the outdoor craft fairs"

Beth Rosenberg
Stuart, FL and Highlands

• OBITUARY •



Arnold Richmond Keener, age 85, died Thursday, October 11, 2012 at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. He was a native of Macon County, the son of the late John Richmond and Bertha Zona Smith Keener. He was a WWII Veteran of the US Army in Germany and was a member of the Goldmine Baptist Church. He was a retired foreman for the Town of Highlands Electrical Crew.

He is survived by his wife of 59 years, Eunice Martin Keener, two sons, Grant Keen-

Fairchild twins arrive



Jackson Raymond and Harper Delia Fairchild were born Oct. 10, 2012 to John and Marlene Alvarez Fairchild. Jackson was 4lbs, 15 oz and 19" and Harper was 5lb and 17." They are the grandchildren of Shirley and Raymond Fairchild, Marta and Alan Figel and Maria Alvarez and the late Oscar Alvarez.

Arnold Richmond Keener

er and his wife, Martha of Franklin, NC and Alvin "Skip" Keener and his wife, Ladonna of Highlands, NC; one brother, J.B. Keener of Highlands, NC; five grandchildren, Wesley Keener, Brooklynn Keener, Perrin Keener, Sarah Rutter and Matthew Keener and two great-grandchildren, Nathan Keener and Lilly Rutter. He was preceded in death by a sister Della McCall.

Funeral services was held Saturday, October 13 at the Highlands First Baptist Church

with Rev. Roy Lowe, Rev. Greg Rogers and Rev. Charles Harris officiating. Burial was held at Highlands Memorial Park. Thad Watson, Varney Watson, Farrell Justice, Grover McCall, John McCall, Weldon Keener, Ervin Keener and Wayne Justice will serve as pallbearers.

Bryant-Grant Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Online condolences can be made by visiting www.bryantgrantfuneralhome.com.

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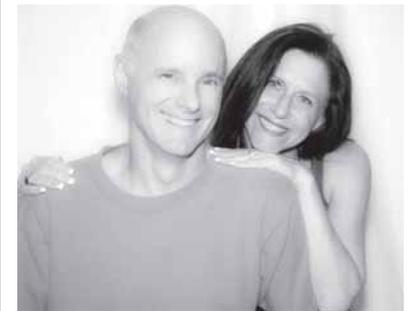
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• LAUGHING AT LIFE •

Frick & Frack



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No, no, no, I'm not talking about the Obama/Biden ticket but that's a pretty good guess, especially since both teams are in comedy. Actually Frick and Frack were waaaaay too smart to dabble in politics. I'm talking about professional Swiss ice skaters Werner Groebi (Frick) and Hansruedi Mauch (Frack) from the 1930's who came to America and joined the original Ice Follies.

Believe it or not, these guys came in through Ellis Island, applied for American citizenship and waited in line like thousands and thousands of immigrants of that time. How boring is that? They must have not known about our porous Mexican border. If they had just snuck in from the

south they could have gotten free everything. How duh were these two guys?

Anyway, if I wanted to poke fun at the Obama/Biden ticket I would pick a team more suitable, like the comedy team of Laurel and Hardy. Now close your eyes and guess which role Biden would play. Is that funny, or what? But this is about real comedy teams, not fake political ones.

Even more better than Frick and Frack or Laurel and Hardy is the Islamic comedy team of I bin Pharteen and his little brother, Hous bin Pharteen, whose act was described as "explosive." For more information on these guys, call 1-800-aka-boom. They're currently ap-

•See WOOLDRIDGE page 25

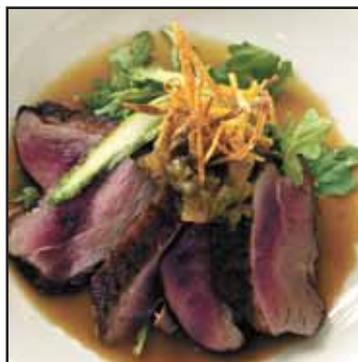


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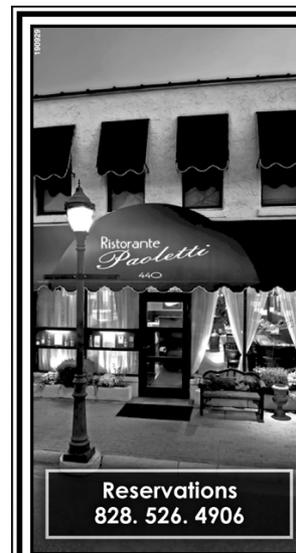


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• THE VIEW FROM HERE •

Daredevil: A hero of sorts

We sat in silence as ground control ticked off the final items on the pre-jump check list. Pressure inside the capsule reached ambient pressure, the door swung open, the pilot advanced his seat, placed his feet on a platform, steadied himself, saluted, and stepped into space. It was quite a moment.

We had watched as the plastic, helium filled, envelop changed from tear drop shape to a nearly perfect globe as the pressure decreased. Our excitement grew as the moment neared. News reports called Felix Baumgartner a dare devil, and I suspect he is. He has jumped from the highest building in the world, flown across the English Channel aided by a carbon fiber wing, and jumped from the Christ



Dr. Henry Salzarulo

Feedback is encouraged.
email:

hsalzarulo@aol.com

the Redeemer statue in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

Unlike today's historic leap, it appears some of his BASE jumps were unauthorized. Videos reveal clandestine approaches and hasty retreats, without either press conferences or autograph sessions. Today was different with a worldwide audience on TV and the Internet and the patina of scientific discovery.

He started jumping when he was 16, and was a member of the Austrian Army's demonstration and competition teams. A number of years ago, he teamed up with Red Bull, who sponsored the record leap. And what a leap it was!

Baumgartner stepped into space at an altitude of more than 24 miles. His free fall was

• See SALZARULO page 25



PESCADO'S

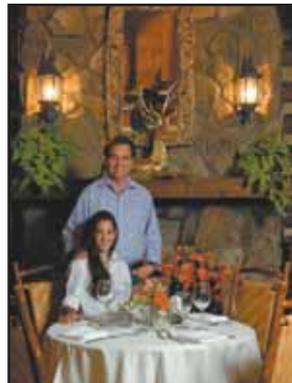
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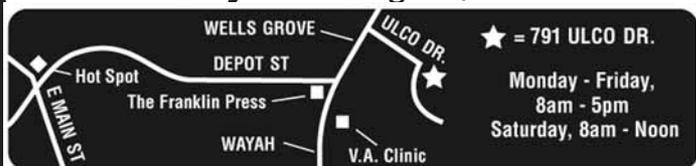
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From ABCNews posted Sept. 9, 2009: "A Republican member of Congress interrupted President Obama's speech tonight on the floor of the House of Representatives to yell "you lie" at the president, in reference to the president's assertion that his proposals wouldn't provide health insurance to illegal immigrants.

The Associated Press identified the member of Congress as Rep. Joe Wilson,

(R-SC). The extraordinary outburst caused the president to pause briefly, and First Lady Michelle Obama to shake her head, as the emotions that have been on display all summer at town hall meetings spilled over into the Joint Session of Congress."

Well, that was then and this is now, and he and his administration still lie, and they're not very good at it. One wonders how they view the intellect of the American people when they continue to blunder in their cover-ups. The most egregious story coming out of the Obama dis-information team recently is the attack in Benghazi, Libya which killed four of our citizens.

As the story unfolds, the administration just can't seem to get their story straight.

To recap, the original assault on our diplomatic mission in Benghazi was originally blamed

of the reaction to some movie trailer, evidently negative to Islam. Within hours, all hell broke loose in the Middle East with heavy-duty attacks on several American properties and persons.

When it became evident that Libya was a part of an organized al-Qaeda pre-planned, well-orchestrated plan, evident to anyone who can hear or read, hopefully both, the administration continued to maintain that all of this was cause by some obscure moviemaker. Honest journalists have returned from the field of action and said they never heard any reference to any movie, video or trailer.

Bearing in mind, the attacks started on Sept. 11th, a date that should have surprised no one, on the Sunday network news shows, five of them, five days after the information regarding the attacks

had circulated the world several times, our Ambassador to the UN, Susan Rice, repeatedly told the world the movie story, denying that the plan was al-Qaeda inspired and executed. She lied. The Company troll and mouthpiece Jay Carney may still be spouting the party line as far as I know.

Re foxnews.com: "Twice the man in charge of security for our diplomats in Libya, Greg Nordstrom, begged the State Department for more security in Benghazi after no less than 48 security 'incidents' there, including two bombings.

Washington, however, said no. Hillary Clinton wanted to preserve the illusion that all was fine in Libya, especially on the eve of the November election. She had her minion Charlene Lee, assistant head of international programs, tell Nordstrom that State wanted 'to normalize relations' in Libya and to 'reduce security resources.'

In the end Ambassador Stevens had to trust his life to hired local security, who, we now know, led the killers to Stevens's hiding place where they could torture, and murder him. Second, by blaming the Stevens murder on a video instead of al Qaeda terrorists, she and the president deliberately deceived (lied to) the American peo-

• See SWANSON page 15

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• COACH'S CORNER •

Tigers fueled by Verlander, Cabrera

I spent some time this summer watching the Detroit Tigers thanks to my MLB league pass (it's affordable and great if you have the internet capacity for streaming) and discovered that watching Justin Verlander pitch is must see television. Not only is Verlander exciting because of the sheer quality of his pitches, with a fastball that reaches 99mph and a knee buckling breaking ball—but it is also his command and his violent delivery that makes each pitch seem like a freight train.



Ryan Potts
tryanpotts@hotmail.com

stuff." While it is true that he did only have 3 strikeouts, he still held the Yankees scoreless for 8 innings and his only run came when he hung a curveball in the 9th and gave up a long fly ball that the wind carried for a homer. Verlander battled back to get the next batter with a 97 mph fastball on his 127th pitch of the evening. Oh, and as if there aren't enough reasons to admire him—he's also dating Kate Upton, which finally ends the longstanding notion (thanks Greg Maddux and Tom Glavine) that chicks dig the long ball.

The "other" Tigers MVP is Triple Crown Winner Miguel Cabrera, and he came through in a big way Tuesday night with a run scoring double that gave the Tigers a needed insurance run. Cabrera has had a season for the ages, batting .330 with 44 homers and 139 RBIs, and the Tigers are one win away from continuing an interesting trend. The last 4 Triple Crown winners have led their teams to the World Series, and Cabrera is looking to become the fifth in a row to continue that streak.

If the Tigers manage to win one of the next two games in the series, it will set up Verlander on full rest for game 1 of the World Series, and he likely will pitch 3 times in the series if it ends up going 7 games. Of course, the Yankees may have a little magic left in their bag, but with injuries to Derek Jeter and Russell Martin and historic slumps from Robinson Cano and Alex Rodriguez, things are not looking good.

This postseason has been no different than the regular season for Verlander, as he has pitched 3 games for the Tigers and in 24 1/3 innings has given up just 2 runs and registered 24 strikeouts. Game 3 against the Yankees saw Verlander have what he referred to as a game in which he "struggled with command," and "didn't have (his) best

Highlanders take over first place in SMC

By Ryan Potts

After an emotional victory last Monday night against the Blue Ridge Bobcats, the Highlanders didn't have a chance to catch their breath, as they traveled to Murphy to face the first place Murphy Bulldogs. The game started as well as Highlands could have hoped, getting a goal from Victor Lopez in the first minute of the game to set a good tone for the visiting Highlanders. Unfortunately, that goal was the only bright spot of the first half, as the Highlanders played uninspired soccer for the rest of the first half and allowed Murphy to tie the game. The second half was a back and forth affair, as neither team could manage to find the go ahead goal. At the end of regulation, the game was still knotted at 1, and the teams then played two 10 minute overtime sessions. The first half of overtime saw a scare for Highlands, as Murphy barely missed an empty net opportunity. However, in the first minute of the second OT, senior Captain Taylor Osteen came through for Highlands, hammering home a goal for Highlands to give them the lead. Ryan Vinson would add a goal just seconds later to give the Highlanders a 3-1 OT victory and possession of first place in the Smoky Mountain Conference.

The Highlanders followed their victory Tuesday with a trip to Swain County and showed no let down in dispatching the Maroon Devils 5-1. Kenan Lewis scored two goals for the Highlanders and Vinson, Colin Weller and Davis Moore all added a goal apiece for Highlands.

Monday, the Highlanders winning ways continued with an 8-0 beatdown of the Cherokee Braves in Cherokee. Taylor Osteen scored three goals in the first half for Highlands, and Vinson, Harrison Renfro, Philip Murphy, Victor Lopez and Roy Pioquinto all added goals for the Highlanders.

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HIGHLANDS COUNTRY CLUB ONE LEVEL LIVING



One-level floor plan with a view from every window. Secluded on 1.51 acres, with new roof, new paint and updates. 3 bed/3 baths and priced at under a million. MLS# 75598, \$995,000.

MOTIVATED IN WILDWOOD



Great open plan, large stone fireplace, and native landscaping. 3 bedrooms/2.5 baths with a wrap around deck. First time on market. MLS# 74035, reduced to \$375,000.

BREATHTAKING LONG-RANGE VIEWS



Highlands Country Club well-maintained 4 bed, 4.5 bath home. Stone fireplace, hardwood floors, vaulted ceilings, wet bar, deck, and a 2-car garage. Seller is motivated! MLS# 74694, \$1,499,000.

COMMERCIAL/PROFESSIONAL



On Harris Lake. Perfect home/office setup. Room for expansion. Features reception and waiting area, 2/3 offices and restroom. Seller is motivated. MLS#67077, \$550,000.

LONG RANGE VIEWS



Lot 19 Laurel Falls at Skyline Lodge. Great building site with utilities and driveway in. Annual membership includes pool and tennis courts. Sellers are motivated. MLS#70766, \$89,000.

LEVEL LOT WITH VIEW



Clear Creek, with septic permit for a 3-bed house. Great location for a year-round or weekend cabin in the mountains. MLS#71340, \$49,900.

Highlands Falls Country Club Properties



Whiteside Mountain View, 3/3.5, elegant Viking kitchen, vaulted ceilings, all on one level. \$987,000. MLS #75205



Whiteside Mountain View, 4/4.5, private setting, double lot, lower level has family room and guest suites. \$827,000. MLS #71048



One level living – light and bright family room, fabulous kitchen, lovely yard. 3/3 MLS # 69375 \$597,000



Located at end of cul de sac with national forest on two sides. 3/3 MLS #67817 \$899,000



Beautiful golf course view from this open airy 3/3 condo, open deck and sunroom. \$399,000. MLS #73808



Golf Villa with mountain view, 3/2, vaulted ceilings, stone fireplace, covered porch, golf cart garage. \$349,000. MLS #73034



See from tee to green on #5 fairway. Great mountain cottage. 3/3 MLS #70526 \$547,000



Great view of Whiteside from massive deck of this 5 bedroom/4 bath home. MLS #73335 \$1,127,000



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On desirable Big Bearpen Mtn – charming home with a great mountain feel. 3/3 MLS # 71520 \$699,000



New listing in Mirror Lake area with mountain view. 3/2 plus a family room MLS #76090 \$455,000



Mirror Lake cottage with wormy chestnut, great new kitchen, hardwood throughout 2/2 MLS # 68525 \$395,000



Cottages at Old Edwards Club. Great 3/3.5 with a mountain view and family room MLS # 73742 \$797,000



Wildcat Ridge, custom built 3/4 his/hers master baths, family room, studio, greenhouse, private gated access. \$795,000. MLS #74022



In town with mountain view, single level 3/2, unfinished basement, large yard, 2 stacked stone fireplaces. \$359,000. MLS #65865



Village Walk. Beautiful single family 3/3.5 condo with ZERO maintenance, walk 4 blocks to Main St. fireplace on porch. \$849,900. MLS #74769



The Cotswolds. 3/3.5 English cottage, mountain views, vaulted ceilings, screened porch, lots of privacy. \$847,000. MLS #75521

Escape to Exceptional Mountain Views



This classic in-town cottage has a view, both close and far range. 2 bedrooms upstairs and a guest suite down. On a quiet street in a neighborhood made for walking. MLS #75836, \$248,000.

Enjoy the Gentility of Satulah Mountain



Two rondettes in the "Old Highlands" Satulah Mountain area. Walk-to-town. 2BR/1.5BA main house and 1BR/1BA guest house. Live in the main house & rent the guest house! MLS #75356, \$288,000.

Lodge-Style, Log Mountain Home



Exceptional mountain views in this 4BR/3.5BA home. Includes gourmet kitchen with granite counter tops, copper sinks, and hand-finished cabinetry; master bedroom with fireplace; his & her master bath. Possible suite/3rd garage. MLS #73012, \$798,000.

For the Discerning Professional



Mountain retreat includes 3BR/3.5BA, large rooms, soaring ceilings, chef's kitchen w/ granite countertops, built-ins, breakfast bar, dining area, professional workshop and attached garage. Fireplaces in dining area/master suite. Ample decking! MLS #74426, \$825,000.

Please contact Susie deVile at (828) 371-2079, Sheryl Wilson at (828) 337-0706 or Mal Phillips at (828) 200-2642.



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Broker

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Highlands-Bank Owned! 1604 S. 4th St, 1.2 mi. from Main. Mixed use w/ beautiful rock garden. Tax Value \$462,000. Priced at **\$218,888!** Level topo, great visibility, parking and signage. Tammy Mobley, BIC/CCIM Highlands NC Realty 770-337-1000.



Rustic home in private gated lake community. 3 bed/2 baths, office, loft, access to hiking trails and pristine 17-acre mountain lake. \$525,000 MLS 75289. Call Andrea Gabbard at The Pat Allen Realty Group 828.526.8784 or andrea.gabbard@gmail.com

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Shelby Place. Close to town. Quality finishes. Easy living plan expands for comfort on the terrace level. Huge screened porch and 2-car garage. Offered at \$595,000. mls #74675



New in-town 4 bed/3 bath. Hardwood floors. Large dining room, fireplace, large open deck and large screened porch. Carport. Priced to sell at \$255,000. mls #75982



Updated home close to town & Mirror Lake on cul-de-Sac. Ridge line view from deck. 3 bedrooms, 3.5 baths. Large finished basement. New architectural roof. Full house generator. Price \$429,000. mls #75905



Log cabin on 1+ acres and backs up to Satulah Mountain with view. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, stacked stone fireplace in living room. Covered porch with outdoor living room with fireplace. Deck overlooks Koi pond with 2 waterfalls and gardens. Very private, close to town location. Offered at \$699,000. mls #68834



Stunning and spacious homewith large custom kitchen and dining area. Huge living area with heavy beams and stone fireplac, covered porch with outdoor kitchen and view. 2-car garage. Upper level bonus room. Lower level has 3 bedrooms, family room and an additional 2-car garage. Offered at \$1,575,000. mls #74851



Three bedrooms, three baths with two half baths and an apartment above the 2-car garage. Beautiful grounds with mountain views. The furnishings are available by separate agreement. Offered at \$950,000. mls #73147



In Highland Hills, with deeded lake access. Winter view of Apple Lake. Fireplace, loft and back porch. Close to town yet secluded. Offered at \$349,000 mls # 73386



3 bed/3 bath. Great year-round home on private lot with community water, good storage and large deck. Priced to sell. Offered at \$395,000. mls #75550



On a pastoral lot in town. Three bed/3 bath home on one floor with no steps. Vaulted ceiling, wood floors, central heat and air, walk-in closets. Large deck partially covered and screened. Fully furnished. Offered at \$449,900. mls #75793



Old Highlands charm and mountain elegance on over 4 acres and a sweeping views. New kitchen cabinets and counters. Huge decks and porches. 2 main floor bedrooms, with baths. Lower level has guest apartment. Offered at \$1,195,000. mls #73858



In Horse Cove, renovated charming 1930s eclectic farmhouse with a screened porch and a flat yard and lake. 2 bed/2 bath on main level. Living room has painted paneling and heart pine floors. Stone fireplace. Offered at \$1,650,000 mls # 71633



Great contemporary has soaring ceilings and open spaces. 3 bedrooms, 3 baths plus a loft. 2 car garage. Large sunny lot with view of USFS lands. Offered at \$1,150,000. mls #75365



Walk to Main Street. Master on main level, 2 guest rooms upstairs. Stone fireplace. 3 bed/2 baths. Offered at \$345,000. mls #76113



Highlands Mountain Club Condo has one of the best views in the complex. Updated 3 bed/2 bath with great porch and good storage. Amenities include clubhouse, pool and tennis. Offered at \$344,900. mls #75666



Satulah Ridge Log cabin is loaded with charm! 2 bedrooms, 2 baths. Stone Fireplace, Mudroom, Custom kitchen, Fenced area for the dogs. Move-in ready and a must see! Offered at \$425,000. mls #76053



Gibson Road. Great location. Almost new home. 5 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, living room, family room, dining room, kitchen features an eat-in area. 2 car garage. Move in condition. Offered at \$399,000 and below current appraisal. mls #76051



Highlands Country Club. Totally renovated and move-in ready on Moorewood Road with great year-round access. Mature landscaping, 5+ bedrooms, 4.5 baths, open spacious plan. 2 car garage, generator. Offered at \$1,400,000. mls #76024



Charming 3 bedroom Lake Villa with dock. Excellent view of Lake and 13th Signature Hole. Excellent condition. Reduced to \$495,000. mls #74731



Old Brushy Face. View of Blue Valley. 4 bedrooms, 4 baths on the main level, guest quarters in lower level. Huge living room with Wormy Chestnut paneling and stone fireplace. Covered stone patio. Offered at \$2,055,000. mls #75330



Country living. 2 bedroom, 2 bath off Hickory Knut Gap. Wonderful garden spot, great stream, sunny and pleasant lot. Offered at a very affordable \$199,500. mls #76027

• JUST HERS •

Elementary, My Dear III

A life well lived is like a good book. The further you get into it, the better it gets. I found that I had a real passion for learning, and was seldom happier than in the classroom. The academic part was easy; it was the ups and downs of relationships that were a minefield.

In those days, mothers who worked full time outside the home were rare. My mother was a high school teacher. There had been some tense moments in our house when Maman told us she wanted to go out to work. My father saw it as a slap in the face, proof that he wasn't man enough to earn a sufficient amount to support his family. A heated discussion ensued, during which my mother explained that her salary would be for extras, including the occasional trip to France to visit her parents.

An uneasy peace settled in the Mead household. My brother and I were told that we were expected to do real chores, as our mother would come home tired, with dinner to make. We always ate meals as a family; I can't remember a single incidence of sitting down alone at the kitchen table.

The whole topic of mothers working outside the home was a big issue in the 1950s, and having a working mother presented its challenges. On the rare occasions I was invited to the home of a classmate, the woman of the house would most often sit me down, plying me with milk and home-baked cookies. "Here, you poor sweet thing," she would invariably coo. "I'm sure you don't get this at home!" The hostility of some people surprised me. One boy in my class airily declared that teachers shouldn't even be paid, because they were women, and had husbands to support them. "They should just do it for the love of the job!" he said.

In addition to our regular classes, we had two other teachers who showed up on a weekly basis – a large, motherly woman who taught Bible class, and Mr. Z. who taught us music. Mr. Z. was a



Michelle Mead-Armor
michiemead@aol.com

portly man with black rimmed glasses. His frequent bad moods and bursts of temper made him look like an exasperated penguin. Why he chose a profession that meant dealing with children, I'll never know, since he seemed to have no fondness for them.

We greeted his disdain with giggling and bad behavior. In spite of this, we learned how to breathe and how to sing.

He taught us rounds and spirituals, as well as "Shenandoah," a classic for every child raised in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. It was the first solo I ever sang, hesitantly at first, and then with growing gusto. Mr. Z. even got us to learn all the words to "O Tannenbaum" in German. All the verses. Just try to imagine 30 little Virginians sweetly singing:

O Tannenbaum, o Tannenbaum,
wie treu sind deine Blätter!

Fourth grade was remarkable for many things, not the least of which was The Movie, the one they showed to explain menstruation to us nine-year-old girls. The boys were told to go play outside, and we were herded into a dark, windowless room just off the cafeteria. It was a badge of honor that at least one girl had to faint every year. Sure enough, one little girl in a flouncy dress swooned and fell to the floor, preserving forever the reputation of delicate Southern womanhood. Of course, we were all sworn to secrecy. Our blushing teacher admonished us that under no circumstances were we to divulge to the boys what we had just seen. Needless to say, each year there was one girl who spilled the beans. In our year, it was Bizzie Richards, one of the Richards twins. In spite of the movie, which I watched with great solemnity, when my period finally arrived, I was convinced I was dying.

On a happier note, I was getting the hang of Phys. Ed. A bicycle accident had left me with an awkward, loping walk, and I couldn't run worth beans. Fortunately for me, I had a father who excelled at many sports. He taught me to shoot hoops,

• See JUST HERS page 13

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... REQUESTS continued from page 1

2006 R-3 Conditional Use plan where four buildings housing eight units each and one smaller unit housing two units was planned. Since then only two units housing eight units each have been built. Now ready for phase two, instead of duplicating the units in phase one, the owner — Mountain Heritage Properties — wants to change the design so there won't be upstairs units.

The density on the property will remain the same and the colors, materials and general "look" designed by Paul Schmitt Architectural Design Studio, will blend with phase one.

Interestingly, the Town Place project was the project that ushered in Conditional Use Zoning in Highlands where commissioners made certain concessions based on "conditions" carried out by the developer.

The second request is for B-3 Conditional Use Zoning concerning the 3.65-acre tract bordering the Hudson Library and Highlands Manor Condos at 594 Main Street.

The house at 594 Main Street, which the Allan Bryant family currently owns, is the third oldest existing house in Highlands. The town's cofounder, C. C. Hutchinson, began building it as his home in the fall of 1878, and it remains today a historic home "worthy of being preserved," said Ran Shaffner, historian and archivist for the

Historical Society.

"Lamentably, over the past 20 years the town has lost too many of its historic structures. Too often the argument has been that a historic building was too old and unsalvageable, but that's not always true," he said.

"When Dr. Charles Frost bought C. C. Hutchinson's unfinished house at 594 Main Street, he finished it like a fort, with "giant oak trees split down the middle lengthwise and dropped into eight-foot rock-lined trenches," claiming that it was built to "last till doomsday," said Shaffner. He says in many ways Bryant's house, known as the Hutchinson-Frost-Hall-Farnsworth House, is one-of-a-kind.

Since the 1982 historic inventory, Shaffner says Highlands has lost 20 of its historic structures: seven in town.

"Four of these historic homes were lost to expansion by Old Edwards Hospitality Group," said Shaffner. They were the Chastain-Rice House behind Highlands Gem Shop, the Oscar Chastain House at Kalmia Court, the Kibbee-Hines House at 4th and Satulah Road, the Pierson-Pell house on 5th Street. Other historic properties owned by OEI include the Central House/Edwards Inn and the Piermont House on South Street.

He said the Hutchinson-Frost-Hall-Farnsworth House at 594 Main Street is eminently worthy of preservation as a town treasure and a prime candidate for the National Register, having been built one and a third centuries ago to "last till doomsday," he said.

In its overview in the Planning Board packet, prepared by Lupoli Real Estate & Construction, OEI agrees with Shaffner — "that the property is an important thread in the fabric of Highlands' history." However, they contend they could be saving the property because the current and allowable zoning on the property could allow commercial development or a subdivision on the property which would diminish its historical heritage and relative calm of the location.

The property includes two parcels and is divided into two zoning classifications. The majority of the larger parcel is B-3 — commercial, and the remainder of the tract is R-2 — residential.

Buildings on the property include the main house, a garage house, two small pavilions and a pump house.

OEI wants to repurpose the property to be used as a cottage rental where small-scale events could be held. They say the events would be for 30-40 people and most

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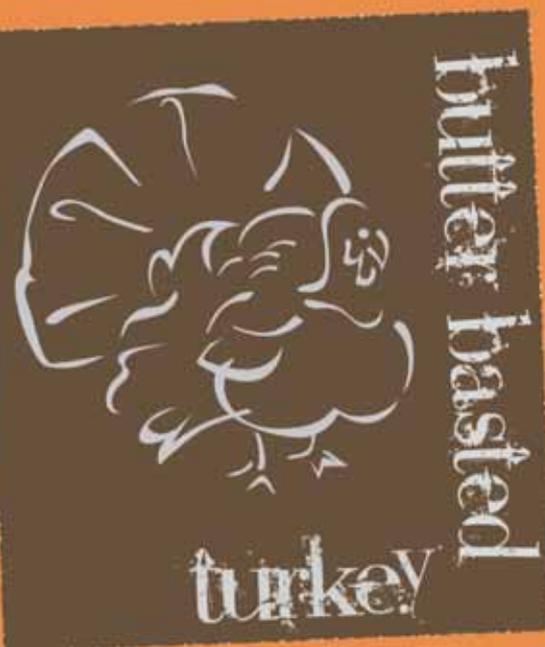
Butter Basted Turkey or Honey Spiced Glazed Ham
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House-Made Yeast Rolls and Turkey Herb Gravy
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... JUST HERS continued from page 11

swim, play tennis, and hit a baseball. My classmates learned to bring me up to bat when the bases were loaded. Since I was a slow runner, as often as not, I didn't make it to first base, but my hit usually brought everyone else home. To my great relief, I was no longer the last one to be picked for team sports.

A special treat for us was having the school television wheeled into our classroom by the handyman. The programs we watched were very dry educational programs, but we didn't care. We were watching TV in school! Other breaks from the monotony of regular school classes were nuclear air raid drills. Remember, these were the mid-1950s, and World War II was still fresh in the minds of our parents.

The terrifying alarm would go off – much more frightening than the fire alarm – and we would run out into the windowless hallway, and kneel on the floor, hands over our heads, heads against the walls. Local officials were convinced that our proximity to Washington, DC (just over 115 miles) made us a major target. We knew several families who had their own bomb shelters, and often saw spots on television telling us how stock in our bomb shelters. Now we know that these drills were utter nonsense – that these meager means would not have saved us in case of a nuclear explosion – but they served the purpose of making us

... REQUESTS from 12

of the attendees would be guests at OEI's other venues.

The property's location and dense natural buffers lends itself to the new "purpose" with minimal modifications to the site or the natural setting, they say.

According to the overview, the existing home will offer guests a rare opportunity to experience "Old Highlands" and they consider preservation of the home and its surroundings to be paramount.

A new 30' x 30' (900 sq. ft.) open-air covered pavilion is planned and will match the architectural design of the two small existing pavilions on the site.

According to the overview, OEI has already demonstrated its ability to successfully own and operate a similar property – the Piermont House at 447 South Street.

The repurpose of the property requires rezoning to B-3 to allow for the operation and would require only the R-2 portion to be changed.

After considering both applications, a recommendation will be made to the Town Board, which may or may not stand.

– Kim Lewicki

feel safe and secure.

Finally, sixth grade arrived. We were the big shots, strutting around the halls of school, lording it over the first and second graders. Fortunately, we had Mrs. Smith to cut us down to size. She was one of the toughest teachers I ever had, and one who taught me the most. I didn't particularly like her; but I respected her. Mrs. Smith taught us discipline, but she also taught us poetry, making us learn by heart James Leigh Hunt's "Abou Ben Adhem," the first lines of Keat's "Endymion," Wordsworth's "My Heart Leaps When I Behold" and his "Daffodils." Was Mrs. Smith a good teacher? Yes, from the standpoint of what we learned in that final year of elementary school. But was she a warm, pleasant person you'd like to hang out with? No, I can't say she was.

And then it was all over. No graduation ceremony. No caps and gowns, only the final bell of the school year, as we ran out of Mrs. Smith's classroom yelling and screaming, looking forward to a summer of swimming and sunning and ice cream. Little did we know what lay ahead of us as we inched inexorably toward junior high school. How could we? Our knowledge of the world? Why, it was only elementary, my dear.

•Michelle lives in downtown Highlands with two extremely well-educated and civilized cats, Orion and Weasel. Her love of learning has extended to taking a number of classes locally, including 17 CLE courses this summer. She recommends this excellent series as a marvelous way of keeping mentally fit while meeting interesting people.

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SOLD OUT!

... MERCURY continued from page 1

lamps," said Solid Waste Director, Chris Stahl.

With the exception of household quantities, the county's policy is to reject these wastes and direct commercial generators with fluorescent lamps to a hazardous waste treatment and storage facility in Canton, NC, or directly to a recycler.

Residential quantities are put into the landfill under the exemption.

Mercury thermostats are a different matter.

"We have been accepting them, free-of-charge, from residents and commercial generators for about a year," said Stahl. "After an initial \$25 enrollment fee in the program, we collect them and ship them to a recycler for free."

"There are some new regulations that sort of relate to this program, said Stahl. First, last year, all government entities in North Carolina were required to demonstrate that they had a program for proper management of fluorescent and other mercury containing lamps. "We set up a formal program that is being managed by the Maintenance Department," he said. "Second, anyone who is going to demolish a structure must first remove all mercury containing products (lamps, thermostats) from the building prior to demolition and turn them in for proper disposal."

The mercury recycling program is part of the 2012 Update to the Solid Waste Management Plan approved by the commissioners earlier this year. The program for the handling and recycling of mercury containing products includes fluorescent lamps, compact florescent (CFL) light bulbs and

mercury thermostats — under the Universal Waste rules.

Mercury is an elemental metal that can have dire impacts on the environment and human health; as such, products containing mercury are listed as hazardous waste and can't be placed for disposal in a landfill.

However, there is an exemption for household quantities of these products, as with all household hazardous wastes, because it is presumed the volume of contaminant from residences would be small.

Macon County's current handling procedure is to allow disposal of household quantities of fluorescent lamps and CFLs in the landfill and to reject all commercial quantities of these items. "We provide commercial generators of these waste products with information on companies permitted to handle these types of wastes," said Solid Waste Director Chris Stahl.

Because it is suspected that large quantities of mercury containing bulbs are being broken and bagged in black bags which end up in the landfill, Stahl said it's important to get the program started. The board OK'd it 4-1 to charge a 75-cent disposal fee per 8-ft. bulb for commercial entities.

Commissioner Ron Haven voted against the program because of the added cost to small businesses.

"I can't go along with it. It's going to create a problem so people are going to bust 'em up and put them in land fill. Small businesses are hardly making it, and they will take short cuts," he said.

But Stahl said people, business own-

ers included, are already doing that. "When they come in with them we reject them, then when no one is looking, they come back with them bagged," he said.

Haven said he'd prefer this be covered in the landfill fee that citizens pay each month but Stahl said it didn't think it was right to handle it that way. "I'm reluctant to throw an umbrella fee over something that has a specific set of users," he said. "When you are using a particular function of ours, we try to keep that out of our land use fee."

Haven suggested taking them for free from everyone — residential and commercial users — but the Solid Waste Department is an enterprise fund which is supposed to be self-sufficient. Sending the bulbs to a recycle center costs the county money.

"We would get a higher recapture rate if it was free to everyone, but it costs us to send them out," said Stahl.

Commissioners Bobby Koppers and Kevin Corbin agreed it would be nice not to charge but "the money has to come from somewhere and we have to have income to pay for this," they said.

Stahl said after awhile, if he finds it costs less to dispose of the bulbs he will return to the board to decrease the fee.

Haven suggested charging for the disposal fee when the items are purchased like is the case with appliances but that's a program that would have to come from the state or federal government.

So as of Jan. 1, 2013, the county will recycle all lamps containing mercury as Universal Wastes from residents and conditionally-exempt small quantity generators (commercial, institutional, governmental), and collect commercial bulbs to be shipped to Tennessee and charge a handling fee of 75 cents per lamp.

In preparation of this, in August Stahl submitted a grant application to DEAO for a \$3,000 grant to help with development of the program. The money would cover the purchase of the fencing to secure and area at the land fill, the purchase boxes, signs and labels required for storing and shipping of the lamps, the purchase of mercury cleanup kits in case of a spill and it cover the cost of up to 1,500, 4-foot lamps or 1,000 CFLs from residents. In addition, the state will reimburse Macon County for the cost of disposing the first 1,500 residential bulbs.

Stahl said DEAO has reviewed the grant and since the commission OK'd the program, it looks like Macon County will be awarded the grant.

- Kim Lewicki



FALLING WATERS

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ple and the world.

Hillary paraded this falsehood (lie) in two very public speeches on September 12th after the attack, and again on the 14th – even though the word was out within 24 hours that the killings in Libya were the result of a terrorist attack.”

Piers Morgan, CNN’s evening news guy, was interviewing Debbie Wasserman-Schultz, Chair of the Democratic National Committee a couple of weeks ago on the Libyan situation. She persisted in avoiding Morgan’s questions and preaching anti-Romney crap. After W-S twice tried to criticize the Republicans for politicizing the attacks, Morgan told her she was wasting time on the wrong issue entirely.

“You’re flogging the wrong dead horse. It isn’t about what Mitt Romney or Republicans did. The really important horse that should be flogged is the behavior and the statements of those who were in positions of responsibility and knowledge and it’s pretty un-American to put out completely false statements (lies) before you know the facts, isn’t it?” So says Piers Morgan from CNN.

Next, from the Hill: “Obama deputy campaign manager Stephanie Cutter is coming under intense criticism from Republicans for saying the ‘entire reason’ the attacks on the American consulate in Benghazi, Libya, had become a political topic was ‘because of Mitt Romney and Paul Ryan.’

Cutter was responding to a question about the continuing investigation into the terrorist attack on the consulate in Libya that left four Americans dead, and arguing that the administration was working to get ‘to the bottom of that attack to figure out what happened and bring the people to justice.’”

From an interview between CNN’s Anderson Cooper and Pat Smith, mother of murdered foreign service officer Sean Smith, from Human Events: “This is a damning indictment of an administration that has treated her son’s death like... a bump in the road. Every Obama official she names in this interview should be unable to look at their own reflection in a mirror.

Weeks of these outrageous lies,

weeks of devastating revelations about deadly incompetence in Libya, and not one person in the Obama administration has lost their jobs. They’re still trying to spin the whole thing away as a political food fight.”

Obama would like you to think that we killed al-Qaeda when bin Laden was eliminated. Obviously, the truth is, it hasn’t.

... Q&A from 1

fluence from the outside, from tourism to infrastructure funding.

“Through our questions today we will seek to understand your views on the role of county government in relation to the economy, education and developing planning regulations,” she said.

Question 1: Starting with the economy, tell us specifically what your priorities and goals would be, how would you would change or support what is currently being done. Some topics you might address could be: taxpayer investment in attracting and creating jobs, the county’s role in growing local business, regional economic planning and taxation policies.

Higdon

I think more people are interested in the upcoming election than in the past. That’s why I’m putting myself on the line. I’m a small businessman and work every day but I will commit for the next four years to not necessarily improve Macon County but make sure it doesn’t get any worse.

County government to me is simply an arm of state government. We are here to do house-keeping duties. Local county government is charged with assessing and collecting taxes, developing a budget and funding particular services back to the taxpayers. The board of commissioners simply oversees that. I think the board’s role is to set the direction and the tone for county government. I don’t think that the board of commissioners should be micromanagers of any sector of local government. I don’t think local government can create private sector jobs. I think they can create an environment that fosters private sector investment. I’m in the sewer and water business and it’s

• See Q&A page 20



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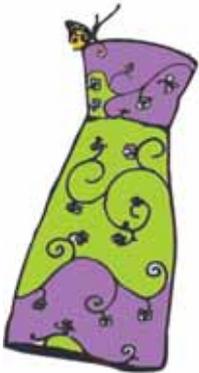


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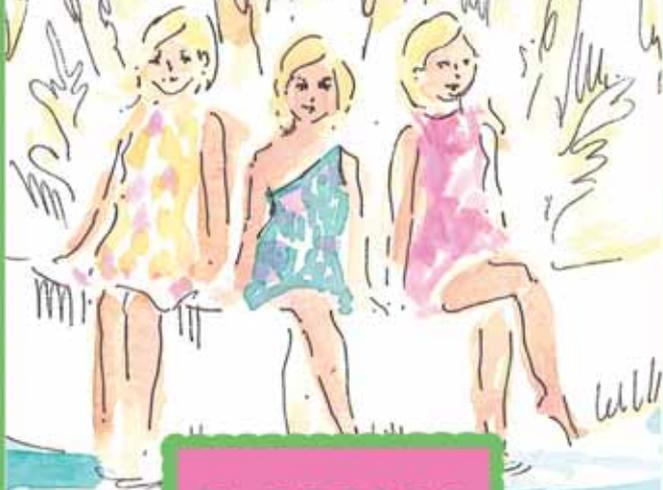
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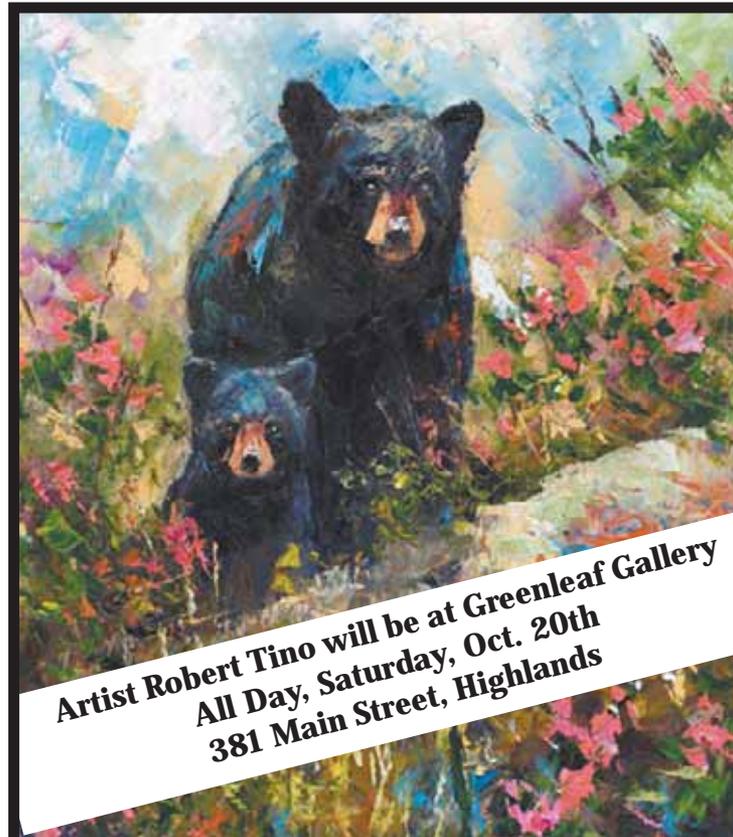
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Director of Children & Youth Ministries

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**Artist Robert Tino will be at Greenleaf Gallery
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Highlands Upcoming Events



Mon., Wed., Fri.

• Heart Healthy Exercise Class at the Rec Park. 8:30-9:30 a.m. \$20/month.
• Step Aerobics with Tina Rogers at the Rec Park, 8-9 a.m. \$10 per class or \$40 a month.

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

Mon, Wed, Thurs

YOGA ON MAIN – Mon & Thurs at 10:45a, Wed., at 7:45a. Call 828-482-2128. (9/27)

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 home-school 4-H club, meets at noon at the Macon County Library on Siler Road in Franklin at 1 p.m.

• Mah Jong games will be held, open to the public, at the Albert Carlton Cashiers Community Library at 1 p.m.

Wednesdays & Fridays

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

Thursdays, Fri., Sat., Sun.

• Live music at Altitudes at Skyline Lodge, 470 Skyline Lodge Road off Flat Mountain Road. Call 526-2121.

Thursdays

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

• The Highlands Writers Group meets 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!

Second Thursdays

• The regular meeting of Highlands Chapter #284, Order of The Eastern Star is held at 7:30 p.m.

Saturdays

• At Mountain Fresh Grocery, free wine tastings from 2-4 p.m.

• Simply Homegrown is a local farmers market in Rabun County, GA. Celebrating its 11th season as the area's original sustainable farm market. Open 9 am to 2 pm at the new location 0.7 mile west of Clayton on Highway 76 West. Look for directional signs on Routes 441 and 76 in Clayton. Our website has detailed directions www.simplyhomegrown.org.

• 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.

Through October

• Pumpkins at Highlands United Methodist Church. Call Jennifer Forrester at 526-3376.

Fri-Sun, October 19-20

• Art League of Highlands Fall Colors Fine Art Show at the Recreation Center.

Friday, Oct. 19

• Daddy-Daughter Dance at Community Bible Church (Hwy.64 between Highlands & Cashiers) at 7p. All ages welcome, refreshments, dance instruction, lots of fun. Hosted by "The Dancing Chapmans" from Orlando, FL. \$5 at the door for Daddy and Date.

Saturdays Oct. 20, 27

• Create your own spooky ceramic work at The Bascom from 10a to 4p. To register call 526-4949.

Saturday, Oct. 20

• Dancing Date Night for couples at Community Bible Church (Hwy. 64 between Highlands & Cashiers) at 7p. Ball room dance instruction, refreshments, hosted by The Dancing Chapmans from Orlando, FL. Lots of fun. \$10 per couple at the door.

• At the Highlands PAC Nashville Bluegrass Band in concert at 8 p.m.. Presented by Ray McPhail. Tickets are \$25 and are available online at www.highlandspac.org or by calling 828.526.9047.

Nashville Bluegrass Band at PAC, Sat., Oct. 20



This concert is sold out, but there is a waiting list, so please call 828.526.9047 for leave a message online at www.highlandspac.org to be put on the waiting list for tickets. The Nashville Bluegrass Band is presented by Ray McPhail.

• A book signing with Cynthia Strain's "Highlands Through the Seasons" from 5:30-6:30p.

• At Chivaree Gallery in Cashiers, Kristi Hyde Jewelry Trunk Show. 11a-5p. In Cashiers Commons. Hwy 107N near Zoller Hardware.

• The Highlands Plateau Greenway will have its monthly work trip this Saturday. Anyone interested in participating, please register with Ran Shaffner by emailing highlandsgreenway@nctv.com or leaving a message at 828-526-5622. Meet at the large upper parking lot (near the pool entrance) behind the Rec Park at 9 a.m. for a brief orientation session. Wearing clothes that can get dirty is advised.

Sunday, Oct. 21

• At First Presbyterian Church, a mini-

concert on Sunday at 1:30 pm. Featured will be the Westminster Schools Chorale from Atlanta. The group is conducted by Fred Scott, who formerly served as Artistic Director for the Atlanta Opera. The concert will take place in the church sanctuary. The Chorale will also be singing during the 11am worship service. Everyone is cordially invited to come and enjoy this concert. First Presbyterian Church is located at the corner of Main and Fifth Streets.

• An Afternoon at the Opera with the Atlanta Opera, presented by Gilliam's Promise, 3-4:30 p.m. with a reception following at the Performing Arts Center in Highlands, on Chestnut Street. Tickets are \$35 and includes the reception. For tickets, call 828-526-9047

• See EVENTS page 20

Fall Colors Fine Art Show offers more than just great paintings!

When the doors open to the 2012 Art League Fall Colors Fine Art Show at noon October 19, visitors will find more than an array of fine paintings. To be sure,



there will be hundreds of oil, water color and acrylic paintings, but there will also be a good representation of three dimensional art, such as one-of-a-kind jewelry pieces, pottery, mixed mediums, wood turnings and glassware.

One artist, Terri Johansson works in all art mediums, but her glassware is especially stunning. Terri has had a lifelong passion for art, selling her first painting at 11 years old. Primarily self-taught, Terri concentrated on art in college and studied with various artists over the years. She has sought guidance from world renowned sculptor Enzo Torcoletti and recently studied with glass artist Brad Walker. She lives on

the intracoastal waterway in northeast Florida with her husband, Anders and their furry girl, Lola. She is also an avid fishergirl, hiker, kayaker and

camper.

This annual show will be held indoors at the Highlands Civic Center on Friday from noon until 6 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. On Saturday there will be a children's art room, where children can create art pieces to take home, and may get to select a free painting from one of the exhibiting artists. Admission is free to both the show and to the children's art room. Certificates will be randomly given to visitors toward the purchase of displayed art. You don't want to miss this opportunity to see some very good pieces from over 50 very talented regional artists.

Highlands Upcoming Events



Mountain Fresh Grocery is teaming up with the Highlands 5th Grade to assist them in raising funds for their educational trip to Charleston, to tour the USS Yorktown and explore the ocean habitat. A portion of the proceeds from the October 25, Thursday Night "What's For Dinner" dinner menu at Mountain Fresh Grocery is being donated for the trip.

The dinner for four, consists of In-House Roasted Meatloaf, Yukon mashed potatoes, gravy, and salad.

The class is pre-selling the dinners or you can call Mountain Fresh Grocery, at 526-2400.

Westminster Schools Chorale to perform at First Presbyterian Church on Sunday



The Music Committee of First Presbyterian Church will sponsor a mini-concert on Sunday, October 21 at 1:30 pm. Featured will be the Westminster Schools Chorale from Atlanta. The group is conducted by Fred Scott, who formerly served as Artistic Director for the Atlanta Opera. The concert will take place in the church sanctuary. The Chorale will also be singing during the 11 am worship service at First Presbyterian Church that same day.

Everyone is cordially invited to come and enjoy this concert. First Presbyterian Church is located at the corner of Main and Fifth Streets. Handicap entrances are located on Church Street and on Fifth Street.

or go online at www.highlandspac.org.

- Empty Bowls at First Presbyterian Church, 11:45a-1:45p. \$20 per handmade bowl. To benefit the Food Pantry of Highlands. Call the International Friendship Center for ticket and event info 828.526.0890 x 252

Monday, October 22

- The North Jackson County Republican monthly meeting is on Monday, 6:30 PM at the Sylva Republican Headquarters Office at 58 D Sunrise Park For Jackson County GOP information call Ralph Slaughter, Jackson County GOP Chair at 828 743-6491, email jacksonctygop@yahoo.com or visit the website www.jacksoncountygop.com.

Tues., Oct 23

- Highlands Dialogue at the Hudson Library from 10-11:30 a.m Wittgenstein. Coordinator: E. J. Tarbox

- Meeting at 6:30 PM at the Cashiers Republican Headquarters Office in Laurel Terrace. For information call Ralph Slaughter, Jackson County GOP Chair at 828 743-6491, email jacksonctygop@yahoo.com or visit the website www.jacksoncountygop.com.

Thursday, Oct. 25

- Free movie at the Cashiers Library The Shining at 7:30pm.

- Mountain Fresh Grocery has teamed up with the Highlands 5th Grade to assist them in raising funds for their educational trip to Charleston, to tour the USS Yorktown and explore the ocean habitat. A portion of the proceeds from the October 25, Thursday Night "What's For Dinner" dinner menu at Mountain Fresh Grocery is being donated for the trip. The dinner for four, consists of In-House Roasted Meatloaf, Yukon mashed potatoes, gravy, and salad. The class is pre-selling the dinners or you can call Mountain Fresh Grocery, at 526-2400.

Sunday, Oct. 28

- The one-act play, The Bright Forever" featuring Shirley Williams will be performed at Our Lady of the Mountains Catholic church at 4 p.m. It portrays the life of Fanny Crosby, who though blind authored more than 8,000 Christian hymns. The play is free. Donations will be accepted at the door to benefit Stop Hunger Now, an international hunger relief organization.

Tues., Oct 30

- Highlands Dialogue at the Hudson Library from 10-11:30 a.m "The Bottleneck" by E. O. Wilson. Handout. Coordinator: Don McCormick.

Wed., Oct. 31

- Free flu vaccines at the hospital, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Combination of seasonal and H1N1, on the first floor of the Jane Woodruff Clinic, Suite 103 located on the hospital campus. Vaccines are available on a first come, first serve basis. You must pre-register by

... Q&A continued from page 15

a heavily regulated industry. If it's not a regulation, it's an increase in fees, another license, another continuing education course. The way I look at it the government tries to keep me from developing a small business. They hit me with every sort of licensing requirement, every sort of regulation hampering what my business can do and it's still there. I spend my time making my way through the mazes. I think the only way government is going to foster private investment, private development, private businesses, is simply to get out of the way. Don't create any more rules or regulations, don't increase any more fees. Look at the rules and regulations we have. If they are hampering the private sector, and the free market approach, get rid of them. We all know we have rules and regulations that don't foster a free market system.

Considering regional economic planning? I think we need to continually try to spur the economic status of Macon County. It's a tough market; manufacturing accounts for less than 10% of jobs in the US. It's tough to attract new business here. Our EDC just landed Harmony Foods, that's six or eight employees and it could grow. I think that's great. We have to support local economic planning.

About taxation policies. I think the only taxes the county government can have control over is our property values and I know we have the lowest mileage rate in North Carolina. But it's a shell game. If the mileage rate is low, property values are high. If we have lower property values then they raise the mileage rate. We were on a four-year cycle for revaluations but they kicked down the road to 2015 in hopes that the economy will bounce back and property values would increase. I hope we do come out of this sluggish economy and our property values do increase. And then in 2015, everything is a wash. But we need to be planning. If property values go up from 2006, no problem. If they stay the same, what options do we have? We need to start planning now and now wait until 2015.

Kuppers

Let's start with reval. Paul almost got it right but not quite. We

didn't kick it down the road hoping property values would come up, we pushed it to 2015 because given the formula required to be used by the state we couldn't accurately predict what property values would be. Because we couldn't do that we were making up a tax rate to stay revenue neutral that had no meaning. I think the people of Macon County would like to have a better picture of what the property values would be. Let's talk about the lowest tax rate in the state and that's only dependent on the valuation – the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners did a study and they estimated where all the counties would be if they did their reval right now. And it turns out ours would drop 15%-20% and then in order to have a revenue neutral budget we would have to go up on our mileage rate to keep the incoming dollars the same. And an amazing thing happened when you extrapolated that over all 100 counties. We're still the lowest tax rate in the state. So it's not really a shell game, it's really pretty straight forward.

I would like to say in respect to economic development, I think this board has done a pretty decent job. We now have a business development center that is full up. Yes, Harmony Foods, only six right now, but if they start their retail operation like they've implied to me they might, that's going to be a few more than six. The key to economic development is we cannot deny who we are. We have been a construction-driven economy for years and we will continue to be so. And I agree with my opponent, we do not need to be passing regulations that make it harder on the construction industry. But we also need, when we have a chance to diversify our economy and try to get some other types of businesses in here that may not feel the roller coaster we so often feel with construction.

Next week: Should the county be involved in promoting development and what is the role of the county in protecting natural assets that impact our quality of life, our health and the health of our environment.

• SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING •

Half the Sky

By Chaplain Margaret Howell
Holy Family Lutheran Church

I recently stumbled across the PBS TV production of "Half the Sky" a two-part series about the predicament of many woman and children across the globe. It is based on the widely acclaimed book by Nicholas Krsitof and Sheryl WuDunn.

The documentary takes us to India, Africa, the Middle East and other places where the human trafficking and the subjugation of woman and children is epidemic. You may be surprised to know the United States and Eastern and Western Europe are also involved.

An excerpt from an interview the two authors had with Dan Rather, really got to me was the statistics about human trafficking.

At is at the peak of the transatlantic trade slave, in the 1780s, there were just under 80,000 slaves transported each year, across the Atlantic to the new world. Just under 80,000.

Today -- there are approximately 800,000 people per year that are trafficked across international borders, mostly into brothels. Ten times as many as in the peak of the transatlantic slave trade.

Approximately, 20,000 women and children are victims of sex trafficking in the United States each year. If you are horrified, so was I when I realized the extent of this global problem.

These statistics do not include woman and children who are abused, raped and murdered each year for reasons of culture, warfare or poverty.

Women outnumber men on the planet, yet they are, in many cultures little better than slaves. Mao Tse-Tung, of all people, knew how valuable women are, even if only for reasons of commerce, and authored the quote that "Women hold up half the Sky."

If you just look at the present realities of such revelations, it might seem hopeless. What can be done? Lots. And best of all it is neither expensive nor difficult.

The most effective means to empower and encourage independence for these women and children.

Number one is education. Educating children, especially girls, can put a stop to the cycle of hopelessness.

Number two is economic empowerment. Micro-loans and "Angel Funds" to poor women, sometimes as little as \$2, can enable them to start their own cottage industries and therefore, provide their children with proper nutrition, medical care and education. These micro-loans have been hugely successful in places where they have been available.

We live in a country where starting a small business is fraught with endless permits, taxes, and fees. These are not a barrier in third and second-world countries. One woman in the program started with one tin of cooking oil. She now has seven employees and exports palm oil to world markets. All from one tin of oil provided by a micro-loan.

Aid. There are scores of reputable non-profits, like Lutheran World Relief that are good stewards of funds entrusted to them. If you want to get close up and personal, you can donate to smaller organizations like Kiva.org -- you can just make a loan. You get your money back. You can also go to Global Giving dot org and check out Giveology dot org -- to actually make a small donation to a particular person and a project, giving you have a personal connection.

In Genesis, the LORD creates man and woman, and all the creatures on earth. The creation of woman is telling -- the joining together of man and woman is partnership, not a master-slave relationship. The LORD gave humankind, stewardship over all of earthly creation. "You have made them for little while lower than the angels; you have crowned them with glory and honor, subjecting all things under their feet." (Hebrews 2: 7-8).

However, we fall short of God's intent for us.

John 3:16

• PLACES TO WORSHIP •

Proverbs 3:5

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

Wednesdays -- 7 p.m.

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Wed.: 6pm: CBC University Program

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Nave of the Church.

Monday: 4 p.m. Women's Cursillo Group

Tuesday: 8 a.m. Men's Cursillo Group; Bible Study 10:30 a.m. Reverend

Howard L'Enfant

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

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Dr. Charles Harris, Pastor • 526-4153

Sun.: Worship 10:45 a.m.; School – 9:30 a.m.

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

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Dr. Lee Bowman, Pastor • 526-3175

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

School – 9:30

Mondays: 8 a.m. – Men's Prayer Group & Breakfast

Wednesdays – Choir – 7

GOLDMINE BAPTIST CHURCH

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Rev. Carson Gibson

Sunday School – 10 am, Worship Service – 11 am

Bible Study – 6 pm

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Sundays: Worship – 11

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Thurs:12:30 – Women's Bible Study (nursery)

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Wednesdays: Prayer Mtg. – 7 p.m.

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

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Wednesdays: Prayer & Bible Study – 7

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• HEALTH MATTERS •

Breast reconstruction underutilized

Pink ribbons remind most of us that October is National Breast Cancer Awareness Month. But many women know little about one part of the breast cancer experience, breast reconstruction after a mastectomy or partial mastectomy. To combat this, a national campaign has started to educate women about the options available.



Dr. Robert Buchanan

Recent studies have shown that seven out of 10 women undergoing some type of mastectomy are not made aware of breast reconstructive options. Due partially to this, only one in five women who have had a mastectomy undergoes reconstruction. Thus, there are thousands of women walking around without one or both breasts because they don't know the options available to them. The numbers of women that do not have reconstruction by choice after learning the choices are in the minority.

One of the most common reasons for women not knowing their options is that their breast cancer doctors do not inform them. Some physicians mistakenly think that reconstruction at the same time as or soon after the mastectomy can reduce the chance of cure. Others believe wrongly that recurrences of breast cancer cannot be diagnosed if reconstruction is done. Some may be practicing where there are no plastic surgeons at their hospital and, thus, assume that the cancer treatment and reconstruction cannot be coordinated. Some just may not realize that reconstruction is an option.

All of this is in spite of national legislation, the Women's Health and Cancer Rights Act of 1998. This was intended to increase the options available to women with Breast Cancer and encourage Breast Reconstruction. It required any insurance company that pays for a mastectomy to also cover breast reconstruction surgery. This included Medicare and Medicaid. The law further stated that the company's clients must be told about the coverage. By doing so it defined breast reconstruction as not simply cosmetic surgery, but a medical necessity for the physical and emotional well-being of breast cancer patients. In the 14 years since this law was enacted

there has been almost no increase in breast reconstruction after mastectomy.

Why is breast Reconstruction deemed to be so important? Very simply, loss of the breast causes both mental and physical problems. From around the age of 10 the breast is synonymous with femininity and part of what defines womanhood. I am frequently told by women after mastectomy that they "no longer feel attractive," or that they were "outgoing and now have become an introvert." Additionally, the asymmetry of weight can lead to shoulder, neck and/or back pain and difficulty sleeping. One reconstructed patient recently told me "You don't think of your cancer every day after reconstruction."

There are, in fact, a number of options for breast reconstruction. These can be divided into two major choices, timing and method. Timing is either immediate or delayed. With immediate reconstruction, the initial reconstructive surgery is done at the time of the mastectomy. This restores a mound (though sometimes not to the final volume) and reduces the number of surgeries and the time to complete restoration of the breast. It also prevents the skin from contracting which makes any reconstruction harder. Data has shown that it does not interfere with cure of the cancer or reduce the acceptance of the new breast into the woman's psyche. Delayed reconstruction can be anywhere from 24 hours to many years after the mastectomy.

There are two reconstructive methods, use of an implant or use of one's own tissue from elsewhere. Each has variations and the two can be combined. Occasionally, especially with large breasts, an implant can be placed under the lax tissues after the mastectomy and the reconstruction of the mound is complete. The nipple/areola is usually reconstructed at a later time. If the tissues are too tight after the mastectomy to allow the final volume to be inserted initially, an expander (an implant containing a valve) filled with a smaller volume is placed and then expand-

• See HEALTH MATTERS page 23

... HEALTH MATTERS continued from page 22

ed, thus stretching the overlying skin safely to the final size. It is then exchanged for the proper sized implant.

Because the scar around the implant can contract and make the implant feel firm and some women desire not to have anything foreign, one's own tissue can be used. Most commonly this is taken from the abdomen or back. Occasionally, when the back is used, an implant is also used to reduce the scar. Using the tissue from the abdomen is probably the most

common and the most aesthetic, since one gets a tummy tuck at the same time as the reconstruction. All methods can provide excellent reconstruction and have pros and cons.

Since a true reconstruction requires the two breasts to match, and some breasts just cannot be matched by reconstruction, remodeling of the other breast to match the reconstructed one is also mandated by the 1998 law. This is very frequently required with implant reconstruction and

commonly needed with tissue reconstruction.

• Dr. Buchanan has extensive experience in breast reconstruction and is presently on the Breast Reconstruction Work Group of the American Society of Plastic Surgeons writing clinical practice guidelines for physicians around the country. He works year round in Highlands at the Center for Plastic Surgery. To find more information, visit PlasticSurgeryToday.com.

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Free flu vaccines at hospital

The hospital will conduct its annual community influenza clinic providing free flu vaccines, combination of seasonal and H1N1, on Wednesday, October 31st from 11 am – 1 pm on the first floor of the Jane Woodruff Clinic, Suite 103 located on the hospital campus. Vaccines are available on a first come, first serve basis. You must pre-register by calling (828) 526-1498. Pre-registration is required due to limited availability.

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• POLICE/FIRE DEPT. REPORTS •

Highlands PD log entries from Sept. 4 Only the names of persons arrested, issued a Class-3 misdemeanor, or public officials have been used.

Sept. 4

• At 8:13 a.m., officers responded to simple assault call that took place at Spring and 3rd streets.

Sept. 25

• At 7:15 p.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident at Oak and 3rd streets.

Sept. 28

• At 10:38 a.m., officers responded to a gas drive off at Farmers Market involving a blue 1997 blue Yukon.

• At 4:02 p.m., a suspicious vehicle was reported on N. 4th Street.

Sept. 29

• At 2:30 p.m., Denise Marie Cook, 56, of Highlands, was arrested for driving with a fictitious title, registration and tag.

• At 9 a.m., officers responded to a report of shoplifting at Julianas on Main. A piano shawl, a handbag and a perfume bottle were reported missing with a total value of \$635.

• During this timeframe, officers issued 5 citations (warnings, ordinance violations, and citations)

Highlands Fire & Rescue Dept. log entries from Oct. 10.

Oct. 10

• At 5:35 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to Highlands Manor.

• At 8:30 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to Foreman Road.

• At 9:39 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to Church Street..

Oct. 11

• At 8:29 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to Poplar Street.

Oct. 12

• At 6:53 p.m., the dept. responded to an alarm on Main Street. It was false.

Oct. 13

• At 6:27 p.m., the dept. responded to a call about the smell of smoke in a home on Rhododendron Dr. Nothing was found.

• At 9:31 p.m., the dept. responded to a chimney fire on Cullasaja Drive. The chimney flu was burning but it was out when they arrived.

Oct. 15

• At 10:36 p.m., the dept. responded to a two-vehicle accident with injuries on N. 4th Street.

• At 6:05 p.m., the dept. responded to a one-vehicle accident on Wilson Road.

• At 9:32 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to Azalea Woods Drive.

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... WOOLDRIDGE continued from page 4

pearing at the Guantanamo Base in Cuba and are a huge hit. Weren't we supposed to close that prison years ago? But wait, let's get back to ice skating.

Frick and Frack were expert skaters known for their rubbery legs and skating in a spread eagle position. They continually looked like they were falling but never did....again, kinda' like the Obama/Biden team.

Other comedy acts have tried but failed to make it to the level of this skating team and Frick and Frack performed well into their late years. There's still a lot of video on them if you're interested.

Werner continued on as "Mr. Frick" after Hansruedi (common spelling) croaked. An accident forced Frick to retire in 1980. Groebli eventually died on April 14, 2008, at the age of 92. David Thomas, one of his skating partners after Mauch retired, announced his death from complications after breaking a leg at a nursing home, giving new meaning to the term, "break a leg." Are you writing this

down?

Frick and Frank are now performing at the big rink in the sky and we wish them well and thank them for doing everything right.

** Fred's mystery/thriller titled, Deceived, is available on-line as an e-book or hardcopy with Amazon. Also, are you aware you can hate Fred's column on-line when you're away?

... SALZARULO from 5

more than four minutes, and his speed of 833.9 mph far exceeded the speed of sound.

Try for a moment to grasp that number; 833.9 mph, not in a jet fighter, but in free fall. There are showmen, pioneers, dare devils, thrill seekers, and adrenalin junkies. There are those who wish to go where no human has gone before, do what no man has done, test his limits so we can reach ours. Felix Baumgartner is all of these, and one more, a hero.

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• BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NEWS •

Bel Canto proceeds benefit many in Highlands

By Luke Osteen

The audience at last month's 20th Bel Canto Recital were treated to a quartet of majestic singers performing a repertoire ranging from Vincenzo Bellini to Andrew Lloyd Weber, all with the accompaniment of Dr. Stephen Dubberly on piano.

Those patrons may not have known it, but their generosity has helped to spread music throughout the Highlands Plateau.

Proceeds from Bel Canto are funding the music program at the Highlands Child Development Center. That \$6,000 grant has allowed the center to introduce dozens of children to the joys of music.

"I come in twice a week to teach the (HCDC) children songs and show them how to use simple instruments," explains Angie Jenkins, backed up by 30 years of teaching experience. "They just light up when I come to see them. Using the 'echo method,' they quickly learn 200 songs over the course of a year."

Those quick lessons are on display twice a year when the HCDC students perform for the community with a Thanks-

giving program and graduation in June.

"Right now, we're working on songs about the fall colors, and acorns, and the friendship between the Indians and the Pilgrims – we just wrapped up Columbus Day," says Miss Angie (as she's known to generations of Highlands children and their parents and grandparents). "During the course of the year, every child gets to be the song leader and they get to pick out the songs that we sing. They love it and you'd be surprised how well everyone remembers these songs. At this age (2-1/2 to five) they learn everything so quickly."

Bel Canto's generous gift extends beyond Miss Angie's time and tutelage. She's about to introduce her students to drums, maracas, rhythm sticks and bells bought with a portion of the grant.

"These instruments really make a difference when we're singing about Christmas – you really feel like you're in Santa's Workshop when you add the tap-tap-tap of rhythm sticks and, of course, it wouldn't be



Santa without jingle bells," Miss Angie says. "And it adds so much to Thanksgiving songs when you add drums and maracas to remind everyone of the Indians."

And that grant adds even more to the lives of these littlest Highlanders.

"I try to

bring in a different guest musician every month," says Miss Angie. "The children get to get close to the instruments to see first-hand how music is made. They get to ask questions and they're allowed to gently try the instruments. They were fascinated by the souphophone and everyone likes trying to pluck the harp. I tell the kids and their parents that it's never too early to start taking lessons."

The HCDC children aren't the only ones to share the largesse of Bel Canto – the Highlands School Music Program and The Bascom have also received generous grants from this uniquely Highlands musical institution.

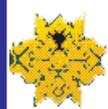
The Bascom a Bel Canto beneficiary, too!

Making beautiful music for local arts organizations for the past 20 years, the annual Bel Canto recital held in September has announced that it has awarded The Bascom a gift of \$15,000 from its latest proceeds. This support will go into a fund established to purchase outdoor sculpture for The Bascom's breathtaking six-acre campus in Highlands.

Founded by Richard Joel in 1992, the Bel Canto Recital features some of the top opera singers, musical theater and chamber music in the country. Its Steering Committee, headed by Stell Huie, supports the visual arts and music education through its primary beneficiaries—The Bascom, the Highlands School music program and Highlands Community Child Development Center's

music education.

"The stunning surprises of nature that first attracted artists, craftsmen, homesteaders and vacationers to the Highlands-Cashiers plateau 200 years ago continue to delight and inspire," says Jane Jerry, executive director of The Bascom. "It is no wonder the leaders of The Bascom chose the Crane horse property to expand the region's art center. One of the works of art we are considering is a piece with an equine theme, which is particularly appropriate for The Bascom given its location at the original Crane Horse Barn. The Bascom is deeply grateful for Bel Canto's ongoing support of our organization. We have hosted more than 100,000 visitors since opening our new campus in 2009."



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• BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NEWS •

• THANK YOU •

Highlands gifts fund endowments for WCU Honors College students

The relationship between the residents of Highlands and Western Carolina University Honors College reached a milestone recently when the board of the Center for Life Enrichment voted to make an initial gift of \$25,000 to establish an endowment designed to help students from the Honors College compete for prestigious national and international scholarships.

In addition, individual members of the Honors College's Advisory Board, composed primarily of Highlands residents, have given gifts totaling \$25,000 for the endowment, boosting it to \$50,000. Annual earnings from the endowment will be used to benefit students participating in the Center for Life Enrichment Honors College Scholars Program.

WCU's Honors College initiated its scholars program in 2005 to provide support for exceptional students who were interested in preparing to compete for scholarships such as the Goldwater, Truman or Rhodes. However, state budget reductions linked to the recession have eliminated the support students were receiving, said Brian Railsback, dean of the college who also serves as WCU's representative on the CLE board.

"These gifts are resurrecting a program that was killed by the recession," Railsback said. "This endowment will allow us to provide the best mentoring possible for our highest-achieving students."

The Center for Life Enrichment is currently celebrating its 20th year of providing continuing education classes and lecture opportunities for residents of Highlands and the local area. CLE President Ed Mawyer said Railsback has been "an incredible asset" during his five-year affiliation with CLE.

"After learning more about the Honors College, our board voted unanimously to fund this worthy cause," said Mawyer. "Two of our board members, E.J. Tarbox and Mark Whitehead, also serve on the advisory board for the Honors College and were instrumental in organizing this endowment."

Whitehead said WCU has provided quality speakers for many CLE programs over the years. The gift to establish the endowment to benefit the Honors College's "best and brightest" is a natural extension of CLE's focus on education and lifelong

learning, he said.

Railsback said the gifts from CLE and individual members of the advisory board are just the latest example of the extensive support the Honors College has received over the years from Highlands.

Over the past seven years, Highlands residents have donated more than \$200,000 for Honors College initiatives, including funding to help WCU students from a wide range of academic disciplines attend the National Conference on Undergraduate Research, Railsback said. The advisory board established the college's study abroad fund, which has helped 45 Honors students enroll in universities in countries such as France, India and South Korea.

"The remarkable thing about this relationship between the Honors College and the people of Highlands is that most of these

individuals with the CLE and advisory board are not WCU alumni" Railsback said. "What they have in common is a desire to enhance educational opportunities in their community and the region. I know they have had a lasting and positive impact on our students."

WCU Chancellor David O. Belcher said the support provided to the Honors College by Highlands residents is profoundly important to the university in a time of severe budget restraints.

"I'm so grateful for the way that our friends in Highlands have taken ownership of the Honors College," Belcher said. "The financial support they have provided over the years and these recent gifts are helping us solidify the strong foundation we have already built in the college."

Playhouse thankful for community

Saturday October 13th the Highlands Playhouse had an "Upscale Rummage Sale" to benefit the Highlands Playhouse.

We would like to thank all of you who helped us make this event such a success. To those of you who helped move items in, staging, pricing, and working the actual day of the event thank you for your time and energy.

Thank you to all of you who so generously gave us your items to use for our sale. I am not putting in names for fear of forgetting someone but you know who you are and so do we. Again, thank you, thank you, thank you.

Tina Rogers
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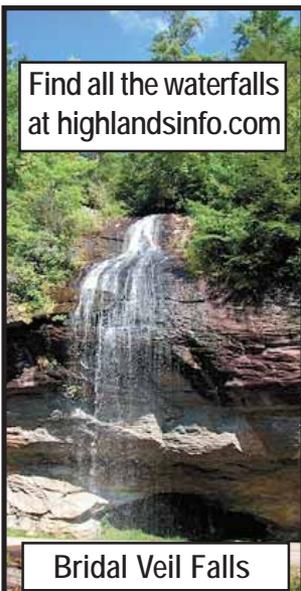
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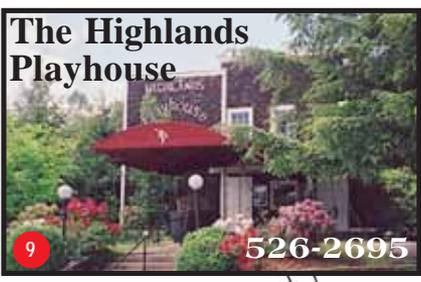


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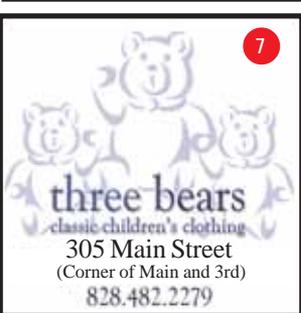
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