

Highlands Newspaper

FREE Every Thursday

Volume 11, Number 33 Real-Time News, Weather & WebCams: HighlandsInfo.com Thursday, Aug. 22, 2013

Thurs.-Sun., Aug. 22-25
• HCP's "Almost, Maine" at PAC.
Call 526-4904 for more information.

Thurs., Aug. 22
• At Main Street Inn, live music on the lawn with Norma Jean from 5-8p.
• Zahner Lecture Series at the Nature Center at 7 p.m. It's free.
• At the Lost Hiker, Open Mic Night at 9 p.m.

Fri. & Sat., Aug. 23-24
• At Altitudes at Skyline Lodge, Hal Phillips on the piano in the evening.

Friday, Aug. 23
• Live music in Town Square from 6-8 p.m.

• At H-C Hospital a new Diabetes Self-Management Education Program. To register, please call 349-2086.

• At the Lost Hiker, live music at 9p.
Sat. & Sun., Aug. 24-25

• Village Square Art & Craft Show at K-H Park on Pine Street from 10a to 5p. Regional artisans, food, music, face painting, family fun. Free admission. Sponsored by Macon County Art Assn.

Sunday, Aug. 25
• Women's Dialogue lead by Psychologist Dr. Carole Light, and Dr. Martha Porter from 3-8p at Jones Fellowship Hall at the Episcopal Church. "How women are represented in the media." \$30 registration fee includes wine, appetizers and light dinner. Pre-registration is required by Aug. 22. Call 787-1463. Check or credit card.

Monday, Aug. 26
• The All Male Beauty Pageant at Highlands Playhouse to benefit the Highlands Bolivian Mission at 8 p.m. A complimentary wine bar will precede the function at 7 p.m. The ticket price is a donation of \$100. For ticket info, call Dr. Baumrucker at 526-3605.

Tues., Aug. 27
• At The Lost Hiker, Karaoke

Wed., August 28
• Free Interlude Concert at First Presbyterian Church featuring the Mountain Faith Bluegrass Group at 2 p.m.

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Woodruff to build Performing Arts Bldg

DNet to provide Fixed Wireless to Highlands area

Thursday night's Town Board meeting was information packed.

During his opening comments, Mayor David Wilkes announced that Jane Woodruff has

decided to provide the town with a Performing Arts Building – not to be confused with the Performing Arts Center. "We already have that and this will not be taking the

place of PAC," said Wilkes.

Details are coming as to site, size, etc., but it is apparently a sure thing.

• See WOODRUFF page 6

Contingency funds finish School renovations

BOE discusses laws, policies

By Sara Bates and Kim Lewicki

At Monday night's Macon County Board of Education meeting, among the topics discussed were renovations at Highlands School and new laws affecting schools.

Highlands School will open its doors for students as scheduled on Monday, August 26, 2013. Most of the renovations in the elementary wing are finished according to Superintendent Dr. Chris Baldwin. The contractor is waiting on the delivery of windows from the supplier among other things. A completion date could not be given because work will continue on weekends and after school hours.

At the Tuesday, Aug. 13 Macon County Commission meeting, Terry Bell, the county's liaison to the school board on the Highlands School Renovation project, requested \$46,630 of the \$68,400 contingency be allocated for change orders to complete the job.

"Any time you get into an old building it's like digging up a cemetery when you don't know where the headstones are," he said.

• See SCHOOL page 11



Brittany Potts with daughter Jade Fielding.

Child with Type I Diabetes needs a D.A.D. dog

Since Jade Fielding, granddaughter of Terry and Karin Potts and Guy Fielding, Marjorie Fielding and Janet Cummings, was diagnosed with Type 1 Diabetes, her family has experienced a roller-coaster of emotions.

Her mother and father, Brittany Potts and Eric Fielding have started a fundraiser for 3 1/2-year-old Jade (a.k.a. Jadeybug) who was

diagnosed with the disease in this past March -- just before her 3-year-old birthday in April.

In the middle of March, Jade became extremely and consistently thirsty and began having accidents even though she had been potty-trained for a while.

Brittany took her to the doctor who, due to her extreme thirst, • See D.A.D. page 8

• Inside •

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Stormwater pollution in Highlands

Ignore the problem or fix it

By Robert Brotherton, P.E.

Erosion has been a serious problem in Highlands for many years as evidenced by the silting in of Mirror Lake and the finger of Lake Sequoya near the Town's water intake structure. The loss of these bodies of water not only causes decreases to property values but also impacts the beauty of the area and negatively impacts the water quality of the lakes as well as causes the potential expense to the Water System Budget for relocation of the water intake structure. Erosion is not just a problem in these two lakes but all lakes and water streams in the Town and lakes and streams outside of the Town.

Erosion is just one issue relative to the impacts of rainfall events in Highlands. Flooding is another issue as pipes become plugged with mud and debris and the run-off from parking lots and all developed land contribute larger amounts of water to run off the property and into the poor drainage systems within the Town. Water that runs off the land from rainfall is typically called STORMWATER. Stormwater also carries with it pollutants

• See STORMWATER page 15

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• THE PLATEAU'S POSITION •

• LETTERS •

Correct grammar a must

Dear Editor,
 Reading "A local YouTuber and physical fitness enthusiast has went on the defensive recently..." has put my inner grammarian on the offensive. I'd expect better from a front-page article. Proper verb tense is not a high bar to clear. "Has gone," please.

John Gaston
 Highlands

• PHOTO OF THE WEEK •

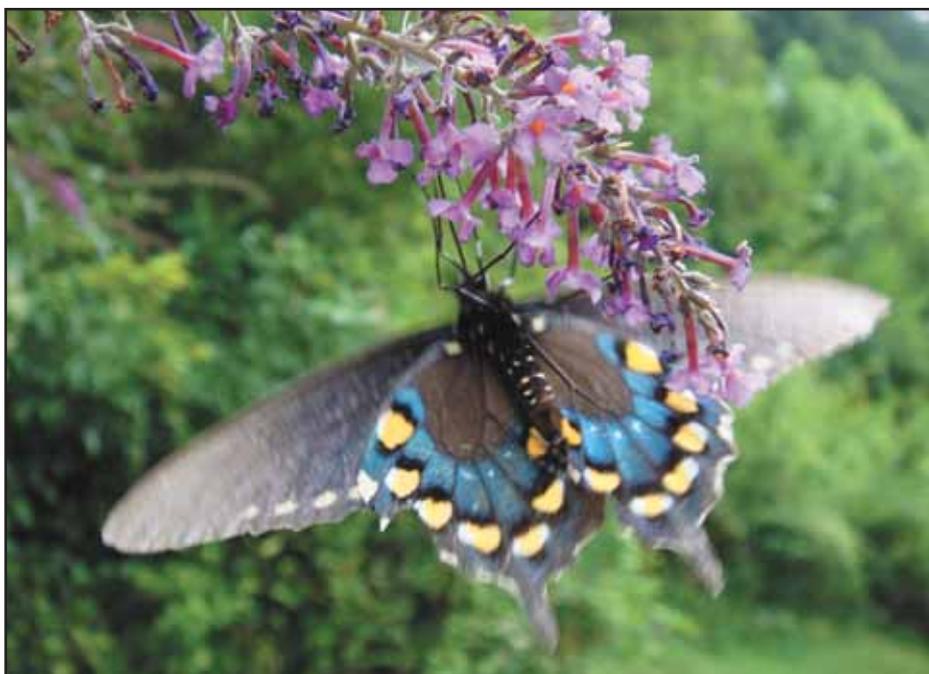


Photo by Linda Barden

Luminaria lit the night

To the Editor,
 Once again, I would like to thank every person who donated to the American Cancer Society 2013 Relay For Life in the form of Luminaria.

Once again, the night was lit up with over 600 beautiful bags with lighted candles and over 60 Tribute Torches representing HOPE for a cure for cancer and more birthdays.

Once again, we Celebrated those who have survived cancer, Remembered those we love and miss, and gave hope to Fight Back to those who are just beginning their journey with cancer.

Once again, we used the lovely song "Every Candle has A Name." This year the song was beautifully performed live by Brent Amundrud for the first Luminaria lap, and the talents of David Landis on his bagpipe for the second Luminaria lap.

Once again, the caldrón was lit. This year it was in honor of Coach Brian "Butch" Smart, honorary Chair Emeritus. New this year, we had light up "glo-balloons" that were released into the night sky and twinkled like stars. This was a very touching conclusion of the Luminaria Ceremony and Laps.

Once again, I found it very humbling to work with the Luminaria. The names became real people to me again as I thought about all the people whose lives have been touched by cancer; those who have been diagnosed with cancer, their caretakers, their families and their friends - all who are loved by real people with names.

So, once again, the Luminaria also lit up the night with love poured out from hearts of real people who love deeply and want to help find a cure for cancer and enjoy more birthdays with their loved ones.

Once again, thank you for the outpouring of donations for every torch, balloon and Luminaria bag glowing in the night. Once again, I feel privileged to have had a part in 2013 Relay For Life Highlands.

Martha Hunter
 Luminaria Chairperson

Thank you to the people of Highlands

Dear Editor,
 The last Highlands Farmers Market will be Saturday, August 24th from 9am-12 at Highlands Plaza.

I would like to say thank you to everyone who helped make the Highlands Farmers Market a huge success over these past three years. The list is long, and I would hate to leave anyone out, but I think the list shows the incredible people in the town of Highlands: Al Bolt, Margaret O'Donnell, Jim Bryson, Lisa Osteen, Phillip Jennings, Melani Beavers, Selwyn Chalker, Jane Chalker, Dr. John, Josh Ward, all the members of the Mountain Garden Club, all the ladies (and some men) who brought me vases each week, Sarah and John Mayer for use of the Community Garden, Community Bible Church for allowing us grow dahlias in their garden, Pastor Paul Christy and the Highlands United Methodist Church for allowing us to run the Farmers Market as a part of the church - and teaching us to care for others. Most of all Wayne and Gerri Crow - who got this whole thing started by donating 90 dahlia plants to us then, taking the time and having the patience to teach us how to grow them. Kim Lewicki and Fred Wooldridge of Highlands Newspaper, all the vendors at the market, Clay Dunn, Emily Gabbard, Kyle Gabbard and most of all my husband - Keven.

This year after visiting Haiti with Jane Chalker and seven others we met with a friend, Malachi. He is an 18-year-old phenomenon who speaks four languages, and can compute compounded daily interest with no pen, paper or calculator - because he has none.

This amazing young man created a successful after-school program in his village of Cange, Haiti where he teaches local kids music, dance, soccer and helps them with their homework.

Malachi mentioned that he would like to go to medical school to become a pediatrician.

As soon as we heard this we (Clay Dunn, Emily, Kyle, Keven Gabbard and
 •See LETTERS page 4

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FREE every Thursday on the street and on the web;
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Toll Free FAX: 866-212-8913 • (828) 526-3228

Email: HighlandsEditor@aol.com

Publisher/Editor - Kim Lewicki

Copy Editor - Glenda Bell; Digital Media - Jim Lewicki
 Locally owned and operated Kim & Jim Lewicki

Adobe PDF version at www.HighlandsInfo.com
 265 Oak St.; P.O. Box 2703, Highlands, N.C., 28741

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• OBITUARIES •

Eunice Hunter Stribling

Eunice Hunter Stribling, 94, of Highlands, NC, died peacefully on August 10, 2013. The widow of Robert Sloan Stribling, Eunice had been a resident of the Chestnut Hill community since 1998.

She and "Strib" were founding members (1964) of the Wildcat Cliffs Country Club. Her golfing talent and competitiveness propelled her to a record seven Ladies Club Championships there. She was a member of First Presbyterian Church of Highlands. An avid golfer and bridge player, she also loved walking the trails of Whiteside Mountain with its wildflowers, birds and galax plants.

She was born Eunice Stuart Hunter, Jr. in 1919 in Spartanburg, SC, to Edward Orlando and Eunice Stuart Highsmith Hunter. She was the fourth of seven siblings, all of whom pre-deceased her.

After high school in Chester, she earned a degree from Limestone College in 1939 (Gaffney, SC) and later worked for Springs Textile Mills in Lancaster, SC. There she met "Strib," and they were married in 1949. He worked as General Manager of the Grace Bleachery-Springs Textiles. He retired as Executive Vice-President, and they moved to Highlands for summers and to North Myrtle Beach, SC for the winters. "Strib" died in 1986. Eunice became a full-time resident of Highlands in 1998.

Eunice leaves behind many dear friends and a sister-in-law, Mrs. James R. (Jo) Hunter of Atlanta, along with seven nieces and nephews, a grandnephew and two grandnieces from the Hunter line and numerous Stribling cousins, nieces and nephews.

A memorial service was held at Highlands Presbyterian Church, Saturday, August 17, with Dr. Lee Bowman officiating. Burial will follow at a later date at Lancaster (SC) Memorial Park. In lieu of flowers, please make donations to the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital, 190 Hospital Drive, Highlands, NC 28741 or the Paralyzed Veterans of America (www.SupportVeterans.org).

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

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Della Kingsley Malpasse Lucas MacDougall

Della Kingsley Malpasse Lucas MacDougall, age 89, died Mother's Day, Sunday, May 12, 2013. Della was born at the Mattie Harris farm, Davisboro, Georgia, Washington County, February 5, 1924 to William Harris Malpasse and Pauline Winifred Jernigan Malpasse.

A memorial service for Della will be held at First Presbyterian Church of Highlands Saturday, August 31 at 11 am with Rev. Dr. Lee Bowman officiating. Interment will be at the Harris Family Cemetery, Davisboro, GA October 5, 2013 at 2PM.

In lieu of flowers donations in memory of Della M. Lucas MacDougall may be made to Four Seasons Hospice, 571 South Allen Road, Flat Rock, NC 28731.



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... LETTERS continued from page 2

myself) decided as a group to raise the money for his education. We have almost raised the funds necessary for his first year of medical school through the sales of our produce at the Farmers Market.

We are also raising funds to travel on another mission trip where we would meet people on the ground to experience their lives, however so briefly and to educate our local kids in a way that allows 'compassion for others' to be woven into the internal fabric of who they are. The next generation IS the future.

So as you can see, this Farmers Market was a lot more than just produce; it was: Local non-profits raising money, hand-made items sold by regional artists, fresh sweet blueberries, fun and great times meeting your friends on a Saturday morning - and most of all it was people dedicated to helping people through kindness and missions.

Please help us make a difference - send your donations to help Malachi go to medical school or allow us to travel on future mission trips to: Highlands United Methodist, Church PO Box 1959, Highlands, NC 28741 in the memo line write: Common Ground.

Andrea Gabbard
Highlands



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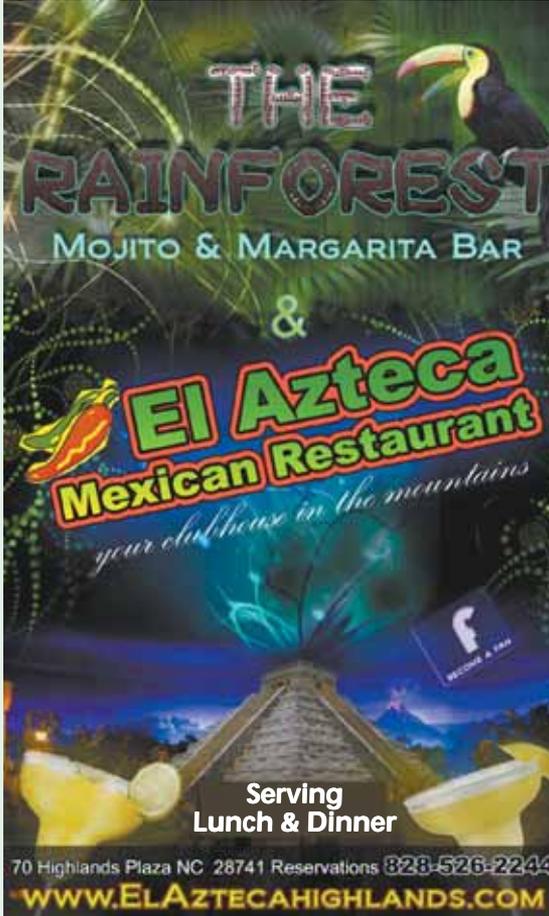
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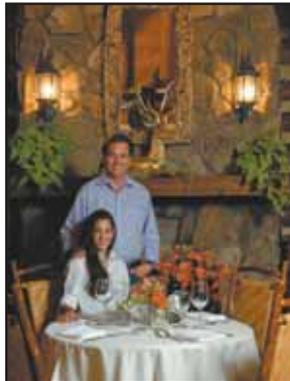
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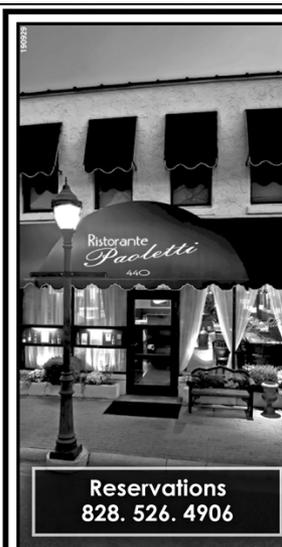
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... WOODRUFF continued from pg 1

"Once we know more we will call a special Town Board meeting so the public will know everything when we know," said Wilkes.

The other big news concerns expanded Internet service in Highlands.

Thursday night the board agreed unanimously to allow DNet to provide Fixed Wireless services to the citizens in and around Highlands.

In lieu of leasing space for antennae on Highlands sites on area water tanks, DNet has agreed to provide the Highlands government a 10 megabits per second symmetric connection – something that was budgeted for in the 2013-'14 budget.

"This is a way to bring a new technology to town, more bandwidth, as well as more competition at no cost to taxpayers," said Matt Schuler, MIS/GIS director.

DNet will first connect to Balsam West's fiber which is located on South Street which will enable them to hook on to the town's fiber into Town Hall. From there they will transmit wirelessly first from the Big Bear Pen water tank site, then from other town sites – the Brushy Face, Little Bear Pen and Satulah water tanks.

DNet will use one of the town's 48 sections of fiber. The town only uses two. All extra fiber is up for grabs – available to anyone who wants to lease it.

"This will enable them to serve residents of Highlands but also outlying areas like Wildcat Cliffs Country Club, Cullasaja, Clear Creek and Scaly," said Schuler. "Folks who spend their money in Highlands but don't have service because of the limitations and boundaries of a wired network."

DNet will offer different packages – from 3 to 20 megabits per second depending on line of site and frequency. The clearer it is – the less foliage in the way – the more megabits possible. There is also a telephone component to most packages.

Called "Fixed Wireless" a fixed antenna is connected to a roof with a wire connection into the house and from there customers can choose a wireless modem or wired modem.

Schuler said the plan is to start immediately with service available as early as Christmas.

DNet will order its connectivity with Balsam West out of Cashiers then it will connect to the town's fiber into the Town Hall building at a small housing attached to the building.

The first section will be from Big Bear

• THE FREDSTER •

She must have played for the NFL

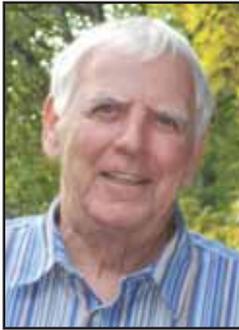
After a game of Bridge at the Cashiers Library, the li'l missus and I headed for Ingles to pick up a few groceries. Everyone knows getting groceries into a car can be tricky because the parking lot is sloped and the carts have no brakes.

While she loaded frozen stuff into a special bag, I positioned our cart back at the open hatchback. While pushing a few items out of the way to make room for our groceries, I noticed movement. It was our cart rolling across the parking lot at full speed and straight toward a brand new white Mercedes. I freaked!

Suffering from a pinched nerve, I hobbled toward the rolling cart, catching it just inches before it struck the Mercedes. As I turned to push my cart back uphill, the driver's door of the Mercedes flew open and a giant woman got out. She was massive. She had muscles in places where most women don't even have places.

"Hey buddy, I saw you try to hit my brand new car with your cart," she said as she walked toward me. She continued, "I know you; you're that smart-alecky newspaper writer that everyone hates. You should get down on your knees and thank God your cart didn't touch my car. I could sue you and your newspaper."

"Can I wait till I get home to give thanks?" I asked, "I have ice cream in my cart."



Feedback is encouraged
highlandseditor@aol.com

She stepped forward and into my personal space. Her breasts were right in my face. "You sure are big....I mean....how tall are you? I asked. She answered my question with a question.

"Who's the little blond standing next to your car? Is that your li'l missus I've read about? She sure is a tiny little thing."

Normally I would have corrected her sentence structure, telling her she shouldn't use 'tiny and little' while referring to the same object but I didn't want to get beat up.

"Yes, that's my li'l missus. She has a black belt so be careful," I said.

Later, after loading our car, Maddy asked, "Who was that woman you were flirting with?"

"I don't know her," I responded. "She was admiring your black belt."

"I'm not wearing a black belt," Maddy responded.

I smiled and said, "fagetaboutit....just get in the car!"

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EVENTS

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Kilwin's Ice Cream Night!

• Tuesday, September 3rd, 6pm—9pm—50% of proceeds goes to Relay! Contact: Mike Murphy @ (828) 526-1841 or epjmcm@hotmail.com

Fressers Eatery

• Ongoing percentage days every Monday in August and September at Fressers Eatery,

... WOODRUFF from page 6

Pen. At that point anyone in the line of site will be able to connect to the wireless network.

"I think this resolves problems for a number of people in and on the edge of town who can't get access at this point," said the Mayor. "If this technology does what it's supposed to do, it eliminates the need for us to do a lot of wiring. Since it uses line-of-site, and is only dependent on the number of antennae available, they can offer service to places where you would never be able to run wire."

DNet has agreed to provide bandwidth forever. However, the 10 megabits per second exchange is only for the town's current locations, not for any that may be added in the future.

Public Comment

During the Public Comment part of the meeting, Rick Siegel requested that the town reconsider its recent 3-2 decision to give free utilities to the Highlands Playhouse, the Chamber of Commerce and the ABC Store.

"Those entities are just like anyone else and should be paying utilities," said Siegel. "In the case of the ABC Store, I've heard

• See WOODRUFF page 9

Lulu's
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HCH Physician Forum Series 2013

Maintaining Good Brain Health

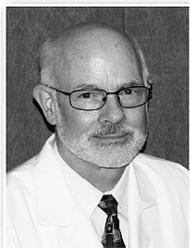


presented by Neurologist,
Bayard D. Miller, MD

Thursday, September 5th
12 noon

Jane Woodruff Clinic, Level One

Dr. Miller is committed to providing ongoing information on brain health and how individuals can decrease their risk of developing serious and even life threatening disorders. His HCH Physician Forum presentation will highlight the latest research concerning neurological issues as dementia and stroke. The hour long lecture includes a healthy lunch and ends with a question and answer session.



Bayard D. Miller, MD is a graduate of University of Florida Medical School, Gainesville, FL. He completed his Internship in Internal Medicine at Parkland Memorial Hospital at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical School in Dallas, Texas and was the Chief Resident in his Residency Program at the University of Florida in Gainesville, FL. Prior to joining the HCH Medical Staff, Dr. Miller practiced at the University of Florida Department of Neurology, Shands Healthcare in Gainesville, FL and has more

than 35 years of clinical experience. Dr. Miller is Board Certified in Neurology and is a member of the American Academy of Neurology. For the past 15 years, Dr. Miller has been listed in Woodward/White's "The Best Doctors in America".

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... D.A.D. continued from page 1

Marley has been selected as a match for Jade.



tested her urine for sugar. Turns out her sugars were off the charts. Jade was checked into the hospital immediately and for three days her parents learned how to check her blood for sugar and to give her insulin shots.

Type 1 Diabetes is an autoimmune disorder which has caused Jade's pancreas to stop working. She will need insulin for the rest of her life or she will die. The exact cause of Type 1 Diabetes is unknown. Scientists do know that in most people with Type 1 Diabetes, the body's own immune system — which normally fights harmful bacteria and viruses — mistakenly destroys the insulin-producing (islet) cells in the pancreas. Genetics may play a role in this process, and exposure to certain viruses may trigger the disease.

Whatever the cause, once the islet cells are destroyed, the child will produce little or no insulin. Normally, the hormone insulin helps glucose enter cells to provide energy to the muscles and tissues. Insulin comes from the pancreas, a gland located just behind the stomach. When everything is working properly, once people eat, the pancreas secretes more insulin into the bloodstream. As insulin circulates, it acts like a key by unlocking microscopic doors that allow sugar to enter the body's cells. Insulin lowers the amount of sugar in the bloodstream, and as the blood sugar level drops, so does the secretion of insulin from the pancreas.

Brittany said it's a constant struggle to keep Jade's blood sugar at a safe level. It requires her to prick her finger to test her blood glucose (BG) level 10 times or more a day. She often requires as many as 8-10 injections of insulin daily.

"Hopefully, that will change as we are now looking into getting an insulin pump for her," said Brittany. "This will help because it means changing a "prick" site every 2-3 days instead of 10 times a day."

However, treatment hasn't stabilized

Jade's condition. Recently, when her BG was low, she didn't recognize her mother — a heartbreaking occurrence for any mom.

When Jade's BG is low, she can have seizures, pass out, or die. Brittany constantly checks her during the day and has been setting her alarm at night to check her twice in the middle of the night to make sure she hasn't gone too low.

Then she learned there was a noninvasive option that could keep Jade as safe as possible — a Diabetic Alert Dog (D.A.D.).

A D.A.D. will not only be a best friend for Jade, but also a tool, that when trained, will alert Jade's family when her BG is too high or too low — hopefully saving her life.

"I have talked to many families who have their own D.A.D. and they have told me how amazing their dog has been," said Brittany. "The dog has literally saved their child's life by alerting them when their child's BG is going low."

After much research Brittany and Eric have decided to get Jade her own D.A.D. through Heartland Diabetic Alert Dogs in Oklahoma.

Jade has been matched with an 8-month-old black Labrador named Marley.

Unfortunately, D.A.D.s are very expensive.

Marley costs \$18,000. For an extra \$10,000, (so a total of \$28,000) food and expenses could be covered for 4-6 years.

"We can't do this on our own, so I am asking for help!" said Brittany.

All money donated will go to purchase Marley and pay for her expenses. Any money raised over the \$28,000 mark will go to another family seeking a D.A.D. or to the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation (JDRF).

Donations in check form should be made payable to Brittany Potts for the benefit of Jade Fielding and sent to P.O. Box 1708, Highlands, NC, 28741.

There is also a Paypal account set up for her: D.A.D4Jadeybug@outlook.com.

... WOODRUFF continued from page 4

they deserve this because they give back to the town. That is not out of the goodness of their hearts. That is state mandated. I'd heard this was going to be considered further and I'd like to see that happen."

Recreation News

The Recreation Committee made up of Commissioners Amy Patterson, Brian Stielher and Recreation Director Lester Norris have been discussing charging for the free, 5-day a week after-school program at the Rec Park.

The program costs the town \$12,000 a year and it would like to recoup some of the expense.

"Charging \$5 a day would cover the cost of the program but we didn't feel we should do that. But we are trying to find a solution to some of our revenue problems and at the same time be sensitive to the folks who use the program," said Commissioner Patterson. "It's a good program – it keeps kids off the streets -- one we want to continue so we are trying to compromise without putting all this on the backs of the citizens who don't use the program."

The board is considering charging \$2 a day per child sometime after the first semester of school but will discuss it further at the September Town Board meeting.

The Recreation Department after-school program begins on Monday, August 26 – the first day of school.

The program is offered for children from the age 5 through 12 years old. A bus is available to take them from the school to the Rec Park each day. The program runs each school day from 3-5:30p. If school is dismissed early due to weather conditions there will be no after-school that day. Each child must have a completed registration form before they come to camp the first day. Registration forms are available at the Rec Park.

Public Hearing – Planning Board Term limits

Since changing term limits for the Planning Board would mean a change to the Unified

Development Ordinance, a public hearing was required prior to the vote.

It's been difficult to find enough people to serve on the Planning Board – there are seven members – so Interim Planning Director Josh Ward suggested one-year terms rather than the current three years.

After the Public Hearing, the board voted unanimously to change the term limits from a maximum of two 3-year terms followed by a year's hiatus to one-year terms beginning January of each year. Each January, after conferring with the town's planning officials, the Town Board will either re-appoint sitting members or appoint new members.

Prior to the vote, two citizens who have been on the Planning Board spoke against changing the limits – Pat Taylor and Rick Siegel.

Taylor suggested getting people to serve might be easier if the way members were recruited and the way they were treated when they applied or came off the board was changed. He also noted the way Mandi Neumann was removed from the board recently.

"Removal of a certain member has likely had a chilling affect on people who would like to participate," said Taylor. "I wish there had been another way to address that."

He also said if commissioners invited people to serve; made personal contact, more people would consider serving. He also suggested a letter acknowledging receipt of an application to serve just like after a job interview.

"When Alan Marsh was a commissioner he called me personally and asked me to consider serving on the Planning Board and I did," he said.

He said he understood the thought is that one-year terms may entice more people to serve but he said the process could also be construed as politicizing.

"If someone doesn't vote a certain way, three members of the Town Board could have him or her removed very quickly," he said.

Rick Siegel said one year was not enough and that it takes at least

a year to understand what's going on as a new member

"If someone reviewed my performance that first year, I may never have gotten the chance to serve another year," he said.

Commissioner Patterson said looking from the outside one may think the Town Board politicizes, because before she began serving 20 years ago, she thought that, too. But she soon found out that isn't the case and said she wants variety on boards.

"I want people on these boards with different views and occupations. I want the full spectrum. Changing the term limits isn't a method to politicize; it is a way to get good members – those who are interested in serving versus those who aren't really interested in serving three years or contributing that long."

Town Manager Bob Frye said the town just wants a full board to show up at meetings. "There are times we haven't had a quorum. The purpose of this is to get those who want to serve," he said.

Mayor Wilkes said the Town Board has never tried to "stack" a board. "Our job is easier with a good Planning Board. This way we can determine if it is doing a good job," he said.

Commissioner Gary Drake said sometimes people don't want a three-year commitment. "We need to try something. If we like it, we'll keep it, if not we can always do something else."

Gateway Signs

Commissioner John Dotson suggested making some changes to the Gateway signs that are to be installed on the inroads to Highlands on US 64 west, US 64 east, NC 106 and NC 28. So far the signs on NC 106 and US 64 east have been erected.

"The Gateway signs are less than I thought they might be. The execution is less than effective. The "tree" we spent so much time on is invisible on the signs," he said. "I also think we need to have the colors looked at, have them repainted and add "Welcome to" above the word Highlands."

Mayor Wilkes said he realized that you can't see "the tree" until

• See WOODRUFF page 10

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... WOODRUFF continued from page 9

20 feet away. Two are still at the factory and they will be corrected there. The tree that is on the two in town will be repainted.

"We wanted a subdued not gaudy 'in your face' sign. We kept it subtle, classic and simple," he said. "The tree will be corrected. But I am resistant to add the words 'Welcome to.' No sign will be 100% acceptable to everyone. This is the sign we set out to come up with – subtle and recognizable."

He suggested seeing what the manufacturer does with the two still in the works, as well as the corrections to the two in town and addressing the issue later.

Dotson said he certainly didn't want anything gaudy or neon and says the sign blends in, but would like "Welcome to" to be added to the signs.

"It connotes a friendly atmosphere when coming into town," he said.

Other Items

Sam Green, III, was appointed to the Zoning Board as an alternate member; the sidewalk on Main from Third to First streets will be brick to match the other sidewalks in the business district; and the board agreed unanimously to dissolve the Appearance Commission. Nothing will fall through the cracks because the Planning Board will take on the Appearance Commission's job. Since dissolution of the Appearance Commission represents a change to the UDO, a public hearing will be held at the September Town Board meeting.

- Kim Lewicki

Rec Park Pool News

The Recreation pool will closing on Sunday, August 25 for the season. Until then the hours of operation are: Public Swim Monday-Friday from 11am-5pm, Saturday, 11am-6pm and Sunday 1-6pm. Family swim Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 6-8pm. Adult Lap Swim Monday-Friday, 8-9:30pm and Monday, Tuesday and Thursday 5-6pm.



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... SCHOOL continued from page 1

"We've run into problems; but we tried to keep moving so we can get school started on time."

He presented a list of 20 change order items ranging from \$680 to \$20,514.

Almost half the money requested was for revisions to the heating piping system – specifically, replacing the main trunk line that starts in the hallway near the boiler room.

After removing ceiling tiles, contractors found a diminishing supply return, rather than a constant supply return as expected. The main trunk line started in the boiler room as a three-inch line, went down to a two-inch line, then a one-inch line, then returned as a three-inch line, two-inch line and one-inch line back to the boiler room.

"We couldn't see it initially, the pipe had a dropped ceiling above it and insulation on top of it, but when we yanked all the ceiling tiles down we saw it wasn't going to work," said Bell.

The new heat pumps for heat and air-conditioning which have been installed in all the elementary classrooms need a more constant supply of energy, so the main trunk line had to be replaced.

Vice Chairman, Commissioner Ronnie Beale, who is in the construction business, said the \$20, 514 price was "pretty good for that amount of work."

The next biggest expense regarded insulation in two classrooms at the end of the elementary wing. The plan was to blow insulation in the ceilings of the entire wing, but contractors found that couldn't be done in those rooms. They needed board insulation which then needed to be coated for fireproofing with ceiling tiles installed.

Other issues on the contingency list had to do with code issues.

"We found a fire alarm panel wasn't hooked up to dial out to 9-1-1," said Bell. "All the equipment was there but it wasn't turned on, so we had to take care of that to satisfy code requirements."

Gun Law

North Carolina has passed

a law allowing concealed weapons on school grounds.

The Republican-backed bill approved by both the House and Senate allows concealed-carry permit holders to store weapons in locked cars on the campus of any public school or university. Guns will also now be allowed on greenways, playgrounds and other public recreation areas.

MC BOE members expressed concern about the law and the possible repercussions if allowed on campuses. BOE Attorney John Henning assured the board that a MC BOE policy could forbid weapons on school grounds.

He was asked to develop a board policy for Macon County Schools. Further discussion will take place at the September BOE meeting.

New Programs

There were two new programs introduced at the meeting. The first is The Early Intervention Program geared toward truant

children in Elementary School. The program recognizes that absent children fall behind their peers in school. The program will attempt to work with parents – the idea being that parents are the reason for the excessive absences.

The second is the Odyssey program to be located at the Franklin High School. This program is computer-based focusing on students who need extra help to succeed at school. The board approved about \$4,000 to construct special tables needed to power computers.

Teacher Tenure

The state has also begun to address teacher tenure issues.

By the year 2018, there will no longer be tenured teachers. At that time, teachers will be given one-year contracts to teach. Currently, the MC BOE is charged with offering 25% of the career or 4-year contracted teachers a bonus with the phasing out of the career status.

Hospice House \$1 million challenge



The new Hospice House on Maple Street in Franklin.

The Hospice House Foundation of Western North Carolina (HHF) was founded in 2005 with the goal of building a six-bed facility to give patients a feeling of comfort while experiencing, in most cases, their final days of life.

After many challenges, The Hospice House Foundation of Western North Carolina (HHF) has purchased the Dryman home on Maple Street in Franklin and now with a challenge grant from The State Employees Credit Union money for renovations can be found.

Once half of the \$3.8 million projected for renovations has been

raised, then the \$1 million from SECU will be awarded.

Four Seasons, the managing arm of the Hospice House has reached an agreement with Highlands-Cashiers Hospital to transfer their hospice license to Four Seasons, allowing access to Macon County's patients.

The Hospice House will serve patients who are experiencing different circumstances, including up to five-day respite care so caregivers can rest, or for patients at end of life. Families and caregivers are allowed to stay with their loved ones while the patient is at the residence for any reason.



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PULL OUT

Ongoing

• Registration is now open for the 2013 summer Nature Day Camps at the Highlands Nature Center. Five different camps are being offered: "WOW! – a World of Wonder" (ages 4-6), "Amazing Animals" (ages 7-10), "NatureWorks" (ages 8-11), "Mountain Explorers" (ages 10-13), and "Junior Ecologists" (ages 11-14). Most camps are offered more than once during the summer and sessions run from Tuesday to Friday each week. For complete schedules, costs, and other information, please call 828-526-2623 or visit the summer camps webpage at www.highlandsbiological.org.

• A Gilliam's Promise fundraiser. Raffle tickets on a 2003 Mitsubishi Eclipse

Spyder convertible. \$25 per ticket or 5 for \$100. We will give the car away at our annual 5K race on September 21 and you don't need to be present to win. The car can be seen at Franklin Ford most days, or at the Highlands Farmers Market on Saturday mornings, or you can call Gilliam's Promise office at 828-526-2220 for information on how to get your tickets.

Mondays-Fridays

• At The Bascom. Adult Classes: Sculpture: Clay "Fearless Sculpture" 10am to 4pm. Photography: Digital and Photoshop "Beginner" Friday, 2 - 5pm; Saturday, 10am - 4pm

Mon., Wed., Fri.

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

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. Take the few steps down to the library.

Monday & Thursday

• Hatha Yoga – Body n' Soul. 10:45a at the Episcopal Church of the Incarnation. R.Y.T. and YA (828) 482-2128. (8/29)

Tues.-Sat.

• The Bookworm in the Peggy Crosby Center on 5th Street is 10a-4p.

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

• Dine at Lakeside Restaurant. A portion of proceeds go to area nonprofits.

• Hatha Yoga – Body n' Soul. 7:45a at First Presbyterian Church. R.Y.T. and Y.A. (828) 482-2128. (8/29)

• The Highlands Mountaintop Rotary meets at 7:30 a.m. in the dining room at the H-C Hospital. Enter the hospital in the main or emergency entrance and follow the signs downstairs. Visitors are welcome. Meetings end at 8:30 am.

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

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

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

1st and last Wednesdays

• Kayak demos and roll clinics are held the first and last Wednesday of every month throughout the pool season from 4:30-8 p.m.

1st Wednesday

• Movies at the Hudson Library. Children/ Family movies at 3:30 p.m. Free including popcorn. Bring your own soft drinks. 828-526-3031 for movie information.

3rd Wednesday

• Movies at the Hudson Library. Recently released movies at 2 p.m. Free including popcorn. Bring your own soft drinks. 828-526-3031 for movie information.

Thursdays

• Live music with Norma Jean on the lawn at Main Street in from 5-8p.

• Free lectures, which will be held each Thursday evening at 7pm through August 29th at the Highlands Nature Center at 930 Horse Cove Road in Highlands. Call the Highlands Biological Foundation at 828-526-2221 for information.

Fridays through August

• The Highlands Area Chamber of Commerce and Visitor Center presents Friday Night Live in Town Square. Save the dates as the season festivities will be held every Friday, from 6-8pm. Scheduled performances feature area musicians and a variety of musical styles and talents.

Fri., Sat., and Sun.

• At Altitudes at Skyline Lodge, Hal Phillips on the piano Friday and Saturday evening and Sunday brunch.

Fridays

• Free, Grief Support Group, 10:30am-noon at the Jane Woodruff Clinic - Suite 201, on the H-C Hospital campus. Questions? Call 828-692-6178 or email:

mlee@fourseasonscl.org

Saturdays

• At The Bascom, knitters meet from 10AM to noon.

• Highlands Farmer's Market in Highlands Plaza 9a to noon. Fresh vegetables, Flowers, breads, baked goods, craft items, jewelry.

• Live, free concert in K-H Park on Pine Street from 6-8p.

Sat. & Sun.

• Live music with Norma Jean on the lawn at the Main Street Inn 12:30-3:30p.

Through Oct. 15

• Join the "Winkler Challenge" for Hudson Library. Horst and Margaret Winkler are offering the library \$35,000 if it can collect a matching amount. Donations will be accepted July 15-October 15.

August 23-25

• HCP's "Almost, Maine" are August 23-August 25. Call 526-4904 for more information.

Friday, Aug. 23

• H-C Hospital and MC Public Health are sponsoring a new Diabetes Self-Management Education Program at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital beginning Friday. The program is certified by the American Diabetes Association and is facilitated by a Registered Dietitian. Topics include healthy eating, active living, checking blood sugar, taking medication, problem solving, healthy coping, and reducing risk for complications. For information on registration requirements or fees, please call 349-2086.

Sat. & Sun., Aug. 24-25

• Village Square Art & Craft Show in downtown Highlands from 10a to 5p. Regional artisans, food, music, face painting, family fun. Free admission. (828) 787-2021 for info. Sponsored by Macon County Art Assn. **Sunday, Aug. 25**

• Women's Dialogue lead by Psychologist Dr. Carole Light, and Dr. Martha Porter from 3-8p at Jones Fellowship Hall at the Episcopal Church. "How women are represented in the media." \$30 registration fee includes wine, appetizers and light dinner. Pre-registration is required by Aug. 22. To register call Martha Porter at 787-1463. Check or credit card.

Monday, Aug. 26

• The All Male Beauty Pageant at Highlands Playhouse to benefit the Highlands Bolivian Mission at 8PM. A complimentary wine bar will precede the function at 7PM. The contestants, all well-known members of the Highlands community will compete for the title of Missed Highlands.

Opening night for HCP's 'Almost Maine' is Aug. 22

As the Broadway song has it: It's curtain time and away we go...another openin' of another show." And that's what happen'n' on Thursday, Aug. 22, 7:30 p.m. at the Highlands Performing Arts Center where the Highlands Cashiers Players are opening their production of the romantic comedy "Almost, Maine," by John Cariani, directed by Virginia Talbot, Lee Lyons, and Tanji Armor.

In the small town of Almost in northern Maine on a cold winter night, several residents of the town experience the beginnings and endings of love in nine different episodes, some humorous, some poignant, and all ending with an unusual twist or surprise.

Critics across the country have described the play as charmingly different, whimsical, clever, magical, but yet reflective of real life and human emotions. It has become one of the most produced plays across the country.

The cast of nine actors includes several experienced actors new to the HCP stage, Robert Trotter, Kevin Murphy, Rachael Woods, and Megan McLean, plus two of HCP's talented regulars, Chris Hess and Lance Trudel; and three brand new actors trying



Ronda and Dave, played by Megan McLean and Kevin Murphy, in HCP's production of "Almost, Maine," study the painting that will change the direction of their friendship.

their wings, Pam Moore, Ellen Agee, and Ted Wisniewski.

The set of the production, designed by John Roman, is something special with one set opening into another as scenes proceed seamlessly, each in a different setting. The lighting, designed by Megan Greenlee Potts, helps to create the atmosphere of a cold snowy night with stars and the northern lights

glimmering overhead.

"Almost, Maine" runs Thursday, August 22, through Sunday, August 25, and Thursday, August 29 through Sunday, September 1. The box office is open 10 a.m. till 4 p.m. on weekdays, and an hour and a half before the evening performances at 7:30 p.m. and the 2:30 Sunday matinees. For tickets call 526-8084.

• HIGHLANDS AREA UPCOMING EVENTS •



PULL OUT

The ticket price to this event is a donation of \$100 and the mission certifies that it is totally tax deductible as you will receive nothing of value for your donation. The mission is a 501 C3 charity and tickets are available at the Methodist Church on Main Street, Wilson Gas, 526-2568, Dr. Baker's office at the Woodruff building, 526-1700, or by calling Dr. Baumrucker at 526-3605.

Aug. 29-Sept. 1

• HCP's "Almost, Maine." Call 526-4904 for more information.

• Free Interlude Concert at the Episcopal Church at 2 p.m.

Wed., August 28

• Free Interlude Concert at First Presbyterian Church featuring the Mountain Faith Bluegrass Group at 2 p.m.

Thursday, Aug. 29

• NAMI Appalachian South's quarterly enrichment program with Dr. Carole Light who will lead our program with a discussion about our relationship to money, 7-8:15 p.m. Dr. Light is a clinical psychologist in private practice with an office in Scaly Mountain, NC. She also works through the Psychotherapy and Counseling Center in Highlands, NC. This center operates with a sliding scale based on income. Carole is one of the three founding members of NAMI Appalachian

South, our local affiliate of NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness). This program will be in place of the regular Thursday support group. For more information, contact Ann Nandrea 828 369-7385

Sat., Aug. 31

• Fireworks and concert in K-H park. Concert begins at 6 p.m. and the fireworks a dusk.

Sat. & Sun., Aug. 31 and Sept. 1

• The Cashiers Village Green annual Fall Arts & Crafts Show from 10a to 5p. More than 80 artisans will be displaying their work. Also, a raffle fundraiser for various charities. \$1,000 cash or a package of Apple products: iPad, iPod and iTV. Tickets are \$10 each available at the show or from any Rotary Club of Cashiers Valley member.

Sunday, Sept. 1

• At Concert Choir from Western Carolina University performance at the First Presbyterian Church at 5 p.m. Benefits will help finance their trip to Central Europe in May 2014.

• Fireworks Extravaganza on the Green at 5:30p.

Sat., Sept. 2

• At Cliffside Lake, Live Birds of Prey with Michael Skinner with Balsam Mountain Trust, 10 a.m., at the patio. \$4 per vehicle.

Wed. Interlude at First Presbyterian



Mountain Faith Bluegrass Group from Sylva will be the featured musicians at 2pm August 28 in the Interlude Concert Series. The concert will take place at First Presbyterian Church. The Interlude Concert Series is sponsored by First Presbyterian Church and the Episcopal Church of the Incarnation.

Members of the Mountain Faith Bluegrass Group are Summer McMahan, fiddle and vocals; Brayden McMahan, banjo and vocals; Sam McMahan, bass and vocals and father of Summer and Brayden; John Robert Morgan, guitar and vocals; and Dustin Norris, mandolin.

All Male Beauty Pageant returns, Monday, Aug. 26

Proceeds to benefit Bolivian mission

The Highlands Bolivian Mission is proud to present its main fundraiser, the semi-annual event, The All Male Beauty Pageant.

The Bolivian Mission was founded in 1998 and has changed the lives of thousands of people in and around Montero, Bolivia.

This highly anticipated event is at the Highlands Playhouse on Monday, August 26 beginning at 8PM. A complimentary wine bar will precede the function at 7PM. The contestants, all well-known members of the Highlands community will compete for the title of Missed Highlands and will be crowned by the reigning queen who has proudly held that title for the past two years.

Clearly the participants understand the meaning of their commitment to perform in this way to help the poor people of Bolivia.

The \$100 price of the ticket funds a great portion of the cost of the mission for one year, alternating with the Bolivian Auction which will be held next year. The funds raised help pay for the foster home for street children that otherwise would not have a safe place to live and learn to eventually become contributors to society.

Presently the home has boys from six to 17-years-old and the older boys all attend private schools. Education is the tool to escape the poverty that would have been their lives were it not for the home.

For those less fortunate, who have landed in jail, the mission provides all the medicines



eros" and taught them proper first aid including CPR. In ways like these the mission helps the poor of Bolivia one person at a time and the effect will increase to many more people as the years go on.

The mission partners with the Presbyterian Church Living Water for the World project which now has six operational projects in the tropics of Bolivia. Since the child mortality in these areas was over

10%, mostly due to water borne diseases, it is expected that many lives will and probably already have been saved. The youth group built a storeroom for the water mission which is located safely within the walls of the carpentry shop at the foster home. Thus the boys see that service to their community is an integral part of their future lives.

In addition, hundreds of Bibles have been distributed over the years to both rich and poor.

The mission welcomes all kinds of volunteers who give and also receive the gift of service. Students from UNC-A, the University of Mississippi and Johns Hopkins Medical School have joined the mission in the past in addition to volunteers connected to the Highlands-Cashiers area. On average 55 members of the mission have traveled to Montero to provide care to the poor.

This last year saw projects built by the Highlands United Methodist youth group, a visit by five medical students from Johns Hopkins University and distribution of 550 wheelchairs in association with Rotary Clubs from Highlands, Cashiers, Franklin and Sylva.

Joey Gibson and Robbie Forrester brought complete fire-fighting gear for 15 volunteer "bomb-

10%, mostly due to water borne diseases, it is expected that many lives will and probably already have been saved. The youth group built a storeroom for the water mission which is located safely within the walls of the carpentry shop at the foster home. Thus the boys see that service to their community is an integral part of their future lives.

The ticket price to this event is a donation of \$100 and the mission certifies that it is totally tax deductible as you will receive nothing of value for your donation. The mission is a 501 C3 charity and tickets are available at the Methodist Church on Main Street, Wilson Gas, 526-2568, Dr. Baker's office at the Woodruff building, 526-1700, or by calling Dr. Baumrucker at 526-3605. This is a fun way to support the mission and have a good time. Donations will also be accepted for those not able to attend. Checks can be mailed to 209 Hospital Drive, Suite 304, Highlands NC, 28741.

Please visit our website at highlandsbolivianmission.com for more information.



FALLING WATERS

Lot prices start at **\$129,000**. Owner financing available

A 52-acre community just 2.5 miles from Main Street. Secluded but not remote; peaceful, quiet and private. Mature hardwoods, giant rhodies, mountain laurel and a plethora of wild flowers. Two waterfalls and several creeks add charm and interest.

It is our goal that Falling Waters be aesthetically pleasing and well maintained, while preserving the backdrop of its natural beauty. Falling Waters is governed by the NC Planned Community Act, and excellent framework for basic structure governing practices and declarations. We have added our own well thought out covenants to protect the environment and help insure that the Falling Waters community is a sanctuary where peace, safety and happiness abound.

Perhaps most important is our desire to create and live in a caring community with a culture of good will, harmony and consideration. We believe the best rule is "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you."



Welcome...Come Visit!

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

www.highlandsnchomesites.com

Contact (onsite owner) or your broker for plats, prices & a guided tour.

828-508-9952.

• INVESTING AT 4,118 Ft. •

Why Highlands?...Why then?...Why now?

It's been a long time since we've seen this kind of activity in the Highlands' real estate market. Properties are selling quickly. There are actually multiple offers coming in on individual pieces of property...just as it was before 2008. The difference now, than before the recession, is that there is still a good amount of inventory...although it is dwindling fast.

Due to a rare combination of changing economics and available properties, real estate values in Highlands are the best they have been in many years, while interest rates are the lowest we have seen in generations. However, as inventory decreases, higher prices follow. Timing is everything.

Some things haven't changed. Location, location, location has always been the determining factor in real estate values. Highlands is uniquely situated among one of the most beautiful and majestic lands in God's creation. The climate remains ideal for those wanting to escape the



Lynn Kimball
Meadows Mountain Realty

summer heat. Our community continually offers a rare combination of down-home comforts, with a flair for the refined. These are some of the many reasons why there will always be people flocking to our area. This is also why residents chose the Highlands plateau for their second or permanent homes as far back as the late 1800s.

Let's look at another consistent factor. Real property is a limited, absolute commodity in which location determines its value. Economists tell us that the real estate industry drives the economy. Real property is the only commodity that is no longer being made and is not going anywhere. It has remained de-

pendable that investment portfolios with a basis in real estate have the most stability and opportunity for growth.

For all of the reasons stated above, Highlands' real estate has always been a popular investment. But now in 2013, at a time such as this, opportunities abound to "own a piece of the rock" on the southern plateau of these glorious Blue Ridge Mountains.

Lynn Kimball has 40 years of real estate experience, with 28 years serving the Highlands area. Whether you are interested in searching properties or comprehensive information about our area, you are invited to visit her user friendly website at www.signatureproperties-nc.com. Meadows Mountain Realty has two locations, at 41 Church Street in the Old Edwards Inn complex or visit Lynn at 2334 Cashiers Road across from Highlands Falls Country Club. Lynn Kimball can be reached at 828-421-8193 or by email at Lynn@MeadowsMtnRealty.com.

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... **STORMWATER** continued from page 1

from oil and grease, fertilizer, pesticides, and other chemicals used in our daily life. Studies by the Federal Environmental Protection Agency and others have shown that most pollutants are collected and transported with the first ½ inch of rainfall. Therefore, daily rainfall events that are not that large in intensity can generate significant pollution.

Back in the 1970s, the Federal Government offered significant grants to cities to build improved wastewater treatment plants to reduce pollutant loads in our lakes and streams. After billions of dollars were spent to make these improvements, sampling of the lakes and streams showed that the pollutants were not significantly reduced. Further studies showed that the pollution was coming from storm-

water run-off generated by rainfall in developed areas like the Town of Highlands. The Federal Government has now started to develop new regulations to require towns to regulate their stormwater discharges through permits. This new permit system is called the "National Pollution Dis-

•See STORMWATER page 18

New Art on Display! at Corey James Gallery Estate Liquidation Sale thru Labor Day Weekend



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828-526-4818 • 228 S. 3rd Street

(Corner of 3rd and Spring behind Methodist Church)

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BREAKFAST/LUNCH/ESPRESSO BAR

FULL BREAKFAST UNTIL 10:30 EVERY DAY

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DELI SANDWICHES, GARDEN SALADS
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SCRATCH.

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EACH DINNER SERVES TWO

MON

JAMES BEARD AWARD-WINNING CHEF, LOUIS OSTEEN'S LOW COUNTRY
LOBSTER/SHRIMP BOIL FOR TWO WITH POTATOES, CORN & SAUSAGE \$32.95

TUES

2 FRESH GRILLED CHICKEN BREASTS WITH STUFFED BRIE, SPICY/SWEET PECANS,
HOUSE MADE GAZPACHO, WITH A FRENCH BAGUETTE \$22.95

WED

JAMES BEARD AWARD-WINNING CHEF, LOUIS OSTEEN'S LOW COUNTRY
LOBSTER/SHRIMP BOIL FOR TWO WITH POTATOES, CORN & SAUSAGE \$32.95

THURS

BABY BACK RIBS COOKED FALL-OFF-THE-BONE-TENDER. SERVED WITH HOUSE
MADE BACON/APPLE BAKED BEANS, AND POTATO SALAD \$23.95

FRI

WILD CAUGHT LARGE SHRIMP, BREADED OR STEAMED. WITH COLESLAW AND
ROSEMARY SEA SALT BROILED RED POTATOES \$24.95

SAT

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AND YEAST ROLLS \$21.95

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• SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING •

Working together for the greater good



Father Bruce Walker
Episcopal Church of the
Incarnation

Sometimes in religious circles we are our own worst enemies. Navigating church is a perilous journey at times, filled with ups and downs and many twists and turns. Decisions that must be made in favor of one group often have detrimental effects to another. Individuals are hurt by hasty decisions that seem out of step with the Gospel and what Jesus would have us do.

The fact of the matter is things do not always turn out the way we would want and good people are left wondering what it's all about. Knowing how difficult it is to meet everyone's needs, it is a pleasant surprise when things finally do unfold and good happens.

Sometime ago it was announced that Bright Discoveries would be closing after over 10 years of operation. The child care and learning center established by Andrea Chalker and housed at the Church of the Incarnation had come to a moment in time when a decision to remain open needed to be made. Declining enrollment said it needed to close.

What this meant to the Highlands community was that a valuable asset was about to disappear. Families in all walks of life would be affected and a center of learning of the highest caliber would no longer be available. We all wondered what this would mean for the people who were most involved.

Prayers and conversation led to a grand opportunity to keep the center open. In a conversation with Pastor Paul Christy at Highlands Methodist Church we vowed to take a look at what impact this decision had and how we might work together to assess the needs of the community. We set our hearts on developing a plan that would support those needs.

Working together we decided to "work together." Part of the vision of HUMC is to minister to the children and youth of Highlands by one day expanding their facility to better accommodate this ministry. A plan was hatched to create a non-profit called the Gordon Center for Children that would create a means for our two churches to work together to meet the needs of the families involved. As of this writing, we are developing a new vision to expand our

• See SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING page 17

John 3:16

• PLACES TO WORSHIP •

Proverbs 3:5

BLUE VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. Oliver Rice, Pastor (706) 782-3965
Sundays: School - 10 a.m., Worship - 11
Sunday night services every 2nd & 4th Sunday at 7
Wednesdays: Mid-week prayer meeting - 7 p.m.

BUCK CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

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

GRACE COMMUNITY CHURCH OF CASHIERS

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Services: Sundays 10am - Wed. - 7pm
Catered dinner - Wed. 6pm

CHAPEL OF SKY VALLEY

Sky Valley, GA
Church: 706-746-2999
Sundays: 10 a.m. - Worship
Holy Communion 1st Sunday of the month
Wednesdays: 9 a.m. Healing and Prayer w/Holy Communion

CHRIST ANGLICAN CHURCH

Rector: Jim Murphy, 252-671-4011
464 US Hwy 64 east, Cashiers
Sun.: Holy Communion - 8:30 a.m.; Christian Education, 9:30 a.m. Family
Worship with music and Communion, 10:30 a.m.
Mon.: Bible Study & Supper at homes - 6 p.m.

Wed.: Men's Bible Study - 8:30 a.m., First Baptist Church

CHRIST CHURCH OF THE VALLEY, CASHIERS

Pastor Steve Kerhoulas
Sun. 10:30am, S.S 9:30am. Wed. 6pm supper and teaching.
Tue. Guys study 8am, Gals 10am

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE CHURCH

283 Spring Street
Sunday Service: 11 a.m.
Testimony Meeting: 5 p.m. on the 3rd Wed.

CLEAR CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

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

COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH

www.cbchighlands.com • 526-4685
3645 Cashiers Rd, Highlands, NC
Senior Pastor Gary Hewins
Sun.: 9:30am: Sunday School
10:30am: Middle & High School; 10:45am: Children's Program.,
10:45am: Worship Service

Wed.: 5pm Dinner (\$7 adult, \$2 child), 6pm CBC University

EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE INCARNATION

Rev. Bruce Walker • 526-2968
Sundays: Holy Eucharist Rite I (chapel), 8 am, Education and choir rehearsal, 9
am, Holy Eucharist Rite II, (sanctuary), 10:30 am
Thursdays: Holy Eucharist, (chapel), 10 am

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Dr. Mark Ford, Pastor • 526-4153
Sun.: Worship 10:45 a.m.; School - 9:30 a.m.
Wed.: Men's Bible Study 8:30 a.m., Prayer Meeting - 6:15 p.m., Choir - 5 p.m.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Dr. Lee Bowman, Pastor • 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

(Off Franklin/Highlands Rd)
Rev. Carson Gibson
Sunday School - 10 am, Worship Service - 11 am

Bible Study - 6 pm

HIGHLANDS ASSEMBLY OF GOD

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

HIGHLANDS CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Dan Robinson
670 N. 4th Street (next to the Highlands Civic Center)
Sunday: Morning Worship 10:45 a., Evening Worship, 6:30 p.
Wednesday: Prayer Service, 6:30 p.

HIGHLANDS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Pastor Paul Christy 526-3376
Sun: School 9:45a.; Worship 8:30, 9:09 & 10:50.; Youth Group 5:30 p.
Wed: Supper: 6; 7:15 - children, youth, & adults studies; 6:15 - Adult choir
(nursery provided for Wed. p.m. activities)

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

HOLY FAMILY LUTHERAN CHURCH - ELCA

Chaplain Margaret Howell
2152 Dillard Road - 526-9741
Sundays: Sunday School and Adult discussion group 9:30 a.m.; Worship/
Communion - 10:30

HEALING SERVICE on the 5th Sunday of the month.

LITTLE CHURCH IN THE WILDWOOD

In Horsecove
Sunday 7-8 p.m. Hymn-sing
Call Kay Ward at 743-5009

MACEDONIA BAPTIST CHURCH

8 miles south of Highlands on N.C. 28 S in Satolah
Pastor Roy Lowe, (828) 526-8425
Sundays: School - 10 a.m.; Worship - 11
Choir - 6 p.m.

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

MOUNTAIN SYNAGOGUE

St. Cyprian's Episcopal Church, Franklin
828-369-9270 or 828-293-5197

MOUNTAIN BIBLE CHURCH

743-2583
Independent Bible Church
Sundays: 10:30 a.m. at Big Ridge Baptist Church, 4224 Big Ridge Road (4.5
miles from NC 107)

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

OUR LADY OF THE MOUNTAINS CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

SCALY MOUNTAIN BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. Dwight Loggins
Sundays: School - 10 a.m.; Worship - 11 a.m. & 7
Wednesdays: Prayer Mtg. - 7 p.m.

SCALY MOUNTAIN CHURCH OF GOD

290 Buck Knob Road; Pastor Alfred Sizemore • 526-3212
Sundays: School - 10 a.m.; Worship - 10:45 a.m.; Worship - 6 p.m.
Wed: Adult Bible Study & Youth - 7 p.m.

SHORTOFF BAPTIST CHURCH

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

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP

85 Sierra Drive • 828-524-6777
Sunday Worship - 11 a.m.
Child Care - 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Religious Education - 11 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.
Youth 8th - 12th grades meet the 2nd Sundays 5 - 7:30 p.m

WHITESIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

• BIZ/ORG NEWS •

The Bascom welcomes David Parker as new Director of Development

Executive Director Jane Jerry has announced the appointment of David Parker to The Bascom staff as the new Director of Development. David and his wife, Jacque, have been full-time residents of Highlands for the past 12 years, having lived previously in Mobile and Birmingham, Alabama, as well as in Atlanta.

On August 7, David began his new role at The Bascom, bringing significant experience and development skills from a combined 40-year career in newspaper general management, media technology sales and sales management, and business process consulting in the transformation of media companies. He is active in community development, also, with leadership roles as University of South Alabama National Alumni president and member of the University's Board of Trustees. David also was instrumental in forming Mobile's largest historical preservation district, the Old Dauphin Way Historical District, as founder and president



David Parker

of the Old Dauphin Way Association.

Locally, David has served as president and treasurer of Highlands Springs & Falls HOA for eight years and vice president/treasurer of the Ravenel Owners Association since 2005. He will continue to bring his passion for improving his community to his position at The Bascom.

Follow all of the fascinating activities at The Bascom—join today! Members receive discounts at events, lectures

and for adult classes. Contact Membership Coordinator Pat Turnbull at 828-787-2898 or email pturnbull@thebascom.org for more information about becoming a member.

The Bascom is open year-round, Monday through Saturday, 10 am to 5 pm, and Sunday, 12 noon to 5 pm. Enjoy workshops, exhibitions, special events quality programs and unique shopping throughout the year at The Bascom. For more information, to register for workshop offerings or for more details on all Bascom activities, visit www.TheBascom.org or call 828-526-4949.

Rotary Bingo benefits Relay for Life

On Thursday, Aug. 1, the Rotary Club of Highlands sponsored Relay for Life Bingo. All proceeds went to support Highlands Relay for Life, which provides funding to the American Cancer Society. Pictured is some of the large turnout for a night of bingo fun to support Relay.



... SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING from pg 16

common service to the children and youth of Highlands.

It is not clear what the future might bring, but what this joint venture means for the present is that a beloved school and day care will remain open and good things will continue to happen for the children. This is indeed a joyous development and the excitement of the parents I have spoken with tells me we are once again in step with the Gospel and what Jesus would have us do.

Thanks be to God and blessings to all.



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Minutes from Highlands

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Incredible Views!
- ❖ Par 72 championship course stretching 6900 yards of peaks and valleys
- ❖ Multiple tees for every player
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highlandseditor@aol.com

• BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NEWS •

Mountain Findings doles out profits to area nonprofits

The volunteers at Mountain Findings Thrift Shop recently voted to give \$90,000 to more than 34 local non-profit agencies in the Highlands-Cashiers area. These funds were generated from the sale of items at the Mtn. Findings Thrift Shop located at 432 Spruce Street, Highlands.

These generous donations would not have been possible without the cooperative efforts of so many different people. We have all heard the old saying that "It takes a Village to..."

Well that is definitely true that it takes the entire Highlands-Cashiers area to make Mtn. Findings the success that it is.

Key players in this endeavor are the generous people who donate their gently-used items to Mountain Findings. Without them there would be nothing to sell.

Of course without the approximately 75 volunteers who work six days per week from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. from early May through October to receive items, clean them, and present them in creative ways, the merchandise would not be available to



Above, recipients and right, volunteers.

our dedicated shoppers.

And last but definitely, not least are the dedicated shoppers who come regularly to peruse our inventory of furniture, home furnishings, lamps, pictures, paintings, small appliances, luggage, books, China and glassware, home improvement items and so much more.

Mtn. Findings President Tom Hill says, "This partnership benefits everyone by providing gently used items at reasonable prices.



By recycling these items to new homes, this reduces the items that end up in our landfill. Finally, because everyone working at Mtn. Findings is a volunteer, all of the funds generated by the sale of items is available to be returned to the community to help the many non-profits in their endeavors to help local residents."

The groups which received funds in 2013

are: Big Brothers/Big Sisters (Highlands), Cashiers Free Dental Clinic, Community After School Program (Methodist Church), Community Care Clinic, Food Pantry, Friends for Life, Glenville-Cashiers Fire Department, Glenville-Cashiers Rescue Squad, HCCDC Scholarship Fund, Highlands Biological Foundation, Highlands Biological Foundation (Nature Center), Highlands Boy Scouts, Highlands Cemetery Fund, Highlands Cub Scouts, Highlands Emergency Council, Highlands Endowment Scholarship Fund, Highlands Fire & Rescue, Highlands Historical Society, Highlands Plateau Greenway, Highlands Playhouse, Highlands School Booster Club, Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music, Highlands-Cashiers Community Players, Highlands-Cashiers Hospital Foundation, Highlands-Cashiers Humane Society, Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust, Hudson Library, Macon County Humane Society, Performing Arts Center, R.E.A.C.H., Satolah Fire Department, Scaly/Sky Valley Fire Department, The Literacy Council, and The Rathbun Center.

Creative Concepts Salon, Inc.



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Stylist: Heather D. Escandon

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... STORMWATER continued from page 15

charge Elimination System" (NPDES). Some states and their cities are more active in this process than others. The bottom line is that stormwater causes significant pollution including significant erosion and sediment problems.

What can Highlands do to begin to address this problem irrespective of any Federal or State regulation? First, the Town needs to recognize the problem, identify the various needs and opportunities for improvements, prepare a plan for improvements, develop a long range capital improvement program, and identify a funding source. Cities address this issue in different ways. One way is to ignore the problem. A second way is to address individual problems that become political problems with funding that is taken from other capital and operation needs of the town. Another approach is to identify and put together some long range plans but not identify any funding source and thus no action ever happens. Still another way is to put together the long range needs and costs and begin to fund the needs through the General Fund whose funding comes through the tax base. This then places the greater responsibility on the properties of the great-

est value as opposed to fairly distributing the cost based on how the problem is generated. This then becomes a tax issue as funds from the tax base are in competition with other needs for the same taxes.

The best option, in the opinion of the writer, is to first recognize the problem as a Community and then request staff to prepare a list of prioritized projects including dredging, flooding, ditch improvements, culvert replacements, stormwater retention/treatment, erosion control, etc. and also prepare cost estimates for all projects. With this prioritized list and cost, it is then important to address the funding through a fee structure as part of a STORMWATER UTILITY. Yes, a utility just like water, wastewater, and power. Utilities charge fees based on consumption of the services. Stormwater Utilities charge fees based on the amount of water that runs off of developed property. The fee structure is developed using the amount of water that runs off of the average single family residential unit as the base fee. This is called the Equivalent Residential Unit or ERU. Average fees charged in many states for a single family home can vary between \$5.00 and \$15.00

• See STORMWATER page 19

• POLICE AND FIRE REPORTS •

Highlands PD log entries from May 26. Only the names of persons arrested, issued a Class-3 misdemeanor, or public officials have been used.

May 26

• At 9:45 p.m., officers responded to a one-vehicle accident at Oak and Maple streets.

June 23

• At 6:30 p.m., officers responded to a trespassing call from Old Edwards Inn involving a man who was yelling in the Wine Garden.

July 27

• At 5 a.m., a simple assault was reported by a resident on Sassy Lane.

July 29

• At 1:04 p.m., a case of credit card fraud was reported by a resident on Azalea Circle.

Aug. 5

• At 9:12 p.m., officers responded to a two-

vehicle hit and run accident at NC 106 and Hudson Road.

The Highlands Fire & Rescue Dept. log entries from Aug. 15

Aug. 15

• At 6:54 p.m., the dept. provided mutual aid to the Scaly Fire Department for a structure fire on Raven Ridge Road. The house was completely destroyed.

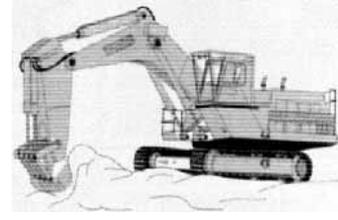
Aug. 19

• At 9:18 a.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at a residence on Horse Cove Road. It was false; set off by workers.

• At 10:41 a.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at a residence on Crescent Trail. It was false.

• At 3:47 p.m., The dept. responded to a fire alarm at the Old Edward Inn on Main Street. It was false.

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... STORMWATER continued from page 18

per month. If an ERU rate of \$5.00 per month is charged for one ERU, then a commercial parking lot that is 4 times larger in roof and parking lot areas would then be charged a fee of \$20.00 per month. While these fees are not large, they accumulate over time to significant funds that can only be used for solving stormwater erosion and pollution and drainage problems. This should not be considered a tax (based on property value) but rather a fee based on the quantity of contribution by each developed parcel to the problem. Undeveloped lands are not charged a fee.

So what should Highlands do? Ignore the problem that becomes much more expensive to solve over time? Tax the citizens by using funds from the General Fund when a problem becomes a political necessity with loss of these funds for other needed uses? Use funds from the Water Utility to move the water intake structure with cost to the users of the water system when the real problem is an

erosion problem? Or perhaps set up a long range plan and Stormwater Utility to fund the solution to the problem that is caused by users of the stormwater system in the Town?

The writer suggests that the Town set up a special committee to address this issue and make recommendations to Town Council. Start by investigating what other cities are doing in North Carolina and even other states to address this issue. It would be a shame to simply ignore the problem and continue to silt in the lakes and streams and cause water pollution to local streams and lakes to the detriment to the environment, beauty, and property values of the Town.

• Brotherton is a city engineer for the Florida cities of Belleair Beach, Indian Rocks Beach, Indian Shores, and Treasure Island. He also works for private industry clients and does expert witness work for several local attorneys.

H-C Land Trust talk on Fire Tower talk Aug. 27 & 30

Before there were satellites, radar, and cell phones, people in heavily forested regions had to rely on the eagle eyes of diligent folks feverishly looking over the mountains for signs of fire from fire towers. However, as the years progressed and technologies improved, many fire towers became obsolete and their importance was lost. Many still offer an amazing 360 degree views of the mountains.

On August 27 and August 30, the Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust will host Peter Barr, a colleague of ours from the Carolina Mountain Land Conservancy and an expert on the fire towers of the North Carolina mountains. Peter, who has hiked to every fire tower in NC, will give a talk at the Village Nature Series at 7PM on August 27, and help lead a hike to the Yellow Mountain tower on August 30.

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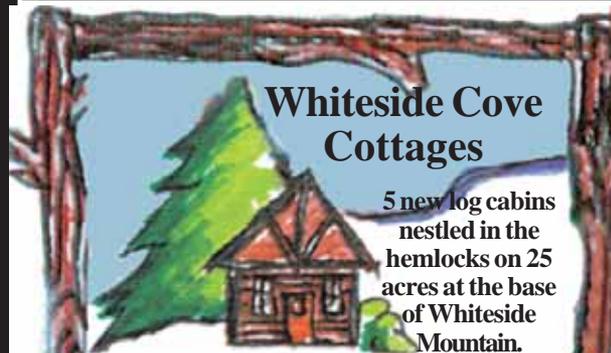
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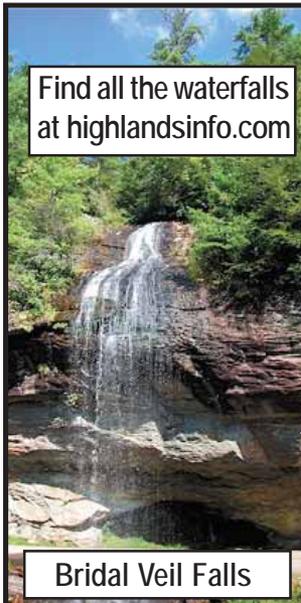
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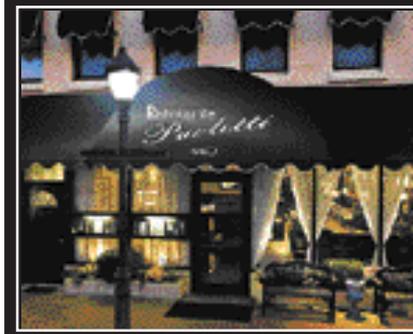
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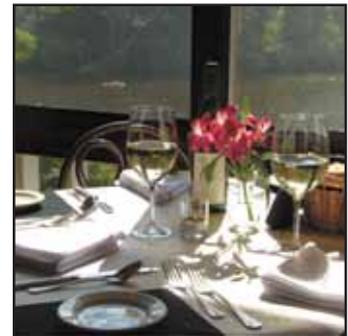
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