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Highlands' Newspaper

FREE

Volume 2, Number 22

Locally Owned & Operated

Friday, June 4, 2004

The week of June 3-8

June 5

▪ **BREEDING BIRDS** – The Audubon Society will host a field trip at Chestnut Hill featuring local breeding birds, including Red Crossbills. Meet at Town Hall parking lot at 7:30 am to carpool. Contact, Brock Hutchins, 787-1387, or Edwin Poole, 526-2775.

June 6

▪ **HOMEOWNERS MEETING** – Second Annual Meeting of the Rustic Falls Homeowners Association at the home of Barry and Debbie Boher at 3 p.m. Call 787-1164.

▪ **CHRISTIAN MUSIC** – Mike and Charlotte Turner will perform at the 8:30 and 11 a.m. worship service at HUMC.

June 7-8

▪ **FREE LECTURE** – HIARPT lecturer at the Martin-Lipscomb Performing Arts Center on Monday evenings at 7:30 p.m. and Tuesday mornings at 10 a.m. The lecturer will be Dr. Langdon Gilkey, the Shailer Mathews Professor Emeritus of the University of Chicago Divinity School. He will be lecturing on "Secularism, Fundamentalism, and the Religious Dimension."

June 8

▪ **BIRDS & BUTTERFLIES** – The Audubon Society is presenting a program on Backyard Gardening for Birds & Butterflies, presented by Dr. Richard Poole & Neta Villalobos-Bell of Longwood, Fla., at 7 p.m. at the Highlands Civic Center. For more information, call 787-1387.

June 8 – 11

▪ **NATURE CENTER** – "Amazing Animals" at Highlands Nature Center. Ages 8 – 10, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. daily. Cost \$75 per child. Campers will learn about different animal groups such as insects, birds, mammals, reptiles, and amphibians through hands-on activities, games, and field observations.

June 10

▪ **INN TOUR & PARTY** – The Highlands Chamber of Commerce will host a Business After Hours and inn tour on Thursday, from 5:30-7:30. Cost is \$10 for members and \$15 for prospective members. For reservations, call 526-2118.

Court of Appeals rules in Town's favor

By Kim Lewicki

The process of improving the first seven-tenths of Bowery Road could begin as early as the first week of July.

That's if the defendants in the case – 10 property owners along the first seven-tenths who are trying to prevent the town from widening and

paving the road (Nelson et al) – don't file for discretionary recover by July 6, 2004.

On June 1, the Court of Appeals unanimously agreed to uphold Macon County Superior Court Judge James Downs' August 1, 2002 ruling that the Town of Highlands has the

right to condemn property along the first seven-tenths of Bowery Road for public purpose – that of widening and paving the road.

"The Court of Appeals is not the highest court in the land, but the odds

▪ See BOWERY page 8

Open-air vegetable market open



Photo by Kim Lewicki

It seems everything is a family affair here in Highlands – even the selling of produce. This summer Tiffany and Danielle Shomper, whose parents own August Produce, are working the family's new open-air vegetable stand on U.S. 64 west across from Peddler's Wagon. The stand is open every day from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. selling farm fresh vegetables and fruits.

Gallery could move to Oak Street

By Kim Lewicki

The Bascom-Louise Gallery has outgrown its space at the Hudson Library and it's got its sights on a five-acre tract at 30 Oak Street.

That's if the town agrees to rezone the lot G1 from R2 and agrees to allow art galleries in a governmental zone – something not currently

considered in the G1 zone.

Jumping from R2 to G1 is not the norm, but a traditional transition zone like B4, considered a "soft" commercial zone, wouldn't work because of limitations in the code. "Buildings in B4 can't exceed 2,000 sq. ft, for instance," said Zoning

▪ See GALLERY page 8

Building to start back up at Chestnut Hill

By Kim Lewicki

For years a lonely skeleton has stood as a reminder of plans gone astray at Chestnut Hill.

But all that is going to change. Chestnut Hill Residential Retirement Community is ready to expand.

"We're financially stable and have the funds to move forward," said Paul Eaton, executive manager with Banyan Retirement Company which manages Chestnut Hill. "We're picking up where the job left off."

As of May 17, Chestnut Hill is under new ownership – Chestnut Hill at Highlands, Properties, LLC. Banyan Retirement Company, of Greenville, which took over the management of Chestnut Hill a few years ago also has a "small piece of ownership," said Eaton.

About six years ago construction was halted on the second phase of assisted living apartments next to the club house.

Recently engineers determined the skeleton is structurally sound and Perry Bartsch Jr. Construction, of Asheville, has been hired to complete the job that was started and stopped – to build a 26-bed assisted living apartment addition.

"Completing this project is crucial for the survival of Chestnut

▪ See BUILDING page 7

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• LETTERS TO THE EDITOR •

View's 'next step' saluted

Dear Editor

I enjoyed your May 28 edition especially the pictures of the 2004 graduating class and their individual plans. Coming as it did just before Memorial Day and the dedication of the National WWII Memorial made it especially poignant.

In 1943 I was a graduating senior. The war had been going on for two years. I could expect to be drafted as soon as I reached eighteen. Rather than wait to be drafted, I chose to volunteer and I joined the Marine Corps.

I have never met James View whose picture appeared as one of the graduates, nor do I know anything about him other than what was printed under his picture. It says he "has joined the United States Marine Corps." As one might expect, I identify with him. I salute him for his decision to join the Marine Corps and wish him Godspeed.

**Curtis James
Colonel, USMC (Ret.)**

'Melt' performance unforgettable

Dear Editor,

We had the great good fortune to attend the Dance Centre of WNC's spring production, "Melt." This was no ordinary dance recital. The young people are professional caliber dancers, trained by Ballet Masters from the Atlanta Ballet, the Nutmeg Conservatory, the Joffrey Ballet, the Moscow Ballet and others. The professional dancers asked to teach these children because they were blown away by the children's talent and dedication to the art of dance. The dance troupe has won regional and national competitions – they are that talented, with astounding choreography.

Members of the audience were incredulous that the dancers were not a professional troupe, but local high school students lucky enough to be guided by adults who believe that children, given the opportunity, will excel. One of the comments frequently heard after the performance was "I have paid a lot more money to be a lot less entertained."

Sadly, the children did not perform to full houses. Sad for the children because they put their hearts and souls into these performances and deserve to get the recognition from the community that they have absolutely earned, but also sad for the people of Highlands because they missed such a great entertainment value and a dance program worthy of Atlanta or New York.

We urge you to see the next production of the Dance Centre. We guarantee you will come away moved and thrilled.

Karen Patterson, Highlands & Judy Greene, Aiken, S.C

Club's Public Garden Replanted

In 1986, The Laurel Garden Club of Highlands planted a small garden filled with small trees and over 100 daylilies. This garden, in front of the Hudson Library and Bascom-Louise Gallery parking lot on East Main Street, has recently been redesigned by local landscape designer Robert Tucker.

He volunteered both a new design and a crew to implement it.

He also donated all of the new plant material. While maintaining much of the original garden's basic structure such as a sundial and bench, it now displays many new shade-loving native plants.

The beautifully restored garden is dedicated to Robert Tucker's good friends and Bascom-Louise Gallery supporters Anne and Lewis Doggett.



The Doggetts and Ketura Paulk in the garden in front of the library.

• OBITUARIES •

Clifford Whitney Joy

Clifford Whitney Joy, a resident of Highlands since 1971, passed away on Thursday, May 27, 2004. He was born to Blanche Whitney and Jesse Joy in Laurel, Montana, on August 2, 1909. He married his college sweetheart, Phyllis Rose Marks on March 31, 1937. Cliff graduated from Oregon State University where he was affiliated with Theta Xi Fraternity as well as the Alpha Delta Sigma Professional Fraternity. In 1936 he graduated from New York University School of Retailing Master's degree program, from which he received the 5th annual Distinguished Graduate Achievement Award in 1961. He retired from Sears, Roebuck and Company in 1971, where he was the National Merchandising Manager of several men's wear departments.

Cliff was on the Board of Trustees for the original Highlands-Cashiers Hospital and is a Master Key member. On moving to Highlands, he joined Wildcat Cliffs Country Club where he won the Member-Guest tournament twice while playing with his son, Richard. Cliff was recently honored by Wildcat Cliffs with a lifetime membership.

He is survived by his children: son, Richard M. Joy of Champaign, Illinois and four daughters, Dee Joy Coulter of Longmont, Colorado, Sue Joy-Sobota of Madison, Wisconsin, Jinny Joy LaRock of Morrison, Colorado and Sally Joy McKittrick of Normal, Illinois. He is also survived by his 11 grandchildren. The family is grateful for the dedication and long-term loving companionship provided by Everett and Elizabeth Wilson.

Cliff was preceded in death by his wife, Phyllis in 1991, by his parents, his brother, Edward of Corbett, Oregon, and his sisters, Dode Carrick of Corvallis, Oregon, and Phyllis Hager of Troutdale, Oregon.

The family received friends at a Memorial Service on Sunday, May 30, 2004 at 4:30 p.m. at the Bryant Funeral Home in Highlands, followed by a reception at the home of Cliff Joy, 3768 Whiteside Cove Road, in Highlands.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. Bryant Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Edwin Dillard Miller

Edwin Dillard Miller, age 72, of Toccoa, GA, formerly of Scaly Mountain, N.C. died Monday, May 31, 2004 at a Stephens County Hospital in Toccoa, Ga.

He was a native of Macon County, the son of the late Jessie and Minnie Ethel Carpenter Miller. He was a carpenter worker and was a US Army Veteran during the Korean conflict.

He is survived by his wife of 48 years, Mary Ruth Ledford Miller; two daughters, Minnie Louise Schildhauer and her husband, Leonard "Butch" of Shady Dale, Ga., and Linda Mae Higgs and her husband Ian of Central, S.C.; three sons, James David Miller of Toccoa, Ga, Edwin Lee Miller and his wife Suzanne of Tiger, Galf., and Jerry Dean Miller and Vivian of Scaly Mtn., N.C.; two sisters, Ruby Vinson and Elizabeth McConnell both of Scaly Mtn, N.C.; two brothers, Richard Miller and Everett Miller both of Scaly Mtn., N.C. Seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren also survive.

A celebration of life will be held at a later date. Bryant Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Shaffner earns 60,000 scholarship

Jack Shaffner, son of Ran and Margaret Shaffner and former student at Highlands School, was recently inducted as a junior into the National Honor Society at Christ School in Arden, N.C. Last Friday he was named Rensselaer Medalist for outstanding achievement in mathematics and science and was awarded a minimum \$60,000 scholarship for study in engineering at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, New York.



Crossroads magazine, published annually by Highlands School students is now available at Cyrano's Book Store on Main Street and at the Highlands School office. Crossroads editor Miranda Dotson (far right) and assistant editor Allie Roman presented the first copy of the 2004 Crossroads to Highlands School principal Jack Brooks. The magazine features poetry, prose, artwork, and photography by K-12 students, faculty and staff annually. Copies of the magazine are \$5 each.

HS 'Crossroads' Magazine for sale

This year's magazine features the photography of senior Katy Betz, whose works appear on both the front and back covers and throughout the magazine. "Katy has been a faithful contributor to *Crossroads* throughout the years and has volunteered as a proofreader for the past three years," said faculty sponsor Beverly VanHook.

"Our magazine has grown a lot over the past few years, VanHook said. "This year we published more poetry and prose than ever. That was an important milestone for us. We have been working to improve the quantity of creative writing for the past three years."

Past issues of *Crossroads* have won numerous awards from the North Carolina Literary and Historical Society. "It's a winning magazine in our eyes no matter how many prizes we may win," VanHook said. "The biggest reward is just holding the finished product in our hands and admiring the work of our students."

Students whose poetry, prose, art, or photography were published in *Crossroads* may pick up their complementary copy of the magazine in the Highlands School office. The following students have work published in *Crossroads*:

Grade 1- Amber Welch; Grade 2 - Autumn Houston, Matthew

Rodriguez;

Grade 3 - Autumn Chastain, Jessica Laws, Anthony Lee, Ricki Jimenez, Tyler Owens, Anne Richardson, Parker Sims, Robbie Vanderbilt; Grade 4- Stephanie Smart; Grade 5 - Kelly Baty, Miranda Herding, Bevan Schiffli; Grade 6 - Carmen Damian, Bobbi Jo Talley

Grade 7 - Andrew Billingsley, Megan Ehrenkaufner, Devon Reese; Grade 8 - Michael Grabe, Jake Heffington, Ashley Higgs, Nick Mathiowdis, Luke McClellan, Matt McClellan, Teresa Pearman, Sally Wheeler;

Grade 9 - Adam Crook, Marek Fikejz, Krystal Cutshaw, Kay Rhodes; Grade 10 - Ramsey Ashburn, Elizabeth Coram, Rebecca Dotson, April Hicks, Allan James, Stephanie McCall, Callie Rawlins, Tiffany Shomper;

Grade 11- Holly Conard, Kathryn Coppage, Jenna Greene, Catlin Huit, Andrew Kerhoulas, Russell Marling, Kayla McCall, Stephanie Murray, Alex Osteen, Allie Roman, Iyali Ruiz, Travis Schultz, McKenzie Thompson, Remington Veteto, Allison Waller;

Grade 12 - Rosalind Ashburn, Cole Berg, Katy Betz, Lauren Carnes, Heather Dalton, Miranda Dotson, Paul Frederick, Brittany Potts, Jessica Potts, Travis Ramey, Caitlin Rawlins, Trent Reese, Alana Wilson

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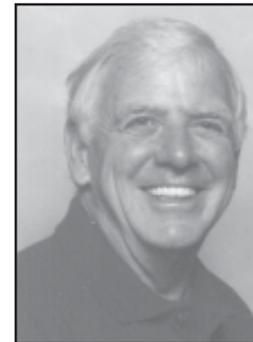
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• **LAUGHING AT LIFE** •

The Killing Machine
(A man's story)

He was the perfect killer, professional, unemotional, methodical, disciplined and intelligent; a complete specimen, doing work for the grim reaper. Tall and thin, Bob was a rugged, handsome man with a full head of natural blond hair. His piercing blue eyes would always hide his true emotions. Killing people is what he did. After getting a good six hours of sleep, the stench of death still on his clothes, Bob would awaken and kill some more.



Fred Wooldridge

badge while holding his infant son, Cory.

He was the most disciplined SWAT officer I ever had the pleasure to work with. A person like him will do exactly what he is ordered, so the pressure is always on to make right decisions. Years later, with a drawer full of

police commendations and awards, Bob came to me, asking for a transfer to the training unit. He was simply "burned out" from all the stress.

During a lunch break one afternoon, Bob said, "In Nam, you very seldom got to look into the eyes of your enemy. With police work, it's more personal. Your enemy is right in your face and you get to stare into the eyes of the person who would kill you."

He adjusted well to his new job, setting up tactical training exercises for patrol officers. He had found his new niche.

Bob and I had a bond that goes far beyond just working together. There was a respect that only great fear can bring. During my first parachute "fun" jump, Bob was the guy who got me through it all and out that chopper door. On several special assignments, he watched my back, and once, saved my life.

During his tenth year "on the job" Bob was carrying boxes of training manuals from his car to the office when he stepped on a crack in the sidewalk and turned his knee. He felt a sharp pain in his leg that wouldn't go away. Weeks later, after numerous trips to the doctor and lots of rehabilitation work, he finally gave in to his doctor's wishes to have surgery. It was a typical football injury. They would cut open his knee and sew everything back together. I agreed with his

It had taken just twelve weeks to transform Mrs. Fitzpatrick's little Bobby into a combat soldier for the United States Special Forces of the 82nd Airborne Division. Bob rounded out his training at Sniper school.

He couldn't wait to get to Vietnam and quickly learned to hate the "Charlie." Bob took pride in knowing he had killed so many. After two years, he re-upped for another stint in the jungles and would eventually be the point man for the attack on the famed Hamburger Hill. Miraculously, he survived, receiving only minor wounds. Lying in a hospital bed, he felt his luck was running out and opted to leave the service, bringing home two Medals of Valor and several Purple Hearts, along with an array of other military commendations.

That is when I met Bob Fitzpatrick. He eventually became my point man on the Police Department's SWAT teams. Could Bob make the transition from the jungles to civilization? Time would tell.

He breezed through his police training and was top in his class for both academics and tactics. As class president, Bob was proud to have his wife, Debbie, pin his

• SPORTS PICKS •

Professionals out of high school

Well, it certainly has been a long week for me. Watching my youngest sister graduate was a thrill and a tearjerker all in one compact setting.

By the way, I have to hand it to A.L. Williams for a pretty good speech, not only was it a good message, but any guy that can get away with saying "do it" that many times in an hour without being dirty earns my applause.

Graduation is an important step in people's life because it is supposed to signal a leap into maturity. Unfortunately, most college freshmen would never be accused of being mature. It's tough for people to take you seriously when you are passed out on the frat house floor. Most college students have no clue where they are going or what they are going to do and that is pretty understandable at the age of 19.

Whereas most high school seniors are preparing for college life, there are a select few who are preparing to play at the highest level possible — the NBA. These young basketball players have been told that they are a David Stern monotone introduction away from millions of dollars. It's no wonder they call it the NBA lottery, because that is what these kids see it as — a chance to hit the jackpot. And because they must take their chance on the millions, they miss out on what it is like to write a last minute term paper, or to eat in the cafeteria, or to meet people that want to be your friends because you are cool, not because they want to hang at your crib with the 193-inch flatscreen plasma deathstar TV and every video game system imaginable.

Now I have heard all the



Ryan Potts

arguments in favor of early draft entry. The kids' families need the money, the kids should not be denied the chance to earn money, tennis stars begin playing professionally at 14.

The most egregious argument being that it is unconstitutional to deny basketball players early entry because of their age. I guess the entire concept of political age limits is unconstitutional as well then, because you can't be president at 30-years-old.

Folks, the NBA is a PROFESSION, and the players are known as PROFESSIONALS. How many other jobs do you know of where someone who displays a natural aptitude can become a professional at 18? (Doogie Howser doesn't count, but even he went to college!)

Can you imagine a doctor being selected by a practice at 18? Can't you just see some old guy saying, "Well, you look like you could be a pretty good doctor and one day lead this practice, we'll just hire you now and you can learn on the job. Doesn't matter if you slip up and kill a few people, we're rebuilding anyway."

The entire concept of high school players in the NBA is killing the game. Gone are the days of immediate impact players such as Larry, Magic, Michael and even Tim Duncan and Grant Hill. Instead we get players who MAY be good someday, with the emphasis on maybe, unless of course your name is Lebron.

Which brings us to King James, who is going to be the poster child for early entry for years to come. James is a phenom, both in maturity level

•See SPORTS page 7

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... **LAUGHING** continued from page 4

decision to have the surgery and reminded him of all the

professional football players who have had this surgery and went on

to play well in the NFL. I was glad with his decision as it was the only way he would be whole again. Bob would have been a

lousy cripple.

Three days after surgery, Bob Fitzpatrick was dead. A large blood clot had dislodged from his knee and plugged his lungs and heart. It is so ironic that this man, who had faced so much danger in life, would step on a break in the sidewalk and die. At his funeral, I choked twice during my prepared eulogy. I could not look into the eyes of his wife and son, sitting on the front row at church.

On quiet summer evenings, I sometimes sit on the deck of my mountain home, watching the moon set to the west. I think of Bob and all he had experienced. Volumes could be written about this man's adventures. I pray that God had mercy on this "killing machine."

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1 & 4 Sat & Sun Matinees

... SPORTS continued from page 5

and in physical ability. And you know what, every 10 years there is one player who is of that stature — the one special player capable of dominating straight out of high school — but for every LeBron, there are a hundred Kwame Browns.

In closing, as if there wasn't enough evidence that the NBA is terrible, check out the replay of the Pistons/Pacers series. Both teams shot the ball pathetically, executed pathetically and just flat out stunk up the court. The media went crazy, citing fantastic defense as the reason for this pink flamingo of a series, but I am not buying it. Not even after thinking about Bill Walton in his home watching and screaming, "Tayshaun Prince is the greatest defender in the HISTORY of mankind."

Sure, both teams are very good defensively because they want to be. All it takes to dominate on the defensive end in the NBA is effort, because you don't have to play positional defense, or know how to communicate on the pick and roll, because players are so limited offensively.

Back in the days of Larry and Magic, you had to defend the whole floor, because players were dangerous at all angles and everyone on the floor could hit a jumper. Now, all you have to defend is the rim and the three point line because there are only about 15 guys in the league that

... BUILDING from pg 1

Hill," said Eaton. "We expect it to be completed one year from now."

About 100 individuals, some of which are couples, are on the "prospect list" awaiting quarters at Chestnut Hill, said Eaton.

There is also land available for 48 more cottages with infrastructure — water, sewer, gas and roads — on which work will begin soon. But Eaton said the first thing to go up will be the assisted living quarters. The community will use the water and sewer infrastructure used by Highlands-Cashiers Hospital which leases land to Chestnut Hill.

can hit a midrange jumper consistently.

So Commissioner Stern, before you get up in front of all those fans on draft day and deliver your monotone introductions please consider returning the NBA to what it used to be-back when it was the hottest ticket in a big city-because to quote the Offspring, "The kids aren't alright."

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... BOWERY continued from page 1

of the Supreme Court hearing the case with a unanimous vote from the Court of Appeals are long. But it is possible," said Bill Coward, town attorney.

The time for filing a petition for discretionary recovery is 35 days from June 1. "That puts it at July 6," said Coward. "If nothing is filed by the defendants by then, it's finished."

Coward said he doesn't know if the defendants Nelson et al intend to file with the Supreme Court.

If July 6 comes without the defendants filing, moves will be immediately taken to begin the improvement process of Bowery Road, said town officials.

The amount of money due the 10 landowners along the first seven-tenths for the portion of their property needed by the town is still unknown. A trial by jury could determine compensation based on what is done to the road, said Coward.

... GALLERY continued from page 1

Administrator Larry Gantenbein. "You can have 10, 2,000 sq. ft. buildings but you can't have a 20,000 sq. ft. building."

At the June 2 Town Board meeting, gallery representatives requested the Town Board's opinion on the feasibility of the idea before they move forward with specific building plans.

Architects from Camille Alberice of Asheville have devised a general plan for a cluster of small structures "vernacular buildings typical of the area 100 years ago" integrated into the current landscape. "We're doing a feasibility study to see if the site can meet these goals," said Peter Alberice.

The structures would house a reception area, gallery, retail space, classrooms, office space and studios – a total of 18,000 to 20,000 sq. ft., he said.

Gallery board member Robert Tucker said this is the last parcel of land in town that could possibly work for the gallery. "And we really want to keep the gallery in town," he said.

But commissioners had a lot of questions and have requested the planning board to investigate the matter before going any further.

Commissioner Amy Patterson wants to make sure that if the lot is

"They have the right to delay the jury trial until the improvements are finished so the jury can determine exactly how the improvements affected their property," said Coward. "But that still won't stop the town from moving forward."

Mayor Buck Trott said the first thing that will be addressed is movement of utility poles and other infrastructure issues.

If Nelson et al files for recovery with the Supreme Court before July 6, the Bowery Road project could be delayed another six to 18 months. The town has been in and out of court over this issue for more than three years and spent thousands of dollars in court and attorney expenses.

Meanwhile, the state is ready to begin work on the portion of Bowery Road beyond the first seven-tenths.

"All the paper work is in and small urban funds have been set aside," said Town Administrator Richard Betz.

rezoned G1 for the purpose of the art gallery, an art gallery is built there and nothing else.

"I think it is extremely important to keep the gallery in the Town of Highlands. But I'm not comfortable with changing zoning to allow nonprofits in general. There's no telling what will come along later," she said. "Nonprofits are generally considered great, but they're not always good."

But Gantenbein said the stipulations for the use of the land can be made "iron-clad."

Commissioners are also concerned with parking, the widening of Oak Street, sidewalks, and everything else involved with development.

The owners of the property will only sell the property to the gallery if the town goes along with the rezoning plan. "The wife doesn't want to sell at all," said Tucker. "She wants to make it into a park."

The owners have also stipulated that no brick or stucco be used in the design.

If the planning board comes back to the Town Board with a "go ahead," a public hearing will be held prior to any rezoning to gauge public opinion.

• LIFE UNDER CONSTRUCTION •

Leave room for a little daydreaming...

I woke up this morning and with squinty eyes I peered through my dark bedroom window, only to become enthralled with the orange moon as it was setting over Chimney Top. Who could go back to sleep after that? And so, I daydream a bit.



Dr. Maryellen Lipinski

church on Saturday night. This leaves Sunday morning available to putter around if I desire. Since I permanently moved to Cashiers, over three years ago, I have yearned for a coffeehouse. There was one briefly when I first moved but to my dismay, it closed.

I believe that one of the chief benefits of a house is to shelter daydreaming.

If you find it difficult to daydream in your head, try writing for a few minutes in the morning and see what turns up. Why not put some ramblings down on paper? Wad it up and throw it away if you want, but at least your thoughts have been recorded, if only for a few minutes.

Taking time out to just sit and daydream, in my opinion, helps you get to know your creativity and inner wisdom.

In short, I am talking about having interactions with you. Recording your thoughts about how your life is progressing.

Taking time to light a candle and ponder, listen to the wind, eat some chocolate, open a book, look at the moon, and learn not to look back. You've probably heard the saying, the past is gone, tomorrow may come...the moment is everything. It's your turn to make up the meaning of your life.

Maybe daydreaming will help you live life a bit more and analyze it a little less.

It seems the more I consult my deeper feelings throughout the day, the more I fall back into that place of quiet knowing. This helps me see if what I am doing is what I really want to be doing.

Yippee! Two of my "if only" wishes have come true. The first wish is that I am able to go to

And then the rumors about another one called the Schoolhouse began to surface and I waited and waited and waited. Finally it arrived and opened and served delectable coffee everyday of the week, except Sundays. Before my move to North Carolina, I would go to Starbucks on Sundays and sit and slowly savor my coffee while I read or reflected about my week ahead. Alas another wish has come true. The Schoolhouse is now open on SUNDAYS! Isn't life wonderful? Hope to see you there. "The greatest gift that you can give yourself is a little bit of your own attention." Anthony J. DiAngelo

Please know that I am not trying to tell you how to live your life. Au contraire, I'm just relating how I try to lead mine, and not always successfully. But isn't that what we should be sharing? I'm constantly surprised at the mistakes I made last week or even just yesterday. Why not share information that just might make someone's life a bit easier? With whom are you sharing?

The sun is touching the mountain ridges now and I can easily see the clouds moving sluggishly over the mountain ridges. I wonder what the month of June has in store for me? Life always tells me if I am going in the right or wrong direction...if only I will listen. How will the month of June play out for you as you build your life? Are you listening?

Need a cup of coffee and one of Maryellen's books? STOP by the Schoolhouse in Cashiers! Summer coaching sessions have started. Email me for further information. melspeaks@aol.com. Dr. Maryellen Lipinski is a psychologist by profession and an international professional speaker by design. Currently, she coaches individuals to obtain their goals in life and works as a Realtor at Village Realty of Sapphire Valley. www.ilovemountainrealestate.com! www.maryellenlipinski.com

• HIGHLANDS EATERIES •

Golden China

Sample menu

APPETIZERS

Egg Roll
Fried Wonton
Fantail Shrimp
Pork Dumpling
Barbecue Spare Ribs
Beef Cho Cho
Pu Pu Tray for Two

SOUPS

Egg Drop
Wonton
Hot & Sour
Sizzling Rice for Two
Dragon and Phoenix

SEAFOOD

with steam or fried rice
Sweet & sour shrimp
Shrimp with broccoli
Shrimp with cashew nuts

Lobster Cantonese

CHICKEN

Moo Goo Gai Pan
Almond Chicken
Curry Chicken
Kung Pao Chicken
Chicken with Garlic Sauce

BEEF

Green Pepper Steak
Hunan Beef
Orange Beef
Black Pepper Beef
PORK
Twice Cooked Pork
Shredded Pork w/Chili Sauce

Kulu Pork

Pork with broccoli

MOO SHU

Served with 4 pancakes
Moo Shu Chicken, Pork, Beef,
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EGG FOO YOUNG

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Beef, Shrimp, House

CHOW MEIN

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Bear Pen Mountain Lane

Located on over 1.8 acres and at the end of a mountain lane, this 3-bedroom, 3-bath home features antique heart of pine floors, 10-foot coffered beamed ceilings, split bedroom plan, custom kitchen with Corian countertops. Master bedroom opens onto a glassed sunroom. The sunroom and living room open out to a massive deck with a lovely view of Whiteside and Highlands Falls Country Club. Plenty of parking and great privacy. Offered at \$1,200,000. MLS# 52753.



Multiple Decks

This home has 3 bedrooms, 3 baths, and multiple decks. The main level consists of the family room with a floor to ceiling stone fireplace, vaulted ceilings, kitchen, dining room and the master bedroom and bath. There are 2 additional bedrooms and a bonus loft room on the upper level, as well as a lower level game room/family room with a 2nd fireplace that would be a great area for guests and children. This home has a one car garage and sits on just over 1/2 acre near the top of Mt. Lori. Offered fully furnished for \$385,000.



Commercial Location on Hwy 64 West

This 3-bedroom doublewide sits on a level lot fronting Hwy 64 west. There is also an additional lot that may be an additional building site or adds to the functionality of the commercial property. A great package offered at \$139,000. MLS# 52347



Highlands Walk

Located walking distance from Main Street, this 3-bedroom, 2 1/2-bath is on a corner lot on a quiet cul-de-sac of six homes. Master bedroom on main level, large living room with gas logs fireplace, huge rocking chair porch. Offered at \$450,000. MLS# 52966.



Great Starter Home with Level Yard

There are two bedrooms and two baths with an extra room that could be an office or den. Enjoy the deck off the master bedroom or the porch off the living room. This home was built in 1947 and has been thoughtfully improved and maintained over the years. Bring your updating ideas - there are wood floors under the carpeting and a chimney for a wood stove. You even have a great garden space in the backyard and a one-car detached garage. Offered at \$329,500. MLS# 52988.



Cullasaja Club Cabin

Conveniently located to the yacht club and lake on a very quiet cul-de-sac. This cabin features three bedrooms and three baths, large open great room with fireplace and wood floors. Large screened porch off living room for dining and entertaining. Offered at \$525,000. Club membership available at market rate an subject to club approval. MLS# 52543.

www.highlandsinfo.com/ccp.htm



Attractive Home

Located on Talley Lane, this lovely home sits on a knoll with a gently sloping yard. A large foyer opens into the vaulted living room with large fireplace. Main level master with huge master bath, kitchen with new appliances, breakfast nook, separate dining room and large 2-car garage on the main level. Upper level has three bedrooms, two baths plus an office or den. Excellent condition and a great home for year round or second home living. Offered at \$725,000. MLS# 53002.



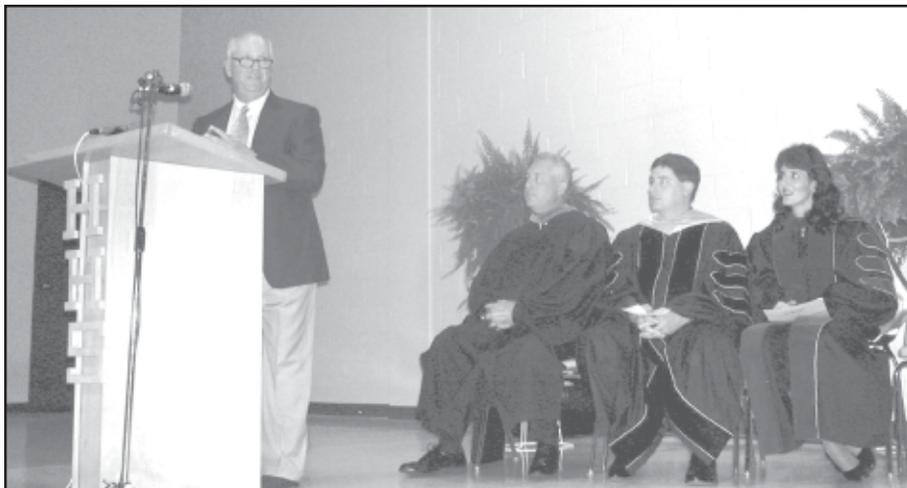
Winfield Farms

Inside the gates of Winfield Farm artisans and craftsmen have come together to recreate a charming European farmhouse. Totally renovated with a mountain flair make this four bedroom, 3 1/2 - bath home a must see! A slate entryway invites you into the living area with stuccoed walls, wormy chestnut, massive beams, a vaulted ceiling and stone fireplace. All of which overlooks the pastures, pond, winter sunsets and long range view at the farm. The family kitchen, with granite countertops, stainless steel Kitchen Aid appliances and large eating area view the dressing ring. The master bedroom and bath are an escape all of their own. Downstairs offers a family room and a bedroom and bath. 1.9 plus or minus acres boasts a gazebo and tasteful landscaping with an equestrian environment. Offered at \$1,195,000. MLS# 53036.



Ridgewoods

Four bedrooms, four baths, complete renovation. Oak floors an knotty pine paneling. Great mountain view. Offered at \$499,000. MLS# 52168



Art Williams was the commencement speaker at the Highlands School 2004 graduation ceremony at the Civic Center, Saturday, May 29. He told the students that only two percent do what it takes to make it in this world. He told them to "just do it!" never mind the excuses.

Special scholarships awarded at HS 2004 graduation

At the Highlands School Class of 2004 graduation, graduates and parents got a big surprise.

Principal Jack Brooks announced that commencement speaker, Art Williams, of the Old Edwards Inn & Spa, had made a five-year commitment to Highlands School graduates starting with the 2004 class.

He has agreed to award each college-bound high school graduate with \$1,000 toward his or her college education. The Valedictorian will receive \$5,000 and the Salutatorian will receive \$2,500.

"This is a one time deal for each graduate - a nonrenewable scholarship - but he has pledged this to Highlands School for five years," said Principal Jack Brooks.

Brooks said Williams came to him for ideas - a way to do something special for the students and their families - and Brooks told him scholarships would be a very significant gift.

Williams said over the years he's been impressed with the students and how they contribute to the Highlands community.

"He wanted to do something that would affect a lot of individuals and I told him this was it," said Brooks. "When you help a student bound for college, you help their parents, too."

Over the summer, Williams' charitable foundation will contact Highlands School about when and how to get the money sent to prospective colleges.



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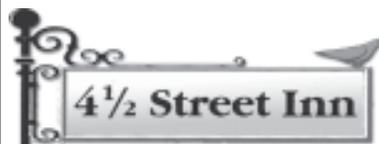
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RBC commits to five years of support



RBC Centura, with offices in both Highlands and Cashiers, recently made a five-year commitment of support to Highlands-Cashiers Hospital as part of its overall efforts to remain involved in community affairs. Sue Gorski, manager of the Highlands branch, presented the check for this year to Jack Calloway, president of the hospital's Foundation. "One of the reasons we chose the hospital is that it serves everyone in the community," she said. "It is vital to all of us." Calloway said support from businesses and individuals is essential to the continued success of the hospital's mission to meet the health care needs of the area.

'Be a Star for a Child' is June 12

– Silent auction full of surprises –

By Barbara Lawrence
Contributor

Golfers can expect a summer fun this year. Trillium Links and Lakes, Wildcat Cliffs Country Club, Highlands Falls Country Club and Highlands Cove Club have each donated a round of golf for four to support the Carpe Diem's 'Be a Star for a Child' country supper with dancing and auction on June 12.

If you want a fun filled week, Sara Nash and Thurston Mack have graciously donated one week at their 3-bedroom/3-bathroom condo in Highlands Cove. Peregrines Restaurant has donated a dinner for two. Now you can relax in your condo, play golf followed by a delicious meal. You don't even have to leave the Cove. What an incredible time! We'd like to welcome the new owners of Peregrines to Highlands and are confident they will have a successful season. Charles and Cynthia Tunnicliff are pleased to offer their gorgeous, new mountain home with covered deck, bordering a gentle stream, which usually rents for \$1,650 a week. This sleeps eight people, and would be great for a family get together. All Sapphire Valley amenities are

included.

Lakewood Lodge is awaiting your arrival to spend an off-season mountain weekend at Trillium overlooking beautiful Lake Glenville. This 2 bed/2bath home has views of the Smokey Mountain Range, and is magnificently appointed. Jo Hart of Roswell, Georgia is sponsoring this auction item. Innisfree Victorian Inn is also offering one magic starlit night, overlooking the lake. It's sure to be a romantic evening.

It's going to be an exciting evening, and there will be something for everyone. Items as varied as watercolor, oil and acrylic artwork, holiday rentals, jigsaws, golf packages, a magic show, crystal, wooden sculptures, pottery, skin care products, and we even have a baby basket ready for your next child or grandchild. You have a chance to dance under the stars and to be a star at the same time. How often can you say that? Pick up your tickets as Wit's End on Main Street, Carol at Highlands Office Supply in the Highlands Plaza, or call Carpe Diem at 526-2854. The last tables are filling; so don't wait too long to Be a Star for a Child!

Pulmonologist opening part-time practice

Dr. Waverly S. Green III, a specialist in pulmonary medicine, will open a part-time practice on the campus of Highlands-Cashiers Hospital next month.

A fellow of the American College of Chest Physicians, Green is board certified in pulmonary medicine, internal medicine, and critical care medicine. His main practice, Western Carolina Pulmonary and Critical Care, is located in Sylva, NC. He will begin seeing patients in Highlands on June 14 in suite 100 of the Jane Woodruff Medical Building.

"We are very pleased to have someone of Dr. Green's background and qualifications come to Highlands to serve our communities," said Jim Graham, hospital administrator. "Pulmonary medicine is an important specialty that has been missing in recent months since Dr. Alan L. Plummer of Emory discontinued his regular visiting practice here last fall. We are very pleased to be able to offer the services of a pulmonary specialist to our patients once again."

Dr. Green will see patients in High-

lands the second Monday of each month. Appointments can be made by calling his Sylva office at 828 586-7994 during regular office hours.

A graduate of the Medical College of Virginia in Richmond, Green earned his medical degree in 1988. He completed residency in internal medicine there before entering the fellowship program in pulmonary/critical care medicine at that same institution, where he received the "Best Fellow Award," a distinction awarded by his fellow residents and interns. Upon completion of his fellowship he moved to Sylva where he was in solo practice for two years. He then returned to Richmond, Va., where he joined Pulmonary Associates of Richmond, Inc. While in Richmond, he was medical director of the Respiratory Therapy program at St. Mary's Hospital, program director of Pulmonary Rehab at Health South Rehabilitation Hospital, and chairman of the Critical Care Committee at St. Mary's.

He returned to Sylva last year, resuming a solo practice.

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Welcomes New Visiting Specialist In Pulmonary Medicine

Waverly S. Green III, MD

Pulmonary & Critical Care Medicine

Western Carolina Pulmonary & Critical Care
Of Sylva, NC

Local Office: Suite 100, Woodruff Medical Building
Schedule: Second Monday of each Month
Appointments by Calling: 828-586-7994

Medical School: Medical College of Virginia
Internal Medicine Residency: Medical College of Virginia
Fellowship in Pulmonary Medicine: Medical College of Virginia



Waverly S. Green III, MD

Board certified in Internal Medicine, Pulmonary Medicine and Critical Care Medicine, Dr. Green is a Diplomate of the American College of Physicians, a Fellow of the American College of Chest Physicians, a member of the American Thoracic Society, and a member of the National Association of Medical Directors of Respiratory Therapy.

For more information, visit our website at www.hchospital.org or call us at 526-1DOC

• MOVIE PIX •

'The Shining'

The 1980 horror classic, based on the novel by Stephen King, directed by Stanley Kubrick, and starring Shelly Duvall, Danny Lloyd, Scatman Crothers, and in the greatest, creepiest role of his entire career, Jack Nicholson.



Stuart Armor

This spectacular, brilliant, and terrifying horror film, based on Stephen King's 1977 best selling novel, is a masterpiece of suspense, not only does this film still keep me on the edge of my seat, it still has me jumping out of it. As a rule, I'm not much for most horror films, but this is not a hack-em-up, slasher type of story, but a mysterious, psychological thriller, kind of reminiscent of Joseph Conrad, Kafka, Hitchcock, or Brahm's Stoker.

The Storyline: Jack Torrance (Nicholson) former school teacher turned writer, has taken a job looking after the Overlook Hotel, which is closed and snowbound during the winter. Jack, his wife (Duvall does a wonderful, strikingly annoying job in this role) and son Danny (Lloyd is a terrific child actor, believable, not overly cute, a little scary in his own right) and just possibly some of the former residents of the hotel will spend the winter together. I'm not giving anything away by saying spooky stuff is going to happen, and soon. A wonderful, spooky, sort of Baroque sounding musical score, separated by some stark silence and beautiful cinematography tell you that there is more than meets the

eye when you look at Jack and the Overlook. Could be ghosts, maybe, could be old Jack is crazy as a box of rabid weasels, but even before the scary stuff starts, Nicholson's facial expressions, Kubrick's filming and editing, and little Danny Lloyd, with his imaginary friend, get things off on the right tone. After that, well, you'll just have to see it for yourself.

The filming of this movie is a huge part of its spookiness, and several types of camera dollies were created just for the film, and they do great job of getting some of running and bike riding scenes. It's not really a special effects film, although there are a few, mostly just acting, camera work and music make this one of the best and scariest movies of all time, watch it with a friend or two, just keep your eye on them.

More of Kubrick's best are Dr. Strangelove, Clockwork Orange, and 2001 Space Odyssey. King has had a zillion of his books turned into movies, but few come close to this, but Apt Pupil, Thinner, and Delores Claiborne are pretty good. Jack can be seen in some of his best roles in One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest, Prizzi's Honor, Wolf, and Witches of Eastwick.

These and about 5000 other titles are available on VHS and DVD at Movie Stop Video, stop on by and give us a look.



Pictured from left to right are Host and Hostess, Eddy and Gina McDonald, Richard Vinroot, Republican Candidate for Governor and Campaign Coordinators, Lynn Kimball and Orville Coward, Jr.

Event a huge success for Vinroot

A Reception was held for Republican Candidate for Governor of North Carolina, Richard Vinroot at the home of Eddy and Gina McDonald in Highlands Cove on Friday May 28th. There were over 40 supporters who attended and the event was catered by Peregrine Restaurant at Highlands Cove.

"The turnout was great and events like these allow me a

chance to meet new people and tell them more about my campaign and the issues of job creation, cutting taxes and eliminating government waste", said Vinroot.

Vinroot, who polls show is the leading candidate in the Republican primary, said he appreciates the opportunity to discuss his plans for the future of North Carolina at these events.



Blue Valley

Joint hike set for June 13

There will be a natural history hike to Chinquapin Mountain on the Highlands Plateau on June 13, Sunday. The hike is co-sponsored by the WNC Alliance and the Jackson-Macon Conservation Alliance (JMCA), and will be led by Dr. Robert Wyatt, Director of the Highlands Biological Station, and Bob Gale, WNCA staff ecologist.

This easy-to-moderate two-hour hike goes through several types of habitat with spectacular views of Blue Valley. Learn about the local flora and

fauna along the way. Both organizations are involved with on-site citizen monitoring for the Hemlock Woolly Adelgid, and we will be checking for populations of the adelgid in the large hemlocks along the trail, as well as learning more about the insect.

Meet at the signed Glen Falls parking lot off the Georgia Rd. (NC Hwy. 106) at 1:30 PM. Bring water and rain gear. For further info: Call Roger or Cynthia at: 524-3899 or 526-9227.

HS Graduation – 2004: A Day t



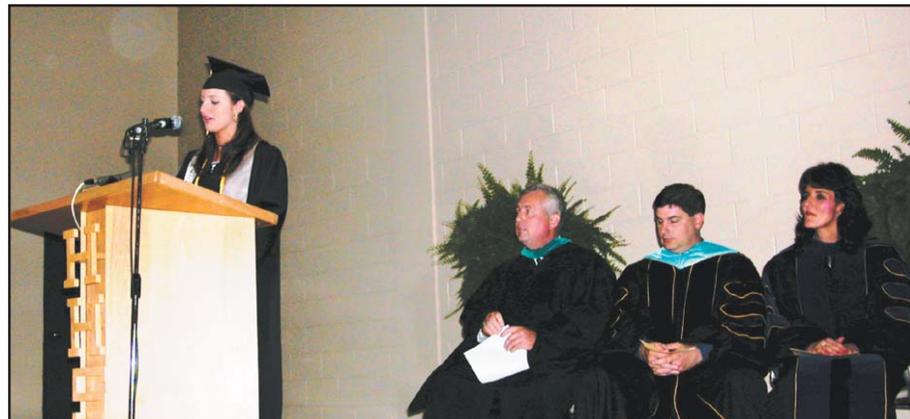
Junior Marshals Kayla McCall, Angela Aspinwall, Iyali Ruiz, Kelsey Schmitt, and McKenzie Thompson and mascots Desiray Marie Schmitt and Taylor Bernard Schmitt preceded the 33 graduates into Civic Center for the Saturday, May 29 ceremony. Melisa McKim sang "Climb Every Mountain," Pastor Steve Kerhoulas gave the invocation and Art Williams presented the commencement address.



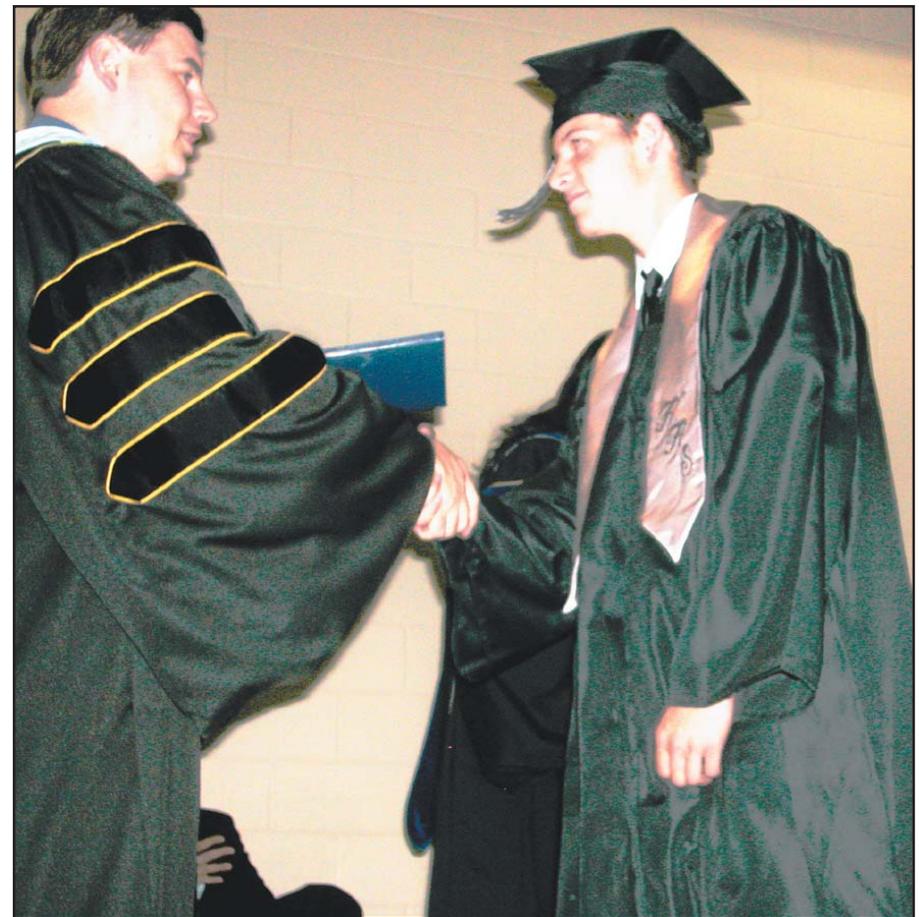
Graduates waited anxiously on stage for their diplomas.



Valedictorian Katy Betz spoke of support from the Highlands community, her parents, friends and administration.



Salutatorian Caitlin Rawlins used the ABCs to epitomize the graduates' years at Highlands School.

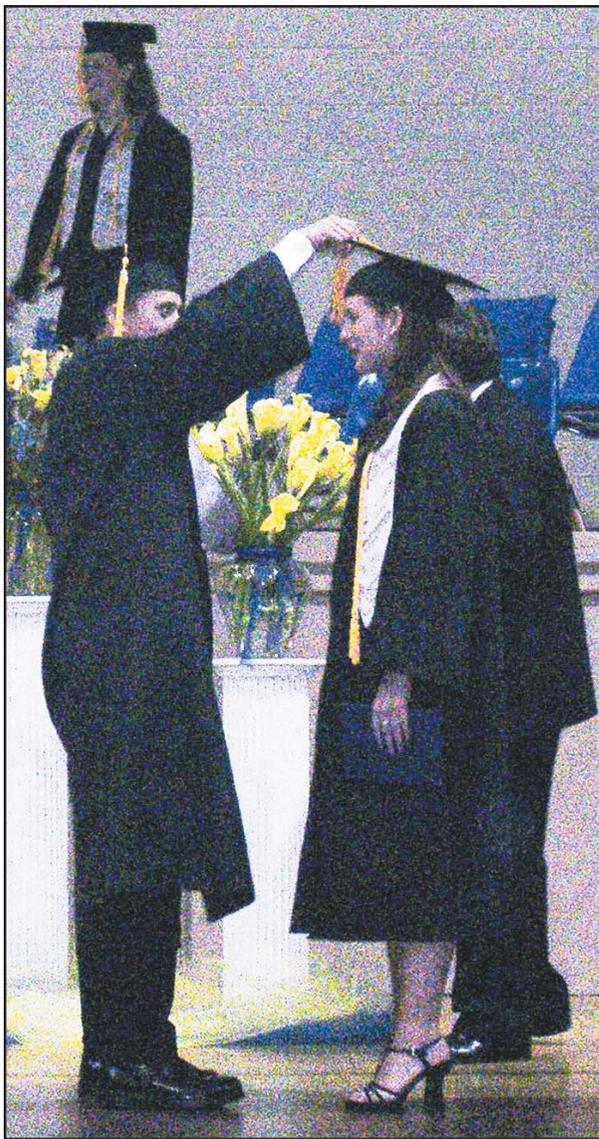


Superintendent of Macon County Schools Dr. Rodney Shotwell, presented each graduate with a diploma.



Footage of the Highlands School Graduation of 2004 produced by Time Capsule Video will air on Channel 14 Wednesday, June 9 at 8 a.m., and 5, 9 and 10 p.m. for the next couple of weeks.

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Inside:	
Features	pg. 10
Police & Fire	pg. 16
Book Review	pg. 6
Healthy Living	pg. 8
Forum	pg. 2
Florist Tips	pg. 12

FREE Highlands' Newspaper

Volume 1, Number 2 Locally Owned & Operated Friday, July 25, 2003

The week of July 25-Aug. 1

- The Macon Aeromodelers will hold an "Old Timers" fly-in at the flying field on Tennessee Road in Otto on Saturday, July 26 from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. with other models flown afterwards. Spectators of all ages are invited.
- Our Lady of the Mountains Catholic Church is holding its annual yard sale on Saturday, July 26 at 9 a.m. Items for sale will include books, old records, toys, kitchen items and linens.
- Miller-Talley Reunion is Saturday, July 26, 11 a.m. at the Rec Park. Drink and paper goods will be furnished. Please bring a dish of food. For more information, call 526-2588.
- Wright Family Reunion is Saturday, July 26 at 11 a.m. at the Rec Park. Ms. Ellen Greenwald will portray the life of femima Notton Wright.
- Sunday, July 27, from 2-3 p.m. Scudder's Gallery will be

Hospital water line funding in place

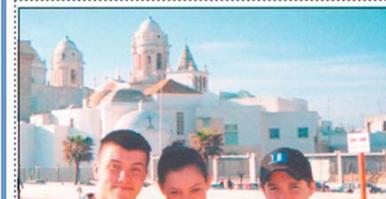
By Kim Lewicki
The financial pieces are finally in place for the hospital water line, but the target start-up date of November 1 still looms on the horizon.

Engineer Lamar Nix, McCall Associates, of Asheville, is the engineering firm responsible for designing the project, surveying and completing the permitting process, but as lead agency the town is concerned with the timetable.

"DOT wants to resurface U.S. 64 east during the next paving season so they want to know when the water line project will be finished," said Nix. "A lot is hanging on the permitting process and no one has much control over that"

•See WATER page 3

Friends across the seas



Rainy weather-blast from past

By Kim Lewicki
Slowly but surely, Highlands is molding over. People new to Highlands in the last five years say they've never seen so much rain. People who have lived here forever say "Welcome to the real Highlands." Over the last five years, drought

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Second CLE lecture June 9

The "Wednesday Night Lecture Series," sponsored by the Center for Life Enrichment (CLE) and Western Carolina University (WCU), presents its second lecture of the 2004 season on Wednesday, June 9, when Dr. Paul Heckert will speak on "Physics for the Layman: Starspots, Real Estate Scams, and Global Warming" at the Rec Center, beginning at 8 p.m.

These free lectures will continue every two weeks, during the summer months, until Oct. 1. You don't have to be a member of CLE to attend. The lectures (all given by professors from WCU) will cover a broad range of interesting subjects. (See the Program Guide, published by CLE, which can be obtained at the CLE office any weekday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Peggy Crosby center.

Dr. Heckert graduated *cum laude* from Frostburg State College in May 1974, obtained his M.S. degree from the University of New Mexico in May 1977 and his Ph.D. in Physics from the University of New Mexico in May



Dr. Paul Heckert

1983.

He has been associated with WCU since 1988 becoming a full professor of physics in July 1993. He fills his free time with ong distance running, camping, hiking and backpacking and classic cars.

The Wednesday night lectures will start at a new time — promptly at 8 p.m. — and will usually end before 9:30 p.m. depending on the length of the post-lecture discussion period. These lectures are open to the public and free.

Highlands-Cashiers Hospital's HealthTracks to offer yoga/pilates

Starting this month, HealthTracks at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital will begin offering a new exercise class combining Yoga and Pilates techniques for those interested in improving their overall strength and flexibility.

Called "Core Fusion," the class is designed to strengthen the core muscle groups which support the back, neck, and abdominal region with the aim of improving balance and posture, as well as increasing flexibility. The program, which will be held on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons at 5 p.m. at HealthTracks on the hospital campus, will kick off on June 15. The cost is \$5 per class or \$50 for 12 sessions.

The class is being taught by Tricia Shepard, who is a certified Pilates instructor, and who recently received her bachelors of science in Sports Management and Nutrition

at Western Carolina University in Cullowhee, NC.

"We are very excited about offering this class," said Yvonne Smith, manager of HealthTracks. "This program combines the stretching of Yoga with the strengthening of Pilates, and it will be designed to reach a wide audience. Virtually all of us can benefit from such a program, but as we age we need to pay particular attention to strengthening our core muscle groups."

Participants will be able to join at any point in the program. Anyone wishing to register for the Core Fusion class, or who is interested in obtaining more information about it, should call HealthTracks at 526-1FIT (526-1469) Monday through Friday during regular business hours.

Judge orders poker machines destroyed at Sheriff's request

On May 26 three poker machines, recently confiscated by deputies, were destroyed at the Macon County Landfill.

The Sheriff's Office had been investigating allegations of illegal activity involving poker machines in the county and recently discovered some illegal machines at a local construction company. "While deputies were not able to substantiate any illegal payouts by the business owners, they were able to show that they were in the county illegally," said Sheriff Robert Holland.

Deputies assigned to investigate the allegations spent several weeks reviewing the records of poker machines currently registered. During this time several local business owners were given verbal warnings regarding violations investigators found as well as informing the business owners that the Sheriff's Office would remain vigilant in its efforts to monitor their poker machines.

However, of all the information that has been given in the past year, no witness has agreed to testify in court to what he saw, which in many cases, would be required.

Several months ago Sheriff Holland suspended registration of any additional poker machines into Macon County. Any machines that are brought in the county now are considered to be here illegally. From that point on any machines found to be here illegally or being used illegally will be confiscated, the owner charged and upon conviction the machines will then be destroyed.

There are currently 27 businesses in the county that have poker machines registered with the Sheriff's Office which are currently being monitored regularly.

Anyone willing to give information concerning the illegal operation of poker machines in Macon County is encouraged to call the Sheriff's Office at 349-2104.

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Ray McPhail with Highlands Land Trust executive director Mike Cavender

Old-growth forest tract donated to Land Trust from developers

The developers of Ravenel Ridge have given a valuable and ecologically significant part of their development to the Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust.

Known as the Valley of the Giants, the 11.6 acre tract sits in a valley between the residential development and the Fodderstack Mountains. It contains one of the headwater creeks for Big Creek, which flows into the Chattooga River.

The valley was never logged and has a stand of three to four hundred year old hemlocks, as well as very old birches, poplars and white pines. There are more than 20 varieties of trees growing in the valley, as well as large stands of mountain laurel and rhododendron.

Dr. Robert Zahner, retired Clemson professor of forestry and former president of the land trust, says: "The Valley of the Giants is a

beautiful and rare habitat in its own right. This tract comprises most of the upper watershed of Edwards Creek, an important downstream habitat for Horse Cove. It should be protected for water quality if for no other reason."

The valley was part of the 330-acre S.P. Ravenel estate that was sold by Elise DuPont to the developers in 1996. With the prompting of the Highlands Land Trust, the North Carolina Nature Conservancy agreed to buy the Fodderstack Mountains and hold them until the U.S. Forest Service could appropriate the funds to buy them as public lands, which it did later. The Fodderstack Mountains are listed in the North Carolina Natural Heritage inventory.

Because of the fragile habitat in the area, hikes into the area will be on a very limited basis of three to four a year.

Jazz concert at PAC set for June 19

The second annual Jazz at PAC will take place on Saturday, June 19 at 3 p.m. at the Martin-Lipscomb Performing Arts Center on Chestnut Street, Highlands.

This year's event will showcase the electrifying "Solar Impulse" - a professional jazz quartet from Winston-Salem. Local Highlands jazz musicians John O. Williams

(trumpet) and Mary Beth Brody, (vocalist) will join them for some special numbers.

Ticket prices are \$10 for adults and \$5 for students at the door.

This year's "Jazz at PAC" sponsors are Lucas & Company, CPAs, PA, Creighton Sossomon, Attorney at Law and ...on the Veranda restaurant.

Spots still available for Cashiers/Glenville health screening

Thinking about attending the upcoming health screening for the Cashiers/Glenville area? There are still spots available.

Interested participants must pre-register. Individuals may register by logging on to the hospital website at www.hchospital.org or by calling 526-1435 during regular working hours. The deadline for registration is 5 p.m. Wednesday, June 16.

The FREE screening is sponsored by Highlands-Cashiers Hospital and will be held on Saturday, June 19 from 7:15 to 11 a.m. at Blue Ridge School in Glenville. Participation is limited to the first 100 registrants.

Participants will be checked for important health indicators such as blood pressure, blood sugar levels, cholesterol levels, height, weight, body composition and bone density.

A hearing test, provided by WNC Hearing Associates, will also be offered

at select screenings due to availability of the service.

Free colorectal cancer test kits will be provided to every participant. The kit provides the materials necessary to perform a fecal occult blood test, which each participant can conduct at home. The colorectal cancer test can detect blood in the stool, even when it is not evident to the naked eye.

In order to provide the most accurate test results possible, participants should not eat or drink anything but water after midnight the evening before the screening. Confidential results of those tests will be mailed to each participant.

Participants are also asked to wear short sleeves to the screening, since free access to the upper arms is necessary for certain tests.

The hospital's dietary department will also provide a free continental breakfast to all participants.



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• BOOK REVIEW WITH KATIE BRUGGER •

Humanizing the enemy

In war we dehumanize our opponents to allow our soldiers to break one of the most fundamental rules of civilization: do not kill. We call the enemy names and forget that they are human beings like us. The enemy becomes something other — “nips” and “krauts” in World War II, “gooks” and “slopes” in Vietnam, and now “hajis” in Iraq.

New York Times columnist Bob Herbert recently quoted a US soldier who is being court-martialed for refusing to return to duty in Iraq. “You just sort of try to block out the fact that they’re human beings and see them as enemies,” he said. “You call them hajis, you know? You do all the things that make it easier to deal with killing them and mistreating them.” (“Gooks to Hajis,” May 21, 2004)

With all that is happening in the Middle East right now I felt the need for some humanizing. We hear so much about the region but all the information seems to be about religion and politics and history. I found myself wanting to know who these people are as human beings. What do they eat? What does their art look like? I recently surveyed the library looking for books on Middle Eastern culture and here is what I found.

Food seems like a natural place to start when exploring another culture. *The New Book of Middle Eastern Food*, by Claudia Roden (641.5956R) is a big book with beautiful photos of many of the recipes. Most people today are familiar with the basics of Middle Eastern cuisine (falafel, humus, etc) so I tried some more exotic dishes. With the help of a friend I cooked some of this book’s recipes and they were all delicious. I love spanakopita and was anxious to try some variations on the fillo-dough stuffed pastry. We tried “eggplant fillo” and “pumpkin fillo” (I substituted sweet potato) and they were both excellent. My friend cooked “Blehat Lahma bi Beid” which was described by a happy

participant of our Middle Eastern feast as “exotic individual meatloafs.”

I looked through the art section in the library and was disappointed that I couldn’t find anything directly about Middle Eastern art. Then I found some beautiful volumes on Oriental rugs and as I looked at the photos I realized: *here* is the art of the Middle East.

I spent some very enjoyable hours gazing at the reproductions in *Rugs and Carpets of the Orient*, Nathaniel Harris (746.75H). I knew that the Middle East was famous for its carpets but I had no idea the level of artistry that existed. What struck me was the fact that all of the rugs, save one, were either abstract geometric designs or

floral patterns. This made me curious. Does Islam prohibit the depiction of human beings, the “making of a graven image?” Mr. Harris answered my question: “Intense colors and emphatic patterns are Islamic characteristics, and perhaps features of a Near Eastern outlook even older than Islam. That would certainly explain why the famous ban on representing living creatures, which is not found in the Koran, nonetheless stayed in force over much of Islam for centuries. Abstraction, ornament, and geometry became the only approved modes of artistic expres-

sion, and it is noticeable that even where ‘realism’ was allowed there was a strong tendency towards stylization; lettering, for example, was often transformed into superb but quite unreadable decoration...The Shi’ites rejected the ban on representing living things, so that in Persia, alone of Islamic countries, men and beasts frequently appeared on carpets.”

With all that is happening in the Middle East right now I felt the need for some humanizing. We hear so much about the region but all the information seems to be about religion and politics and history. I found myself wanting to know who these people are as human beings. What do they eat? What does their art look like? I recently surveyed the library looking for books on Middle Eastern culture and here is what I found.

The Art of the Loom: Weaving and Dyeing across the World, by Ann Hecht (746.1H) is a book for weavers — much of it is too technical for the average reader — but there are some wonderful photographs. The second chapter is on the Bedouin and has an amazing photo of a ground loom resting on rocks with the desert vastness stretching beyond (page 63). I found it interesting that the Bedouin women weave the material used to make the tents they lived in, in addition to saddle bags for the camels,

storage containers, rugs, and cushions, while the men do the finer weaving for clothing.

My husband Arthur traveled to Afghanistan in the 1970s and collected some astonishing pieces of embroidery. This collection is on display at the Hudson Library for the month of June. Perhaps what is most astonishing about these works, beyond even the incredible fineness of the stitches and the impeccable sense of design, is that they could be created by people who live in such a desolate part of the world. Look at the photos at the beginning of *Rugs and Carpets of the Orient* and you will see these countries are vast stretches

of tan and white rock and sand. Where do they get the colors and the designs?

Mosque, by David Macaulay (726M), is a new book at the library. I know I said I didn’t want to discuss religion, but this isn’t really about religion, it’s about architecture. Religion comes into play in this sense, to quote Mr. Macaulay: “It seems to me that the best examples of religious architecture are among mankind’s proudest accomplishments. When working in the service of some higher entity, we humans seem capable of surpassing our reach and perhaps even our expectations. Driven by faith, but guided ultimately by common sense, these constructions reveal a remarkable level of ingenuity, ambition, and craftsmanship rarely found in secular architecture.” The book is a fictional story of the building of a mosque in 1595 in Istanbul, based on extensive historical research. I found myself marveling again and again at the complexity of the building and the skills evident in the design and engineering of such a structure. Mr. Macaulay is the author of many books of this type, where he delves into the mechanics of either some particular thing, such as *Cathedral, Ship, Castle, and Pyramid*, or things in general, such as *The Way Things Work* (all of these titles are available in the library system).

It’s hard for me to think about Iraq without thinking of the beginnings of civilization. The plains between the Tigris and Euphrates rivers were “the cradle of civilization.” *The Splendors of the Past: Lost Cities of the Ancient World*, National Geographic Society (930S) devotes the first chapter to this first civilization, the Sumerians. The Sumerians invented many of the social and legal mechanisms necessary for urban life: “In all of these things — in law and social reform, in literature and architecture, in commercial organization, and in technology — the achievements of the cities of

Applause Award to Meadows



The Laurel Garden Club of Highlands has chosen Meadows Realty for its Applause Award in recognition of the excellent landscaping around its new site. It has enhanced this beautiful setting in a way that is aesthetically pleasing and blends well with the environment.

... BOOK REVIEW continued from page 18

Sumer are the earliest we know about."

After the first Gulf war in 1991 the Marsh Arabs of southern Iraq, who are Shi'ites, rebelled against Saddam Hussein at the urging of the United States. They received no help from the U.S. and were brutally repressed by Saddam. There are many photos of these Marsh Arabs in *The Splendors of the Past*, because "many archaeologists suggest that prehistoric people, dependent upon the bounty of the wilds, would have found a paradise in marshlands teeming with fish and waterfowl. To the northwest, the rivers offered their rich silt and spring floods. When farmers learned to apportion the waters and plow the land, a fabled granary flourished on the alluvial plain of Mesopotamia. The way then stood open for Sumer's pioneering venture into literacy and the evolution of urban life." I urge you to look at the photos on page 52-55 to see the houses these people still build today out of the marsh grasses.

The Sumerians also invented writing, one of the most stunning achievements of humankind. This naturally brings us around to literature. Poetry is highly esteemed in Islamic culture. The only examples of this I could find are works by Jelaluddin Rumi (1207-

73) who was a Sufi mystic (*The Soul of Rumi*, by Coleman Barks 891J). I am a terrible judge of poetry but I have found the poems of Rumi to be both inspirational and spiritually uplifting.

The library does have some Arab stories. Of course there is the famous *Arabian Nights' Entertainments* — or *The Thousand and One Nights*, translated by Edward Lane (398.2L). The next volume on the shelf, *World Tales*, collected by Idries Shah (398.2S) was much more than I'd expected when I first glanced at it. Not just a collection of stories from around the world, this book traces the movement of stories across cultures. For example, "The Ghoul and the Youth of Ispahan" is a Persian version of the English "Jack the Giant Killer," which we call "Jack and the Beanstalk." There are also Indian, Albanian, Sicilian, and South American versions. Rumi appears here, telling the familiar story of blind people arguing about the true nature of the elephant — one says it's like a pillar, another like a hose, etc. Ms. Shah quotes Joseph Campbell, "The folk-tale is the primer of the picture-language of the soul," and this book hints at the idea that, at our core, human beings are all the same. Our cultural differences are just superficial variations hiding a deeper unity. — katiebrugger@yahoo.com



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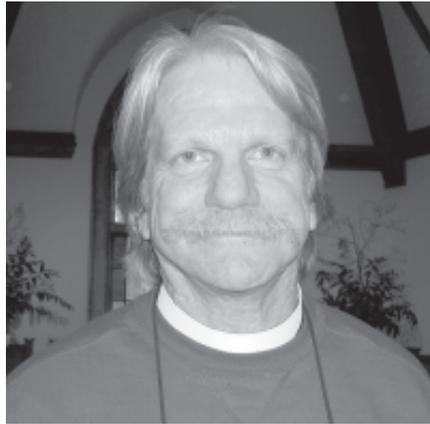
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• **SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING** •

The time to choose in now



Stephen Hines
Episcopal Church

June 6 marks the 60th anniversary of the D Day landing of the Allied Forces in Normandy. As some of you may know, C.S. Lewis' now famous defense of Christianity, Mere Christianity, was originally broadcast on the British Broadcasting Corporation radio during World War II. Consequently, it is not surprising that Lewis should have used war metaphors in his writing. One chapter is in fact entitled, "The Invasion" and in it he writes:

"One of the things that surprised me when I started reading the New Testament seriously was that it talked so much about a Dark Power in the universe – a mighty evil spirit who was held to be the Power behind death and disease and sin. Christianity believes that the universe is at war. But it does not think it is a war between independent powers. It thinks it is a civil war, a rebellion and that we are living in the part of the universe occupied by the rebel.

"Enemy occupied territory – that is what the world is. Christianity is the story of how the rightful king has landed in disguise, and has called us all to take part in a great campaign of sabotage. When you go to church you are really listening in to the secret wireless from your friends: that is why the enemy is so anxious to prevent us from going.

"Why, one may ask, is God not landing in force, invading it? Well, Christians think he is going to land in force, but he is delaying to give us the chance to join his side freely. I do not suppose that you would have thought much of a Frenchman who waited till the Allies were marching into Germany and then announce that he was on their side. God will invade, but that will not be the time to decide. When that happens, it is the end of the world. Now, today, this moment, is our chance to choose the right side. God is holding back to give us that chance. It will not last forever."

• **PLACES OF WORSHIP ON THE PLATEAU** •

Blue Valley Baptist Church

Rev. Oliver Rice, Pastor (706) 782-3965
Sundays: School – 10 a.m., Worship – 11
Sunday night services every second and fourth
Sunday at 7 p.m.

Wednesdays: Mid-week prayer meeting – 7 p.m.

Buck Creek Baptist Church

Sundays: School – 10 a.m.; Worship – 11
First Saturday: Singing at 7:30 p.m.

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints

NC 28 N. and Pine Ridge Rd., (828) 369-8329
Rai Cammack, Branch President, (828) 369-1627
Sundays: Worship – 10 a.m.; school & primary
classes – 11 a.m.; Women's & Men's Org. – noon
Tues: Women's Org. – 6:30 p.m.; Library – 6-8 p.m.
Wednesdays: Boy Scouts of America mtg. – 6:30
p.m.; Young women's activities – 6:30 p.m.

Christ Anglican Church

743-3319

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Community Bible Church in Highlands
Holy Communion at most services.

Clear Creek Baptist Church

Pastor Everett Wilson, (828) 743-3379
Sundays: School – 10 a.m.; Worship – 11
Prayer – 6:30 p.m.
Evening Service – 7 p.m.

Community Bible Church

(Evangelical Presbyterian Church
Steven E. Kerhoulas, Pastor, 526-4685
3645 U.S. 64 east
Sundays: School – 9:30 a.m.; Worship – 10:45
Tuesdays: Women's Bible Study – 9:45
Wed: Supper – 5:30 p.m.; Bible Study – 6:30 p.m.
Thursdays: Guys Sr. High Discipleship – 6

Episcopal Church of the Incarnation

Interim Priest: Stephen Hines, 526-2968
Sundays: Choir – 9 a.m.; Bible Study & Book Study
classes – 9:15 a.m.; Holy Eucharist – 10:30 a.m.;
Children's Chapel – 10:30 a.m.
Women's Cursillo Group (Library) – 4
Tuesdays: Men's Cursillo in Jones Hall – 8
Thursdays: Holy Eucharist – 10 a.m.

The Sunday Service is telecast on cable channel 14

First Baptist Church

Dr. Daniel D. Robinson, 526-4153
Sundays: Worship – 8:15 a.m., 10:45 a.m., 6:30
p.m.; School – 9:30 a.m.; Youth – 6:30 p.m.; Choir
– 7:15

Wednesdays: Dinner – 5:30 p.m.; Team Kids – 6
p.m.; Prayer – 6:15 p.m., Choir – 7:30 p.m.

First Presbyterian Church

Rev. J. Hunter Coleman, Pastor, 526-3175
Sundays: Worship – 11 a.m. (child care at 11 a.m.);
School – 9:30 & 9:45.

Wednesdays: Children's Devotions – 9:30 a.m.;
Supper – 6 p.m.; Choir – 7 p.m.

Thursdays: Bible Study – 10 a.m.

Sat: Adventistas del Septimo Dia – 10 a.m. & 5

Highlands Assembly of God

Rev. Scott Holland, 524-6026, Sixth Street
Sundays: School – 10 a.m.; Worship – 11
Wednesdays: Prayer & Bible Study – 7

Highlands 7th-Day Adventist Church

Wednesday evening prayer & Bible Study
Call Lloyd Kidder at 526-9474

Highlands United Methodist Church

Pastors Eddie & Kim Ingram, 526-3376
Sundays: School – 9:30 & 9:45 a.m.; Worship – 8:30
& 11 a.m.

Mike & Charlott Turner will perform during both
worship services on June 6

Wednesdays: Supper – 5:30 p.m.; Bible Study &
activities – 6 p.m.

Lutheran Church of the Holy Family – ELCA

Rev. Pam Mitcham, Pastor,

2152 Dillard Road – 526-9741

Sundays: Worship/Communion – 10:30

Macedonia Baptist Church

8 miles south of Highlands on N.C. 28 S in Satolah
Pastor Rusty Wolfrey, (706) 782-8130
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 369-6871
Friday: Sept. 12 Sabbath Eve Services at 7
For more information, call
(706)-745-1842.

Our Lady of the Mountains Catholic Church

Rev. William M Evans, Priest

Parish office, 526-2418

Wednesdays & Fridays: Mass – 9 a.m.

Saturday Vigil Mass – 4 p.m.

Sundays: Mass – 11 a.m.

Scaly Mountain Baptist Church

Rev. Clifford Willis

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
Sundays: School – 10 a.m.; Worship – 10:45 a.m.;
Evening Worship – 6 p.m.

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

For more information call 526-3212.

Shortoff Baptist Church

Pastor Rev. Wayne Price

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

Wednesdays: Prayer & Bible Study – 7

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

526-9769

Rev. Maureen Killoran (part-time)

Sundays: Worship – 11 a.m.

Westside Baptist Church

Interim Pastor, Terry Dixon

Services in the basement of the Peggy Crosby

Sundays: Fellowship & Worship – 11

Whiteside Presbyterian Church

Cashiers, Rev. Sam Forrester, 743-2122

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

● UPCOMING EVENTS ●

On-Going

- Workshops at the Bascom-Louise Gallery for young artists in grades K – 5 and beginning and intermediate level adult/teen art classes are being offered now. Call for further information!

- Seeking donations of rare books for its first-ever book auction the Friends of the Macon County Public Library has issued a "call for books" to add to a collection of valuable works that has been growing for the last several years. Deadline for donating books is July 1. For information, call Wallace at (828) 524-3600.

- The Mountain View group of Alcoholics Anonymous now meets in the remodeled basement meeting room of the Presbyterian Church sanctuary, in Highlands. Meeting times are Mondays at 8 p.m.; Tuesdays at 5:30 p.m. (women only); Wednesdays and Fridays at noon. For more info, call 524-7395.

- Parents or coaches interested in starting a Soccer Challenge Team, call Charissa Robinson at 526-9915.

June 5

- The Highlands Plateau Audubon Society will host a field trip at Chestnut Hill featuring local breeding birds, including Red Crossbills. Meet at Town Hall parking lot at 7:30 am to carpool. Contact, Brock Hutchins, 787-1387, or Edwin Poole, 526-2775.

- Herb Fair at East Palmer in Franklin from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Featuring culinary and medicinal herb plants, organic produce, naturopathic on site; wreaths & baskets. For more information call Darlene at 349-3024.

June 6

- Second Annual Meeting of the Rustic Falls Homeowners Association at the home of Barry and Debbie Boher at 3 p.m. Call 787-1164.

June 7-8

- HIARPT lecturer at the Martin-Lipscomb Performing Arts Center on Monday evenings at 7:30 p.m. and Tuesday mornings at 10 a.m. The lecturer will be Dr. Langdon Gilkey, the Shailer Mathews Professor Emeritus of the University of Chicago Divinity School. He will be lecturing on "Secularism, Fundamentalism, and the Religious Dimension."

June 8

- The Audubon Society is presenting a program on Backyard Gardening for Birds & Butterflies, presented by Dr. Richard Poole & Neta Villalobos-Bell of Longwood, Fla., at 7 p.m. at the Highlands Civic Center. For more information, call 787-1387.

June 8 – 11

- "Amazing Animals" at Highlands Nature Center. Ages 8 – 10, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. daily. Cost \$75 per child. Campers will learn about dif-

ferent animal groups such as insects, birds, mammals, reptiles, and amphibians through hands-on activities, games, and field observations.

shuttle by The Adventure Depot to visit two bed and breakfast establishments, 4 1/2 Street Inn and Colonial Pines Inn. There they can enjoy the sumptuous food and beverages provided by Fressers. Cost is \$10 for members and \$15 for prospective members. For reservations, directions, or instructions, please call the inns at 526.4464 or 526.2060.

June 12

- Carpe Diem Farms "Be A Star

Learn about Bats at the Nature Center

The Zahner Conservation Lecture Series for 2004 continues on Thursday, June 10, at 7 p.m. Dr. David Webster will give a talk entitled "Bats of the Southern Appalachians and the Endangered Species Act." Admission is free.

Thirteen species of bats inhabit the southern Appalachian Mountains, including three species that are federally listed as "Endangered." Another half-dozen or so are listed as of "Special Concern" by at least one of the states in the region. Many species of bats have experienced recent range contractions and reduction numbers as human activities alter the relatively priscapes first encountered by early European explorers and recently moved into the region as a result of at least one species more abundant in the region as we provide additional roost houses and buildings.



Dr. Webster's talk will introduce the bat fauna of the southern Appalachians, identify their roles in nature, and contradict numerous misconceptions about them. It will also address changes in the distributions and population sizes of bats over the last 300 years, and discuss the importance of federal and state legislation designed to protect these species and facilitate their recoveries.

The Zahner Lecture Series continues weekly through August 12, showcasing scientists, historians, authors, and artists. All talks are related to the natural beauty of the Highlands Plateau and to conservation of its rich natural and cultural heritage. The series is sponsored jointly by the Highlands Biological Station and the Highlands Land Trust.

June 10

- The Highlands Chamber of Commerce will host a Business After Hours on Thursday, from 5:30-7:30. The event will begin with a tour through the Museum of American Cut & Engraved Glass located at 472 Chestnut Street. Visitors can park at the Performing Arts Center for a

June 14-15

- HIARPT lecturer at the Martin-Lipscomb Performing Arts Center on Monday evenings at 7:30 p.m. and Tuesday mornings at 10 a.m. will be Dr. Wentzel Van Huyssteen, the James I. McCord Professor of Theology and

Science, Princeton Theological Seminary. His subject will be based upon his Gifford Lectures, which he is giving in a series in Scotland.

June 15

- The Audubon Society is hosting a field trip on Flat Mtn. Road. Meet at the Town Hall parking lot at 7:30 p.m. Call 787-1387 or 526-2775 for more information.

- It's movie time at PAC featuring "Jeremiah Johnson" sponsored by the Bascom-Louise Gallery at 7:30 p.m. Donations appreciated.

June 16

- Retired homicide detective turned author of "On My Father's Grave," Marshall Frank, will talk about the craft of writing, converting true events into fiction and discussing criminal justice issues at 2 p.m. at Hudson Library.

June 15 – 18

- "NatureWorks" at Highlands Nature Center. Ages 8 – 11, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. daily. Cost \$75 per child. Campers will learn about basic ecological concepts such as predator/prey adaptations, wildlife habitat needs, competition for resources, and life cycles through interactive games and hands-on activities.

Through June 17

- Folk and Outsider Art Exhibit continues at Bascom-Louise Gallery. Don't miss this opportunity to view a fabulous collection of some of the best outsider and folk artists.

June 18 & 19

- More Than A Likeness, Portraits in Pastel at Bascom-Louise Gallery from 9-12 and 1-4 p.m. In this two-day workshop students will discover the essence of portrait painting. Posing and lighting the model, capturing the attitude and spirit of the models personality, getting a correct drawing, composition, working value, color, edges, using dynamic application with pastels. Instructor: Suzanne Karnatz. The cost is \$125. Recommended Supplies: Pastels of choice; paper for pastel application – Canson color #336 (not sketchpad); charcoal stick; pastel pencils; sketchbook or notebook; C-clamps; palette; paper towels (Viva brand); smock.

June 19

- Reese Family Reunion from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Highlands Civic Center. Bring family, friends and

• HOME DECOR & FIXTURES •



Now in our 32nd year of serving the Highlands-Cashiers area, The Dry Sink on Main Street continues to offer distinctive gifts and merchandise, specializing in Gourmet Kitchen and Tabletop items. The Dry Sink is Highlands' exclusive Hallmark dealer, offering the best of Hallmark cards and giftwrap. Those who enjoy finding the interesting and unusual, will delight in visiting The Dry Sink.

We offer a wide variety of merchandise, from kitchen cookware, gadgets and small appliances, to a huge selection of candles, glassware, frames and other gifts. The Hallmark card selection is extensive, as are the offerings of partyware and seasonal items. And, to make things easier, we offer full service packing and shipping, using UPS shipping services.

Store manager, Susan Jones, heads up a staff that includes 20+ year veteran and Hallmark expert, Rosemary Seacott, Highlands own Shirley Wilson, Janice Talley, Nancy Gallagher, Leslie Wilson and Alan Snyder.

As it has been for the last quarter of a century, The Dry Sink is dedicated to providing goods of the highest quality at reasonable, competitive prices. Whether you are a part-time resident of this beautiful community, a full-time citizen, or a visitor from beyond these hills, we invite you to stop in and say hello whenever you are in Highlands. We are committed to making The Dry Sink your personal shopping discovery!

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29

Hospital can help patients with bills

Where can you turn if you need major surgery, yet don't have health insurance or money to pay?

Questions like that one are becoming a reality for an increasing number of Americans. Nearly one-fifth of Macon County residents don't have health insurance, and the Macon County Healthy Carolinians group recently identified the lack of medical services for uninsured residents as one of its top five health concerns.

So where do those without the means to pay for their health care turn? One place is Highlands-Cashiers Hospital itself.

"We have always been committed to providing necessary medical care to everyone in our community, regardless of their ability to pay," said Jim Graham, hospital administrator. "Unlike most community-owned hospitals, however, we don't receive any government funding for indigent cases. Still, we do everything in our power to make sure those who need essential medical services get them."

During the last fiscal year, the Hospital provided more than \$73,000 in pre-approved charity care. It provided another \$20,000 in free care during the first quarter of this fiscal year. Those numbers don't include other types of uncompensated care, such as charity care rendered to emergency patients when there was no opportunity to apply for financial assistance in advance.

There are some strings attached, which hospital officials say aren't of the hospital's making.

"There is a whole series of guidelines that a patient has to meet in order to qualify, and much of that is determined by the federal government," explains Mike Daiken, the hospital's chief financial officer. "For one thing, Medicare and Medicaid want to be sure we aren't discounting our charges to some patients more than we discount it to people covered by those programs."

To qualify to receive charity care, a patient must show he or she meets certain standards for assets and financial status, says business manager Joy Martin. Those standards are based on federal poverty guidelines.

In addition to filling out an application, the patient must furnish the latest federal tax return, proof of salary if employed, tax evaluation records listing any assets, bank statement and a letter showing they are not eligible to receive.

■ See **BILLS** page 23

... **BILLS** from pg 22

Once all the paperwork is in, there is a sliding fee scale based on the federal guidelines for income and size of family. Sometimes people have to pay something, sometimes nothing at all, said Martin.

For non-emergent situations — cases where the need for hospitalization or surgery isn't a true emergency — charity care must be approved in advance.

By law, the hospital is required to treat patients who turn up at its emergency room with a serious illness, regardless of their ability to pay.

"When someone comes in with an emergency our first concern is the care for them," says Martin. "Only after they are on the road to recovery do we discuss how they are going to handle their bill. If they can't pay we work with them to either arrange a payment plan or see if they might qualify for charity care."

When it has been determined that a patient simply can't pay, the hospital may well end up writing off the bill as uncollected debt. The hospital is required to make every effort to collect unpaid bills, including using the services of collection agencies and even the courts. Even so, the hospital's provision for bad debt last year topped \$850,000 — low when compared to most hospitals around the region, but a 7 percent increase over the prior year.

Martin says the number of patients who need some type of assistance in handling their medical costs is rising — in fact, one could say it includes all of us. And to help everyone, the hospital does offer a 20 percent "prompt-pay" discount to anyone who pays their bill within 15 days of the first statement and a 10 percent discount to those who pay within 30 days.

For a growing number of people, however, paying quickly isn't an option. Some estimates put the number of people who have no health insurance coverage at all, or who don't qualify for Medicaid, as high as 75 million. The number of North Carolina residents without insurance is running around 16.3 percent — and growing each year.

So who covers the cost of charity care? The short answer is the hospital itself. However, like any other business, costs not covered must be absorbed into the hospital's overhead, affecting its overall cost of doing business. Larger hospitals are better able to absorb such costs and may even generate profits to completely offset such losses.

The foundation contributed slightly more than \$984,000 to the hospital during the past fiscal year to cover operating costs.

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Rand Soellner's home designs feature beautiful Mountain timber elevations with wide, open plans with tall ceilings and the most value-engineered systems available. He's featuring a knoll top design with 5 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, Great Room-Kitchen-Dining, Family Room, Loft-Study, and attached 2-car garage with driveway and sitework. The builder has quoted a price of \$275,000 — about half to one-third of normal prices for nice mountain homes on the Highlands-Cashiers-Toxaway Plateau.

The key is in designing a plan that meets the client's needs and orients to mountain views, keeping foundation costs low, using/creating value-oriented systems that are solid, then working with local Realtors and appraisers to have the look and features that will appreciate in value when people want to resell the home.

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● POLICE & FIRE REPORT ●

The following are the Highlands Police Department log entries for the week of May 27-June 2 The only names are of public officials and/or people who were arrested.

May 27

- At 7 a.m., a motorist was cited for speeding 49 mph in a 35 zone at U.S. 64 and Webbmont.
- At 7:55 p.m., officers responded to a disturbance at Mitchell's Lodge between two patrons.
- At 9:30 p.m., a motorist at Main and Second streets was cited for driving without a license or insurance.

May 28

- At 8:10 a.m., a motorist at U.S. 64 west and Hickory Hill Road was cited for driving without a license.
- From 6:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. 12 motorists at U.S. 64 west and Webbmont were cited during a routine road check for driving without inspection stickers, registration and licenses.
- At 6 p.m., a motorist at N.C. 106 and Glen Falls was cited for driving without a license.

May 29

- At 3:30 a.m., officers responded to a call of a suspicious vehicle parked in the Cyprus Restaurant parking lot but it was unfounded..
- At 3:39 a.m., officers responded to an alarm at The Stone Lantern on Main Street. All was secure..
- At 12:15 p.m., a resident on Worley Road complained of construction noise. When officers arrived it had stopped.
- At 12:15 p.m., a visitor reported losing a watch.
- At 11:20 a.m., a motorist was cited for driving without a license.

May 30

- At 3:35 a.m., officers responded to a noise complaint from a resident on Cullasaja Drive. When officers arrived it had stopped.
- At 11:15 a.m., officers responded to an alarm at a residence on Ravenel Ridge Road. All was secure.

May 31

- At 10:45 a.m., officers responded to a call of vandalism when people around the vicinity of the Nature Center reported a historical sign missing.

June 1

- At 10 a.m., officers responded to a complaint of a parked vehicle on Pine Street.
- At 5:30 p.m., officers responded to a complaint of a parked vehicle on Pine Street.
- At 6:35 a.m., Kevin Daniel Kelly, 19 of Toccoa, Ga., and Nancy Elizabeth Gillian, 18, of Liberty, S.C., were arrested for breaking and entering and larceny in connection with a burglary at Elite Threads and James Tire and Auto on May 20. They were picked up on fugitive warrants by the Oconee Sheriff's Dept. in South Carolina. South Carolina waived extradition and Highlands Police brought them back to North Carolina.

June 2

- A motorist was cited for speeding 51 mph in a 35 zone at Webbmont and U.S. 64 west.



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 Wachovia ATM
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Cashiers To Highlands 10 Miles
 Lake Glenville < Marina
 Lake Toxaway
 Hwy 64e
 Brevard Highlands 35 Miles

Highlands Cove Golf
 Trillium Golf
 Sapphire
 High Hampton Golf
 Sliding Rock
 Whiteside Trail
 Chattooga Trail
 Silver Run Falls
 Iron Bridge
 Hwy 281
 Hwy 130
 Hwy 107s

Hwy 107n
 Cullasaja Falls
 Hwy 441
 Franklin Highlands 18 Miles
 Whistle > Stop Mall
 Fun Factory
 Dillsboro ^ 20 Miles

Glen Falls
 Bust Your Butt Falls
 Hwy 64 & 28
 Dry Falls
 Hwy 106
 Highlands
 Hwy 64
 HOSPITAL
 Cliffside Lake
 Bridal Veil
 Bartram Trail
 Scaly Mt
 Scaly
 Chinquapin Mt Trail
 Sky Valley, GA. Golf & Skiing
 Hwy 441
 Dillard, GA Highlands 14 Miles
 Hwy 28

Lake Glenville
 Lake Toxaway
 Gorges Park
 Whitewater Falls
 Whitewater Falls
 Iron Bridge Hiking Area
 2004 Copyrighted Map

Country Club Properties - Mt Fresh Ctr - MLS Realtor Homes For Sale - Buyer's Representation - Highlands Vacation Rentals

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