Growth causing extension of water/sewer system

By Kim Lewicki

With septic systems failing and development on the rise, hooking up to town water and sewer lines is suddenly a priority in Highlands.

At the Nov. 17 Town Board meeting, commissioners heard requests for water and sewer connections – one by homeowners due to necessity and the other by a developer who wants 15 acres annexed to utilize town water and sewer.

Bronce Pesterfield, engineer, spoke on behalf of the Davis family and 24 condominium owners at Highlands Country Club, whose septic systems have or are in the midst of failing.

Pesterfield proposed a gravity sewer line located behind the Fairway Condos at the club to serve the 24 units plus six single-family homes in the vicinity, one of which is owned by the Davises.

The estimated cost for the main line is $83,441. He requested a 25-percent participation from the town, “like you did for the N.C. 106 project,” he said.

Connection fees for the 30 units

Area lakes, creek clean up in sight

By Kim Lewicki

After two years of lobbying, it looks like $1.2 million could be coming Highlands way to clean silt from Mirror Lake, Lake Sequoyah and Big Creek.

Though funding isn’t in hand, commissioners have it on good authority that the final OK will be delivered by the close of business Friday. With that in mind, and with silt in Big Creek settling in, at the Nov. 17 Town Board meeting, commissioners voted to set up a steering committee to work up a plan of action once the money arrives.

“We need to get our ducks in a row,” one commissioner said.

‘03-’04 budget tight

By Kim Lewicki

With a fund balance of 50 percent, the fiscal standing of Highlands has been declared healthy.

At the Nov. 17 Town Board meeting, Bryan Starnes with Starnes and Martin Associates, gave a preliminary report of the town’s fiscal year 2003-2004 budget. He said the fund balance increased $220,000 from the previous budget year and that was a good thing.

“You have a ready reserve on hand to fund next year’s budget,” he said. “With a municipality this size, it looks better every year.”
Dear Editor,

In spite of hurricanes and rains, cancellations and postponements, Art-Walk 2004 was a terrific success. Sunny and cool, November could not have delivered us a more perfect day.

This event promises to be even bigger next year and is already attracting artists and shoppers from far and wide.

We at StarPony Electronics, Highlands’ Radio Shack Dealer, are proud to announce that our sponsored artist, 20-year old Laura Willhide had a very successful day selling three paintings, and donating two sculptures to private collections.

We would like to thank all of the folks who worked so hard to make Art Walk 2004 such a great success. May we always remember to live our lives as art.

Thea & Chuck
Highlands

Shop owners delight in whimsy

Dear Editor,

Usually in every town in these United States there is “some person or company” that goes to the trouble, time and expense to have a holiday display to thrill and mesmerize the children of the community and charm adults. That someone in Highlands is the owners of Twigs. They go all out to make our holidays more special.

I would like to go on record saying that these people should win the “First Place Blue Ribbon” for holiday decorations at the very least and a huge “Thank You” from all of us.

Stop by and tell them how very much you enjoy their wonderful, whimsical display.

Pat Griffin
Highlands

A big ‘thank you’ all around

It takes months and months for Highlands School students, teachers, administrators and the PTO to prepare, organize and pull off the Highlands School Fall Festival. It’s the largest fundraiser for the school and it ends up being a win-win situation for all involved.

The community gets a good time out, Highlands School raises much needed funds and the teachers often get a special surprise. This year 38 teachers received a check for $150 to spend as they see fit in their classrooms. “The Highlands PTO would like to thank everyone for making the Fall Festival such a great success this year,” said Pat Hedden, PTO president. Scores of sponsors, businesses and volunteers made it all possible, she said.
• OBITUARY •

Eula Inez Wilson Green

Eula Inez Wilson Green, 84, of Highlands died Friday, November 12, 2004 at her residence. She was a native of Macon County and a lifelong resident of Highlands, the daughter of the late Richard Bee and Belle Carver Wilson. She was a homemaker, seamstress and musician. She was the mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, and great-great-grandmother of a large family. She was known all around the Highlands area for playing many stringed instruments and her love for gospel music. She was a member of Kettle Rock Baptist Church.

She is survived by her husband of 63 years, Fred Green; four daughters, Susie Beck and husband Gilbert of Highlands, Louise Burrell and husband, Mike of Highlands, Helen Bowman and husband Morlan of Franklin, and Debbie Brown and husband, Dan of Norcross, GA; two sons, Milton Green and wife, Pat of Clayton, GA, and Jerry Green and wife, Eugenia of Highlands, NC; one sister, Angela Maude Green of Franklin, NC. Nineteen grandchildren, twenty-five great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild also survive. She was preceded in death by a son, Carlton Glenn Green, four sisters, and two brothers.

Funeral services were held Monday, November 15, at 2 p.m. at Flats of Middle Creek Baptist Church in Scaly Mountain with Rev. Oliver Rice, Rev. Ricky Potts, and Rev. Steve Kerhoulas officiating. Burial was in the Church Cemetery. Ricky Green, Davis Green, Aaron Bowman, Jose Green, Carlos Green, Sheldon Crowe, Daniel Brown, and Cameron Brown served as pallbearers.

The family received friends Sunday, from 6-8 p.m. at Bryant Funeral Home in Highlands which was in charge of arrangements.
Eddie Crawly, my fifth grade enemy, thought his mission in life was to make me miserable. Finally, near the end of the school year, Eddie and I had it out in the school playground. It was worth the five-day detention and ruler across my knuckles, just to be able to get my licks in. We graduated from St. Bridget’s School, still enemies. I have lost track of him over the years but, if he is alive, he’s my only enemy.

In my other life as a flat foot, I had scary enemies who wanted me dead. (Just ask around) After my retirement, I had to keep track of the really serious ones and I am happy to report they are all dead. Most were murdered by their own enemies, two killed in prison, but some died of old age. The departmental joke, when I retired in 1989, was that if I turned up murdered, the homicide unit wouldn’t know where to begin. Funny, but not so funny.

I acquired most of my really serious enemies during my years with the Strategic Investigations Unit. (SIU) That’s a fancy word measured by the number of bad guys who hated me. Most active enemies during my years in Highlands were less than a half dozen guys left over the years but, if he is alive, he’s my only enemy.

Fortunately the guy Peanuts hired to murder me was dating a girl who was a DEA informant. In those days, the DEA and the FBI actually talked to one another, if you can believe that, and we were tipped. Active hits on police officers are rare and easily handled by phone. The underworld is notified by law enforcement officials that we know about the hit and if harm comes to anyone, there will be hell to pay. Peanuts got the right call from New York and the hit was canceled. Not too exciting, but that’s how it works.

Just to be cautious, everyone felt it would be good if I would disappear for a while. I packed up my family, pulled my kids out of school and headed for Highlands. When the little missus asked what’s going on I told her I just needed to cool off from work for a while. She never asked for particulars. That’s what a good cop’s wife does.

After retirement and opening a rappell business in Highlands, there were less than a half dozen guys left for me to be concerned about. The worst of my living enemies was a young, nasty character named Tony Benvenesti. Once, while serving a search warrant, he showed an automatic weapon right into my stomach and pulled the trigger. The gun failed to fire because of a defective firing pin. I got to live and he went away for 20 years. He vowed to get me, was eventually released from prison on good behavior and disappeared, which

*See WOOLDRIDGE page 6*
Boy Scouts’ annual Christmas tree sale

Highlands Boy Scout Troop 207 is having its annual Christmas Tree Sale at the Highlands Conference Center on Saturday, Nov. 27, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., and on Saturday, Dec. 4 after the Christmas Parade.

The Storyline: Captain Red (Matthau) and his faithful protege, Frog, are adrift on the open sea, not quite sure why, but one can guess they haven’t been separated from their Club Med excursion. Things don’t look good for our pair of pirates, certain death would seem to be their fate (at least for Frog anyway, he is starting to look a little like dinner to Captain Red). But this is in the first five minutes, which wouldn’t make much of a story, so we are not real surprised to see a sail in the distance. They are saved by a bunch of badly bewigged Spaniards, but this is only a slight improvement, as they are immediately clapped in irons. A treasure, a mutiny, a damsel (in distress, of course) and really cool sword fights all follow in rapid succession. Captain Red devises a plan to keep the treasure for himself, however, while Red is bold, brave, and brash, he is just not very bright. There are a few surprises, but you can count on the bad guys to be bad, the good guys, good, and the damsel in distress, beautiful.

Well, a 30-million-dollar budget, but not a lot spent on the script. But that’s OK, the sets are spectacular (receiving several awards for best set and best costumes), the action scenes are wonderful and funny. Matthau is brilliant, and the scenery is stunning (filmed on location in Tunisia, Malta, and the Seychelles). And that’s enough for a good but not very deep action film. Polanski, who had wanted to do this film for years, originally had in mind Jack Nicholson as Red and himself as Frog. It is his most refined film, and it is a fun romp, filled with visuals. Polanski closes the show singing his rendition of “Oh, Thank Heaven for Little Girls” (just kidding about that part).

More Pirate treasures can be found in Pirates of the Caribbean, Pirates of Penzance, Cutthroat Island, and Treasure Island. More films by Polanski are Rosemary’s Baby, Chinatown, Death and the Maiden, and Pianist.

Roman Polanski’s big budget swashbuckling adventure, written by Polanski and Gerard Brach, and starring the incomparable Walter Matthau, Cris Campion, Charlotte Lewis, and a cast of gymnasts and circus performers that make the action scenes in this film absolutely amazing.

Pirates!

Stuart Armor
... GROWTH continued from page 1

would net the town $75,000.

Since the proposed gravity sewer line would run down the middle of the fairway which is county land, commissioners discussed requiring annexation for sewer hookups as is the town’s policy when connecting outside the town limits.

“But the effluent collected is from homes within the town limits, so the fact that the line will run down the fairway outside the town limits is immaterial,” said Commissioner Dennis DeWolf.

Commissioner Herb James said providing sewer hookup would be a good way to get the country club to voluntarily annex – something the board would like to see happen in the near future, anyway.

But commissioners voted 4-1 to allow the 30 units to hook on without annexation. They ruled it mandatory for the 24-unit condominium complex to hook on because the fairway near the condos stays wet all the time and

made me real jittery. A year later, his badly decomposed body was found in the Hudson River. Life is good.

The US Forest Service would have been furious with me if they had known I went to work each day with an arsenal close at hand. They certainly weren’t going to protect me and I just couldn’t chance it. Only my co-workers knew. Retired cops are always vulnerable because they lose their cloak of protection.

Early one morning, while rigging a site for the day’s work, a man appeared out of nowhere at

row so when the money does come, we don’t spend another year and a half deciding what to do with it,” said Commissioner Amy Patterson. “We need to know if permitting is necessary, cost estimates, time-frames, exactly what we have to do to clean up the silt island that has developed in Big Creek.”

Hurricanes Frances and Ivan caused the formation of a large silt island in Big Creek which commissioners want to remove before plant life begins to form on it.

“Once it’s categorized a “wetland,” we won’t be allowed to get rid of it so I just don’t want to wait on this another year,” said Patterson.

there is and odor associated with it – presumably due to a failing septic system.

The board also agreed to annex 15 acres contiguous to the town past Arnold Road along N.C. 106, and to provide water and sewer to the proposed development dubbed The Gates of Highlands.

The 15 acres will be zoned R1 with some lots ¾ of an acre the others one acre, as per watershed requirements.

Water and sewer lines will be extended from the vicinity of Arnold Road – a six-inch water line along one side of the road and an eight-inch sewer line down the other side. Developers are also requesting underground electricity from the Town of Highlands.

The next step toward annexation is a public hearing which has been set for Dec. 15 at 7 p.m. After the Dec. 15 meeting, the developer will go to the planning board and again to the Town Board as required for subdivision development.

... WOOLDRIDGE continued from page 4

... CLEAN UP continued from page 1

The mayor said the basics for removal have already been discussed – the type of removal, the means of removal and where the silt will be taken. But particulars, like bidding the job, when work can start, how long it will take and how much of the federal money can be used, are all unanswered questions at this time.

The $1.2 million is earmarked for paving roads around area lakes to stop erosion and for dredging Mirror and Lake Sequoyah of silt. Commissioners want to know exactly how much of it can be used for the silt island.

The bill is part of an Omnibus Bill through the Dept. of Agriculture.
Dr. Paul S. Cabiran of Highlands Dermatology, is pleased with the results his patients are receiving from treatment with the new Candela V-beam laser. This high-tech piece of equipment was recently added to Dr. Cabiran’s practice and is used for the treatment of broken blood vessels and redness of the skin, as well as some wrinkles and scarring.

“The laser produces a specific wavelength of light that targets red pigmentation in the skin,” Dr. Cabiran said. “Blood vessels are thereby destroyed by the light energy, which solves the underlying problem causing redness of the skin.” He said treatments are especially successful in treating patients with rosacea, facial veins, scars, some leg veins and can also be used for treatment of wrinkles around the eyes.”

The V-beam laser can be used on leg veins, but Dr. Cabiran stresses laser treatments are not for medium or large varicose veins, he said. “Veins of that size still require treatment by injection, or possibly a surgical stripping.”

“The beauty of this new laser system is that it is noninvasive, and causes little or no bruising, which was a significant problem with other lasers of this type in the past,” he said. Some patients may experience a minimal amount of bruising associated with these laser treatments, he says, but that usually clears within seven to 10 days.

The most important innovation this new laser offers is dynamic cooling.

“The dynamic cooling device, which is built into the laser itself, sprays a short pulse of cold air on the area to be treated a split second before the laser actually hits the skin,” Dr. Cabiran said. “This protects the outermost layer of skin from any thermal damage and allows the laser energy to penetrate into the skin to treat underlying structures.”

The dynamic cooling device also helps minimize any discomfort associated with these laser treatments because the cold blast of air acts as a local anesthetic.

“One of the most innovative uses of this new laser is the treatment of periorbital wrinkles,” Dr. Cabiran said. “This procedure utilizes the laser energy to minimally damage underlying collagen in the thin skin around the eyes. The healing process that follows generates new collagen, thus tightening and reducing fine lines and wrinkles around the eyes.”

In many cases, multiple treatments may be required to obtain the desired effect of wrinkle reduction or lightening of skin redness. Also, because the majority of these procedures is considered cosmetic, medical insurance usually does not cover the cost.

Dr. Cabiran is a Diplomate of the American Board of Dermatology and is a Fellow of the American Academy of Dermatology. He completed his residency approximately eight years ago and had been practicing in Baton Rouge, La. He recently relocated to Highlands and opened his dermatology practice here in March, 2004.

Dr. Cabiran’s office is located in Suite 302 of the new Jane Woodruff Clinic on the campus of Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. Consultations are available by appointment Monday through Friday. For more information, call 828 526-1232.
'God was listening' – Cancer struggle abating

Editor's note: This article is part of a series written by a man whose wife has been stricken by cancer.

On Nov. 5, a Friday, urologist Dr. William Scanlon performed a cystoscopy on Cynthia, to determine the degree of success we have achieved through chemotherapy. He also took several samples of tissue from her bladder, where the cancer has been residing. The procedures were conducted at Piedmont Hospital in Atlanta.

He gave us the results of his visual examination of the bladder that day. “The tumor seems to be gone,” he said, but added a cautionary reminder. “We won’t know anything for sure until the tissue has been checked by the pathology lab.”

He told us that he would examine the pathology report and discuss Cynthia’s case with Dr. Richard Lauer, the oncologist who has been giving her chemotherapy since July. The options at that point will be additional chemotherapy, radiation, surgery or – if a miracle has occurred – nothing.

“When will that be?” I asked. “Call me on Wednesday morning,” he said.

When we were out of the hospital, I said, “I can’t believe we’ve got to wait until Wednesday.” Cynthia agreed.

Over the next four days, we tried not to talk about the “path” report. The wait was agonizing, and we knew that talking about it would make the time pass even more slowly.

Finally, Wednesday came around. It seemed like months since Dr. Scaljon had last seen us. We waited patiently until 10 a.m.

Cynthia made the call. “Dr. Scaljon is with a patient,” the receptionist said. “May I have him call you?”

Cynthia told the receptionist that we were anxious to hear the results of the tests.

“I’ll have him call you just as soon as he can,” she assured us.

At 3 p.m., Cynthia called again. “I’m sorry,” said a different receptionist. “Dr. Scaljon is in surgery for the rest of the afternoon.”

I could feel myself sinking into despair and frustration. How could they be so insensitive? We had no choice but to wait.

On Thursday morning, we called again. “Dr. Scaljon is in surgery all morning,” someone told us.

We had an appointment on Friday with Dr. Lauer, but we were hoping to find out something before then. “When should I call back?” Cynthia asked.

“He should be taking calls around mid-afternoon,” was the answer.

We drove to Atlanta, so that we could be there for the Friday morning appointment. Then, at 3 p.m., Cynthia called again.

“Dr. Scaljon returns his calls after 4:30,” said the receptionist. Again, Cynthia left her name and number.

The uncertainty of the situation was driving us both over the edge. We decided to go shopping.

We went to Rich’s Department Store at the Mall of Georgia, about 25 miles outside Atlanta. Cynthia was trying on a pair of shoes when the cell phone rang. I handed it to her.

Dr. Scaljon’s first words were: “No sign of cancer. No sign of cancer. No sign of cancer.”

Could it be? Could we have beaten the evil spirit that had been destroying Cynthia’s body? Was it possible?

“Dr. Lauer will have more to tell you about it,” Dr. Scaljon said.

Cynthia celebrated by buying two pairs of shoes.

*See CANCER page 16*
I have a college degree and I worked as a waitress for many years. In those years working at various restaurants I saw up close both of the issues addressed in this new book: our culture’s negative attitude towards manual labor because of the belief that it doesn’t require any brains, and the truth that brains are in fact quite a big part of many of these low-prestige jobs.

Waiting tables requires many skills, but my favorite description of the job is this: it requires the ability to manage—in your head—a list of priorities which are constantly being reshuffled while completed tasks are removed and new ones added. I can attest that to be a good waiter a good mind is required.

Mr. Rose’s mother was a waitress for most of her working life and as a sociologist his interest in her working experience, and that of his uncles in railroad yards and automobile assembly plants, led him to investigate the nature of their work.

Mr. Rose spent time with people who worked as waitresses, hairdressers, carpenters, plumbers, electricians, and welders, and he carefully documents the impressive mental powers required for each of these jobs. This is his description of the skills needed to wait tables: “The work calls for strength and stamina; for memory capacity and strategy; for heightened attention, both to overall layout and to specific areas and items; for the ability to take stock, prioritize tasks, cluster them, and make decisions on the fly.”

I was intrigued by his description of one of the successful hair stylist’s necessary skills: “How, I wondered, does the competent stylist convert an image or feeling held by another human being into some sort of a plan of action? What strategies lead from desire to technique?” What an amazing ability, to be able to listen to someone tell you they want something light and summery and translate that nebulous idea into reality through the way you manipulate their particular hair!

Mr. Rose also regularly remarks upon the mental reflection that is part of many of these “non-intellectual” jobs: “I am intrigued by the oscillation between action and reflection…There’s a reflective cast to the technical work, a concentrated involvement, a disappearing into the task. ‘That’s his world,’ the wife of an expert plumber tells me, ‘and he goes deep into it.’”

I think he is successful in his goal of illustrating the many different kinds of intelligence: “[This book] is testament to a dynamic, multidimensional model of intelligence and a conception of knowledge that doesn’t separate hand from brain; that articulates the many kinds of knowing involved in work; that appreciates the interplay of the cognitive, the social, the aesthetic.

In fact, as a number of first-hand accounts of intellectual and creative effort would certify, this is a more accurate model of all the mind’s work: from the planning of a pitched roof, to the diagnosing of joint pain, to the crafting of a line of poetry.”

Unfortunately though (in my opinion), Mr. Rose could not leave behind his academic world in the writing of this book. In testifying to the intelligence of the American worker it would have been nice if he had written in such a way that would have appealed to those people he is describing. I also thought he spent too much time studying students of some of the trades (carpentry, plumbing, and electrical) and not enough time with masters of those professions. I imagine that his intent was to demonstrate the intellectual nature of the work by showing the process of learning, but I would have liked to have heard more from the experts.

The real importance of this book comes in the exploration of the consequences of the way we label work and workers.

Physical work and technical skill—labor, trades, blue-collar—are considered in our culture to possess less merit than intellectual work—professional and white-collar. Even the word “professional” shows the bias—as if a plumber isn’t “proficient,” “skilled,” “expert,” “trained,” “practiced”: all synonyms for “professional.”

Mr. Rose shows us that this prejudice is long-standing: “These distinctions find early articulation in Classical Greece where they were part of a comprehensive philosophical system that celebrated the capacity of the human mind but that developed in a society reliant on slavery and servile labor.

In The Republic Plato mocks the craftsman who would pursue philosophy, for his soul is ‘warped and maimed’ by his work; such men are ‘incapable of culture.’” And Aristotle in Politics notes that ‘there is no element of virtue in any of the occupations in which the multitude of artisans and market-people and the wage-earning class take part.’ Because such occupations are ‘ignoble and inimical to goodness.’

Aldous Huxley took the idea of the mindless laborer to perhaps the greatest limits in his dystopia Brave New World. Huxley’s society had learned how to gestate humans in jars, and the brains of the developing fetuses were tailored to their future employment. The high-class Alphas were given all the advantages the society had to offer while the development of lower-class workers was deliberately stunted to keep them content in their low-class lives. Mechanics and machinists were among those not deemed worthy of a fully-functioning brain.

What is the definition of intelligence? Mr. Rose writes, “In his classic study...historian Daniel Calhoun illustrates how the notion of intelligence is not a fixed entity, but is defined in time and place. He also helps us to understand how, through the process of defining, a society can validate some expressions of intelligence and award less merit to, even deny, others.” Mr. Rose goes on to ask: “What set of ideas about intelligence should we develop and promote, particularly in a democratic society? As an ideal, 

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Children’s ArtWalk performers

Student performers sang and danced three sets on Saturday
singing old favorites in a Progressive Arts production called
“Music Through the Ages.”
Photos by Kim Lewicki

Performer Brian Starr with children at Saturday’s ArtWalk
on stage at the Nature Center. Starr delighted adults and
children with his wacky renditions and whimsical versions of stories put to song at the Children’s ArtWalk and
later in front of The Old Rangoon on Fourth Street.

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OEI names director of food & beverage

Timothy Wuestneck has been named Director of Food and Beverage of the newly renovated Old Edwards Inn and Spa in Highlands, NC. The Old Edwards Inn and Spa opened in July 2004 as a luxury 30-room hotel and resort property after a $40M restoration and expansion, including Madison’s Restaurant and Wine Garden and the addition of a world-class spa.

Wuestneck’s responsibilities will include managing administration and operation of all aspects of Old Edwards Inn and Spa’s food service, restaurants and catering operations at The Farm, a 33-acre special events facility.

With more than 10 years experience in the food and wine industry, Wuestneck brings an energy and dedication to the art of fine dining to his position in Highlands. He was most recently restaurant manager at the prestigious Broadmoor Hotel in Colorado Springs, CO. He also worked as a supervisor sommelier there. Prior to those positions, he was in Aspen, CO where he was employed over several years with the Hotel Jerome, the Aspen Meadows Hotel and the Ritz-Carlton property there.

Wuestneck served on the Colorado Restaurant Association as Chapter President and also on the State Board of Directors. He was an avid volunteer for many years with the Aspen Food & Wine Classic. He holds a Sommelier Certificate from the Court of Master Sommeliers...

There is more to cabinetry than just measuring. Highlands Cabinet Company specializes in the design of residential kitchen and bath spaces.

But it’s the personal attention that speaks volumes. Whether a remodel or new construction, together Kay Craig and Michelle Fisher at Highlands Cabinet Company design and create kitchens and bath areas of your dreams. And they’ve been doing it since 1996.

In cabinetry they feature Crystal, Shiloh and Geppeto.

For counter tops, it’s granite, Corian, Pyrolav and Cambria - a quartz-surface. They also offer a large selection of cabinet hardware and plumbing fixtures. They make use of specialty finishes like distressed painting and crackling, but can entertain any idea you throw their way.

Stop by the Highlands Cabinet Company showroom in the new “Craig Building” on S. Fourth Street to see some of the lines and finishes they carry.
To China and back

By Nancy Welch
Contributor

Their itinerary was ambitious and the time was short, but Pete Sarjeant and Allen “Bummy” Bumgardner of Highlands managed to log 25,000 miles during 17 plane rides with 5,000 of those miles in China.

They are both well-traveled, and as they relate their tales of high altitudes, Communist guides, the Great Wall and numerous other destinations, the two men enjoyed laughing about their antics and joking about their fellow travelers. The two Highlanders were joined by two friends from California and made up just a portion of the 40 members of their tour group.

“We went around China, making a circular route,” Sarjeant said. “We fanned from northern China to western China, to southern China, back to Shanghai and to Hong Kong. That’s the gateway center.”

“Pete took his bagpipes, but I had to haul them all over China,” Bumgardner said, needling his friend.

The two had never traveled together. “This was our first and last trip,” Sarjeant shoots back at Bumgardner.

Their adventures in China and Tibet began each day at 6:30 a.m. and ended no earlier than 10 p.m. “We did have two afternoons off, but that was it,” Bumgardner said.

“We probably got more out of this trip than any other place you could go with any other group of people,” Bumgardner said.

Both were impressed most with the people and the vistas.

“The people of Lhasa, who were partly Mongolian, had the most beautiful dispositions. I thought they had the greatest personality.” Bumgardner said.

“The people – it was the sense of confidence they radiated,” Sarjeant added. “They looked you straight in the eye. All the people radiated this pride in their country.”

Bumgardner, a retired engineer, was amazed by the dam the Chinese were building.

“This gorge project (near Nanjing) has involved moving more earth than it took for the pyramids,” he said. “And they didn’t move the people out, they just moved them to higher ground. They had to build two extra dams just to build this dam. It now generates 6 percent of all the electricity in China and when they complete it, it will generate 12 percent. But by the time it’s built, it may just generate 6 percent because China’s demand is astronomical. You just can’t underplay the importance of this project. It’s 75 percent done. It will be finished in ’06.”

“The water is only up two thirds, and the last third could be up to five times as much water.”

The two men were surprised that everyone they spoke to spoke English.

Bumgardner explained the political stages the Chinese have been experiencing over the past decades.

“The first one is where somebody comes in and tries to train the people to do better,” he said. “Right now they are where they want to do the best they can in everything. They have the ambition and want to do the best they can for the government. The third phase is when the revolution takes over and causes them a lot of trouble. But the young people think the Chinese system of government is great and the government will do the best thing they can to take care of them.”

The percentage of Christians in the country is 2 percent, Bumgardner said.

“Essentially it is Buddhist, based on the teachings of Confucius,” Sarjeant adds.

“But if you take 2 percent of 1.3 billion people, that’s a lot,” Bumgardner said.

Bumgardner said he was not particularly impressed by the terra cotta statues of guards which are considered a great archaeological find.

“I had seen so much, it was pretty much what I expected,” he said.

But Sarjeant had a different
viewpoint.

“When you sit and look at the fragments — some of them were thousands of fragments — and they put them all together ... It’s like a giant jigsaw, a three dimensional jigsaw,” he said. “They have 3,000 of these figures assembled now and they’re working on a thousand or so more of the guards.”

“The Great Wall to me was impressive,” Bumgardner said. “They estimate it cost 10,000 lives per mile to build it and it’s 1,600 miles long.”

“That’s over one million lives,” Sarjeant said.

“When we flew out of Beijing, I had a window seat and I could see it for miles and miles,” Bumgardner said.

The tour group also visited a Panda farm.

“There was a brand new baby panda with hordes of doctors around him and I was the only one to get a picture,” Bumgardner said proudly.

He goes on to say Tibet was most impressive to him,

“I found it to be the most exotic, the most inland area,” Sarjeant said. “I think the people there most consistently showed a smiling, positive outlook. The women, in particular, show a lot of religious observance. See, the Chinese have pretty much downplayed the priesthood there. There were women that were actually prostrating themselves on the street in front of what was the Dalai Lama’s palace. And we climbed that sucker. We were right on top of the roof of it. It was a fantastic view. We were looking over from 13,000 feet.

“Lhasa is an amazing city in terms of its sophistication. The Chinese have gotten in there with a lot of their marketing,” Sarjeant said. “China is now moving in a free market system. And that is the key to their success, a lot of free enterprise. There is less control of free enterprise operations, although it is socialist backed. This has allowed the growth of their economy.

“It was very clean and the sky was totally Asian, very dark blue because of the altitude. And the food was good,” he said.

Tibet offered the most primitive lodgings, as hot water and heat was at a premium, but Bumgardner, ever the engineer, manipulated a way for them to have both.

Bumgardner was ready to make a getaway from the interview. He was on the way to his chiropractor.

“I’ve got to get my body back in shape again,” he said, mention-
**Highlands Fine Dining**

**PRIMO PIATTO**
- Shrimp & Scallop Salad w/asparagus, portabella & white truffle oil
- Crispy fried calamari
- Escargot alla Bourguignonne
- Yellowfin tuna tartar
- Insalate
- Grilled Italian prosciutto & Romaine Lettuce wrapped in Mozzarella
- Fire-roasted red peppers w/goat cheese
- Traditional Anchovie Caesar

**LA PASTA**
- Angel Hair w/gulf shrimp, scallops, clams, mussels & calamari
- Penne Pasta in a creamy tomato sauce w/garlic, chili pepper & vodka; topped with caviar

**SECONDO PIATTO**
- Breast of chicken stuffed with prosciutto, mozzarella & herbs in a wild mushroom & Marsala wine
- Char-grilled Applewood bacon wrapped aged filet mignon
- Milk-fed veal rib chop w/wilted spinach
- Sesame & ginger-crusted pan seared yellowfin tuna

**Ristorante Paololetti**
Open for its 21st season
Fine Italian dining since 1953
Serving Dinner from 5:30 seven nights through November
Reservations recommended 440 Main Street
Wine Spectator’s “Best of Award of Excellence”

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Brown Bagging Permitted

**Nick’s**
N.C. 28 & Satulah Rd.
828-526-2706
Closed Wednesday

**Fressers Eatery**
Fabulous Breakfast Buffet
Open to the public Saturday & Sunday 8:30 to 10:30 a.m.
A Great Place to Stay. A Great Place for Breakfast

Raffles/sales raise funds for needy

The Emergency Council of Highlands is holding a raffle to raise funds to service the needy and elderly during the holiday season. Tickets are $1 for one ticket or 6 tickets for $5. Prizes are a $250 Wal-Mart Gift Card or $250 D&J Express Mart Gift Card.

Highlands Chapter #284, OES will be having a bake sale featuring pumpkin & cream cheese rollups and Cake-in-a-Jar in front of the Bird Barn, Saturday from 11 a.m. until... Also pecans for $6 and raw peanuts for $3. Contact Kathleen Wilson at 526-2852 for more information.

Ruby Cinema
in Franklin, N.C.
524-2074
Evening shows (After 5 p.m.)
Adult – $6, Child – $4
Matinee (Before 5 p.m.)
Adult-$5, Child – $4
Seniors get $1 off “After 5” shows

Showing Nov. 19 – Nov. 25

**NATIONAL TREASURE**
rated PG
Mon - Fri: (4:30), 7, 9:30
Sat: (2), (4:30), 7, 9:30
Sun: (2), (4:30), 7

**THE SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS MOVIE**
rated PG
Mon - Fri: (4:15), 7:15, 9:15
Sat: (2:15), (4:15), 7:15, 9:15
Sun: (2:15), (4:15), 7:15

**POLAR EXPRESS**
rated G
Mon - Fri: (4:10), 7:10, 9:10
Sat: (2:10), (4:10), 7:10, 9:10
Sun: (2:10), (4:10), 7:10

**THE INCREDIBLES**
rated PG
Mon - Fri: (4:20), 7:05, 9:20
Sat: (2:05), (4:20), 7:05, 9:20
Sun: (2:05), (4:20), 7:05

( ) Matinee Pricing
Are You Satisfied?

Rev. Bill McCutchen
Community Bible Church

Are you satisfied? I mean, do you have a deep sense of satisfaction and happiness in your life?

In his essay, The End for Which God Created the World, Jonathan Edwards, the great American theologian, proposes that God’s ultimate end is “the happiness of the creature [which] consists in rejoicing in God, by which also God is magnified and exalted.” What in the world does that mean? John Piper, pastor and author, puts it this way, “God is most glorified in us when we are most satisfied in Him.”

I remember hiking in the southern Rockies of New Mexico when I was a teenager. We had just completed about fifteen grueling miles in the July heat when we came upon a spring with a seemingly unquenchable thirst. We splashed in it and drank deeply from it and shared it freely with one another. In a sense, the spring was “glorified” in our satisfaction in it. In the same way, “God is most glorified when we are most satisfied in Him.”

Our relationship with our Creator is similar. God created all things in order to point humanity to him – the ultimate Good. In order for us to find a true and deep satisfaction, we have to find it in Him and Him alone. Worshipping the creation brings a temporary euphoric response, but does not satisfy into the deepest recesses of our souls. Trying to transcend the physical and enter a true spiritual state denies the created, physical reality of our lives. Edwards writes, “The end of creation is that the creation might glorify [God].” Now what is glorifying...
... CANCER continued from page 9

On Friday morning, we were early for Cynthia’s appointment.
Dr. Lauer came into the small room where we waited. He had a smile on his face.
“You are in complete remission!” he said as I stared at him, my mouth open in shock.
Cynthia smiled as she had not smiled since June. “I guess I did okay with the chemo, didn’t I?”
“No,” said Dr. Lauer, “you did great.”
But there was more. “Although you are in remission, and you might not ever have cancer again, I want to take one more step. I want to continue the chemo for another two cycles. “We’re going for a cure, not remission,” he said. “I believe two more rounds of chemo will do the trick.”
A “round” of chemo is three sessions. One session lasts for eight hours, then two sessions lasting about two hours each make up the cycle. We are scheduled for the first treatment on Tuesday.

It’s hard to understand how this could have happened. We have relied heavily on our faith and positive attitude, and on the prayers of our friends. But others have taken the same approach and have been less successful.
We were prepared for the worst. We knew that our faith could withstand any blow that came to us. But Cynthia was also determined that she could beat cancer. We never even discussed the possibility that cancer could defeat us.
We tried to remain active throughout the ordeal. I made an attempt to get Cynthia out of the house for at least a short time every day. She was never sick, and although her tastes changed, she always found something that tasted good. Before cancer, she loved coffee. During the chemo treatments, she learned to hate it. At times, even water tasted bad. She forced herself to eat even when she wasn’t hungry.
The bottom line is that Cynthia will live because of God’s grace. There is no other explanation. Our lives focused on our relationship with Him. Travis Goodloe’s crucifix – a relic from the shrine of a New Orleans priest gave us a tremendous lift. Phil Harrison’s taped sessions of Unity Church Rev. Eric Butterworth, a spiritual healer, gave us strength. The thousands of prayers offered on Cynthia’s behalf were a powerful weapon.
And God was listening.

Christmas trees & wreaths for sale

The Highlands United Methodist Church youth are doing a Christmas tree and wreath sale to raise funds for their annual mission trip to Bolivia in the spring.
Trees and wreaths are locally grown Fraser fir trees. Trees will be available the Friday after Thanksgiving, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. The cost for a 6-7 foot tree is $35, 7-8 foot tree is $55, and 8-9 foot tree is $75 (limited availability). A 24 inch wreath is $28.
**... SPIRITUALLY cont. from page 15**

God, but rejoicing at that glory He has displayed?"

We live in one of the most beautiful regions of our country. The mountains and valleys; the streams and lakes; the bears and eagles; these all serve a purpose in our lives. They are not simply objects – neither objects to worship nor objects to destroy. Everything around us has been carefully designed to point us to the Creator, the God of the Universe. The Psalmist writes, “God made the created world for his glory.” (Psalm 19:1ff.) We are to celebrate and glorify God by enjoying what He has given us.

I want to ask you a question – are you satisfied? Do you approach life with all the vigor of a bunch of teenage boys finding a spring in the mountains? Or have you bought into the lie of stoicism and indifference? Do you realize that you were created to enjoy this life fully? C.S. Lewis said, “It is a Christian duty, as you know, for everyone to be as happy [satisfied] as he can.” Do you further realize that true happiness and satisfaction in this life can only come when you enter into a relationship with the Creator? Jesus Christ came so that we might behold “His glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.”

Christianity was never intended to be a bunch of navel-gazing, dirge-singing, moralists who have lost their ability to enjoy life. Christianity, a deep conviction and satisfaction in God through Jesus Christ, is supposed to be the most joyous, happy, and amazing life because it is the only life living out its purpose. The Christian life, therefore, simply means to live in such a manner as to depict the beauty of Christ and His saving work with a heartfelt urgency of love that labors to help others find their satisfaction in Him.

So I’ll ask again, are you satisfied?

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**HOME DECOR & FIXTURES**

Stephanie Nieuwendijk, owner of Dutchman’s Designs and Weddings by Design, can take that task for planning for a wedding and turn it into a blessing.

Growing up in Sydney, Australia, Stephanie has traveled Europe and the USA for more than 20 years developing her craft and signature floral design style, expressing an international flair in all her creations.

She has always loved flowers and the spectrum of color surrounding them. Some time in the Deep South reinforced this love and began a new direction for Stephanie, in the dried flower business. She noticed that dried flowers made extraordinary arrangements for homes and offices, and from there, found herself developing a natural talent to coordinate them in various styles.

Stephanie also designs floral arrangements for the home. Whether it’s a breathtaking centerpiece for the dining room table, a fresh addition for the kitchen or bath, or a finishing touch for the mantle, Stephanie can design and create the perfect addition to your decor.

Stephanie’s shop, Dutchman’s Designs, also offers a unique collection of decorative lamps, furniture, dried flowers, and an eclectic assortment of home accessories. For eight years, Dutchman’s has made shopping for that certain arrangement a pleasure, whether it’s a custom order or in the store, ready to go. From the classic requirements to extraordinary accents, Dutchman’s Designs can create the atmosphere you desire.

The personal element of Stephanie’s store are Jim Collins, Lois Collins and Wanda Halyburton. Be sure to stop in and see the growth of the store, ready to go. From the classic requirements to extraordinary accents, Dutchman’s Designs can create the atmosphere you desire.

The personal element of Stephanie’s store are Jim Collins, Lois Collins and Wanda Halyburton. Be sure to stop in and see the growth of the store, ready to go. From the classic requirements to extraordinary accents, Dutchman’s Designs can create the atmosphere you desire.

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**DUTCHMAN’S DESIGNS**

Flowers - Furniture Weddings
338 Main Street
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The Most Diverse Inventory in Highlands
Antiques • Estate Jewelry • High Design,
Handmade Purses • Wholesale European Ceramics
Quality Handcrafted Jewelry • Home Accessories
Mon - Sat 10-5 Sun 1-4
828-526-0229
2820 Dillard Rd
3 miles from Main St
**Upcoming Events**

**On-Going**
- Both recycling centers will be closed on Thanksgiving Day. Will reopen on Friday.
- At the Bascom-Louise Gallery – The Element of Collage is now on exhibit in the gallery. The exhibits are free and open to the public.
- At the Bascom-Louise Gallery – Education New – Open Studio with a Live Model 5:30 – 8:30 p.m. at the gallery. All participants bring your choice of art medium and $10 to pay for the model and facilitator. This class is for artists 18 yrs. and older or under 18 with written parent permission. Join us for this exciting new class!
- Starting Tuesday, Jan 4, 2005, the 'High Mountain Squares' will dance on TUESDAYS at the MACON MIDDLE SCHOOL located on Wells Grove Rd. in Franklin. Until then, square dances are held at the Macon County Facilities Building across from Whistle Stop Mall. There is a different square-dance caller each week. Call 349-0905 for more info.
- RAFFLE – Highlands Emergency Council to help fund fuel for elderly and Christmas gift program. $1 for one or 6 for $5. Raffle for $250 Dal-Mart Gift Card or $250 D&J Express Mart Gift Card.
- Al-Anon Group meets at noon on Thursdays in the Community Room at First Presbyterian Church.
- At ...on the Verandah on Lake Sequoyah, piano bar entertainment from noon to 2 p.m.
- The Mountain View group of Alcoholics Anonymous meets in the remodeled basement room of the Presbyterian Church sanctuary in Highlands Mondays at 8 p.m.; Tuesdays at 5:30 p.m. (women only); Wednesdays and Fridays at noon.
- Nov. 19-21
  - The North Georgia Community Players announce their 2004 Fall production, "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory," featuring a cast of 67 children. It will be presented on Friday at 7 p.m., Saturday at 3 & 7 p.m., and Sunday November 21 at 3 p.m. The play may be seen at the Rearden Theater on the campus of the Rabun Gap-Nacoochee School, Hwy #441 N, Rabun Gap, Ga. Tickets are priced at $5 for children under 12, $10 for general admission, and $15 for reserved seating, at local banks in Clayton or the Rabun County Chamber of Commerce. Call (706) 212-2500.
- Nov. 20
  - Highlands Chapter #284, OES will be having a bake sale featuring pumpkin & cream cheese rollups and Cake-in-a-Jar in front of the Bird Barn, Saturday from 11 a.m. until... also pecans for $6 and raw peanuts for $3.
  - The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a moderate 4.5-mile hike (with car shuttle) on the Smith Creek Trail to Anna Ruby Falls in Unicoi State Park near Helen, Ga. Meet at Macon Plaza in Franklin (Bi-Lo) at 9 a.m. Call leader Cheryl English, 524-3300, for more information.
- Nov. 21
  - The Nantahala Hiking Club will take an easy 2.5-mile hike on Forest Service Road 7165 off Wayah Road. Meet at Westgate Plaza in Franklin, opposite Burger King at 2 p.m. Call leader Kay Coriell, 367-6820, for a reservation or more info.
  - The Community Thanksgiving Supper and Worship is Tuesday at 6 p.m. at the Rec Park Gym.
  - Christian Ulbricht Signing at The Bascom-Louise Gallery – Highlands.
- Nov. 22
  - The Highlands Chamber of Commerce announces the “Nutcracker Ballet,” at the Fine Arts Center at Franklin High School on Friday, at 7 p.m. and Saturday, at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Tickets are available at the door, Franklin Chamber of Commerce, Cedar’s Cafe and Dairy Queen.Seniors and Students $5; Adults $8. Family tickets $25 (available from Chamber only).
- Nov. 23
  - Highlands Historical Society’s Christmas Show House, the Ravenel House on Wolf Ridge, is open 1-5 p.m. each day. Tickets are $20 (students are free) available at The Old Rangoon “on the Hill,” or D&J Express Mart.
- Nov. 24
  - Breakfast with Santa at Fireside Restaurant, 8:30 a.m. before the parade.
  - Annual Christmas Parade on Main Street starts at noon.
  - Highlands Boy Scout Troop 207 is having its annual Christmas Tree Sale at the Highlands Conference Center after the Christmas Parade.

**Sheriff’s Dept. continues to crack down on drug trafficking**

One week after deputies arrested two suspects for trafficking methamphetamine an additional investigation leads to another arrest for drug charges.

Officers with the Sheriff’s Office Narcotics Unit arrested a 22-year-old Georgia woman for trafficking methamphetamine. Arrested was April Dawn Goodson of Lawrenceville Ga., whose charges also include carrying a concealed handgun, a .25 caliber automatic.

Officers involved in the investigation had learned in previous months that methamphetamine was being brought into and distributed in the Franklin area by a girl from the Atlanta or Gainesville, Ga., area. During their investigation officers received information that the drugs had been delivered in the past by a white female by the name of April, last name unknown. Most recently officers learned that she drives a small blue car and that she was due to deliver to the Franklin area again soon.

Narcotic officers believe that person is Goodson. They located Goodson and her blue Honda Friday night at a residence in Macon County where deputies have made drug arrests in the past. Officers watching the residence observed Goodson get into a vehicle with another female and drive away from the residence. Deputies followed and initiated a routine traffic stop of the vehicle on Highway 441 south. A search of the vehicle resulted in the seizure of more than $5,000 in cash as well as more than 28 grams of methamphetamine. A small amount of marijuana was also found in the vehicle.

Deputies summoned a female deputy to the scene after they believed that Goodson might have concealed more drugs on her person. Goodson later admitted to the officers that she had placed drugs down the front of her pants as they initiated their blue-lights. Once a female officer arrived on scene Goodson was searched and found to be in possession of an additional amount of methamphetamine.

Goodson was arrested and transported to the Macon County Detention Center. "I hope the fact that these drugs did not reach our community means someone’s child or family member was kept from trying this poison today and spared from becoming tomorrow’s addict," said Sheriff Robert Holland.

Charges for April Dawn Goodson are as follows: 2 Felony Counts of Trafficking in Methamphetamine; 1 Felony Count of Possession with Intent to Manufacture, Sell, and Deliver Schedule 2 Controlled Substance (Meth); 1 Misdemeanor Count of Carrying a Concealed Weapon; 1 Misdemeanor Count of Possession of Marijuana Up to ½ Oun; 1 Misdemeanor Count of Possession of Controlled Substance (Xanax).

Magistrate Vic Perry set Goodson’s Bond at $35,000 and as of Monday morning she remains in the Macon County Detention Center. Her court date is set for 9a.m. December 8. A K9 Unit with the Franklin Police Department assisted the Sheriff’s Office.
Children’s ArtWalk is day of fun

On Saturday, Nov. 13, the Highlands Nature Center was abuzz with arts & crafts, music, dance, clowns, Tinkerbell and even Puff the Magic Dragon. Children and their parents enjoyed a myriad of events – from face painting to birdhouse painting to T-shirt painting, to performers of dance and song. Free hotdogs and bags of popcorn compliments of Kilwin’s rounded out the day with baked goods for dessert from The Girls’ Clubhouse.
... BUDGET continued from page 1

you’re always one natural disaster away from wiping out funds.”

He said when natural disasters hit, FEMA reimburses towns but it takes time and it’s always better to have funds on hand.

Revenues from the town’s water/sewer and the electric funds – the town’s main revenue funds – were hefty.

The town saw a $92,000 profit in the water/sewer fund and $700,000 in the electric fund.

“It’s very important that you make sure your fees for these services stay in concert with the increasing costs that continue to go up each year,” said Starnes.

He said ever-increasing EPA restrictions cause the cost of providing water and sewer to go up.

Mayor Buck Trott said one thing the officials at the League of Municipalities hammers home is that water is not free.

“City officials at the town that water is not free. The average citizen just doesn’t realize water isn’t free — especially with all the restrictions,” he said.
**HELP WANTED**

**UNIT COORDINATOR** - Fidelia Eckerd Living Center at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. This full-time position performs clerical duties and acts as receptionist for the nursing unit. Excellent benefit package. Pre-employment substance screening. Call Mary Osmar, 828-526-1301.

**HOUSEKEEPER AT HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HOSPITAL AND FIDELIA ECKERD LIVING CENTER.** Full time, 7am-3:30 pm, high-school graduate or GED. Excellent benefit package. Pre-employment substance screening. Call Mary Osmar, 828-526-1301.

**MAINTENANCE MECHANIC AT HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HOSPITAL.** General maintenance. Experience in hospital maintenance preferred but not required. Must have a valid driver’s license. Excellent benefit package. Pre-employment substance screening. Call Mary Osmar, 828-526-1301.

**RECEPTIONIST/CASHIER AT HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HOSPITAL.** Monday through Friday, 8-hour days. Excellent benefits. Pre-employment substance screening. Call Mary Osmar, 828-526-1301.


**RN WITH ACLS CERTIFICATE, HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HOSPITAL.** To work with cardiac rehab program. Includes monitoring patients, supervising exercise protocols. Monday, Wednesday, and Friday only. Pre-employment substance screening. Call Mary Osmar, 828-526-1301.


**DIETARY AIDES, HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HOSPITAL.** Full or part time, computer experience helpful. Excellent benefit package for full-time position. Pre-employment substance screening. Call Mary Osmar, 828-526-1301.

**MAINTENANCE MECHANIC/ HVAC - HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HOSPITAL.** General plant maintenance with an emphasis on heating, air conditioning, and ventilation. Full time, Monday- Friday and one Saturday per month. Excellent benefit package. Pre-employment substance screening. Call Mary Osmar, 828-526-1301.

**BY OWNER**


**MOVING SALE -** Graphic Equalizer - TEAC, new; Coleman 2-burner propane camp stove; Dynaflo kerosene heater, 22,300 BTU; seal skin boots size 6; Kelty backpack camp gear; garage door opener, 1/2 HP, new. Phone 526-8053.

**CAR FOR SALE -** 2001 Ford Escape, Compact, SUV, V6, 4-Wheel Drive, Sunroof, Leather, Loaded, Excellent Condition. 50,000 miles. $14,250. Call 828-526-8971

**GA LAKE BURTON - HOUSE FOR SALE -** Spectacular views, beautiful custom home with heated swimming pool and spa. Three bedrooms, 3 1/2 baths. Large master on main level on 2 1/2 landscaped acres. Will negotiate for all furnishings. $610,000.

**PRIME RETAIL SPACE -** 2,200 sq. ft. downtown Highlands. 526-5190.

**FOR RENT** - Convenient commercial space near town. New carpet, paint. Perfect for office, studio, personal care business. Approx. 450 square feet. 526-5558

**VACATION RENTAL -** Mirror Lake Area! Charming, One Level Cottage! 3 Bedrooms, 3 Private Baths, Garage, Wrap Around Deck w/Beautiful Sunny Morning View of Woods & Mountains! Newly Furnished w/New Heat/AC! 2 Masters w/King beds & 1 Queen Bedroom, All With TVs. Family Room w/New 42"Flat Screen TV, Cable, DVD, VCR & Stereo. Updated, Fully Equipped Kitchen w/ Microwave, Dishwasher, & Second Refrigerator. Home Office w/ Computer, DSL, Fax/Copy Machine! Baby Crib & Small Dog Crate. Walk To Lake! Easy 3 min Drive To Town & Restaurants! Cozy, Pretty & Just Like Home! $1,200 Weekly. Call 404-281-6417.

**VACATION RENTAL -** Charming Highlands home. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, furnished. 4 1/2 Street location. Walk To Town. $1,000/wk. $3,000/mo. Call Ty (772) 215-6896.


**SERVICES**


**LAND FOR SALE IN OTTO -** Gorgeous 4.8-acre tract with panoramic view in nice area. Prime building site on cleared pasture land in pristine setting. Tree-lined perimeter for privacy. Bordered by rushing mountain creek. Place for spring-fed pond. On paved road. Power nearby. Virtually flat, so few improvements needed. Perfect for your mountain retreat, private estate, or development. Approved for 7-8 house sites. This won’t last at $139,900. Serious inquiries only. 828-349-4277.
Help a needy child have a very Merry Christmas!
Donate a new, unwrapped toy
(valued at $15 or more)
and receive a FREE installation or upgrade.
You’ll bring the joy of Christmas to children in our communities.

Please bring toys to our office
no later than December 17
to receive the special offer.

479 South Street, Highlands
(Highlands Professional Building)
828-526-5675
Some restrictions apply. Offer ends 12/17/04

It turned into a baking frenzy, Friday afternoon in the kitchen
of the First Presbyterian Church, as members of The Girls’ Club
house whipped up cookies and brownies for sale at the
Children’s ArtWalk, Saturday, at the Nature Center. From left is
Elizabeth Gordon, Shelby Chastain, Stephanie Puchaz, Danielle
Potts, Sarah Power, Paige Baty and Courtney Rogers.

The Highlands Historical Society
– Christmas Show House –
The Ravenel House at Wolf Ridge

This home was built in 1915 for
Thomas Parker’s half-sisters Marguerite and Claire Ravenel. It has a
panoramic view of Horse Cove, Whiteside Mountain, Sagee,
Fodderstack, Satulah, Wayah Bald, the Fish Hawks, the Balsams, the
Smokies, Yellow Mountain,
Clingman’s Dome and best of all
the Town of Highlands.

This three-story home holds
much of Highlands’ history. It was
built with chestnut lumber grown
and milled on the property, set on
a rock foundation from rock
brought up the mountain by ox cart.

Each room is decorated for
Christmas by Highlands’ most tal-
ented decorators.

December 3, 4, and 5, the
shuttle will be leaving the High-
lands Rec Park for the Highlands
Historical Society’s Christmas Show
House open 1-5 p.m. each day. Get
your ticket there for a $20 donation
(students are free) or from the Old
Rangoon at 490 S. 4th Street on the
Hill, or D&J Express Mart.
This recently remodeled, rustic, mountain home boasts magnificent views, pine walls and ceilings, hardwood floors, living room fireplace and an open floor plan, great for entertaining. Take in the view as you step through the living room French doors onto a spacious deck overlooking Black Rock Mountain. This lovely home and over 17 acres of gently rolling terrain can be yours for $1,795,000. MLS# 53943 View our Visual Tour at highlandsproperties.com #258558

This cozy, rustic, 3 Bedroom, 1 ½ Bath house located within the walking district of Highlands is perfect for someone wanting to start a business, with commercial and residential possibilities. The main level has a full kitchen, wood floors, fireplace, and has already been wired for computers and telephones. Comfortable living quarters and a full bath are located on the second floor. This house is nicely situated overlooking a peaceful stream and footbridge. The creative possibilities of this home call for a closer look. Offered at $468,000. MLS# 53570 View our Visual Tour at highlandsproperties.com #235986