Commercial development in the works for U.S. 64 east lot

By Erin Brown and Kim Lewicki
highlandsnews@aol.com

The Town Board may have cut off Highlands’ nose to spite its face. Although developer Chuck Simmerson’s request to rezone the Werder property on the corner of U.S. 64, Hickory and Chestnut streets to R-3 was turned down, he is moving forward with... See COMMERCIAL page 9

Winter weather in June?

By Erin Brown
highlandsnews@aol.com

Around 4 p.m. Saturday, a storm of biblical proportions blew in from the northwest. The skies blackened, then half-inch hail, torrential rain and blustering winds accompanied by a symphony of thunder and lightning fell on the Highlands plateau.

Although the storm caused minimal damage, hail in June is not the norm. “The striking thing is that the hail came down so intensely and stuck around for so long,” said Director of the Highlands Biological Station Robert Wyatt. “It made it look really weird around here.”

Even though Wyatt was out-of-town Saturday evening he said driving back into Highlands Monday he was amazed at the amount of leaf and limb debris that covered the streets and highways.

“Very strong spring tree population which had already taken a hit back in April,” he said. “It looks like it’s still winter up here.”

Sonja Stewart, a local resident, said between the wind and hail her hostas lingered all over town.

Rain and then hail plummeted the plateau about 4 p.m. Saturday. Sunday morning, patches of of half-inch hail lingered... Photos by Jim Lewicki & Frank James

Admittance rules in effect for MC schools

By Kim Lewicki
highlandseditor@aol.com

Schools play a big part in a family’s decision to relocate. But with Highlands sitting on the edge of three states there are issues parents need to know before assuming the county’s free education system is for them.

The Macon County school system traditionally welcomes students from other counties, school districts, even... See SCHOOLS page 3

SACS recognizes Macon County School system

Dr. Rodney Shotwell, Superintendent of Macon County Schools, was recently notified by the Chief Executive Officer of the Council on Accreditation and School Improvement (CASI) of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) of receiving special recognition as a school district that has all voluntary. SACS CASI is not a government agency. Accreditation helps schools improve educational opportunities for the young people it serves.” wrote the council.

“The district is considered a “2004-2005 Super System for Quality Schools,” and was congratulated for its “...schools’ accreditation accomplishments and continued success in improving educational opportunities for the young people it serves,” wrote the council.

For 2004-2005, there were 521 school districts in the 11 state SACS CASI region that qualified for this recognition, with North Carolina receiving 52 recognitions.

Accreditation by SACS CASI is voluntary. SACS CASI is not a government agency. Accreditation helps schools improve educational opportunities for the young people it serves.” wrote the council.
Dear Editor:

Dr. Mark Heffington has been my friend and mentor since July, 1987. Still in training at the time, I came to beautiful Cashiers Valley for an educational experience and to scope out Dr. Heffington’s practice. The Cashiers Medical Center had opened the year before, having been built by the community in recognition of Dr. Heffington’s dedication to his patients. I was certainly impressed, and the following year I joined him in Cashiers, with Dr. Patti Wheeler establishing her practice in Highlands. The Highlands-Cashiers Hospital thus doubled its medical staff, due in large part to Dr. Heffington’s influence on these two young physicians.

Mark has continued to shape my attitudes about life and medical practice for the past 17 years. Not only is he the brightest physician I have ever known (Mark continues to score above 99th percentile on board recertification exams), he has taught me much more than medical facts and names of obscure diseases. His greatest influence has been in demonstrating such a giving and caring attitude toward his patients. Like many young physicians, I struggled with a tendency of being too cocky. Mark led by example. He almost never seemed to show frustration, despite the number of patients or family members that would catch him at the hospital on his way out the door, (already an hour late to the office), or call him at home with routine questions day and night. When someone would show up at the ER at 3 a.m. with a sore finger that had been bothering them for 3 months, Mark would get up, drive to the hospital, and actually be friendly and in a good mood for the evaluation. Through his actions, he taught me that having this attitude paid much higher dividends than sharing your frustration with the patient. Mark may not fully appreciate the words of this paragraph, but his attitude, dedication of his life in service to others, genuine caring for those less fortunate, devotion to family, and willingness to fight for what is right, epitomize the characteristics of the Christian life. In fact, one might liken Mark’s relationship with, and message for the Board’s leadership and the CEO through recent years as similar to an Old Testament prophet struggling with his contemporaries. Mark speaks pointedly to social injustices occurring within the system, and his delivery style is not appreciated. He points out ways in which the executive committee is failing to heed the hospital’s vision statement in its decision making. He has a message of potential doom unless the leadership changes its attitudes and actions. This message is certainly unpopular with the “authorities,” he is labeled as being extremist, and someone to be shunned.

By his resignation, Mark has not changed his goals, attitudes, or what he believes to be right. He has simply stated he can no longer be a part of his beloved hospital as it follows its current course and leadership structure. Mark is still Mark, and will still be there for, his patients. He has privileges to order tests and x-ray studies at all area hospitals. If you need hospitalization, he will be happy to arrange for that at one of the local hospitals including Highlands-Cashiers. He will have more available office time than he has ever had.

As for me, I plan to continue staff privileges at Highlands-Cashiers and influence attitudes as much as possible. However, I fully support Mark’s letter of resignation and agree with its content. I admire his fortitude and tremendous sacrifice to stand up for what is right.

Folks are asking “what can we do?” This is a difficult question to answer. Mark’s decision is final, perhaps it could eventually change, but not in the immediate future.

The management structure of the hospital board needs reorganization. The power of the executive committee should be limited and the entire board involved in all decision making. All board members need to understand their role and commitment as being much more than an honorary position, and thus prevent only the select few from making all the decisions. Much less should happen “behind the scenes.”

The executive committee should include members with an understanding of the attitudes and needs of a significant portion of our service population — those of less privileged background, some of whom have lived here their entire lives.

Residents can impress upon the hospital leadership that much of the support for the hospital exists BECAUSE of the dedication of the primary care physicians.

Mark has given his entire lives.

Sincerely,

[Name]

[Address]
Years of service recognized

Mayor Buck Trott presented Police Chief Jerry Cook with a shadowbox containing his gun, badge and whistle at Cook’s retirement party, Friday, June 17 at the Highlands Conference Center. “All last week Chief Cook looked for his pistol, and couldn’t find it. Then he looked for his badge and couldn’t find it. Next he looked for his whistle, and couldn’t find it. Well here it is,” said Trott. He said Cook’s 21 years on the job in Highlands epitomized the meaning of dedication. Photo by Jim Lewicki

OBITUARY

Anna Catherine Langford

Anna Catherine Langford, age 86, of Highlands, NC, formerly of Orlando, FL, died Sunday, June 19, 2005 at the Fidelia Eckerd Living Center in Highlands.

A native of Orange County, Fla., she was the daughter of the late Benjamin Harrison and Maude Johnson Mallard.

She is survived by a son, Reginald Campbell and his wife, Elaine, of Franklin, NC; a daughter, Sandra Dotherow of Franklin, NC; five grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild.

Funeral services were held graveside at Glen Haven Memorial Park in Winter Park, Fla., Thursday Morning, June 23, 2005.

Bryant Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

SCHOOLS continued from page 1

from other states – if room allows.

Although the policy is relatively new – adopted about four years ago – it’s necessary due to campus constraints.

“If there is room, we will admit out-of-district, out-of-county, and out-of-state students who are in good standing,” said Superintendent Dr. Rodney Shotwell, “But students from across state lines must pay tuition each semester.”

For years families who live “just over the state line” were accustomed to attending Macon County schools, but with the rapid growth has come new rules.

“The only students from out-of-state who don’t have to pay tuition are the ones whose parents are full-time employees of the Town of Franklin, the Town of Highlands or Macon County,” said Shotwell. “Lifeguards and other temporary positions out-of-state students may hold in Macon County do not count toward tuition-free status.”

The cost of student tuition is the per pupil local expenditure from the county which is about $1,442 per year – payable prior to each semester.

But just because an out-of-state family can afford to pay tuition doesn’t automatically mean admittance to a Macon County School is guaranteed. Each principal and then the Macon County School Board ultimately decides if a student from outside the school district can attend school in the county.

The student must be in good standing at the school from which he or she is transferring and there has to be room in the prospective school.

Shotwell said if the board has to reduce its head count at a school, the out-of-state students go first, then out-of-county, and finally out-of-district.

The number of state-funded teachers for Macon County depends largely on head count which also helps the administration plan class sizes prior to the opening of school in the fall.

Anyone considering attending a Macon County school from outside the state, county, or district this fall is urged to call the principal of the intended school as soon as possible. The number at Highlands School is 526-2147.

... SCHOOLS continued from page 1
Peter spam in Neverland
A Highlands “Fairy Tale”

Here is another of my very tacky children’s stories you can read when you want your little urchin to have terrible nightmares, start wetting his bed and sucking his thumb again. It is the story of a boy named Peter Spam and how he found a place called

“Neverland,” high in the mountains of North Carolina. After reading this story, I recommend you give your listener a mild sedative. Remember to use your sing song voice.

Once upon a time there was a liddle’ boy named Peter Spam who lived with his mommy and daddy. One day, Mr. Spam decided it would be just grand if the whole Spam family took a trip to the mountains of North Carolina. So they packed their stuff in the Spam family van and headed out.

But along the way, a very bad thing happened. The Spam’s family van slammed into a Ram, badly damaging the Ram and the Spam’s family van. Can you say “Spam’s Family Van Slammed into a Ram” real fast, three times? Isn’t that fun? While Peter and his parents sat dazed, a wonderful fairy appeared and said, “Hello little Peter, I am the good fairy, Michael, from Neverland and I am here to help you.”

At first, Peter was afraid of Michael because he had very pasty skin and really looked a lot like “The Joker” from the movie “Batman.” Then, with a wisp of his finger, Michael floated on top of the Spam’s family van and did a great Moon Walk.

Then Michael said, “Don’t be afraid, I won’t harm you. I have millions of dollars and can take care of all your family’s bills. If you will allow me to sprinkle some fairy dust on you, you will be able to fly like me and we can go to Neverland and have fun together.”

Peter looked at the badly damaged Spam family van and decided he had
**• Movie Pix •**

**Yana’s Friends**

Yana’s Friends, starring Evelyn Kaplun as Yanna, and Nir Levy as Eli. Written and directed by Arik Kaplun, and very wonderful music by Avi Binyamin.

The Storyline:
Yana, a recent Russian immigrant to Israel, is beautiful, pregnant, and recently abandoned by her husband, it’s just before the first Gulf War, and things are not easy for the most fortunate immigrants, and Yana is far from the most fortunate. So this is the scenario for this really very cool, very clever comedy/romance. Yes, that does seem an unlikely scenario for a light hearted film, but it really works. The story follows Yana as she seeks work, tries unsuccessfully to return to Russia, develops a relationship with her housemate, Eli, a wedding photographer with dreams of American film work, and gets involved with a group of an unlikely and seemingly unrelated cast of beggars, war heroes, accordion players, long lost lovers, and more. But as the story unfolds, it seems as if there is more connection than meets the eye among this large, weird, and VERY unique cast of characters.

The filming technique is brilliant, some dark (in color, as well as tone), and a great deal is shown as Eli’s (remember, he is the wedding photographer/ videographer) own film clips. It is a friendship story, a romance, an off the wall (not THAT wall) comedy, and a little of a fish out of water story. But as the story unfolds, it seems as if there is more connection than meets the eye among this large, weird, and VERY unique cast of characters.

Christ Anglican Church
Traditional Episcopal Service
1928 Book of Common Prayer
4 p.m. Each Sunday
Held at the Community Bible Church
828-743-3319
Anglican Province of America

Highlands’ Newspaper - Friday, June 24, 2005 - Page 5
Radical, extremist evangelical Christianity, in a fiercely aggressive and dogmatic manner, is spreading across America and infecting much of American life, including parts of our government. This is no longer a subtle argument about what constitutes separation of Church and State, but an assault on our historic values and on the essence of the Constitution.

There may be room for disagreement on whether the Founding Fathers intended a secular future for the United States, but there is no doubt they wanted a strong wall erected between any particular religion and the functions of government. Statements that ours is a “Christian nation” and ought to be ruled by “Christian values” defy the clearly stated principles embodied in the Bill of Rights.

It was recently reported that the Chaplains Corps at the Air Force Academy, as well as a number of officers and senior cadets, were actively proselytizing among the students to convert them to evangelicals. This was happening with the support and encouragement of the highest authorities at the Academy. Protests by non-Christian Academy graduates were either ignored or disparaged. Dissenting cadets were afraid to express their opinions because they were sure it would hurt their careers.

Not until one of the chaplains herself, Captain McLinda Morton, publicly protested this gross abuse of religious freedom, was any action taken to investigate. By then, Captain Morton had been relieved of her duties and shipped off to Okinawa.

It isn’t known at this time if there are similar violations taking place at West Point or the Naval Academy, but it certainly seems likely. None of this would be taking place, I expect, if the evangelicals were not encouraged by having one of their own sitting in the highest office in the land.

When John F. Kennedy, the first Roman Catholic to become President, ran for and took office, some critics expressed fears that his religion would dictate public policy. He was most careful to maintain strict separation between his faith and his governance. Can you imagine the outcry if chaplains at the service academies during Kennedy’s incumbency had tried to convert cadets or plebes to Catholicism? Even Jimmy Carter, a professed born-again Christian himself, made it clear that his personal religious beliefs would not translate to political actions.

Whether one is a Democrat or Republican or Independent, a Christian or Jew or Muslim or nothing at all, he should be concerned about this insidious threat to our liberty. Contrary to what some maintain, when government and religion become entwined, it is profoundly dangerous to both.

P.S. Since this column was written, the superintendent of the Academy has admitted that religious bias exists there and has agreed to forcefully investigate the situation. He estimates that it might take six years to clear matters up at the Air Force Academy.
Summer Bible Conference at First Baptist

Dr. Ken Hemphill, National Strategist for Empowering Kingdom Growth of the Southern Baptist Convention, will speak Sunday, June 26, during the adult Sunday School classes at the First Baptist Church of Highlands on the importance of Sunday School, and then preach at the 10:45 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. worship services.

Monday-Wednesday, June 27-29, Dr. Hemphill will teach/preach each evening at 7 p.m. Lunches will be held on Monday and Tuesday from 12 noon-1 p.m. to benefit from the teaching of this man of God.

Dr. Hemphill is married to Paula Moore from Greenville, SC, and they have three daughters: Kristina, Rachael, and Katherine. Mrs. Hemphill will accompany him for the Summer Bible Conference. Paula is employed and speaks extensively for the International Mission Board. She will speak for a Luncheon on Wednesday, June 29. Please call 526-4153 for information.

… LETTER continued from page 2

physicians to the community, and their role in decision making and leadership is to be respected.

Perhaps most importantly, the CEO (currently Mr. Calloway), should actually answer to the board, as opposed to having a leadership role on all powerful committees. The positions of hospital CEO and Foundation President responsible for fundraising should not be held by the same person.

As a final note, Mark and I appreciate Jim Graham’s fine work as administrator of the hospital for the past several years. Jim has spent innumerable hours as a liaison between the primary care staff and the CEO/board and has been caught up in these controversies through no fault of his own. Jim is a fine fellow, and I wish him the best as he leaves us soon.

Obviously, if a person with the dedication of Dr. Mark Heffington has become so disenchanted with the value system of the hospital leadership that he has chosen to resign, something is amiss. Remember Mark as he transitions into his new practice situation, and the hospital, as it struggles with the fallout from the executive committee decisions. Hopefully some good will come from this.

… SACS continued from page 1

prove teaching and student learning through a systematic process of self-analysis in terms of standards. Accreditation assures not only that an institution meets standards, but also that it demonstrates a commitment to continuously providing quality educational programs.

SACS accreditation ensures benefits to the community, including the following:

• Mission and goals focused on improving student performance and each school’s capacity to improve teaching and learning.
• A collaboratively developed improvement plan that includes methods for measuring student progress and involves key school stakeholders.
• A continuous improvement process that integrates all types of school planning and evaluation requirements.
• The assurance of quality through regular review of programs by a team of outside peer professionals.
• Accountability and value for tax dollars spent.
• Regional, National, and International Recognition as an accredited school.

Founded in 1895 and headquartered in Decatur, Georgia, SACS is one of six regional accreditation bodies in the United States. It serves 11 Southern states from Virginia to Texas, as well as American-International schools in Latin America and other geographical areas. It accredits more than 13,000 institutions. For additional information, please visit the Association’s website at www.sacs.org.
no choice. He agreed to become a fairy and then Michael said, “Here is my personal check for one million dollars, and I will pin it to your dad’s shirt since he is still in a daze. Now let’s get out of here because I hear the police coming.”

With that, Peter and Michael flew away, heading north into the mountains of North Carolina. Along the way Michael told Peter about how he founded Neverland. “I did it myself. It used to be a place called Bent grass greens, tees and fairways in Highlands’ Newspaper and www.highlandsinfo.com • Call 526-0782.
plans to develop the property.

"I have quite a bit invested in the project and I’m not going to go on down the road now," said Simmerson. "I am proceeding with development on the lot as allowed by the present zoning. I was hoping to have plans and sit plans drawn up in time for the June 27 appearance and planning board meeting, but now it looks like they won’t be ready, and it will have to wait until the July meeting."

The four-plus acre property is currently dual-zoned B-4 along U.S. 64 and R-2 at the back of the lot.

Meanwhile, the Town Board wants the entire parcel rezoned R-2 and has asked the planning board to re-consider the case. But when asked before, the planning board recommended rezoning the parcel R-3 saying the proposed multi-family development fit well with its recommendations for multi-family housing in the updated land use plan.

Furthermore, Attorney Zeke Sossomon, representing both Werder and Simmerson, said its dangerous waters to force rezoning without a request.

Gantenbein said a municipality can legally force rezoning, but often has to go to court to do so.

Simmerson went to the zoning administrator a few days after the Town Board denied his rezoning request to get the paperwork for a special use permit to construct five commercial buildings with apartments above each on the B-4 portion of the Werder property and four or five single-family detached homes on the R2 portion.

"Under the current zoning of B-4 and R-2 he doesn’t need anything from the town for this project just a special use permit for any new construction," said Sossomon.

Plans for the new development will include 50 parking spaces and access to the five commercial lots off U.S. 64 east. There will also be an 18-foot road cut through the property with a cul-de-sac for municipal vehicle turnaround.

Gantenbein said everything Simmerson wants to do is completely legal. He said all the vegetative buffering and appearance and planning board contingencies he agreed to for the original plan will be nixed. "You can kiss the rhododendron hedge good-bye," Gantenbein said.

Though some people think Simmerson is bluffing, his lawyer says differently.

"I can tell you the contract is not dead, in fact it’s been extended. He’s not walking away from this. He’s given the seller a lot of money."

Simmerson’s expertise is in high-end multi-family development and his partner is in commercial development. In Simmerson’s original plan, the historical building on the lot — to be featured in this weekend’s Highlands Historical Home Tour — was spaced apart from the four multi-family buildings to maintain its character. Now it could be sold, moved off the lot or torn down.

Simmerson is disappointed in the town’s decision not to rezone the property R-3. "I really think it would have been better for the town than what’s planned now — aesthetically and economically," he said. "It would have provided a $14-million tax base and there would have been more sewer connections."

The Town Board can revisit the rezoning issue at any time but the applicant cannot go back to the board with the same request.

"Once the special use permit is issued, they have a legal vested right to build in accordance with the SUP even if the ordinances are changed," said Gantenbein.

... COMMERCIAL continued from page 1...
Suzuki/Lilly Opening at the Mill Creek Gallery

Mill Creek Gallery and Framing is pleased to host an exhibit of wood sculpture and photography by two fine artists of Highlands. The opening reception will be Friday July 1, 5-7 p.m. Howard Suzuki, one of the artists is a wood sculptor, retired from a distinguished career as a biologist, teaching human anatomy at Yale, Arkansas and Florida Universities.

He has also been a field photographer for various government and research organizations, his photographs have been widely published.

Dr. Suzuki specializes in aquatic carvings and has a deep respect and love of wood as an art medium. He has taught carving in different parts of the U.S. and Caribbean, and he teaches an annual class at John C. Campbell Folk School.

Beth Lilly, who resides in Atlanta and has a second home in Horse Cove, will be showing striking images of trees and photographs from the Swan House in Atlanta.

Lilly received her undergraduate degree in film production from UGA and an MFA in Photography from Georgia State University. She studied under Guggenheim recipient John McWilliams, himself a student of Harry Callahan. Lilly served as Senior Photo Editor and then Director of Photography for Turner Broadcasting from 1996 to 2002. She has photographed and exhibited regularly from 1985 to the present.

The opening reception for this month-long exhibit will be held on Friday, July 1, 5-7 p.m. Following the exhibit will be "Songs of the Trees," an exhibit of photography by Cynthia (Thea) Stacey, opening on July 29.

Mill Creek Gallery is in Highlands Village Square on Oak Street (behind Wolfgang's Restaurant). The gallery offers custom picture framing services. The owner, Cynthia Strain, also exhibits her photographs of local scenery there, in addition to jewelry, carved walking sticks, baskets, pottery and weavings, all by local artisans. Hours are noon to 5 Mon. thru Sat. Call (828) 787-2021.

© 2005 Chestnut Hill at Highlands Properties, LLC

* The homes and amenities highlighted are for general informational purposes only, exact homes and information may vary.
Historical Society receives $10,000 grant

The Highlands Historical Society recently received a grant in the amount of $10,000 from The Cannon Foundation, Inc. The grant was earmarked for renovation and restoration of the old Hudson Library. The Cannon Foundation provides financial assistance for capital and building projects in the areas of arts and humanities, education, environment, health and hospitals, religion and social services.

The old Hudson Library was built in 1915 and remained on the grounds of the Church of the Incarnation until 2001 when it was moved to its present location in the Highlands Historic Village on U.S. 64/North Fourth Street.

When the building was moved, it was placed atop a poured concrete floor and walls. Since that time, fund-raising has occupied most of the efforts of the Historical Society, with financial assistance provided by the Town of Highlands, Macon County, the Highlands Rotary Club, the Woman’s Club of Highlands, Satulah Club, Laurel and Mountain Garden Clubs, and various individuals.

The money raised has provided for a new roof, exterior and interior painting, installation of sewage, wiring, and bathroom fixtures, as well as handicap access. Partitions that had been added to the interior of the building have been removed in order to return the structure as near as possible to its original configuration. Flooring on the main level is original to the building, as well as windows and some of the library shelves.

Local architect, Dennis DeWolf, has served as supervising architect.

The Grand Opening of the Historic Village is now scheduled to take place July 8, 9 and 10 with plans to be announced. Contributions are still needed for equipping the archives planned for the lower floor of the old library, for furnishing display equipment for the main floor, and for renovating and furnishing the Prince House.

AFTERWARD SWING BY PEREGRINE

One of the nicest things about Highlands Cove is that you don’t have to live here to enjoy all that goes with it. Our many amenities are open to the public, pay as you use. There are 18 holes of spectacular golf where the views are nothing short of inspiring. A clubhouse with a fully stocked golf pro shop. A practice facility that rivals any in the area. And a PGA professional staff.

Discriminating diners will take delight in the carefully crafted cuisine that flows from Peregrine. Located in the clubhouse, the atmosphere is relaxed and casually elegant. The menu is classic continental American and entirely handmade. Our chefs are passionate about serving up an excellent dining experience. And the full-service bar will quench any thirst.

Great golf. Fabulous food. Excellent service. Enjoy Highlands Cove today. We’re located six miles east of Highlands on Highway 64. The course is open daily. Call 828-526-6185 for a tee time. Peregrine at the Cove is open Tuesday-Sunday, 11:00 am to 9:00 pm. Call 828-787-2465 for dinner reservations. Web site: www.highlandscove.com.

©2005 Highlands Cove LLC. Subject to change.
I recently took a bus trip with 49 other Rotary exchange students around Europe. In 10 days, we visited Austria, Germany, Italy, Monaco, the south of France, and Spain. All I have to say is…WOW! This is the second part of that story.

Day 5:

We then left Salzburg to go to our youth hostel in Vienna, where a group of elderly ladies took care of us all. It felt very homey there…probably my favorite place to stay throughout the whole trip. Behind the youth hostel was a huge hill that some of us climbed. Once on top of the hill, I felt the need to break out and sing, “The hills are alive with the sound of music…” It was the most beautiful scene ever, rolling hills colored with every shade of green, behind a cloudless blue sky. Absolutely gorgeous.

Some of us started to play soccer – the Anglo-Saxons vs. the Latin Americans. I decided to dribble the ball down the field, and was about to line up my shot when a hole in the ground appeared out of nowhere, which of course I fell into. I’m surprised no one laughed, I’m sure it looked very funny but I was in serious pain, so two boys became human crutches and helped me down the hill.

When they rolled up my pants leg to get a look, it looked like my ankle had swallowed an orange. I went to the hospital, and discovered I had torn the ligaments in my ankle. They told me to stay on crutches for one week and give myself shots for six weeks. Shots you ask? Yes, due to the immobilization of my leg they were worried that the muscles would collapse and I would never be able to use it again. So I had to administer a shot every night. (Luckily when I got back to France 8 days later, they told me I didn’t need to take the shots anymore…Thank God.) I used crutches, sometimes a wheelchair, for the rest of the trip. It wasn’t too bad; I got a lot of special treatment…which I’ll write about later.

Day 6:

After breakfast we took the bus for a guided tour of the Schönbrunn palace. The French call it “le Versailles autrichien,” or “The Austrian Versailles.” Though I have to say, I found this palace prettier than Versailles, the French strongly disagreed with me. Due to my handicap I was in a wheelchair for the tour. One of the Rotary chaperones pushed me around, making sputtering car noises the whole time. He wasn’t very graceful with the wheelchair; he constantly rammed it into innocent bystanders or expensive furniture at the exhibits. I’m not sure if he did this on purpose or not…either way it was hilarious.

Schönbrunn was once an imperial summer palace, but was designated the Museum of Austrian Folklore in 1919. The architecture and paintings stunned me once again, the colors shocked me. Everything is so much brighter in Austria. They really know how to draw attention.

We then hopped (or in my case, hobbled) back onto the bus to take a tour of Vienna. I stayed with the chaperones while the others went off to go shopping. When I say, “most of us” I mean all the girls, which was the majority: Four male chaperones, seven boys, and 43 girls.

*Fun Fact #10:

Instead of saying “ouch!” or “Ow!” When the French get hurt they scream, “Aïe!” (long “I” sound…)

P.S. My incredible year in France has come to an end. I return home Sunday, June 26. But there are more stories to tell, so stay tuned.
Wine dinners: Everybody’s doing it!

Editor’s Note: Steve Stevens is the associate editor of The Wine Report magazine in Atlanta.

By Steve Stevens

In the South American country of Uruguay, summer ends in March and the grape harvest is in full swing. On the other hand, the frigid ocean waters swirling up from Antarctica make the summer nights surprisingly cool. Additionally, many people do not speak English here. To an American, Uruguay can seem like anotherworldly place.

However, as much as things change, they stay the same. In March, a group of U.S. journalists traveled to 15 Uruguayan vineyards and at each dinner stop there was the same, familiar routine. Passionate winemakers, talking about interesting native wines and serving delicious food. It dawned on me, half a world away, not speaking English here. To an American, the wine dinners are not simply an American thing.

From the fjords of Norway to the Australian outback, from the celebrated vineyards of Bordeaux to the modest hamlets of New England, people are eating while listening to wine pros wax poetic about their vino. So what, in fact, is the appeal? People can get food and wine in a restaurant already—why do they need to have a special event?

“You know how big wine is now,” says Cynthia Gomes, director of sales and marketing for Highlands’ Old Edwards Inn and Spa. “I think it’s because people hear ‘the creator, the father of the wine.’”

But that alone does not guarantee a good time, says Reid. “Sometimes we get some very quiet winemakers and they can make the dinners tough,” he laughs. “But still, people love it.”

Wine dinners are an area of the wine business that has interested me for a long time,” said Leckie Stack, part-owner of North Georgia’s Tiger Mountain Vineyards. Stack organizes some wine dinners in Georgia and North Carolina and agrees with Gomes that it lets wine lovers learn about their favorite wines, but it also opens up new doors.

“There are a lot of wines out there,” said Stack. “And these dinners give people an opportunity to be exposed and educated about wines they otherwise may never try.” She points out she pours wine varieties like Touriga and Tannat at some dinners; most people are unlikely to try these varieties on their own.

As wine’s meteoric rise in popularity continues, it seems that people want more from their wine-related experiences.

“It’s that thirst for knowledge,” said Chris Reid, general manager and wine buyer for Atlanta’s Iris restaurant and wine bar. “I think [the wine dinner] craze has got something to do with people wanting to get closer to the wines they love.”

That said, it’s so much more powerful when the winemaker talks, because people hear “the creator, the father or mother of the wine.”

And the views... with elevations from 3,700 to 4,700 feet, mountain and/or golf course views are available from a majority of homesites. Plus a wide range of prices: mountain view lots from $125,000 to $195,000; golf course lots from $125,000 to $195,000; and beautifully wooded lots from $105,000.

Single-family residences from $925,000 - $2,430,000.

The Cottages feature three bedrooms, three and a half baths, rustic oak flooring, poplar and cherry trees. The four porches included in each home offer exhilarating mountain and golf course views. Rustic elegance abounds both inside and out beginning with the English Garden Arbor entrance, cedar shake roof and timberframe carport with storage. The Cottages feature three bedrooms, three and a half baths, rustic oak flooring, two stone fireplaces (one in the living room and one on the porch just off the breakfast and living areas), 10 foot ceilings, large master suite with whirlpool tub and separate shower. The kitchens inspire entertaining with custom cabinets, granite countertops, top of the line appliances and an adjacent exterior grilling deck. Prices range from $875,000 to $1,150,000. Please call Gina McDonald or Kim James: TOLL FREE at 866-220-2209 or 526-8218 or after hours Kim: 828-539-9067, Gina: 828-529-1080. These homes offer exterior building and yard maintenance.

Arts and Crafts Festival

Saturday, June 25 and Sunday, June 26

Over 100 artists and crafters displaying and demonstrating their original works.

Humane Society Stop ‘n’ Adopt, too

Live Bluegrass Music, Food, Drinks & Fun!

Free Admission & Parking

Sapphire Valley • U.S. 64, 3 miles east of Cashiers

828-743-1163
Now Open 11 am – 4 pm
Crunchy Fresh Salads
Hearty Home Made Soups
Luscious Gourmet Sandwiches
Famous Appalachian Fries
Cajun Specialties.

Fast Food is not Good And Good Food is not Fast
526-1600
30 Dillard Road • Highlands
(corner of Main Street and Dillard Road)

The eighth annual Cashiers Designers Showhouse is presented by the Cashiers Historical Society, benefiting the Zachary-Tolbert House restoration fund and 2005 grant recipient Cashiers Community Council.

Kicking off with "Diamonds and Denim," the popular Lee Epting catered Patron Party Friday, August 19 at Lonesome Valley, the Showhouse will be open Saturday, August 20; Sunday, September 4 from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. daily and from 1 – 4 p.m. on Sundays.

Tickets for the Patron Party and the Showhouse can be purchased by calling 743-7710. In addition to Patron Party and Showhouse tickets, for the first time this year there are $2,500 corporate sponsorships available. Corporate sponsors receive eight Patron Party tickets and eight daily tickets.

The Homestead at Lonesome Valley, this year’s Showhouse, promises to be exceptional. Sixteen designers from Cashiers, Highlands, Sapphire and Atlanta will create a sophisticated mountain retreat amidst acres of pristine farmland overlooking long-range mountain views. In addition to the home’s rooms, there are decks, porches, patios and a garden shop.

Entering at the covered front porch, Cashiers/Palm Beach/Chapel Hill/Atlanta designer Skip Ryan will combine vintage antiques with his special finds. Ryan owns Ryan & Co. and The Cat Bird Seat in Cashiers. This year marks his eighth Showhouse.

Lonesome Valley, on Highway 64 east, is just across from the horse stables 2 1/2 miles from the crossroads of Highways 64 and 107. Free onsite parking is plentiful.

Each year Cashiers Designer Showhouse visitors look forward to seeing the newest custom furniture, venerable antiques, unique accessories and surprising twists on tradition from many of the Southeast’s most sought-after designers.
Bel Canto set for Aug. 21 at PAC

Stella Zambalis, the incomparable American soprano, returns to Highlands Sunday, August 21.

After hearing nearly 200 opera singers audition in New York last December, Richard Joel, committee chairman, said “Not one voice surpassed that of Stella Zambalis and having her sign for a third appearance means another recital of the highest quality.”

Zambalis, who sold out the Martin-Lipscomb Performing Arts Center in 2001 and 2003, will take center stage in the 13th Annual Bel Canto will benefit the Bascom-Louise Gallery’s permanent art collection and the Highlands School’s music program.

“Singing in Highlands gives me much pleasure, especially when I know the recital raises funds for the school and the gallery and fosters music and art in the community,” Zambalis told Joel.

An artist who has sung leading roles with opera companies throughout this country and abroad, Zambalis is an established favorite in Highlands, where she will be welcomed back by music lovers who find the human voice the most exciting and satisfying of all musical instruments.

She will be joined by Kelly Anderson, the eminent American baritone, who will be making his first appearance in Highlands. In roles from Escamillo in “Carmen” to Scarpia in “Tosca,” he has captured audiences with his deep, dark voice and dramatic portrayals.

The two artists will present a program that includes well-known arias and duets from favorite operas and musical theatre, the combination that Bel Canto audiences have enjoyed since 1993. They will be accompanied by Stephen Dubberly, the master pianist who has contributed to Bel Canto’s success for the past 12 years.

The performance will take place at 4 p.m. on August 21 at the Martin-Lipscomb Performing Arts Center. Only 200 seats will be available for an event that sells out early to music lovers who look forward to this one-of-a-kind musical experience followed by an elegant reception buffet at the Highlands Falls Country Club.

Bel Canto benefactors also derive satisfaction from supporting the vocal program at Highlands School and the Bascom-Louise Gallery.

For Benefactor tickets and additional information, call 526-5252.

On a cold day last December, Stella Zambalis warms the hear of Richard Joel as the Bel Canto founder watches the celebrated soprano sign for her third recital in Highlands.

Submitted photo

PRIVATE ESTATE
W/THREE HOMES

on 36.6 gently rolling acres. Two ponds, barn, apple orchard. Conveniently located between Cashiers and Brevard. Offered for $1,175,000. Monica Calloway 828-743-7999 MLS# 55511/326839.

www.c21mountainlifestyles.com

Two local offices to serve you:
828-743-7999 Cashiers 828-787-2121 Highlands
Understanding Christian Science

By Martha Lemasters
First Reader and President of the Board – Highlands Group of Christian Scientists

The Highlands Group of Christian Scientists celebrates its 60th year in Western North Carolina this year. Open only from June through mid-October, the small group continues to serve the community with Sunday services at 11 a.m. and Wednesday testimonial meetings at 7 p.m., and special lectures once a year.

Christian Science is all about spirituality, health and healing. What is the connection between how one thinks and the health they experience…and what does spirituality have to do with it?

Spirituality has everything to do with your health when you understand what true spirituality is and understand the spiritual nature of health. When you understand what the two have in common, you’ll start to see the connection and begin to understand how understanding your spirituality better, can lead to better health.

The definition of spirituality in the dictionary is “the quality or state of being spiritual.” Then, what does it mean to be spiritual? In order to understand what it means to be spiritual or understand what spirituality is all about, you need to have an understanding of what Spirit is.

To me, Spirit is God. There is one infinite Spirit at work in this universe—God, divine Love. There are many different names you can use for that. In my faith of Christian Science, we actually use seven synonyms for God and one of them is Spirit.

To understand spirituality, you have to understand Spirit and to understand Spirit you need to understand God. So to me, spirituality is God expressed through me. Spirituality is qualities—like love, joy, peace, patience, compassion, wisdom, intelligence—manifest. When I manifest those qualities, I feel spiritual. I am tapped into my divine Source. I am listening to my Father/Mother. I am living true to my spirituality, my real individuality at one with God.

So to be spiritual is to express those spiritual qualities coming from God, and to live true to your spirituality is to live true to those qualities in your everyday life.

I am so grateful to have been raised by parents who were devoted students of Christian Science. The truths I learned in Sunday School, and later through the instruction I had in Christian Science healing, have been a wonderful source of strength and have helped me in solving all kinds of challenges. These spiritual truths lighted my way out of great darkness and turbulence through a difficult and painful divorce after 23 years of marriage. The need to express gratitude was one step that unfolded to my yearning thought almost immediately. I began to look at my life more constructively and found much to be thankful for. I had to vigorously refute thoughts of self-pity that I felt were preventing me from living a fuller life. The need to express gratitude was my life’s answer.

Sunday night services every second and fourth Sunday at 7 p.m.

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

BUCK CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH
Rev. Joseph Survivor, (706) 743-6513
Sundays: School – 10 a.m.; Worship – 11 a.m.

First Tuesday: Bible Study – 7:30 p.m.

CHAPEL OF SKY VALLEY
Rev. Dan Robinson, (706) 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 p.m.
Wednesdays: Dinner – 5:30 p.m.; Team Kids – 6 p.m.

PRAYER – 6:15 p.m.; Choir – 7:30 p.m.

FIRST PRESIDENTIAN CHURCH
Rev. J. Hunter Coleman, Pastor, 526-3175
Sundays: Worship – 11 a.m.; School – 9:30 & 9:45 a.m.

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

Thursdays: Bible Study – 10 a.m.
Sat: Adventist del Septimo Dia – 10 a.m. & 5 p.m.

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

HIGHLANDS 7TH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH
Sunday worship – 11 a.m.
Call Lloyd Kidder at 526-5974

HIGHLANDS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Pastors Eddie & Kim Ingram, 526-3376
Sun: School – 9:30 & 9:45 a.m.; Worship – 8:30 & 11 a.m.
Wed: Supper – 5:30 p.m.; Bible Study & activities – 6 p.m.

HOLY FAMILY LUTHERAN CHURCH – ELCA
Rev. Delmar Chilton, Pastor,
2152 Dillard Road – 526-5974
Sundays: Worship/Communion – 10:30 a.m.

MACEDONIA BAPTIST CHURCH
8 miles south of Highlands on N.C. 28 S in Satolah
Pastor Jamie Passmore, (706) 782-8130
Sundays: School – 10 a.m.; Worship – 11 a.m.

Choir – 6 p.m.
Wed: Bible Study and Youth Mtg. – 7 p.m.

MOUNTAIN SYNAGOGUE
St. Cyprian Episcopal Church, Franklin 369-6871
Friday: Sabbath Eve Services at 7 p.m.
For more information, call (706)-745-1842.

OUR LADY OF THE MOUNTAINS CATHOLIC CHURCH
Rev. William M Evans, Priest
Parish office, 526-2418
Sundays: School – 10 a.m.; Worship – 11 a.m.

Services in the basement of the Peggy Crosby Church: 706-746-2999
Sundays: School – 10 a.m.; Worship – 11 a.m.

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

SCALY MOUNTAIN BAPTIST CHURCH
Rev. Clifford Willis
Sundays: School – 10 a.m.; Worship – 11 a.m.

School – 11 a.m. & 7 p.m.
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 a.m.

Interim Pastor, Terry Dixon

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
Rev. Maureen Killoran [part-time] 526-9769
Sundays: Worship – 11 a.m.

WESTSIDE BAPTIST CHURCH
Interim Pastor, Terry Dixon
Sundays: Worship – 11 a.m.

Services in the basement of the Peggy Crosby Church: Fellowship & Worship – 11 a.m.

WHITESIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Cashiers, Rev. Sam Forrester, 743-2122
Sundays: School – 10 a.m.; Worship – 11 a.m.
Police & Fire

The following are the Highlands Police Department log entries for the week of June 15-22. The only names printed are of public officials and/or people who were arrested.

June 15
- At 6:45 a.m., a motorist was cited for speeding 53 mph in a 35 zone at N.C. 28 and Sassy Lane.
- At 10 a.m., a delivery truck damaged a hand rail at the ABC Store was reported.

June 16
- A little past midnight, officers responded to a 911 hang-up at a residence on N.C. 106. All was secure.
- Officers were called to a home on Eagle Ridge Road where a fired bullet was found on the floor of the living room. It had come through the roof and was there when the owners opened the house for the season.
- At 2:35 p.m., officers responded to an accident. There were no injuries.

June 17
- At 5:30 a.m., business owners on Fourth Street complained about illegal parking.
- At 10:30 a.m., officers went to Fresser’s Restaurant where a bag of white powder was found on a table and an air-conditioner was found out of the window and on the floor of the dining room. The powder did not test positive for drugs.
- At 11:45 a.m., officers assisted a motorist who had locked her keys in the car in Bryson’s Food Store parking lot.
- At 4:05 p.m., a purse found in the Washing Well was returned to its owner.
- At 4:20 p.m., officers responded to a domestic call.

June 18
- At 3:30 a.m., officers responded to a call of prowlers outside a bedroom window at a residence on Wilson Road. It was unfounded.
- At 6:50 a.m., a motorist was cited for speeding 51 mph in a 35 zone.
- At 7:18 a.m., a motorist was cited for speeding 50 mph in a 35 zone.
- At 11:55 a.m., a motorist found a wallet on Dog Mountain Road and turned it in to the police station.
- At 6:24 p.m., a resident reported receiving harassing calls.
- At 6:45 p.m., officers on patrol found an open storage door at Bryson’s Food Store. All was secure.
- At 10:30 p.m., officers responded to a traffic accident at U.S. 64 east and Sherwood Forest. There were no injuries.
- At 10:35 p.m., officers responded to a call of a bear in the house on Black Rock Road.

June 20
- At 2:20 a.m., officers responded to a call of a suspicious truck parked on Cullasaja Road. It was unfounded.
- At 11:40 p.m., officers responded to a call from a citizen claiming an assault.

June 22
- At 7:50 a.m., a motorist was cited for speeding 51 mph in a 35 zone at Sassy Lane and NC 28 and for driving without a license.
- The following are the Highlands Fire & Rescue Dept. log entries for June 15-22.

June 15
- The dept. responded to a two-vehicle accident at U.S. 64 east at the hospital. There were two injuries.

June 16
- The dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with a medical call at a residence on Westview Way. There was no transport.

June 17
- The dept. responded to an alarm at a residence on N. 4th Street. It was false.
- The dept. responded to an accident on N.C. 28. There were no injuries.

June 18
- The dept. responded to an alarm at the Methodist Church. It was false.
- The dept. responded to an alarm at a residence on Many Road. It was false.

June 19
- The dept. responded to a smell of gas at a residence on Dendy Orchard Road. Some gas had leaked out of a gas can.

June 20
- The dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with a medical call at a residence on Dog Mountain Road. The victim was transported to the hospital.
UPCOMING EVENTS

On-going
• Little Entertainments. Fridays at 8 p.m. $20 in advance $25 at the door at Instant Theater on Main Street. Occasional Saturday Specials at 8p.m. $10 children 17 & under, $20 adults in advance, $25 adults at the door Call (628) 342-9197.
• Highlands Wine and Cheese Shop. Wine Flights Thursday and Friday afternoon from 4:30-6:30 p.m. Special Guest: Artist Hel-ena Meek will be in the Shop Friday and Sat-urday, painting, displaying new works, and discussing her art. Complimentary wine samples Saturday from 12:30-4p.m.
• HealthTracks, at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital, offers a special class on Mondays and Thursday to help reduce the risk of os-teoporosis by building strength and helping to increase bone density. The medically struc-tured class, which is taught by Stacy Greene, LPTA, is held from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. at HealthTracks on the lower level of the Jane Woodruff Medical Building at the back of the hospital campus. Cost is $8 per session. Call HealthTracks at 526-1348.
• HealthTracks is currently offering of-fers two yoga classes per week, both taught by certified instructor Carole Mackey. “Gentle Yoga” is held each Tuesday at 5:15 p.m. “Hatha Yoga” is offered Wednesday at 5:15 p.m. The classes are held in the fitness studio on the first level of the new Jane Woodruff Clinic. Cost of the class is $12 per session or 10 sessions for $100. Call HealthTracks at 526-1348
• HealthTracks offers a Pilates class on Monday and Wednesday at 4 p.m. Classes are taught by certified instructor Sandie Trevethan and are held in the fitness studio on the first level of the new Jane Woodruff Clinic. Cost is $10 per session or $80 for 10 sessions. Call HealthTracks at 526-1348
• HealthTracks is offering a special toning class on Tuesday and Thursday at 9 a.m. Classes are taught by Jeannette Fisher, exercise in-tern and the cost is $6 per session for HealthTracks non-members. The classes are held at HealthTracks on the lower level of the Jane Woodruff Medical Building at the back of the hospital campus. Call HealthTracks at 526-1348
• Films at PAC every other Tuesday at 7 p.m. Next one June 21. Donations accepted.
• Adult Drawing 101 with Kathy Evans at B-L Gallery Tuesdays from 10:12 through July. Take one class or take them all! This be-ginning level class will provide instruction on various techniques along with aspects of de-sign and composition. Call the gallery at 526-4949
• HealthTracks is offering a special toning class on Tuesday and Thursday at 9 a.m. Classes are taught by Jeannette Fisher, exercise in-tern and the cost is $6 per session for HealthTracks non-members. The classes are held at HealthTracks on the lower level of the Jane Woodruff Medical Building at the back of the hospital campus. Call HealthTracks at 526-1348
• The Instant Theatre Company’s Middle School Summer Acting Class will present a showcase of scenes and improv on Saturday at 2 p.m. at The Studio on Main. The event is free and will last approximately 45 minutes.
• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a moderate 4.5 mile hike up Shortoff Mountain with an ascent of 800 feet, a decent of 1,000. Meet at the Highlands Bank of America at 9:30 a.m. or at the Yellow Mtn. trailhead (Cole Gap) at 9:45 a.m. Drive 10 miles round trip. Bring a drink, lunch, and wear sturdy, comfortable shoes. Call leader Mo Wheeler, 526-9561, for reservations
• Highlands Historical Society’s Annual Tour of Four Historic Homes in the North-ern Historic District of Highlands, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Tickets are $45. Available at D&J Express Mart, Cyrano’s Book Shop and The Cham-ber of Real Estate.
• Mirror Lake Improvement Assoc. will have a work day/litter pickup, 9 a.m. at Thorn Park.
• Auditions for Highlands Community Players “Dearly Departed” will be held Sun-
UPCOMING EVENTS

day, 3 p.m. downstairs at PAC, 507 Chestnut Street in Highlands. The script is available for reading, but not for checkout, at the Hudson Library. For an alternate audition time, call director Virginia Talbot, 526-4904. A hilarious, backwoods Southern comedy has a cast of 15 characters plus several singers. Eight women and seven men of varying ages.

June 26-30

- Vacation Bible School at HJUMC. Join them at the Circle C Ranch. Supper is served at 5 p.m. VBS begins at 5:30 p.m. All are welcome! VBS is for preschool through middle school students. Dr. John Baumrucker teaches biblical archaeology using slides and artifacts for high school students and adults. Call to register at 526-3376.

June 27-August 17 (10 weeks)

- The Full Certificate course 9-12 a.m. Monday and Wednesday at the Church of the Good Shepherd in Cashiers. To register, please contact Clemson University at 864-656-2200 and ask for Kay James or register directly http://clemson.edu/Landscape.html. The course website is www.ccald.org. Contact Mary Palmer 828-743-0307.

June 27-July 9

- Acting and Theatre Games for children ages 6 to 9. instructed by professional actors Sara June and Jeff Treadwell. $175 per session. Call the ITC at 526-1687.

June 27-July 8

- Children in grades first through seventh can get an excellent introduction to all phases of theater through the 2005 Highlands Playhouse Summer Youth Classics. Taught by Julie Galasy, the classes will take students through “all it takes” to get a show from script to stage. The Summer Youth Classes, to be taught 9-11:30 a.m. Monday-Friday, the cost $150 per student. For additional information, contact Highlands Playhouse, 526-2695.

June 28-July 1

- "WOW! – a World of Wonder" day camp at the Highlands Nature Center. 10 am – noon daily. Have fun playing nature games, exploring various habitats, and searching for critters. Ages 4-7. $25 per child, pre-registration required. Call 526-2623.

- High Mountain Square Dancers, Caro-

June 27-July 8

David Derondo will speak on Europe and the War on Terrorism as part of CLE’s Wednesday Night Lecture Series. 7:30 p.m. at the Highlands Civic Center. It’s FREE.

July 2 & 3

- Live entertainment at SweeTreats, Bobby Sullivan.

July 9

- Grand opening of the Museum/Archives Bldg. at the Highlands Historical Village.

- Learn flower arranging for all occasions at the Episcopal Church of the Incarnation, Saturday from 10 a.m.-12:30p.m. Famous floral designers Linda Roeckelein, Co-ordinator of the Flower Guild for the National Cathedral in Washington, D.C., and Sue Morris, also of the Guild, will conduct the demonstration. Cost is $40 and includes a box lunch. For reservations call 526-2968.

July 11-13

- Acting and Scene Study for teenagers ages 14 to 18. The Instructor will be Max Vogler, a professional actor from New York and frequent guest star on NBC’s Law & Or- der. $175 per session. Scholarships available. Call the Instant Theatre Company at 526-1687.

July 14 & 15


July 15-17

- A "WALK in the Park" where actors portray people from Highlands’ past.

July 16

- The "Summer Colors Fine Art Show" will feature Shaun Moss’s Sparkle Magic Show at 7 p.m. The Children’s Craft Table is well supervised and will be available both Saturday and Sunday from 10-4. There will be crafts and also a chair to paint and decorate which will then be donated to the Arts Alliance of Highlands for their annual fundraising. For info on membership in the Art League or to inquire about the show, contact Mary Ruppert at 828-883-2560.

Highlands Playhouse

SUMMER SEASON 2005

Too Marvelous for Words

June 23rd - July 10th

sponsored by Luptol Real Estate and Construction, Inc.

A Fully Costumed, Choreographed and Orchestrated Cabaret Musical Review Built Around the Golden Musical Era of the 30’s, 40’s and 50’s.

Music by Harold Arlen, Hoagy Carmichael and Henry Mancini

Lyrics by Johnny Mercer

Directed by Robert Ray • Written by Joseph Litch

Grab all your friends and come out and ring along to the many Johnny Mercer tunes that you grew up with.

Performances are

Tuesday-Saturday at 8 p.m.
Sunday Matinees at 2 p.m.

During the season our Box Office is open

Monday-Saturday 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

362 Oak Street • Highlands, North Carolina

828-526-2695

www.highlandsplayhouse.org

Public Real Estate Auction

Sapphire Valley, Cashiers / Highlands area

Real Estate Features: 5 Bedrooms, 3 bath, Fully Furnished, Vaulted Ceilings, New Hardwood & Carpet Flooring, Stone Fireplace, eat-in Kitchen & Formal Dining room, Decks, Custom window treatments

Preview dates: June 25 from 2 p.m until 4 p.m

July 2nd & 8th from 2 p.m until 4 p.m

Terms: 10 % Buyer’s Premium, $50,000 deposit in Certified funds, Closing in 30 days, Broker participation

Terry Ferguson NCAL #7583
Waynesville Realty & Auction
2770 Old Balsam Rd. Waynesville, NC 28786

Phone: 828-456-6500
Fax: 828-456-6757
e-mail: waynesvilleauction@hotmail.com
Visit Our Website for more information: www.waynesvilleauction.com
**HIGHLANDS SERVICE DIRECTORY**

**Hall's Window Cleaning**
residential & commercial
369-9662
Insured

**Edwards Electrical Service**
216 Keener Road
Highlands, N.C. 28741
(828) 526-5147

**Highlands Storage**
Units Available
Call Ricky Bryson at
526-4925

**J & K Cleaning**
From laundry to dishes; from bedrooms to bathrooms; no job is too big or small. So give us a call!
526-4599
421-3931

**The Computer Man!**
But you can call me James

- **Computer Sales**
- **Mail Order Pricing**
- **New & Used**
- **Computer Services**
- **Troubleshooting & Repairs**
- **Installations & Consulting**

68 Highlands Plaza • 526-1796 FAX: 526-2936

**Runaround Sue Pet Sitting**
Your pet is guaranteed to receive lots of love & attention in the comfort and safety of its own home!
Sue Laferty 526-0844 staferty@aol.com

**Koenig Home Builders**
(828) 526-4953
www.koenighomebuilders.com

**YOUR CUSTOM “BUILDER OF CHOICE”**

**FURNITURE South, INC.**
CORNER HWY 64/106 PHILLIP SMITH
P.O. BOX 1418 828-526-2133
HIGHLANDS, NC 28741 FAX: 526-2135

**JAMES COLLISION, INC.**
65 Brooks Road Highlands, North Carolina 28741
Heather Stewart Larry W. Wooten
Owner Manager/Estimator
Free Estimates
Collision/Auto Body Repair Phone: (828) 526-1506
Restoration & Detailing Fax: (828) 526-9119

**Hunter Douglas**
window fashions
at
Highlands Custom Coverings
Carpets, Blinds, Shutters & Flooring
Mark Harris
271 Spring Street
Ph: 828-526-4226
Fax: 828-526-4255

**Edwards Electrical Service**
216 Keener Road
Highlands, N.C. 28741
(828) 526-5147

**FURNITURE South, INC.**
CORNER HWY 64/106 PHILLIP SMITH
P.O. BOX 1418 828-526-2133
HIGHLANDS, NC 28741 FAX: 526-2135

**JAMES COLLISION, INC.**
65 Brooks Road Highlands, North Carolina 28741
Heather Stewart Larry W. Wooten
Owner Manager/Estimator
Free Estimates
Collision/Auto Body Repair Phone: (828) 526-1506
Restoration & Detailing Fax: (828) 526-9119

**NBG BUILDERS, INC.**
Custom Homes • Remodeling • Additions
Unlimited License • Insured
Bud Neidrauer 526-4780 • 349-9354

**Kiln-dried FIREWOOD**
Enjoy your fire - Don’t fight it
828-342-4681 • 828-526-3724
Highlands • Cashiers • Scaly
- Delivered -
Bucky Meredith

**Service Directory ads – $17 per week. Call 526-0782**
HELP WANTED


IT SYSTEMS AND TECH SUPPORT – Needed in Highlands for the Old Edwards Hospitality Group. Ability to support end-users on a variety of applications, hardware, networks and communications platforms. Duties will include on-going support and installation of software, troubleshooting hardware and software issues, working w/system vendors to resolve issues. Knowledge of interfaces, telecommunication protocols, preferable. Strong project management and interpersonal skills a must. Great benefits. Some weekends. Salary range based on experience. Send resume to: P.O. Box 1499, Highlands, N.C. 28741, email to hr@oldedwardsinn.com EOE/Drug free workplace.


REAL ESTATE - RENTALS

VACATION HOME FOR RENT – Long range mountain view, spectacular sunsets, private road, large deck, sleeps 6. MBR-King, BR-Queen, Den-Queen Sleeper Sofa, fireplace. $1,200/week, Call Charles or Lorna at 526-3233.

RETAIL SPACE FOR RENT – Highlands Plaza. Call 864-630-0808.

REAL ESTATE - SALES

HOUSE FOR SALE – IN HIGHLANDS, YET PRIVATE! 0.6 acre borders creek, walk to Main St. 2-bed, 2-bath. $450,000. Call (828) 226-6123. 7/22

VIEW LOTS – 1.8 miles from downtown Highlands. Located on Eastern Continental Divide. Outstanding views, city water, septic approval, borders Highlands Country Club. $420,000-$480,000. Call 526-9383.

HOUSE FOR SALE – 275 Foreman Road. In-town on .87 acre-wooded lot. 2 bedrooms, 1 1/2 baths, study, large workshop/studio, stone fireplace, oak floors, hemlock paneling. Quality construction, mature landscaping, exterior stonework. Asking $425,000 (828) 342-2624. Broker/Owner 7/1

HOUSE FOR SALE – Lake Glenville/Cashiers. 2-bed, one-bath on 1/2 acre. Views, carports, studio. $130,000. 828-743-0723. 7/15

HOME FOR SALE NEARLY NEW – 3 bed, 2 bath–King Mountain Club, Atlanta side of Highlands. Immaculate. Large lot borders USFS – Creek on back of property. View of Scaly Mtn. 2-car garage, wood-burning fireplace, gas furnace – stove, large kitchen, wood floors, all on one level. Year-round caretaker, pool, tennis court, stocked trout pond. Asking $399,000. Easy to see Call Sandy at (TLC Assoc.) 828-526-5632.

CLASSIFIEDS PRICES
$5 for first 20 words, $2 for each 10-word increment. Email: highlandsed@verizon.net OR Call: 526-0782
Send check to Highlands’ Newspaper, P.O. Box 2703, Highlands, N.C. 28741 OR stop by our office at 265 Oak Street

DRUM LESSONS! Improve ability in timekeeping, music reading, soloing, whether it’s for school, church or just yourself. Call (828) 384-8693. 7/1


HIGHLANDS SHUTTLE SERVICE – Atlanta Airport Shuttle. Drive – Away • Auto Delivery. All Out-of-Town Trips Driving Services. Call 828-526-8076. 7/1

PROFESSIONAL MASSAGE IN YOUR HOME! – Scott Carter, LMTB/ NCTMB. 20+ years experience. Former pro-therapist at resorts in Orlando, New Orleans, and Las Vegas. Quality bodywork. (N.C.L. 4625) 828-787-2166. 7/1


CNAS – FIDELIA ECKERD LIVING CENTER AT HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HOSPITAL – Now hiring for all shifts. If you want to join a team whose focus is on excellent elder care with a low staffing ratio, above average wages, and shift differentials, call. Pre-employment substance screening. Mary Osmar, 828-526-1301.

MUSICIANS WANTED – Call Chairsa at The Pizza Place: 526-5660.

THE ULTIMATE BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY! – Hot product (powerful anti-aging cream). Big residual profits. Turn-key marketing system (International). Full details: www.unlimitedwealthalliance.com/rep/rsc 7/1

Evenings at The Spa

AT OLD EDWARDS INN

A Great Way To Spend Your Summer Nights

Receive 20% Off
All Treatments Scheduled from
6pm-8pm ~ Monday thru Friday
(excluding hair and nail services)

- Offer cannot be used with in conjunction with any other promotions, or gifts.
- Holidays and Saturdays are excluded.
- Limited time only. Promotion subject to change any time.
- Please notify us 24 hours prior to your scheduled treatment to avoid a 50% charge. Guests who cancel with less than 12 hours notice or fail to show for an appointment will be charged the full treatment price. A credit card number is required at the time of booking.

445 MAIN STREET, HIGHLANDS, NC 28741
PHONE 828.526.9887 FAX 828.787.2596
WWW.OLDEWARDSINN.COM
SPA@OLDEWARDSINN.COM

Highland Hiker Shoes
The Falls on Main
Highlands

Highland Hiker
Clothing - Footwear - Outdoor Equipment - Fly Fishing
Highland Hiker
601 Main St.
Highlands

Highland Hiker
at the Crossroads
Cashiers

Highland Hiker
at the Crossroads
Cashiers
Mountain music returns in July
– Proceeds to benefit Relay for Life –

Highlands School’s newly renovated gymnatorium on Pierson Drive will provide the setting for this year’s Mountain Music Concerts. On the five Saturday nights of July, popular local musicians will present the best in mountain music as they seek to preserve our mountain heritage; to entertain locals, seasonal residents, and summer visitors; and most importantly to raise awareness for the Relay For Life Event scheduled for August 26 at Highlands Rec Park.

Hardly a single individual escapes the effects of cancer, whether personally suffering from the dreaded disease, or watching while a family member, friend or neighbor endures the agony. Popular ABC News reporter Peter Jennings recently announced he is now undergoing treatment for lung cancer. Highlands bears its own share of those who have lost the fight and are battling the disease, or watching while a family member, friend or neighbor endures the agony. Popular ABC News reporter Peter Jennings recently announced he is now undergoing treatment for lung cancer.

It is for all of those affected by cancer in any way that numerous volunteers, including all of the musicians, are working hard this summer to collect funds for the American Cancer Society’s programs in research, services, education and advocacy.

Highlands School is the place to be for mountain music on Saturday nights in July. Each program begins at 7:30 p.m. and lasts until 9:00 p.m. While the concert is free, donations will be collected for Relay For Life.

Prior to the Mountain Music Concerts, a Poor Man’s Supper will be served from 6-7 p.m. for only $5 per plate. The first supper will be served on Saturday, July 2.

Popular Highlands School chef June Zachary will be assisting a Relay For Life Team in serving a tasty mountain meal, complete with hot cornbread and homemade dessert.

Reservations are not necessary however, a strict serving hour will be observed so all may attend the concert which begins at 7:30 p.m. in Highlands School gymnasium.

Upcoming Saturday night performances at Highlands School gymnasium are:
• Clearwater Country will be performing on July 2.
• Terry Tritt and Grass Roots Revue will be performing on July 9.
• Oliver Rice and Blue Ridge Mountain Band will be performing on July 16.
• Performers to be announced for the July 23 performance.
• The Dendy Family will be performing on July 30.

Art stacking up for B-L auction

The Fine Art Center & Bascom-Louise Gallery continue to gather art and wine for their annual Art & Wine Auction. The weekend event is scheduled for September 30 and October 1 and was a sold-out event last year.

To reserve tables, purchase tickets or for more information, call The Fine Art Center at 526-4949.

Two featured artists are woodturners — Robin Piscitelli lives in the Southern Appalachians of North Carolina and is a member of the esteemed Southern Highland Craft Guild.

John Rymer became interested in woodturning when he retired in 1988. In 1991, he and his wife, Beverly, built a home in Highlands and John bought a lathe and tools and took private lessons from Roger Jacobs, a nationally known woodturner.

Business After Hours at Chestnut

This month’s Chamber of Commerce Business After Hours was generously hosted by Chestnut Hill of Highlands on Tuesday, June 21. Bob Kieiltyka of The Christmas Tree was the winner of a floral arrangement and Jama Harrison of Regions Bank was the winner of a lunch for two at Chestnut Hill. Chamber members enjoyed an evening of wonderful food, live music and conversation in the Chestnut Hill clubhouse.

Submitted photo

... SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING from page 16

because I had accepted that God was in charge of it. I was full of joy and gratitude. In fact, I was engrossed in expressing love to everyone I met without any thought of whether or not it would be returned.

I said to myself, “I’m a good person. God loves me and cares for me. God wants me to prosper, to be healthy. God gives me everything I need to be happy, healthy, to be filled with joy and goodness in my life.”

If there is one thing I’ve learned in my lifetime as a Christian Scientist it is the quality of my thinking determines the quality of my life. As one feels and understands more of God’s control over them, their thinking will harmonize. So the body harmonizes, because the thinking is governing the body. The human body is human thought manifest. So as human thought is improved and spiritualized, the body, under its government, is improved as well.

And yes, I had to forgive. Forgiveness is about learning to love more. It is getting to a more God-centered life, rather than a self-centered life, looking for the good in others and realizing the most important thing in life is to love. Not to get our way or to get somebody else to do what we want them to do, but to just live a life of love. As we commit ourselves to that ideal, we will find it easier to love, we will love more successfully, and we’ll feel a whole lot better.

The only thing harmful about the past are the thoughts we hold today.
Beautiful Home in Highlands Springs and Falls. The perfect home located only a short distance from town in the beautiful Highlands Springs and Falls development. This charming 3 Bed, 2 Bath home is nestled on a mature landscaped lot with a small stream in back. Newly renovated, this home is in tip top shape, from the wood siding, roof, stone fireplace, and fresh paint to the new flooring throughout, updated appliances, and new bathroom and kitchen counter tops. Offered at $649,500 MLS# 56041 View a Visual Tour at www.highlandsproperties.com Tour# 370423

Meadows Mt. Realty
Big View & Waterfront
Highlands # 828-526-1717
Print-Out This Map @
www.highlandsinfo.com
Copyrighted Map 2005

Lake Glenville
Dillsboro 20 Miles
Hwy 441
Franklin
Lowe’s
Whistle Stop
Ruby Cinema
Cullasaja Falls
Get On The Map
Call 828-526-0782
1/4 Million Copies/Yr

Dillsboro 35 Miles
From Highlands
Smoky Mt Railway
Dillsboro Rafting
Cabe Realty
Hwy 441
Dillard, GA
Highlands 14 Miles

Scaly Mtn Ski Area
Sky Valley
Hwy 28s

Hwy 64w & 28n
Hwy 107
Bartram Trail
Chinquapin Mt Trail

2 - Buyer’s Real Estate Hwy 107s
3 - Parks Properties Hwy 64e
4 - Cashiers Resort Rentals 107n
5 - Mountain Vacation Rentals
6 - America’s Home Place
7 - Century 21 Mountain Lifestyles

Hwy 106
Hwy 109
Giant Poplar

Hwy 107
Hwy 64
Clyffside Lake
Bridal Veil

Hwy 107n
Hwy 108
Dry Falls
Blair Realty
Good Year

Bust Your Butt Falls
Cullasaja Falls
Giant Poplar

Hwy 107n
Hwy 107
Glen Falls
Chinquapin Mt Trail

Hwy 64e
Hwy 64
Sliding Rock Trail
Whitewater Falls

Whitewater Falls
Whispering Pines

Lake Glenville
Lake Toxaway
Silver Run Falls

BP Gas & Stores
Maps & Information
24 / 7 - Gas Pumps

Highlands & Cashiers
Realty Buyer’s Guides
www.highlandsinfo.com
SENT TO YOU FREE
Over 135,000 People On
Our Website This Year