

Crossroads Chronicle

VILLAGE VOICES

Page 4A

Wednesday, February 16, 2011

Quotable

"Think of shopping locally as dropping a tiny pebble in water—there is a huge ripple effect that indirectly impacts many people in the community."
— Jackson County Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Julie Spiro on shopping locally.

Participate in Cashiers Outside

Each year since 2004, the Crossroads Chronicle morphs the front of its B section into something called "Cashiers Outside," from about Memorial Day through the end of leaf season, generally around Halloween. This time frame is known as "the season" up here, which for Cashiers Outside purposes means, well, it's time to get outdoors!

Cashiers Outside was started in 2004 via collaboration between the Chronicle and William McKee, a local outdoor enthusiast who wanted the local paper to feature the many wonderful outdoor attractions our area has to offer.

Over the past seven years, as you can imagine, Cashiers Outside has included more than its fair share of stories on the obvious attractions and activities, including Panthertown Valley, Whiteside Mountain, the Village Green, countless festivals, bicycling, fishing, boating, skiing, Lake Glenville, Sapphire Valley, Tuckasegee, hiking, camping, golfing, waterfalls, rivers, kayaking, and so forth.

But what makes Cashiers Outside so appealing is the unique perspective of you—our readers. No two people see Whiteside Mountain the same way. No two authors write about bicycling from the same perspective.

And it's not been restricted to just local subjects. If a local person does something outdoors in other areas, including other countries, we've published those types of stories as well.

"Local" and "outdoors" are the two keys to a good Cashiers Outside story.

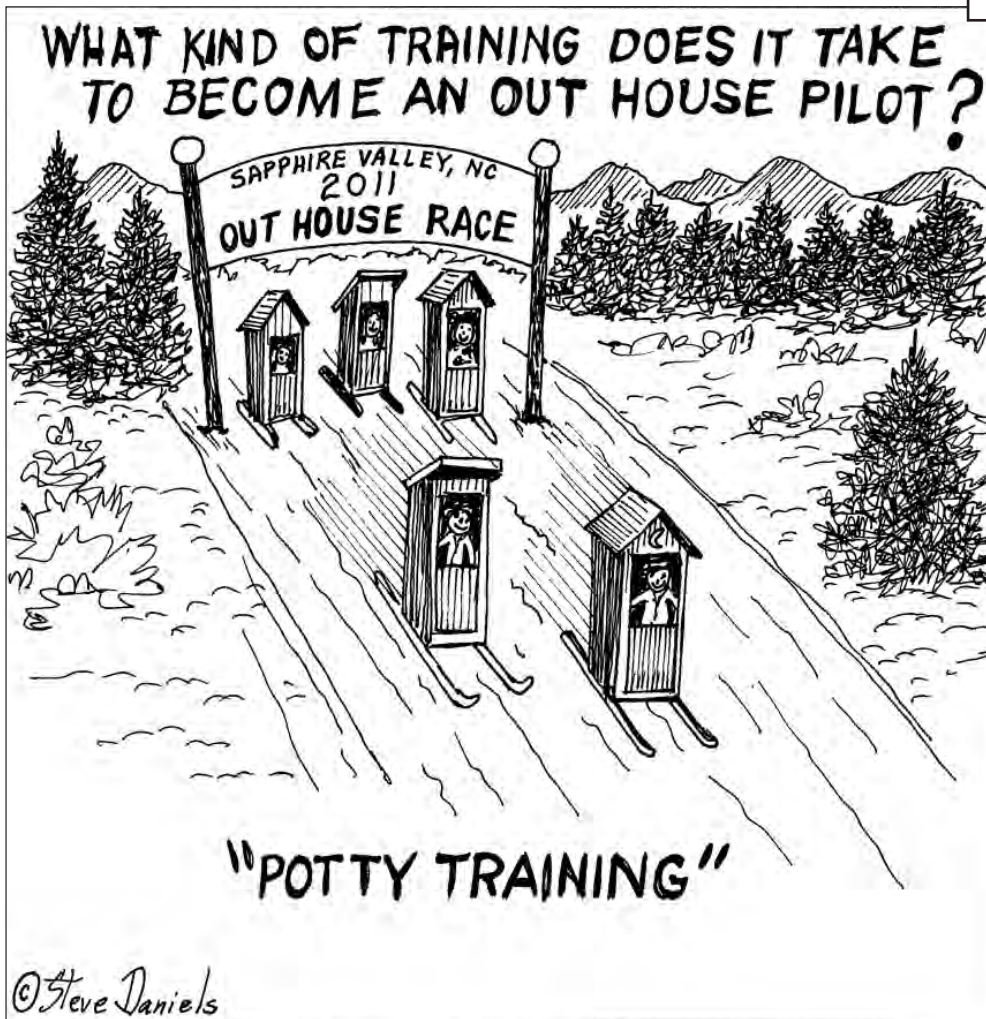
In recent years however, our local participation has sort of faded. Chronicle staffers are always happy to write about the many things to do outside in the area, but who wants to read what a journalist thinks about the Tuckasegee River? You guys read our stuff enough as it is.

It's often said that the editorial page is among the most read pages in any newspaper. Do you know why? Because it often contains local opinions, feelings and thoughts. It's a new perspective, filled with, our village voices. That's why Cashiers Outside is so special.

The Chronicle has received several awards for the Cashiers Outside idea and countless compliments on the premise of the page. That's why it's important to round up you guys, the readers, and your ideas for Cashiers Outside in 2011.

We hope to kick-off Cashiers Outside the issue before Memorial Day weekend. If you've got an idea for a Cashiers Outside article, contact us. All you need is a good outdoor story idea, have a local angle, take about five high quality, in focus, large format photos, and write a story about 500 words in length.

You can e-mail your ideas to Chronicle Editor Kelly Donaldson at news@crossroadschronicle.com, or call him at (828) 743-5101, by the deadline on Friday, April 29. We look forward to hearing from you and look forward to warmer days so we can all get outdoors around Cashiers!



DAVID JOY
— STAFF WRITER —

Reminiscing through musty books

When my girlfriend Sara said she needed to go to Asheville for art supplies, I immediately sank back into myself, just the thought of a trip to Asheville bubbling up an endless loathing.

I'd never liked the town. Rather than perpendicular roads along a grid like most cities, Asheville has always been this spiraling labyrinth of asphalted chaos. I've always imagined the city planner on hallucinogens drawing squiggles and loopy-loops upon a giant piece of graphing paper. With nowhere else to turn, the city manager just shook his head and motioned the road rollers onward.

"You've got a Garmin now," Sara had said. "You won't get lost."

But as the new GPS unit instructed me to turn up the concrete embankment under an interstate bridge I suddenly knew that not even satellites and global positioning could make sense out of the jabberwocky that is, and has always been, Asheville.

Sara and I had taken a buddy of mine, Nick, who'd grown up outside of D.C. and spent most of the last decade playing guitar gigs in Los Angeles. Needless to say, Nick was pretty accustomed to progressive lifestyles and the lunacy of modern pop culture. Yet, as we stood outside waiting on Sara to finish up in the art supply store, I could tell that even he wasn't used to the cacophony of three vagabond gypsies orchestrating some musical fiasco with kazoo, accordion, and sitar.

My feelings toward that city can best be summed up by one of my inevitable rants as we walked down the street and a group of pigeons waddled along in front of our encroaching footsteps: "Something's just not right about a place where birds don't fly away when you walk towards them."

Nonetheless, I was excited about one part of the trip. Nick's whole reason for tagging along was to visit a bookstore that one of his friend's raved over. Being the absolute book fiend that I am, I figured no day is a bad day that ends in a bookstore. So we marched on.

As we walked into the Captain's Bookshelf, a small dive off of Page Avenue in downtown, I instantly realized that this was not the run-of-the-mill rotating rack of popular fiction. No. Leave the Clancy and Grisham at the door, or better yet burn the drivell. Glass cases, locked

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Important questions to think about in 2011

Dear Editor,

Why has the price of corn gone up? According to an article in the Hendersonville Tribune on Feb 16 by Larry Kudlow, since 2001 the price of corn has gone up in by 88 percent.

The reason for the price increase is due to the fact that corn is used to make ethanol. By all counts ethanol is not a very good fuel and it cost more to make than it is worth so it has to be subsidized. The subsidy is 45 cents per gallon. Ethanol made from sugar cane is a much better product.

We import some ethanol from Brazil but it has a 50-cent a gallon tariff on it to protect our corn base product. Corn has been a staple food source for centuries to feed people. In Mexico for example, corn is a major food source.

Now many people there cannot afford to buy it because of the price.

In Egypt the price of corn caused some of the problems there because of its price. The rest of South Africa depends on corn as well for a major food source and affects the lives of the people from that region.

The question is this, should we find another source for making ethanol and reduce the use of corn?

The price of corn has caused many farmers to grow more corn and produce less wheat. Wheat now has gone up in price by 114 percent. The price

of wheat affects everyone in the world. Poorer people suffer a lot more from the price of corn and wheat than others do. Here is an easy question to answer for most people. Since gasoline costs more than \$3 a gallon, should we start drilling for our own oil and gas and quit or reduce using corn to make the ethanol product?

By depending on foreign oil from our enemies in the Middle East, we provide them with the cash to fund terrorism around the world.

Our young men and women are the ones who end up fighting these terrorists and losing their lives. We the taxpayers end up paying to fight that war.

The question is, "Are we just plain stupid?" Using more of our own oil in the USA and Alaska could help in reducing the price of oil and put a lot of laid off oil workers back to work. Does this not make sense?

Does anyone think this will happen in the Obama administration?

Last question, who are those people that stop us from exploring for our own oil?

Jim Mueller
Glenville, N.C.

Star-Spangled Bungle

Dear Editor,

I'm getting disgusted with the recent screeching, vapid interpretations of The Star-Spangled Banner, our national anthem, at sporting events.

This year's Super Bowl rendition took the proverbial cake and I'm not just

talking about this latest pop star's mangling of the lyrics. Our national anthem is reverential and almost sacred to me. Like hundreds of millions of American, I've sung it since kindergarten, standing at attention, on ship and on shore, as it is supposed to be sung, without some silly irreverent styling.

Vietnam POW's hummed it in their cells on our patriotic holidays and got beaten senseless for it. Their acts and the song itself is about courage and freedom, and it's about a flag that epitomizes both.

I think perhaps too many Americans were never taught what that flag and our anthem really stands for. They are not merely tokens of a pop culture which seems oddly devoid of the very notion of patriotism as we were founded.

The national anthem has been sung over every American battlefield for 200 years.

It is about the song. It is not about the singer's ego. It's not a Broadway hit and is most definitely not pop or soul.

There is some art one simply doesn't mess with. Our precious anthem has a wonderful melody with awe-inspiring lyrics.

It should be rendered with courtesy, dignity and pride, perhaps by one of the great uniformed tenors of our Armed Forces' choruses who would lend to it the decorum it deserves.

I will never again subject myself to listening to our national anthem being demeaned in this manner.

Jack Matthews
Lake Toxaway, N.C.

LETTERS

POLICY

We welcome letters from our readers. We urge brevity, both for the sake of effectiveness and the demands of space; letters should be no longer than 500 words. All letters are subject to the same editing for clarity applied to our staff contributions. We will not publish anonymous letters; letters praising or criticizing businesses by name; letters making personal attacks or personally hurtful statements; endorsements of or letters from political candidates; or copies of letters to other publications. Because we want to provide access to a variety of viewpoints, each letter writer will be limited to one letter every four weeks. All letters should be signed, and writers should enclose their addresses and daytime phone numbers. Addresses and phone numbers will not be published but will be used to verify letters. We reserve the right not to print any letter.

Crossroads Chronicle

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OUR MISSION

The *Crossroads Chronicle* is published with pride for the people of southern Jackson County and adjoining counties by Community Newspapers, Inc., of Athens, Ga. We believe that strong newspapers build strong communities: "Newspapers get things done!" Our primary goal is to publish distinguished and profitable community-oriented newspapers. This mission will be accomplished through the teamwork of professionals dedicated to truth, integrity, loyalty, quality and hard work.

Tom Wood, chairman Dink NeSmith, president
Rachel Hoskins, regional publisher

OUR STAFF

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Jackson, Macon counties: \$22 per year,
\$17.50 per half year.
Seasonal: \$30 per year; \$24 per half year.
Out of state: \$39 per year; \$31 per half year

DEADLINES

The news deadline is Friday at 4 p.m. The classified ad deadline is at 4 p.m. on Friday. The "Super Seven" deadline is at noon on Friday. The display advertising deadline is 4 p.m. on Friday. Call (828) 743-5101; fax (828) 743-4173.

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Please send address changes to:
Crossroads Chronicle, P.O. Box 1040, Cashiers, N.C. 28717.
USPS 666-810(828) 743-5101; fax (828) 743-4173.

Online Poll

Do you think Jackson County should completely reevaluate its Revolving Loan Program?

Cast your vote!

Log on to www.crossroadschronicle.com

Do you think the Super Bowl should be moved from Sunday to Saturday?

Yes: 54 %, No: 46 %

26 total votes

WEATHER

CASHIERS WEATHER FORECAST

Courtesy of Justin Caudell and Cashiers Weather Service
For up-to-date and historical weather, visit www.cashiersforecast.com

Last week's rainfall: 0.00 inches Year-to-date rainfall: 7.27 inches

| WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | | |
| Partly cloudy skies during the day and night. Highs around 53 and lows around 34. | Partly cloudy skies during the day and night. Highs around 58 and lows around 39. | Partly cloudy skies during the day and night. Highs around 63 and lows around 39. | Partly cloudy skies during the day and night. Highs around 51 and lows around 33. |
| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | |
| | | | |
| Partly cloudy skies during the day and night. Highs around 49 and lows around 37. | Showers possible during the day and night. Highs around 52 and lows around 36. | Showers possible during the day and night. Highs around 51 and lows around 37. | |

Last Week's Weather

Observed at Cashiers Area Weather Center – 3,486 feet

| Date | High | Low | Precipitation |
|-------------|------|------|---------------|
| February 8 | 36°F | 22°F | 0.00" |
| February 9 | 35°F | 18°F | 0.00" |
| February 10 | 38°F | 23°F | .75" Snow |
| February 11 | 41°F | 19°F | 0.00" |
| February 12 | 44°F | 25°F | 0.00" |
| February 13 | 54°F | 30°F | 0.00" |
| February 14 | 59°F | 40°F | 0.00" |

Two arrested for breaking, entering

From staff reports

The Jackson County Sheriff's Office (JCSO) recently arrested two men after receiving a report regarding a breaking and entering that occurred on Skyland Dr., near Sylva.

Deputies responded to that area around 11 p.m., on Sunday, Jan. 30, in response to a call of two individuals breaking into a business. When officers arrived they located a vehicle that was believed to belong to the suspects but the suspects had fled the area on foot. Officers searched the area and maintained a watch over the area until the following day when the suspects were located and apprehended.

Those arrested are:

Ryan Kendall Creasman, 20, listing an Alarka Road address in Bryson City, was arrested and charged with five counts of felony breaking and entering, five counts of felony larceny, and one count of resisting a public officer. He is currently being held at the Jackson County Detention Center under a \$29,000 bond.

William Michael Creasman, 31, listing an Alarka Rd., address in



R. Creasman

Bryson City, was arrested and charged with five counts of felony breaking and entering, five counts of felony larceny, and one count of resisting a public officer. He is currently being held at the Jackson County Detention Center under a \$28,000 bond.

The Jackson County Sheriff's Office was assisted by the Sylva Police Department and the N.C. Highway Patrol with initial search for the suspects.



W. Creasman

JOY: Trip to Asheville produces rare find in bookstore

from Page 1A

like treasure chests, held leather bound, gilded, first editions of books over 200-years-old.

Even Sara was excited. Her eyes settled on a first edition of Lewis Carroll's "Alice in Wonderland." I thought it was pretty cool, but I was more interested in the 20-volume, black Easton leather, original gilt, complete works of Hemingway. It wasn't that the set was that old, but it was gorgeous, \$1,250 beautiful.

Then I saw it in a case along the far wall, the letters E-M-E-R-S-O-N spelled out in fading gilt across a thick leather binding. I felt my heart skip a couple of beats, and no matter how much it cost, I had to have the proprietor show it to me. I imagined it too expensive for my grubby fingers to hold, so I just asked her if I could smell it.

Now, whereas I imagined this was probably the absolute strangest request she'd ever heard, a smile spread across her face and she handed it to me. I could see how happy it

made her to look at someone young who still appreciated books so much. I cracked the leather binding and smelled the musty perfume of yellowed pages. That smell sent me back to days spent in the basement of Hunter Library in graduate school. I couldn't explain it, but that smell simply made me smile.

The dark navy leather of an 1883 Riverside collected essays of Ralph Waldo Emerson held me speechless. The edition was the first following his death in 1882. His words, some 120 years later the first time I read them, had changed my life.

"It's really not that much," the proprietor said.

"Not much" is subjective," I responded. "How much is not much."

"\$100," she said.

I instantly started adding figures in my head, wondering how much it would hurt the bank account, wondering if it was really worth a day's pay, wondering if the next two weeks would be fried Bologna dinners and cold hot

dog lunches.

"I'll take it," Sara said, the words pouring over me from behind.

I didn't know what to say. Sara told me it was a late Christmas present, since she'd had no money to buy me anything in December. I still haven't found the right words to thank her.

The other night after a day in the office, I walked into my living room and grabbed that book from the shelf. I opened to my favorite passage in an essay titled, "Experience." I'd read it a thousand times before. I'd read it the day my grandmother died. But this day I just smelled it and wondered how many eyes had scanned across that page in the 128 years since it shot from the press, how many lives were changed by those blots of ink.

That's the thing about the printed word that drives me to it. There is something magical about tiny lateral splotches of ink across a page that somehow hold the power to keep us motionless,

JCSO makes burglary arrests

From staff reports

The Jackson County Sheriff's Office (JCSO) arrested four persons on Saturday evening, Jan. 22 after an investigation into a residential burglary.

Three persons were apprehended shortly after they had allegedly broken into a residence in the Barker's Creek community. Deputies received a call that a burglary had just occurred and responded to the area. A description of the vehicle was given and officers were able to locate that vehicle in the area of the crime. The suspects were stopped leaving the area and the stolen items were discovered in the vehicle.

Those arrested are:

Anita Kaye Blythe Vestal, 34, listing a Cooper's Creek Address in Bryson City, was charged with one count of felony conspiracy and one count of felony possession of stolen property. She was released after her bond was unsecured in court.

Dylan Keith Wahnetah, 24, listing a Tom McCoy Rd., address in Cherokee, was charged with one count of felony breaking and entering, one count of felony larceny and one count of felony possession of stolen property. He is still being detained at the Jackson County Detention Center under a \$5,000 bond.



Vestal



Wahnetah

tion Center under a \$5,000 bond.

Zachary Gale Rattler, 26, listing a Catoaster Johnson Road address in Cherokee, was charged with one count of felony breaking and entering, one count of felony larceny and one count of felony possession of stolen property. He is being detained at the Jackson County Detention Center under a \$5,000 bond.

A subsequent investigation into the residence that had been burglarized was also conducted and an occupant of that residence was arrested for crimes associated with the discovery



Rattler

of counterfeit money.

Danny William Ratliff, 37, listing a Lazy Lane address in Whittier, was arrested and charged with one count of felony forgery of instrument, five counts felony possession of counterfeit money, one count of felony possession with intent to sell/deliver methamphetamine, one count of felony maintaining a dwelling for the use of controlled substances and one count of possession of drug paraphernalia.

He is currently being detained at the Jackson County Detention Center under a \$2,500 (lowered in court from \$15,000) bond.



Ratliff

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