

Highlands' Newspaper

FREE

Volume 3, Number 48

Locally Owned & Operated

Friday, Dec. 2, 2005

Dec. 2

• HS Homecoming Basketball at home against Walhalla. Girls 6:30 p.m., Boys, 8 p.m.

• Highlands PTO and Pescado's will host a fundraising dinner the evening of the home basketball games against Walhalla. Dinner will be from 5:30 until 7:30 in the cafeteria.

Dec. 3

• Caroling at 2 p.m. in the sanctuary of the First Presbyterian Church on Main Street with Angie Jenkins on the Wicks Pipe Organ.

• On Saturday there will be an "Open House" at the Highlands Historical Village on N. Fourth street next door to the Rec Park from noon to 4 p.m. On exhibit are many artifacts from the early days of Highlands. It's free.

• Highlands United Methodist Youth are selling Christmas wreaths available at the church. Wreaths are 24-inch diameter and crafted from locally grown fraser fir, decorated with pine cones and a bow. Place your order in advance. Call 526-3376.

• Annual Highlands Christmas Parade on Main Street, 11 a.m.

• A Holiday Gift Show & Sale Saturday, from noon-6 p.m. at the Highlands Conference Center. Featuring artists who have exhibited at the Bascom-Louise.

• Pumpkin Cream Cheese Roll-ups, pecans, peanuts, jellies, jams and other baked goods FOR SALE, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the corner of Second and Main streets between the Masonic Lodge and HUMC and on the corner of Fifth & Main streets near the Presbyterian Church. Proceeds fund Highlands Chapter of the Eastern Star charitable programs.

Dec. 6

• HS Basketball at home against Franklin. Girls 6:30 p.m., Boys, 8 p.m.

• HIARPT's Dialogue at Civic Center, 10-11:30 a.m. Topic: Tom Friedman's *The World is Flat*.

Dec. 8

• This annual event of the Christmas season has been the Highlands Community Players' gift to the community for the past 10 years. On Thursday evening at 7 p.m. in the Martin-Lipscomb Performing Arts Center, HCP actors will again present a program of readings appropriate to the holiday season, some humorous, some serious and informative, some heart-warming and sentimental—all entertaining—interspersed with live music by community performers. It's free.

FRI	SAT	SUN
47-28°F	48-36°F	49-34°F

Thanksgiving sales strong in town

Forecasters say retail sales the week-end after Thanksgiving are an indicator of forthcoming winter business.

If that's the case, then the future — at least the near future — will be bright for Highlands businesses.

"It was our best weekend ever," said

Michelle Hubbell owner of The Toy Store. "The people were pleasant and the weather was great, too." Hubbell, in business since 1993, said not only was the week-end great, "the previous two weeks were awesome as well."

•See SALES page 9

Christmas Parade an annual tradition in Highlands



The Christmas Tree on the Hill and the Highlands Chamber of Commerce will cosponsor the Olde Mountain Christmas Parade on Saturday, Dec. 3 at 11 a.m. The parade will begin at 6th Street and conclude at Main and 2nd streets. Grand Marshalls for this year's parade will be the Fighting Highlanders, the varsity boys soccer team from Highlands School who advanced to the final four of the state championship. The other special guest is of course Santa Claus. Participants are asked to meet at the school area by 10 a.m. "We think this will be the biggest parade ever," said Chair Cynthia Dendy of First Citizens Bank. "The parade should last about an hour." Following the parade at noon, there is a Holiday Gift Show & Sale sponsored by the Highlands Plateau Craftsmen from noon to 6 p.m. at the Conference Center, and Christmas caroling in the First Presbyterian Church sanctuary beginning at 2 p.m.

Photo by Jim Lewicki

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With ETJ comes new regulations

With the adoption of Extra Territorial Jurisdiction, the Town must now reconfigure both its Planning and Zoning boards.

State Statutes stipulate that both boards include representation from the ETJ area. Now the Town must decide if it wants to expand each board to nine members — two from the new ETJ area — or ask two people to step down so two new people can be appointed to keep the number to seven.

The Zoning Board has five regular members and two alternates. The Planning Board has seven members, two of which are from outside the town limits. "But the Town did that on its own volition back in the mid-90s. It wasn't mandated," said Town Planner Larry Gantenbein.

Currently, Planning Board member King Young resides in the ETJ area, but the Town doesn't know if his seat will

•See ETJ page 6

Dec. 7 TB agenda is packed tight

The Dec. 7 Town Board meeting marks the day Highlands says good-bye to Mayor Buck Trott and hello to Mayor Don Mullen.

Besides that, there is a public hearing as well as several weighty issues which have been tossed between boards for some time.

Some of the River Walk subdivision plan hinges on annexation into the Town of Highlands. That is one of the two issues set for public hearing on Wednesday. The other is to amend the zoning ordinance to accommodate parking for Main Street churches. The board will vote on both issues later in the meeting.

During the report session of the

•See AGENDA page 5

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• FORUM •

Will the real Highlander please stand up

The outcome of the Nov. 16 public hearing on Extra Territorial Jurisdiction has been haunting me for several reasons.

First, the Town Board's decision to exempt the Cullasaja Club and Highlands Falls Country Club from ETJ inclusion was in my opinion, a big mistake.

Yes, the clubs already have building and land use ordinances in place, but deleting them from the original plan gave the impression that the opinions of citizens living behind the gates of those clubs mattered more than the opinions of citizens in other communities outside the town limits. There are other places in the ETJ area which also have strict covenants but to them commissioners said "Good, then you won't even notice ours."

Second, I thought the behavior of those speaking against ETJ was disrespectful. People have told me since "That's the way those hearings go," and "That's how those people act." What's that supposed to mean?

Many of those who spoke against ETJ spoke of the freedoms fought for by our forefathers. Freedom of speech is one of the rights our forefathers fought for but it was obviously not one of the freedoms the group against ETJ deemed important when people at the meeting spoke for ETJ. They were only concerned with property rights. The booing of those with different opinions was rude.

Third, fresh lines have been drawn in the sand demarcating sides and that's disturbing.

There has long been a "Them vs. Us" attitude in Highlands. It's either, "The County vs. Highlands," or "Real Highlanders vs. Newcomers" or "Year-rounders vs. Seasonal Homeowners." Aunt Mett Brooks and Irene James said in their day there was a "Town Kids vs. Country Kids" thing going on and that's one reason they opted to live with their mom's sister in Cashiers and attend school there for a while.

The Nov. 16 ETJ ruling has exasperated the situation.

For a brief time, commissioners did what would seem impossible — they united people outside the gates with those inside the gates. Neither side wants to have anything to do with Highlands, not if Highlands is going to tell them what to do with their property or levy taxes on them should an-

nexation be in the cards.

The ETJ issue even managed to bring families together whose common thread is land stakes going back four generations and various branches on a prolific family tree. They might not hang out on Friday and Saturday nights, but they come together for funerals, weddings and public hearings concerning property rights.

Many of the people against ETJ whose ancestors have been on the plateau for generations consider themselves to be the Real Highlanders — even though they made conscious decisions not to live within the town limits.



Kim Lewicki

They resent the Town Board because it includes only one "local," but since they don't live in the town limits, they can't do anything about that. To change anything they'd have to vote, but voting privileges can only be granted with annexation and they definitely don't want that.

However, there are people who live in the ETJ area who have since told me they would have preferred annexation over ETJ because then they'd have a say via voting. And lately there are lots of developers who petition to be annexed so they can tap into the town's infrastructure. Adhering to land use regulations doesn't bother them because they've had to deal with that stuff elsewhere. Go figure.

So who are Highlanders? The people who send their kids to Highlands School, frequent the grocery stores, buy gas in gas stations, use the Highlands Post Office, the Hudson Library, pay taxes, attend churches in town? Who knows? The lines are blurry now.

I know that people who live outside the town limits depend on the town for one thing or another. Likewise, people in town depend on businesses outside the town limits.

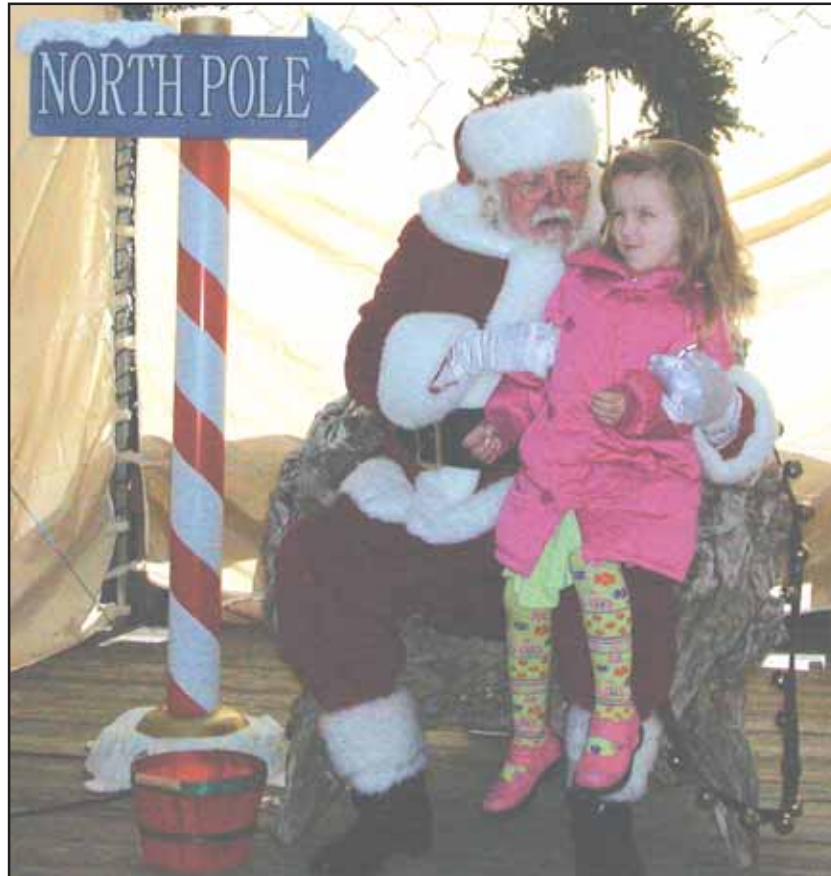
No one lives in isolated hollers anymore and those who live in gated clubs aren't deep in the wilderness.

Communities and societies are dependent by nature. Generations of people in Horse Cove, Clear Creek, Blue Valley and Shortoff have in years past and now turned to Highlands as either a recipient of goods grown on their farms, as a place of employment, a place to purchase dry goods even a place to send their kids to school. And the same goes for those in country clubs now.

•See FORUM page 8



Santa's set up his tent at Town Square



Santa started hearing Christmas wishes Friday, Nov. 25 and will continue every Saturday until Christmas at Town Square on Main Street. Hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Photo by Jim Lewicki

• OBITUARIES •

Mary Alice Chalker

Mary Alice Chalker, age 92, of Highlands, N.C., died Saturday, November 26, 2005, at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. She was a native of Midland, Maryland, a daughter of the late James A. and Edna Goodale Stevens.

She was married to the late Selwyn Chalker, Jr. She taught school at Orange Park Elementary School in Florida. She worked as Director of Education at St. Catherine Episcopal Church in Jacksonville, FL. She was a volunteer for the Highlands Chamber of Commerce.

She is survived by a son, Selwyn Chalker, III, of Highlands, NC; a grandson, Selwyn Chalker, IV and his wife Andrea of Highlands; three great-grandchildren also survive.

Memorial services were held Monday, November 28 at 11 a.m. in the Episcopal Church of the Incarnation in Highlands, with Father Mike Jones officiating.

Memorials may be made to the Episcopal Church of the Incarnation, PO Box 729, Highlands, NC 28741 for Haiti Mission.

Bryant Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Madison M. (Ken) Chastain

Madison M. (Ken) Chastain, 90, Highlands, N.C., died Monday, November 28, 2005 at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. He was a native of Macon County, the son of the late Ezekial F. and Martha Picklesimer Chastain. He was married to Marie McCall Chastain who died in 2002. He was a retired caretaker for the VZ-TOP Home Owners Association. He was a devout Christian, loving father & grandfather and was the pillar of the community. He was a member of the Clear Creek Baptist Church for over 60 years where he was a former choir member.

He is survived by his daughter, Linda Vinson and her husband, Buster of Highlands, two sisters, Mozelle Burrell of Highlands and Etta Nielsen of New Jersey; a grandson, Kevin Vinson and his wife Monica; a granddaughter, Kelly Vinson Arnold and her husband, Russell; three great-grandchildren, Ryan and Dylan Vinson and Darius Arnold. Several nieces and nephews also survive. He was preceded in death by four brothers and three sisters.

Funeral services were held Thursday, December 1 at 2 p.m. at Clear Creek Baptist Church with Dr. Dan Robinson and Rev. Walter Wilson officiating. Burial was in the Clear Creek Baptist Church Cemetery. Den Chastain, David Chastain, Charlie Hicks, Gary Wilson, Eric Chastain, Bert McCall, Craig McCall, Jerry Crisp and Russell Arnold will serve as pallbearers. Clarence Wilson Neville Wilson, Wade Wilson, Darius Arnold and Dr. David Wheeler served as honorary pallbearers.

Bryant Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

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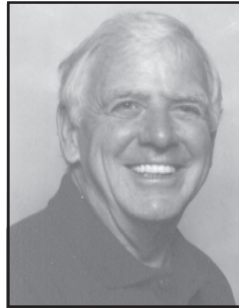


• LAUGHING AT LIFE •

My special friend 'Kitty Hawk'

Our family once owned a 15-pound dachshund who thought it's only mission in life was to hunt down and kill everything it could get into her mouth. After destroying several thousand lizards, dozens of rabbits, opossums and cute little chipmunks, she was able to sneak into my daughter's bedroom, break open a bird cage and attack her parakeet.

My daughter grieved for weeks. We had a formal funeral in the back yard, complete with soft music, a headstone and flowers. I did the singing, if you can imagine. After waiting a respectful amount of time, I headed for the pet store to buy her another bird. After looking at all the ho-hum parakeets on



Fred Wooldridge

display, I spotted this magnificent pearl colored cockatiel in the back of the store.

I thought, "Bigger is better. My daughter will be thrilled with this beauty." I presented her with the bird but she was not impressed, especially after it bit her several times. In fact, no one in the family liked this bird, including me. The

store wouldn't take it back, so guess what? I got stuck with it. To this day, I am not quite sure why I named her Kitty Hawk.

Mind you, I like birds a lot. But I like the kind that fly wild and poop in the woods, not in a cage, or on my shirt.....or worse, on my sandwich. (Don't ask!) After Kitty Hawk had lived

with us Oops, I mean me, for about a year, I could take no more. I offered it to all my friends who laughed at me. Then, I heard about the "bird lady." Supposedly she would adopt any bird who needed a home.

I made the call. "How ode is dis bird?" she asked with a heavy German accent. "Very young," I responded, "I've only had her a year." "Dis bird comes mit cage?" she asked. "Ya, Ya." "Bring da bird mit cage, food and ten dollars. Ve'll see."

It was a modest home way out in the western part of Broward County, Florida. The house was spotless inside because there was not a bird in sight. I began to wonder. Then she escorted Kitty Hawk and me through her home and out into the backyard. I was shocked.

It was immense and set up like a tropical paradise. Two oversized Tiki huts sat just beyond the pool and, at first glance, I would guess I was looking at over a hundred birds and not one of them in a cage. Beyond her yard, nothing but dense vegetation. There were birds at the wet bar, birds basking by the pool, birds in the bird bath. Bird

poop was everywhere.

"Vot is dis Kitty Hawk name? Vot is dat mean?" Embarrassed a little, I said. "Ha, oh that, it was my daughter's idea. You know how kids are... why don't any of these birds fly away?"

The bird lady left for just a moment and returned with one glove and a pair of scissors. She reached in the cage and Kitty Hawk chomped down hard on the glove. Unfazed, she pulled the bird from the cage and whacked away at her wings.

Kitty Hawk was just beginning to get comfortable with her clipped status and surroundings when Tony arrived, a grayer version of Kitty Hawk. He took to her immediately and began strutting his stuff in front of her, kind of like our politicians do right before elections. My baby girl would have nothing to do with Tony. Anyway, I decided, in spite of Tony, this was a good place. Kitty Hawk would live with the bird lady.

About six months later I called her to check on Kitty Hawk. By that time she had three children, all from different fathers, claimed the bird lady so obviously Kitty Hawk had made her way in the world and was doing just fine.

... ON THE VERANDAH

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County's 'High Impact Ordinance' explained

At the Nov. 16 extra territorial jurisdiction public hearing, questions about the county's attempt at zoning came up – specifically referring to its recently adopted High Impact Land Use Ordinance.

Commissioner Alan Marsh said one of the reasons he was for ETJ was because it's been difficult to get land use stipulations hammered out in the county.

By Highlands' standards it doesn't sound like much but the county now has an ordinance regulating high-impact land uses in Macon County.

Over the years, attempts at a comprehensive land use ordinance for the county was reduced to just "high-impact" uses because the county's planning board and its ad hoc committees ran into the "Citizens Against Zoning" wall.

But finally, 22 months and 1,500 manhours later an ordinance was drafted and accepted by the Macon County Commissioners.

"We tried to use a common sense approach to this," said Ronnie Beale, head of the ordinance committee. "Obviously some people wanted more in the ordinance, others wanted less."

The High-Impact Land Use Ordinance applies to all unincorporated areas of the county lying outside the corporate limits and the extraterritorial jurisdiction of any municipality.

Its purpose is to promote health,

... AGENDA continued from page 1

meeting, Zoning Administrator Larry Gantenbein will discuss zoning in the ETJ area and report on the Land Use Plan priorities.

Big under "old business" will be the amendment of the zoning ordinance for conditional use zoning, which will allow the Town's appropriate boards to stipulate certain requirements or "conditional uses" from developers. No use will be allowed or zoned into a conditional use district without a special use permit granted by the Zoning Board.

Once again, the board will reconsider rezoning the Werder property at Hickory and U.S. 64 east to R3 as originally requested by developer Chuck Simmerson some months ago.

Simmerson will also present the preliminary plat for the Village Shoppes which he says he will build if the Board decides not to rezone the property. The Planning Board recommended not to accept the Village Shoppes plat because it isn't consistent with the current land use plan.

Resolutions and amendments will

safety and general welfare of citizens by diminishing the impacts of certain land uses which by their nature, produce noise, odors, vibrations, fumes, light, smoke, dust and other impacts which interfere with the quiet enjoyment of adjacent lands and disturb the peace and dignity of the county.

The following high-impact uses are addressed and allowed in the county with location, screening, buffering and mitigation stipulations outlined.

The uses are: airfields/airstrips, asphalt plants, bulk inflammables, chipmills, commercial incinerators, concrete suppliers, helicopter sightseeing operations, mining and extraction operations and quarries, motor sports activities, sawmills, slaughtering and processing plants, and solid waste management facilities.

The ordinance also deals with existing high-impact businesses which are considered non-conforming. These existing businesses will be unaffected by the new ordinance as long as they stay in business and don't shut down for renovations or repairs for more than six months.

If an existing high-impact business temporarily closes longer than six months, it must come into compliance as per the ordinance.

Included in the ordinance is a variance process, an appeal process and a penalty process.

be set forth to appoint representatives from the ETJ area to the planning and zoning boards.

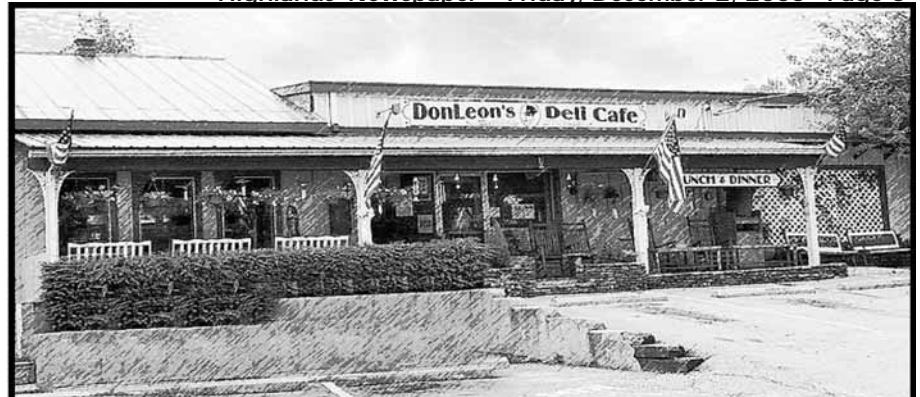
The board will also discuss an architectural study for Town Hall, the memorandum of understanding with the county for recreation funding, a technical correction to the ETJ map concerning Wildcat Ridge; and Corps of Engineering funding for Highlands' lake remediation.

After swearing in the new mayor and incumbent commissioners, a Mayor Pro Tem will be appointed as will citizens to other committees.

Another subdivision, "Gates of Highlands" whose preliminary plat was approved by the Planning Board at its Nov. 18 meeting, will be presented for approval to the Town Board. It's on N.C. 106 across from the Tug Wa Ridge subdivision.

Several housekeeping items will be discussed as well – the holiday schedule for 2006 and Christmas bonuses.

There is also a closed session to discuss police department personnel matters.



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Dec 2-8

AEON FLUX

rated PG-13

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Fri: (4), 7, 9

Sat & Sun: (2), (4), 7, 9

JUST FRIENDS

rated PG-13

Mon - Thurs: (4:10), 7:10

Fri: (4:10), 7:10, 9:10

Sat & Sun: (2:10), (4:10), 7:10, 9:10

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Fri: (4:30), 7, 9:30

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Edward Jones taps Perkins and Rawlins

Callie Rawlins and Ryan Perkins were recognized as the Edward Jones Scholar Athletes for the month of October, Thursday, Nov. 17 PTO meeting.

Rawlins is a senior who was a leader on the girls' varsity volleyball team that made the playoffs this fall. She especially enjoys studying subjects in the arts and humanities. She is active in many other organizations at school including the student film club, Model UN, Beta Club, French Club and the Drama Club. She is considering attending Flagler College in Florida.

Ryan Perkins played goalie on the boys' soccer team that made it to the final four in the state tournament. Perkins also



Ryan Perkins and Callie Rawlins with Brian McClellan with Edward Jones.

plays baseball for the school. His favorite subject is drafting. He is looking into joining the Navy when he finishes his senior year.

... ETJ continued from page 1

"count" as one of the representatives of the ETJ area.

"We have to ask the County what it wants to do," said Planning Board Chairman John Cleaveland. "Because nine people on the Planning Board is too many to work with."

The current Zoning Board doesn't have anyone on it from outside the town limits. But since zoning districts will be delineated in the ETJ area the board must

now include members from the area.

Since the makeup of the Planning Board is part of the Town Code, at Wednesday's Dec. 7 Town Board meeting the Town Board can decide if it wants to expand the board to nine people forever or just through June.

But because the makeup of the Zoning Board is part of the Zoning Ordinance, any decision regarding its size

•See ETJ page 9

After the Christmas Parade....

Shop Early for one-of-a-kind
Christmas Gifts!

A Holiday Gift Show & Sale

By the Highlands Plateau
Craftsmen & the Bascom-Louise Gallery

Saturday, December 3

noon - 6 p.m.

at the

Highlands Conference Center

Shop Early for one-of-a-kind Christmas Gifts!



The score says it all

Highlands' Newspaper - Friday, December 2, 2005 - Page 7

It was neck and neck all the way.

At Tuesday night's game The Highlanders played skillfully against their matched opponents The Robbinsville Knights. The final score was Robbinsville 55, Highlands 53.

The Highlands team knows each other cold and shows it with orchestrated moves and plays all the way. They stole the ball 15 times and had 13 assists.

Top scorers were Alec Schmitt and Ryan Bears with 17 points each and they each made 4 assists and stole the ball twice.

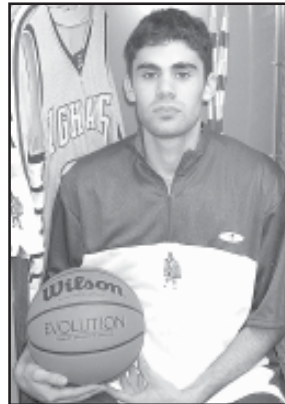
Jason Aspinwall scored 11 points, made 5 assists and stole the ball 3 times. Nick Kerhoulas scored 6 points and stole the ball 3 times.

David Parrish made 2 points, blocked once and stole the ball 4 times.

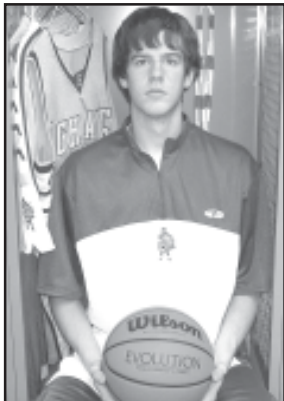
"They took us to a half-court team instead of a full-court team and we need to be playing a full-court game," said Coach Butch Smart. "They took us to a two-one-two zone defense. We need to be running up and down the court not running on half a court."

Smart said if the team played the entire game the way they played the first quarter it could have won the game.

Win or lose, the team is worth the ticket price. The next home game is Friday, Dec. 2 against Walhalla. The girls play at 6:30 and the boys at 8.



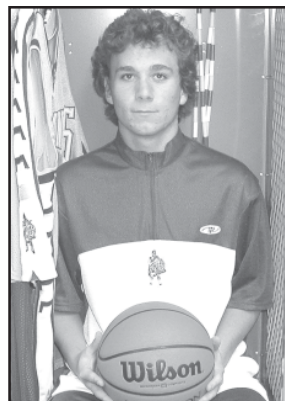
Nick Kerhoulas #3



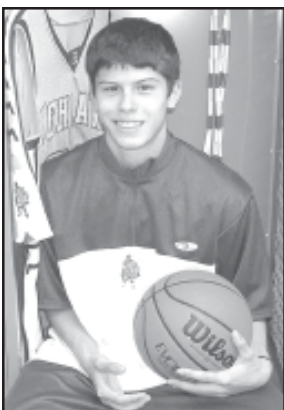
Jason Aspinwall #12



Ryan Bears #23



David Parrish #10



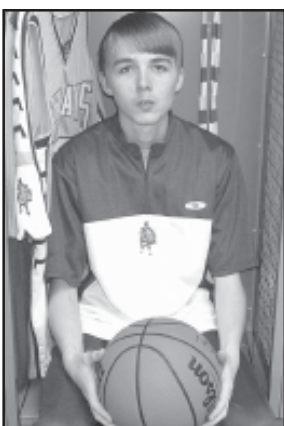
Alec Schmitt #22



Eric Chen #25



Andrew Billingsley #15



Adam Hedden #4



Esra Herz #13



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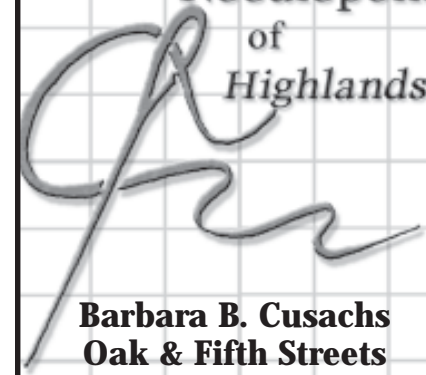
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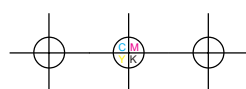
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Coach Brett Lamb Girls VolleyBall team members (not in order): Maggie Dearth, Franka Dadic, Ramsey Ashburn, Becca Wyatt, Katie Bryson, Kaylie Buras, MariSol Ruis, Danielle Reese, Vicki Smith, Bailey Buck, Toni Schmitt, Keri Raby and Allison Winn.

Team falls short against Robbinsville

Tuesday night's game against Robbinsville found a team learning to work well with each other but still having trouble completing the play.

More than half of the opposing team Robbinsville's points came from free throws and that hurt.

The final score was Robbinsville 63, Highlands 37.

Keri Raby led the team with 8 rebounds, Toni Schmitt followed with 7 and Katie Bryson had 5.

Top scorer was Allison Winn with 9; Toni Schmitt with 8; Bryson and Becca Wyatt each with 7. Bryson also had a

monster block in the late fourth quarter. Maggie Dearth and Bailey Buck each scored 2 points and Kaylie Buras and Keri Raby each scored 1 point.

"The girls are improving daily," said Coach Brett Lamb. "I am pleased with the effort and heart from them. We need to work on making our shots count and making free throws."

He and the girls are looking forward to getting better and winning more games.

Emotions ran high at the game and Coach Brett was asked to leave the court after two technicals.

... FORUM continued from page 2

So what makes a Highlander? I know my family will never be considered one, but that's OK, I'm used to it.

We lived in downtown Charleston, S.C. for 16 ½ years and weren't considered Charlestonians because we didn't have kin buried in the right graveyard on Church Street. Rachel and Megan were born there, but without the right ancestors, they can't be Charlestonians.

I was raised in Setauket, New York — a Long Island pre-revolutionary town packed with history and family trees — lived there until I was 21 but was never considered a native because my relatives didn't die on the green in front of the Presbyterian Church during a Revolutionary War skirmish.

No, my people come from Hazelwood, N.C., a close-knit community made up of McClures, Hyatts, Winchesters and Plotts — whose descendants

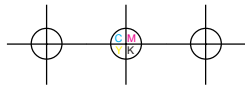
live today in Highlands, Cashiers, Franklin, Sylva, Webster and Waynesville. Jim's people are from Brooklyn, NY and before that, Poland.

Are we Highlanders? I guess not, but we feel like we are.

It's connection to a community — not just family trees or inherited land — that make people card-carrying members.

As communities grow, issues like ETJ and annexation are used as ways to cope. Similar battles are being waged across America. Drive through any community and you'll see the signs, "Say No to Zoning," "Say No to Annexation."

Will ETJ be a lasting thing in Highlands, should it be? Maybe, maybe not. No one says we have to agree, but we do have to continue living together and that's why the lines of demarcation should be erased.



... SALES continued from page 1

Anna Herz of AnnaWear said the Friday after Thanksgiving was her best day ever. Visitors flocked to Highlands' and second-home owners returned to enjoy the Thanksgiving holiday amidst Highlands' "Norman Rockwell" ambience where shopping and strolling a genuine Main Street is not a thing of the past.

"We were booked solid Thanksgiving weekend," said the folks at Mitchell's Lodge and Cottages. The Chambers Agency rented more vacation rentals over this Thanksgiving than they ever did before.

The first Holly Days in Highlands Shopping Spree, sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce resulted in receipts totaling \$39,268.27 being turned into the Chamber. "I think that amount was probably the tip of the iceberg," said

Chamber Chair Jim Mullen. "This was the first year and many of our visitors didn't know about it. The stores were so busy they couldn't explain the contest."

Each person who spent \$100 at a store and turned the receipt into the Chamber had a chance at prizes. Winners were Jim Rutkowski of Kennesaw, Ga., who won two nights at Mitchell's Lodge and Cottages; Mr. and Mrs. Gary Howard of Dalton, Ga., who won two nights at The Old Edwards Inn & Spa; Earl Shell of Atlanta, Ga., who won two nights at the Coral Reef donated by Mountain High Lodge and Highlands Suite Hotel; Juliana Stottlemeyer of Highlands and Stewart Manning of Athens, Ga., who won gift certificates to Wolfgang's Restaurant and Wine Bistro; and Ralph Spalding of Hendersonville, N.C.,

who won an antique salt and pepper set donated by Colonial Pines Inn.

Highlands Wine & Cheese and The Christmas Tree both reported sales better than this time last year. "It was a strong weekend," said Bob Kieltyka with The Christmas Tree.

Alan Mayer, owner of The Dry Sink, reports the best November since he's been in business.

Linda Bubenick, owner of Oak Street Café which opened the spring of 2005, said the Friday after Thanksgiving was her

best day. Folks were lined up two deep at the reception area. "It was similar to the Fourth of July. We served 188 lunches," she said.

The folks at Twigs said business was huge. "We were trampled!"

Chuck Wilhide of Radio Shack & Star Pony Electronics put numbers to his weekend. "We had a 173 percent increase over last Thanksgiving."

Though few in numbers, there were a some retailers who said business was off for them.

... ETJ continued from page 6

must first go to a public hearing.

"In June the boards could be reconfigured because that's when terms expire and could be reduced back to seven members," said Gantenbein.

Macon County Commission Chairman Allan Bryson said he has some people in mind for the positions on the Planning and Zoning boards and will discuss the issue at upcoming county meetings.

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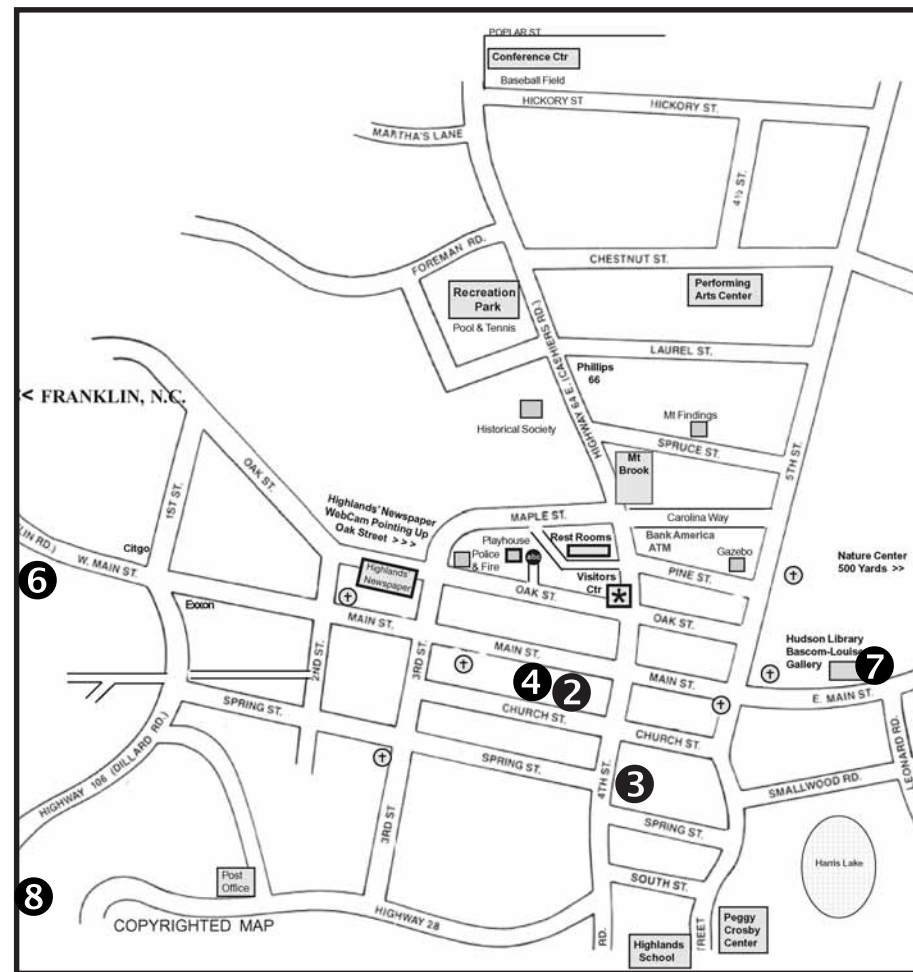
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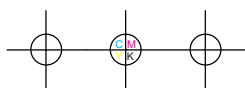
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Nature provides perfect backdrop for holiday kickoff



Snow started falling about 9 p.m. Monday night and by the time it stopped sometime Tuesday, Highlands was coated with a soft wet snow that covered every twig, blade and limb outlined the town like an artist's etching.

It made for a picture-perfect Thanksgiving and holiday shopping the next day. Merchants, restaurateurs and innkeepers reveled in the masses of people who came to shop, dine and stay in Highlands for the long weekend.

If the result of the first "Holly Days in Highlands Shopping Spree Contest" was any indication, business was booming in Highlands this Thanksgiving weekend. Receipts totaling \$39,268.27 were turned into the Chamber of Commerce as a way of tallying shopping proceeds. Each person who spent \$100 at a store and turned the receipt into the Chamber had a chance at prizes.

"I think that amount was probably the tip of the iceberg," said Chamber Chair Jim Mullen. "This was the first year and many of our visitors didn't know about it. The stores were so busy on Friday that the employees didn't have time to tell the shoppers. It's something we will continue in the future." Prizes included two nights at Old Edwards Inn & Spa, two nights at the Coral Reef in Myrtle Beach, S.C., certificates at Wolfgang's Restaurant & Bistro and an antique salt & pepper shaker set.

Saturday night Main Street was full of visitors and locals who waited for Santa and Mrs. Claus to proclaim the season had begun with the official Town Lighting. Highlands Town Carolers sang Christmas carols for and with the crowd and Santa heard wishes in his tent at Town Square.



This shot was taken from the Main Street Inn which will stay open all year.



Santa, Mrs. Claus and Highlands Town Carolers at the Methodist Church.



The Old Edwards Inn & Spa -- open all year

Photos by Jim Lewicki



Another Main Street angle.

Photos by Jim Lewicki

New Medicare D coverage program to be explained

Confused about the new Medicare D coverage program? Here's a chance to get answers.

One-on-one individual meetings will be held to help individuals decide on what to do concerning the new "Medicare Prescription Drug Part D" coverage.

Darrell Authier, retired CPA, will explain the different options available so you can make the right decision.

Even if you are presently covered with a previous employer on Medicaid, have drug coverage with your

present Medigap policy or do not take any prescription drugs at this time, you should look at the new plan.

Sixteen companies with more than 40 different plans are available in North Carolina. The new program is not complicated, but very, very confusing.

The free sessions are open to the public. Enrollment began Nov. 15 and continues through Dec. 31.

To keep your continued coverage and to join without a penalty you must decide by May 15, 2006.

Enrollment after May 15 will cost one percent per month more until you finally enroll. That's one percent per month times 12 months which equals a 12 percent higher premium for as long as you are enrolled.

The sessions are free and will be held Monday through Friday from noon to 3:30 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church. Call the church office at 526-3175 or 526-3896 for more information and to register for your one-on-one session.



Club members model hats.

Zip Code caps to fund club's scholarships

The Mountain Garden Club of Highlands received a new shipment of Zip Code Caps just in time for the Holidays.

The latest fashion for head wear is catching on big time in Highlands and beyond. The caps come in black, red, kaki and blue with 28741 stitched on the side in white, red, blue or kaki and the price is \$20. Zip Code Caps make a great gift and have become so popular for both men and women the club is scrambling to keep up with the demand. This is a "good thing" because the money raised from the sale of the Zip Code Caps helps the club financially support its many projects.

One of these projects is the Dorothy Wertzler Memorial Scholarship which has provided over \$20,000 in scholarships since 1996.

The Scholarship Committee announced this week that they are accepting applications for consideration. The application and accompanying papers must be in the hands of the committee by January 15, 2006.

Criteria for the Mountain Garden Club scholarship: Complete high school with a minimum grade point average (GPA) of 2.5; Major in horticulture, botany, environmental studies, forestry, landscape architecture, marine biology or a related field in college; be a resident of Highlands or Scaly Mountain, North Carolina (zip codes 28741 or 28775) or a graduate of Highlands School.

For more information about the scholarship program and an application, please contact Molly Leonard at 526-8730. To purchase a Zip Code Cap, visit Bonnie Earman at the Visitors Center or any of the Garden Club members. Look for the Mountain Garden Club members to be wearing the caps in the parade December 3.



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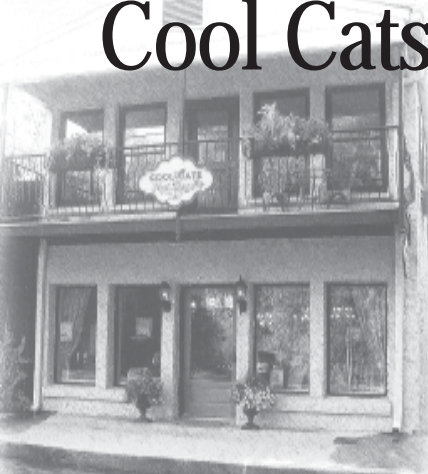


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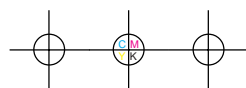


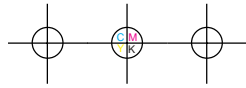
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Call Lloyd Kidder at 526-9474

HIGHLANDS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Pastors Eddie & Kim Ingram, 526-3376

Sun: School – 9:30 & 9:45 a.m.; Worship – 11

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

HOLY FAMILY LUTHERAN CHURCH – ELCA

Rev. Delmer Chilton, Pastor,

2152 Dillard Road – 526-9741

Sundays: Worship/Communion – 10:30

MACEDONIA BAPTIST CHURCH

8 miles south of Highlands on N.C. 28 S in Satolah

Pastor Jamie Passmore, (706) 782-8130

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

Choir – 6 p.m.

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

MOUNTAIN SYNAGOGUE

St. Cyprian's Episcopal Church, Franklin 369-6871

Friday: Sabbath Eve Services at 7 p.m.

For more information, call

(706)-745-1842.

OUR LADY OF THE MOUNTAINS CATHOLIC CHURCH

Rev. Tien, Priest

Parish office, 526-2418

Wednesdays & Fridays: Mass – 9 a.m.

Saturday Vigil Mass – 4 p.m.

Sundays: Mass – 11 a.m.

SCALY MOUNTAIN BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. Clifford Willis

Sundays: School – 10 a.m.; Worship – 11 a.m. & 7

Wednesdays: Prayer Mtg. – 7 p.m.

SCALY MOUNTAIN CHURCH OF GOD

290 Buck Knob Road; Pastor Alfred Sizemore

Sundays: School – 10 a.m.; Worship – 10:45 a.m.;

Evening Worship – 6 p.m.

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

For more information call 526-3212.

SHORTOFF BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Rev. Wayne Price

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

Wednesdays: Prayer & Bible Study – 7

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP

Rev. Maureen Killoran (part-time) 526-9769

Sundays: Worship – 11 a.m.

WESTSIDE BAPTIST CHURCH

Interim Pastor, Terry Dixon

Services in the basement of the Peggy Crosby

Sundays: Fellowship & Worship – 11

WHITESIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Cashiers, Rev. Sam Forrester, 743-2122

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



From left, Cynthia Strain and David Bates of the JMCA accept a check from Jim Santo and Martha Betz of Highlands Country Club.

County club helps fight woolly adelgid

For the past four years, Highlands Country Club members have contributed approximately \$75,000 to preserve the hemlocks on the Highlands plateau through the Jackson-Macon Conservation Alliance.

These contributions in conjunction with matching funds from the Forest Foundation have established a predator beetle laboratory at Clemson University. The two predator beetles they are rearing feed exclusively on the Hemlock Woolly Adelgid which has infested and is killing the hemlock forests. More than 30,000 beetles have been released to date.

The signs are encouraging. Here on the Highlands Plateau, there are fewer adelgid in the few sites that have been monitored to date. While these results are optimistic, broader study is crucial to determine the effectiveness of the program.

Accordingly, Clemson University together with the JMCA is undertaking an assessment project that will measure the adelgid population and health of hemlocks at beetle release sites. To volunteer or for information on treating your hemlocks, please contact JMCA at 526-9938, ext. 320.

Trees for Troops

The Christmas SPIRIT Foundation – in cooperation with FedEx, New Holland and the North Carolina Christmas Tree Association – announce a Trees for Troops program that will provide real Christmas trees to more than 3,500 troops stationed around the world.

An international shipment of the fresh, farm grown trees departed Columbus, Ohio on Nov. 15. Trees bound for troops and families at U.S. bases are being collected.

FedEx will pick up trees from North Carolina between 8 am and 10 a.m. on Monday, Dec. 5 at Cline Church Nursery, on US 221 near West Jefferson. North Carolina is contributing approximately 500 trees to this endeavor.

The Trees for Troops program provides a way for all Americans to show their appreciation for the sacrifices that U.S. troops and their families are making this holiday season. Members of the National Christmas Tree Association (NCTA) and 17 state/regional Christmas Tree Associations are donating Christmas trees. FedEx is providing free shipping. New Holland is providing logistical support.

Interested citizens can show their support by visiting www.ChristmasSpiritFoundation.org and leaving a message for the troops and/or by making a contribution to support the program.



• POLICE & FIRE LOG •

The following are the Highlands Police Dept. log entries for the week of Nov. 16-30.

Nov. 16

- At 12:20 p.m., officers responded to an accident on U.S. 64 at Cullasaja Drive. There were no injuries.

- At 12:30 p.m., officers responded to a two-car accident on Log Cabin Road. There were no injuries.

Nov. 19

- At 11:30 a.m., A motorist on N.C. 28 south was cited for speeding 53 mph in a 35 zone.

Nov. 24

- At 4:30 p.m., a resident on Thistle Drive reported household goods and antiques and collectibles valued at \$8,100 missing from his home.

Nov. 25

- At 1:15 p.m., a resident on Cobb Road reported antiques and collectibles valued at \$5,250 missing from her home.

Nov. 26

- At 11:15 a.m., a visitor from Texas reported losing his driver's license.

- At 4:45 p.m., officers responded to an accident on U.S. 64 and Little Bear Pen Road.

Nov. 27

- At 10 a.m., The Grinning Frog reported \$170 in cash missing from the cash register.

Nov. 28

- At 1:45 p.m., an employee at Cafe 460 reported \$55 missing from her pocketbook.

The following are the Highlands Fire & Rescue Dept. log entries for the week of Nov 16-30.

Nov. 16

- The dept. responded to a call of a brush fire on Woodland Hills Drive. There was no damage to structures.

Nov. 14

- The dept. responded to an accident on U.S. 64 . There were no injuries.

- The dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with a medical call at a residence on McCall Road. There was no transport.

Nov. 18

- The dept. responded to trash fire in a truck on Arnold Road.

Nov. 19

- The dept. responded to an alarm at Highlands Country Club. It was false.

Nov. 20

- The dept. provided mutual aid to Scaly Mountain but it was cancelled en route.

Nov. 25

- The dept. responded to a call of smoke in a house on Holt Road. It was due to a faulty fireplace. There was no damage.

- The dept. responded to an alarm

at Chestnut Hill. It was set off by workers.

- The dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with a medical call at a residence on Howell Road. The victim was transported to the hospital.

- The dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with a medical call at a resident on Laurelwood Ridge Road. There was no transport.

Nov. 26

- The dept. responded to a dumpster fire at Highlands Country Club.

Nov. 27

- The dept. responded to a report of an accident on Buck Creek Road. It had occurred the night before.

Nov. 28

- The dept. responded to an accident on N.C. 28 south. There were no injuries.

- The dept. provided mutual aid to Cashiers. It was cancelled en route.

Nov. 29

- The dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with a medical call at a residence on Edwards Creek Road. The victim was transported to the hospital.

Support Northland's
Annual Toys for Kids Drive



Spread joy this holiday season by helping a child in need.

Donate a new toy valued at \$15 or more and receive 50% OFF cable or Internet installation.

NORTHLAND CABLE TELEVISION

615 North Pine Street
Seneca, SC 29678

(864) 882-0002

www.northlandcabletv.com

Offer applies for installation of cable and Internet service. Offer valid for new and existing customers upgrading. Offer ends 12/16/05.

Budget now for your 2006 advertising in Highlands' Newspaper and quarterly Map & Guides.
Call 526-0782 for ad pack or email request to
highlandseditor@aol.com

• HIGHLANDS EATERIES •

HILL TOP GRILL

"Quick Service Not Fast Food"

Hamburgers ~ Fries
Sandwiches & Salads
Open for lunch Mon-Sat

Corner of 4th & Spring
on the Hill
526-5916

DUSTY'S RHODES SUPERETTE

Prepared ready to serve & bake hors d'oeuvres, breads, pastas, cookies & entres

"Celebrating 53 years in Highlands"
"We cut the BEST steaks in town!"
Mon-Sat • 493 Dillard Rd.
526-2762

DonLeon's Deli Cafe

"Fast food is not good...
Good food is not fast."

Sandwiches,
Cajun
& European
Specialities

Hours: 11-4 • Tues. - Sun
526-1600
Corner of Main St. & N.C. 106

SweetTreats
Ice Cream and Coffee House

Now serving light fare (all day):

- Soup, Salad, Sandwich
- Full Coffee and Wine Bar
- Delectable Desserts
- Custom Made Ice Cream & Yogurt

Wireless Internet
Mountain Brook Center
(one block off Main St. Hwy 64E)
(828) 526-9822
OPEN 11:30 until?
Now Delivering!

Buck's Coffee Cafe

Sun.-Thurs. 7:30 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Fri & Sat. 7:30 a.m. - 11 p.m.
Live music Fri & Sat

BUCK'S COFFEE CAFE

Coffee, tea, wine, pastries, sandwiches
384 Main Street

Brick Oven Pizza

Made-to-order pizza, calzones & salads.

Open for lunch & dinner

526-4121 Mtn. Brook Center

After the Christmas Parade on Dec. 3...
Come Sing Christmas Carols
in the
First Presbyterian Church Sanctuary!

Singing begins at
2 p.m.

Come early and listen
to Angie Jenkins
playing the Wicks Pipe
Organ.

Main Street across from Wolfgang's



*Highlands Community Players
Annual Gift to the Community
"Christmas Reading"
Thursday, December 8
7 p.m.
Martin Lipscomb Performing Arts Center
on Chestnut Street*

*All are welcome to the performance
& refreshments.
It's Free!*



"Shop with a Cop"



No tax dollars are used to fund this program. Your contribution is needed to make this year's event a huge success. Help give a child and his/her family a Christmas they'll remember for years to come.

Please send checks by December 12 to:

Macon County Sheriff's Office
"Shop with a Cop"
1820 Lakeside Drive, **Franklin**
NC 28734

• UPCOMING EVENTS •

Through Dec. 16

• Signups for Macon County Boys Basketball for boys ages 7-18. Applications are available at the Highlands Civic Center. The cost is \$30. Birth certificates are required. For more information contact Michelle Munger at 526-8029 or 342-3551.

On-going

• On Mondays, from 4-6 p.m., The Food Pantry is open for anyone needing provisions – canned goods and nonperishables – at Highlands United Methodist Church building on Church Street Alley.

• Anyone interested in officiating basketball this upcoming season should contact the Southwestern Officials Association. Officials are needed for all levels of play in WNC, including middle school and high school. For more information contact Lori Jones, Booking Agent, at 828-507-4404.

• At ...on the Verandah through the Nov. 26, live music — Chad Reed, piano player — on Friday and Saturday nights.

• At Bascom-Louise Gallery: Tuesdays, Art for pre-schoolers, 9:30-10 a.m.; Tuesdays, Kindergarten-first grade, 3:15-4:15 p.m.; Wednesdays, Home-schooled students, 1st and 3rd Wednesdays, 1-3 p.m.; Grades 6-9, Wednesdays, 3:15-4:15 p.m.; Grades 2-5, Wednesday, 4:30-5:30 p.m.

• Cashiers Quilters Guild meets at the United Methodist Church in Cashiers, every Wednesday at 12:30.

• Live music at Cyprus Restaurant every Friday at 9:30 p.m.

• Cy Timmons at Fressers at Helen's Barn every Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 6 p.m. until close.

• Live Music at Buck's Coffee Cafe Thursday-Saturday, 8-11 p.m.

• Highlands Wine and Cheese Shop: Wine Flights Friday and Saturday from 4:30-6:30. Saturday, complimentary samples 12:30-4.

• HealthTracks, at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital, offers special fitness classes Monday through Thursday. HealthTracks at 526-1348 for details.

• Each Thursday – Open House at Chestnut Hill of Highlands, Highlands-Cashiers only senior residential community. Refreshments and tours of the model home and Clubhouse.

• Al-Anon Group meets at noon on Thursdays in the Community Room at First Presbyterian Church.

• Mountainview Alcoholics Anonymous meets in the remodeled basement room of the Presbyterian Church sanctuary, Mondays at 8 p.m.; Tuesdays at 5:30 p.m. (women only); Wed. and Fri. at noon.

Dec. 2

• HS Basketball at home against Walhalla. Girls 6:30 p.m., Boys, 8 p.m.

• Highlands PTO and Pescado's will host a fundraising dinner the evening of the home basketball games against Walhalla. Dinner will be from 5:30 until 7:30 in the cafeteria (games begin at 6:30 p.m. and 8 p.m.). Please join us for a tasty dinner and stay to cheer on the teams!

Dec. 3

• Caroling at 2 p.m. in the sanctuary of the First Presbyterian Church on Main Street with Angie Jenkins on the Wicks Pipe Organ.

• On Saturday there will be an "Open House" at the Highlands Historical Village on N. Fourth street next door to the Rec Park from noon to 4 p.m. On exhibit are many artifacts from the early days of Highlands. It's free.

• BBQ at the Bascom-Louise Gallery at the Hudson Library on Main Street, noon, right after the parade.

• Highlands United Methodist Youth are selling Christmas wreaths available at the church. Profits from this sale will be used toward the mission trip to Bolivia in the spring of 2006. Wreaths are 24-inch diameter and crafted from locally grown Fraser fir, decorated with pine cones and a bow. To help us determine the quantity to order, please place your order in advance if possible. Call 526-3376.

• Annual Highlands Christmas Parade on Main Street, 11 a.m.

• A Holiday Gift Show & Sale by the Highlands Plateau Craftsmen and Bascom-Louise Gallery, after the parade, Saturday, from noon-6 p.m. at the Highlands Conference Center. Featuring artists who have exhibited at the Bascom-Louise Gallery.

• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take two easy short hikes for a total of 2.5 miles in Blue Valley to the amethyst mines supposedly operated by Tiffany's years ago and to Picklesimer's Rock House, where a waterfall drops over a huge overhanging rock shelf under which prehistoric people once sheltered. Meet at the Highlands Bank of America at 9:30 a.m. Bring a drink, a lunch, and wear sturdy, comfortable shoes. Drive 25 miles round trip. Call leader Jim Whitehurst, 526-8134, for reservations.

• Pumpkin Cream Cheese Roll-ups, pecans, peanuts, jellies, jams and other baked goods FOR SALE, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the corner of Second and Main streets between the Masonic Lodge and HUMC and on the corner of Fifth & Main streets near the Presbyterian Church. Proceeds fund Highlands Chapter of the Eastern Star charitable programs.

Dec. 4

• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take an easy 1.5 mile hike on the Tsessegee Farm loop. Meet at the Riverside Road picnic area off Hwy. 441 S. in Otto at 2 p.m. Drive 3 miles round trip. Reservations are required. Call leader Kay Coriell, 369-6820.

• Friends of the Library Christmas Party, Sunday in the Macon County Public Library, 108 Wayah St., Franklin. Guest speaker: Kathryn Stripling Byer, poet laureate of North Carolina. Holiday musical entertainment by The Carolines, the county's popular women's chorus. Free to the public. Refreshments available.

Dec. 6

• HS Basketball at home against Franklin. Girls 6:30 p.m., Boys, 8 p.m.

• HIARPT's Dialogue at Civic Center, 10-11:30 a.m. Topic: Tom Friedman's *The World is Flat*. Bill Martin—coordinator.

Dec. 8

• On Thursday at 7 p.m. in the Performing Arts Center on Chestnut Street, the Highlands Community Players will again present a program of readings appropriate to the holiday season, some humorous, some serious and informative, some heartwarming and sentimental—all entertaining—interspersed with live music by community performers. It's free.

Dec. 10

• Highlands United Methodist Church will host "Breakfast with Santa" on Saturday, at 8:30 a.m. Join them for a pancake breakfast, a craft, a story about the birth of Jesus, carols, and visit with Santa Claus. The cost is \$10 per family. Space is limited. Please call the church at 526-3376 to make a reservation.

• CLASSIFIEDS •

HELP WANTED

CREATIVE CONCEPTS & BODY WORKS – Needed at Highlands location. Massage therapist, esthetician, hair stylist, nail technician. Call Deb at 404-226-5415.

OFFICE MANAGER AT HIGHLANDS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE – Must have skills in Quick Books, Excel, Windows, Word, good organizational skills and work well with people. Qualified applicants only need to apply. Send resume with references and salary requirements to President, P.O. Box 62, Highlands, NC 28741.

CONTROLLER FOR PRIVATE COUNTRY CLUB IN HIGHLANDS, NC. Must be proficient in Microsoft Office Professional. Club Connect software experience preferred. Duties include preparation of financial statements, payroll, budgeting, and human resources for club and related companies. Responsibilities include supervision of bookkeeper and oversight of accounts payable and receivable. Must be an effective communicator. Excellent benefits. Reply to General Manager, P.O. Box 220, Highlands, NC 28741.

GENERAL MANAGER FOR PROPERTY OWNERS' ASSOCIATION – for a private country club community in Highlands, NC. This is a 350-home community with a 24 hour security force. The ideal candidate will have progressive management experience coupled with 5 years operational management experience in property management, construction or related fields. The General Manager will supervise 9 to 11 people and will work closely with a Board of Directors. Candidate must be able to develop and manage a budget, effectively implement Board policies, liaison with community government officials, provide guidance and leadership to an established group of employees and members while marketing homeowner's services to existing and new members. The position is available immediately. The salary will be commensurate with experience and qualifications. Retirement and health benefits are available. Please send resume to: General Manager, P. O. Box 220, Highlands, NC 28741.

HIGH COUNTRY CAFE – All Positions. Call 526-0572. EOE.

LAB, X-RAY II TECH AT MOUNTAIN COMMUNITY HEALTHCARE IN DILLARD, GA. Candidate must be licensed for laboratory work and have a minimum of two years' radiology experience. This position is full time, temporary. Pre-employment substance screening. Call Mary Osmar, 828-526-1301.

NURSING SUPERVISOR AT MOUNTAIN COMMUNITY HEALTHCARE CLINIC IN DILLARD, GA. This temporary, full-time position is open for an RN or an LPN. At least two-years' experience is required. Pre-employment substance screening. Call Mary Osmar, 28-526-1301.

RECEPTIONIST - PHYSICIAN'S OFFICE AT HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HOSPITAL CAMPUS. Full time, Monday-

Friday. Associate degree in business or related field preferred. Minimum of two years' experience working in automated physician's office or clinic and significant computer knowledge required. Pre-employment substance screening. Call Mary Osmar, 828-526-1301.

HOUSEKEEPER AT HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HOSPITAL. Sundays-Thursdays, 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Experience in hospital cleaning is preferred. Pre-employment substance screening. Call Mary Osmar, 828-526-1301.

EXPERIENCED RN to assist non-interventional cardiologist with office patients, echo and stress tests in new clinic. Email resume to pbarrett@ngheartcenter.com or fax 770-538-7872 and indicate "Highlands."

REGISTERED DIETITIAN AT HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HOSPITAL. Must have N.C. license. CDE preferred, but not required. Manage nutritional services for 24-acute care and 84 long-term care beds, and Dietary Department. Full benefits available after 60 days for this full-time position. Pre-employment substance screening. Call Mary Osmar, 828-526-1301.

DIETARY AIDE – Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. Duties include working patient tray line and cafeteria line, stock kitchen, washing dishes. Full time position, 10:30 a.m. to 7 p.m., flexible days. Pre-employment substance screening. Call Mary Osmar at 828-526-1301.

C.N.A.S! CHECK OUT THE NEW CNA WAGE SCALE AT FIDELIA ECKERD LIVING CENTER. Starting at \$9.50 per hour (Plus weekend and shift differentials). All shifts available. Excellent benefit package for full-time positions. Pre-employment substance screening. Call Mary Osmar at 828-526-1301.

LPNS AND RNS - FIDELIA ECKERD LIVING CENTER AT HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HOSPITAL. Now hiring for PRN positions. 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.

MEDICAL STAFF COORDINATOR AT HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HOSPITAL. Requires a high degree of organizational skills and attention to detail. Medical staff credentialing, planning meetings, taking minutes, and coordinating education events. Flexible days and hours for this full- or part-time position. Pre-employment substance screening. For information, call Mary Osmar 828-526-1301.

RN AT FIDELIA ECKERD LIVING CENTER AT HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HOSPITAL. Part-time position. Shift differentials paid to work every other weekend. Salary range based on years of experience. Pre-employment substance screening. Call Mary Osmar, 828-526-1301.

OPPORTUNITY

STRESSED, ANXIOUS, DEPRESSED? Dreading the holidays? Counseling (and hypnosis) can help. Reason-

able rates. The Conscious Connection. 526-5558.

VEHICLES FOR SALE

1978 ROLLS ROYCE – Silver Shadow. All white, red, leather interior. Low mileage. Offers over \$20,000 considered. Call 706-746-3046.

1999 VOLKSWAGEN JETTA WOLFSBURG EDITION, White, 89,500 miles, Power Windows/Doors, Power Sunroof and CD Player \$6,000, call 828-421-3476

1995 CHEVY TRUCK, Green, 150,000 miles, 4WD, CD Player \$5,500 call 828-371-2669.

REAL ESTATE SALES

THE COACH CLUB, CHESTNUT STREET, HIGHLANDS, NC. Lot # 4 Oversized, well landscaped private lot with 10 X 16 coach house and large patios. Located inside private gated 9 –Site Park in the city of Highlands. Restaurants, theater and fine arts are all within walking distance of the park. At an elevation of 4118', the average summer temperature is 780. Some of the finest activities to also include are hiking, golf, tennis and of course, shopping, in a town full of unique shops. One of the finest parks in the country, truly. \$260,000. Call 828-526-1029 or 4363 e-mail: bobnancy@brmemc.net

THE COACH CLUB, CHESTNUT STREET, HIGHLANDS, NC. Lot # 5 Oversized, well landscaped private lot with 10 X 16 coach house and large patios. Located inside private gated 9 –Site Park in the city of Highlands. Restaurants, theater and fine arts are all within walking distance of the park. At an elevation of 4118', the average summer temperature is 780. Some of the finest activities to also include are hiking, golf, tennis and of course, shopping, in a town full of unique shops. One of the finest parks in the country, truly. \$240,000. Call 828-526-1029 or 4363 e-mail: bobnancy@brmemc.net

INCREDIBLE WHITESIDE VIEW – 2.5 gentle acres, 3/2, \$450 K.. Call 743-1947. No Realtors.

LOT FOR SALE – Highlands, close to town. 1.5 acre lot with 300-ft. creek front and long view. Only 2.8 miles from Main Street, Highlands. Lots of large rhodies, hardwood trees and Mountain Laurel. Easy building site with community well, telephone, electric and septic in place. Dramatic waterfall at entrance. Community will be gated. Priced to sell @\$290,000. Directions: From Main Street in Highlands, Take N.C. 106 (Dillard Road) south 1.8 miles, turn left on Mountain Laurel Drive, take first left on Moonlight and first right on Owl Gap, pause to enjoy the waterfall view. Continue on paved road to intersection, turn right, take next right. Lot sign on property. Call 828-526-9622.

BY OWNER – Two blocks from Main Street. Remodeled 2-bed/2-bath second floor condo with fireplace and glassed-in sunroom. Extensive use of mirrors. Must

see to appreciate. 526-4874.

BY OWNER-SAPPHIRE VALLEY – A unique "Timberpeg" Post & Beam home. Three levels: Upper Level, lofted bedroom, full bath and bed room with its own deck. Main level: Open living room w/fireplace, dining room and kitchen, 2 full baths, master bed room, and a large deck with a spectacular view. Lower level: large family room w/fireplace, full bath, laundry room and an outside patio. A fully finished room with full bath over a 2 car garage. Also a separate roomy workshop. All this located on +/-2 acres, on a private cul de sac. The entire property backs onto a green area. By appointment 828-743-2567

COMMERCIAL OPPORTUNITY – 1.22 acres on HWY 106. Existing building, 3,000 sq. ft. heated, 600 sq. ft. garage, new interior, new electric, and new septic with capacity for another commercial building. Design and build exactly what you want. Ample parking possibilities. Option on adjacent property, too. Call 526-9393, evenings.

SCENIC VIEW HOME SITES. Turtle Pond area. Views, secluded, near town. (828) 526-2759 marbago@direcway.com.

HIGHLANDS-RV LOTS-WALK TO TOWN – Rare offering. 28 RV lots, some with RV vacation homes and porches in place. 2 1/2 blocks from Main Street. 7 creek-front lots available. Lots from 95K-129K. Only 10k upon signing contract. Close by mid-April, 2006 in time for season. These won't last. Call 706-613-1438, 706-202-5292 (cell) or 828-526-9493.

CONDO FOR SALE – By Owner. Great 2-bedroom, 2-bath upstairs condo in town. Save gas, walk everywhere! Asking \$210,000. Call for details. 526-3671.

HOUSE FOR SALE – 275 Foreman Road. In-town on .87 acre-wooded lot. 2 bedrooms, 11/2 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

SERVICES

PAINTING & PRESSURE WASHING – DP Painting & Pressure Washing . In business since 1984. Quality work, guaranteed. References. Call 526-3542.

AIRPORT SHUTTLE SERVICE – Call Dick Friess. Cell: (772) 359-0412 • 24-hr. (706) 746-3657. North Carolina, Georgia, South Carolina, Florida.

HIGHLANDS SHUTTLE SERVICE – Atlanta Airport Shuttle. Drive - Away • Auto Delivery. All Out-of-Town Trips Driving Services. Call 526-8078.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

WORK FROM HOME AND BUILD INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY. Top growth company – just expanded into Germany. Who do you know? Looking for leaders. Contact 828-787-2212.

Scenic View Home Sites Turtle Pond area

Views, secluded near
town

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If it goes on the floor, we'll
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Carpet - Vinyl - Hardwood - Ceramic
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(828) 349-9009

or 342-1740

Daniel &
Brenda Hamilton



'The Suites' to open Dec. 8

Chestnut Hill of Highlands will
officially open its new Assisted Living
Center - The Suites at Chestnut Hill - at
3 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 8, with an open

house and ribbon-cutting ceremony.

The Suites at Chestnut Hill is located
within the private senior living
community of Chestnut Hill of
Highlands, near Highlands-Cashiers
Hospital and is the first and only assisted
living center in the Highlands-Cashiers
area.

The public is invited to the event,
which will also feature guided tours of
the 26-suite center, and the Chestnut Hill
senior living community. State and local
dignitaries will be on hand and light
refreshments, prepared by Chestnut
Hill's executive chef, will be served.

"The opening of The Suites
represents the fulfillment of a much-
needed, long desired addition to our
senior and adult retirement community,"
said Frazier Jackson, executive director of
Chestnut Hill of Highlands. "Not only
does it complete Chestnut Hill's offering
of full-service continuing care, but it
brings an added dimension to the quality
of life our residents enjoy and for those
who choose to retire in the Highlands-
Cashiers area.

The fully licensed center provides
residents with 24-hour personal
assistance. This includes the monitoring
and scheduling of medication, as well as
help with daily routines such as dressing,
bathing and grooming.

Several floor plans are available
ranging from 388 square feet to 637
square feet. Services and amenities at The
Suites include (but are not limited to)
three full-course meals a day, plus snacks;
personnel on duty 24 hours a day,
recreational, educational, religious and
cultural programs; a full calendar of
events and activities, scheduled
transportation; as well as housekeeping,
flat linen and laundry service.

For more information, contact
Frazier Jackson at 526-5251.

Christmas Reading

On Thursday, Dec. 8 at 7 p.m. in
the Martin-Lipscomb Performing Arts
Center on Chestnut Street, the High-
lands Community Players will present
its annual Christmas program.

Actors will perform readings ap-
propriate to the holiday season, some
humorous, some serious and informa-
tive, some heart-warming and senti-
mental—all entertaining—interspersed
with live music by community per-
formers. It's free and appropriate for all
ages.

Introducing vivatone

A solution to the problems associated with traditional hearing aids.

Users of traditional hearing aids say...

- "I feel like my head is in a barrel."
- "When I chew it sounds like an avalanche."
- "I feel pressure, like earplugs."
- "My head feels closed up."
- "I like the sound of other people's voices but I hate my own - it echoes."
- "Things sound different, unnatural, weird."
- "When I walk, it sounds annoying."

Vivatone's patented design uses a small
speaker suspended lightly in the ear. It's
remarkably lightweight, barely noticable and
can give your hearing just the boost it needs.
Try it yourself with a free demonstration
during our special holiday event.

Ask For Your
FREE Test-Drive Today!



Buy it for you - Wear it for them!

Enjoy The Holidays With The Gift Of Hearing!

Did you find it difficult to hear everyone
during Thanksgiving dinner? You might
be missing more than you realize.

Hearing Loss affects millions of people.
Studies also suggest that your family
notices it more than you do.

This holiday we have an exciting new
hearing instrument available that will
change the way you think of hearing
aids. It's small, extremely comfortable
and eliminates the many of the problems
associated with "traditional" hearing aids.

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A SPECIAL INTRODUCTORY EVENT

Take Home Vivatone for a one week
demonstration fit absolutely free!

Today Through December 18th
By Appointment

During this event you'll receive:

- **FREE** Video Camera Otoscope Ear Inspection:
See inside your own ear
- **FREE** Hearing Screening & Background Noise
Hearing Test
- **FREE** Demonstration Fitting for one week

Find out if Vivatone is right for you.

33 W. Marshall Street • Waynesville

828-456-6666

or 888-456-8662 Toll free
Asheville • Franklin • Hayesville • Highlands • Waynesville



www.wnc hearing aids.com
In-house repair lab

making your world sound better... every day

WNC Hearing Aid Services

serving western north carolina since 1972

Audiology Services • ISO Compliant/HIPAA Compliant • Free Hearing Screenings



Winter Night Life
Cyprus
Bucks Cafe
Fressers
SweetTreats Cafe
Wolfgangs'
...on the Verandah
The Wine Garden

<<< WATERFALLS
Cullasaja Falls 9 Miles
Bust Your Butt Falls 7 Miles
Cliffside Lake 6 Miles
Dry Falls 3 Miles
Bridal Veil Falls 2 Miles

Highlands Map & Guide
PDF Online Version
HighlandsMapGuide.com

Cashiers Road, Hwy 64e
Whiteside Mt Hiking Trail 7 Miles
High Country Cafe 5 Miles
Skyline Lodge & Jack's 4 Miles
Highlands-Cashiers Hosp. 4 Miles
Good Year Tire & Repair 3 Miles
Highlands Outdoor Tool 2 Miles
TWIGS & Fibbers 1/4 Mile ↑

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Visitors' Information
HighlandsInfo.com
HighlandsRadio.com
HighlandsMapGuide.com

Mountain Fresh Foods
Gourmet Selection - Main & 5th St.

Meadows Mt Realty
Big View & Waterfront
Call: 828-526-1717

Highlands Wine & Cheese
"Falls on Main"

Instant Theatre
Oak Sq. | 828-342-9197

<< 1 Mile On The Verandah
<< 1/2 Mile NBG Builders
<< 1/2 Mile August Produce
Farm Fresh Vegetable Stand
RBC Centura
Rosewood Market
Citgo
Bryant Art Glass

Wholesale *
Down Comforters
Furniture South

Terry Potts
Country Club Properties
828-526-2520

"We Cut The Best
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Dusty's Market

Mitchells Lodge & Cottages
Highlands Decorating & Highlands Hardware
*Cyprus Restaurant & Curves Fitness
*Old Creek Lodge

Dillard Rd / Hwy 106
Sky Valley 10 Miles
Dillard, GA. 14 Miles

←← The Farm 1 1/2 Miles
Tin Roof Studio 2 Miles

Signature Properties & Vacation Rentals

Exxon
Don Leons

Fireside Restaurant
Wright Square
Country Club Properties

Helen's Barn Ave
Fressers

Subway
Golden China
Computer Man
Bryson's Foods
Bed & Bath
Highlands Office
CAR SPA

Post Office

Highlands' Newspaper
WebCam Pointing Up
Oak Street >>>

Newspaper
Visitors Center
Main St Inn

Highlands' Newspapers
Plus The Map & Guide
Can Be Found In The
Highlands & Cashiers
Visitor Centers

POPLAR ST
Conference Ctr
Baseball Field
Wilson Gas & Appliance

HICKORY ST
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Colonial Pines Inn B&B

Meadows Mt Realty
Big View & Waterfront
Call: 828-526-1717

CHESTNUT ST
Best of the Bunch
Performing Arts Center
Community Players
Highlands Cashiers Music Festival

LAUREL ST
Phillips 66
Mt Findings

SPRUCE ST
Mt Brook
Brick Oven
SweetTreats
Int. Exchg.

MAPLE ST
PlayHouse
Rest Rooms
Town Hall

OAK ST
Grinning Frog Theatre
Shiraz Rugs
Bear Mtn.

MAIN ST
Highlands Suites
Highlands Pharmacy
Hardware

CHURCH ST
Mirror Lake Antiques
Buyer's Realty

SPRING ST
Christmas Tree
Cool Cats
Hot Dogs
Old Rangoon
Icon Art

4TH ST
Highlands Cabinet
Hilltop Grill
Rib Shack
Dry Cleaner

SOUTH ST
Northland Cable Co.
Highlands School

RD.
Nicks Restaurant

ATM
Gazebo

PINE ST
CK Swan
Cleveland Realty

OAK ST
Paoletti
Dry Sink
Drug Store
Silver Eagle
Pro Nails

MAIN ST
Acorns & Miss Priss
Old Edwards Inn & Madisons

CHURCH ST
The Lodge

SPRING ST
Peggy Crosby Center

SOUTH ST
Peggy Crosby Center

RD.
Nicks Restaurant

Chambers Realty & Vacation Rentals

Nature Center
500 Yards >>

Hudson Library
Bascom-Louise
Gallery

Falls On Main
Bird Barn
Radio Shack
Cabin Casuals
Century 21
Wine & Cheese

Mt Fresh Foods
Country Club Prop

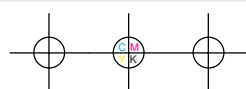
Lakeside Restaurant
Attorney Jack Mayer

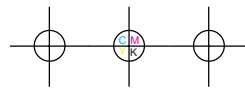
Harris Lake

The Bird Barn
Bird houses, bird feeders,
birdseed, and bird books,
Highlands license plates.
@ Falls On Main 526-3910

Highlands Newspaper Internet Directory
Lodging | Dining | Shops | Realty | Hiking | Waterfalls | Golf | Events | Maps
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MEADOWS MOUNTAIN REALTY

450 North 4th Street
P O Box 811
Highlands, NC 28741

CULLASAJA CLUB



This 4BR, 3 BA home on 2 acres in Cullasaja Club has provided wonderful enjoyment and memories. Start yours today! This spacious home located just off the number 12 fairway, allows you to take your cart from the private storage below and tee up right away. However, the features of this home and setting may be too nice to leave. Outside you can relax in the gazebo, walk through the garden that has lovely perennials, shrubbery, water features complete with night lighting and private waterfalls. Inside, the Great Room with fireplace, covered porches, and master suite make living here a great decision. Offered at \$770,000. Membership available at prevailing club rates, subject to approval. MLS#54339 Visual Tour #278175

PRIVATE SETTING

Three lots and Home in Highlands Country Club. Enjoy the beautiful mature landscaping and garden of this lovely 3 bedroom, 2 ½ bath home which boasts large entertaining areas and decks, an open house plan, and extra large master suite. Offered at \$2,600,000.



with fireplace enclose the Lounge. From here you overlook the stone terrace and wide sweeping views of Sapphire Valley. Personal balconies, large kitchen with top of the line appliances, quarter-sawn oak flooring, outdoor fireplace, and a white quartz walled wine cellar are just a few of the things that await you in this unique home. The old mine, now filled with water from the waterfall and stocked with trout complete this home. Truly a must see. Offered at \$3,450,000.

EMERALD MINE HOME

Outstanding view home located on 5.47 acres in Little Sheepcliff with waterfall and views all in one. This 4 bedroom, 5 ½ bath, one of a kind, custom home features amenities rarely found. Twelve pair of mahogany French doors, mahogany paneling, cypress ceiling, and stone wall with fireplace enclose the Lounge. From here you overlook the stone terrace and wide sweeping views of Sapphire Valley. Personal balconies, large kitchen with top of the line appliances, quarter-sawn oak flooring, outdoor fireplace, and a white quartz walled wine cellar are just a few of the things that await you in this unique home. The old mine, now filled with water from the waterfall and stocked with trout complete this home. Truly a must see. Offered at \$3,450,000.

View Visual Tours at www.highlandsproperties.com • Phone 828.526.1717 • Fax 828.526.1711

