

**FREE**

Highlands' Newspaper

Volume 3, Number 49

Locally Owned & Operated

Friday, Dec. 9, 2005

On-going

- 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.

Dec. 8

- On Thursday at 7 p.m. PAC on Chestnut Street, the Highlands Community Players will again present a program of readings appropriate to the holiday season. It's free.

Dec. 10

- The 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. It's \$10 per family. Call 526-3376 for reservations.

- Highlands Community Chorus presents its Annual Christmas Chorale led by Fletcher Wolfe at the Episcopal Church at 7 p.m. It's free.

- HS Basketball at home against Hayesville. Girls 5 p.m., Boys, 6:30 p.m.

- 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 2nd and Main streets and on the corner of Fifth & Main streets.

Dec. 11

- Highlands Community Chorus presents its Annual Christmas Chorale led by Fletcher Wolfe at the Episcopal Church at 4 p.m. It's free.

Dec. 12

- HS Basketball at home against Roman. Girls 6:30 p.m., Boys, 8 p.m.
- Concerned about ETJ? Meet at High Country Cafe at 7 p.m. to discuss measures to counter this action.

Dec. 13

- HIARPT's Dialogue at Civic Center, 10-11:30 a.m. Topic "Dark Side of American History," with a selection from Howard Zinn's "Peoples' History of the United States." Alex Redmountain-coordinator.

Dec. 14

- The Dec. 7 Town Board meeting was continued to 7 p.m.
- Highlands Plateau Audubon Society Christmas Bird Count.
- Highlands School Christmas Band Concert at 7 p.m. in the old gym.

Dec. 15

- "Christmas Around the World" program at Highlands School at 7 p.m. in the old gym presented by grades K-5. Open house follows in each elementary classroom with refreshments from "around the world."

FRI	SAT	SUN
37-21°F	40-23°F	39-22°F

Property decision postponed again

The future of the Werder property on the corner of Hickory and Fourth streets still hangs in the balance.

At the Wednesday, Dec. 7 Town Board meeting, commissioners didn't vote to rezone the property R3 as suggested by the Planning Board for the third

time and initially requested by developer Chuck Simmerson. But commissioners did decide to consider the multi-family subdivision when conditional zoning is in place, hopefully in January.

Simmerson was visibly frustrated at

•See DECISION page 20

Changing of the guard

After eight years at the table, Wednesday night, Mayor Buck Trott handed the gavel to newly elected Mayor Don Mullen who now joins re-elected commissioners, Amy Patterson and Hank Ross, and commissioners Herb James, Alan Marsh, and Dennis DeWolf at the table.

"I want to thank the board, the staff and the Town Administrator for their cooperation and the citizens of Highlands for the consideration they have showed me over the past eight years," said Trott. "Municipal government is changing everyday and it takes a group of lawyers to keep you out of trouble."

Mullen said he was honored that the people of Highlands have put their trust in him as their mayor. "I will do everything I can to uphold the laws of the city and state and do everything I can do to make the community proud of Highlands," he said.

He commended Trott for all he has done for the Highlands community and plans on working closely with both Trott and ex-mayor John Cleaveland to learn whatever he can.

Having started his "mayor training" last Friday, Mullen said he is "surprised and pleased" at the level of training elected officials are offered in the State of North Carolina. "I have a lot to learn but I'm proud of how well the municipalities are cared for by the state which is a leader in that area," he said.

He said Highlands does face some problems, however.

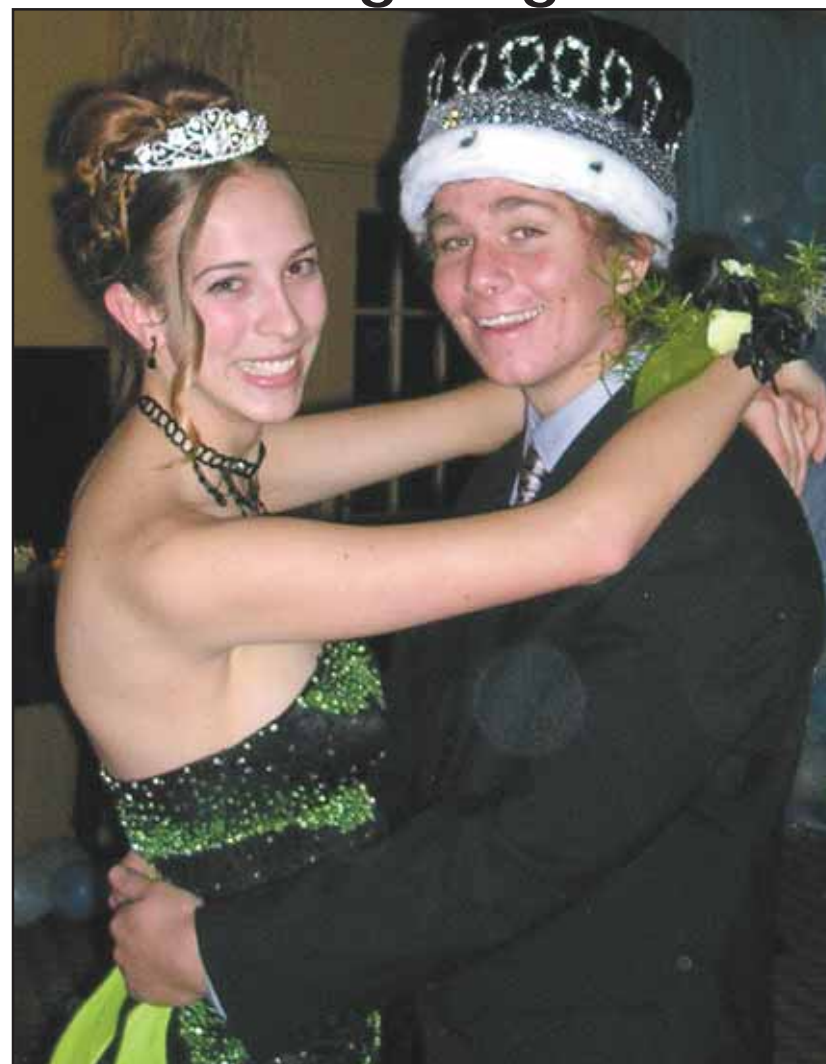
"There is a feeling in our country of mistrust in government — national, state and local. This is most unfortunate because the founding Fathers of our country never meant this to be. In fact, that is the reason for our fight for freedom over 230 years ago — that we

•See CHANGING page 2

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Homecoming King & Queen



Seniors David "Buddy" Parrish and Claire Frederick were crowned Homecoming King & Queen at Saturday's dance at Highlands Country Club. For more photos see page 11. Photo by Kim Lewicki

Bowery Road paving delayed

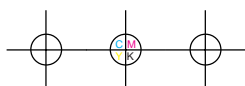
Everyone — residents, town and NC-DOT officials — had hoped the Bowery Road project would be completed by now. But it's not to be.

"I am very disappointed that we did not make our goal of paving Bowery Road this year," said Wesley

Grindstaff with DOT. "But I can assure you that upon completion next spring users of Bowery Road will be able to use and enjoy a long overdue paved roadway."

Unforeseen geological problems

•See BOWERY page 8



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... CHANGING continued from page 1



Incumbents Commissioners Amy Patterson and Hank Ross take oath with new Mayor Don Mullen at the Wednesday, Dec. 7 Town Board meeting.

could all maintain our individuality, maintaining certain individual rights, but also that we would work together in our communities with common goals and aspirations.

"There is always tension between these two ends of the spectrum - the rights of the individual and the common goals of the community. Many times they are in conflict with one another and compromise is necessary.

"It is an absolute truth, and indeed ironic, that absolute total freedom of the individual would result in chaos. We have a police force in our towns for the protection of our citizens from that very small percentage of people who will take advantage of others and attempt to cheat the system of laws which the community has in order to feather their own individual nests.

•See CHANGING page 20

• LETTER TO THE EDITOR •

Change in venue

Dear Friends,

It is time to bring you up to date with changes in your Highlands-Cashiers and Rabun county GYN healthcare.

My contract with Highlands-Cashiers Hospital is up the end of this year, and after that I will be cutting back the number of days, *not cutting out* care provided up here. At this writing I am not sure of the exact time or dates we will be starting the new hours in January. Please contact Denise in Dr. Richardson's office (828-526-0720) for specifics.

The more than four years as your physician and friend have been special and I consider it an honor and a privilege to have been chosen as such. I would hope we can continue the same relationship for many years to come. My wife Pat and I have been privileged to live in this beautiful area and to meet and get to know many wonderful people. Both of us have developed relationships that we will cherish forever.

Dr. Stephen Goldman of Western North Carolina Ob/Gyn in Asheville at 828-255-8900 and Dr Gwang Han of Sylva Women's Clinic at 828-586-4096 will be happy to provide any care should I be unavailable. If you need care when I am not around these two highly qualified physicians will do a wonderful job. I have known both for years and have full confidence in their abilities.

Many of you are being followed for Pap smear changes, ovarian cysts, etc. Please do not neglect any of these important issues.

I have the good fortune to be afforded several options for my life the next few years. Because of the number and quality of these options we are taking our time in selection. Denise will be able to provide you with that information once we have made a decision.

I appreciate your interest and value your friendship. Let's not let this little side trip close them off.

Willis Sherrer, MD
Highlands-Cashiers Hospital

Rotary gives for 'Shop with a Cop'



Sheriff Deputy Craig Stahl, and Sgt. Amy Stewart, with Highlands Rotary President LaDonna Keener, Highlands Police Chief Bill Harrell, and Highlands Police Captain Tony Carver. The Highlands Rotary Club presented a check for \$1253.70 raised at their Tuesday meeting to the "Shop with a Cop" program. This program matches law enforcement officers with children in the community to enjoy a special day out to buy Christmas presents, followed by lunch and a party.

• OBITUARIES •

Philip Leroy Capman

Philip Leroy Capman, age 79, of Highlands, N.C. died Wednesday, November 30, 2005 at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. He was born in Dade County, Florida, the son of the late Sherman G. and Edith Baker Capman. He was a US Army Veteran of WWII and was a lifetime member of the Highlands VFW. He worked in all phases of the carpet industry from installation to custom carpet design. He was a member of the First United Methodist Church in Highlands where he served as an usher and was a member of the Mission Committee.

He is survived by his wife of 55 years, Jane Wensley Capman; his daughter, Claudia Murrie Thompson of Ft. Lauderdale, FL., and his son, Philip David Capman and his wife Jane of Miami, FL; one brother Sherman G. Capman of South Florida; four grandchildren, Casey Flint and her husband Anthony, Carly Thompson, Charlene Thompson and Cory Capman. A memorial service was held Friday, December 2 at 3 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church in Highlands with Rev. Eddie Ingram and Rev. Kim Ingram officiating. Bryant Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

David Bruce Forrester

David Bruce Forrester, Jr., age 93, of Highlands, N.C., died Tuesday, November 29, 2005 in a Sylva Hospital. He was born in Kansas City, Missouri, the son of the late David Bruce Forrester, Sr. and Maude Swentzel Forrester. He was married to the late Elizabeth Trezevant Forrester, who died in 2004. Mr. Forrester was Vice President of General Box Company. He was a member of the board and past president of Highlands Country Club; on the board of Highlands-Cashiers Hospital and Bank of America, formerly Carolina Mountain Bank in Highlands; president of the Chamber of Commerce in Meridian, MS., a member of United Way and a member of the Rotary Club. He was Episcopalian by faith.

He is survived by a daughter, Betsy Gleason of Missoula, MT; one son, David Bruce Forrester, III and his wife Peggy of Cumming, GA; nine grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren also survive. In addition to his parents and wife, he was preceded in death by a daughter, Cecily Swentzel Forrester, and a twin sister Barbara Forrester Rahm.

Memorial services were held Friday, December 9, 2005 at 11 a.m. at the Episcopal Church of the Incarnation in Highlands, with Father Brian Sullivan officiating. Memorials may be made to the American Cancer Society, PO Box 1648, Franklin, NC 28744 or to Highlands Cashiers Hospital, 190 Hospital Drive, Highlands, NC 28741. Bryant Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

• CARD OF THANKS •

We would like to thank everyone for their calls, visits, cards, prayers and offers of help after Lee's and Leslie's accident. God has really blessed us. He protected our children; provided wonderful medical help; and surrounded us with loving family and friends.

God Bless,

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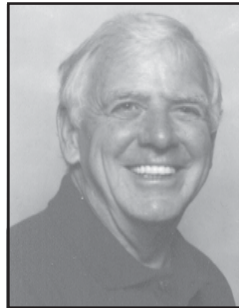
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• LAUGHING AT LIFE •

Getting ETJ'd

(The Nazis are coming, the Nazis are coming.)

Just about the time the last summer person had left Highlands and the tourist season began to slow a little, the Town Board fires things up and approves ETJ. Highlands' folks, who were just settling in for their well deserved quiet time of winter, have their shorts in a wad and some are declaring war against



Fred Wooldridge

ETJ.

You know things are hot when Baker Crane, usually a quiet Christian man, spends his hard earned money to put a half page ad in the paper protesting the action of the Town Board. Use caution, Commissioners, Baker has God on his side. And what about

Harold Neely, whose family has been around here longer than toilets? He thinks Highlands is like Nazi Germany. Actually, the German people, except for Jews, loved Hitler and what he was doing in Germany before the war. I don't see much love going on in Highlands right now. Ask Alex Redmountain for some first-hand information about how Highlands compares to Nazi Germany. Isn't this all a little embarrassing?

Here is what I do when I'm all bent out of shape on an issue that affects my life. I think about it for a while, try to remain calm and then wind up doing something stupid anyway. I do this with my foot in my mouth, which is a real talent. Remember that freedom of speech also means freedom to make an jackass of yourself. Later on, when the issue has been resolved, I look back and reflect on my stupidity. I vow never to do it again, which, of course, doesn't work. Angry people make bad decisions, even when they're calm.

This ETJ conflict is perfect for a guy like me who thrives on controversy. With just the right amount of adjectives and adverbs, along with a few unproven rumors and insults, I can fan the fires and start a Hatfield/McCoy feud worse than the Burger King wars of yesteryear.

Being the nice guy that I am, I

will call for calm, remembering that calm people can also make some real bonehead decisions.

Whatever made the Town Board think they could pull this off without a ruckus? They proclaimed, "Let there be ETJ" and POW, it springs to life. Then they tell folks who can't vote them out of office how to run their property. Did they really think that would fly?

Being an ex big time power broker and government employee from a zillion years ago, I learned that when big brother wants to take something away, like the freedom to control property, they must throw out a bone. For example, when we bargained with the union to take away employee privileges, we had to throw around some money or add a fringe benefit to sweeten the pot so everyone would remain calm. Believe me, you never want to face a bunch of policemen who are not calm.

Where's the bone for the people affected by ETJ?

And how about our mayor, Buck Trott; is he not the luckiest man in Highlands? While counting down his days as mayor, he must have been sitting on a couch somewhere far away, doubled over in laughter. I can just hear him, "Go get 'em, Dapper Don."

I am going to stick my neck out right now and take a firm stand on

•See WOOLDRIDGE page 6

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• ANOTHER VIEW •

Where is America?

Whenever I read the latest news, I find myself wondering, What happened to my country? Is this the America to which I pledged allegiance every morning during my school years? Is this the home of the free and the land of the brave? Who stole my country from me? I want my country given back!

But the truth is that the country I want returned to me never existed. It was only a figment of my imagination. It was part yearning, part bad high school history classes, part mythology.

The fantasy of America that I carry around in my head is an America of democratic institutions at home and of generosity, friendship, and non-aggression abroad. I keep thinking that there was a time, even during my lifetime, when this was a true picture of the United States, but my research and my memory tell me I'm mistaken.

Then I wonder about our founding fathers and the nation they stitched together in 1776. Is that the America of my dreams? A nation of large plantation owners, indentured servants, slaves, disenfranchised women, and victimized "savages?" I don't think so.

In the years that followed, the United States took two steps forward and one step back when it came to justice and equality. Always the hope was kept alive that progress was being made, that the gap between ideal and reality was narrowing. But since at least the administration of Richard Nixon, and perhaps earlier, retrenchment rather than progress has been the norm. When I look at our country today, I see the "last, best hope of mankind" in a state of terminal decay and decline.

Today we have a swollen, overbearing federal government that often bullies and intimidates ordinary citizens via the IRS and other agencies. Even though it is hugely inflated, when a real crisis like Katrina strikes, the government is pitifully ineffectual and uncaring. I can't even imagine what would happen in the event of a serious terrorist attack, although billions are being spent for "homeland security."

Corruption is rife throughout our system, both in and out of government. It isn't the old-fashioned bribe and steal, nickel and dime



Dr. Alex Redmountain

corruption of third world countries like Mexico and Kenya, but a much larger, sophisticated form of theft that rewards corporate cronies and well-connected politicians with immense, ill-gotten wealth. In the private sector, intricate financial schemes and stock manipulations, available only to the chosen few, contribute to the national climate of cupidity.

Opponents of the separation of church and state have infiltrated the political system, and are resolutely trying to impose right-wing Christianity and its distorted non-Christian values on the rest of us, through court decisions, constitutional amendments, and acts of Congress.

Our public school system, with a few exceptions, fails our minority students, and is only marginally better for the rest. In a perverse effort at democratization, neither the most talented nor the least able receive an adequate education.

The American health system, as everyone knows, is in a shambles. Only the well-off and the well-insured receive adequate care. The rest wait in overcrowded emergency rooms, renege on their medical bills, or depend wholly on charity.

Speaking of which, our poverty rate continues to be a reprehensible disgrace. As Katrina again highlighted, being poor and being black are still conjoined despite many efforts to address the problem. Unquestionably this is connected to the education issue (mentioned above), as well as to grievous, self-destructive attitudes promoted by some activists and black youth culture.

This is only a partial reckoning of our domestic dysfunctions.

Even worse is what we have become internationally: an imperious bully advocating pre-emptive war; mistreatment and torture of captives; submission to our will by small, vulnerable nations (Haiti, Panama); assassination and attempted assassination of foreign leaders (Lumumba, Castro); a stubborn unwillingness to admit our mistakes and listen to our critics,

A prime example of our misadventures is, of course, the war in Iraq. It is a terrible travesty, the net result of bad intelligence, fabrication, grandiosity, poor planning, and plain

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Dec 9-15

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rated PG-13

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Sat & Sun: (1), (4), 7, 10

YOURS, MINE AND OURS
rated PG

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

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

WALK THE LINE
rated PG-13

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

Sat & Sun: (2), (4:30), 7, 9:30

AEON FLUX • rated PG-13

Mon - Fri: 7, 9

Sat & Sun: 7, 9

HARRY POTTER AND THE GOBLET OF FIRE • rated PG-13

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presidential stubbornness. To waste more than 2,000 young American lives, and countless Iraqi ones, for this meaningless struggle is a historical catastrophe.

As others have pointed out, China, India, and perhaps some other ambitious nations are waiting impatiently in the wings to supplant

us scientifically, economically, and militarily. It won't take long. Unless we reinvent ourselves, re-commit to our basic values, invest in future generations wisely, we shall surely be upended along with our discarded dreams.

P.S. Enough grouching. Some possible solutions in future columns.

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• TIMES REMEMBERED •

The computer list

The turkey has been butchered to a fare-ye-well and the leftovers are in the freezer (as it we're going to eat it someday)! Now comes the real fun. It's time to make the Christmas list.

With this in mind, I turned to a recent edition of Parade Magazine which featured a plethora of new, updated hand-held computers and cell phones.

I was lost. I am, after all, computer illiterate. I have a cell phone, but can only use it to make and receive calls (in the street in front of my house, as that is the only place I can get reception). The phone evidently has lots of bells and whistles, but I can't figure them out. So, trying to make sense of Parade's suggestions was not too easy. Also, I'm not sure I agree that we all should have such gadgets available at all times.

For instance:

* According to Parade, the cell phone can now do more than any of us would have imagined 10 years ago. I wouldn't, anyway. But it doesn't matter as I don't even know what an MP3 is. However, it seems you can now, for a mere \$250, purchase a cell phone "compatible with iTunes," which, according to the Sunday magazine, allows the owner to store and listen to as many as 100 songs.

Why?

I know for a fact this prohibits communication. I can't count the times this past season that I was behind two teens, both plugged in to some sort of contraption which meant they could listen to music while following their parents down the street. No conversation. And they were right next to each other!



Nancy Welch

*But wait! According to the magazine article, you can now purchase a cell phone theater. That's right folks. You can now watch your favorite movie while grocery shopping, walking, or, God forbid, driving down the highway. Don't say no one would do that while driving. I've seen men reading the paper while driving through town. Imagine if a teen can watch a movie while making their way down

the Gorge Road. Scary.

Would any man give up a football game just because he has to make a quick trip to Atlanta? What are we doing to ourselves? Doesn't anyone appreciate the beauty of these mountains? Certainly the majesty of our surroundings beats anything on television.

* "Can't be parted with your favorite shows," the article reads. "Fear not: Your entire satellite or cable lineup is now available from just about anywhere." Well, isn't that special. I guess children no longer play road games (billboard alphabet, count the cows - bury them when you pass a church). Why, do you think they no longer fight over who has the biggest area of the back seat? My brother and I could do that for 12 hours on our drive to West Palm Beach.

* Then there's the biggy. An iPod (whatever that is) that plays videos, gets TV reception and also gets music.

Somehow I long for the days that children opened all the presents (non-interactive) and then played all day with the gift boxes.

I'm getting old, folks. I still listen to a radio, one that plugs into the wall, at that.

... WOOLDRIDGE continued from page 4

this issue. Write this down. I am dead against ETJ and here is why. I wanted to negotiate a deal for a nifty piece of land near one of Highlands' famous country clubs. My goal was to put a small paper mill on the property, knowing Macon County would give me the permits. Macon County will give anyone a permit if they can collect more tax dollars. If ETJ remains in effect, I doubt I will ever get Amy Patterson to agree to let me build my paper mill next to a country club, so I say down with ETJ.

I know, you think paper mills smell. This simply is not true. Like asphalt factories, the aroma is, well....different. I know most Highlanders have smelled the asphalt factory on their way to Franklin, but few have smelled a paper mill. No, you don't have to go to Jersey. Instead, do this. Leave your cut flowers in their vase long after they have wilted. Now, throw out the flowers and stick your nose in the vase and inhale. Not bad, huh? Better than bacon and eggs if you use your imagination.

• SCHOOL BASKETBALL •

Boys and girls basketball game round-up

West Oaks

On Thursday, Dec. 1, Highlands basketball teams traveled to West Oaks in South Carolina but came home defeated.

West Oaks beat the girls 47 to 15. The boys' score was 67 West Oaks, 63 Highlands.

As usual, the girls played hard. Becca Wyatt scored 5 goals, Katie Bryson and Toni Schmitt scored 4 and Keri Raby scored 2.

For the boys it looked like they might have the game when in the first quarter they scored 15 points, but West Oaks caught up and kept them running. Highlands scored 39 points in the third quarter but in the end West Oak beat them by four.

Highlands had 13 rebounds, 7 assists and 9 steals.

High scorer was Jason Aspinwall with 28 points; Alec Schmitt scored 17 and made 5 assists; Ryan Bear scored 11 and made 6 assists, Nick Kerhoulas scored 4; David Parrish scored 3 and Parrish and Kerhoulas each made one assist.

Walhalla

For the girls, the Homecoming Game on Dec 2 was a different story. They walloped Walhalla 60 to 45.

Becca Wyatt scored 19 points and had 12 rebounds; Keri Raby scored 11 points and had 13 rebounds; Allison Winn lead with 5 assists and Toni Schmitt and Katie Bryson pulled 11 boards each.

"The girls are really coming together and playing well as a team," said Coach Brett Lamb. "Tonight's play showed our hearts and willingness to play the game — by shooting, working well offensively, by rebounding and playing a tough defense."

Principal nominates seniors for awards

Seniors David "Buddy Boy" Parrish and Callie Rawlins have been nominated for the Wendy's High School Heisman Award.

Awarded in conjunction with the collegiate Heisman, the program celebrates the nation's top high school seniors who best exemplify a well-rounded "citizen-scholar-athlete."

The Wendy's High School Heisman Program is comprised of five phases – Nomination, State Finalists, State Winners, National Finalists and National Winners. Entries are initially evaluated by ACT Assessment during the State Finalist and State Winner phases and then passed on to a panel of judges.

Principal Monica Bomengen nominated Parrish and Rawlins for their academic aptitude, athletic talent and exceptional commitment to their communities.

"We believe it's important to celebrate success in all facets of life," said Bomengen. "The Wendy's High School Heisman is the ultimate way to showcase students' diverse achievements for all to see."

• • •

The boys didn't fair as well. The Walhalla Razorbacks beat Highlands 81 to 62.

Top scorer was Alec Schmitt with 20 points, 9 rebounds and 6 assists. Nick Kerhoulas scored 14 points, had 3 rebounds and 1 assist. Ryan Bears scored 7 points, had one rebound and two assists. Darren Keener scored 7 points with one rebound. Jason Aspinwall scored 6 points, had 5 rebounds and 2 assists. David Parrish scored 6 points, had 7 rebounds and 3 assists. Adam Hedden scored 2 points and had one rebound.

Franklin

It was a disappointing night for both the girls and boys teams at home, Tuesday, Dec. 6.

Franklin beat the girls 50 to 27 and the boys 66 to 54.

Becca Wyatt was top scorer with 12 points; Toni Schmitt scored 7; Ramsey Ashburn scored 4 and Katie Bryson and Keri Raby each scored 2 points.

Keri Raby had 8 rebounds and Becca Wyatt followed with 5. Becca Wyatt also had 5 steals.

The girls' Saturday, Dec. 10 home game against Hayesville is at 5 p.m. The boys' game is at 6:30 p.m.

The boys were down two of their regular players for the home game against Franklin. Parrish and Keener were out with injuries.

Jason Aspinwall was top scorer with 19 points and 12 rebounds; Alec Schmitt scored 12 points and had 13 rebounds, 3 assists and 5 steals; Nick Kerhoulas scored 10 points and had 4 rebounds; Eric Chen scored 6 points, had 6 rebounds and made 2 assists; Ryan Bears scored 5 points, had 4 rebounds, 2 assists, 2 blocks and 1 steal.

Highlands School senior Megan Lewicki has been nominated as a recipient of the Principal's Leadership Award Scholarship, co-sponsored by the national Association of Secondary Schools and Herff Jones, Inc.

There are 150 national winners who will receive \$1,000 scholarships. The country's participating high school principals nominate one senior to compete in the program. Nominees are selected based on their leadership skills, participation in service organizations, and clubs, achievements in the arts and sciences; employment experience and academic record.

"Megan Lewicki is an outstanding student who serves not only as president of the senior class but also as an advisor to the middle school Girls' Clubhouse program," said Bomengen. "Her most significant accomplishment in terms of leadership is she commands the respect and admiration of her peers."

In recognizing leadership in cocurricular activities as well as academic performance, the PLA scholarship recognizes the importance of a well-rounded education.

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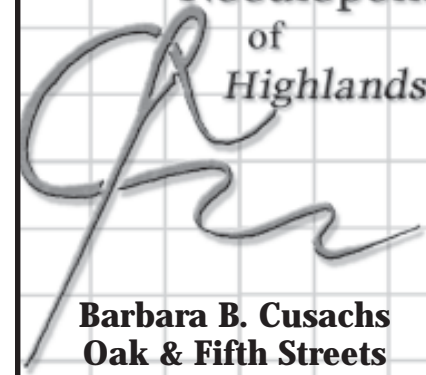
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New Medicare D coverage program to be explained one-on-one

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.

Hospital Auxiliary 'Tree of Lights'

Bells, in honor of living friends and loved ones, and stars, in memory of deceased friends or loved one, will be placed on the the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital Auxiliary Christmas Tree in the hospital lobby. These tributes are available with a gift of \$25 or more.

Complete the form below (please print) and mail to: Highlands-Cashiers Hospital Foundation

Attn: Tree of Lights, P.O. Box 742, Highlands, NC 28741

Amount given: _____

Circle one:

in memory of _____ in honor of _____

Name: _____

Given by: _____

Address: _____

Send acknowledgement to: _____

Address: _____

Make checks payable to:
Highlands-Cashiers Hospital Auxiliary

Proceeds from the Tree of Lights in the hospital lobby will go toward scholarships for qualifying candidates who want to enter the health care field and who agree to join the hospital's team for a specified period of time. Ornaments can also be purchased during regular Hospital Gift Shop hours.



... BOWERY continued from page 1

arose in certain areas where the road was widened, mainly more rock. But engineers also had to wait for utility poles to be moved by various groups.

"Although we were working with a tight schedule, I had hoped the construction process would have progressed more quickly and we could have completed the project entirely this winter," said Grindstaff. "We have about two weeks worth of grading and finish work remaining."

He said they are also still waiting for Verizon to relocate its lines.

After the final touches are put on the grading and finish work, the road will be graveled with an 18-foot travel surface for the winter and will be paved as soon as temperature and weather permit in the spring. "That typically occurs at some point in April in the Highlands area," he said. "I appreciate everyone's patience and understanding throughout the construction process."

Dr. Lindsay closing practice, relocating

Family practitioner Thomas F. Lindsay, who has practiced in Cashiers since April, announced this week he will close his offices here Dec. 30, and relocate to Sparta, NC.

Lindsay said a primary factor in the decision is the need to be closer to family members, some of whom have serious, on-going medical issues.

"Dr. Lindsay is a fine physician and we are sorry to see him leave the area, but we understand his concerns," said hospital President and CEO Ken Shull. "We want to assure everyone in Cashiers, Glenville and Sapphire, particularly Dr. Lindsay's patients, that the hospital is still very much committed to

making sure there is adequate access to primary care physicians in the area."

Shull said the hospital continues to recruit more physicians to the area.

"We hope we will be able to announce some success in those efforts in the near future," he added.

Dr. Lindsay, who came to Cashiers from Brevard, said he will initially work in the emergency room of Al-

leghany Memorial Hospital and will later join Alleghany Family Practice, a primary care group in Sparta. Both Lindsay and his wife have family in the Winston-Salem/Greensboro, NC area.

"This will put us only an hour to an hour and a half away from them. We will be much closer in the event of a medical emergency," he said. "That's the primary

reason I'm moving.

"I want to thank the people in the Cashiers area for allowing me to serve them during the past year and I wish them and everyone at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital a bright future," he said. "I have enjoyed working with the hospital administration, physicians, and staff during my months here."

A native of High Point, NC, Dr. Lindsay earned his medical degree from the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill in 1988 and completed both his internship and residency in family practice at East Carolina University in Greenville, NC, finishing in 1991.



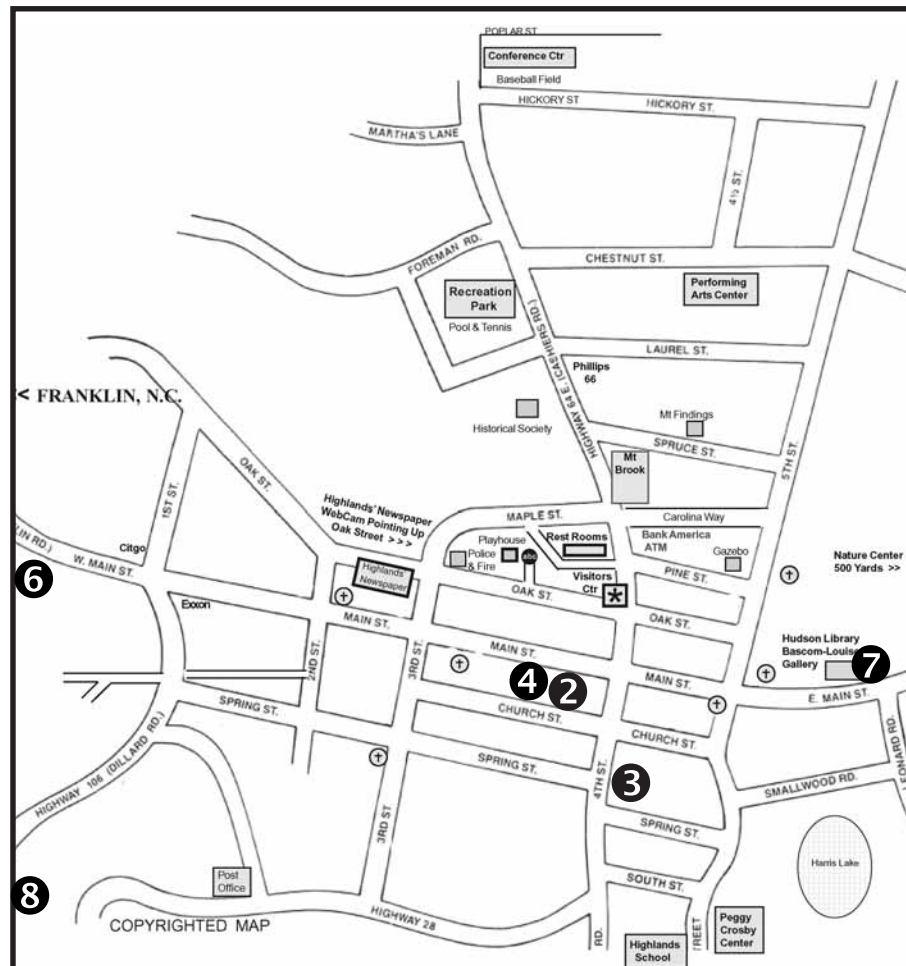
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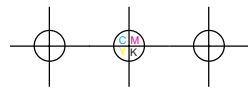
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Homecoming festivities from Rally to Parade



During the Dec. 2 Pep Rally, Principal Monica Bomengen's encouraged kindergartners to give Asst. Principal Mark Thomas a birthday hug. Above, Megan Lewicki leads seniors around the gym with the "Spirit Stick." Right, David Parrish breaks down in tears at the crowning of his "Miss Highlander" rival, Ryan Perkins.

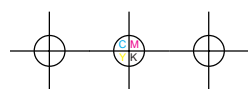


Right, Megan Lewicki and Stephanie Dalton head up the senior parade as they enter the gym for the Pep Rally. Above Megan Lewicki and Ryan Bears in the high school "dance-off," below elementary students in the "dance-off," bottom left, the Lady Highlanders beating Walhalla at the Dec. 2 Homecoming game - 60-45.



Pep Rallies at Highlands School are truly a "school affair" with students in kindergarten on up participating. Students of all ages took a turn at the "spin the bat then run the court" relay.

Photos by Jim Lewicki





A Midwinter's Night's Dream

Highlands School Homecoming Dance
Dec. 3 at Highlands Country Club

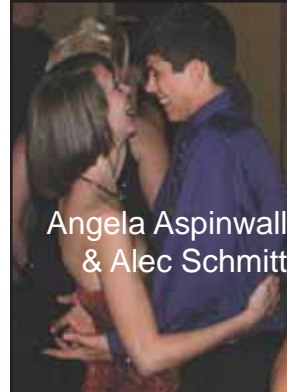
Highlands' Newspaper - Friday, December 9, 2005 - Page 11



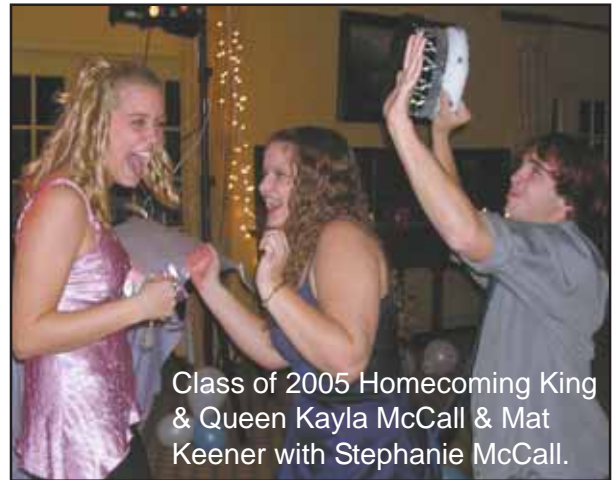
Ryan Bears
& Anna Trine



Callie Rawlins, Laura Kremser
& Claire Frederick



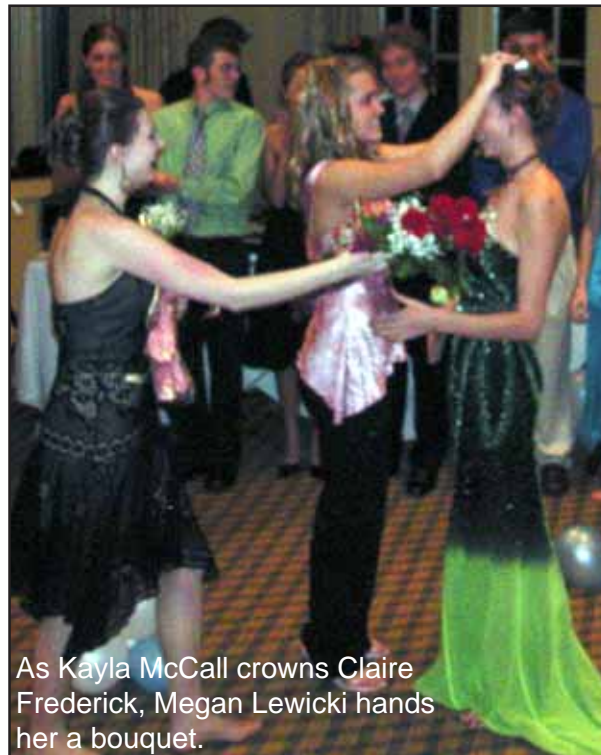
Angela Aspinwall
& Alec Schmitt



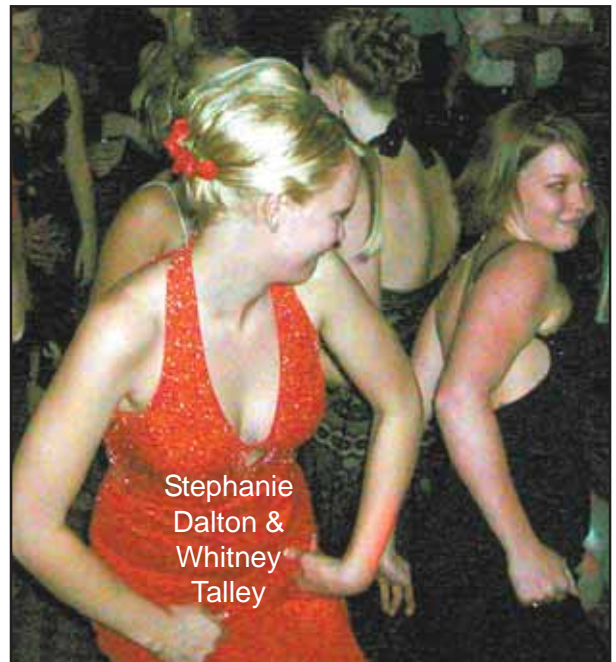
Class of 2005 Homecoming King
& Queen Kayla McCall & Mat
Keener with Stephanie McCall.



Maggie Dearth, Franka Dadic & Vicki Smith



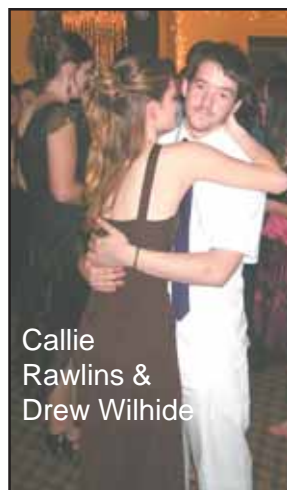
As Kayla McCall crowns Claire
Frederick, Megan Lewicki hands
her a bouquet.



Stephanie
Dalton &
Whitney
Talley



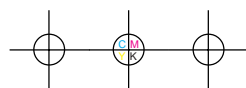
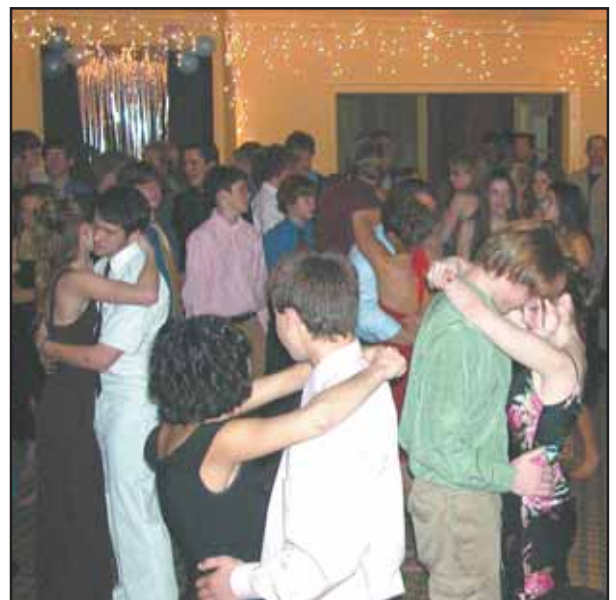
Whitney Talley, Stephanie Dalton, Maggie
Rogers, Jackie Reed and Tiffany Austin



Callie
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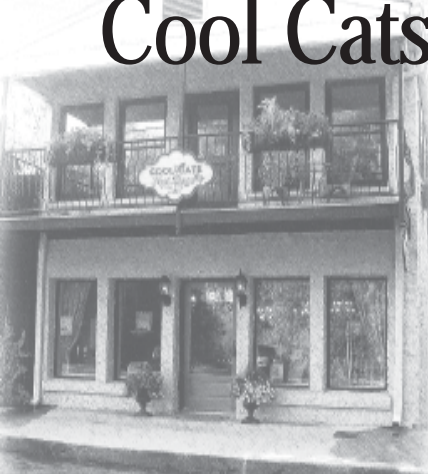
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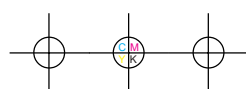


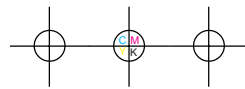
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Community Chorale Concert this weekend

The Highlands Community Christian Chorale – 65 voices strong – under the direction of Fletcher Wolfe, will perform on Saturday evening Dec. 10 at 4 p.m. and Sunday evening Dec. 11 at 7 p.m. at the Episcopal church.

Come out and enjoy some of the world's greatest Christmas songs performed by this outstanding choral group. There will be many new beautiful selections as well as many of the classic Christmas pieces.

Since all the churches are participating in this event it is necessary to come early for a seat. Following the Sunday evening performance there will be a reception in Jones Hall given by the church.

In addition to Patty Campbell, pianist and Pat Robinson, organist, the choir will be accompanied by Valerie Van Pechy, harpist and Lea Kibbler, flutist. It's free.

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Mondays: Women's Cursillo Group – 4 & 5:30

Christmas Chorale – 7 p.m.

Tuesdays: Men's Cursillo in Jones Hall – 8; Staff Mtg. –
9:30 a.m.; Flying Solo – 6:30 p.m.

Wednesdays: Supper & Program – 5:30 p.m.; Choir
Rehearsal – 6:30 p.m.

Thursdays: Holy Eucharist – 10 a.m.; Gulf Coast
Support – 10:30 a.m.; Women's Cursillo – noon.

Sunday Service is telecast on cable channel 14

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Dr. Daniel D. Robinson, 526-4153
Sun.: Worship – 8:15 a.m., 10:45 a.m., 6:30 p.m.;
School – 9:30 a.m.; Youth – 6:30 p.m.; Choir – 7:15
Wednesdays: Dinner – 5:30 p.m.; Team Kids – 6 p.m.;

Prayer – 6:15 p.m., Choir – 7:30 p.m.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Rev. J. Hunter Coleman, Pastor, 526-3175
Sun.: Worship – 11 a.m.; Sunday School – 9:30 &
9:45.

Wednesdays: Children's Devotions – 9:30 a.m.;

Supper – 6 p.m.; Choir – 7 p.m.

Thursdays: Bible Study – 10 a.m.

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

HIGHLANDS ASSEMBLY OF GOD

Rev. Scott Holland, 524-6026, Sixth Street

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

Wednesdays: Prayer & Bible Study – 7

HIGHLANDS 7TH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH

Wednesday evening prayer & Bible Study

Call Lloyd Kidder at 526-9474

HIGHLANDS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Pastors Eddie & Kim Ingram, 526-3376

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



• POLICE & FIRE LOG •

The following are the Highlands Police Dept. log entries for the week of Dec. 1-7.

Dec. 1

• At 12:15 a.m., officers responded to an accident between two vehicles at Second and Main streets. There were no injuries.

Dec. 4

• At 11 a.m., officers investigated a larceny at a residence on Cobb Road where various household items and collectibles were missing.

• Police do not yet know if the Dec. 4 larceny of household goods, antiques and collectibles is related to the Nov. 24 larceny on Thistle Drive or the

Nov. 25 larceny on Cobb Road where similar items were reported missing. No arrests have been made.

The following are the Highlands Fire & Rescue Dept. log entries for the week of Dec. 1-7.

Dec. 2

• The dept. provided mutual aid to Cashiers for a structure fire.

Dec. 3

• The dept. responded to an alarm at the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. The alarm was faulty.

Dec. 4

• The dept. provided mutual aid to Cashiers. The call was cancelled en route.

Macon County Schools and county OKs 3rd SRO officer

At the Dec. 5 Macon County School Board meeting held in Nantahala, the board OK'd Sheriff Robbie Holland's request to begin a student crime-stoppers program in Macon County Schools and to include fifth-graders in the Reality Check 101 program.

Holland said the Reality Check 101 program has been successful in the middle schools and believes it will help to introduce students to the "reality" of drug and alcohol abuse at an earlier age.

As part of the Reality 101 program, inmates from the Macon County jail go into the schools with Holland to talk with students about their lifestyles in an effort to keep young people out of trouble and out of jail.

Holland was also given permission to install a full-time SRO officer at Nantahala School. "Now you'll have an SRO officer in every high school in the county," said Holland.

Later that same evening, he asked the Macon County Commission if he could hire a full-time SRO officer for

the Nantahala position in place of an officer who is retiring.

"I'm not asking for any more money because I'm just changing the position," he said.

Commissioners gave their OK.

Highlands' Newspaper - Friday, December 9, 2005 - Page 15 Fire & rescue officers elected for 2006

At its regular Tuesday night meeting on Dec. 6, members of the Highlands Fire & Rescue Dept. elected officers to serve for 2006.

Re-elected were Chief James Manley, Asst. Chief Ryan Gearhart, and Captain

Wayne Henry.

Elected to new posts were 1st. Lt. Robbie Forrester, 2nd Lt. Roger Wilson, Rescue Captain Jimmy Tate, Rescue Lt. Eric Pierson, Treasurer Terry Watson, and Secretary Lenny Metrick.



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Christmas music programs at school

On Dec. 14 at 7 p.m., the Highlands School Middle School and High School bands will perform a variety of Christmas songs. The program will include Christmas favorites.

On Dec. 15 at 7 p.m. the K-5 Christmas Program, "Christmas Around the World" will be presented. During December, each class is studying a country and will perform a song from that country. After the program, there is an open house and in each classroom, cookies or a dessert will be served from the class's "country."

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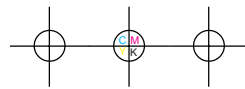
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526-4121 Mtn. Brook Center



• 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. 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.

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

• 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.

• 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. 8

• On Thursday at 7 p.m. at PAC Highlands Community Players presents a program of readings appropriate to the holiday season 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. Call 526-3376 for reservations.

• Highlands Community Chorus presents its Annual Christmas Chorale lead by Fletcher Wolfe at the Episcopal Church a 7 p.m. It's free.

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

• 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.

• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a moderate five-mile hike to Siler Bald with an elevation gain of 900 feet. Meet at Westgate Plaza in Franklin (opposite Burger King) at 9:30 a.m. Drive 20 miles round trip. Call leader David Sapin, 369-2628 for reservations.

Dec. 11

• Highlands Community Chorus presents its Annual Christmas Chorale lead by Fletcher Wolfe at the Episcopal Church a 4 p.m. It's free.

Dec. 12

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

• Concerned about ETJ? Whether affected or not, meet at High Country Cafe at 7 p.m. to discuss measures to counter this action by the Highlands Town Board.

Dec. 13

• HIARPT's Dialogue at Civic Center, 10-11:30 a.m. Topic "Dark Side of American History," with a selection from Howard Zinn's "Peoples' History of the United States." Alex Redmountain-coordinator.

• The December meeting of The WNC Woodturners club will meet on Tuesday at 10 a.m. in the Cashiers Community Center gymnasium. Visitors are always welcomed.

• The Chamber of Commerce will sponsor a Business after Hours on Tuesday at The Mountain Retreat & Learning Center from 5:30 to 7:30. \$10 in advance and \$15 at the door. Call 526-5841 for reservations.

Dec. 14

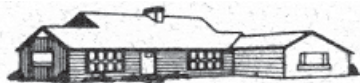
• Highlands Plateau Audubon Society Christmas Bird Count.

Dec. 16

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

• ITC's free reading of "Papa's Angels" by Collin Wilcox at 7 p.m. with music by John Roman.

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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.

STAFF PHYSICAL THERAPIST AT HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HOSPITAL. Full-time with occasional weekend coverage. Primarily in outpatient area with orthopedic caseload. Supervision of physical therapy assistants and aides. Excellent working environment and benefit package. Pre-employment substance screening. Call Mary Osmar, 828-526-1301.

MATERIALS MANAGEMENT SUPPLY CLERK AT HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HOSPITAL. This full-time position with advancement potential is for a career-minded applicant with excellent computer skills. Duties include stocking, receiving, processing purchase orders, and shipping. Excellent benefit package after 60 days. Pre-employment substance screening. Call Mary Osmar,

828-526-1301.

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.

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.

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.

LPN OR RN AT FIDELIA ECKERD LIVING CENTER AT HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HOSPITAL. Three 12-hour shifts per week, 7pm to 7am. 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.

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.

EARN WHILE YOU LEARN! ARE YOU INTERESTED IN A NEW CAREER? Become a Certified Nursing Assistant for Fidelia Eckerd Living Center at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. C.N.A. classes in Cashiers will start January 17, 2006. Students will be paid while in class Mondays through Fridays for 6 hours a day. Upon graduation in the first week of March, receive \$2.00 more per hour. Ex-

cellent benefit package after 60 days. Pre-employment substance screening. If interest in joining a dynamic healthcare team, call Judy Miller, 828-526-1315 or Mary Osmar, 828-526-1301.

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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: bobnnancy@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: bobnnancy@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

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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

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Under rainy skies annual Highlands Parade shines

This year's parade, Saturday, Dec. 3 which was sponsored by The Christmas Tree and the Chamber of Commerce, was the largest yet with 68 entrants.

Judges positioned on the balcony of the Highlands Inn selected winners and assigned titles.

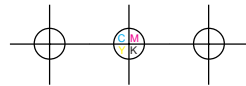


Parade Awards

1. Cub Scouts - "We Be Cold" award
3. Soccer Team - "Illegal Use of Hands" award
6. Mtn. Garden Club - "Black Dahlias, Green thumbs and White Folks with Hands" award
8. Shriners - "Most Exalted, Esteemed and Honorable" award
13. "South Paws" award
15. Gymnastics - "Perfect 10" award
16. Red Hat Society - "I Don't Give A ..." award
18. Stephanie McCall - "Congratulations" award
24. Girls Clubhouse - "No Useless Boys" award
25. Dogs - "Most Glad It Didn't Snow" award
29. CHHS - "How Much Is That Doggie in the Manger" award
30. Historical Society - "Ancient August and Honorable Guild" award
31. First Citizens Bank - "Unkind to Geriatrics" award
33. Presbyterian Church - "They Are Precious in His Sight" award
34. Highlands Women's Club - "Babes in Toyland" award
37. Reeves Hardware - "Nicely Packaged" award
40. McKim - "Macy's" award
42. Bryson Motor Sports - "5th Place" award
43. Old Edwards - "Sweet Dreams" award
45. Literacy Council - "Letters to Santa" award
50. High Country Photo - "One Hour Christmas" award
52. Highlands Country Club - "Christmas on the Green" award
53. Century 21 - "We Sell Christmas Dreams" award
54. Dieter Harre - "Let it Pour" award
56. Mountain Hardscapes - "Chestnut Roasting" award
60. Car Spa of Highlands - "Down and Dirty" award
63. Lupoli Construction - "Marjorie Wants Your Car" award
67. Church Youth - "Littlest Angels" award
68. Community Bible - "The Dr. Seuss" award



Right, Grand Marshal for this year's parade was the Fighting Highlanders, Highlands School varsity boys soccer team who advanced to the final four of the state championship.



Winter Night Life
Cyprus
Bucks Cafe
Fressers
SweeTreats Cafe
...on the Verandah
OEI's 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
Steaks In Town"

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
Mt. High Lodge
Exxon
Don Leons
Fireside Restaurant
Wright Square
Country Club Properties
Helen's Barn Ave
Fressers

Highlands' Newspaper
WebCam Pointing Up
Oak Street >>>

Newspaper
Visitors Center
Main St Inn

Highlands Suites
Highlands Pharmacy
Hardware
Drake's Diamonds
Houston Realty

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

Post Office

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
Chandler Inn
Colonial Pines Inn B&B

Chestnut St.
Best of the Bunch
Performing Arts Center
Community Players
Highlands Cashiers Music Festival

Foreman Rd.
Whole Life Market
Elephant's Foot
Civic Center Rec. Park
Pool & Tennis

Laurel St.
Phillips 66
Mt Findings

Historic Village
Meadows Mt Realty

Maple St.
PlayHouse
Rest Rooms
Town Hall

Oak St.
Police & Fire Dept.
Grinning Frog Theatre
Shiraz Rugs
Bear Mtn.

Main St.
Nancy's Exchange
Sports Page
Toy Store
Village Kids
Wits End
Buck's
Ann Jacob

Church St.
Mirror Lake Antiques
Buyer's Realty

Spring St.
Images
Warth

Highlands Custom Coverings
Christmas Tree
Cool Cats
Hot Dogs
Old Rangoon
Icon Art
Highlands Cabinet

4th St.
Hilltop Grill
Rib Shack
Dry Cleaner

South St.
Northland Cable Co.
Highlands School

Highlands' Newspaper
WebCam Pointing Up
Oak Street >>>

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Oak Street >>>

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Oak Street >>>

Carolina Way
ATM
Gazebo

Pine St.
CK Swan
Cleaveland Realty
Village Sq
92 88 81 71 93 61

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

South St.
Peggy Crosby Center

South St.
Peggy Crosby Center

South St.
Peggy Crosby Center

South St.
Peggy Crosby Center

South St.
Peggy Crosby Center

South St.
Peggy Crosby Center

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

Harris Lake

Harris Lake

Harris Lake

Harris Lake

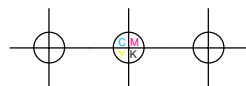
Harris Lake

Harris Lake

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

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... CHANGING continued from page 2

"However, unfortunately, there are those who would use every means to get what they want against the greater good of the community. The community must protect itself against such occurrences," he said.

"In no place that I have been lately was this tension so intense with lines drawn sharply between individuals and community as at the recent ETJ public hearing. The air was thick with hatred and distrust. The rhetoric was vitriolic. Attempts to disrupt and end the hearing for technical reasons were made. Tempers were hot. I was appalled at the level of hatred and mistrust, and I grieved deeply for our community as I saw this going on.

"We must have some sense of compromise and some reconciliation in our hearts regarding both the protection of the individual and the protection of the community as a whole as we try to come to some kind of mutual consent and respect for the opinions of others.

"We are all citizens of the same community, whether living within the borders of the town or in areas sur-

rounding the town. Borders are arbitrary but our people are all equal and the same in their individual goals for themselves and their families. It is important that we work as a unit to preserve the integrity and well being of the Highlands plateau as we seek to continuously guard our own individual property rights so long as they do not impinge upon the rights of our neighbors.

"As mayor of Highlands, it is my hope that I can help to restore confidence and respect to our town government by helping everyone understand the reasons we do what we do. I hope in my four years to create an atmosphere of reconciliation. There is too much distrust. Without trust, we all lose.

"In the meantime let us keep the rhetoric down, the political opportunist out, and discuss our differences peacefully and in a more civilized manner. I look forward to working with both those inside and outside the borders of Highlands to restore unity, honesty and integrity to our community on the Highlands plateau," he said.

Habitat for Humanity Christmas Day Dinner at Main Street Inn.
Dinner is \$29.95. Call Main Street Inn at (828)526-2590 for reservations.
All proceeds benefit Habitat.

... DECISION continued from page 1

the meeting. "I've been here so many times I would hope you could move forward with the R3 zoning as originally requested. I still think the original concept for the property is the best use for it," he said.

A multi-family condominium complex with a few single family homes with the original farmhouse in place were components of his original plan and he's agreed all along to implement everything the appearance and planning boards requested.

"I feel confident he will implement the original plan even without conditional zoning," said Commissioner Hank Ross. "I see no reason to wait."

Commissioner Dennis DeWolf agreed. "I voted for the rezoning initially and I feel we have pressed this individual considerably," he said.

But since conditional zoning guarantees compliance on particular tracts, commissioners voted to wait and look at the project when conditional zoning is in effect.

When Simmerson realized the board wasn't going to give him an answer on the original plan or rezone the property R3, he told the board to go ahead and accept his "Village Shoppes" preliminary subdivision plat which is legal and in compliance with the current zoning re-

quirements of the property.

Months ago, when it became apparent that the Werder property wasn't going to be rezoned R3, Simmerson came up with plan two which involves shops with apartments along Fourth Street and single family homes on the back half of the lot.

However rather than rule on the Village Shoppes subdivision plat, at Commissioner Herb James' suggestion, the board tabled the request until the January meeting.

Adjacent property owners Steve and Beth Hamm who have been closely following the proposed development of the Werder property, have gone on record saying they would prefer the Village Shoppes scenario over the R3 multi-family scenario because they don't want to see a dense condominium scenario as originally proposed.

The Planning Board will review the conditional zoning ordinance at its Dec. 9 meeting and Zoning Administrator Larry Gantenbein will take the board's recommendation to the continued Town Board meeting on Dec. 14. Depending on the outcome of a January public hearing, a final decision concerning both conditional zoning and the Werder property can be made.

Dillsboro 20 Miles
Hwy 441
Franklin
*
Lowe's
< Fun Factory
Whistle Stop >
Ruby >
Cinema



Ski & Snow Tubing Time

Meadows Mt. Realty
Big View & Waterfront
Highlands # 828-526-1717
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