

FREE

Highlands' Newspaper

Volume 3, Number 50

Locally Owned & Operated

Friday, Dec. 16, 2005

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 live music — Chad Reed, piano player — on Friday and Saturday nights.

• 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. 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.

• Senior Citizen Luncheon at the Civic Center at noon. Donations accepted.

Dec. 17

• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a moderate five-mile hike to Whiteside Mountain and the Devil's Courthouse. Call leader David Sapin, 828-369-2628, for reservations.

• The International Friendship Center is hosting its annual. Christmas "Noche de Familia," Saturday at 5 p.m. at the Episcopal church.

Dec. 18

• Chancel Choir Lessons & Carols during Sunday's 11 a.m. worship service at Highlands United Methodist Church.

Dec. 21

• No Town Board meeting. The next meeting will be Wednesday, Jan. 4, 2006 at 7 p.m. in the Town Hall boardroom.

Dec. 24

• Family-Oriented Candlelight and Communion Christmas Eve Service 5:30 p.m. at Highlands United Methodist Church.

• Community Candlelight Christmas Eve Service at Community Bible Church at 7 p.m.

Dec. 25

• Christmas Day Dinner at Main Street Inn with proceeds to benefit Habitat for Humanity. Dinner is \$29.95. Wine available. Call 526-2590 for reservations.

FRI	SAT	SUN
36-24°F	38-25°F	37-23°F

'Citizens Against ETJ' take action

There's no telling what the outcome of the Nov. 18 public hearing on ETJ would have been had the "Citizens Against ETJ" approached the subject in the cool, calm and calculating manner in which they conducted their first meeting, Monday night.

About 40 people gathered at High Country Café, Dec. 12 to determine what tack to take to "put the brakes on ETJ."

"Where do we go from here and how do we get there?" asked moderator David Hourdequin.

•See CITIZENS page 10

Inside:

Letters	pg. 2
Obituaries	pg. 3
Wooldridge	pg. 4
Ruby Theater	pg. 5
School Sports	pg. 10-11
Police & Fire	pg. 15
Upcoming Events	pg. 16

Highlanders win at home



The Fighting Highlanders beat the Rosman Tigers 84 to 63 in the non-league game, Monday, Dec. 12 at home. See story page 10.

Photo by Jim Lewicki

Work sessions for zoning ETJ begin Friday

Having dealt with a heavy agenda for almost three hours, Friday morning, Planning Board members didn't have the time to delve into the zoning of the ETJ area – a matter which needs careful consideration, they said.

But the subject of zoning the area brought to the surface attitudes still festering since the Town Board evoked ETJ the middle of last month.

Town Planner Larry Gantenbein said he'd heard from citizens who suggested the recent Friday morning Planning Board meetings were a way to keep people affected by the zoning decisions in ETJ away from the meetings. But he said the board met the last two Fridays to accommodate board member

•See ETJ page 11

Parking fines & limits to change

Parking fines could increase considerably for contractors and construction workers in the downtown area.

At the Dec. 14 continuation Town Board meeting, commissioners agreed to amend the parking ordinance to end violations occurring specifically on Church Street but generally everywhere construction is going on in town.

The idea came out of the Dec. 12 Public Works Committee meeting.

Highlands Police Chief Bill Harrell said issuing \$50 parking tickets wasn't a deterrent to contractors. "It's like paid-parking privileges," he said. Commissioners agreed saying contractors consider it the price of doing business.

A higher fee was suggested as a way to regulate the use of Town streets and sidewalks during construction activities.

Though the particulars need to be

•See PARKING page 11

'Nonconforming' issue still looms

Several boomerangs have been flying around the boardroom at Town Hall lately. The latest is the nonconforming ordinance.

Close to a year ago, commissioners requested the ordinance be rewritten when they learned that Old Edwards Hospitality Group was going to rebuild a building which had been dismantled to its footings on the Church Street bluff.

The building was nonconforming because it was in the Church Street right-of-way, but because the footings were intact, Larry Gantenbein, zoning administrator, allowed the building to be rebuilt. (When controversy arose, however, OEI abandoned the project and decided not to rebuild the building.)

Though technically allowed by the

ordinance, several commissioners were under the impression that the ordinance had been changed to disallow the rebuilding of nonconforming buildings once they were destroyed.

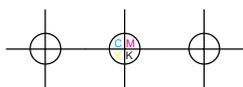
And therein lay the rub. Exactly what is "destroyed?"

The Town Board took it upon itself to rewrite the ordinance for clarification alleviating Gantenbein and Town Administrator Richard Betz of the task.

Now seven months later, the ordinance is still in the rewrite stage, with the Town Board soliciting input from the Planning Board for the third time.

No one can decide to what degree a building should be classified destroyed - if it's taken down manually to be

•See NONCONFORMING page 20



STARPONY ELECTRONICS



Highlands' only Verizon Wireless Dealer
Serving all your electronic needs in Highlands.

TOYS! TOYS! TOYS!

You've got questions. We've got answers.

Located at the beautiful Falls on Main • 555 E. Main Street • 526-3350

Can you get the best
interest checking rate in town?

Absolutely!

CAROLINA PRIME CHECKING ACCOUNT

3.50%^{APY} On balances greater than **\$7,499**

Based on 50% of Prime

Unlimited Check Writing

Free Checks

Free Bill Pay

Free Online Banking

Free Safe Deposit Box

Free Debit Card Issuance



We take your banking personally.

Franklin
143 Porter Street
349-0858

Sylva
583 Asheville Highway, Suite 1
631-3576

*Limited time offer subject to change. Annual Percentage Yield (APY) accurate as of date of publication and subject to change. Offer good only for new accounts opened with funds not previously on deposit with Carolina First. Minimum balance of \$7,499.01 and above required to earn 3.50% APY. (3.50% APY is based on 50% of Prime which is the rate announced by the Bank from time to time as its prime lending rate.) Balances of \$2,499.01 - \$7,499.00 earn 2.80% APY. Balances of \$0.00 - \$2,499.00 earn 0.50% APY. Fees may reduce earnings. Member FDIC

Highlands' Newspaper

Highlands' only locally owned & operated newspaper.

Member N.C. Press Association

FREE every Friday; circulation 5,500; 100 distribution points

Toll Free FAX: 866-212-8913 • (828) 526-0782

email: HighlandsEditor@aol.com

Publisher/Editor - Kim Lewicki;

Copy Editor/Proofreader Tom Merchant

Cartoonist - Karen Hawk

Circulation/Tech. Support - Jim Lewicki

Adobe PDF version at www.highlandsinfo.com

265 Oak St.; P.O. Box 2703, Highlands, N.C., 28741

All Rights Reserved. No articles, photos, illustrations, advertisements or design elements may be used without permission from the publisher.

Printed by the Asheville Citizen-Times, Asheville, N.C.

PTO gives teachers classroom money



Every teacher who participated in Highlands School Fall Festival was rewarded with a \$150 check courtesy of Highlands School PTO. About \$1,500 was given to teachers. Photo by Kim Lewicki

• SCHOOL BOARD TIDBITS •

• The school board accepted teacher Anne Tate's resignation as of Dec. 2005. Macon County Schools is advertising for the position and hopes to fill it by the first of January.

• It's possible the soccer field/interpretative playground project will be discussed at the January school board meeting.

• The school board didn't discuss or take action on the suggested elimination of the Valedictorian/Salutatorian

designations at Highlands School.

• Answers to parents' questions about the quality points of a SCC ITV class vs. an AP class: "The decision on quality points is made from an agreement with the state board of education, the community college board and the university system. We are following the standardize transcript that is approved by the state board of education." - Superintendent Dr. Rodney Shotwell.

• LETTERS TO THE EDITOR •

Bush suffers consequences

Dear Editor,

In the lead up to the Iraq conflict, we were repeatedly told that anyone who disagreed with the rush to go to war, or criticized the Bush Administration, was "anti-American." I guess that means that the majority of Americans are anti-American.

A series of polls has shown that most Americans now realize that Bush and his administration lied to get them into the war and that it was a mistake to go to war. The Harris Poll now shows President Bush down to a 34 percent approval rating.

The White House promised to conduct a "sustained attack" against the Democrats for suggesting that the administration lied to the American people to sell the war in Iraq. The more the White House keeps the "we didn't lie" message in the media, the more the public will be reminded that they probably did.

Don Twardowski, Franklin

Parade shouldn't be political arena

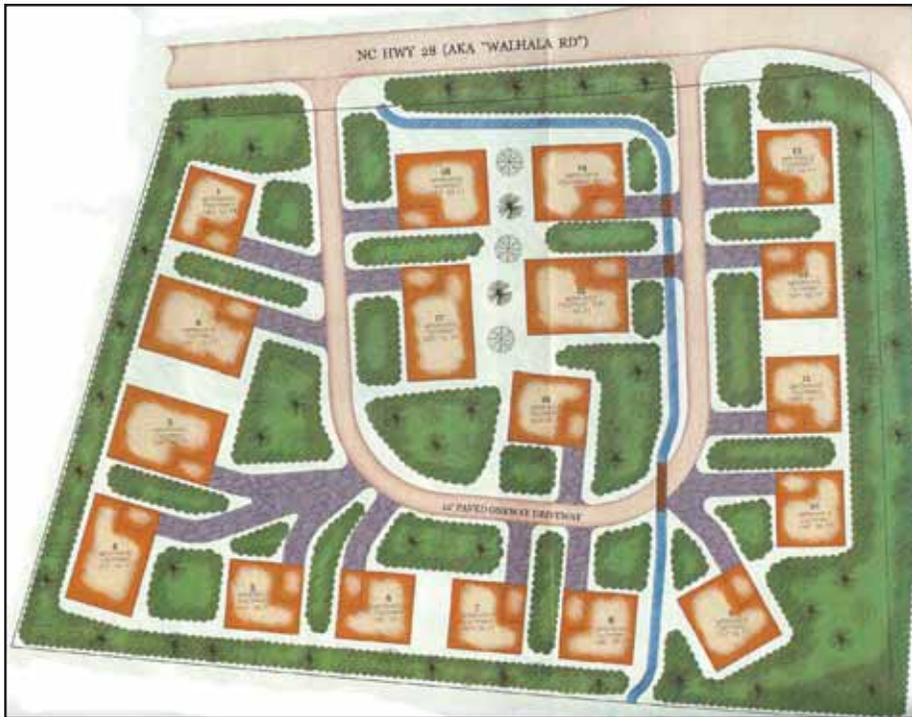
Dear Editor,

It's customary and appropriate that our local organizations, businesses, elected officials, our schools, and private citizens celebrate the season of Jesus' birth with lovingly decorated floats and music and all the fun of our traditional parade.

However we try hard to keep reminding ourselves and our families that we must never forget to keep Christ in Christmas. I wonder what effect it had on our young people to see the Star of Bethlehem used as the vehicle for a political ad.

I hope this does not become an example for future parades and that we are not treated to a profusion of ads for congressmen, mayors, county commissioners, etc. Hopefully, other folks running for public office will have better sense - and better taste.

Elizabeth Linsley, Highlands



Nick's and putt-putt to become Satulah Park

OEI to develop two subdivisions

The Planning Board got a sneak preview of two projects in the works for Old Edwards Hospitality Group at the Friday, Dec. 9 meeting.

The Nick's Restaurant property will be combined with the old putt-putt property to create Satulah Park, an upscale subdivision with 16-18 homes ranging in size from 2,300 to 2,900 sq. ft. The homes will sport the OEI insignia of cobblestones and fine stone, slate and wood work while interspersing five floor plans and exteriors throughout the community.

"We could put 22 homes on the property but we want to maximize the greenspace," said OEI CEO Mario Gomes.

Each 3-4 bedroom home will sell for \$950,000 to \$1.2 million.

There is a non-perennial stream which the group plans to pipe and re-

direct with the Army Corps of Engineers permission. "We are in discussion with them now," said Gomes.

The only snag is a 12-foot wide one-way road that loops through the subdivision entering from and exiting on N.C. 28 in two separate locations for which the group hopes to get an OK. The normal subdivision road width is 18-feet.

Town Planner Larry Gantenbein said they have to also make sure stormwater controls are in place as is the 40-foot setback from NC 28.

Planning board members encouraged Gomes to consider preserving the original part of the Nick's Restaurant. Gomes said OEI offered to donate the structure to the Highlands Historical Society which has expressed interest, "but they don't have the money to move it and then they would have to

•See OEI page 20

• OBITUARIES •

Elsie Belle Green McCall

Elsie Belle Green McCall, 90, of Highlands, NC died Sunday, December 11, 2005 at a Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. She was born in Habersham County, GA, the daughter of the late Hannable E. and Nancy Texiana Norris Green. She was married to the late Edgar McCall. She was a homemaker and a member of Goldmine Baptist Church.

She is survived by her daughter, Rosemary Riggelman of Franklin, NC; two sons, Mac Arthur McCall of Highlands, NC and Jerry McCall and his wife, Hazel of Franklin, NC; two brothers, Carl Green and Fred Green of Highlands, NC; 21 grandchildren and 17 great-grandchildren also survive. She was preceded in death by two daughters, Ruby J. Watts and Linda McCall and four sons, James, David, Cletis McCall and Leon McCall; one sister, Ethel Henry and one brother Ed Green.

Funeral services were held Thursday, December 15, at 2 p.m. in the Chapel of Bryant Funeral Home at Highlands with Rev. Alton Dendy officiating. Burial was held at Miller Cemetery. Daniel McCall, Shannon McCall, Richard Riggelman, Doug McCall, Ricky McCall and Leroy McCall served as pallbearers.

CP COUNTRY CLUB PROPERTIES



In a lovely secluded area close to Glen Falls is this ready-to-move into 3-bedroom, 2-bath with cypress floors, tongue-in-groove cypress ceilings in the living areas, vintage beams, stone-faced fireplace, wrap-around deck, verde butterfly granite countertops, Baldwin hardware, Hunter fans, locust posts with rhodo rails and a full basement on a beautiful open lot with winter Blue Valley view. Now offered at \$549,000.



Tucked away in charming Highland Hills, this 3-bedroom, 2-bath is ready for occupancy after an extensive remodel. New front and back porches, wood floors, stone fireplace and garage. Offered at \$499,000.

**Call Pam Taylor
at (cell) 342-6988,
526-2520 or
526-9027 anytime.**

Madison's

RESTAURANT AND WINE GARDEN

A HOLIDAY TRADITION BEGINS...

Join us for

Christmas Eve, Christmas Day
New Year's Eve and New Year's Day

A festive six-course dinner
is featured for New Year's Eve.

\$85 per person



Please call for reservations 828.526.5477
445 MAIN STREET HIGHLANDS, NORTH CAROLINA 28741
OWNED AND OPERATED BY OLD EDWARDS HOSPITALITY GROUP, LLC

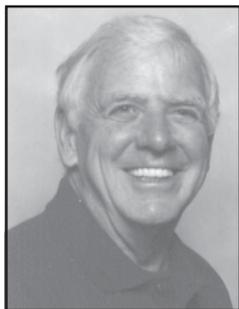
• LAUGHING AT LIFE •

Pessimist or Realist?

“Mr. Glass Half Empty”, that’s what she calls me. The little missus thinks I am a pessimist and says I sometimes see the world through dark gray glasses. Maybe that’s a side of me my readers have not seen. I argue, oops, I mean debate, I am a realist and see the world exactly as it is and not what I am spoon fed or want it to be. We have agreed to disagree on this issue and life is good at our house. Highlands’ folks might choose to do the same thing on ETJ.

What brought this debate about were the inspiring words that came from our new mayor, Doctor Don Mullen, at his swearing in ceremony. Who could disagree with his criticism over the conduct of some Highlanders at the ETJ meeting or his patriotic remarks about our beloved country? Who could disagree there is mistrust in government? But I understand those people who spoke out at that meeting. Excuse me while I put on my dark gray glasses.

Unfortunately, Dr. Mullen’s



Fred Wooldridge

comments were just part of a speech and have little impact. Action is needed here, not speeches. Dr. Mullen’s comments was a reminder about just how ugly American history really were.

Long, long ago, my eyes have been opened to the real world. Many years of cop work helped

me get like this. Some say it is cynicism; I say it is realism.

I know our country’s history is not as rosy as painted in my 5th grade history book. And I know that Highlands is not all peaches and cream, even though I like to think it is. Here, I have my rose colored glasses on.

Like all history, it is written by the winners. If Briton had prevailed during our revolution, my 5th grade history book would have been telling about the traitors to the throne, like George Washington, his many henchmen and how they deserved to be hanged for trying to overthrow the Kingdom.

Imagine what this country would

look like today if the South had prevailed during the Civil War? Would we be two nations instead of united? Would Highlanders have been able to speak out against their government the way they did recently? No one knows.

There is one indisputable fact that even the most rosieist of opportunists must agree upon. We are, and always have been, a nation of violence, from the first shots fired at the Battle of Bunker Hill to the last soldier to die in Iraq. We are a gun toting, shoot em’ up, country who likes to solve its problems with violence, from way back in the old Wild West to the mob gangs of New York. I could go on and on.

The United States seems to always have an enemy to go after. The entire world sees us as a violent nation and I think we deserve our reputation. What does this have to do with ETJ? There are parallels.

I doubt that the ugliness displayed by Highlanders at the recent ETJ meeting was any worse than comments made by patriots against England before the war. People say ugly things when they feel disenfranchised. Shoving ETJ down folk’s throats will never be swallowed because those affected feel disenfranchised. They will muster together in secret against the government, which is going on now in Highlands.

The town board must find a way to help those who feel this way. Words will not work. If government is going to have control over people’s property, then those people must have a say in the matter. To think otherwise is simply un-American.

Fortunately, we waited until all of our summer people had gone to display just how ugly we can really get. Let’s not tell them about this and get this resolved before they return. Whadayathink?

New Year’s concert and gala set at PAC

The Fine Arts Committee announces a spectacular New Year’s Eve Gala. Three of the world’s finest artists will give a concert at the Performing Arts Center on Chestnut Street at 5 p.m. This event will feature a cocktail reception at 4 p.m. Artists are Jeanne Brown, soprano; Pamela Dillard, mezzo soprano and Robert Henry, pianist.

Included on the program will be opera arias from La Boheme, la Traviata, Carmen and duets from Lakme and Madame Butterfly.

The evening will benefit the children of Dar Es Salaam in Tanzania who have contracted AIDS. Tickets are limited and cost \$50 for the cocktail event and concert.

HIGHLANDS FINE DINING

... ON THE VERANDAH Estab. 1981
 Highlands’ Most Scenic Dining Overlooking Lake Sequoyah
 Wine Spectator Award since 1987
 Dinner Friday & Saturday from 6 p.m. and from
 Dec. 26-31 • Join us for New Year’s Eve BASH!
 Live music from 7:30 p.m. featuring
 Chad Reed or Michael Lococo 828-526-2338
 otv1@ontheverandah.com

Gourmet Food in a Casual Atmosphere
Oak Street Café
 Lunch • Mon-Sat 11 a.m.– 3 p.m.
 Dinner • Thurs.-Sat. 5 – 9:30 p.m.
 Sunday Brunch 11 a.m. – 3 p.m.
 Closed Wednesday
 787-2200 • Two Entrances – from Main St. or Oak St.



The Highlight of Highlands
 MAIN STREET Inn
 Breakfast buffet:
 8:30 a.m. - 10:30 p.m. Sat;
 8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Sunday
 A Great Place to Stay. A Great Place for Breakfast



Cyprus
 International Cuisine
 Dinner: 5-11 nightly
 Live Music Fridays at 9:30
 Regional Menus & Extensive Wine List
 N.C. 106 in Great Things Plaza • 526-4429

Just in time for the holidays!
 Fred Wooldridge’s book, “I’m Moving Back to Mars”
 can be purchased at Cyrano’s Book Shop
 or on line at AuthorHouse.com

Nick’s
Fine Food For Particular People
 Prime Rib daily • Fish • Pasta
 • Handcut Veal & Steaks
 • Full Wine List
 Lunch 11-2:30; Dinner 5:30
 18 dinner items under \$20!
 CLOSED WEDNESDAY
 N.C. 28 & Satulah Rd.
 828-526-2706
 Brown-bagging permitted



• ANOTHER VIEW •

Congressman Murtha playing politics at our soldiers' expense

In 1998, while serving as a Marine Corps Bases Commander in Japan, I had the opportunity to brief Congressman Murtha on Pacific Rim political and military issues. I was very impressed with Congressman Murtha because of his Marine Corps background as a decorated Vietnam War veteran, where he received two purple hearts and bronze star medal. He has the distinction of being the first Vietnam War Veteran to be elected to Congress. He is also the ranking member of the Defense Appropriations Subcommittee, and is considered to be a conservative Democrat.

With such an impressive background, his statement last week calling for the immediate withdrawal of U.S. troops from Iraq proved to be a stunning comment, which quickly made the headlines throughout the world. Congressman Murtha went on to say Islamic forces "are united against U.S. forces and we have become a catalyst for violence.

"It's time to bring them home." During this past week, I have given considerable thought to why Congressman Murtha was motivated to make such comments, and have come to certain conclusions.

A few weeks before Congressman Murtha's made his statement, the Democrats and the elite media attempted to convince the American people that President Bush deliberately deceived them in order to invade Iraq, thereby substituting failure for success. The Republicans countered this offensive by addressing successes such as the elimination of Saddam Hussein's tyrannical and murderous dictatorship/threat to his neighbors, and the establishment of a democratic government under a new constitution that still needs our help in fighting the insurgency. At the present time, U.S. presence is the glue holding the Shiites, Sunnis and Kurds together; otherwise, there would likely be civil war.

While this bantering was going on, out came Congressman Murtha to call for the removal of American troops in Iraq. No doubt in my mind this was a dangerous political stunt because there was no discussion about the implications of immediately removing our



Major General Geoffrey B. Higginbotham, USMC (Ret.)

forces. When Congress voted on the withdrawal of troops, even Congressman Murtha voted against it. The final vote was 403 against the motion and 3 for it.

Whether you supported or were against the invasion of Iraq is not the issue at this point. We are there and now we must do the right thing for this Nation and the world. But, what are the implications should we immediately remove out troops

from Iraq?

A civil war between the Shiites and Sunnis would likely occur, as the Baathist Party would try to put in power another dictator like Saddam Hussein, and the country would be split up. Iraq would become a terrorist haven, and they would have unlimited funds from oil revenues. While this is occurring, terrorist short-term goals would be to create Islamic fundamentalist governments like the Taliban throughout the Middle East while taking control of oil fields from countries like Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, and Qatar.

Terrorist long-term goals would likely be to severely damage or destroy Western economies through their control of oil and continued terrorist acts, which will become even more sophisticated due to their wealth and ability to buy technology and weapons of mass destruction. The CIA reports that 50% of Russian nuclear weapons are not secured! If you have enough money you could probably buy or even produce nuclear weapons, which will likely occur in Iran soon. Our borders are porous and it is just a matter of time before such a catastrophic event will occur in this country unless we continue our efforts to bring democracy and freedom to Iraq and Afghanistan, while defeating Islamic fundamentalists throughout the world. Iraq is the center of gravity for defeating terrorists. Democracies don't fight each other, which is why it is important to create such governments throughout the Middle East.

Unfortunately, since Vietnam our Nation has a reputation for running from a fight. After our departure from Vietnam, Congress cut off all funding

• See ANOTHER VIEW page 7

All Seasons Salon
Signature Hair Designs for Men & Women
Razor Cuts • Color • Perms
Off the Alley Behind Wolfgang's
Oak & Fifth Streets

Barbara Green • 526-0349 • Open Mon - Sat



93

BUILDERS & ARCHITECTS

RAND SOELLNER ARCHITECT
Mountain Architecture & Interiors
www.randarch.com



Phone: 828.743.6010
Cell: 828.269.9046 randsoellner@earthlink.net NC Lic.9266 FL Lic.AR9264

Warth
Construction, Inc.
HIGHLANDS, N.C.

Whether your property is on top of a cliff or lakeside, we have the experience to make your home a reality.

Corner of 2nd and Spring streets
Highlands, NC 28741
(828) 526-4929

Visit us at
www.WarthConstruction.com

Ruby Cinemas
Franklin, NC
Adult — \$6, \$5 Child — \$4

Dec 14-29
KING KONG – rated PG-13
Mon - Fri: (5), 8:30
Sat & Sun: (1), (5), 8:30
CHRONICLES OF NARNIA: THE LION, THE WITCH, & THE WARDROBE – rated PG
Mon - Fri: (4), 7, 9:45
Sat & Sun: (1), (4), 7, 9:45
YOURS, MINE & OURS – rated PG
LAST SHOWING Tues., Dec. 20
Mon - Fri: (4:10), 7:10, 9:10
Sat & Sun: (2:10), (4:10), 7:10, 9:10
WALK THE LINE – rated PG-13
LAST SHOWING Tues., Dec. 20
Mon - Fri: (4:30), 9:30
Sat & Sun: (2), (4:30), 9:30
HARRY POTTER & THE GOBLET OF FIRE – rated PG-13
LAST SHOWING Tues. Dec. 20
Mon - Sun: (7)
CHEAPER BY THE DOZEN 2 – PG
STARTS Wed., Dec. 21
Mon - Fri: (4:15), 7, 9:15
Sat & Sun: (2), (4:15), 7, 9:15
FUN WITH DICK & JANE – PG
STARTS Wed., Dec. 21
Mon - Fri: (4:10), 7:10, 9:10
Sat & Sun: (2:10), (4:10), 7:10, 9:10

Mitchell's Lodge & Cottages



• New Cedar Lodge
• Fireplaces
• Kitchens
• Jacuzzis
• Decks Overlooking streams
• Easy walking distance to town

Call:
1-800-522-9874
526-2267

or go on line to see our accommodations.
www.mitchellslodge.com
Open Year-round.
Family owned and operated since 1939.

The Chambers Agency, REALTORS



Want a Highlands home of your own?
Call The Chambers Agency, REALTORS
 Want a lot, parcel or acreage in the Highlands area?
Call The Chambers Agency, REALTORS
 Want a vacation rental in the mountains?
Call The Chambers Agency, REALTORS
VACATION RENTALS
 You can check home availability and **BOOK ONLINE**
 with our secure server.

FOR SALE – You can read important facts and
 information on our listings – contact us and we can
 send you info on ANY listing.

info@chambersagency.net
 www.chambersagency.net

Call 526-3717 • 401 N. Fifth Street



Members of Leadership Highlands participated in the Christmas Parade.

REMODELING & DESIGN

HIGHLANDS HARDWARE



330 Dillard Road
 Upper Level of Highlands Decorating
Phone: 828-526-3719

Custom cabinets and Kitchen and Bath Design

HIGHLANDS
CABINET
COMPANY

828-526-8364
 828-526-8494 Fax
 In the "Craig Building"
 On the Hill on S. 4th Street



American Upholstery

We Repair Furniture from frame

Residential or Commercial • 37 Years Experience
 Free Estimates • Free Pick-up and Delivery
 Open 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Thursday
 102 S. College Street • (864) 638-9661

P.O. Box 593
 Walhalla, SC 29691

HDC
 HIGHLANDS
 DECORATING
 CENTER

Derek Taylor

330 Dillard RD
 Highlands
828-526-3571

Benjamin Moore Paints
 Custom Area Rugs
 Fabrics
 Floor Coverings
 Tile
 Wall Coverings
 Window Treatments



FURNITURE BUYING TRIPS BY REBECCA CLARY

Of Highlands Furniture, Inc.
 31 Years of Design Experience.
 Custom Window Treatments ~ Design Services
 Call (828) 526-2973 For information

Leadership Highlands: A new opportunity

Leadership Highlands is on for 2006-07!

"Leadership Highlands took this past year to update the evolving program as we expand our role in the community," said president Robert E Smith. After a summer retreat, the members of the governing board, representatives of prior classes that run the program, decided that although the program is very well thought of by alumni there were some changes needed.

"This next class will benefit from the work of the governing board that has fine-tuned the mission, vision and a new curriculum. The revised Mission Statement now reads, "The purpose of Leadership Highlands is to enhance the development of long-term leadership in the Highlands community."

"I feel one of the best things that ever happened to me was being a part of Leadership Highlands. I have been living full time in Highlands since 1989. I am here by choice having lived in northern Virginia next to Washington, DC. I spent a total of 25 years studying and working in the nation's capital. So, I came to this community as a woman who has earned her stripes as a self-supporting citizen and am very proud of that. I have known some outstanding and interesting folks and did some challenging things prior to life in Highlands.

The Leadership Highlands group of 15 women and three men was an exciting group that worked together while challenging one another to do our very best. I worked on the first two programs and I feel that the six other people I worked with became life-sustaining

friends. We tackled each assignment of learning about our community with gusto and we got the best speakers we could find and had a lot of fun in the process.

"During the rest of the year each new group went that much farther and did even better presentations so that by the time we had completed all ten programs we were seasoned performers and critical listeners. As a group we also had some physical challenges and mental puzzles on our retreat at the Mountain. We had wonderful food and excellent facilitators. My experience in Leadership Highlands made life in Highlands much more real and exciting. I treasure every one of the people I met and would go out of my way to help any one of them.

"What a fabulous community of leaders makes up Highlands and what an opportunity we had to know the very best! I encourage others to participate in Leadership Highlands. We need such an opportunity if we are to appreciate the complexity and excellence of the people in this community. I can safely say, it is comparable to my life and expectations in Washington DC and that is saying quite a good deal!" – Pat Boyd

There are testimonials, brochures, and speakers for any group who wants to learn more about this exciting and challenging program.

For information about the Leadership Highlands program contact the visitors center in the Chamber of Commerce building by phone 526-2112 or email visithighlands@smnet.net. The application process will begin in early April 2006.

Christmas Dinner for Habitat for Humanity

Make your reservations now for the fifth annual Christmas Day Dinner at Main Street Inn. Dinner includes baked turkey or ham, mashed or sweet potatoes, dressing and gravy, vegetables galore, and a dessert buffet for only \$29.95

What makes this dinner especially special is that all proceeds go toward Habitat for Humanity. For reservations, call the Main Street Inn at 526-2590.

Visa, MasterCard, and American Express are accepted. Service begins at 11 a.m. Wine is also available for purchase.

If your holiday plans call for you to be out of town on Christmas Day, you can still support the project by donating money. Send checks in care of Main Street Inn at 270 Main Street Highlands NC 28741.

Auxiliary brings "cheer" to residents



The Highlands-Cashiers Hospital Auxiliary is hard at work these days bringing a little Christmas cheer to the nearly 80 residents of the Fidelia Eckerd Living Center. Auxiliary members have purchased miniature Christmas trees and are hard at work decorating them. Once the final touches are in place, the mini-trees will be used to help brighten up every resident's room, along with the other decorations going up around the center. And employees around the hospital and Living Center are once again participating in an annual gift tree. Staff members volunteer to adopt a resident by choosing a paper ornament from a special tree. Each ornament has a residents' name and holiday "wish list."

... ANOTHER VIEW continued from page 5

for the South Vietnamese Government, which left them vulnerable and unable to defend themselves. This was done contrary to the peace accord, and on April 30, 1975, the North Vietnamese Army captured South Vietnam and the communists in Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos killed millions and interned thousands more. In the end, this didn't impact Americans because they could not bring their destruction to our shores. This is totally unlike Iraq, where we will clearly become an even bigger target if we do not finish the job. In 1983 we left Beirut when 241 Marines and Navy Corpsmen were killed in the bombing of their barracks, and the same occurred in Somalia when U.S. soldiers were killed. The terrorists chased us out of one place after another because we would not retaliate. Our operations in Afghanistan and Iraq are a clear setback and surprise to the likes of Osama and other fundamentalist terrorists.

Congressman Murtha's withdrawal comments are disingenuous because he clearly knows about the significant successes in Iraq. There is a laundry list of success stories but the most significant is the Iraqi people jeopardizing their lives twice to vote and will do so again next month for a permanent government. It is understandable that the American people want to know when our troops are coming home, but you cannot announce such events, or

the terrorists will wait you out. Troop withdrawal must be event driven such as the election of the formal government and sufficient Iraqi military and police forces trained to go it alone. I predict forces will begin coming home in 2006, but it will be a gradual drawdown based on critical events.

Congressman Murtha has done a lot to embolden the terrorists to continue the fight, which might also encourage them to use more lethality, resulting in our government's pulling our forces out sooner. His comments may very well result in more of our soldiers and Iraqi civilians being killed.

Congressman Murtha took off his Marine warrior hat and put on his politician hat to benefit his colleagues during the mid-term election. He is also exchanging selflessness for selfishness. I'm very disappointed in him!

- General Higginbotham entered active duty in 1967 and retired in 2000 as the Vice Director for Logistics, J-4, the Joint Staff. His decorations include the Distinguished Service Medal, Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Joint Commendation Medal, Navy Commendation Medal with combat "V", Navy Achievement Medal, and Combat Action Ribbon.

At the end of the street at Falls on Main
Featuring the art of Helena Meek

Now Arriving:
• New SPECIALTY
Foods and Great
GIFTS
• Microbrews and
Artisan Beers
• Highlands'
finest WINES



Wine Flights Friday and
Saturday 4:30 until 6:30

Open Mon. - Thurs. 10-5
Fri.-Sat. 10-6:30 • Sun. 1-5
828-526-5210

Dan, Dan, The Carpet Man

If it goes on the floor, we'll
bring it to your door!
Carpet - Vinyl - Hardwood - Ceramic

Specializing in Commercial
Call:



(828) 349-9009
or 342-1740

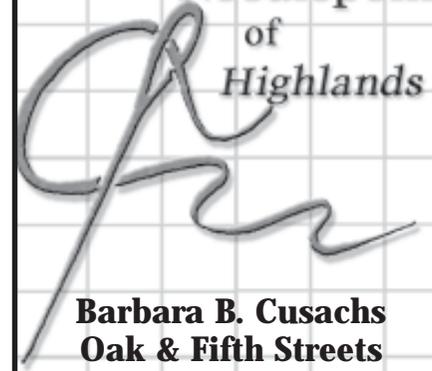
Daniel &
Brenda Hamilton

Highlands
Office Supply

- Complete line of office supplies
- Laminating • Fax Service
- Greeting Cards
- Laser paper
- Ink Cartridges

526-3379

Needlepoint
of
Highlands



Barbara B. Cusachs
Oak & Fifth Streets
828-526-3901
1-800-526-3902



GOLDEN CHINA

of Highlands

Serving
Wine,
Plum
Wine &
Sake

Open 7 days a week
Lunch Buffet: 11-3 • M~ F • \$6.95
Dinner: Sun-Thur 3-930 Fri & Sat 3-10

In-town deliveries - \$15 minimum 526-5525 • Highlands Plaza

HOME DECOR & FIXTURES

WHOLESALE DOWN COMFORTERS & MORE!

Let Wholesale Down make your holidays warm and cozy! New shipment of down blankets, pillows and comforters have arrived in all sizes! Also, new duvet covers! Great gift ideas. We wrap and ship!



Mon - Sat 10~ 5pm • 526-4905
Located behind Wachovia Bank on the Franklin Road.
Proud members of Highlands Chamber of Commerce

Always Something New!

**Gourmet
Kitchenware**

Dinner Settings

**Charming
Accessories**

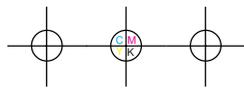
Back Door Sale Saturdays



THE DRY SINK
HIGHLANDS, NC

Open 10-5 Mon-Sat
450 Main St. - 526-5226





Join Us As We Prepare for the Birth of Our Savior at:

Highlands United Methodist Church

*Sunday, Dec. 18:
Chancel Choir Lessons & Carols
During the 11:00 worship service*

*Saturday, Dec. 24:
Christmas Eve Service at 5:30 p.m.
Family-Oriented Service
Candlelight and Communion*

315 Main Street • 526-3376

Thanks for Your Support!



The Highlands-Cashiers Hospital Board of Directors formally recognized the efforts of the hospital's Foundation during the past 20 years. Bud Smith, chairman of the board of directors presented a certificate honoring those efforts to Cassandra Manley, chairman of the Foundation at last week's monthly board meeting. In the 20 years since the Foundation was formed, area residents have generously donated nearly \$43,200,000 toward capital improvements and operational expenses. And that figure does not include money raised for the hospital endowment. Thanks to the generosity of hundreds of area residents, a new hospital, nursing center, and four medical buildings (including the Cashiers medical Center) have been constructed, expanded and renovated over the last 16 years. Funding has also gone into expansion of services and for bringing new physicians to the area. But the job continues; the hospital currently needs \$25 million for installation of the new MRI, to build a new medical facility in Cashiers, expansion of the Eckerd Living Center, a recruitment endowment, and other major initiatives.

Free Christmas reading at ITC

The Instant Theatre Company presents Collin Wilcox in a free reading of excerpts from her book *Papa's Angels*, co-authored with Gary Cardin. The reading will be held On Friday, Dec. 16 at 7 p.m., at the ITC's Studio on Main Street at 310 Oak Square.

This Christmas story is set in Highlands in 1935, and was inspired by a

real incident that happened in Highlands. Appearing with Collin is local composer John Roman, who will play and sing, the music he wrote for both the play and the book.

This Christmas presentation is sponsored by The Christmas Tree. Happy Holidays from The Instant Theatre Company.

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.



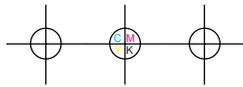
Highlands Lutheran Church growing



The Lutheran Church of the Holy Family, 2152 Dillard Road in Highlands, welcomes 12 new members on Dec. 11.

Pastor Delmer Chilton stands before the altar with Noel (III) and Bessie Buras and their four children, Kaylie, Taylor, Casey and Juliann; Noel (Jr.) and Goldie Buras and Noels sister Gail Buras; Richard and Marlene Gravelle and their grand-daughter Avalon Camello, recently baptized at the church. Holy Family meets every Sunday at 10:30 for Holy Communion with Sunday School preceding at 9:30.





... CITIZENS continued from page 1

He said he felt like those against ETJ weren't heard by a constitutional process on Nov. 18. "A lot of compelling arguments were made against ETJ which were discounted or already considered by the board," he said.

Hourdequin said it was imperative for the group to come up with something new and innovative to get the Town Board's attention.

"We need a compelling reason not yet heard because they've already moved forward on what we've already said. We now need a rational set of issues to get them to rethink, back up or slow down," he said.

Macon County Commissioner Allan Bryson said he's been told there are grounds for an injunction based on the fact that the Nov. 18 meeting was poorly

run and there were legal aspects not adhered to such as changing the ETJ map during the public hearing and not having zoning in the ETJ area outlined prior to the hearing.

"First we must put the brakes on this with an injunction," said Bryson. "We can hit them politically or verbally, but we must first slow the process down with the injunction. Put the brakes on legally, put the pressure on locally. And we need a short term, intermediate and long term plan."

Based on technical errors made at the meeting, Bryson said the group has 60 days to file the injunction but they're about 25 days into that.

Speaking as citizen Bryson, he said "The question is does your wallet want to support an injunction? It will take

\$4,000 to get an injunction and \$10,000 to take it to trial, but if we all stand together that's not a whole lot of money.

"I welcome everyone of that mind into a commitment. This will be a legal fight not to be taken lightly. It will be a long, doggedly slow, expensive government process. It's that way whenever you have governmental entities fighting against each other. We only have three or four chances to put an end to this, and the fact is we might not end it or win it."

He said in North Carolina, ETJ has been challenged at the State Supreme Court level two times and lost, and the U.S. Supreme Court is reluctant to hear cases ruled on by the State court.

•See CITIZENS page 10

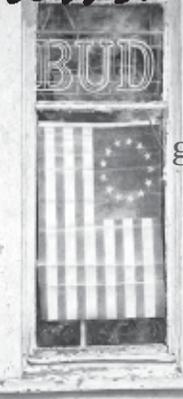
New Year's Eve Party
at
High Country Cafe
Make your reservations now!
828-526-0572
Featuring:
Johnny Webb and The J.W. Band
and
Door Prizes

\$25 per couple
\$15 single

Bring your dancing shoes
and come for fun.

Bring Your Own Bottle

Hubert Shuptrine



A gallery of exceptional, very limited giclees of the artist's watercolors.

Main Street
Highlands
787-1123

4

HIGHLANDS ART GALLERIES WALK



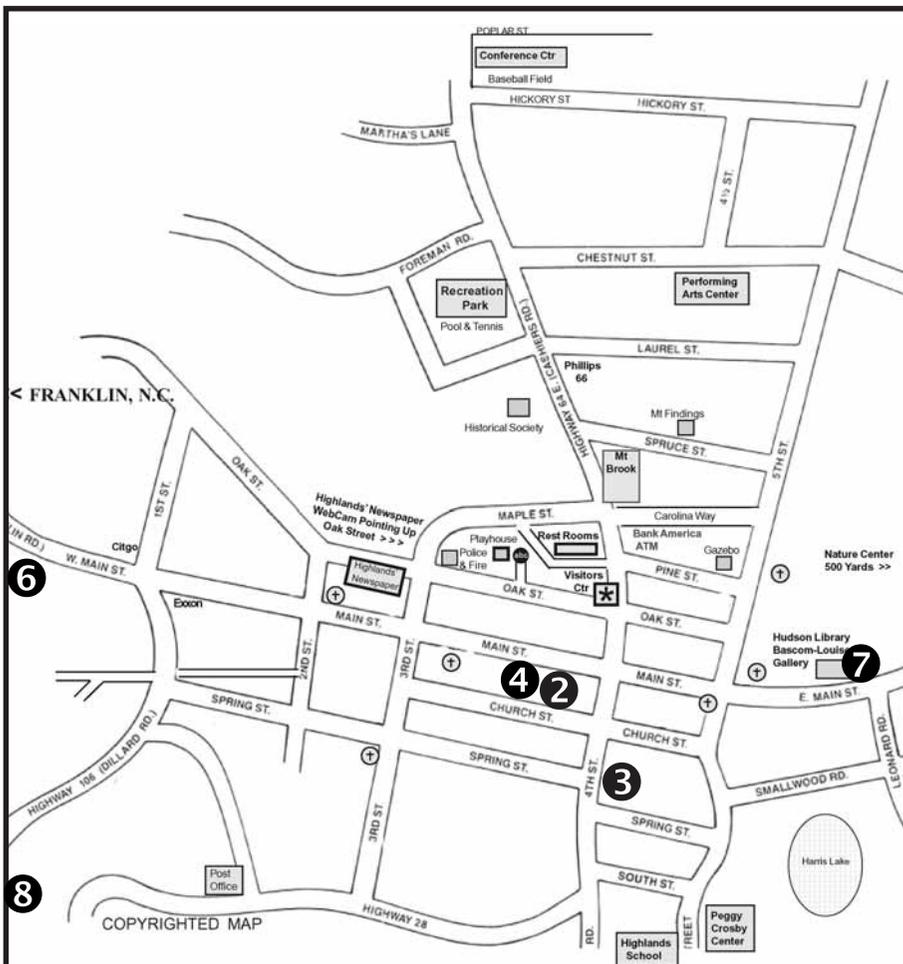
Mon-Sat 10-5
Sun 1-5

Robert A. Tino
381 Main Street
526-0667
Gallery

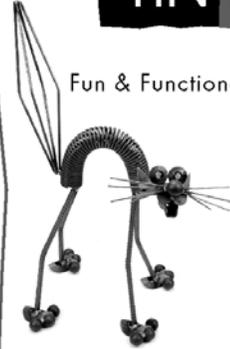
iconFineArt
SELECT WORKS FOR THE COLLECTOR

3 Paintings
Sculpture
Ceramics

296 South 4th Street
Upstairs in the Craig Building • On The Hill
Highlands, North Carolina
828.526.1913



8 **TIN ROOF**
studio
Fun & Functional Arts & Crafts



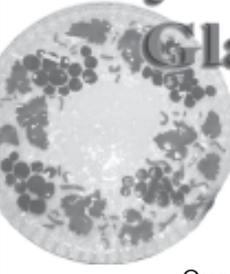
Open Mon-Sat
9:00 am - 5:30 pm

828.526.3900
1990 Dillard Road
(Hwy 106)
Highlands, NC



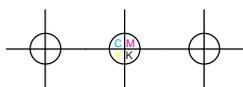
the **Bascom-louise** Gallery
In the Hudson Library
Open: Tues. - Sat. 10-4:30; Sun 1-4 p.m.

6 **Bryant Art**
Glass



Handmade
in
Highlands

Open
Monday through Saturday
10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
526-4095
260 Franklin Road



... CITIZENS continued from page 9

He said an injunction might not stop ETJ, but the Town Board would have to restart the whole process. "They might re-consider it; maybe work with the county to create service districts made up of members in the ETJ area who are elected to set up rules to run the district. "Planning is coming," he said, "but this would be a way for us to control it and have a say as to who represents us."

Bryson said that their case against ETJ is "probably not even winnable" but said personally it was time for him to put his wallet up or shut up.

"Sometimes in life we must take a stand for something. It's a sad day when as a Highlander you stand in the house your grandfather built and you feel you have to fight against the city of Highlands because you've been wronged." He said many Highlanders in the ETJ area now feel disenfranchised from Highlands.

When asked if they were ready to support an injunction with their pocketbooks, the majority of people at the meeting raised their hands and wrote down an amount they were willing to pledge on the sign-in sheet.

Harold Neely told the group it would be an uphill battle. "Be prepared to dig in and stay or head out the door," he said. "We need to stick together, be tough and hang in there. The mayor, Dr. Mullen, realizes there's a problem in the community. He knows there's a division."

With that in mind, members of the group suggested an injunction would give the group time to perhaps change the minds of some of the Town Board members.

Neely reminded the group that the Town Board acted on the recommendation of the Planning Board.

"The Planning Board members are John Cleaveland, Ginger Slaughter, Griffin Bell, Clem Patton, Doug Campbell, King Young and Pat Taylor. So we have a problem with the Planning Board not just the Town Board," he said.

Ralph Thomas suggested changing things within the system. "We need to get new people elected, he said. "That's the simplest thing. Use the Richard Betz mentality. Do the simplest thing possible. With ETJ, it was simplest for the board to take it all. We need new people in office with some new ideas," he said. "That's the way to do this — within the system."

But Bryson said the next election is two years away and for several years people have tried to get new people on

the board and it hasn't worked.

Baker Crane said he's heard from a lot of folks in town who are upset and angry at seeing their neighbors harmed and are willing to join the legal fight with them.

"Where to do from here? Several different angles," he said. "Park cars on Main Street with signs in them that say "Repeal ETJ" or "Rescind ETJ" for one thing.

For another, he said two weeks ago he made the decision not to do business within the corporate limits of Highlands as a form of protest.

"I know this may be hurting innocent merchants, but they have more power than we do and they can go to the Town Board and protest. These folks will understand what affects their pocketbooks more than anything else. Most merchants are my friends and I hate doing this but if I need something from the town, I am now going somewhere else and I urge you to consider doing the same."

Crane said it's not just about land rights or property rights. It's bigger than that. "On Nov. 18, 2005 I was robbed by four people. I used to think Highlands was the best city in the world. I used to think we had the best government in the world. But those four folks shattered that for me."

Tommy Chambers suggested hitting the Town Board from several angles at one time, not just a one-pronged attack.

The group agreed a multi-pronged, three-stage approach should be taken but the first step should be the filing of an injunction.

Bryson said everyone needs to enlist the help of their family and their friends. "We need to have an emailing and mailing campaign. We need people to volunteer their time," he said.

Mitch Gurganus said a lot of second-home owners in the ETJ area have told him they are willing to make a donation to the cause. "We need to reach out to whoever we know to put money in the pot to get this done," he said.

Before the meeting adjourned, a five-member executive committee was formed. David Hourdequin, Mitch Gurganus, Tommy Chambers, Lee Hodges, and Mike Bryson are on the committee and will be named chairman, vice chair, secretary, treasurer and alternate.

Once \$4,000 is raised the group will proceed with the injunction.

Anyone interested in contributing to the "Citizens Against ETJ" action, is urged to contact one of the executive board members.

• HIGHLANDS SC



One more basket for Highlands, Dec. 12 at home.

Win or lose, Highlanders don't stop

On Friday, Dec. 9, Highlands played an away league game at Nantahala and won 85 to 52.

Highlands took the lead in the first quarter and held it throughout the game. In the first quarter Highlands scored 25 points to Nantahala's 9; in the second it was 22 to Nantahala's 15; in the third quarter Nantahala got 13 points to Highlands' 10 but in the end it was Highlands 85 to Nantahala 52.

Highlands had 19 assists, 20 steals, 2 blocked shots, 12 fouls 54 points in paint and 10 bench points.

Ryan Bears was top scorer with 22 points, 5 rebounds, 5 assists and 3 steals; Nick Kerhoulas scored 19 points, had 6 rebounds and 4 steals; Alec Schmitt was next with 18 points, 4 rebounds, 10 assists, and 8 steals; Jason Aspinwall scored 13 points and 10 rebounds; Darren Keener scored 4 points, had 5 rebounds, 1 assist and 1 steal; Eric Chen scored 2 points, had 4 rebounds, 1 assist and 2 steals; Adam Hedden scored 2 points and had 2 rebounds, Andrew Billingsley scored 2 points; and Andrew Herz scored two points and had 2 steals.

On Saturday, Dec. 10, Highlands lost by one point to the Hayesville Yellow Jackets in a nail-biting, non-league game at home. The final score was Hayesville 63, Highlands Highlanders 62.

In the first quarter Highlands scored 30 points to Hayesville's 24; during a hard-played second quarter neither team scored; in the third quarter Hayesville got 16 points to Highlands' 12 and in the fourth quarter it was 23 for Hayesville

and 20 for Highlands.

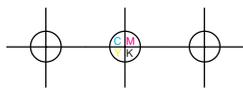
Alec Schmitt was top scorer with 20 points, 6 rebounds, 7 assists and 4 steals; Nick Kerhoulas scored 18 points, had 6 rebounds and 1 steal; Ryan Bears scored 13 points, had 2 rebounds, 1 assist and 1 steal; Jason Aspinwall scored 10 points, had 6 rebounds, 2 assists and 1 steal; and Darren Keener scored 1 point and had 1 steal.

At the Monday, Dec. 12, non-league game played here at home, Highlands beat the Rosman Tigers 84 to 63.

Accept for the second quarter where Rosman scored two more points than Highlands, the Highlanders held the lead every quarter. In the first quarter it was Highlands 22, Rosman 11; in the second quarter it was Highlands 22, Rosman 24; in the third quarter it was Highlands 22, Rosman 14.

Alec Schmitt, Ryan Bears, Nick Kerhoulas, Jason Aspinwall and Darren Keener all played 24 minutes to take the game from Rosman. Schmitt scored 22 points, had 9 rebounds, 12 assists and 2 steals; Bears scored 22 points had 1 rebound, 5 assists and 3 steals; Kerhoulas scored 20 points, had 5 rebounds, 1 assist and 2 steals; Aspinwall scored 16 points, had 8 rebounds, 3 assists, and 2 steals; and Keener scored 2 points, had 7 rebounds and 1 assist. Eric Chen who was in the game 16 minutes, scored 2 points and had 1 steal.

The next game is home, Friday, Dec. 16 against Tallulah Falls, followed by an away game against Hayesville on Dec. 17. The boys play at 8 p.m.



HIGHLANDS SCHOOL BOYS & GIRLS BASKETBALL ●



Ramsey Ashburn



Katie Bryson



Kaylie Buras



Bailey Buck



Franka Dadic



Maggie Dearth



Keri Raby



Danielle Reese



Marisol Ruiz



Toni Schmitt



Vicki Smith



Allison Winn



Becca Wyatt



Coach Brett Lamb

Girls pounding their way through the season

On Friday, Dec. 9, the Highlanders traveled to Nantahala and though the girls lost 61 to 68, it wasn't an easy win for Nantahala.

During the first quarter Nantahala scored 18 points to Highlands' 13, but in the second quarter, Highlands came back with 19 points to Nantahala's 8. In the third quarter it was Highlands with 13 and Nantahala with 16 and in the fourth quarter each team scored 16 points.

Keri Raby led the team with 21 points and 12 rebounds. Becca Wyatt added 14 points and 7 rebounds. Allison Winn had 10 points and 5 assists, Toni Schmitt scored 6 points, Katie Bryson had 9 points and 5 steals and Ramsey

Ashburn scored one point.

On Saturday, Dec. 10, at home, Highlands lost to Hayesville 30 to 44.

In the first quarter Hayesville scored 16 to Highlands' 9; in the second quarter Hayesville got another 10 points to Highlands' 5; in the third quarter Hayesville scored 11 points to Highlands' 8; but in the fourth quarter Highlands scored 8 points to Hayesville's 7.

Top scorer was Allison Winn with 15 points; Toni Schmitt scored 4 and had 8 rebounds; Maggie Dearth also scored 4 points; Becca Wyatt made 3; and Katie Bryson scored 2.

On Monday, Dec. 12 it was home again for Highlands this time against Rosman. Highlands lost 49 to 62.

Becca Wyatt scored 16 points and had 7 rebounds; Toni Schmitt led with 13 points and 13 rebounds; Allison Winn scored 9 points; Katie Bryson scored 6 points and had 7 rebounds; Kaylie Buras scored 4 points and Maggie Dearth scored 2.

So far Highlands girls basketball stats: 4 wins, 6 losses

The next game is Dec. 16, home against Tallulah Falls. The girls play at 6:30, the boys at 8 On Dec. 17, the teams play away at Hayesville.

The next game is Dec. 16, home against Tallulah Falls. The girls play at 6:30, the boys at 8. On Dec. 17, the teams play away at Hayesville.

... ETJ continued from page 1

schedules during the holiday season not to keep people out.

Member Griffin Bell took offense to the comment.

"I resent people inferring we are dishonest and can't be trusted," he said. "I am not afraid to talk to anyone face-to-face."

Mike Bryson, who was in the audience with Eric and Steve Pierson to hear what zoning the board proposed in the ETJ area, said a lot of people don't trust Highlands' government right now and they don't feel like the Town Board listened to them.

"Having people at the Planning Board meetings would be a good opportunity to turn those trust issues around," he said. "You could bring us back into the community rather than treating us like residents who don't know how to deal with our property."

Bell said it's likely the Town Board did have its mind made up at the public hearing when they voted 4 to 1 to ETJ but he said their initial opinions were

modified.

"They did listen to viewpoints to see if their minds should be changed but nothing was said to change their minds," he said. "But change is subject to modification. They did listen to the rich country club people. That's not the way I would have done it, but that's the way it was done. The point is they did listen, they just didn't listen to you."

Planning Board Chairman John Cleaveland said both "sides" need to work together. "We need to sit down as people who have known each other forever without calling each other Hitler and communists."

He said he believes zoning raises property values. "I'm not for ruining people's property values — zoning enhances property values. But we need to work together to end up with a plan that's better for all of us. I'm not against development, I'm for good development. If something's done, we want it done well. We want an attractive entrance into Highlands. We don't want to see

something out there that we regret. What has happened in the last 20 years doesn't matter."

Gantenbein said he has talked separately to several Town Board members and what they would like to see is a "mixed-use" zone along the corridors with some sort of "big box" protection. They also want some sort of residential designation based on the watershed districts whose built-upon requirements trump the town's zoning.

Ginger Slaughter asked if new

... PARKING continued from page 1

ironed out, commissioners voted unanimously to require a clear delineation of areas the Town OKs for storage and staging by contractors; to increase fines for violations to the parking and right-of-way encroachment ordinance; and to consider two-hour parking year-round.

Commissioners suggested a \$200 fine for violations but didn't decide on the number of warnings before issuing a fine; nor did they decide whether to enforce two-hour parking all over town or just in and around construction sites.

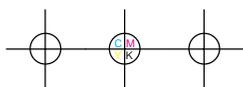
residential zones could be designated to accommodate specific uses like having farm animals.

Gantenbein said yes, and that farm animals are already allowed within the town limits they just have to be penned properly.

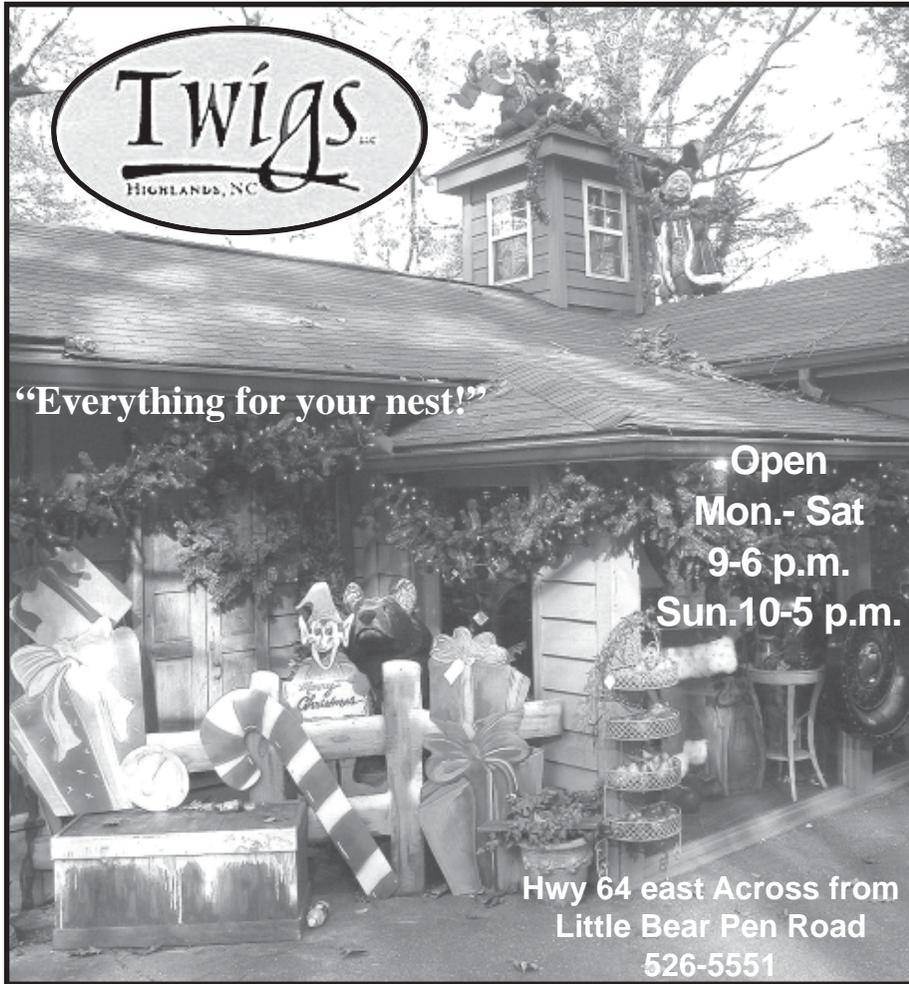
The Planning Board meets Friday, Dec. 16 at 9 a.m. to do a "drive around" of the ETJ area; on Dec. 19 at 5 p.m. to begin work on zoning the area; on Jan. 2 at 5 p.m. to continue work on zoning and on Monday, Jan. 30 at 5 p.m.

George Mathis with OEI encouraged the town to move forward with higher fines and even suggested a towing component. OEI has no power over the contractors, sub-contractors or construction workers hired by the general contractor on OEI projects and Mathis said they're making OEI look bad.

Town Administrator Richard Betz said he'd have an amendment to the ordinance drafted by the Jan. 4 Town Board meeting.



Holiday Shopping in Highlands • Holiday Shopping in Highlands • Holiday Shopping



Twigs
HIGHLANDS, NC

"Everything for your nest!"

• Open
Mon.- Sat
9-6 p.m.
Sun. 10-5 p.m.

Hwy 64 east Across from
Little Bear Pen Road
526-5551

End of Season SALE!

Wit's End

Ladies' Classic Clothing
Since 1940

Mon-Sat 10-5 • 526-3160 • Main Street • Highlands

BACK of the BEAR

50% - 75 % OFF Everything

Going Out of Business SALE!

50% - 75 % OFF Everything

WOMEN • CHILDREN • MEN
Clothing, footwear, gifts & accessories
Open daily: M-TH 10-5, F-S 10-6, Sun 12-5
Old Galax Theater • 526-2624



The Hen House

The Bird Barn
526-3910
Falls on Main

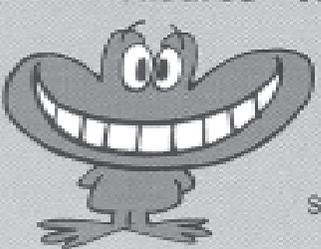
The Speckled Hen

Winter SALE in Progress
10% - 70% off at all three stores
Hours: M-S 10-5; Sun. 12:30-4 • 526-3910

THE GRINNING FROG
COME VISIT OUR NEW LOCATION
IN SAPPHIRE VALLEY
Home • Treasures • Toys

In Highlands - in Oak Square on Main St.

THE GRINNING FROG
310 Oak Square
Highlands, N.C. 28741
(828) 526-9033



THE GRINNING FROG II
3077 Hwy 64E, Suite B
Sapphire Valley, N.C. 28774
(828) 743-2299



THE DRY SINK
HIGHLANDS, NC

Saturday Back Door SALES --
50% off -- 10 -4 -- Oak Street
New Inventory arriving daily!
Come see the new Vintage Port line of dinnerware from *Casafina*

Open Monday through Saturday 10am to 5pm • Sunday 1-5 pm
The Dry Sink 450 Main Street Highlands, NC 828-526-5226



ANNAWEAR

Hard Tail • Junk Food • Split
7 For All Mankind • Citizens •
Necessary Objects • Project E
Free People • Michael Stars Tees
• Check out our SALE room

526-4660
In the Galax in the middle of Main Street

Holiday Shopping in Highlands • Holiday Shopping in Highlands • Holiday Shopping

Holiday Shopping in Highlands • Holiday Shopping in Highlands • Holiday Shopping

<p><i>Nancy's</i> <i>Fancys</i></p> <p>For Her</p> <p><i>"The finest and most complete selection of ladies clothing, jewelry, lingerie, and accessories."</i></p> <p>The Unique Boutique 526-5029</p> <p>322 Main Street • Enter from both Main or Oak Streets • 1-800-526-6770</p>	<p>The Exchange for Men</p> <p>For Him</p> <p>Featuring: Sansabelt • Riscatto • Remy Allen-Edmonds • Samuelsohn Johnston & Murphy • Oliver-Hilton Bobby Jones • Jhane Barnes Individualized Custom Shirts</p> <p><i>"Shop with us for the Holidays!"</i></p>
--	---



Storewide Sales
20% to 70% OFF

Hours:
Mon.-Thurs.
11 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Fri. & Sat.
10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Fine Furniture & Accessories for the Home • Designer Clothing, Handbags, Jewelry & Silks

www.theolddragoon.com
290 S. Fourth St. • Highlands • 828-526-8288
"On the Hill"

BEAR MOUNTAIN OUTFITTERS



30% - 50% OFF Select Merchandise

Men's • Women's Sportswear & Highlands Wear
Boots • Shoes • Accessories

Open daily: M-TH 10-5, F-S 10-6, Sun 12-5
Oak Square • 526-5784

230 S. 4th Street "On the Hill"




Famous designer jewelry, stylish lines of clothes, hats, trendy handbags, scarves, rainwear, and much more.

Most Everything on SALE!

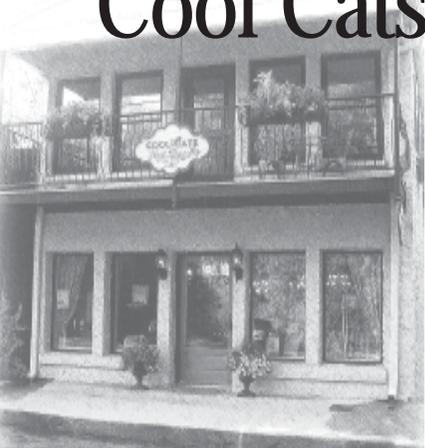
Mon. - Thurs. 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Fri. & Sat. 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
526-1880



VILLAGE KIDS

Children's apparel and shoes
sizes 0-16

In the middle of Main Street • Highlands •
828-526-5799



Cool Cats Hot Dogs

"Unique Items for People and Their Pets!"

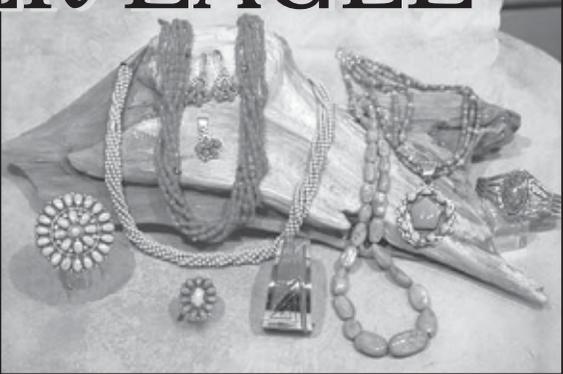
Lots of Great Sales

OPEN:
Mon. - Thurs. - 11 to 4
Fri. & Sat. 10 to 5
526-9990

256 S. 4th St. ...on the Hill

SILVER EAGLE

- Sterling Silver Jewelry
- Rugs & Pillows
- Minnetonka Moccasins
- Painted Ponies
- Original Art & Artifacts
- Books, Incense and Candles



468 Main Street • 526-5190

For all your holiday decorating needs!
Highlands' Original Christmas Shop

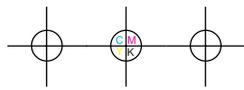


- Dept. 56
- LGB Trains
- Patricia Breen
- Christopher Radko
- Byers' Carolers
- German Nut-crackers

Hours:
Mon-Sat 10-5 • Sun.,
4th St. "...on the Hill" • 526-3687 • 800-523-6558 12-5

www.ChristmasinHighlands.com

Holiday Shopping in Highlands • Holiday Shopping in Highlands • Holiday Shopping



• PLACES OF WORSHIP ON THE PLATEAU •

BLUE VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. Oliver Rice, Pastor (706) 782-3965

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

Sunday night services every second and fourth Sunday at 7

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

BUCK CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

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

First Saturday: Singing at 7:30 p.m.

CHAPEL OF SKY VALLEY

Sky Valley, Georgia

The Right Rev. Dr. John S. Erbeling, Pastor
Church: 706-746-2999

Pastor's residence: 706-746-5770

Sundays: 9 a.m. - choir

Holy Communion 1st Sunday of the month

Wednesdays: 9 a.m. Healing and Prayer with Holy Communion each service

CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS

NC 28 N. and Pine Ridge Rd., (828) 369-8329

Rai Cammack, Branch President, (828) 369-1627

CHRIST CHURCH

743-9370

The Rev. Thomas Allen

“Traditional Episcopal Worship”

Sunday Worship and communion at 2 p.m.

Tuesday Noon Bible Study: noon Parish School

Thursday worship and communion at 10:30 a.m.

Pot Luck Dinner: Last Sunday of the Month.

All services at the Community Bible Church

CLEAR CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Everett Brewer

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

Prayer – 6:30 p.m.

Evening Service – 1st & 3rd Sunday – 7 p.m.

COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH

(Evangelical Presbyterian Church)

Steven E. Kerhoulas, Senior Pastor

www.cbchighlands.com

526-4685

3645 U.S. 64 east, Highlands

Sundays: 9:30 a.m. Sunday School; 10:45 Worship; 6 p.m., “The Rock” for highschoolers

Tuesdays: 10 a.m. Women's Bible Study

Wed: 5:30 p.m. Prayer Meeting; 6:15 p.m. Supper; 7 p.m. Teaching

EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE INCARNATION

Rev. Brian Sullivan – 526-2968

Sundays: Holy Eucharist – 8 a.m.; Sunday School – 9 a.m.; Choir – 9:45 a.m.; Holy Eucharist – 10:30 a.m.; Youth Group – 5 p.m.

Youth Group – 5 p.m.

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: Childrens 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

Volleyball players receive post-season honors

Six Highlander volleyball players were honored by the Smoky Mountain Conference for their outstanding play this season as the Highlanders won the regular season championship and the conference tournament championship.

Anna Trine, who led the team in kills with 224 and was second in blocks with 25, was selected as All Conference and the Smoky Mountain Conference Volleyball Player of the Year. “Anna had an outstanding year at the net, and was by far the most dominating outside hitter in the conference. Her tremendous kills gave us the push that enabled us to win many of our matches” said head varsity coach Rick Rawlins. Also voted All Smoky Mountain Conference was Highlands’ Callie Rawlins, who led the team in assists with 248 and led the team in blocks with 42. “Callie had an outstanding year at the net. She developed into a great defender with her vertical jump and timing of her blocks, and she could always be counted on to fight for the win until the end of the match.”

Four other Highlanders received Honorable Mention All Smoky Mountain Conference. Ramsey Ashburn, who was the Captain of the team, led the team in service aces with 75 and served 322 out of 342 for the season. She was third on the team in digs and blocks. “Ramsey did a great job as captain of the squad this year. She was our motivator that got the team going at times, and had a great overall year.” Toni Schmitt, Maggie Dearth, and Becca Wyatt also received Honorable Mention in the All Conference voting. “Toni had an outstanding year, leading the team in digs with 121, second in assists with 177, and finished second in aces with 45. Maggie did a great job as outside hitter, finishing second on the team in kills with 114. Becca Wyatt also had a great year, finishing second on the team in digs with 119 and third in kills with 109.”

Conference coaches are allowed to nominate for All Conference two players per team and one additional player for each conference win up to a maximum of six. The conference is limited to seven All Conference players. “When the coaches vote, we are not allowed to vote for our own players. We pick seven players from the other teams in the conference and rank them from 7 to 1. The top seven players with the most votes receive All Conference and the other players Honorable Mention. The player with the most votes is the Player of the Year. While it was an honor for Anna and Callie to come in first and fourth in the voting, I really feel like we had more than two All Conference players on our team.”

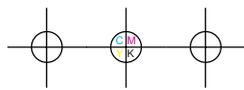
Leslie Wilson, Katie Bryson, Allison Winn, Becca Ashburn, and Angela Sanchez also played an important role in the great season Highlands had this year. The Highlanders finished the year 15 and 6, winning the first round of the state for the second year in a row.

Flu vaccine in Otto

The Macon County Public Health Center will hold a flu vaccination clinic for the general public in Otto on Monday, Dec. 19 from 3 to 6 p.m. This clinic will be held at the Otto Community Building.

No appointments will be scheduled and vaccine will be given on a first come, first served basis. Persons unable to wait in line may have someone wait in line for them and vaccine will be taken to the vehicle.

Persons, who are on Medicare Part B or Medicaid, should bring their card with them. If your insurance carrier covers the cost of flu shots, please bring your insurance card and we will bill it for you. This state supplied flu vaccine is free.



• POLICE & FIRE LOG •

The following are the Highlands Police Dept. log entries for the week of Dec. 7-14. Only the names of persons arrested or public officials are used.

Dec. 11

- At 7 p.m., officers responded to an accident between two vehicles at U.S. 64 east and Sherwood Forest Drive.

Dec. 12

- Christopher Scott Flowers, 20, of Highlands, was arrested for larceny and simple assault. He was released on a \$2,000 secured bond.

- At 6:40 a.m., a driver was cited for driving left of center at U.S. 64 west and Raoul Road.

Dec. 13

- At 11:30 a.m., officers were called to The Rib Shack about a trespasser. The person was told to leave the property.

- At 3 p.m., officers were called to a residence on Horse Cove Road where a window was found open. All was secure.

The following are the Highlands Fire & Rescue Dept. log entries for the week of Dec. 7-14.

Dec. 7

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

Dec. 10

- The dept. responded to the call of a brush fire on Shelby Circle, but it was a controlled burn.

Dec. 11

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

Dec. 13

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

Dec. 14

- The dept. responded to a call of a possible structure fire at The Rib Shack on Spring Street. It was steam coming from the nearby laundry and dry cleaners.

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.

Budgeting for 2006?
Call 526-0782 for
Highlands' Newspaper Ad Pack and count on
reaching EVERYONE every week.

HIGHLANDS SCHOOL

• SRO REPORT •

This is the November Highlands School Resource Officer report submitted by Officer Ron Castle.

- On Nov. 7, assisted the administration with a fire drill.
- On Nov. 9, assisted with school work.
- On Nov. 14, investigated a disorderly conduct complaint.
- On Nov. 15, investigated a disorderly conduct complaint.
- On Nov. 16 and Nov. 17, helped judge a fire evacuation drawing.
- On Nov. 18, investigated a claim of larceny.
- On Nov. 18, participated in a drug prevention program.
- On Nov. 18, took a trip to the police dept.
- On Nov. 22, investigated a claim of larceny.
- On Nov. 22, performed a security system check.
- On Nov. 30, helped disseminate information to parent about no bus.
- On Nov. 30, investigated an assault complaint.
- On Nov. 30, students were apprehended for possession of drug paraphernalia and communicating threats.

• 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 Dell 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

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



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

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!

Brick Oven Pizza

Made-to-order
pizza,
calzones &
salads.

Open for
lunch &
dinner



526-4121 Mtn. Brook Center

• UPCOMING EVENTS •

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 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-Cash-

iers 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. 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.
 - Senior Citizen Luncheon at the Civic Center at noon. Donations accepted.
- Dec. 17**
 - The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a moderate five-mile hike to White-

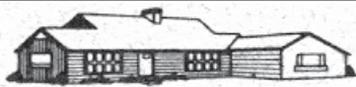
side Mountain and the Devil's Courthouse. Meet at the EXXON gas station on the Highlands Road (Hwy.64 E) at 9 a.m. or at the Highlands Bank of America at 9:45 or at the Whiteside parking area at 10 a.m. Call leader David Sapin, 828-369-2628, for reservations.

- The International Friendship Center is hosting its annual. Christmas "Noche de Familia," Saturday, Dec. 17 at 5 p.m. at the Episcopal church.
- Dec. 18**
 - Chancel Choir Lessons & Carols during Sunday's 11 a.m. worship service at Highlands United Methodist Church.
 - The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a moderate 3.5 mile hike on the Bartram Trail from Wallace Branch up to the ridge. Meet at Westgate Plaza in Franklin (opposite Burger King) at 2 p.m. Drive 6 miles round trip. Call leader Kay Coriell at 369-6820 for reservations.
- Dec. 24**
 - Family-Oriented Candlelight and

Communion Christmas Eve Service 5:30 p.m. at Highlands United Methodist Church.

- Community Candlelight Christmas Eve Service at Community Bible Church at 7 p.m.
- Dec. 25**
 - Christmas Day Dinner at Main Street Inn with proceeds to benefit Habitat for Humanity. Dinner is \$29.95. Wine available. Call 526-2590 for reservations.
- Dec. 31**
 - Ring in the New Year with ...on the Verandah's New Year's Eve 2005 celebration. Featuring a Three-Course Dinner, Party Favors, Live Music with Trio Lococo, Dancing, Midnight Champagne Toast. Dinner & Party: \$90 per person plus tax & gratuity; Dinner from 8 p.m., Dancing from 10 p.m. Dinner only: \$45 per person plus tax & gratuity; Seating between the hours of 6-7 p.m. 50% deposit (non-refundable cash or check) due at time of reservation.

• HIGHLANDS SERVICE DIRECTORY •



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

Marble • Granite • Slate • Stone • Ceramic
Mountainside Marble & Tile
 "Your High Country Connection for Service & Installation."
 220 Mountainside Road
 Franklin, N.C. 28734
 Jim Nichols Cayte Nichols
 828-421-0999 828-421-2831

THE LAUNDRY AND DRY CLEANERS
 AT OLD EDWARDS INN
 FULL SERVICE LAUNDRY AND DRY CLEANING
Wash & Fold Service Available
 Open Monday - Friday 8:00am - 5:00pm • Saturday 9:00am - 1:00pm
 Accepting: Visa, MasterCard, American Express and Checks
 459 Spring Street Highlands, North Carolina 28741
 (Located under Rib Shack)
 Telephone: 828.787.2597
 Escape to a treasure. Treasure the escape.
© OWNED AND OPERATED BY OLD EDWARDS HOSPITALITY GROUP, LLC

Hunter Douglas
 window fashions
 at Carpets, Blinds,
 Shutters & Flooring

Mark Harris
 271 Spring Street
Ph: 828-526-4226
Fax: 828-526-4255

DP Painting & Pressure Washing
 In business since 1984. Quality work, guaranteed. References.
 Call 828-526-3542.

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

Runaround Sue Pet Sitting

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

GROUP ONE
 PROPERTY MANAGEMENT
 Lance Hollars
 Highlands, North Carolina, •
 Since 1989
 828-526-9393

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

The Computer Man!
 But you can call me James
 Computer Sales
 Mail Order Pricing
 New & Used
 Computer Parts & Accessories
 Computer Services
 Troubleshooting & Repairs
 Installations & Consulting
 Tutoring Available
 68 Highlands Plaza • 526-1796 FAX: 526-2936



HIGH SPEED INTERNET ... via Satellite!
 -Always On! No Logging On!
 -Available Anywhere!
 -No More Tying up the Phone Line!
 -Speeds of up to 1.5 Mb/s!
421-2397
 rocksat3@juno.com



Mountain Architecture & Design
RAND SOELLNER ARCHITECT

 828.743.6010 Phone 828.269.9046 Cell
 randsoellner@earthlink.net NC Lic.9266 FL Lic.AR9264

• CLASSIFIEDS •

HELP WANTED

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

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.

SOCIAL WORKER HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HOSPITAL is seeking a Social Worker (BSW) with preferably 3 or more years' experience in a health-care-related field. This full-time position provides services to meet the social, psychosocial and safety needs of the residents in Long-Term Care, Swing Bed patients and Hospice patients. Excellent benefit package after 60 days. Pre-employment substance screening. If interested in joining a dynamic healthcare team, call Mary Osmar at 828-526-1301 or visit the website at hchospital.org to apply online.

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.

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. Excellent 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.

OPPORTUNITY

STRESSED, ANXIOUS, DEPRESSED? Dreading the holidays? Counseling (and hypnosis) can help. Reasonable rates. The Conscious Connection. 526-8885.

FOR RENT

COMMERCIAL SPACE – at 460 Carolina Way. 1,450 sq. ft. on street level. \$1,700 per month. Available January 15. Call 828-526-4646 or 404-210-7979.

FOR SALE

JUST IN TIME FOR CHRISTMAS! – Animal heads for your mountain retreat. buffalo, deer, jackalope. will deliver local. 706-824-1979.

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

Scenic View Home Sites Turtle Pond area

Views, secluded near town
828-526-2759

marbago@direcway.com.

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, 1 1/2 baths, study, large workshop/studio, stone fireplace, oak floors, hemlock paneling. Quality construction, mature landscaping, exterior stonework. Asking \$425,000 (828) 342-2624. Broker/Owner

SERVICES

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

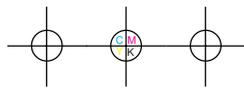
HIGHLANDS SHUTTLE SERVICE – Atlanta Airport Shuttle. Drive - Away • Auto Delivery. All Out-of-Town Trips Driving Services. Call 526-8078.

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.

FOR TRADE

FREE DECORATIVE PAINTING SERVICES for **SUGAR BOWL TICKETS** (2-4) Antiquing, distressing, glazing, cabinets, furniture, interiors. Call 526-5994.



Chestnut Hill celebrates opening of 'center'

Chestnut Hill of Highlands opened its new Assisted Living Center – The Suites at Chestnut Hill – 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.



Chamber Director Bill Bassham, Banyan President Ken Bolt, resident Myrtle Oxford and Chestnut Hill Director Frazier Jackson.

Featured were guided tours of the 26-suite center, and the Chestnut Hill senior living community. State and local dignitaries were on hand and light refreshments, prepared by Chestnut Hill's executive chef were 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.



Above, Chestnut Hill Director Frazier Jackson addresses attendees. Below, Banyan President Ken Bolt does the same.



Is Your Son:

- Trustworthy
- Loyal
- Helpful
- Friendly
- Courteous
- Kind
- Obedient
- Cheerful
- Thrifty
- Brave
- Clean
- Reverent



This is the Boy Scout Law and Scouts learn to live by it.
For camping fun and a reliable son, CALL US:

Boys 5 to 10

Pack 207
Pack 217
Pack 219
Pack 229
Pack 282

Cub Scout Packs

United Methodist Ch. Highlands
1st United Methodist Ch. Franklin
Memorial Methodist Ch. Cartoog.
Cullasaja Gorge FD
Asbury Methodist Ch. Otto

Mon. 6:30pm
Tues. 6:30pm
Tues. 7:00pm
Tues. 6:30pm*
Tues. 6:30pm

Phil Potts, 526-3719
Anthony Esterwood, 524-1928
Tina Galloway, 421-0503
James Watson, 369-9415
Kevin Fountain, 524-9079

Boys 11 to 17

Troop 202
Troop 207
Troop 229
Troop 282
Troop 298
NEW TROOP

Boy Scout Troops

Slagle Memorial Bldg. Franklin
Masonic Lodge, Highlands
Sugarfork Baptist Ch., Cullasaja
Otto Community Bldg. Otto
1st United Methodist Ch. Franklin
St. Francis R.C. Church, Franklin

Mon. 6:00pm
Tues. 5:30pm
Thurs. 6:30pm*
Tues. 7:00pm
Tues. 7:00pm
Starting Soon

Ray Romano, 349-4749
Jack Creighton, 526-8318
Greg Wallace, 349-1170
Bill Edwards, 524-9124
Rick Moninghoff, 524-3084
Mary, Church Office, 524-2289

Boys 14 to 20

Post 204
Crew 1910

Venture Crews and Explorer Posts

Sheriff's Office, Macon County
Slagle Memorial Bldg. Franklin

Tues. 6:30pm*
3rd Thurs., 7:00pm

Robbie Younce, 349-0124
Bill Dyar, 524-8129

*Meets every other week

Every boy deserves to be a Scout!

If financial limitations would prevent your son from joining, call Jim Sottile, "HELP A SCOUT", at (828) 349-0322. All calls are confidential.

Ad Sponsors: Zickgraf Hardwood Flooring Co., Nantahala Lumber & Building Supply, Franklin Machine Company

'Noche de Familia' Dec. 17

The International Friendship Center is hosting its annual Christmas "Noche de Familia," Saturday, Dec. 17 at 5 p.m. at the Episcopal church.

The event has become a tradition for the Friendship Center and the Highlands Community. Last year more than 150 people attended the event. It will start off with a mass in Spanish officiated by Father Tim Hoytt of Hendersonville. After mass there will be a dinner and a visit from Mrs. Claus who will hand out gifts to the children.

Everyone is welcome! For more information, call 526-9938.

...

El Centro Internacional de la Amistad recibe su anual. Navidad "Noche de Familia," el sábado, Diciembre 17 en 5 de la tarde en la Iglesia Episcopal.

El acontecimiento ha llegado a ser una tradición para el Centro de la Amistad y la Comunidad de tierras altas. El año pasado más de 150 personas asistieron el acontecimiento. Empezará lejos con una masa en Español ofició por Padre Tim Hoytt de Hendersonville. Después que masa habrá una cena y una visita de Sra. Claus que repartirá obsequios a los niños.

¡Todos están bienvenidos! Para más información, la llamada 526-9938.



Winter Night Life
 Cyprus
 Bucks Cafe
 Fressers
 SweetTreats Cafe
 ...on the Verandah
 OEI's Wine Garden

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 ↑

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

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

<<< 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

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

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

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

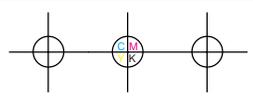
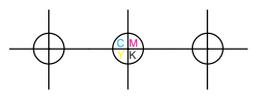
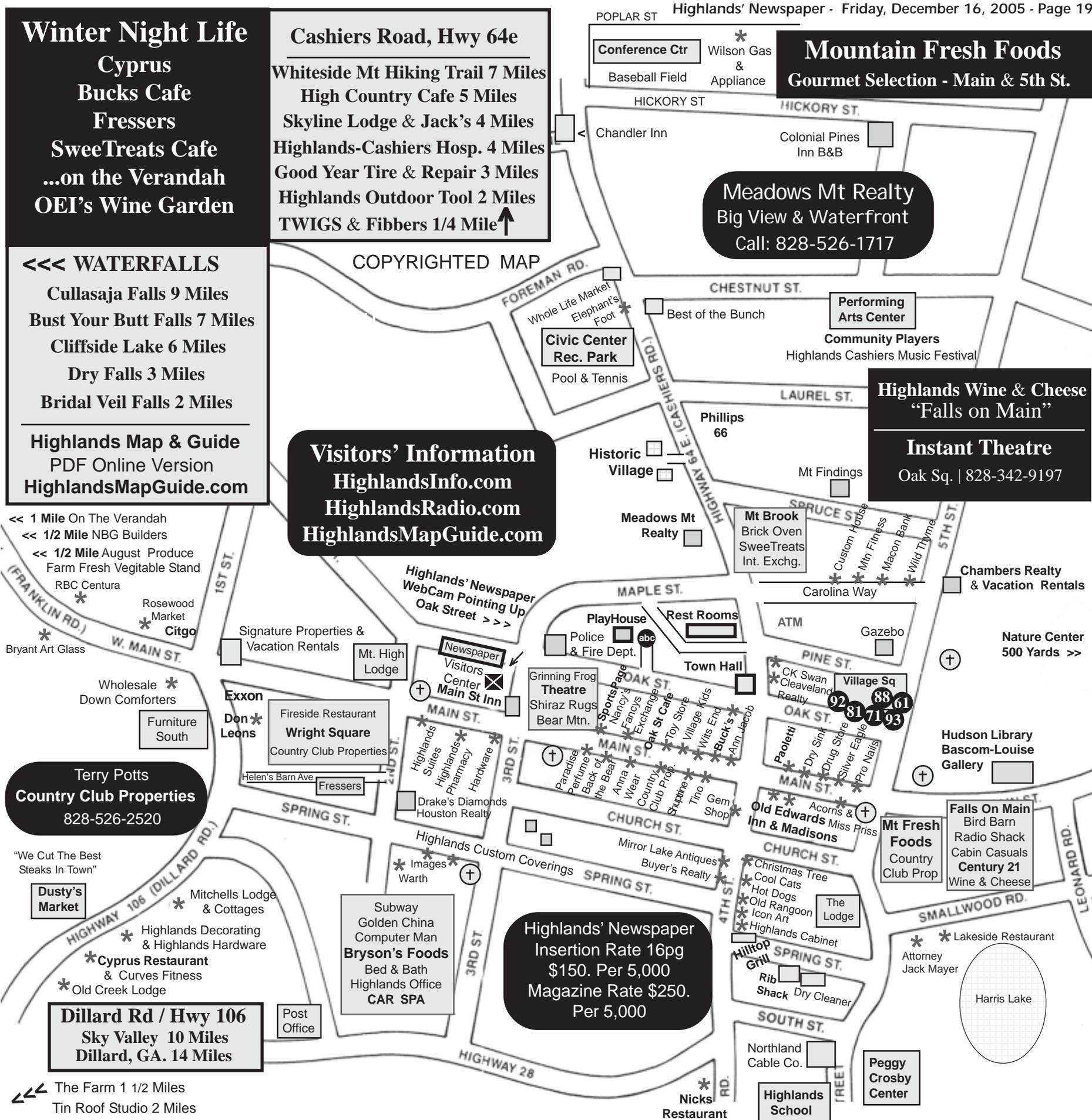
Dillard Rd / Hwy 106
 Sky Valley 10 Miles
 Dillard, GA. 14 Miles

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

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
www.highlandsinfo.com
 Perfect For: Realty Searches, Golf, Wedding & Convention Planning
 Highlands Only WebCam & Real-Time Weather Information Source

Cabin Casuals of Highlands
 Casual Sportswear for the Whole Family!
 Visit us at The Falls on Main 526-3320



...NONCONFORMING continued from page 1

renovated and retrofitted? What if it's destroyed by nature? What if it's destroyed by fire? What if a car runs through a building? Should it be allowed to be rebuilt if it's in a setback or in the town's right-of-way?

To what extent can a nonconforming building be repaired? From the footings up or just one wall or the roof? The scenarios just keep coming.

At the Dec. 9 Planning Board meeting, members tried to keep it simple.

Members agree a nonconforming building's size shouldn't be increased, but owners should be allowed to repair or remodel it within the original footprint.

However, some members believe if a building is obliterated and owners want to rebuild they should conform to the current ordinance – that is take it out of the right-of-way or setbacks.

"A building burning to the ground or being obliterated is different than a car running through it or a tree falling on it," said member King Young. "If someone wants to rebuild a whole new building it ought to conform to current regulations."

Once conditional zoning is in place, Gantenbein said variances – which aren't

normally given – could be dealt with through conditional zoning process.

"For instance, if Highlands Inn burned down, which is a nonconforming use and a nonconforming building, technically it couldn't be rebuilt, but conditional zoning could handle individual cases," said Gantenbein.

Planning Board Chairman John Cleaveland is sticking to what he proposed the first time the Town Board requested the Planning Board's input.

"I think people should be able to rebuild whatever they bought," he said. He said allowing nonconforming buildings to be rebuilt or repaired will maintain Highlands' village character – a key point of the Land Use Plan.

Gantenbein said "nonconforming" can be whatever the Town Board wants it to be. "Nonconforming in itself doesn't mean illegal," he said. "If there are buildings in town the board doesn't want around because they are dilapidated, then change the ordinance to disallow their repair or rebuilding. If not, then leave it alone," he said.

The final word on the nonconforming ordinance will come from the Town Board.

... OEI continued from page 3

buy land to put it on, so I don't know where that is going," he said.

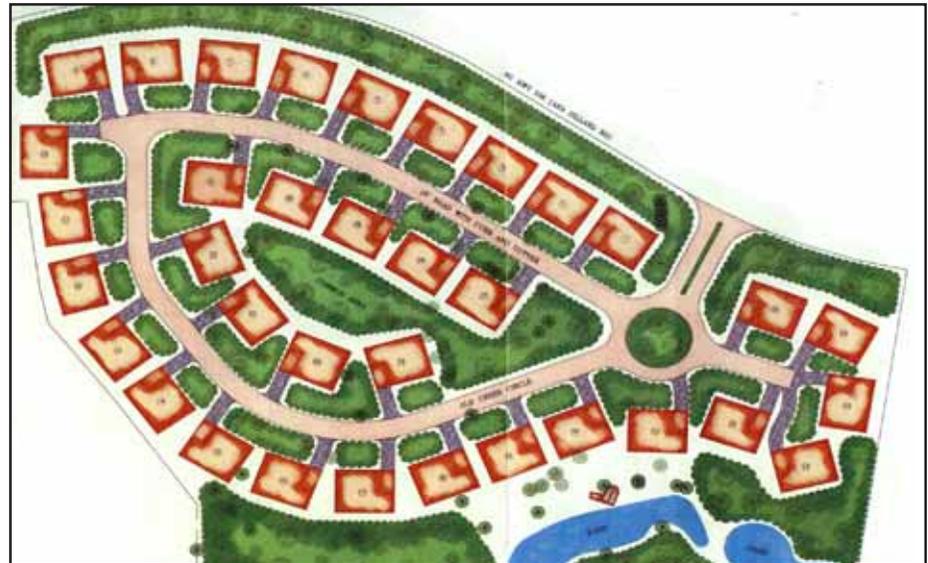
Meanwhile, talk moved from connecting the walking path within the subdivision to the sidewalk leading up Satulah Mountain to gutting the restaurant building and using the shell as a public restroom on the corner of the lot.

The second project will be another subdivision built on the Old Creek Lodge property which will involve 35 cottages

and town homes on the 7.3 acres.

The homes will sell for the same price range as those in Satulah Park. Gomes said he has 54 people on the waiting list.

Though Planning Board members were concerned about the influx of seven-figure homes with the two projects they were pleased with the general look and feel of both – particularly the amount of greenspace and common area in the Old Creek Lodge subdivision.



What's to be the "new" Old Creek Lodge

Dillsboro 20 Miles
Hwy 441

Franklin

* Lowe's

Whistle Stop

Ruby > Cinema

Ski & Snow Tubing Time

Hwy 107n

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

Print-Out This Map @
www.highlandsinfo.com
Copyrighted Map 2005

Lake Glenville

Lake Glenville Storage

< Marina Gas & Store

Lake Glenville

Real Time Weather & WebCam
www.highlandsinfo.com

Useful Internet Links
HighlandsInfo.com
HighlandsRadio.com
HighlandsMapGuide.com

Find All Winter Activities & Events

Highlands' Newspaper Digital Media Services
iPIX Realty Virtual Tours
NEW FOR 2006
Over 302,000 People On Our Website This Year
www.highlandsinfo.com

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

Highlands' Newspaper 16 Page Insertion Rate \$150. Per 5,000
Magazine Insertion Rate \$250. Per 5,000 Call 828-526-0782

