

The Weather

	HIGH	LOW	RAIN
Jan. 25	30	20	.01
Jan. 26	32	28	.33
Jan. 27	29	12	.02
Jan. 28	35	13	0
Jan. 29	30	24	.57
Jan. 30	28	-20	.02
Jan. 31	30	02	0

The Highlander



The ONLY Newspaper in This Wide World Devoted Exclusively to Promoting Highlands Area
Published in the Highest Elevated and Most Hospitable Town in Eastern America

AIR CONDITIONED BY NATURE

VOLUME 8

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 1966

NUMBER 5

TEN CENTS PER COPY

WORST WINTER ON RECORD HITS HIGHLANDS AREA

Medicare Sign-Up

Those persons in Macon County who are 65 years of age or older, and who are not receiving Social Security payments at this time will have an opportunity to sign up for Medicare benefits on the 18th of February.

Those who have not already made application may do so by going to the Franklin Baptist Church from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on that day.

Ten persons from the Social Security staff in Asheville will be present to aid applicants in filling out the required forms.

Dr. Rawlins Is Injured

Dr. George Rawlins, returning to Franklin after seeing patients at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital on Wednesday of last week, suffered head lacerations in an accident caused by ice and snow on the highway.

According to State Highway Patrolman Morris, Dr. Rawlins' vehicle, a Scout, slid out of control on ice and snow, was struck from behind by a following car which caused his vehicle to turn around and plunge over an embankment.

The accident occurred on the Dillard Road near the junction of the Turtle Pond Road.

Dr. Rawlins was brought back to the Highlands Hospital by the driver of the car and later was taken to the hospital in Clayton for treatment.

He was back in Highlands the following day to attend to his patients.



Bridal Veil Falls became a trickle enclosed in ice as temperatures plummeted to a record low in Highlands

and Western North Carolina last weekend. (Photo by Carter Talley).

Western Carolina Telephone Co Plans Expansion Program For 1966

Western Carolina Telephone Company plans an expansion program totaling more than \$1,500,000 during 1966, Thomas H. Sawyer, President, stated this week. The amount will be invested in new construction and plant additions, he said.

Western Carolina Telephone Company is a member of the N. C. Independent Telephone Assoc., Robert Strouse, president of the association, said the 30-member firms plan expansion programs totaling more than \$55 million.

The proposed amount exceeds last year's investments by \$10 million, he added. In 1965 the privately operated firms invested \$45 million for plant additions and expansions.

Strouse said the expansion programs "are in keeping with the rapid industrialization and business development of the geographical areas served by our members".

Members of the Independent Telephone Assoc. are companies whose operations are confined to North Carolina.

Strouse pointed out that the independent companies serve the majority of North Carolinians. He said 54.7 per cent

of the state's population were served by independent firms in 1965.

Independent telephone operations in North Carolina amount to \$322 million industry, the association president said.

In summarizing 1965's developments, Strouse said:

Independent telephone companies covered 77.8 per cent of the state's area.

The 30 firms operated 45.3 per cent of the telephones in North Carolina. That amounted to 697,837 telephones.

Operating revenues were more than \$80 million.

Meetings Cancelled

Miss Bessie Crunkleton, the president of the Satula Club, announced Tuesday that the Feb. meeting of the Club would not be held next Monday, and that the next meeting will be held the first Monday in March.

The Highlands Rotary Club called off its regular Tuesday night meeting this week.

The regular meeting of the Highlands Chamber of Commerce was postponed from Monday, January 31st, until Monday, February 1st, at 7:30 in the Town Hall.

The above meetings were cancelled or postponed because of weather conditions.

Note To Tomato Growers

Assistant County Agent Gene Brewer has requested that all persons planning to grow tomatoes for the market in Macon County please notify his office as soon as possible so that the amount of seed required may be determined.

The order for seed must go in soon, and this information is urgently needed.

Payrolls for the 5,708 persons employed amounted to almost \$28.7 million.

The independent firms paid \$10.4 million taxes during 1964. State and local taxes amounted to \$6.8 million while federal taxes were \$5.6 million.

Telephones in the areas served by independent companies increased 40 per cent between 1950 and 1965. The number of exchanges served increased 20.5 per cent during the same period, Strouse said.

Surviving in addition are another daughter, Dr. Marina H. Moses of Sylva and Cullowhee; another son, Dr. Nathaniel H. Henry of Richmond, Va. and eight grandchildren.

Medical Center Plans Reported

In spite of snow, sleet, frigid temperatures, and all the trials of the past week, plans have been taken shape for the new Highlands Regional Center, according to Dr. Doralea Harmon.

Dr. Harmon reports that she has received many enthusiastic statements of support for the proposed center since the announcement in last week's issue of THE HIGHLANDER NEWS-PAPER. People have been inquiring as to what they can do to help, others have already started plans of their own for bake sales, etc., she said.

"At present the legal angle is being investigated with particular regard to the charter which will be written with much care to safeguard the interests of the people of the area to whom the center will belong", she said.

Dr. Harmon stated that she wishes it made very clear that her only interest in the project will be its medical director and will receive her compensation only on a private corporation and will be community controlled, she said.

She also stated that integration with the Macon Program for Progress, as details can be worked out, seems an excellent means of furthering the medical interests of the community.

Bishop Henry's Mother Succumbs

Mrs. G. Kenneth G. Henry, 86, mother of the Rt. Rev. M. George Henry, bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Western North Carolina, died Tuesday in her home in Chapel Hill.

She made her home in Chapel Hill with a daughter, Miss Mary E. Henry, who is in charge of the correspondence courses of the Extension Division, UNC.

Surviving in addition are another daughter, Dr. Marina H. Moses of Sylva and Cullowhee; another son, Dr. Nathaniel H. Henry of Richmond, Va. and eight grandchildren.

Chamber-Sponsored Movies Discontinued At Theatre

The Saturday night movies at the Galax Theatre which have been sponsored by the Highlands Chamber of Commerce for the past number of weeks have been discontinued.

Ralph DeVillie, chairman of the movie committee, stated that the decision to cancel the movie series was made because proceeds from admissions recently have not been sufficient to defray costs.

The Chamber of Commerce sponsored the movies in an effort to provide recreation for young people (and older ones too) during the winter months when there is a lack of public entertainment.

Mrs. Martha Goode, who is president of the local Chamber

Highlands Crippled By Severe Cold Temperatures Plunge To -20 Below

Winter waged an attack on Highlands and Western North Carolina last Saturday that sent mercury plunging down to a reported 30 degrees below zero atop Rainwater Mountain, and an official 20 below at Highlands Biological Station.

Snow fell most of the day Saturday, and late afternoon readings were around the freezing mark just before the mass of frigid air moved into the area. Thermometers registered a temperature tumble to zero by early evening, and a continued drop in mercury until the early hours of Sunday morning.

Buffeting winds swirled fallen snow into drifts that defied negotiation either on foot or by motor vehicle in many places, but highway workers cleared main highways of enough snow to permit travel, though the road surface remained glazed with ice and hard-packed snow.

Sunday traffic was almost at a standstill, with practically nothing but Jeeps or other 4-wheel drive vehicles on the move.

Scores of motorists were unable to start their cars due to abnormal cold which had affected batteries and other essentials of operation.

Services were cancelled in all Highlands churches except the Presbyterian, due to road conditions and the severe cold.

Frozen water pipes in a great many Highlands homes left occupants without water, and in many cases, snow was gathered from the yard and melted to provide water for cooking and other household needs.

For some mountain families, marooned by snow, a visit from Dr. Doralea Harmon provided cheer and comfort, and sometimes food, as well as medical attention where needed. Accustomed to Wisconsin weather conditions, Dr. Harmon took the severe cold and snowy roads "in stride" and continued to attend to her patients in many isolated areas as usual, driving a Jeep which she purchased recently.

Monday morning those who had to be about their business were stirring around by means of chains, snow-treads, Scouts and Jeeps. The temperature on Sunday night had not reached quite as low as the previous night—going down only to the vicinity of zero. The morning hours were brightened by the brilliant sunshine, though by afternoon clouds were beginning to obscure the sky in preparation for additional snow which fell Tuesday.

Highlands could well have been a village in the Swiss Alps from the appearance it presented Monday. Wind-sifted snow was piled on sidewalks, sometimes to a depth almost "high-high". Foot paths around the edge of a snow drift led to the entrance of the post office, which was the only Main Street establishment showing any activity.

Except for the two scraped travel lanes, separated by a high ridge of "snow-plowed" snow, Main Street was a glare of blinding whiteness.

The temperature began an upward trend before daylight Monday, and with the help of sunshine during the day a sm-

all amount of snow on roadways melted. Below-freezing coldness Monday night changed the melted snow to ice, however.

Miss Gertrude Harbison, who keeps records for the U. S. Weather Bureau, reported a low of 14 degrees below zero at her weather station two miles south of Highlands Saturday night. She said that this was the lowest temperature reading recorded there since her father (the late Prof. T. G. Harbison) began keeping records for the weather Bureau in 1906. The next lowest figure, she said, was -12 degrees recorded in 1918.

Mrs. Glen Shuler, who reported the -30-degree reading on Rainwater Mountain, said that at the thermometer showing this figure was located on the north side of the caretaker's house, unprotected from the wind.

Another thermometer in a less exposed place showed a reading of -24 degrees.

NOTICE

PERSONS WHO WISH TO HAVE THEIR MEDICAL RECORDS KEPT IN THE OFFICE OF DR. DORALEA HARMON ARE ASKED TO HAVE A WRITTEN REQUEST IN HER OFFICE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

LIONS TO SPONSOR

Announcement was made this week that the local Lions Club will sponsor the Heart Fund Drive in Highlands this year.

Plans for the Drive are incomplete at this time as weather conditions prevent the definite setting of dates for the various campaigns.

No School Till?

Wednesday chalked up the 8th day of school that has been missed this term because of ice and snow on roads, according to W. C. Newton, principal of Highlands School.

Mr. Newton said that from all indications school would remain closed the rest of this week, and that no definite date could be set for reopening at this time.

Please Feed The Birds

A plea came from Mr. Dick Harrison Tuesday, asking that people in the Highlands area please feed the birds.

"The little fellows haven't been able to find food for about 15 days now, with all this snow and ice, and if people don't feed them they'll starve", he said.

whose help has made possible the carrying out of the project.

HOSPITAL PATIENTS

- Imogene Chastain
- Martha Wilson
- Joy Woodall
- Fanny Hoyt
- Hattie Watson
- James Hicks
- Stenson Neely



A scene at Jimmy Talley's residence off the Walhalla Road Sunday morning, where snowdrifts were so deep in road-

ways that travel even by Jeep was impossible. (Photo by Carter Talley).

We Are Grateful

We of the HIGHLANDER staff are especially grateful for the "helping hands" extended us during the past weeks of snow and ice and other conditions detrimental to getting out a newspaper.

Our thanks go out to the various ones who have "Jeeped" us back and forth to the office when our cars couldn't make it; to those who have so promptly answered calls for service on heating equipment, telephone, automobiles, water supply and other facilities; to members of the Town crew who have tried to keep our entrance sidewalk free of ice and snow; and to the many who have telephoned or written their encouragement to, their interest in, or their concern for THE HIGHLANDER.