



The Highlander

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

Volume 21 Number 23

Highlands, N. C. 28741

15 Cents

Highlands voters to decide beer sale question

A referendum to allow the sale of beer and other malt beverages within the town of Highlands was called for last Monday night by unanimous action of the Town Board of Commissioners.

Under North Carolina law, the governing body of any municipality with a population of 500 or more has the option to call such a referendum, providing the sale of malt beverages has already been outlawed sometime earlier by a county vote. The sale of beer and similar beverages was voted out in a county-wide referendum in 1948, leaving the entire county dry.

All five commissioners signed the resolution asking for the Highlands Board of Elections to set up the vote, which will come somewhere between August 15 and September 22.

The referendum will pose the choice of leaving the town dry as far as the sale of beer is concerned, or allowing the sale of beer for "off-premises" consumption only. North Carolina General Statutes provide for four referendum options, which can be placed on the ballot by either the action of the town board or at the request of a private individual with a petition bearing the names of at least twenty percent of the electorate within the town. The referendum will pose the choice of leaving the town dry as far as the sale of beer is concerned, or allowing the sale of beer for "off-premises" consumption only, 2) sale of beer for on-premises consumption only, 3) sale of beer for on-premises and off-premises consumption, or 4) sale of beer for off-premises consumption and on-premises consumption in Grade-A restaurants only.

The right of the board to call for the special vote, as set forth in the General Statutes, is not tied to the sale of liquor in the town, nor to the town having an ABC Board. Town voters approved the establishment of an ABC store in the town last fall. The sale of wines is also allowed by state law in towns that have an ABC Board, which is the case with Highlands.

If the referendum is passed, it would allow stores in the area to sell beer and other malt beverages on a package

basis only. No beer could be consumed on the premises of any establishment selling it, thereby preventing any type of bar-like situation to develop.

Although a special registration period was not specifically asked for by the board, such a period will probably be set forth by the Board of Elections. Anyone eligible to vote in regular town election will also be eligible to vote in this referendum without any further registration. Those living in the town limits but not yet registered to vote will most

likely get the opportunity to get their names placed on the books before the referendum.

The North Carolina law provides that the referendum can not be held within 45 days, either before or after, a general election, which means the beer referendum will most likely be held before the September 26 deadline (the last day before the 45 day moratorium takes effect prior to this fall's general election).

While the sale of beer will not bring as much revenue to the town as the sale of liquor.

the town will get a certain share of the taxes collected by the state on beer, if the referendum passes. The portion of beer revenues which would come back to the town, if voter approval is given, is determined by a set formula, based on population. The population of the town would be divided by the total population of all areas across the state which sell beer, and then the result would be multiplied by 100 to get the percent of the taxes collected

(See Vote, p. 2)

Interact reviews year

By: Randy Talley

During the past year, the Highlands School Interact Club has completed many projects in order to be eligible for the district award which is given to the club that has worked the most in its community. This award is given to schools in the 33 counties in the western part of North Carolina. The local club is under the direction of Mrs. Barbara Hill, guidance counselor at Highlands School.

The Interact Club is large and active. During the past year it has had many accomplishments. The \$100 earned by helping with an auction was used for club expenses. Club members have raised over \$1,000 as of June 12 by selling raffle tickets for the

(See Interact, p. 2)



TERESA JAMES and DEBBIE BILLINGSLY (right), both rising seniors at Highlands High School will attend the Interact Club Leadership Camp at Brevard College, June 18-24. Miss James and Miss Billingsly were selected to attend the camp based on their outstanding leadership qualities at the school. High school students from 33 western counties in North Carolina will be attending the camp, sponsored by WNC Rotary Clubs. The Highlands Rotary Club provided the scholarships for Miss James and Miss Billingsly to attend. Teresa is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Tom James of Highlands, and Debbie is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Billingsly of Scaly Mountain.

Musical service to be presented twice this week-end

Final preparation are underway this week for the Highlands Community Choir's two presentations of a worship and praise service entitled "Alleluia - a Praise Gathering for Believers."

The two concerts will be given at 7:30 p.m. Saturday and at 3:00 p.m. Sunday (June 17-18) both in the Highlands Presbyterian Church.

This presentation, a special program of choral music and solos written by Bill and Gloria Gaither and Ron Hugg, well-known contemporary hymn writers, has been widely

given over the United States. The service also includes personal testimonies and audience participation.

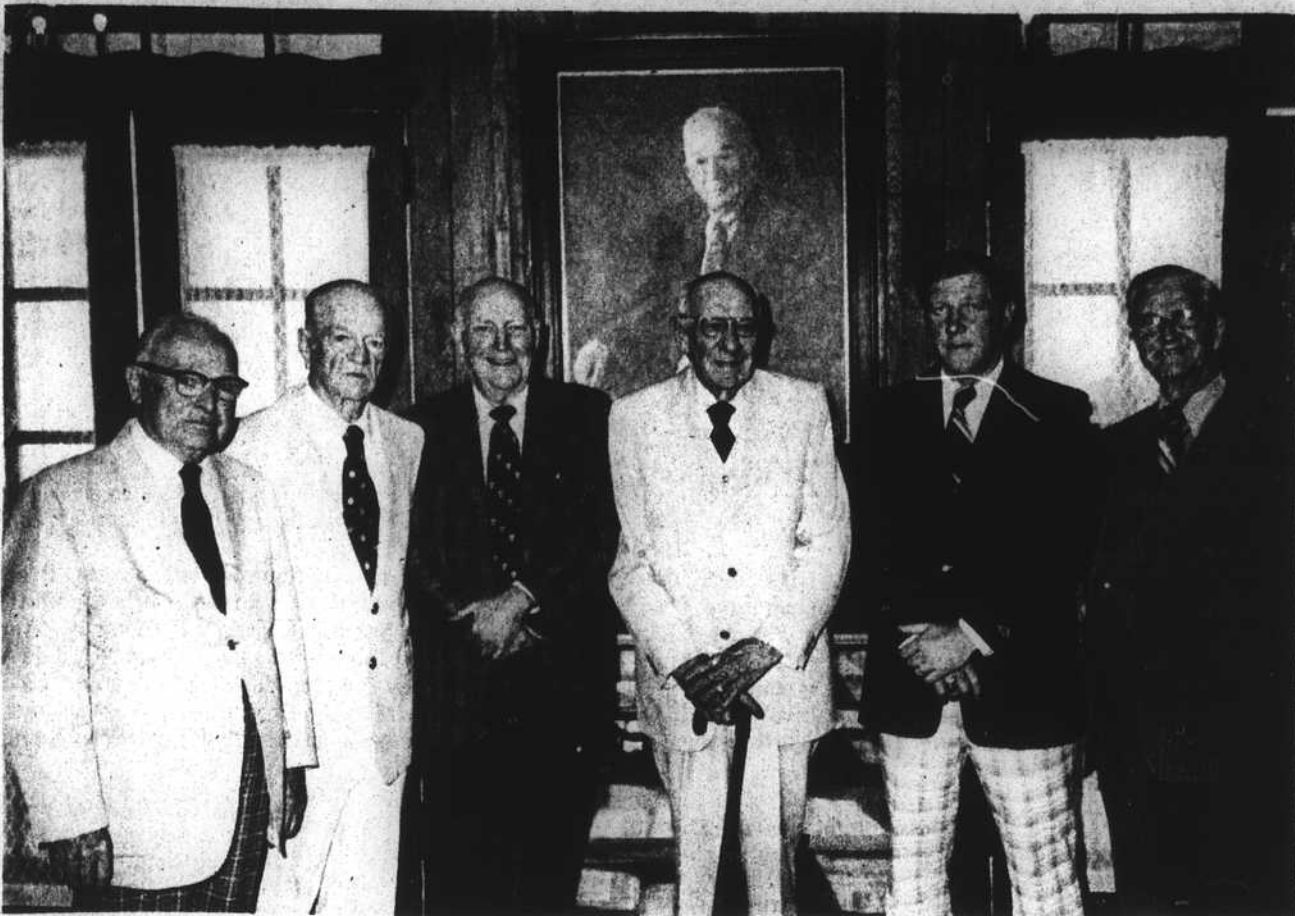
The choir will be made up of

(See Music, p. 2)



MEMBERS OF THE Highlands Community Chorus were holding one of their final rehearsals for this week-end's two presentations of the Cantata "Alleluia" at the Highlands Presbyterian Church when this picture was made Monday night.

Highlands Country Club observes fiftieth year



STANDING IN FRONT OF a portrait of the late Scott Hudson, organizer and first president of the Highlands Country Club, are the club's current officers and directors. From left to right they are F. M. Bird, secretary-treasurer; C. N. McElvey, director; S. N. Evins, director; A. J. Gocking, director; T. C. Smith, president, and A. S. Happoldt, chairman of the board.

Several hundred members and friends of Highlands Country Club attended an open house Sunday afternoon to mark the Golden Anniversary of the club. Hosts were the current officers and directors of the club, and other members of the staff assisted in receiving and serving.

The present Highlands Country Club was organized as the Highlands Estates in 1927 by several members of the Atlanta Athletic Club, principally under the leadership of the late Scott Hudson, who has served for several years as the president of the parent Atlanta organization. Partners in the initial venture were, in addition to Mr. Hudson, the late Samuel N. Evins, Sr., Col. Robert P. Jones, Stewart Maiden, and Carlton Smith, all of Atlanta.

The first directors named to head up the corporation were, in addition to Messrs. Hudson, Jones, Evins, and Smith, the late C.E. Shepard and the late H.G. Robinson. Mr. Crenshaw was named to succeed Mr. Robinson shortly after the organization was completed. Having served as the driving force in organizing the group, Mr. Hudson was named as president and continued to serve in that capacity for the next 35 years, until his death in 1962. It was he who had general oversight of the construction of the championship 18-hole golf course, designed by Donald Ross, and of the handsome clubhouse.

The present clubhouse is actually the second built on the site, the first having burned to the ground before it was actually completed. The replacement building was constructed on the same foundation. An especially striking feature of the building is the beautiful stonework, especially in the massive fireplaces of the lounges. Another handsome feature is the beautiful chestnut bark siding with which the building is sheathed.

Construction of the golf course was done in two phases, with the first nine holes, located on the same side of the highway as the clubhouse,



SHOWN ABOVE ARE A number of the several hundred guests who assembled Sunday afternoon at an open house observing the fiftieth anniversary of the opening of the Highlands Country Club.

presenting relatively few problems, since much of the land had already been cleared for pastures. The second nine was on terrain which was thick with forest and in large measure marshy, with a substantial stream lying through the middle of one of the intended fairways. Workmen at the time noted that some of the big hemlocks

which had to be uprooted were 18 feet in circumference, and it is estimated that they were here when Columbus discovered America.

The heavy cost incurred in developing the second nine holes of the golf course and the loss sustained in reconstructing the clubhouse became especially critical when the

Depression struck within two years of the opening of the club, and eventually the organization had to be restructured under the name of the Highlands Nantahala Company. Mr. Hudson had to pledge his individual credit to underwrite the financial needs of the club for a period, and it was his pride and satisfaction

(See HCC, p. 2)

Reid to chair hospital drive

John Reid will serve as Chairman of the 1978 Annual Fund Drive of the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. John has graciously agreed to serve as Chairman for the third straight year. Last year he headed one of the most successful campaigns the Hospital has had, when \$141,934.84 was raised for the operation of the Hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. Reid moved to Highlands on a year-round basis in 1971. Prior to coming to Highlands, they lived in Atlanta, where he was associated with John Hancock Mutual Life Insurance Company as Southern Regional Pension Manager. John is a Deacon in the Episcopal Church and is Assistant Deacon in the Church of the Incarnation in Highlands. He is also serving on the Board of the Hudson Library.

This year's goal was set at \$150,000. At the meeting of the Trustees on May 25, which is the same as last year's goal. The Trustees were pleased to be able to keep the amount the same, even though the expense of operating a hospital has increased significantly during the past year.

"Hospital costs, nationwide, increased approximately 15% last year, so the Trustees feel very fortunate to have held costs to a level that did not require an increase in funds needed," Reid said.

The annual letter of appeal will soon be mailed explaining in more detail the need for



JOHN REID, Chairman of the 1978 Fund Drive of the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital, is shown accepting a check in the amount of \$2,700 from Mrs. Preston Breckinridge, Treasurer of the Woman's Auxiliary of the Hospital.

The check is to pay for a Hematology-Analyzer that the Auxiliary purchased for the Hospital laboratory.

funds. Mr. Reid has stated, "We are most fortunate to reside in an area where people care so much. The fluctuation in population makes it impossible to operate the Hospital on a break-even basis. The willingness of the area residents to help maintain these needed facilities demonstrates the concern that each of us feels for the Hospital."

Last year 540 people were admitted to the Hospital for some type of illness. More

than 1400 visited the Emergency Room for treatment. A total of 15,926 laboratory tests and 1,746 x-ray procedures were performed.

Woman's Club to learn of ERA

The Highlands Woman's Club will meet at the Town Hall Conference Room on Monday, June 19, at 8:00 p.m., when Mrs. James Wilson will be guest speaker, using as her

Thrift shop expands hours

Fibber Magee's, otherwise known as the Thrift Shop sponsored by the Woman's Club, is thriving, thanks to volunteers who are helping in its management and excellent patronage. In addition to Saturdays, it will now be open on Tuesdays from 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.

This additional opening time is made possible because Mrs. Gordon Reese (Nan) has graciously offered her services for this day. If there are other summer residents who would like to donate time for this worthwhile project, proceeds from which go to the swimming pool fund, they should contact Mrs. Sue Reese after 7:30 p.m. at 526-2029.

Anyone who has clothing to donate should bring it to the shop on Friday, June 16, between 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Only good, clean items can be used.

subject: "Equal Rights Amendment: Pros and Cons." All members of the club are urged to attend and bring guests for this interesting meeting.

Flea market set for Saturday

The Highlands Lions Club will hold a flea market this Saturday afternoon, (June 17) in front of Reeves Hardware Store, beginning at 1:00 o'clock.

Lions are still collecting items for the sale and will come and get articles that are not easily transported.

Call Bob Shambaugh at Spring Street Shop if you have good merchandise for this sale, proceeds from which go to the Lions sight conservation fund.