

# Welcome to the Rotary Club of Highlands

Celebrating 64 years of Service

## Today's Meeting

January 12, 2009

Call to Order : Paul Schmitt, President

Invocation and Pledge : Pete Ray, Chaplain

Happy Dollars : Slocum Howland, Sergeant at Arms

Announcements : Paul Schmitt

## Today's Program



### Jan. 12 : HPD Officer "Ruby"

Ruby will bring HPD K-9 Officer John Cherry to Rotary to speak about what Ruby's been up to since her last visit to Highlands Rotary in July 2008.

## January Birthdays

Julian Franklin – Jan. 5

## Jan. Wedding Anniversaries

Lennie Baer – Jan. 15

Sarah Sloan – Jan. 23

Rick Reid – Jan. 23

## Our Program Sponsors

The following have sponsored our bulletin : Jack and Judy Brinson, Bryson's Food Store, Carefree Home Monitoring, DeWolf Architecture, PLLC, Don Mullen, Edward Jones Investments, Evelyn \$ Wendell Kent, First Citizens Bank, Highlands Decorating Center, Kathy Maps, Macon Bank, Old Edwards Hospitality Group, Nellis Communities, Inc., Wachovia Securities, LLC, Oxford Properties, LLC, Wayah Insurance Group, Robert T. Buchanan, MD, Wilson Gas Service, The Highlander Newspaper, Summer House, WHLC 104.5

# Hospice lives thanks to dedicated Rotarians



Rotarian Evie Byrnes

Highlands-Cashiers Hospital announced this fall that hospice would be discontinued due to budgetary problems – money wasn't available.

Rotarian Evie Byrnes, acting with firm conviction that hospice is a good cause and could not be allowed to disappear, took action. Hospice would not disappear on her watch.

Working with Highlands-Cashiers Hospital, an account for receiving donations was established. The next step was getting the money, and no stone was left unturned.

Groups of friends, friends of hospice and people who believed as Evie did joined forces, writing letters, making phone calls and simply asking others for donations.

Rotarian Diane McPhail converted her studio into a wreath making operation utilizing artists and volunteers who wanted to see hospice continue. The Christmas Dinner at Fresser's Eatery, run by Rotarians Rick Siegel and Debbie Grossman to fund non-profits, brought Hospice on-board. Donations from friends in Rotary seemed to fuel their desire to make this happen.

Area businesses, civic organizations and a list of donors and volunteers that Evie describes as endless brought together more than \$60,000. Now, Hospice lives.

## Mid Term District Assembly

Due to weather, the Mid-Term District Assembly scheduled for this past Saturday was re-scheduled to Saturday, January 23rd at Blue Ridge Community College. Your registration is good for that date.

## Upcoming Programs



### Jan. 19 : Highlands-Cashiers Hospital Interim CEO Frank Leslie

Frank Leslie joined the laboratory staff of Highlands-Cashiers Hospital in 1987 and was quickly promoted to lab manager, a position he held until several years ago. Most recently, he has headed the hospital's Information Technology Dept. and also served as the hospital's corporate compliance and risk management officer. Before assuming the role of interim CEO, he was the hospital's Vice President for Operations. He has been a member of the hospital's administrative team for the last several years. Prior to moving to the mountains, Leslie managed a privately owned medical laboratory in Florida.



### Jan. 26 : State of the Town address – Mayor David Wilkes

David and his wife, Carol, moved to Highlands in 1983, where they have operated an outdoor retail business for the past 26 years. Their two sons, Christopher and Jonathan, grew up in Highlands and graduated from Highlands School. Chris graduated from NC State, and Jonathan from UNC Chapel Hill. In 1983, after visiting numerous times with a college friend, the Wilkes moved to Highlands and purchased the Happy Hiker, later to become Highland Hiker. During their 26 years in Highlands, David has had the opportunity to serve as a board member on the Highlands Chamber of Commerce, the Hudson Library and the Highlands Cashiers Land Trust. David has also been President of Highlands Merchants Association, President of Trillium Homeowners Association and a board member and Chairman of the Highlands ABC Board.