

(Agenda Item #6E)

NEWS RELEASE – FRIENDS OF THE BULLETIN BOARD

New Bulletin Board for Town Center From staff reports 11/24/10

After forty years, there's a new community bulletin board in the center of Black Mountain. It was dedicated on November 24.

Mounted on the side of the Town Hardware, the bulletin board was organized after local resident Cathy Ollis realized that with the exception of the old bulletin board, the town look spruced up with new flower beds, the wall mural, and other uplifts. She went to work. With paint donated by Town Hardware, she painted the old one and then joined forces with the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of the Swannanoa Valley's Social Action Team to work on replacement. They formed the FOBB--Friends of the Bulletin Board, raised money through local business sponsorships, and engaged carpenter and woodcarver Tom Motzko who volunteered to fabricate the board.

Tom went beyond the call of duty and fashioned it into a beautiful work of public art with copper topping and figures of a woman on a bicycle and a man hiking to go with the Welcome To Our Valley Community message.

With Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Bob McMurray doing the honors with the ribbon-cutting, Diane Hutchins dedicated the new Bulletin Board to Rita Styer, a member of FOBB who was involved in the project and died of cancer on November 6. Many of her family who had gathered here from Idaho, Iowa, and Philadelphia for Thanksgiving attended the dedication and shared their mother's love of family and community involvement.

Steve Roberts, who previously owned the drug store in which Town Hardware is located and who had put up the original bulletin board forty years ago shared the history of the building with those gathered.

The new bulletin board sponsors include: Town Hardware, the Chamber, Henson Building Materials, Dart Sign & Trophy, the UU Congregation, Cheshire Racket & Fitness, Southeastern Health & Fitness, Shovelhead Saloon, Dawn Wilson Realty, Michele Salon, and the Cutting Crew.