

# Mayview Madness 5K Road Race set for

*Special to The Blowing Rocket*

In 2000, High Country Conservancy (HCC) held its first Mayview Madness 5K Race in downtown Blowing Rock, North Carolina. Since then, the race has grown in size and popularity each year.

This year's race will be on Saturday, November 7<sup>th</sup> and a 1-mile Fun Run has been added to include the whole family in the race day. The 1-Mile Fun Run will begin at 8 a.m. and the 5K Race will begin at 8:30 a.m. With Stick Boy Bread Co. as the presenting sponsor this year, the race is expected to have the largest turn-out yet.

The idea for the Mayview Madness 5-K race came from Brenda Moretz Speckman, a native of the area, and her passion to help preserve the mountains of the High Country.

The race was started in 2000, when Brenda's husband, John, was serving on the Board of HCC. Both Brenda and John were committed to protecting the mountains, and Brenda wanted to start a fundraising race that ran through Blowing Rock. She felt that such a route would be challenging to runners, provide breath-taking vistas, and remind everyone of to support their local land trust, High Country Conservancy.

The Mayview Madness 5-K Race name came from a hotel that once sat overlooking the gorge. This legendary Mayview Manor was a summer destination for

authors, celebrities and movie stars seeking respite from the heat of lower elevations.

The hotel closed in 1966 and was demolished in 1978, before interest in preserving historic structures would have saved it from the wrecking ball. The Mayview Madness 5K race runs right by where the inn once stood.

The 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Stick Boy Mayview Madness 5K & 1-Mile Fun Run will be timed by ASU Track & Field. The 5K-course is a nationally certified distance.

An award ceremony will be held in the Memorial Park. The top three males and the top three females overall will receive an award. Prizes will also be given to the top three finishers in each age group as well.

Interested runners can register ahead of time, or day-of. To register, go by Stick Boy Bread Co. for a registration form, or go online to [www.highcountryconservancy.org](http://www.highcountryconservancy.org). The registration form can be downloaded online. Early registration is \$20 (if postmarked by October 31) and Late/Race Day registration is \$25. Call HCC at 828-264-2511 with any questions.

The Stick Boy Mayview Madness 5k & 1 Mile Fun Run is sponsored by Stick Boy Bread Co., Bistro Roca, Mountain Construction Enterprises, Boone Barr, Mix 102.3, BumbleBar, RoadID, Runner's World, High Country Press, and M-Prints.

For more information, call (828) 264-2511.

