



# NEWSLETTER

Summer 2012  
Volume 9, Issue 2

## News from the Mayor

Roger Snyder

### Town Hall Property

On Friday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>, we officially opened the Park and had an impressive crowd that enjoyed hot dogs, cooked corn, watermelon and cupcakes. Many thanks to all of the sponsors and the volunteers that worked so hard to make it a success.

During the next couple of months, we will be installing tennis courts next to Town Hall. Council has approved the contract and work should begin very soon.

Also, the Town has been fortunate to have 2 Boy Scout Eagle candidates doing their projects on the park grounds. The first one was the planters next to the flagpole and the other one will be building a bridge next to the Picnic Shed.

Look for other projects in the near future and come out and enjoy the Park!

### Area Businesses

Please support our local businesses in Mills River as often as possible. I'm sure they would like for you to visit and see what they have to offer.

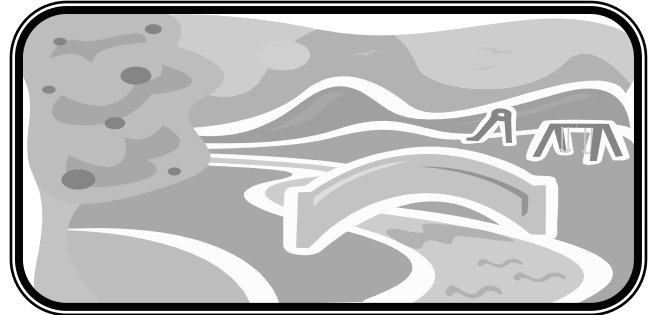
### Citizenship Awards

Each year at the end of the school year, the Town presents a citizenship award. We started this in 2004 and it's our way of showing our appreciation to these elementary school graduates. This presentation is given to a 5<sup>th</sup> grader at both elementary schools – Mills River and Glen Marlow. This year, those recipients were Riley Naber from Glenn Marlow and Autumn Goings from Mills River.

### Safety Tip

Please be careful this summer while outdoors. Drink lots of fluids and get in the shade as often as needed.

While driving on our roads, the farmers are out and about with their large equipment, please take an extra moment and drive safety.



### THE TOWN OF MILLS RIVER

124 Town Center Drive  
Mills River, NC 28759

OFFICE: 828-890-2901 FAX: 828-890-2903

Office Hours: 9:00 am—5:00 pm

Monday-Friday

[info@millsriver.org](mailto:info@millsriver.org)

[www.millsriver.org](http://www.millsriver.org)

#### Council Members:

Mayor: Roger Snyder  
Mayor Pro Tem: Lois Pryor  
Councilman: Wayne Carland  
Councilman: Shanon Gonce  
Councilman: Larry Freeman

#### Staff:

Town Manager: Jaime Laughter  
[jaime.laughter@millsriver.org](mailto:jaime.laughter@millsriver.org)

Town Clerk/Tax Collector: Susan L. Powell  
[susan.powell@millsriver.org](mailto:susan.powell@millsriver.org)

Administrative Assistant: Aurelie Taylor  
[aurelie.taylor@millsriver.org](mailto:aurelie.taylor@millsriver.org)

Zoning Enforcement Officer/Parks & Recreation Coordinator:  
Pat Christie  
[pat.christie@millsriver.org](mailto:pat.christie@millsriver.org)

Email for Free Newsletter Subscription:  
[newsletter@millsriver.org](mailto:newsletter@millsriver.org)

Website: [www.millsriver.org](http://www.millsriver.org)

### Newsletter Editors

Articles: Aurelie Taylor

Layout: Kathie Doole



## HISTORY CORNER

by Jim Brittain

When I was young, trails in the mountains were still quite utilitarian, but now those that remain passable serve mostly hunters, hikers, bikers, and horseback riders on recreational outings. For a few of us old timers, the restoration or periodic maintenance of an old trail satisfies a need to remember fondly a time before we owned cars when such trails provided efficient short cuts to visit relatives, attend church, or walk to the general store.

Occasionally in the Spring I devote a few hours clearing away limbs or a fallen tree along an old trail up a cove that I have owned for more than half a century at North Mills River. It actually is what one might call a "watershed cove" – drained by a spring-fed branch which flows into the river. The trail goes back at least to the mid 1930's, if not earlier. It was used to drag or haul logs, some of which provided the lumber used by my father and a neighbor to construct a house just over a ridge during 1934-35. This was the house where I lived during the years from 1935 to 1950 and is still inhabited by one of my nephews and his family. The cove trail features some very old and large specimens of mountain laurel.

The cove spring is quite a reliable source of water which has never gone dry as far as I know. There is still an old concrete box near where the water comes out of the ground which once served as a collection reservoir. I have been told that the box was once connected to a small hydraulic ram which pumped water through a long pipe to the house across the river where I was born. It provided an alternative supply of water to the old hand-dug well near the house. I don't remember the ram, but I do recall a similar one at my Grandmother Gillespie's home on South Mills River. It pumper water from a spring located a short distance east of her house. I still recall the unusual sound made by the operating ram. If it stopped for some reason, someone had to go to the spring and "prime the pump".

Several years ago I established a new connector trail which linked the cove branch trail to another old trail which I had used as a teenager and which my father had used to walk to school in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. My connector trail joined the old trail not far from the corner of an old field where we once grew corn and near a tract of white pines planted by my father in 1940. I could still identify traces of the old trail that crossed the mountain and was able with some effort to clear it out enough to use again.

Near the top of the mountain the trail once forked with the right fork going to the site of Mountain View School near the intersection of present-day Whitaker Lane and L.L. Moore Road. For several years I used this trail fork to walk over to visit my Aunt Lola Whitaker and her family. The left fork of the old trail took one to the store and grain mill of M.A. Moore. I used this trail segment fairly frequently to travel to the store from our house to get a jug of kerosene for lamps or to purchase salt, sugar, or other staples. I have walked many other trails in our mountains, both old and new, but the trails through my Mills River land retain a special attraction to this day.

### GT - Little Farmers Market

*The best of fresh vegetables and fruits*

#### Mills River

At the corner of Highway 280 (Airport Road)  
and 2530 Butler Bridge Road

Mills River, NC 28759  
Phone: (828) 654-0088

#### Country Acres Rentals

Welcome Home

25 Keith Memorial Drive  
Mills River, NC 28759

Located between Hendersonville,  
Asheville & Brevard

Carolyn F. Edmundson

Owner/Manager

828-891-3261-Office

828-691-0440-Cell

**CLEAN, QUIET COUNTRY SETTINGS**  
**2, 3 & 4 BEDROOM HOMES**



## **FROM THE OFFICE OF THE TAX COLLECTOR....**

Most people don't realize that while property taxes technically become a lien on property on the first of January of the calendar year, tax rates aren't set until June (when budgets are adopted), bills aren't sent until September, and taxes can be paid without penalty until the following 5<sup>th</sup> of January (depending on when the date falls during the week). This tax year the 5<sup>th</sup> of January falls on a Saturday, so the last day to pay tax for 2012 without penalty is Monday, January 7, 2013.

If you've refinanced your property or bought property in Mills River this year, it is your responsibility (if your taxes are escrowed) to be sure that your mortgage company has our information so they can pay your tax on time. Like income tax returns, it is the citizen's responsibility to pay tax, whether or not notice is given. While we'd like to have our tax accounts accessible to the public on our website, we don't have the technology quite yet. Feel free to call Town Hall with any questions about your taxes.

If you think you might be better off spreading your tax payments out over several months, please feel free to take advantage of our payment plan. Started in July, a payment plan can spread your taxes out over 6 months and still keep you from incurring late fees and interest. Let us know if we can be of any assistance with an application.

## **PARKS COMMITTEE UPDATE SUMMER 2012**

This summer finds the park operation in full swing with the popularity of the Dog Park, playground area, multiuse trail and our beautiful picnic shelter. We are thrilled to see folks using the park and have received an overwhelming amount of positive feedback.

The Park's Grand Opening was held on June 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2012 and by all accounts a good time was had by all. We had music, food and drink, a hayride, K-9 demonstrations, games and a jump house for the kids as well as public service displays. More importantly, this was an opportunity for our citizens to come out and enjoy this new facility.

We would like to thank the following sponsors who so generously donated time, supplies, or financial support in order to make this occasion a success: Acorn Bed and Breakfast, Bed and Breakfast on Tiffany Hill, First Citizens Bank of Mills River, Flavor First, Food Lion of Mills River, Henderson County Chamber of Commerce, Henderson County Sheriff's Department, Hotdog World, Ingle's Markets, Jimmy Cowan, Ken Siano - Dog Trainer, Lions Club of Mills River, LPL Financial, Jollene Austin, Mills River Fire Department, Mills River Friends of the Library, Mills River Restaurant, North River Farms, Pardee Mills River Family Health Center, Pepsi Co., Park Ridge Hospital, Real Estate Professionals, Richie Meadows, Sam's Club, Sierra Nevada Brewing Company, Sound Extreme, STJ's Inflation Station, TD Bank of Mills River, Triangle Stop of Mills River, and Welding Unlimited.

We have just recently been selected by the local Lowes Home Improvement Store for participation in their Hero's Program. What this means for the Town is that they are going to supply both the materials and labor to landscape both entrances into the park. Thank you Lowes!

Look for construction of tennis courts to commence sometime over this summer.

We also want to take this opportunity to introduce our two temporary part time rangers, Dale Collins and Zachary Beard. You have probably seen them in the park picking up trash and keeping up with the Dog Park, etc. They are here to help with any questions or issues you may have. Look for them in their red shirts if you need assistance.



## NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

The Town of Mills River newsletter is published and distributed quarterly. Articles submitted may be edited for brevity. Deadline for submission of articles is the 25<sup>th</sup> of each of the following months: March, June, September and December. Submit articles in writing to:

Aurelie Taylor  
Town of Mills River  
124 Town Center Drive  
Mills River, NC 28759

or by email to [aurelie.taylor@millsriver.org](mailto:aurelie.taylor@millsriver.org). Articles can also be dropped off at the Mills River Town Hall. If you need assistance, have questions or need more information, feel free to call Aurelie at (828) 890-2901 or email.

## LOCAL SMALL BUSINESS ADS

The Mills River Town Newsletter is printed quarterly: at the end of March, June, September, and December. In order to defray the cost of publishing, the newsletter will be taking small business ads. These ads will be business card size and black and white. The business must be located within the town limits. There is a \$50 fee for each quarterly advertisement and since there is a limited amount of space, ads will be taken on a first come, first served basis. The ad must accompany payment and checks should be labeled for the newsletter. The fee collected goes directly for newsletter costs. Site selection within the newsletter is to be determined by the newsletter committee. The committee reserves the right to refuse an ad. Both ad and payment will be returned if this occurs.

Thank you for your support.



## SPOTLIGHT ON MILLS RIVER RESIDENT...NEVELYN MCCALL

by Kathryn Finotti

How long have you been a resident of Mills River?

We moved to Mills River in December 1972

What kind of work do you do (or have you done)?

I worked at Eaton-Cutler Hammer for 21 years. When Eaton closed in 1994, I went to Blue Ridge Community College and earned a Computer Certificate. I have been at the Sheriff's Office for 13 years. I started as a Data Entry Clerk in the Records Department and then moved to the Data Information Supervisor. I have been the Records Supervisor for approximately 6 years.

Do you have a family?

Yes. I am married to Earl McCall and have a son Patrick of Etowah.

What is your favorite pastime or hobby?

Reading and watching the Andy Griffith show.

Do you have pets?

Yes, we have always had a pet. Our latest is a Dachshund mix that recently turned one (1) year old.

What's your favorite summer time fruit or vegetable?

Watermelon...really icy cold.

Coke or Pepsi?

I like both as long as they are diet drinks.

Do you have a favorite book or movie?

Yes - 'You've Got Mail' with Tom Hanks and Meg Ryan.

What's your favorite season of the year?

Spring

If you were stranded on a deserted island what one item would you want to have with you?

A good book under a shady tree with a breeze.

Where's the one place you would take someone visiting our area?

Jump Off Rock. We took my cousin when she was visiting from Pennsylvania and she wanted to stay all day.

What is the one thing you would most like to change about Mills River?

The commercialism. I would like to be able to keep the rural atmosphere at least along Highway 280. It seems that everything is growing too fast.

Have you ever seen a bear in the wild, in person?

Yes.

Do you have a favorite quote?

Yes. My grandmother always used to tell all the grandchildren 'be sure your sins will find you out'. That seemed to keep us on the straight and narrow as we grew up.

If you didn't know how old you were...how old would you be?

Getting ready for retirement, being able to sit on the porch and watch the cars drive by.



## RECIPE CORNER

### Black Bean Avocado Salad

#### Ingredients

- 1 (15 ounce) can black beans, rinsed and drained
- 1 (11 ounce) can Mexicorn, drained
- 1 1/3 cups chopped peeled avocado
- 1 cup chopped seeded cucumber
- 1 cup chopped seeded tomatoes
- 1/2 cup thinly sliced green onions
- 1 small jalapeno pepper, seeded and chopped
- 1 teaspoon lime juice

#### Dressing

- 2 tablespoons cider vinegar
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1 teaspoon ground cumin
- 1/2 teaspoon dried oregano
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/8 teaspoon pepper

#### Directions

In a large bowl, combine the first eight ingredients. In a small bowl, whisk the dressing ingredients. Pour over salad and toss to coat. Cover and refrigerate for at least 1 hour before serving.

**ENJOY!**

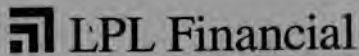
## MEETING & OTHER DATES

Jul 3	Planning Board	Cancelled
Jul 4	Independence Day	Town Hall Closed
Jul 12	Town Council	7:00 PM
Jul 20	Agricultural Advisory	9:00 AM
Jul 24	Parks and Recreation	7:00 PM
Jul 26	Town Council	7:00 PM

Aug 7	Planning Board	7:00 PM
Aug 9	Town Council	7:00 PM
Aug 14	Board of Adjustment	7:00 PM
Aug 16	Finance Committee	7:00 PM
Aug 17	Agricultural Advisory	7:00 PM
Aug 23	Town Council	7:00 PM
Aug 28	Parks and Recreation	7:00 PM

Sep 3	Labor Day Observance	Town Hall Closed
Sep 4	Planning Board	7:00 PM
Sep 13	Town Council	7:00 PM
Sep 20	Finance Committee	7:00 PM
Sep 21	Agricultural Advisory	9:00 AM
Sep 25	Parks and Recreation	7:00 PM
Sep 27	Town Council	7:00 PM

Oct 2	Planning Board	7:00 PM
Oct 9	Board of Adjustment	7:00 PM
Oct 11	Town Council	7:00 PM



**Jollene J. Austin, AAMS**  
Financial Advisor

9657 Boylston Hwy  
Mills River, NC 28759  
jollene.austin@lpl.com

828 890 9028 *office*  
828 890 8970 *office*  
828 699 7575 *cell*

www.lpl.com/jollene.austin  
Member FINRA /SIPC



## NEWS FROM YOUR MILLS RIVER BRANCH LIBRARY

by Roz Ledford

**2012 SUMMER READING PROGRAM.** We are having a great time with local children and teens that are enjoying our **DREAM BIG.....READ** (children's program) and **OWN THE NIGHT** (teen program) for the 2012 summer. We had several great programs during the month of June and the month of July holds even more fun and activities for all. The children's program offers the opportunity to earn prizes as progress is made with the reading requirements and all children completing the program will have their name entered into a drawing to win a bicycle at the close of the program. There will be a bicycle given away at the Main Library and at each of the five branches.

Teens can read a total of 6 books and record the titles on a book log. Upon completion of their book log the participant will receive a free paperback book. The book log will then be entered into a drawing for one of the following prizes: a NOOK Simple Touch with GlowLight (e-reader), a \$25.00 gift card to Fountainhead Bookstore, or a \$25.00 gift card to EPIC Theatre. Participants can complete a second book log (must read an additional 6 books) for an additional chance in the drawings but no extra prize will be given. The Mills River Branch Library will also give away a gift basket to a lucky teen girl and a lucky teen boy who complete the teen program. Baskets are courtesy of the Friends of the Mills River Library.

**HOMEBOUND BOOK DELIVERY SERVICE IS AVAILABLE.** Are you or someone you know home-bound? The Henderson County Public Library (HCPL) provides service to our residents who are unable to visit the library and require home delivery service. The Library delivers to:

- \* Residences
- \* Assisted Living Facilities
- \* Retirement Homes
- \* Nursing Homes
- \* Adult Daycare Facilities
- \* Hospitals
- \* Other agencies

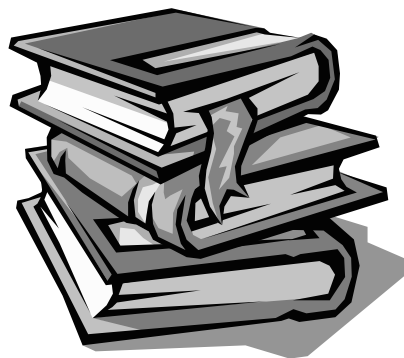
This is a free service provided by the HCPL system. The HCPL wants to give all county residents the opportunity to read and enjoy the materials available at your local library. To qualify for service you must be a resident of Henderson County and unable to visit the library on your own due to health related limitations. Once you become a participant, arrangements are made for home delivery.

Items will be selected according to your suggestions and areas of interest. Items available for delivery are:

- \* Books in Regular or Large Print
- \* Books on CD
- \* Music on CD
- \* Movies on DVD

Please call the HCPL Extension Services for more information as we would like the opportunity to help you enjoy the resources available in your local library.

The telephone number is 828-697-4725, extension 7. The web site is [www.henderson.lib.nc.us](http://www.henderson.lib.nc.us).



**The Town of Mills River  
124 Town Center Drive  
Mills River NC 28759**

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**HENDERSON COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT  
MILLS RIVER DIVISION**

by Sergeant Ken C. McCraw—Have a Safe and Happy 2012!

Please check the Henderson County Sheriff's Office website at [www.henderson.lib.nc.us/county/sheriff](http://www.henderson.lib.nc.us/county/sheriff) for links and information regarding identity theft, Community Watch programs, and crime prevention.

Summer time is upon us once again here in Mills River. School is out, the grass is green, and the days are warm. As always, this is the time of year when traffic on our roads increases.

- Remember to watch for children playing in neighborhood areas.
- Please obey all traffic rules, and adjust your speed and drive times for increased traffic congestion.

When the weather warms we tend to open doors and windows in our homes. Remember to close and LOCK them when you are away from your residence.

Have a safe and happy summer. Enjoy the beauty of Mills River.

**For Emergencies—911  
Non-Emergencies—697-4911  
NC Highway Patrol—693-4141**