

LAKE LURE NEWS & VIEWS

TOWN OF LAKE LURE
INCORPORATED IN 1927

Mayor: Jim Proctor

Commissioners: Russ Pitts, Jeanine Noble, Dick McCallum, Chuck Watkins

Town Manager: H.M. "Chuck" Place, III

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1MAYOR'S COMMENTS

by **Jim Proctor**

Comprehensive Plan

The Comprehensive Plan is well under way and nearing completion. The Comprehensive Plan will be a written document that identifies the goals, objectives, principles, policies, standards for protection, enhancement and growth and development of the Town of Lake Lure. In the upcoming months the drafts of the report will be made public and there will be at least one public hearing before the final draft is approved. This document will be a huge asset to our community as we plan for our future. The town council has already had a joint workshop with the Zoning and Planning Board to start the process of prioritizing the recommendations spelled out in the plan. I would like to once again thank the Comprehensive Steering Committee and all the other citizens that have worked to make the plan possible.

TOWN COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

by **Town Clerk Mary Flack, MMC, CTC**

1REGULAR MEETING: The regular town council meeting was held on Tuesday, March 13, 2007,

7:00 p.m., in the meeting room of the Lake Lure Municipal Center.

Under the "consent agenda," Town Council:

- * approved minutes of the February 13, 2007 (regular meeting & closed session), and February 20, 2007 (recessed regular meeting & closed session);
- * approved a request from the Dixie Rodder's to: (1) hold their 23rd annual car show June 1-2, 2007 on town property; (2) rent the town community center along with the grassy area behind and adjacent to the building which extends toward the town marina; (3) suspend the town peddling ordinance to allow the club to sell t-shirts and other vendors to sell food and car parts; (4) use a P.A. system for playing music and making announcements and (5) suspend the town alcohol ordinance for participants to consume alcohol (beer and wine only) as stipulated with restrictions by the Lake Lure police department;
- * approved a fabric structure permit for Rumbling Bald Resort as presented;
- * approved a request from Bo Williams on behalf of the Lake Lure Tours, Inc. to use the same payment structure as last year for the 2007 commercial boat permit fees; and
- * approved a request from Wayne Edwards to hold

craft shows on town property for June 30, 2007 through July 4, 2007, and September 1-3, 2007; suspend the town's peddling ordinance during these events.

Town Council also:

- * appointed Mayor Jim Proctor as the representative for the Town of Lake Lure to serve as board member on the Isothermal Planning and Development Commission;
- * presented a proclamation recognizing the Town of Lake Lure's 80th Birthday;
- * approved a request from Fred Noble on behalf of the Hickory Nut Gorge Taxpayers Group to waive the rental fee and cleanup fee for use of the community hall in the Municipal Center for a public meeting contingent upon them cleaning up the building after this meeting;
- * approved a request from William and Nita McMasters to connect into the town's sewer system;
- * adopted Resolution No. 07-03-13 revising the fee schedule for the administration of subdivision regulations, zoning regulations, lake structures regulations;
- * heard a report from the erosion control officer regarding a water quality violation in Laurel Landing Cove;
- * heard a report from the town manager and the erosion control officer regarding erosion control violations and damage to a public road at 144 Dockside Drive caused by construction activities of Hickory Nut Gorge Development Co.; council members directed the town manager to notify the developer to repair all damage to this road immediately;
- * adopted a policy that graffiti will be removed from any town structure within 72 hours;
- * tabled action on scheduling public hearings regarding subdivision and zoning regulations amendments submitted by the community development director relating to cluster subdivisions, master plan review/approval, vested rights, and clarifying language difficult to interpret and enforce by the zoning administrator; council members agreed to discuss this agenda item further at the recessed town council meeting with zoning

and planning board members being held on March 20, 2007, 1:00 p.m. in the Lake Lure Municipal Center;

- * granted permanent waiver of boat permit fees for two motorized boats and two non-motorized boats for the Edneyville Boy Scout Troop 605; additional boat permits purchased by the Edneyville Boy Scouts will be charged at a resident rate;

In other activities:

- * heard reports from council liaisons on the activities of various boards and committees.

RECESSED REGULAR MEETING: Town council reconvened the recessed meeting from March 13, 2007 to March 20, 2007, at 1:00 p.m. in the council meeting room of the Lake Lure Municipal Center.

Town Council actions:

- * held a discussion with zoning and planning board members pertaining to planning projects; topics of discussion included: (a) identifying all planning Projects; (b) prioritizing planning projects; (c) identifying resources needed to complete projects; and (d) establishing a schedule for completion of planning projects;
- * scheduled a public hearing to be held at the next regular town council meeting on April 10, 2007, 7:00 p.m., Lake Lure Municipal Center to consider amendments to clarify language in the zoning regulations including provisions addressing tents and fabric structures;
- * approved an agenda item to be consider at the next regular town council meeting on April 10, 2007 to secure an intern to conduct a research on a transient rental project as requested by the community development director;
- * requested cost estimates from the community development director for the fiscal year budget 2007-2008 regarding developing a unified development ordinance, developing an adequate public facilities ordinance and hiring a professional facilitator to conduct a weekend retreat with the objective of creating a strategic plan; and
- * adjourned this meeting.

SPECIAL WORKSHOP MEETING: Town council held a workshop meeting March 22, 2007, at 1:00 p.m. in the council meeting room of the Lake Lure Municipal Center to discuss the proposed capital improvements program with town staff members.

COMMUNITY POLICING NEWS

by Chief Eric Hester

The Lake Lure Police Department started a **Citizens on Patrol Program** last year and we are currently accepting applications for this program to fill a couple of open slots. The program is geared to enhance safety and general welfare of all the people of Lake Lure by assisting the Police Department in deterring crime. The primary method used to deter crime will be to provide high visibility patrol on the lake and on the land within the town.

Members of The Lake Lure Citizens on Patrol will be registered with the Town of Lake Lure as **Town Volunteers**. Any U.S. Citizen that has a current North Carolina driver's license, is at least 18 years old and lives in the Hickory Nut Gorge area may apply to become a member of The Citizens on Patrol. Provided they are of good moral character, free of felony conviction, and successfully complete the application, background, and the training process. A **Volunteer** is a non-salaried individual who offers his/her services for a limited time, acting in a specific capacity willingly by ones on accord and serves "at the will" of the Chief of Police. Anyone interested in becoming a member of The Lake Lure Citizens on Patrol Program should stop by the Lake Lure Police Department for an application. I'm looking forward to working with Lake Lure citizens that want to be a part of this program while continuing to provide an extra service to the town through the Citizens on Patrol Program.

COMMUNITY FIRE NEWS

by Ron Morgan

The Code Red notification system is a new telephone based system for the notification of citizens in a defined area in case of an emergency. The Town has an annual contract with Code Red to provide this service.

Many of you have visited the Town website and have input your address and phone numbers into the Code Red Emergency Notification System. However, we have noticed that some of you have input your out of town address and phone number, the system builds the data base by physical addresses and if the address is not in Lake Lure, Chimney Rock or along the Broad River in Rutherford County you will not get called! Please input your local Lake Lure or Chimney Rock address and your out of town or in town phone number. By doing it this way you will get the call.

The key is that you have to be identified in the hazard area by the mapping software. You can list two numbers to call by inputting the same address again with a different phone number. If you have not logged into this system go to the Town website www.townoflakelure.com and click on the Code Red symbol. If you have any questions or problems call our office at 828-625-9333.

1CUSTOMER SERVICES

by Linda Ward

There is a new buoy out on the lake this year. It is a buoy marking a rock hazard area, not a no-wake buoy. It is located south of Rumbling Bald Resort on the west side of the lake and is wider than the no-wake buoys. It has reflective tape on the lower half and has oversized text stating "Danger Rocks" on two sides with the standardized water hazard symbol of a triangle. Please stay to the east of this buoy at all times.

The town's ski course in Buffalo Bay, south of Rumbling Bald Resort, will be marked with just two buoys this year. The two buoys will be aligned with the center of the ski course area. Fishermen should stay 40 ft away from the straight line created by the two buoys in order to avoid the ski course,

which is submerged approximately 15 ft under the water. It does not create a hazard to boaters when fully submerged.



11 Happy Easter

UPPER BROAD RIVER WATERSHED PROTECTION PROGRAM

by Jennifer Beck

Happy Earth Day from the Upper Broad River Watershed Protection Program! This April 22 will mark the thirty-seventh anniversary of the first Earth Day when thousands of citizens gathered to voice their concerns for the environment. In that time we have experienced great strides in environmental protection on a national and local level. However, we continue to face challenges to protect our soil, water, and air resources.

Here are a few tips on what you can do in your yard to help protect the natural resources of the Hickory Nut Gorge:

Grass-cycling When mowing your lawn make sure to keep the grass at least 2 inches tall and leave the clippings on the ground. Grass-cycling allows the nutrients in the decomposing grass to return to soil and limits the need for future soil amendments.

Mulching Place dried organic matter, such as leaves or lawn clippings, around the base of plants. Mulch prevents erosion, retains the soil moisture, adds nutrients to the ground, and prevents weed growth.

Composting Organic yard or kitchen waste can be composted to produce a natural fertilizer. Compost can be placed in garden or flower beds to provide nutrients, increase soils ability to absorb air and water, decrease erosion, and reduce the amount of chemical additives needed for plant growth.

Landscaping Using native plants, which require less watering and chemical additives, is the easiest solution to limiting the amount of time and

resources spent in your yard. However, if you prefer to plant a few non-native species remember to irrigate your lawn in the early morning or late afternoon to reduce the amount of water lost during hot parts of day.

Plant a Tree Trees are a great carbon sink, provide habitat for wildlife, and the root systems prevents sediment erosion.

Now that you are tired from working in the yard and want to enjoy outdoors consider joining the Carolina Mountain Land Conservancy (CMLC)

for one of their upcoming afternoon guided hikes. On Sunday, April 15th CMLC is hosting a wildflower hike in Hickory Nut Forest. The group will be meeting again on Mother's Day, May 13th, for their annual hike in the Florence Preserve. Both of these hikes are free and open to the public. To find out more information contact Ayres Christ at (828) 697-5777 or Outreach2@carolinamountain.org.

NEWS AROUND LAKE LURE

The **Hickory Nut Gorge Chamber of Commerce** is always looking for new members. The more members we have the stronger our voice becomes and the better we are able to serve the area. If you are interested in joining the Chamber please contact Judy Beeson at the Visitors Center, 828-625-2725 or e-mail director@hickorynut.org.

The **Hickory Nut Gorge Taxpayers Group** will be holding a meeting to discuss property appraisals and to learn specific details about the reappraisal process on Saturday, March 31 at 2:00 pm. This meeting is open to the public and will be held at the Lake Lure Town Hall but is not affiliated with the Town of Lake Lure.

Lake Lure Newcomers invite those who are new residents in Lake Lure (24 months or less) to join them in various activities which include: potluck, gourmet, out'n about, theater, bridge/poker,

book club, and hiking. Anyone interested in becoming a member, call Chuck and Char Leneschmidt 828-625-5201.

Lake Lure Lakefront Owners Association (LLLOA). If you are interested in Lake issues and concerns and own lakefront property on the shores of beautiful Lake Lure, the LLLOA invites you to become a regular member. Associate memberships are also encouraged for those who are interested in our Lake. Each year members receive a directory of members, informative Muse Letters, and a first class mailed subscription to the Town of Lake Lure monthly newsletter, Lake Lure News & Views. Members meet at the Town Community Center socially at least annually to meet neighbors and discuss issues. Annual dues are currently a modest **\$20.00**. You may pick up an application for membership at the Municipal Center, via the website at www.townoflakelure.com under Lake Management or call Bob Keith, Pres. at 828-625-2874 for an application or any questions you may have.

For the convenience of the public, the VFW Post 10473 has placed a receptacle for old and worn out American flags in the covered walkway at the town hall near the entrance to the police department's door. If you would like a replacement flag, for a small fee, or are eligible and wish to join the VFW contact VFW Vice Commander Charles Hicks at 828-625-9278.

Free online newspaper for Lake Lure, Chimney Rock and Rutherford County. Local history, comprehensive calendar, groups, preserving the Gorge, fun things to do in the Gorge and local authors. <http://www.hickorynutgorgenews.com>

1U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary...The newly formed Lake Lure Detachment consist of local area volunteers. Our main missions are to conduct vessel safety checks, educate the public in recreational boating safety, assist the Coast Guard, state and local authorities in operations such as search and rescue missions. We do not perform ANY direct law

enforcement functions and many of our safety courses and vessel checks are free to the public. We are currently accepting applications for volunteers in the Lake Lure Detachment.

If you are interested in joining our team contact either Jim Boxerman at 828-779-2670 or Clyde Ingersoll at 828-606-8510. Regular meetings are held the second Tuesday of every month at 4:00 pm at 718 Buffalo Creek Road.

We will be doing our FREE spring Vessel Safety Checks (VSC) on April 14th at both the town and Rumbling Bald Resort boat ramps from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm.

NOTICE

Weather permitting, Lake Lure Tours is open 7 days a week from 9 am – 5 pm for gas or your other needs. For questions or comments about the hours or operations of the Lake Lure Tours, call 828-625-1373.

The deadline for newsletter articles to be received at Town Hall for the May issue is April 25, 2007.