

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

Thank You

When thinking about volunteers in Lake Lure my first thought is always, "Thank You!". Lake Lure has a long history of volunteerism. Our boards and committees are full of hard working folks that have put in long hard hours for our town. Our local volunteer fire fighters and emergency medical technicians not only arrive when needed, they spend many hours training. We have many local community clubs and groups that help our town and our surrounding areas in almost every way you can think of. One aspect of our volunteer base that was made very clear during our recent town council budget session is the fact that our volunteers' hard work allows Lake Lure to keep our tax rate where it is. If, for example, we had paid firefighters for all of our 14.7 square miles, our tax rate could easily double. Also the volunteers that have helped with the comprehensive plan have saved our town countless dollars in consultant fees. So, once again, thank you to all our volunteers. AND if you are not currently volunteering, I encourage you to help in any way you can.

State Buys Chimney Rock Park

Monday, May 21st North Carolina completed its purchase of Chimney Rock Park.

Chimney Rock Park will be part of a new state park under development in the Hickory Nut Gorge. At the deed signing Governor Mike Easley said "Chimney Rock is a cherished landmark in North Carolina, and this is a key acquisition for the state parks system and land conservation in our state. The state is honored to accept the stewardship of this important natural resource." Please note that the park will remain open year round and there will continue to be an admission price. I and the town are extremely happy to see this environmentally sensitive property protected and our tourist economy preserved.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

by H.M. "Chuck" Place III, AICP

1Out with the Old, in with the New

Usually, about the April issue of this newsletter, I comment on the coming of spring and suggest that it's the time to clean up and spruce up before the lazy days of summer are upon us. Well, I missed doing so this April and was busy with the budget in May, so here it is June already. Even without my exhortations, there appears to be a lot of cleaning, sprucing and updating going on.

Probably the most obvious example of a re-do is US 64/74A. The NCDOT has been busy resurfacing the roads leading to Lake Lure and have now paved from the east end of town to the Pool Creek Bridge

by the beach. It has caused a little aggravation, but the end will be well worth it.

One of the most radical fix-ups is the total renovation of the building across the highway from the town hall. The structure was originally a laundromat and mini-storage facility and later housed a hardware store. Hickory Nut Development Corp. has had their office in half of the building for a couple of years and is now converting the entire structure to office space. In the process they have made a remarkable transformation in the appearance of the building with a tower, stone columns and interesting "arts and crafts" style architectural details.

Not exactly a fix-up, but the new Carolina Properties real estate office across from the post office is a nice addition to the Memorial Highway streetscape. This two-story building has nice details in keeping with the Mediterranean theme in the town center area.

Farther to the east, the old night spot variously known as The Tomahawk Club, The Place, Spot Lights and several other things (not all polite), has been demolished and will be replaced by a new structure.

Lots more is happening that will improve the overall appearance of our already lovely community. Just keep your eyes open for them.

Here is another homily from my overflowing email in-basket at home.

The Trouble Tree

I hired a plumber to help me restore an old farm house, and after he had just finished a rough first day on the job: a flat tire made him lose an hour of work, his electric drill quit and his ancient one ton truck refused to start. I offered to drive him home and he sat in stony silence the entire trip. On arriving, he invited me in to meet his family. As we walked toward the front door, he paused briefly at a small tree, touching the tips of the branches with both hands. When opening the door he underwent an amazing transformation. His face was wreathed in smiles and he hugged his two small children and gave his wife a kiss.

Afterward he walked me to the car. We passed the tree and my curiosity got the better of me. I

asked him about what I had seen him do earlier. "Oh, that's my trouble tree," he replied "I know I can't help having troubles on the job, but one thing's for sure, those troubles don't belong in the house with my wife and the children... So I just hang them up on the tree every night when I come home and ask God to take care of them. Then in the morning I pick them up again." "Funny thing is," he smiled, "when I come out in the morning to pick 'em up, there aren't nearly as many as I remember hanging up the night before."

Anonymous

TOWN COUNCIL ACTIVITIES by Town Clerk Mary Flack, MMC, CTC

1REGULAR MEETING: The regular town council meeting was held on Tuesday, May 8, 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 April 10, 2007 (regular meeting); and
- * approved a request from Bob Keith on behalf of the Lake Lure Lakefront Owner's Association to suspend the town's alcohol ordinance in order to serve beer and wine during their annual meeting inside the Community Hall of the Lake Lure Municipal Center on Saturday, June 10, 2006, from 4:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m.

Town Council also:

- * heard a report from Erosion Control Officer Clint Calhoun on the status of violations of the soil erosion and sedimentation control regulations by the Hickory Nut Development Corp at 144 Dockside Drive property of Joel Seaton and Lois Nelson;
- * approved a request from Linda Marsh on behalf of the Hickory Nut Gorge Chamber of Commerce regarding a business meeting;
- * appointed Bo Williams to fill Ross Worden's position on the Lake Advisory Committee with a term expiring on December 31, 2007;
- * approved a request from Andres Almanzar to connect into the town's sewer system for a

restaurant in Chimney Rock; *
approved a modification of shoreline at the Travis
Oates property as requested by Hickory Nut
Construction Co.;

* scheduled a public hearing to be held on Tuesday,
June 12, 2007, 7:00 p.m. or thereafter in the Lake
Lure Municipal Center to consider adoption of the
town's comprehensive plan;

* approved a request from Gary McCall and George
Wittmer to restrict parking in front of the Lake Lure
Arcade Building to 1 ½ hours from 9:00 a.m. until
5:00 p.m. during weekdays;

* approved a request from the Hickory Nut Gorge
Kiwanis to close to traffic a portion of the Arcade
Street in front of the building on Saturday, Sunday,
and Monday during the arts and crafts festival from
May 26-28, 2007;

* scheduled a special budget workshop meeting
with town staff members to discuss preliminary
budget items for fiscal year 2007-2008 on Tuesday,
May 22, 2007, 9:00 a.m. in the Lake Lure
Municipal Center; and

* scheduled a special meeting to be held on
Wednesday, May 30, 2007, 3:00 p.m. in the Lake
Lure Municipal Center to review the town's pay and
classification plan; consider proposed amendments
to the personnel policy; and adopt Resolution No.
07-05-23 amending the personnel policy of the
Town of Lake Lure.

In other activities:

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

KNOW YOUR EMPLOYEE
by Anita Taylor, Personnel Director

I We would like to welcome Amos Gilliam
to the Town of Lake Lure as Planner. Amos has
been working the past two years as planner for
Burke County with primary responsibilities as
subdivision administrator.

Amos came equipped with a B.S. degree in
"Community and Regional Planning" from
Appalachian State University. He's finished courses
in GIS and used it (GIS) extensively in the
workplace while working for Burke County. He

will begin classes for his Master's Degree in
Planning August, 2007.

He is a native of McDowell County. His
wife, Allison, works as an investigative social
worker for Buncombe County Department of Social
Services. They recently purchased a house in the
Oakley Community in Asheville.

Amos will be working in the upstairs office
of the Fairfield #2 Fire Department until other
arrangements can be made to place him in or near
the Municipal Center. He'll be assuming the title of
Planner for the town and will be the town's
subdivision administrator. He will take over
subdivision review in approximately two months,
depending on when he completes the vacation rental
study project he's been assigned.

Again, please welcome Amos!

COMMUNITY POLICING NEWS
by Chief Eric Hester

Public Safety and Awareness

**North Carolina's Move-Over Law now extends
to boating.**

As of May 1, 2007 under G.S. 75A-17 a new
"move-over" law for waterways is now in effect for
boaters in North Carolina.

Boaters approaching within 100 feet of a law
enforcement vessel displaying flashing blue lights
must slow down to a no-wake speed and use caution
in passing. In narrow channels, the distance
becomes within 50 feet of a law enforcement vessel
displaying a flashing blue light. Violators are subject
to fines up to \$250 and court costs.

"The immediate area where blue lights are
displayed becomes a no wake zone during that
time," said Capt. Chris Huebner, boating safety
coordinator for N.C. Wildlife Resources
Commission, which enforces laws and regulations
for inland waterways. "All approaching vessels are
required to reduce to idle speed so there is no
appreciable wake and it's advisable to maneuver
away from or avoid the area, if possible. The law is
designed to protect the safety of boaters, law
enforcement officers and emergency responders."

The safety measure for waterways is much
like the state's move-over law for highways, which

requires motorists to move into a lane away from a law enforcement or emergency vehicle with flashing lights, if possible, and to reduce speed. This is a new law and we understand that it will take some time to get this information distributed to all boaters.

For more information on boating safety and regulations, go to www.ncwildlife.org or call (919) 707-0031 or contact the Lake Lure Police Department at (828) 625-4685.

Accident Reports	4
Alarm Calls Received	20
Bank Alarms	5
Community Contacts	556
Extra Patrols	174
Lake - Patrol	17
Lake - Cove Checks	331
Business Checks	4,155
Road Checks	1,255
Requested Residential Checks	137
Larceny Reports	7
Breaking and Enterings	3
Vandalism Reports	4
Warnings Issued	31
Citations Issued	38
Lake - Citations	1
Total Arrests	14

1CUSTOMER SERVICES
by Linda Ward

According to the Hickory Nut Gorge Chamber of Commerce, the fireworks for the July 4th holiday will be presented on July 7th this year.

This is due to the fact that the cost is double in cost to have them on the 4th rather than after and the Chamber cannot fund the higher amount. If you would like to see the fireworks on the 4th next year please make a donation to the Chamber and specify "fireworks".

GOLF COURSE NEWS
by Matt Griffin

Things here at the golf course are starting to get into "full swing" as we enter our tourist season.

Our remodeling has been completed and the pro shop definitely has a new look to it. If you haven't been out to play with us this year then you are completely missing out. The golf course is getting better and better every day, and our guys outside are working hard to keep things improving. We have a new part time employee, her name is Linda Hopson, and you may see her smiling face in the club house from time to time.

We are having a 2 Man Captain's Choice Tournament this month and we hope to see you there. We hope to have a big turn out for this tournament. If there is enough interest we will try to schedule more tournaments like this in the future, including a Member – Guest and a Club Championship.

There are lots of great things happening here, so come on out and be a part of it. Well I guess that should just about do it for this month, and as always if you have any questions or comments come by and see me at the Pro-Shop, or call me at 625-4472.

Quote of the month: *"The best days to play golf are the days that end in "Y"*
By: Anonymous

**UPPER BROAD RIVER WATERSHED
PROTECTION PROGRAM**
by Jennifer Beck

A favorite past time for many of us in the summer time is gardening. Some gardening practices can have negative impacts on water quality. Here are a few helpful tips for gardeners:

- Limit excessive nutrients from entering streams by taking advantage of the FREE soil testing program by NC Cooperative Extension to determine the adequate nutrient application for your garden and yard.
- Align crop rows to run horizontally along a slope or hill to limit erosion.
- Tilling vegetable rows can increase soil pore space and the soil's ability to retain water (which in turn reduces storm water runoff), however tilling before a heavy rain can cause loose soil to wash away.

- Plant a grass border or strip between vegetable rows to help trap loose soil.
- Place yard waste and grass clippings around trees to act as mulch. Make sure this organic matter, a source of excessive nutrients, doesn't enter streams or rivers.

Happy gardening!

Blue Ridge Ecological will present the results of a extensive study on Friday, June 15, 2007 at 6:00 pm at the Lake Lure Town Center. The purpose of the Blue Ridge study is to identify problems and address possible solutions regarding our fish population, their health, and quality of their environment. The dominant goal is to improve the "fishing experience" at Lake Lure.

NEWS AROUND LAKE LURE

Notice of vacancy – There are two vacancies on the Golf Course Advisory Committee and one on the Zoning and Planning Board. If you are interested in serving on this board please come by the town hall to fill out an application or visit our website at www.townoflakelure.com for the application.

There will be a **BBQ with a Silent Auction & Music** to benefit Shepherd's Care Outreach Programs on Saturday, June 2 from 4:30 pm until 7:30 pm. It will be held at the community center in Gerton (beside of Nita's Grocery).

Tickets will be \$10 per adult and \$5 per child up to the age 11. For tickets, contact Mary Ann Ransom at 625-8338 or stop by Shepherd's Care Thrift Store in Bat Cave beside of Church of the Transfiguration off of Hwy 64/74. They are open Wednesday – Friday from 10 am to 4 pm, or Saturday from 10 am to noon.

All proceeds go toward serving those in need in the HNG community. Our mission statement: Assisting families / individuals with food, shelter, housing, medical, health and short term emergencies.

Chimney Rock Baptist Church is again holding the lakeside services at the "Lakeside

Chapel" located across from Lakeview/Sonoco store beside of the beach in Lake Lure. Services have been held by the lake since 1969.

Come by boat, pontoon, car, bike, or on foot. The services begin at 9:00 am on Sundays, Mary 6 through October 14 and are held by Pastor Gene Daggerhart.



Chairs are provided, the attire is casual, and umbrellas are sometimes needed. For more information contact 828-625-4698 .

Youth activities are held every Wednesday evening at 6pm in the Family Life Center at the Church.

Vacation Bible School will be held July 16 -20 in the evenings (please see July issue of the Lake Lure News and Views for exact times). The theme this year will be "Game Day Central" and all children ages 3 and up are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Mountains Branch Library will be holding a summer reading program each Wednesday June 13 – July 25 except July 4. The library is located at 150 Bill's Creek Rd and the programs will begin at 10:30 am.

June 13th is "String Celebration" (music), June 20th "Matt Fore" (nationally recognized comedic magician), June 27th "Rutherford County Sheriff's Department (K-9 demonstrations, Child D & A Kits, solving local crimes and much more), July 11th "Midyette Magic" (comedy, magic, puppets and music), July 18th "Storyteller Ron Jones", July 25th "Mountain Marionettes" ("Aunt Nelly's Mountain Home"). For more information call 828-625-0456.

Join the "Get a Clue Reading Club" and set your own goals. Get a Contract and Reading Record at the library, write titles completed on the Record and return by July 18. Certificates and prizes will be awarded after the final program on July 25.

The Blue Ridge BBQ Festival will be held at the Harmon Field in Tryon on June 8 & 9. This year's cook-off is sure to be the biggest and best ever with loads of entertainment, artists, crafters... and, the incredible BBQ!

An added feature to this year's festival is - your chance to win the LakesEdge Realty Canoe... you know, the red one...the logo for The LakeGuys. Seems Ken Jordan has lost it...he doesn't know it, but it's hidden on top of his vehicle. Stop by the LakeGuys booth for more information on entering to win the \$699 Mad River Explorer Canoe.

For more information about the festival visit: www.blueridgebbqfestival.com.

Lake Lure Garden Tour: Rutherford Housing Partnership, a local non profit organization that helps low income families with urgently needed repairs is holding its third annual benefit garden tour in Lake Lure. The tour date is Saturday, June 23rd from 10AM-4:00PM. Ticket price is \$15.00. Tickets can be purchased on the day of the tour at the tour starting point- Fairfield Mountains Firestation#1 on Buffalo Creek road.

The tour will feature 10 home gardens in Rumbling Bald Resort on Lake Lure. Waterfalls, ponds, natural creeks and the lake offer interesting water features in many gardens. Native plants, deer resistant plants, mix of perennials and annuals reflect the home owner's interests. Hillside gardening with terraces and woodland landscaping are of interest. Toy trains, artistic laurel wood fence, live player piano music and tour of one unique home are some of the highlights. Light refreshments will be provided at three locations. For more information call 625-1422.

The **Firecracker Jazz Band** will be playing at the Willowbrook Center on June 29th from 7 to 10 pm. This event is free, you will just need to bring your own chairs and refreshments. Come out and enjoy an evening of music.

Willowbrook Center is located one mile east of the Lake Lure Beach on Hwy 64/74.

A fundraising **rummage sale** will be held on June 2nd starting at 7:00 am. at the Bill's Creek Fire Department station #1. The fire station is located at 1118 Bill's Creek Road and the proceeds will benefit the Bill's Creek Club House. Along with a large number of yard sale items, there will be sausage biscuits, hot dogs and hamburgers. For

more information, please contact Barbara Welge at 828-625-5517.

The **Hickory Nut Gorge Olympiad III** will be held on September 6-9 this year and will be bigger and better than ever!! Please mark your calendars and plan to participate or attend.

New this year will be a Race to the Rock, a biking / running assault to the top of Chimney Rock; a water obstacle course for teams; a free ice cream social with live music; an archery event with Farmers & Hunters Feeding the Hungry; a fabulous ski show and some spectacular opening ceremony fireworks.

Have a fun time while supporting your area volunteer fire and emergency services as well as several Rutherford County charitable organizations. Go to www.hickorynutolympiad.com for more specific details or call 429-9011 for sponsorship and volunteer opportunities.

Concerned, unhappy with your 2007 tax assessment? Join the Hickory Nut Gorge Taxpayers Group where we are addressing this problem and can use your support. We must make the County Commissioners listen to our plight. Please plan to attend the next County Commission meeting, which lasts about one hour and will be held on Monday June 4th in Rutherfordton at the County Annex Building, Main St., 6 pm. The county commissioners will be working on the 2007 Budget at this meeting and the more people who attend, the more likely they are to listen. If you are interested in attending and being heard by your county commissioners, please contact Fred Noble at 625-8706, Harvey Harris at 625-8872, Bob Keith at 625-2874, Blaine Cox at 625-1256. We need you... please call!

Shepherd's Care Food Drive for Fighting Hunger will be held the entire month of June. The drop off locations will be the two offices of LakesEdge Realty which are located at 2414 Memorial Hwy and 311 Buffalo Creek Rd. The hours for drop off will be weekdays 9 am - 5 pm and Sundays 1 pm - 5 pm.

Items needed include: Canned fruits, canned vegetables, canned soups & stews, peanut butter &

jelly, canned tuna, rice, beans, macaroni & cheese, small containers of sugar, flour and powdered milk. Please bring one (1) or more of these items that have been recently purchased and are in good condition in boxes, cans or bags. Financial contributions are also appreciated and gladly accepted.

For more information contact Mary Ann at 625-4683 or e-mail shepherdsca1@bellsouth.net.

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.

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

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 July issue is June 21, 2007.

