

# 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*

***March 2007***

Published by Town of Lake Lure, P.O. Box 255, Lake Lure, NC 28746  
Newsletter Editor & Coordinator: Linda Ward

***Telephone: (828) 625-9983***

***Website: [www.TownofLakeLure.com](http://www.TownofLakeLure.com)***

***Fax: (828) 625-8371***

***Email: [TownHall@TownofLakeLure.com](mailto:TownHall@TownofLakeLure.com)***

**by Jim Proctor**

## **1MAYOR'S COMMENTS**

1On March 7th, 1927 an act to incorporate the Town of Lake Lure passed both the NC House and Senate. The first Mayor was Lucius B. Morse. The first commissioners were B. H. Long and Thomas B. Suiter. The town will have a birthday cake at the Lake Lure Town Council meeting on March 13th at 7:00 PM.

*The State of North Carolina will buy Chimney Rock Park!*

On January 29th North Carolina Governor Mike Easley and the owners of Chimney Rock Park announced that the North Carolina State Parks will purchase Chimney Rock Park. Chimney Rock Park will be open as normal this year. As the Hickory Nut Gorge State Park is developed, Chimney Rock Park will be integrated into the park. How this will be done is yet to be determined. Sometime in the future, the state will hold public hearings to hear what we want in the new state park. With Chimney Rock Park, the state will own more than 3000 acres. The Hickory Nut Gorge State Park has the potential to be one of best state parks in the region. For more information and links to both the state's and the owner's press releases, go to [www.savechimneyrock.net](http://www.savechimneyrock.net).

*Extra Territorial Jurisdiction*

Extra Territorial Jurisdiction is a regulatory tool available to the town that allows some of our land use rules (for example zoning and sign/billboard rules) to apply outside our town boundaries. The town has asked the Zoning and Planning board to study this and to see if ETJ is appropriate for our town. If you have any questions or comments please let me know.

**Will properties located within the ETJ be subject to Town taxation?** No. The Town does not have authority to tax property in an ETJ, if established.

**Is this the first step toward annexation?** No. The Town has no plans to annex any property in the ETJ, if established. Furthermore, the Town of Lake Lure has never involuntarily annexed any property. The State of North Carolina has established very specific guidelines and requirements that must be followed when annexing property. The requirements for annexing property are separate and apart from the requirements for establishing an ETJ.

**What authority does the Town have to establish an ETJ?** The North Carolina General Assembly has, in Article 19 of Chapter 160A, Sections 360 and 362, of the General Statutes of North Carolina (G.S. 160A-360 and G.S. 160A-362), provided the authority and procedures for municipalities to establish extraterritorial jurisdictions within a defined area not more than one mile beyond their corporate limits for municipalities with less than 10,000 residents. However, the Town of Lake Lure does not have to include all of the area within the one mile. The Town's primary objectives are controlling soil erosion, protecting viewsheds, establishing corridor overlay districts leading to town, regulating ridgetop development, and controlling signs.

**How will the property owners within the proposed ETJ have representation?** The Town will ask the respective Boards of County Commissioners to appoint someone within the proposed ETJ to the Lake Lure Zoning and Planning Board and the Board of Adjustment. If County Commissioners of either Rutherford or Polk Counties do not make appointments within ninety (90) days to the aforementioned boards after having received the request, the Lake Lure Town Council will have the authority to make these appointments.

**How many representatives will be appointed to the Zoning and Planning Board and Board of Adjustment?** Appointments are based on the proportional number of residents in the ETJ. Since the boundaries for the proposed Lake Lure ETJ have not been established, the specific number of representatives for the ETJ cannot be calculated. A revised study area map should be completed in February.

**Will all property owners within the ETJ be notified before the Town votes on the issue of establishing an ETJ?** Yes. The Town is required to contact each property owner by first class mail and hold a public hearing for residents in the ETJ. Although not required by statute, the Town plans to hold informal meetings with residents in the proposed ETJ to obtain additional input from property owners. Some of the meetings will be held in the evening to afford participation by those who work during the day.

**How many municipalities in North Carolina exercise ETJ?** According to an Institute of Government survey, of the 315 municipalities responding, 62% exercise extraterritorial jurisdiction.

**What powers can the Town exercise in the proposed ETJ?** Zoning regulations, including sign regulations

Subdivision regulations

Construction regulations

Enforcement of the State Building Code

Community development projects

Acquisition of open space

Floodway regulations

Soil erosion and sedimentation control regulations

**What Town services will be available to properties within the proposed ETJ?** Except for powers listed above, no other Town services will be available.

**What factors determine how property should be zoned?** Zoning districts should be established in accordance with the comprehensive plan (i.e., present use of the owner's property and surrounding properties, and future development considerations), securing safety, promoting health and general welfare of the community, and encouraging the most appropriate use of land in the district and the Town.

**Who decides how property will be zoned?** The Zoning and Planning Board makes a recommendation to the Town Council. The Town Council makes the final decision.

**Will property owners be allowed to have input in determining zoning for property they own?** Yes. The Town Council will hold a public hearing and take other measures that may be required in order to establish zoning regulations for properties located within the ETJ. Property owners will be notified of the time and place of the public hearing during which zoning regulations and the proposed zoning map will be discussed. Property owners are encouraged to actively participate in the process.

**When the Town establishes a study area map, does this mean all the property in the study area will be in the ETJ, if established?** No. The study area is just that, a study area. The study area is a defined area

outside of the town limits where the Zoning and Planning Board will be conducting a study to see where ETJ could be established to benefit the Town by securing the following objectives: regulating soil erosion, protecting viewsheds, establishing corridor overlay districts leading to town, regulating ridgetop development, and controlling signs.

**Is it a foregone conclusion that the Town of Lake Lure will extend an ETJ?** No.

**Does the possibility exist that the Town of Lake Lure may extend an ETJ?** Yes.

### TOWN COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

by Town Clerk Mary Flack, MMC, CTC

**REGULAR MEETING:** The regular town council meeting was held on Tuesday, February 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 January 9, 2007 (regular meeting), and January 8, 2007 (special meeting); and

\* amended the contract between the Town of Lake Lure and the town auditor for fiscal year beginning July 1, 2005 and ending June 30, 2006 to extend the date of all audits to be performed and the report of audit submitted by March 9, 2007.

#### *Town Council actions:*

\* held discussion regarding objectives of extra territorial jurisdiction (ETJ) area map;

\* scheduled a joint workshop meeting with the Lake Lure Golf Course Committee to be held on Friday, March 9, 2007, 9:30 a.m. in the Lake Lure Municipal Center;

\* tabled the appointment of a representative for the Town of Lake Lure to serve as board member on the Isothermal Planning and Development Commission; council members agreed to reconsider this item at the next scheduled regular town council meeting being held on March 13, 2007;

\* adopted Resolution No. 07-02-13 amending Resolution No. 00-01-11 regarding the Parks and Recreation Board to include arts;

\* appointed Bob Cameron to serve as an alternate member on the board of adjustment/structures appeals board with a term expiring on December 31, 2009;

\* considered a request from Raymond Collins to voluntarily annex an area contiguous to the Town of Lake Lure; council members agreed to table the adoption of Resolution No. 07-02-13A directing the town clerk to investigate the petition received from Raymond Collins requesting an area contiguous to the Town of Lake Lure be annexed voluntarily in accordance Under G. S. 160A-31; council members directed the town manager to contact Raymond Collins about re-platting his property in order to comply with town regulations regarding lot size before reconsidering Mr. Collins petition for voluntary annexation; and

\* authorized the town manager to notify the state that the town is rejecting the enhancement grant funds and to return \$12,664.26 back to the state for engineering work.

#### *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 February 13, 2007 to February 20, 2007, at 7:00 p.m. in the council meeting room of the Lake Lure Municipal Center.

#### *Town Council actions:*

\* accepted a bid of \$118,720.00 and awarded a contract to Buckeye Construction Company, Inc. of Canton, North Carolina for a valve replacement project for the town's wastewater collection system; and

\* held a closed session pertaining to personnel matters and attorney client/matters regarding ongoing litigation between the Town of Lake Lure vs. Patricia Hyatt.

#### **SPECIAL MEETING OF THE LAKE LURE MARINE COMMISSION:**

The Lake Lure Marine Commission held a meeting on Tuesday, February 13, 2007, at 1:00 p.m., in the council meeting room of the Lake Lure Municipal Center.

#### *The Marine Commission:*

\* held a public hearing and adopted Resolution No. 07-02-13 amending the lake use regulations; and

\* approved a request from Stephen J. O'Neal, Martha B. O'Neal, and Aquilla Brown O'Neal for a commercial license for one canoe.

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### COMMUNITY POLICING NEWS

by Chief Eric Hester

Awareness and General Internet Safety Strategies

I would like to provide our community with information related to Internet hazards and provide you with general safety strategies while online. I hope this will increase your awareness of Internet use by identifying eight methods that may be hazardous, and to describe several practices for safer consumer computing while on the Internet.

Technology has changed the way we live. The Internet is a medium for education and gathering information. Although we still use the Internet for these purposes, we now use it to communicate, buy and shop for goods and services, conduct banking and other financial transactions, gaming, entertainment, and many other fun activities.

The Internet has become a breeding ground for criminals as well. Many criminals find ways to take advantage of innocent victims by stealing personal and financial information, as well as money. To lessen your chances of becoming a victim, you must be familiar with some of the online risks that exist. In addition, you must take steps to protect your valuable data.

#### **Identity Theft**

Identity thieves can steal your social security number, credit card number and other personal and financial information about you through the Internet's various online threats. These threats come in many forms.

#### **Internet Auctions/Online Shopping**

Auction sites specialize in person-to-person activity where individual sellers or businesses sell their items directly to consumers from around the world, but there are many risks at these sites. Learn how to navigate auctions and avoid being scammed by disreputable vendors or fraud while making online purchases.

#### **Online Scams**

Unsolicited commercial email, also known as spam, contains bogus offers and fraudulent promotions. Learn how to spot scams and what to do or not do if you receive one.

#### **Spy-ware**

Spy-ware is software installed on your computer without your knowledge or consent to monitor or control your computer use. Learn what it is, how to tell if your computer is infected and how to avoid or get rid of it.

#### **Wireless Security**

Wireless Internet offers convenience and mobility. Learn how to protect your network and computers on it. Learn what steps you can take to make your wireless network more secure.

#### **Social Networking Sites**

Social networking sites encourage and allow people to exchange information about themselves.

- a) Common portals include blogs, chat rooms, email, or instant messaging to communicate with the world-at-large.
- b) These sites increase a person's circle of friends.
- c) They increase exposure to people who have less-than-friendly intentions, including sexual predators.
- d) All citizens must learn how to socialize online safely.

#### **Children Online**

The Internet is a tool children use for learning, games, communication, socializing and other positive activities, but it also exposes children to hazards and information completely inappropriate for children.

- a) The Internet makes it easy for predators to locate and communicate with potential victims. Predators seek victims in chat rooms, blogs and other areas of the Internet.
- b) Children can access sexual material accidentally by misspelling a website address. They can also access it intentionally. This material can also be delivered to your child by SPAM as an attachment or a hyperlink.
- c) Learn how to protect your children online. Protect your personal information by minimizing the risk.
  - a) Do not give out your name, email, home address, phone number, account numbers or social security numbers online without finding out how it's going to be used and how it will be protected.
  - b) Do not respond or click on the link in messages from emails or pop-up requests for personal or financial information.
  - c) Check a company's website before providing your information before shopping online.
  - d) Read website privacy policies and answer these questions:
    - (1) What information does the site collect?
    - (2) How is the information used?
    - (3) Is the information provided to a third party?
    - (4) Do you have a right to see the information the site has about you?
    - (5) How does the site protect your information?

Know who you're dealing with, because online scammers impersonate legitimate businesses.

- a) Watch out for words such as 'update' and 'validate' or 'please click on the link below to confirm your identity or account information.'

- b) Contact the business directly using the information from your records and account statements.
- c) Type in the company's web address and never click on the link.
- d) Be aware that file sharing programs and other free software can have hidden dangers, such as 'spyware' that can reveal information about you or damage your computer.

**Software/Hardware/Data**

- a) Use Antivirus and Antitrojan Software.
- b) Implement and maintain a firewall.
- c) Properly configure/setup your Operating System (OS).
- d) Properly configure your web browser.
- e) ~~Update antivirus, OS and web browser software regularly.~~
- f) Take steps to secure your wireless network and computer systems.
- g) Back up all important data regularly.

**Protect your Passwords**

- a) Passwords should have at least eight characters and include numbers and/or symbols.
- b) Avoid common words.
- c) Do not use your personal information, your login name or adjacent keys on the keyboard.
- d) Change regularly.
- e) Use different passwords for different accounts.
- f) Never choose the block on the computer (Please remember my password).

**Research all Available Sources**

- a) Learn who to contact if something goes wrong.
- b) Learn how to keep your children safe while online. The North Carolina Attorney General's office has a video "Internet Safety: What You Don't Know Can Hurt Your Child" and resource guide for parents and guardians.
- c) <http://onguardonline.gov/index.html>
- d) <http://www.ic3.gov/>
- e) <http://www.scambusters.org/>
- f) <http://www.antiphishing.org/>
- g) <http://www.consumer.gov/idtheft/>
- h) <http://www.ftc.gov/spam/>
- i) <http://phishinginfo.org/>
- j) <http://www.ncdoj.com/>
- k) [www.ncmec.org](http://www.ncmec.org)
- l) [http://www.ncsbi.gov/icac/icac\\_taskforce.jsp](http://www.ncsbi.gov/icac/icac_taskforce.jsp)

Keep in mind that technology will advance. Criminals will also find ways to exploit the technology or the people that use the technology for their own gain. Remember, if you are connected to the Internet, you are always at risk.

### KNOW YOUR EMPLOYEE

by Anita Taylor, Personnel Director

We would like to welcome Glen Gittens to the police department. Glen was born in the United States Virgin Islands. He served in the Virgin Islands Police Department for 20 years retiring with the rank of Lieutenant. He is married to Stephanie who is from Old Fort, NC. Glen visited Western North Carolina approximately seven years ago and fell in love with the mountains. Glen and Stephanie just purchased a horse farm in Montford Cove and Stephanie is interested in providing boarding, trail rides, lessons, etc. within the near future.

### CUSTOMER SERVICES

by Linda Ward

The Lake Lure Marine Commission did approve the proposed fee increases and ordinance changes mentioned in the February newsletter.

Annual Resident Motorized - \$150  
 Annual Resident Weekday Only Motorized - \$75  
 Annual Resident 10hp or less Motorized - \$75  
 Annual Resident Fishing (peak 9pm-9am only) \$50

Annual Non-Resident Motorized - \$600  
 Annual Non-Resident Weekday Only Mot. - \$300  
 Annual Non-Resident Fishing (peak, 9pm -9am) \$100  
 Annual Non Motorized \$22  
 Weekly Non Motorized \$11

Weekly Motorized Non-Peak - \$100  
 Weekly Motorized Peak (which is weekday's only and does not include holidays) - \$200  
 Daily Motorized (offered only during non-peak period) - \$30

The Lake Use Ordinance's were amended as follow:

No water vessels shall be operated at a speed greater than "no wake" speed within 75 ft of another vessel or the shoreline of Lake Lure.

No person shall allow a minor (a person under the age of 16) to operate a motorized water vessel on Lake Lure unless accompanied by an adult (a person aged 21 or older).

You may purchase your boat permits by mail for a \$2 per permit fee. You may either call 828-625-9983 and we will mail or fax you the application or go to [www.townoflakelure.com](http://www.townoflakelure.com) and print off the application.

Send it along with a copy of your state registration and proof of \$300,000 liability insurance and payment to Town of Lake Lure, PO Box 255, Lake Lure, NC 28746.

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### SEDIMENT AND EROSION CONTROL NEWS

by Clint Calhoun, Erosion Control Officer

A conversation with an area resident prompted me to write on this month's topic. A lot of times I get complaints about muddy water, but sometimes the mud that you see is something that not a lot can be done about.

Certain types of soil, when disturbed can be easily transported by water. Soil is generally composed of different minerals, each having a specific particle size. The smaller the particle size the easier it is to suspend in water. Erodibility also has a lot to do with soils ability to be transported. Clay soils have a low rate of erodibility. The matrix that holds the particles together is very strong. Once the matrix is broken however, clay particles can be easily suspended. Small particle soils, once suspended in water can be very difficult to settle out. The soils in our area are predominately sandy loams and silt loams. Once disturbed, these soils fall apart pretty quickly and the small alluvial silts get suspended in the water and can stay suspended for long periods of time in slow moving water. The sediment that you will see is mostly sand and organic material that is found in the topsoil.

Standard erosion control measures can prevent most types of sedimentation and can hold some silty soils on site, but some get carried away no matter what because the particles are so small they can get through the pores in silt fencing, and do not settle out in sediment traps. The end result is turbid water which is usually an opaque brown or orange color. This is why the lake stays brown for days after a major flood event. There are so many silt particles suspended due to accelerated erosion upstream.

If proper sediment control measures are in place, you could take a clear bottle and place it into the water and you would find that you will have very little sediment to accumulate on the bottom of the jar. In fact, it will take several minutes before the suspended material will settle out and accumulate. Sediment will settle out immediately once the velocity is slowed but silts and clay particles will not, and unfortunately there are not many cost effective methods for dealing with suspended silts once transportation begins.

The key to preventing sedimentation and siltation is to stop it before it starts. First of all, keep the disturbed area as small as possible. By limiting the area to be disturbed, you reduce the potential amount of soil

that can be lost from a site. Second, immediately apply temporary ground cover. This could be seed and mulch, tarps, or other acceptable measures that prevent water from picking up and trans-locating soil particles. Lastly, make sure that the erosion control measures that you have in place are adequate, effective, and constantly maintained. An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure, at least that's what I've always heard.

If you would like more information about the soils of our area and how to properly stabilize your site, or you have an erosion problem or know someone who does, give me a call at 625-9983 ext 123 or e-mail me at [eco@townoflakelure.com](mailto:eco@townoflakelure.com).

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### GOLF COURSE NEWS

by Matt Griffin

Spring is in the air here at Lake Lure Municipal Golf Course, and we are starting the new golf season this year with a new look. The remodeling work that has been going on is in its final stages, and the preparation for the growing season has begun, with the spraying of herbicides and pre-emergents. We are incorporating a new pesticide spraying program that we hope makes our golf course better.

The time change this year is four weeks earlier than in years past. The official date for the change is March 11<sup>th</sup>, and with the time change, we are going to move our Friday Night Captain's Choice Tournaments back to Friday nights at 5:30pm. The first Captain's Choice tournament will be on Friday March 16<sup>th</sup>. I hope that we can continue to make these events grow, and get more and more of you out here for these fun filled evenings.

With the expected improvement of the Golf Course's grounds, we are going to try to get a few more events planned, such as a Men's, Women's, Couples, and Junior's Leagues. Of course, all of these will only be offered if there is an ample amount of interest for them, so let me know what you would like or would not like. Along with these there will also be a Club Championship, and a Member-Guest, with the possibility for a couple other events. Sign-up sheets will be posted in the club house a month prior to any tournament.

The Golf Course will be closed Monday, March 19<sup>th</sup> to aerify the greens. This should allow for better drainage, less compaction, and all around healthier greens.

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: *“Half of Golf is fun; the other half is putting.”*

*By: Peter Dobereiner*

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

The Upper Broad River Watershed Protection Program and The Town of Lake Lure recently received a report on sediment and pollutant sources within the Upper Broad River Watershed. This report, compiled by UNC-Asheville's Environmental Quality Institute (EQI), summarizes a water quality analysis of the Upper Broad River and Lake Lure. For the past ten years residents of the watershed have taken part in the Volunteer Water Information Network (VWIN) which collects and delivers water quality samples to the EQI lab. Water quality samples are collected once a month from monitoring stations located at ten stream sites and four lake sites within the watershed. These samples are analyzed by the EQI lab for nutrient levels and the amount of total suspended particulates. The funding for this program is provided by The Town of Lake Lure. The EQI lab then provides an annual written report of their analysis. A yearly assessment of the water quality enables the UBRWPP and communities within the watershed to identify potential water quality problems before they arise.

This years report concluded that stream sedimentation, or the amount of dirt in the water, continues to be the greatest water quality issue for the Upper Broad River Watershed. Sedimentation is measured by the amount of total suspended solids (TSS) in streams and the amount of turbidity in the lake. These tests measure the visual clarity of the water and the presence of fine suspended particulates within the water. Sediment is especially damaging for the Upper Broad River and its tributaries because they provide critical habitat for aquatic life. Increased levels of sediment can impact aquatic insects, snails, crustaceans, and trout. Trout eggs are susceptible to high levels of silt and will produce a significantly lower hatch rate in streams that have an increased amount of sediment in the water.

The good news is that the average turbidity and TSS rates for all the monitoring sites within the watershed are BELOW the regional average. However, the maximum level of sediment loads at certain times has been extremely high for specific streams. These peaks are attributed to an increase of sediment moving through the river during a storm event or to land disturbance activities. The tributaries that exhibit these

increases in sedimentation are more prone to erosion and degradation of aquatic habitat. This information enables the UBRWPP to identify potential projects for our Cost Share Program which works to install erosion control practices and reduce the amount of sedimentation in our waters.

If you have any questions about the report or are interested in reading a copy, please contact us at 828.625.9983 ext 123 or [watershed@carolinamountain.org](mailto:watershed@carolinamountain.org).

**VACATION TRANSIENT RENTALS  
by Bill McNary**

*Originally published in the Winter 2007 edition of the LLOA Muse Letter.*

When we organized the Lake Lure Lakefront Owners Association eleven years ago, one of our purposes was to keep people informed on issues involving all of us. Right now, an important issue has come up that involves allowing people to utilize their homes for vacation rentals in the R-1 zoned district. As you probably know, the practice has been going on for years. Recently, the Town Council discovered that the zoning code does not permit the practice. It has generated quite a controversy in Lake Lure and there are many sides to the story. I am writing this to get the issue in front of you and to ask you to make your voice heard to the Town Council. It affects all of us.

Vacation Transient Rentals (VTR's), as they are called legally, have grown dramatically over the last three years. VTR's are also known as vacation rentals or short-term rentals (rental of a property for less than 90 days). Just on VRBO (an internet listing site), the houses for rent have increased over 500% since 2003. This type of growth has gotten the attention of lakefront residents, and it got the attention of the town council, who now must make a decision about what to do.

The town council has a range of choices, from enforcing the code as it stands (which would stop all Vacation Transient Rentals in R-1 zoned districts) to regulating the practice (which would involve making and enforcing rules on rental homes) to making it a permitted use (which would make these short term rentals legal). There are people on both sides of the issue, and the outcome will affect Lake Lure for many years to come. The decisions are very difficult and will involve balancing the interests of full-time residents, part time/seasonal second homeowners, and short-term rental property owners. Our association includes all

types of owners. We are putting this issue in front of you so that you can let the Town Council know where you stand.

Some members of our community bought their property and rented it in preparation for moving here full time. Others plan to never live here but instead to derive income from it or use it as a vacation home. Still others make this community their permanent year round home. For those individuals who have experienced more than one of these scenarios, you know there is a difference in living in a place and vacationing in a place. There are now enough vacation rentals to start affecting the quality of life for those who live here full time, or for anybody who plans to eventually live here full time. This is our one moment in time to decide how it will be handled, and it will affect the dreams of many in the years to come. Historically, towns that have a large population of VTRs have lost their permanent resident base, making it hard to find people to do many of the activities and services that make a community a rich and vibrant place to live. We run the risk of that happening here.

Arguments have been made on both sides. **Those for VTR's include:**

- Economic development: Vacation transient rentals bring tourism dollars to the area, especially to property managers, restaurants and shops
- Affordability: Property owners offset mortgage costs with rental income, as housing prices have increased dramatically
- Single family use: Rentals are used in the same manner as a single family home and therefore fit the definition requirement in the R-1 zoning district
- Management: In some cases, properties are rented through a professional manager who can take care of any conflicts and complains as they arise.

**Arguments against VTR's:**

- Frequently, people who are vacationing behave more like they are in a party mode, creating noise and other disruptions.
- Density: A typical rental will sleep many more people than the usual family home, often ranging from 12 to 20 at a time.
- Infrastructure: The additional people in rentals leads to stress on the septic tanks, parking congestion, blockage of emergency vehicle

egress/ingress and unsecured trash messes that residents are left to clean up.

- Hospitality: VTR's take away business from the Inns, B & B's, etc, and in effect ask the local residents to play the role of "host and friendly neighbor" to renters.
- Community commitment: Our community relies on volunteer efforts to support key organizations such as the fire department, churches and town government. The reality is that short-term renters are not "stakeholders" in the community and therefore not participating.

Whichever side you agree with, it's important for the Town Council to know your position. It's also important to consider the impact to the town now and in the future, especially for those who anticipate living here down the road. Even if you haven't thought about it before, we are asking you to think about it now. What kind of community do you want Lake Lure to be? This has been great place to invest in real estate. Perhaps you would like it as an income-generating opportunity. Lake Lure has also been a great place to live. Perhaps you would like it as a dream place to live. We are at a critical point; chances are it will end up being one or the other. Please let the Town Council know where you stand.

**Write to the Town Council at P O Box 255, Lake Lure NC 28746 or e-mail your commissioners at:**

Mayor Jim Proctor

[Jim@Lake-Lure.com](mailto:Jim@Lake-Lure.com)

Dick McCallum

[RMcCallum@worldnet.att.net](mailto:RMcCallum@worldnet.att.net)

Chuck Watkins

[watkinsglassman@bellsouth.net](mailto:watkinsglassman@bellsouth.net)

Russ Pitts

[russellpitts@bellsouth.net](mailto:russellpitts@bellsouth.net)

Jeanine Noble

[fjnoble@bellsouth.net](mailto:fjnoble@bellsouth.net)

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## NEWS AROUND LAKE LURE

The **Beeson family** would like to express our "thanks to all of you for your sympathy and support in this time of grief and sorrow we are experiencing due to the loss of our son Scott".

Sincerely, Dick and Judy Beeson

**Southern "Cooking" Fundraiser given by Shepherd's Care** - Come join us for some southern cooking of low country Charleston, SC *Shrimp & Grits*

and a taste of New Orleans *Chicken Gumbo Soup* plus desserts with beverages on Friday, March 9<sup>th</sup>; 5 pm – 7 pm at Lake Lure Town Hall. Great food with gospel music. Tickets: \$10/adult & \$5/child and all children under 5 years of age eat free. For more information, please email us at [shepherdscafe1@bellsouth.net](mailto:shepherdscafe1@bellsouth.net) or call 828-625-4683 on Wednesday through Friday between the hours of 10 am – 4 pm. All proceeds go toward our Outreach Programs and our Food Pantry.

**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 \$17.00. You may pick up an application for membership at the Municipal Center or call Bob Keith, Pres. at 828-625-2874 for an application or any questions you may have.

**U.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 14<sup>th</sup> 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 April issue is March 21, 2007.***