



# NEWSLETTER

Spring 2011  
Volume 8, Issue 1

## News from the Mayor

Roger Snyder

### Boylston Creek Reclassification

It seems like I give an update on this in every issue of the newsletter. Rep. David Guice and Sen. Jim Davis have introduced bills in the NC General Assembly that would "declassify" Boylston Creek as a Trout Stream. The bills have passed both the House and Senate and have gone to the Governor for her signature. Hopefully she will sign the bill into law any day now.

### Hooper Lane

We have had several meetings with NC DOT about the condition of Hooper Lane. Right now this road serves as the main access into the Town's property. Hopefully, working with the DOT and other property owners along the road, we can come up with a plan that will satisfy everyone and make the road safer to travel.

The Council is also looking at another entrance to our property off of Highway 191. Stay tuned for further details on this.

### Parks and Recreation

We are moving forward with the Town Park. Council has accepted a bid for the grading of the first phase and the contractor should be starting in the next week. This first phase area consists of about 20+ acres and is located from Highway 191 to our building. One of our current employees, Pat Christie was recently named Zoning Enforcement Officer/Parks and Recreation Coordinator for the Town. Did you know that you can see a [conceptual plan](#) for the park on our website?

### Town Hall

The Library and Town Hall recently moved into a new building. It combines previously rented Town Hall offices, rented Library space and a rented storage area all under one roof. Stop by and see the new building during office hours and we will be happy to show you around.

### Safety Note

As you get outside and start those spring cleaning chores, be careful and be aware of your surroundings. If you need to clean those gutters – this is one of my least favorite items, have someone hold the ladder and take your time while doing this. While working outside, it is always better to have someone else close, just in case an emergency arises.

Remember as you travel the roads here in Mills River – be mindful of the farmers on the roads with their equipment. As equipment gets bigger, they take up more space, slow down and be a little bit more careful as you meet them.



### 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 Gonc

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: 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

Residents who have come to Mills River in recent years might be curious about the origin of the name of Davenport's Bridge which spans the river on Hwy. 280 (191). The name was selected in 1994 as an appropriate way to honor the family who owned and operated a general store once located on the bank of the river near the bridge. The history of the store deserves to be remembered since it served for more than seven decades as the commercial, social, and cultural center of the Mills River community.

James T. (Jim) Davenport (1871-1946) moved to Mills River from a farm in Transylvania County in 1900. Initially, he built a home and a small store on present-day Whitaker Lane on upper Mills River. He married a local girl, Bertha Whitaker (1883-1953), the oldest of 17 children of Sidney and Ruth Field Whitaker. In December, 1907, Jim and Bertha purchased an existing store on the lower Mills River. In 1909, Fred Whitaker, a brother of Bertha, joined the business. The store was then known as the Davenport and Whitaker Store until 1929 when Sheldon T. Davenport (1907-1983) joined his father, Jim, in the business. The Davenports lived on the second floor of the two-story frame structure with the store on the ground floor.

At various times in its long history, the premises of Davenport's Store included a corn mill, a blacksmith shop, and a post office. The store provided diverse products such as sugar, salt, flour, medicines, candy, and tobacco. There

was also a gasoline pump and kerosene for oil lamps. The store housed a pot-belly stove and a "loafer's bench" where patrons were welcome to sit and visit with their neighbors. At least one nearby resident reportedly rode his farm tractor to the store regularly after he no longer could drive a car. Those connected to the upper Mills River party telephone line could call the store and have urgent messages relayed to Hendersonville and elsewhere. The author recalls a time in the late 1940's when Jim Davenport's grandson, Robert, would deliver a grocery order to homes in the community. Jim Davenport also served on the local school board for nearly four decades. Davenport's Store even provided office space for a group of opponents to the building of a dam on the Mills River by the Tennessee Valley Authority in the early 1970's.

The store was vulnerable to flooding when the river overflowed its banks. On one occasion a local resident showed up with his horse and buggy to help rescue the Davenport women from high water. In August, 1954, the Hendersonville Times-News reported that an Asheville company had been hired to move the sixty-year old store building more than 90 feet closer to Hendersonville to make room for the installation of a wider bridge on Hwy. 191. Following the death of Jim Davenport in July 1946, Sheldon and his wife, Sue Winslow Davenport, continued to operate the store until its final closure in June, 1982. The closure marked the end of an era in Mills River when Davenport's Store was at the center of life in the community.

*This story was originally published in the first edition of the Mills River Newsletter in 2004*




 **NEED A COFFEE BREAK?**  
Try Mills River's First Coffee Drive-Thru Kiosk



**Opening April 2011**  
Located in the Food Lion parking lot on Cross Road Drive

**Mills River Barbershop**  
"Best cuts in town!"  
4176 Haywood Road  
Mills River, NC 28759



**Jerry Frady** and **Blair Dimmick**  
Barber/Owner Barber

828-891-4855  
Open: ~~Monday~~ Wednesday 8am-7pm  
Tue, Thursday & Friday 8am-5pm  
Thanks for your Business!

Sat. 8-12

## RECIPE CORNER



### Lemon-Scented Sugar Snap Peas

by Lois Pryor

2 pounds fresh sugar snap peas  
 2 T butter or margarine  
 2 garlic cloves, minced  
 1 T fresh lemon juice  
 2 t grated lemon zest  
 ¾ t salt  
 ½ t ground pepper

- Cook peas in boiling salted water to cover 5 minutes or until crisp-tender.
- Drain and plunge into ice water to stop the cooking process; drain.
- Melt butter in a medium skillet over medium-high heat; add peas and sauté 3 minutes.
- Add garlic and remaining ingredients.
- Sauté 2 minutes or until thoroughly heated.

(makes 4-6 servings)

**ENJOY!**

## MEETING & OTHER DATES

Apr 5	Planning Board	7:00 PM
Apr 12	Board of Adjustment	7:00 PM
Apr 13	Finance Committee	7:00 PM
Apr 14	Town Council	7:00 PM
Apr 15	Agricultural Advisory	9:00 AM
Apr 22	Good Friday	Town Hall Closed
Apr 26	Parks and Recreation	7:00 PM
Apr 28	Town Council	7:00 PM
May 3	Planning Board	7:00 PM
May 11	Finance Committee	7:00 PM
May 12	Town Council	7:00 PM
May 20	Agricultural Advisory	9:00 AM
May 24	Parks and Recreation	7:00 PM
May 26	Town Council	7:00 PM
May 30	Memorial Day	Town Hall Closed
Jun 7	Planning Board	7:00 PM
Jun 8	Finance Committee	7:00 PM
Jun 9	Town Council	7:00 PM
Jun 14	Board of Adjustment	7:00 PM
Jun 17	Agricultural Advisory	9:00 AM
Jun 23	Town Council	7:00 PM
Jun 28	Parks and Recreation	7:00 PM
Jul 1	Municipal Filing Period Begins	12:00 PM
Jul 4	Independence Day	Town Hall Closed
Jul 5	Planning Board	7:00 PM
Jul 13	Finance Committee	7:00 PM
Jul 14	Town Council	7:00 PM
Jul 15	Agricultural Advisory	9:00 AM
Jul 15	Municipal Filing Period Ends	12:00 PM
Jul 26	Parks and Recreation	7:00 PM
Jul 28	Town Council	7:00 PM



The new Mills River Town Hall

## 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.

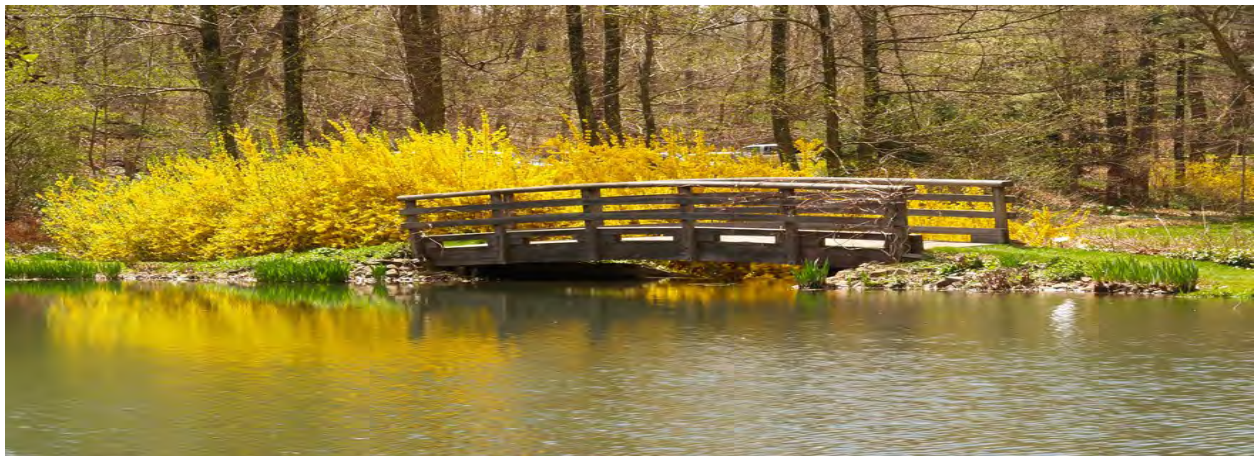
Thank you for your support.

## 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.



*Stacey Frady*  
REALTOR



404 SOUTH MAIN STREET  
HENDERSONVILLE, NC 28792  
CELL: 828-243-5797  
OFFICE: 828-290-1240  
FAX: 828-290-1010  
EMAIL: [SFRADY@KW.COM](mailto:SFRADY@KW.COM)

EACH OFFICE IS INDEPENDENTLY OWNED AND OPERATED



## Property Tax Relief

North Carolina law provides three (3) types of Property Tax Relief for North Carolina residents. The following is a brief description of Property Tax Relief Programs for which you may qualify. **Further qualifications and more detailed information may be obtained by contacting the Henderson County Tax Assessor's Office.**

### Elderly or Disabled Exclusion

*This program excludes from property taxes, the greater of \$25,000, or 50%, of the appraised value of a permanent residence owned and occupied by a qualifying owner.*

#### Who is Eligible?

- A permanent resident of Henderson County, age 65 or older, with an income not exceeding \$27,100; **OR**
- A permanent resident of Henderson County, totally and permanently disabled, with an income not exceeding \$27,100

### Circuit Breaker Property Tax Deferment

*This program allows taxes billed each year to be limited to a percentage of the qualifying owner's income. However, taxes in excess of the limitation are deferred and remain a lien on the property. The three most current years of deferred taxes prior to a disqualifying event will become due and payable, with interest, on the date of the disqualifying event.*

#### Who is Eligible?

- A permanent resident of Henderson County, age 65 or older with an income not exceeding \$27,100, and who has owned and occupied their residence for at least the last five (5) calendar years prior to January 1 of the year for which the Application is made;

**OR**

- A permanent resident of Henderson County, totally and permanently disabled with an income not exceeding \$40,650 and who has owned and occupied their permanent residence for at least five calendar years prior to January 1 of the year for which this application is made.

### Disabled Veteran Exclusion

*This program excludes the first \$45,000 of the appraised value of a permanent residence owned and occupied by a North Carolina resident, who is an Honorable Discharged Disabled Veteran, or the not remarried surviving spouse of an Honorably Discharged Disabled Veteran.*

#### Who is Eligible?

- A permanent resident of Henderson County whose character of separation was Honorable or under Honorable conditions; **OR**
- A not remarried surviving spouse of either a disabled Veteran or a Veteran who died as a result of a service-connected condition whose character of service separation was honorable or under honorable conditions; or a service member who died from a service-connected condition in the line of duty and not as a result of willful misconduct

A Disabled Veteran is a Veteran either has a 100% permanent total disability that is service-connected; or receives benefits for specially adapted housing under 38 U.S.C. 2101. A Disabled Veteran who has received benefits for specially adapted housing under 38 U.S.C.

### How to Apply for Exemptions or Exclusions

Applications should be filed during the regular listing period, January 1 through January 31, but may be timely filed through June 1. Applications and all supporting documentation must be received by June 1.

Applications or supporting documentation received after June 1 will be considered untimely.

Request an application by:

- Telephone - Henderson County Assessor  
**828-697-4970**
- Visit the Assessor's Office  
**200 N, Grove St., Suite 102, Hendersonville**  
**Hours of Operation 8:30 – 5:00 PM**
- Internet website  
**hendersoncountync.org/ca**
- Written request

## MILLS RIVER FIRE DEPT'S WARM WEATHER SAFETY TIPS



Firefighters at Mills River Fire and Rescue want you to have a fun and safe warm weather season. Warm weather brings out people to enjoy the nice ambient temperatures, as well as many different activities. We are offering residents safety tips to help them avoid unnecessary fires and injuries during the spring and summer season.

Grilling can be great fun, but remember to protect your foods and follow safe and sanitary food preparation guidelines. If you are using a barbecue grill, gas powered, check all your connections to be sure they are not blocked. Be careful not to overfill the tank. Have a professional do it for you. Just like with your kitchen safety, never wear loose fitting clothing while cooking. Wear covering clothes that give you some

protection if you have a splatter. Swimsuits may leave skin exposed and susceptible for a burn. If using lighter fluid, never add fluid to an already existing flame, as it may flashback and explode the source. Keep matches and lighters away from children. Supervise your children around a hot grill. Dispose of your hot coals properly, douse them with water, and stir them to make sure the fire is out. Never put them in a plastic, wood, or paper container. Never use a grill in an enclosed area, as carbon monoxide may be produced. Make sure you and all your friends and family know how to Stop-Drop-Cover your face-and Roll, in the event your clothes catch fire.

Fireworks are best and safest left to the professionals. Fireworks pose severe burn hazards, even down to your sparklers, as they reach extreme high temperatures. Make it a family outing and join a public display. Make sure to follow directions, if you choose to use fireworks yourself and follow all laws in your area.

Most of us love visiting the water, be it a pool, lake, a beach or other bodies of water, but safety is a big concern. The best tip is to learn to swim. Never swim alone, always have a buddy. Swim in supervised areas, when possible. Supervise children and inexperienced swimmers. Know your water environment including depth, temperature, currents, and etc. Follow the safety rules of that particular area. Never consume alcohol when swimming, diving, or boating. Pay attention to local weather conditions. Know how to prevent, recognize, and respond to an emergency.

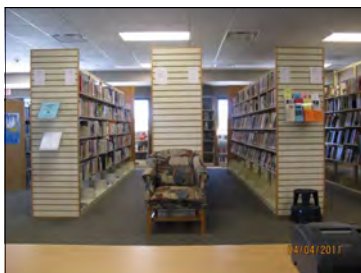
Knowing your address/location and simple directions to your emergency from a main highway may ensure that you save precious seconds in getting help to the person in need of assistance. In Henderson County, 911 Telecommunicators answer for fire, police, and EMS (ambulance), but in other areas, it may be different and they may require you to tell them which agency you need. Full cooperation with our dispatch centers allows us to get help to you more quickly. Don't be alarmed if they question you about the incident, or person; this information allows us to bring the correct tools and personnel to get you the help you need. While one Telecommunicator is taking this information, another is dispatching out the units needed to save time in the arrival of help.

These safety tips are courtesy of Mills River Fire and Rescue, Fire and Life Safety Education. For any questions or for further information, contact Jeannie Moore, Public FLSE at 828-891-7959, or [millsriverfireprevention@hotmail.com](mailto:millsriverfireprevention@hotmail.com).



## NEWS FROM YOUR MILLS RIVER BRANCH LIBRARY

by Roz Ledford



### **DIRECTIONS TO MILLS RIVER BRANCH LIBRARY**

The Mills River Branch Library opened in its new location February 14, 2011. We hope that you have stopped by to see our facility; however, if you have not, or have had any difficulty in locating us, please note the following directions.

- From the old library location the new facility is approximately 1.6 miles.
- From the stop light at Rte 280 and Rte 191 S, make a right turn on 191 S.
- Follow 191 S until you see PSNC Energy facility (on your left) at Hooper Lane.
- Turn left on Hooper lane and follow the gravel road for approximately 4/10 of a mile to the Town Hall/Library entrance.

Should you be traveling on 191 S toward Mills River from Hendersonville, come through the stop light at School House Road and begin looking for Hooper Lane (which will be on your right) at PSNC Energy.

A sign is posted at the entrance to the Town Hall/Library which will be on your left off Hooper Lane.

### **Calendar of Events**

#### **April**

Friday, April 22: The library will be closed for Good Friday

Friday, April 29: Library/Town Hall Open House from 2-6

#### **May**

Monday, May 2: A special Children's story time at 11 am. Snacks will be provided.

Monday, May 30: Closed in observance of Memorial Day

#### **June**

Summer Reading Program begins June 1 - come to the library to sign up

Wednesday, June 15: Bright Star Theatre will be here at 10:30 am

Wednesday, June 22: Puppet show at 2 pm

We have our regular story time every Monday and Thursday at 10 am with the exception of May 2, which will be at 11 am.

**SHERIFF**



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

by Sergeant Ken C. McCraw—Have a Happy and Safe 2011!

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.

Spring has sprung and summer is fast upon us. I hope you will find the following tips useful as we enter the spring/summer seasons:

- Lock your car and remove valuables
- Lock your residence (doors, windows, out buildings)
- Maintain outside lighting and alarm systems
- If you are away for an extended time, have a neighbor or friend check your house. (Cancel or have your mail and paper picked up)
- Do not send money to places/people you are not familiar with. Scams and identity theft are on the increase. (If you think it's a scam—you're probably correct!)
- Use caution when using your personal information on the Internet. Make sure it is a secure connection and a legitimate business.

As the weather warms up and we venture out again, please watch out for children playing. Obey the traffic laws and buckle up.

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

**The Town of Mills River  
5046 Boylston Highway  
Suite 3  
Mills River NC 28759**