



## NEWSLETTER

Summer 2008  
Volume 5, Issue 2

### News from the Mayor

Roger Snyder



#### Mills River Fifth Birthday Celebration Man Alive, Mills River is Five!

On June 24, 2003, a group of concerned citizens gathered to hear the news that the Town of Mills River Incorporation request passed the NC Legislature.

Come and join your friends and neighbors in celebrating this once in a lifetime event!

When: Friday, June 20, 2008, 4:30 PM to 7:30 PM  
Where: Town Hall parking lot (5046 Boylston Hwy)  
Who: Everyone is invited

Local business owners have donated time and money to bring together this celebration! Activities include hay rides, live music, line dance instruction, face painting, and a Chili Cook - Off. Free Food - Fun - Fellowship! Don't miss this!

#### Budget

On June 26, 2008, the Council will hold a public hearing on the FY 2008-2009 Budget. As you are well aware of, the Town lost some \$600,000 dollars because of the County switching methods of distributions. Much thought and preparation has gone into this budget. The proposed budget does NOT include a tax increase.

#### Fire Department

I recently attended the grand opening of Station 3 which is located in the Boylston area of Mills River. The NC Department of Insurance (and not the Fire Department) reviews growth, along with other factors, and suggests where the fire department should expand, if needed. So we want to congratulate them on this milestone.

#### Citizenship Awards

The Council, since the beginning, has set up a "Citizenship Award." I have the pleasure to attend both Glenn Marlow's and Mills River's Award's Ceremony's and present this award to an outstanding 5th grader at each school. This selection is done entirely by the 5th grade teachers.

#### THE TOWN OF MILLS RIVER

5046 Boylston Highway, Suite 3  
Mills River, NC 28759

OFFICE: 828-890-2901 FAX: 828-890-2903  
Office Hours: 9:00 am—5:00 pm Monday-Friday

[info@millsriver.org](mailto:info@millsriver.org)  
[www.millsriver.org](http://www.millsriver.org)

#### Council Members

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

#### Staff

Town Manager: Jaime Adrignola  
[jaime.adrignola@millsriver.org](mailto:jaime.adrignola@millsriver.org)  
Town Clerk/Tax Collector: Susan L. Powell  
[susan.powell@millsriver.org](mailto:susan.powell@millsriver.org)  
Administrative Assistant: Martha M. Orr  
[martha.orr@millsriver.org](mailto:martha.orr@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)



**Aaron Davenport**  
Mills River Elementary

**Fifth Grade Winners  
of 2008  
"Citizenship"  
Award!**



**Madison Ross**  
Glenn C. Marlow Elementary

## History Corner

by Jim Brittain



The so-called "Walton War" was one of the more unusual episodes in the early history of the Mills River community. It was precipitated by the creation of Walton County by the state of Georgia in 1803. Government officials in Buncombe County, North Carolina, were convinced that part of the area being claimed by Georgia actually was in Buncombe County. At the time, Buncombe County included what later became Henderson and Transylvania Counties. Negotiations failed to resolve the issue, and residents of the disputed area refused to pay taxes or accept the validity of land grants issued by Buncombe County.

Finally, in December 1804, Buncombe County decided to take action. On December 17, 1804, Lt. Colonel William

Whitson, the commander of the Buncombe County militia, ordered Major James Brittain of Mills River to assemble a group of armed militia men and lead them on an excursion against the "Walton baditney." According to Whitson, some of the Walton residents had been "committing depredation on the honest civil citizens of this County." He ordered that the militia should "pursue them from place to place and from day to day until you have taken their leaders, if possible, and show them that we have sufficient law to suppress unruly citizens."

The oldest son of Joseph Brittain (c. 1723-c.1773), James Brittain (c.1750--1831) was born in Virginia. The family moved to Orange County in North Carolina by 1760. James joined the Continental Army in December 1776 and served until February 1780. Subsequently, he received a land grant

in Burke County and held the rank of Captain in the county militia. He also became a Justice of the Peace in Burke County. Around 1790, he moved with his wife, Delilah Stringfield Brittain, and their five children to Mills River, then part of Rutherford County. Buncombe County was created in 1792, and James was appointed as a Justice of the Peace and member of the county court. He served several terms in the State Senate during the years between 1796 and 1807 and also achieved the rank of Major in the Buncombe County militia. He accumulated large land holdings in Mills River.

As ordered, Major Brittain assembled a force of about 60 men including two of his sons, Joseph and Phillip, and two sons-in-law, Thomas Edwards and Jeremiah Pace. The group included four with the rank of Captain, three Lieutenants, one with the rank of Ensign, and the rest were Privates. The entire force received pay for three days of service with the amount depending on their rank. A few served longer with eight being paid for four days. Seven, including Major Brittain, served for six days including time spent guarding and escorting prisoners to jail. Interestingly, payment was still in pounds and shillings with the Major receiving the highest amount of 8 pounds and 10 shillings. The privates received 19 shillings each for 3 days service.

Sometime after the mission was completed, Major Brittain submitted a report to the General Assembly. He stated that he and his troops had "proceeded to the place where the rioters were, and arrested fifteen of the most notorious." Five had been released after questioning and the remaining ten taken to jail in the "District of Morgan" for trial. There was no mention of anyone on either side having been injured or that any shots were fired during the action.

James Brittain later became a militia Colonel and lived for about 27 more years after the Walton adventure. He was buried in a family cemetery which, unfortunately, was destroyed by a housing development. The Mills River School and the nearby Presbyterian Church occupy land that he once owned. Many of his descendants still live in Mills River.

# COMMUNITY CENTER COOKOUT

## HOT DOGS

## HAMBURGERS

and fixin's

### Mills River Community Center Fundraiser

### July 19, 5:00pm - 7:00pm

## RECIPE CORNER



### Cheese Lasagna with Meat and Spinach by Joan Canning

- 12 Lasagna Noodles, cooked & drained
- 1 – 15 oz. container Ricotta Cheese
- 2 cups Shredded Mozzarella Cheese
- ¼ cup Shredded Parmesan Cheese (divided)
- 2 Eggs
- 1 – 26 oz. jar Classic Sweet Basil Marinara Pasta Sauce
- 2 – 10 oz. packages Frozen Chopped Spinach, thawed & drained
- 1 lb. Ground Beef, cooked & drained
- 1 – 17 oz. jar Classic Alfredo Pasta Sauce

Combine ricotta cheese, mozzarella cheese, part of parmesan cheese and 2 eggs in a bowl.

In a 13 x 9 baking dish spread 1 cup of marinara sauce.

Layer 4 noodles over sauce and top with half of cheese mixture, spinach, marina sauce and ground beef. Repeat the layers and top with remaining noodles. Spread Alfredo sauce evenly on top and sprinkle with remaining parmesan cheese.

Cover and bake at 350 degrees for 40 minutes. Uncover and bake for 15 minutes or longer until bubbly.

Let stand for 10 minutes before serving.

## MEETING/OTHER DATES

Jul 1	Planning Board	7:30 PM
Jul 4	Independence Day	Town Hall Closed
Jul 9	Finance Committee	7:00 PM
Jul 10	Town Council	7:00 PM
Jul 15	Planning Board	7:30 PM
Jul 21	Agricultural Advisory	7:30 PM
Jul 24	Town Council	7:00 PM
Aug 5	Planning Board	7:30 PM
Aug 12	Board of Adjustment	7:00 PM
Aug 13	Finance Committee	7:00 PM
Aug 14	Town Council	7:00 PM
Aug 18	Agricultural Advisory	7:30 PM
Aug 19	Planning Board	7:30 PM
Aug 21	Town Council	7:00 PM
Sep 1	Labor Day	Town Hall Closed
Sep 2	Planning Board	7:30 PM
Sep 10	Finance Committee	7:00 PM
Sep 11	Town Council	7:00 PM
Sep 15	Agricultural Advisory	7:30 PM
Sep 16	Planning Board	7:30 PM
Sep 22	Town Council	7:00 PM
Oct 7	Planning Board	7:30 PM
Oct 8	Finance Committee	7:00 PM
Oct 9	Town Council	7:00 PM
Oct 14	Board of Adjustment	7:00 PM
Oct 20	Agricultural Advisory	7:00 PM
Oct 21	Planning Board	7:00 PM
Oct 23	Town Council	7:00 PM

## Council Seat Contenders

by Paula DeLorenzo

On April 3, 2008 Mills River held a Community Forum for the purpose of having the two candidates for the District One seat vacancy answer questions that had been previously submitted by residents. Although there were not many residents in attendance, some excellent questions were asked and answered by both Rick Livingston and Jeff Young. While Town Manager, Jaime Adrignola, called the meeting to order and introduced the candidates, the questions were posed by Kim Gasperson-Justice while Town Clerk, Sue Powell, timed responses.

At this time, the seat remains vacant. District 1 still has Council representation by At-Large council members Roger Snyder and Wayne Carland.



Rick



Jeff

### Local Small Business Ads


The Mills River Town Newsletter is printed quarterly: 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 serve 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 and the committee reserves the right to refuse an ad. Both ad and payment will be returned if this occurs.

### 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 25th of each of the following months: May, August, November, and February. Submit articles in writing to:

Paula DeLorenzo  
9 White Birch Drive  
Mills River, NC 28759

or by email to [p828@bellsouth.net](mailto:p828@bellsouth.net). 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 Paula at (828) 890-8131 or email.



### Call Before You Dig – Keeps You and Your Neighbors Safe

Digging in the dirt is a pleasure for some and work for others. But did you know that North Carolina law requires you to notify your area utilities at least 48 hours (two working days) in advance of an excavation project?

By simply dialing "811," you can talk toll-free to the North Carolina One Call Center who will handle everything for you – except the digging part!

**At no charge**, North Carolina One Call will notify all your local utilities, including PSNC Energy. PSNC Energy will then locate and mark its company-owned underground natural gas facilities in the area of your dig. That way you or your contractor can be sure to avoid them when installing the new swimming pool, sprinkler system or even trees and shrubs.



**Know what's below.  
Call before you dig.**

Remember calling before you dig doesn't cost a thing, but not calling could result in property damage or serious injury.

North Carolina One Call Center, **811**  
[www.ncocc.org](http://www.ncocc.org)

### Digging Damage – Know What To Do

Natural gas is a colorless, odorless, non-toxic yet flammable substance. We add a "rotten egg" odor to help you detect a potential leak. Be sure you know the warning signs of a damaged natural gas pipeline:

- ◆ Smell of rotten eggs
- ◆ Hissing sound near the pipeline or natural gas appliance
- ◆ Dirt or debris blowing from a hole in the ground
- ◆ Persistent bubbles from a wet or flooded area in the ground
- ◆ Vegetation over or near the pipeline is discolored or appears dead

**DO NOT** attempt to find the leak yourself.  
Leave immediately, go to a nearby phone and **call PSNC Energy at 1-877-776-2427 and 911.**

## News from Your Mills River Branch Library

by Roz Ledford

**Our Mills River Branch is now open additional hours!**  
As of April 7, 2008, we increased our Monday hours to all day.

Our current operation schedule is as follows:

**Monday, Tuesday & Thursday – 9:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.**

**Wednesday & Friday – 1:30 – 5:30 p.m.**






**Story Time at the Mills River Branch is Tuesdays & Thursdays @ 11:00 a.m.**



**The Henderson County Public Library's (HCPL) 2008 Summer Reading Program** begins June 16 and runs through August 15, 2008. We hope you will stop by the Mills River Branch and register. The 2008 theme for children 0-12 is *Catch the Reading Bug*. Numerous programs have been planned and scheduled. A program schedule will be provided at registration.

For our teen patrons, the summer program is *Metamorphosis at Your Library*. Metamorphosis is the perfect word to describe the teen years. *Metamorphosis at Your Library* also runs from June 16 – August 15 and registration begins June 16<sup>th</sup> as well. More details about the teen program will be available at registration.

**HCPL's Homebound Book Delivery is Available in Mills River.** Are you, or someone you know, homebound? The HCPL provides service to county residents who are unable to visit the Library on their own due to age, extended illness, or physical condition. Deliveries are made to:

-  Residences
-  Assisted Living Facilities
-  Nursing or Retirement Homes
-  Adult Daycare Facilities
-  Hospitals and Selected Other Agencies



We want to ensure that our homebound citizens have the opportunity to read and enjoy the materials available at our library. You must pre-qualify as a homebound resident in order to take advantage of this service. Once you become a participant, arrangements are made for monthly or bi-weekly visits.

### **Materials available for delivery include:**

Books in regular or large print  
Books on cassette or CD  
Music on CD

Items will be selected according to your suggestions. Give the main Library a call (697-4725, ext 2331) to see if you qualify for this service.

**Would you like to volunteer with us?** If you would like to volunteer at the Mills River Branch, please stop by the Branch and complete a Volunteer Interest Form or contact Roz Ledford, Volunteer Coordinator, at 891-5344. Additional volunteers will allow further expansion of our hours.

## Safe Kids

by: Jeannie Pfeffer, Fire and Life Safety Educator - Mills River Fire & Rescue



Why are children needlessly dying? In the last ten years more than 365 children have died from heat stroke after being trapped in a car, most are under age three.

Just running inside a store for "a moment" can lead to high temperatures in the car and to a horrible tragedy. Children are much more susceptible to heat than adults. A child's body temperature increases much faster than that of an adult, as much as three to five times faster. At this rate damage or even death may occur. Studies have shown that with cool outdoor temperatures of 70 degrees, inside an automobile can reach high dangerous temperatures in just minutes.

Children accidentally left behind in automobiles account for over half of the deaths. Some children who died were trapped while playing unattended inside a vehicle. The most horrifying fact is that one in five of the deaths were children that were intentionally left in the autos by an adult.

These injuries and deaths are needless and Mills River Fire Department wants to remind parents and caregivers about the dangers of allowing children to play in or around cars. Vehicles are not toys and children of all ages should never be alone around them.



### National SAFE Kids TIPS for Parents and Caregivers

#### You should:

- ◆ Teach children not to play in, on or around vehicles.
- ◆ Never leave a child unattended in a vehicle, even for one minute or with the window slightly open.
- ◆ Always lock a vehicle's doors and trunk—especially at home. Keep keys and remote entry devices out of children's reach.
- ◆ Watch children closely around vehicles, particularly when loading and unloading. Check to ensure all children leave the vehicle when you reach your destination. Don't overlook sleeping infants.
- ◆ Be especially careful if you're dropping off infants or children at day care and that's not part of your normal routine. Have your day care provider contact you if your child does not show up on a day they are expected.
- ◆ Place something that you'll need at your next stop— for example a purse, your lunch, gym bag or briefcase—on the floor of the backseat where the child is sitting. This simple act could help prevent you from accidentally forgetting a child.



## Sign Ordinance

by Jaime Adrignola

Do you remember the days of the old Burma Shave phenomenon? Burma Shave was one of the world's first brushless shaving cream manufacturers and the company had a revolutionary way of making their brand a household name from the 1920s through the 1960s. As you would drive along a roadway, there would be signs spaced along to read things like:



**THIRTY DAYS  
HATH SEPTEMBER  
APRIL, JUNE  
AND THE SPEED OFFENDER  
BURMA-SHAVE**

Some credit this new way of signage to paving the way for modern billboards and the public's desire for sign regulations in the latter part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

In May of this year, Council adopted some changes to the Mills River Sign Ordinance. The original ordinance was made effective on October 1, 2006. The entire ordinance can be found on our website under Planning and the online code will be updated this summer, but to give you an idea of what the sign regulations are, here are a few highlights:

- ◆ Signs are not allowed in the right of way.
- ◆ All signs, temporary and permanent, require a permit from Town Hall unless they meet the requirements to be exempt. For instance, you can have a political sign on your property as long as it is not bigger than 4 square feet without a permit.
- ◆ Agriculture signs are exempt from regulation.
- ◆ Special event signs require a temporary sign permit including banners. Four temporary portable sign permits and temporary banner permits are allowed per calendar year. Non-profits do not have to pay the sign permit fee and are allowed unlimited signs per year, but must come in to Town Hall to get the permit before putting up signs.
- ◆ Digital message signs are allowed; however, the message cannot change more than one time per day.
- ◆ There are provisions to allow a new business to use a temporary sign for up to a year as their main sign while starting up. This requires an extended use temporary sign permit.
- ◆ Real estate signs are exempt, one per property up to 6 square feet. All others require a permit.
- ◆ Any signs that were up before October 1, 2006 are exempt from the sign regulations.
- ◆ Signs that have been up since October 1, 2006 are only exempt from the changes made to the code this year.

The sign ordinance is enforced by complaints registered at Town Hall. If you suspect a sign is in violation, you may register a complaint by calling or visiting Town Hall and a staff member will process a complaint form to have the matter investigated.



**Jollene J. Austin**  
Financial Advisor

**Edward Jones**  
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING



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**SHERIFF**



**Henderson County Sheriffs Department  
Mills River Division  
by Corporal Ken C. McCraw**

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

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

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

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

Remember if you need law enforcement services

**For Emergencies: 911**

**Non-Emergencies: 697-4911**

**NC Highway Patrol 693-4141**

**NC Wildlife Resources Commission**

**1-800- 662-7137 (to report wildlife violations)**

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