



# NEWSLETTER

Winter 2010  
Volume 7, Issue 4

## News from the Mayor

Roger Snyder

### Boylston Creek Reclassification

We are waiting for the report to be prepared from NC Department of Environment and Natural Resources (NC DENR) to be presented to the NC General Assembly. This report should detail the two public information meetings that were held: (1) at the Mills River Community Building and (2) at the Transylvania County Courthouse.

There were about 75 people that attended the Mills River meeting and about 200 that attended the Transylvania County meeting. As soon as the report is ready, we will have it available on our website.

### Farming Community Meeting

We had an excellent turnout for the Farmer's Meeting that was held at the Mills River Community Building in October. Representatives from the NC Department of Agriculture, North Carolina Division of Water Quality and Henderson County Soil and Water were the guest speakers. Hopefully, the Town can sponsor another meeting in the fall of the year.

### Hooper Lane

We have had a couple of meetings with NC DOT about the condition of Hooper Lane. Right now this road serves as the main access into the Town's property commonly called the Hooper Property (see below). We will keep you updated as we progress.

### Hooper Property

Our new building – a combination Town Hall / Library is almost finished and we expect to move in around the middle of February. We will have to close both the Library and Town Hall for a week each to get moved. We hope to let you know more of an exact timeframe as to inconvenience you no more that we absolutely have too.

### Safety Note

When was the last time that you checked those batteries? They are found almost in everything: Detectors – smoke and carbon monoxide, flashlights, vehicle batteries and many other things. Change these on a regular basis if they show signs of being weak.



### 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

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

Before the advent of television, cell phones, and the Internet, the young people of upper Mills River managed to enjoy an active social life. Some interesting accounts of their frequent parties and trips to visit friends were published by the Hendersonville News during the 1920s. Many of the upper Mills River news items were submitted by a participant using the pen name "Betsy." They remind one of reading a novel by Jane Austen without the formal dances. During the summer months, ice cream suppers were scheduled frequently on Saturday nights. The men would bring sugar and ice while the women brought milk and cake. "Tater Hill" which overlooked South Mills River a short distance above the local church was a favorite rendezvous site on Sunday afternoons. In the fall, small groups would meet on a suitable ridge to gather chinquapins or chestnuts. Corn shucking also provided an occasion for gatherings with older women providing a meal for the workers. Finding a red ear of corn provided the reward of claiming a kiss from a young lady of the finder's choice.

In early January 1922, Bertha Crawford invited several friends including Velma Gillespie and Elizabeth Brittain to a "tacky party" at her home. A surviving photograph depicts the hostess and friends dressed in ill-fitting clothes enjoying the occasion. A few days later, Elizabeth Brittain held a dinner party attended by Bertha Crawford and three of her brothers along with Seaman Whitaker, Lockwood Owen, and Nellie and Bertha Holden. At about the same time, Ellis Holden entertained several young people with a "pound party" at the home of his sister, Mrs. M.A. (Emma) Moore.

Some young men, including Ellis Holden, acquired automobiles by the early 1920s thus enabling couples to undertake longer excursions. Favorite destinations included Chimney Rock, the Pink Beds, Mount Pisgah, and the nearby elk pasture. An old photograph shows five young women from upper Mills River standing on a bridge in the Pink Beds in March 1921. Betsy reported in July 1922 that Randall Brittain, Reba Field, and Frances Field had spent the weekend with Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Field in Canton. At the time, Randall owned a Model T and Mrs. Field was his older sister, Ruth, Reba and Frances were Clifford's sisters. In May 1922, Betsy mentioned that Mrs. Henry Holden and Mrs. M.A. Moore and their children had spent a weekend with relatives in Inman, SC. In June 1922, it was reported that Ed Whitaker and Lockwood Owen had "motored" to Canton and had spent the night with a relative.

One group of young residents formed a gospel quartet and performed frequently in the area. A newspaper item in January 1922 stated that three Whitaker brothers, Ed, George, and Fred, along with Will Rhodes had performed quartet selections during a "singing" at Avery's Creek. The same group performed at Sunday School at the Mills River Baptist Church in March 1922 and sang for friends at the Whitaker home the same afternoon. Velma Gillespie often played an organ to accompany the quartet.

Published information about activities in the community also mentioned the one-room school at Mountain View, marriages, births, and illnesses. The arrival of new residents such as Will Hall from "Big Ivy" and the building of a home by Rud Whitaker were also recounted. Readers of the newspaper were informed that M.A. Moore and L.L. Moore transported a "fine lot of feed cattle" to the market in Asheville. On another occasion, it was reported that Mrs. Oscar Mullinax had killed a deer with one shot from a high-powered Marlin rifle. There was also a brief account of a card game at the hunting lodge of Monroe Redden on upper South Mills River. The game ended suddenly when the participants discovered a "pilot snake" under the card table. Monroe promptly dispatched the snake with his rifle.

## Thank You NC Representative, Carolyn Justus

by Sue Powell



On December 16, 2010 the Mills River Town Council members awarded a plaque to retired NC Representative, Carolyn Justus, at a reception held at the Mills River Town Hall.

The reception was held the same evening as the Town Council meeting as a thank you for Carolyn's support and efforts on behalf of the incorporation committee and for her efforts and support for the Town of Mills River.





## RECIPE CORNER

### Taco Salad

by Carolyn Mitchell

Combine equal amounts of whipped cream cheese and small curd cottage cheese—Refrigerate for one hour to firm.

Mound on a large plate with the following finely chopped:

- Green peppers
- Tomatoes
- Black olives
- Grated sharp cheese
- Shredded lettuce

Sprinkle the top with mild or hot taco sauce.

Serve with Bravos or Tostitos. **Enjoy!**

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Help is needed with the Newsletter. Gathering articles, coordinating with other volunteers and editor, other duties as desired. Contact Aurelie Taylor at (828)890-2901 or aurelie.taylor@millsriver.org.

**Jollene J. Austin, AAMS®**  
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MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING



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## MEETING & OTHER DATES

Jan 13	Town Council	7:00 PM
Jan 17	Martin Luther King	Town Hall Closed
Jan 21	Agricultural Advisory	9:00 AM
Jan 25	Parks and Recreation	7:00 PM
Jan 27	Town Council & Finance Committee	7:00 PM
Feb 1	Planning Board	7:00 PM
Feb 8	Board of Adjustment	7:00 PM
Feb 9	Finance Committee	7:00 PM
Feb 10	Town Council	7:00 PM
Feb 18	Agricultural Advisory	9:00 AM
Feb 22	Parks and Recreation	7:00 PM
Feb 24	Town Council	7:00 PM
Mar 1	Planning Board	7:00 PM
Mar 9	Finance Committee	7:00 PM
Mar 10	Town Council	7:00 PM
Mar 18	Agricultural Advisory	9:00 AM
Mar 22	Parks and Recreation	7:00 PM
Mar 24	Town Council	7:00 PM
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 19	LGCCA – Henderson Cty	3:00 PM
Apr 26	Parks and Recreation	7:00 PM
Apr 28	Town Council	7:00 PM



## NEW TOWN HALL AND LIBRARY

by Jaime Laughter



**Town Council and staff are pleased to announce that Town Hall Offices and the Mills River Branch Library will be moving by the end of February 2011!**

The building is nearing completion and staff is busy scheduling the move and making sure that we are up and running at the new location, 124 Town Center Drive, by March 1.

Exact move dates will be posted on our website and at the existing Town Hall and Library locations as we get closer to the move date. The Town has been very fortunate to have great contractors and vendors getting our new site ready and we appreciate their hard work. The new building is off of Hooper Lane and it is our hope that this new facility will serve the public for many years to come.

The Council and staff are planning to have a Grand Opening Open House later in the Spring.





## LOCAL SMALL BUSINESS ADS

The Mills River Town Newsletter is printed quarterly during the following months: January, April, July, and October. 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 editor. The editor 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. 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 Dr.  
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 Aurelie Taylor at (828) 890-2901 or email her at [aurelie.taylor@millsriver.org](mailto:aurelie.taylor@millsriver.org). The editor reserves the right to refuse or edit any article for any reason.



## NEWS FROM YOUR MILLS RIVER BRANCH LIBRARY

by Roz Ledford



### Happy New Year from the staff and volunteers at your Branch Library!

We are extremely excited now that 2011 is finally here. Our scheduled move to the new facility should take place around mid-February --- with the cooperation of Mother Nature. When the move occurs, the Branch will be closed for the 2-4 days it will take to relocate. We will, of course, reopen the Branch as quickly as possible.

The Branch is scheduled to be closed on January 17, 2011, in honor of Martin Luther King's Birthday.

As always, we continue to offer Story Time for youngsters each Tuesday and Thursday morning at 11:00 a.m.

The staff and volunteers celebrated at a Christmas gathering on Friday afternoon, December 17<sup>th</sup> at the home of one of the volunteer staff. We had a great time and it allowed the group to relax and enjoy the time together. These individuals have been the workers behind the success of our Mills River Branch over the past 5 years...plus.

## 2011 TAX LISTING NOTICE

**READ CAREFULLY - YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE AND MAY BE REQUIRED TO LIST.**

All persons who have or who may acquire any interest in any real or personal property that may be or may become subject to a lien for taxes are hereby charged with notice that such property is or should be listed for taxation, that taxes are or may become a lien thereon, and that if taxes are not paid the proceedings allowed by law may be taken against such property. This notice shall be conclusively presumed, whether or not such persons have actual notice. N.C.G.S. 105-348

**GENERAL RULE** – PER N.C.G.S. 105-308; ANYONE WHO, ON JANUARY 1, 2011 (THE DATE AS OF WHICH PROPERTY IS TO BE LISTED), OWNS PROPERTY SUBJECT TO TAXATION MUST LIST SUCH PROPERTY WITHIN THE PERIOD SET FORTH IN THIS NOTICE AND THAT ANY PERSON WHO FAILS TO DO SO WILL BE SUBJECT TO THE PENALTIES PRESCRIBED BY LAW.

In addition to all other penalties prescribed by law, any person whose duty it is to list any property who willfully fails or refuses to list the same within the time prescribed by law shall be guilty of a Class 2 misdemeanor. The failure to list shall be prima facie evidence that the failure was willful. Any person who willfully attempts, or who willfully aids and abets any person to attempt, in any manner to evade or defeat the taxes imposed by law, whether by removal or concealment of property or otherwise, shall be guilty of a Class 2 misdemeanor. N.C.G.S. 105-308

**NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL STATUTES** 105-296(c), AND 105-304 THROUGH 105-311, SET FORTH THE SPECIFIC LEGAL REQUIREMENTS THAT ALL TAXABLE PROPERTY MUST BE LISTED DURING THE JANUARY LISTING PERIOD AS DETAILED BELOW:

**REAL PROPERTY** – AS REQUIRED BY N.C.G.S. 105-303, HENDERSON COUNTY USES A PERMANENT LISTING SYSTEM FOR PROPERTY CLASSIFIED AS REAL PROPERTY (LAND AND IMPROVEMENTS). THEREFORE THE OWNERSHIP OF ALL REAL PROPERTY CONVEYANCES IS LISTED FOR YOU. **HOWEVER, N.C.G.S. 105-309(c)(4) REQUIRES ANY NEW CONSTRUCTION, ADDITIONS OR DEMOLITIONS, AND CHANGES OF ANY KIND MADE ON YOUR REAL PROPERTY DURING CALENDAR YEAR 2010 OR PRIOR MUST BE LISTED DURING THE MONTH OF JANUARY, 2011. NOTE: IF YOU PURCHASED A PROPERTY DURING CALENDAR YEAR 2010, WHICH ON JANUARY 1, 2010 WAS VACANT LAND OR DID NOT HAVE ALL THE STRUCTURAL IMPROVEMENTS CONSTRUCTED ON THE PROPERTY THAT WAS THERE AT THE TIME OF YOUR PURCHASE, YOU MUST LIST THE CONSTRUCTION MADE BY THE SELLER PRIOR TO YOUR PURCHASE.** FAILURE TO TIMELY LIST ANY CHANGES MADE TO REAL PROPERTY WILL RESULT IN PENALTIES AND POSSIBLE INTEREST BEING APPLIED. N.C.G.S. 105-312 REQUIRES A PENALTY OF 10% BE ADDED FOR EACH LISTING PERIOD THAT HAS LAPSED SINCE CHANGES TO THE PROPERTY SHOULD HAVE BEEN LISTED.

**PLEASE NOTE: OBTAINING A HENDERSON COUNTY BUILDING PERMIT DOES NOT FULFILL THE LEGAL REQUIREMENT TO LIST CHANGES TO REAL PROPERTY REQUIRED BY THIS NOTICE.**

**ALL TAX-EXEMPT PROPERTY** – NEWLY ACQUIRED REAL AND PERSONAL PROPERTY OWNED BY A CHURCH, CIVIC ORGANIZATION OR FRATERNAL ORDER, AND HOMEOWNER OR PROPERTY OWNERS' ASSOCIATIONS, MUST EITHER BE LISTED FOR TAXES OR AN APPLICATION FOR EXEMPTION MADE PRIOR TO THE CLOSE OF THE LISTING PERIOD, MONDAY, JANUARY 31, 2011. NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN THAT ALL PROPERTY HELD BY A NON-PROFIT, RELIGIOUS, EDUCATIONAL, OR CHARITABLE OWNER, SHOULD ALSO HAVE AN APPROVED APPLICATION FOR EXEMPTION ON FILE. **IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE PROPERTY OWNER TO SEE THAT THE APPLICATION IS ON FILE.** FAILURE TO COMPLY WILL RESULT IN THE PROPERTY BEING ASSESSED ALONG WITH ALL APPLICABLE PENALTIES.

**DEFERRED TAX PROGRAM FOR LICENSED NORTH CAROLINA BUILDERS** – FOR 2011, IF YOU ARE A LICENSED NORTH CAROLINA BUILDER AND OWN AN UNOCCUPIED, UNSOLD, SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENCE FOR WHICH A CERTIFICATE OF OCCUPANCY HAS BEEN ISSUED PRIOR TO JANUARY 1, 2011, YOU MAY QUALIFY FOR A DEFERRAL OF THE TAX ATTRIBUTABLE TO THE INCREASE IN VALUE REPRESENTED BY THE RESIDENCE. **THIS BENEFIT CONTINGENT UPON APPROVAL OF AN ANNUAL APPLICATION.**

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### **TAX RELIEF FOR ELDERLY OR DISABLED – THREE TYPES OF TAX RELIEF ARE AVAILABLE:**

1. PERSONS WHO BECAME 65 YEARS OF AGE OR TOTALLY AND PERMANENTLY DISABLED IN 2010 OR EARLIER, AND WHOSE TOTAL INCOME FROM ALL SOURCES DOES NOT EXCEED \$27,100.00 MAY QUALIFY FOR AN EXCLUSION UP TO \$25,000 OR 50% OF THE ASSESSED VALUE OF THEIR PERMANENT RESIDENCE, WHICHEVER IS GREATER.
2. PERSONS WHO BECAME 65 YEARS OF AGE OR TOTALLY AND PERMANENTLY DISABLED IN 2010 OR EARLIER, AND WHOSE TOTAL INCOME FROM ALL SOURCES DOES NOT EXCEED \$27,100.00 OR IF MORE THAN \$27,100.00 BUT NOT EXCEEDING \$40,650.00 MAY ELECT TO DEFER ANY TAX GREATER THAN 4% OR 5% OF THEIR TOTAL INCOME AS ALLOWED BY STATUTE. NOTE: DEFERRED TAXES ARE A LIEN ON THE REAL PROPERTY.
3. HONORABLY DISCHARGED VETERANS WITH A 100% SERVICE-CONNECTED DISABILITY, OR THEIR UNMARRIED, SURVIVING SPOUSE, MAY QUALIFY FOR AN EXCLUSION OF THE FIRST \$45,000 OF THE APPRAISED VALUE OF THEIR PERMANENT RESIDENCE.

**APPLICATIONS FOR TAX RELIEF MAY BE TIMELY-FILED THROUGH JUNE 1, 2011.**

**SPECIAL PROVISIONS FOR DEPLOYED MILITARY PERSONNEL**

BY LEGISLATION ENACTED BY THE NC GENERAL ASSEMBLY, MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES OR THE ARMED FORCES RESERVES OF THE UNITED STATES ON ACTIVE DUTY IN SUPPORT OF OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM OR NOBLE EAGLE, OR OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM ON OR AFTER SEPTEMBER 11, 2001 OR JANUARY 1, 2003 RESPECTIVELY, OR A MEMBER OF THE NC ARMY NATIONAL GUARD OR THE NC AIR NATIONAL GUARD CALLED TO ACTIVE DUTY IN SUPPORT OF OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM OR NOBLE EAGLE, OR OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM ON OR AFTER SEPTEMBER 11, 2001 OR JANUARY 1, 2003 RESPECTIVELY, ARE WAIVED OF THEIR RESPONSIBILITY TO LIST PROPERTY AND OTHERWISE COMPLY WITH THE LEGAL STANDARD SET FORTH HEREIN, FOR UP TO 90 DAYS FROM THE END OF THEIR DEPLOYMENT, AND BY SO DOING ARE NOT SUBJECT TO CIVIL OR CRIMINAL PENALTIES FOR FAILURE TO LIST THE PROPERTY OTHERWISE REQUIRED TO BE LISTED DURING DEPLOYMENT. Ref: Sect. 5.(b) of House Bill 168 of Session Laws 2001, and Sect. 4.(b) of Senate Bill 936, Session Laws 2003.

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**SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS FOR PROPERTY IN PRESENT-USE VALUE PROGRAM**

N.C.G.S. 105-277.5 REQUIRES THAT NOT LATER THAN THE CLOSE OF THE LISTING PERIOD FOLLOWING A CHANGE WHICH COULD DISQUALIFY ALL OR PART OF A TRACT OF LAND RECEIVING THE BENEFIT OF THE PRESENT-USE VALUE PROGRAM, THE PROPERTY OWNER SHALL FURNISH THE ASSESSOR WITH COMPLETE INFORMATION REGARDING SUCH CHANGE. ANY PROPERTY OWNER WHO FAILS TO NOTIFY THE ASSESSOR OF CHANGES AS REQUIRED BY LAW SHALL BE SUBJECT TO A PENALTY OF 10% OF THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF THE DEFERRED TAXES AND INTEREST THEREON FOR EACH LISTING PERIOD FOR WHICH THE FAILURE TO REPORT CONTINUES.

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**MANUFACTURED OR MOBILE HOME** – MANUFACTURED OR MOBILE HOMES MUST BE LISTED UNDER N.C. LAW. PARK OWNERS WITH THREE (3) OR MORE UNITS, ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR REPORTING ALL UNITS IN THEIR PARK. HOWEVER, REGARDLESS OF WHERE LOCATED, ALL OWNERS OF MANUFACTURED OR MOBILE HOMES ARE STILL REQUIRED TO CONFIRM THE LISTING OF THEIR MANUFACTURED OR MOBILE HOME BY TIMELY FILING AN INDIVIDUAL LISTING FORM.

**PERSONAL PROPERTY** – YOU MUST LIST ALL UNREGISTERED (NOT-TAGGED) MOTOR VEHICLES, MOTORCYCLES, RV'S, CAMPERS, TRAVEL TRAILERS, AND UTILITY TRAILERS. ALL MANUFACTURED HOMES, BOATS, PERSONAL WATERCRAFT, AND AIRCRAFT MUST ALSO BE LISTED. LISTING FORMS WILL BE MAILED IN DECEMBER, 2010 FOR THOSE ON RECORD IN 2010.

**BUSINESS-PERSONAL PROPERTY** – PERSONAL PROPERTY USED IN THE PRODUCTION OF INCOME OR IN CONNECTION WITH ANY BUSINESS ENTERPRISE, MUST BE LISTED ON THE APPROPRIATE BUSINESS-PERSONAL PROPERTY LISTING FORM. THIS INCLUDES MACHINERY & EQUIPMENT, FURNITURE & FIXTURES, COMPUTERS, SUPPLIES, AND EXPENSED ITEMS USED IN CONNECTION WITH A SOLE PROPRIETORSHIP, PARTNERSHIP, OR CORPORATION, WHETHER LOCATED AT A SPECIFICALLY DESIGNATED BUSINESS ADDRESS OR A HOME-BASED BUSINESS.

**REPORTING REQUIRED BY OWNERS OF MOBILE HOME PARKS, MARINAS, OR AIRCRAFT STORAGE FACILITIES** – EVERY OPERATOR PROVIDING, RENTING, OR LEASING SPACE TO THREE OR MORE MOBILE HOMES, BOATS OR WATERCRAFT, OR AIRCRAFT IS REQUIRED TO FURNISH THE ASSESSOR WITH THE NAME OF THE OWNER(S) OF SUCH PROPERTY, A DESCRIPTION OF SUCH PROPERTY FOR WHICH SPACE IS RENTED OR LEASED. ANY OPERATOR FAILING TO REPORT SUCH INFORMATION BY JANUARY 17, 2011 SHALL BE LIABLE FOR A PENALTY TO BE MEASURED BY ANY PORTION OF THE TAX ON THE PERSONAL PROPERTY THAT HAS NOT BEEN PAID AT THE TIME THE ACTION TO COLLECT THIS PENALTY IS BROUGHT, PLUS \$250.00. THE PENALTY MAY BE RECOVERED IN A CIVIL ACTION IN THE APPROPRIATE DIVISION OF THE GENERAL COURT(S) OF HENDERSON COUNTY. N.C.G.S. 105-316(a) and (b).

**COMPLETED LISTING FORMS MUST BE RETURNED TO THE ASSESSOR'S OFFICE BY MONDAY, JANUARY 31, 2011.** IF YOU NEED ASSISTANCE, YOU MAY COME BY THE ASSESSOR'S OFFICE, 200 NORTH GROVE STREET, SUITE 102, MONDAY THRU FRIDAY, FROM 8:30 A.M. TO 5:00 P.M., BEGINNING MONDAY, JANUARY 3, 2011.

**LISTING WILL BEGIN MONDAY, JANUARY 3, 2011 AND END MONDAY, JANUARY 31, 2011.**

**TIMELINESS:** TO AVOID THE 10% LATE LISTING PENALTY, LISTINGS MAY BE SUBMITTED IN PERSON AT THE ASSESSOR'S OFFICE, OR SUBMITTED BY MAIL AND AFFIXED WITH A U.S. POSTAL SERVICE APPLIED POSTMARK DATED JANUARY 31, 2011 OR EARLIER. LISTINGS SUBMITTED BY MAIL WITHOUT A U.S. POSTAL SERVICE APPLIED POSTMARK WILL BE RECORDED AS FILED WHEN ACTUALLY RECEIVED IN THE ASSESSOR'S OFFICE OF THE HENDERSON COUNTY TAX DEPARTMENT.

**LIST BY MONDAY, JANUARY 31, 2011 TO AVOID 10% PENALTY FOR LATE LISTING**

HENDERSON COUNTY TAX DEPARTMENT  
ASSESSOR'S OFFICE  
200 NORTH GROVE STREET, SUITE 102  
HENDERSONVILLE, NC 28792  
TELEPHONE: (828) 697-4870

## Smoke Alarms: Up, Down and All Around

by Jeannie Moore-Pfeffer

### Mills River Fire and Rescue Reinforces Newer Smoke Alarm Recommendations

"Many homes in Mills River may not have any smoke alarms, not enough smoke alarms, alarms that are too old, or alarms that are not working," says Jeannie Moore-Pfeffer, Fire and Life Safety Educator of the Mills River Fire Department. "We want residents to understand that working smoke alarms are needed in every home, on every level (including the basement), outside each sleeping area and inside each bedroom. And, if a smoke alarm is **10 years old or older**, it needs to be replaced."

According to Jeannie Moore-Pfeffer, smoke alarms can mean the difference between life and death in a fire. Statistics show that working smoke alarms cut the chance of dying in a fire nearly in half. But they must be working properly to do so. The association's data shows that many homes have smoke alarms that aren't working or maintained properly. Roughly two-thirds of all home fire deaths result from fires in homes with no smoke alarms or no working smoke alarms.

Mills River residents can feel free to contact the fire department for more information about the power of smoke alarms, newer options for installing and maintaining them properly, and ultimately, how to better protect their loved ones from fire.

Interconnected smoke alarms offer the best protection; when one sounds, they all do. This is particularly important in larger or multi-story homes, where the sound from distant smoke alarms may be reduced to the point that it may not be loud enough to provide proper warning, especially for sleeping individuals.

Mills River Fire and Rescue offers the following tips for making sure smoke alarms are maintained and working properly:

- Test smoke alarms at least once a month using the test button, and make sure everyone in your home knows their sound.
- If an alarm "chirps," warning the battery is low, replace the battery right away.
- Replace **ALL** smoke alarms, including alarms that use 10-year batteries and hard-wired alarms, **when they're 10 years old (or sooner) if they do not respond properly when tested.**
- Never remove or disable a smoke alarm.

For more information regarding smoke alarms or other fire prevention or life safety programs, please contact Jeannie Moore-Pfeffer with Mills River Fire Department at 828-891-7959.

## Coming Soon: the "Resident Spotlight"

In our next issue we will be introducing a new feature: the Resident Spotlight. With so many interesting and talented people in our Town, we want to highlight a Mills River resident each newsletter. If you know of someone you'd like to see in the Spotlight, contact Aurelie Taylor at Town Hall (828) 890-2901 or email [aurelie.taylor@millsriver.org](mailto:aurelie.taylor@millsriver.org).



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.

I hope everyone has a very Happy New Year! I want to remind everyone to drive safely. Below are a few driving reminders:

- Obey all posted speed limits
- Observe speed regulations in school zones
- Slow down and use caution during times of inclement weather
- Wear your seat belt
- Watch out for children around schools and near school buses
- Come to complete stops at all stop signs
- Turn your headlights on when operating your windshield wipers in the rain
- Please properly secure children in the correct child seats for their weight and age
- Increase your following distance in traffic
- Make sure your vehicle is in safe operating condition (tires, lights, signals, wiper blades, brakes, etc.)

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**