
The Village Record



The Newsletter of
Village of Flat Rock
110 Village Center Drive
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Flat Rock, North Carolina
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Editor: Jim Wert

Volume XVI Number 1

April 2010

From the Mayor's Desk

Robert V. Staton

“Spring has sprung!”

What a delight it has been too. After the winter we just experienced, it is a welcome relief. Among the first colors we see in the spring is the yellow of the forsythias and daffodils, soon followed by the white and pink blossoms of the dogwood trees, the flowering fruit trees, and the Bradford pears that line subdivision streets and golf courses. The trees are budding and all will soon be green again. And I always look forward to the blossoming of our native mountain laurel and rhododendrons, as well as displays of multicolored azaleas in full bloom. It is good to be alive in the spring time in Flat Rock.

Have you tried our new sidewalks? Sidewalk extensions on both sides of the Greenville Highway have recently been completed. On the west side of the road, the walkway in front of the post office and along the wooded preserve between Little River Road and Memminger Drive, enables pedestrians to walk without having to use the very busy post office parking lot. On the east side of the road, in front of the

village hall and along the property of Blue Ridge Fire & Rescue, the new sidewalk is a convenient way for pedestrians to walk between the lower end of the village center and the Flat Rock Playhouse across the road. The construction of the sidewalks, a project of the village's Greenways Committee, was funded primarily with a NCDOT grant of federal funds earmarked for “shovel ready” projects to stimulate the economy and employment opportunities.

Louise Howe Bailey (1915 - 2009)

The memory of Henderson County native and long-time Flat Rock resident Louise Bailey, who died in December 2009 at the age of 94, was recently honored by the dedication of the Louise Howe Bailey Room at the Henderson County Heritage Museum, located in the Historic Henderson County Courthouse in Hendersonville. Louise was a beloved local historian, author, newspaper columnist, speaker and storyteller who researched and chronicled events from the county's storied past, and in so doing helped to preserve our cultural heritage. Underlying her interest in local history was her family's continuous association with the area since 1829, when her great-great-Grandfather, Judge Marshall King of

Charleston, South Carolina, was a founder of the Flat Rock summer colony of low country South Carolinians.

Louise Bailey lived at *Laurelhurst*, a house her father built in 1927 in the midst of fifty wooded acres in the heart of Flat Rock. For years, until shortly before her death, she conducted tours of her beloved Church of Saint John in the Wilderness and its historic cemetery in Flat Rock.

The museum's board of directors sought the permission of the Bailey family to name its last remaining unnamed room in her memory, which was given, and the board was delighted so to designate the room that covers the period 1920 to the present.

The Henderson County Heritage Museum, as the name implies, is a museum about the history and heritage of Henderson County, including Flat Rock. The history of Flat Rock is a big part of that history. One of the first things one sees when he enters the first exhibit room is a display about John Davis, an early Flat Rock settler who owned a house and tavern located on property that was acquired by Judge King and incorporated into his *Argyle* estate. John Davis, who served in the army under Andrew Jackson at the Battle of New Orleans, was appointed Flat Rock's first postmaster. His tavern served as Flat Rock's first post office.

Other Flat Rock residents, historical properties, and stories are depicted in the museum. I commend the museum to your attention. It is well done and worth a visit and guided tour.

Property Tax Collection Report

Nick Weedman, Vice Mayor

Property tax collection efforts continue at the Village of Flat Rock. As of April 12, 2010 a 99%+ collection of the total amount billed in September had been collected. We extend our appreciation to Flat Rock property owners for their cooperation in achieving such an outstanding result.

The tough economic times have been seen this year. In order to get to the 99% collection rate, the Tax Collector, Martha Orr, had to send a greater than normal letters seeking payment from delinquent accounts. And, greater use of the garnishment of bank accounts was used to collect from a few accounts. Our collection goal is 100% of the amount billed – something that has been achieved in every prior year of tax collection by the Village.

Taxes are still owed on 14 properties owned by 8 property owners but only 4 accounts have yet agreed to pay. Efforts are underway to collect on those who have not responded to gentle reminders!

As required by law, the Village will advertise delinquent accounts and this is planned to occur before the end of April. At this point, it appears there will be no more than six properties owned by four people in the advertisement. Delinquent property owners pay the full cost of the ad and, in some cases; the shared cost of the ad can approach or exceed the amount of taxes originally billed! It is far better to pay the taxes on time than to get into the late collection efforts undertaken by the Village which can prove relatively costly.

Again, as in past years, we have found property owners in Flat Rock to be highly responsive and positive in their payment of their property taxes. We extend our thanks to those who made timely and full payments.

Flat Rock Merchants Association

PO Box 711
 Flat Rock, NC 28731
www.flatrockonline.com
 President: Bill Elder
 Expressions! Photography 694-0770
 Past-President: David Voorhees
 Hand in Hand Gallery 697-7719

PRESS RELEASE

The Flat Rock Merchants Association would like to thank the community for its support of its projects this past year: the Flat Rock Tailgate Market, the hot dog booth at the Ice Cream Social, and sales of baked goods at the Summer Music Concerts. Through this support, member dues and donations from individuals and businesses, the organization spent \$5300 in community projects in 2009. The association assisted five families identified by public school guidance counselors this holiday season. In addition, donations were given to the Principals of Hillandale Elementary and Flat Rock Middle Schools for their top drawer fund to assist students in need during the school year. The group donated two scholarships to the Robin Farquhar YouTheatre. The group also produced six complimentary community concerts through the Flat Rock Summer Music Series held on the back deck of Little Rainbow Row. "Our organization would especially like to thank the Village of Flat Rock for sponsoring the concert the evening of last year's annual Ice Cream Social, and also for participating in the "Shop & Dine Locally" promotion of the Chamber of Commerce."

The group recognized past-President David Voorhees for his work on these projects the past two years. New officers were elected

for 2010 and they are:

Bill Elder of Expressions! Photography - President;
 Phoebe Moncrief – Web & Graphic Design - Vice-President;
 Debbie Russell of Apartments at Twin Oaks - Treasurer;
 and Tricia Beall of Studio B - Secretary.

The Flat Rock Merchants Association was formed in 1995. Providing leadership in the organization's formation were business owners Jane and the late Lester Burgin, and Starr and Virginia Teel.

The organization's mission statement is: "The Flat Rock Merchants Association is a not-for-profit membership organization for owners of businesses within the Village of Flat Rock who are associated for purposes of mutual support and promotion, community involvement and enhancement, and service within our community."

The association has 37 members. For more information about the organization and its business members, visit www.flatrockonline.com, or contact President Bill Elder at 694-0770.



New Officers For 2010

Left to right, Phoebe Moncrief, Vice President; Bill Elder, President; Tricia Beall, Secretary; David Voorhees, Past President; and Debbie Russell, Treasurer.

United States Census 2010

Saturday May 1st is the last day you can mail in the Census forms. If you did not meet that deadline a Census worker will be visiting you.

- Census takers are your neighbors — people from your community, hired by the Census Bureau, to go door-to-door and collect census information from residents that have not sent back their 2010 Census forms. Please cooperate with the census taker to ensure an accurate count of your community.
- A census taker will visit your home up to six times, each time leaving a door hanger. The door hanger has a phone number on it that you can call to schedule a visit and be counted

REMEMBER YOU WILL BE VISITED

by a Census worker. If you are visited by a Census worker, the following are some tips you need to pay attention to:

- First, ask to see a photo ID and a Badge that shows the person represents the U.S. Census Bureau.
- The worker will also have a hand held device that is used to take your information, a canvas bag and a confidentiality notice.
- Census workers will not ask for your Social Security number or for information about your bank account or credit cards.

- The Better Business Bureau advise that you not invite the worker or anyone you don't know into your home.
- To protect against identity theft, the BBB Advises that you not to give out personal or financial information to anyone who shows up at your door.
- For more tips, go to the Better Business Bureau online at www.bbb.org.

“Celebrate Flat Rock 2010”



Mark your calendars!! The Village of Flat Rock will host its annual Ice Cream Social on Saturday June 5th (rain date of Sunday June 6th) on the grounds of the Flat Rock Village Hall and throughout the village. There will be free ice cream and wonderful musical entertainment. As in previous years we will be serving Strawberry, Chocolate and Chocolate Chip ice cream. The sugar-free flavors will be Vanilla and Butter Pecan

The festivities will begin at noon and continue until 4PM. This years musical groups will include some returning favorites and some new performances. Appalachian Fire

(Blue Grass), Elaine Anderson (Country and folk singer), Jacey Langford (keyboard and singer, oldies and pops) and a very special performance by the Hendersonville High School Jazz Band. Tiffany Ervin of Morning Glory Productions will be the mistress of ceremonies.

Miss Hendersonville Kristin Morgan and Hendersonville's Outstanding Teen Miss Courtney Laughter will be in attendance.

Caasie (Brenda Pace) and the Clowns of Glory will again be here to entertain young and old alike with face painting, balloon making and temporary tattoos.

The Flat Rock Playhouse will have an evening performance of "For the Glory" at 8pm. Tickets are available at the box office 693-0731.

Some of the merchants along Little Rainbow Row will be doing demonstrations. Food and beverages will be for sale at several locations in the village. The Village Merchants Association will have hot dogs, chips and soda for sale to benefit their Christmas Charity program. Various rescue units will also have demonstrations.

Bring your lawn chair to enjoy the entertainment and join your friends in celebrating Flat Rock.

Ice Cream scoopers are needed. If you can spare a half hour for a shift between 12 noon and 4pm, please call Chris or Mary Jane McDonnell at 692-2929.

Handicapped parking is available.

For the comfort of all please leave your pets at home.

The June 5th performance of the Flat Rock Merchant's Summer Music Series, sponsored by the Village of Flat Rock will feature singer, songwriter Tom Fisch. The performance will be on the back porch of the Wrinkled Egg at 6pm. Food and beverages will be available at several locations that evening.

For additional information call Carol Andrews 697-0208

Flat Rock Tailgate Market to Reopen Thursday, April 22



The Flat Rock Tailgate Market will reopen on Thursday, April 22 from 3-6 pm in the parking area behind the Cherry Cottage and next to Hubba Hubba Smoke House along Little Rainbow Row in Flat Rock. The Market will continue every Thursday with the same hours through October 28 and is free and open to the public. This will be the fourth year that the Market has been in operation.

This year's Flat Rock Tailgate Market will feature locally and regionally grown seasonal produce using primarily organic or chemical free and/or sustainable agricultural practices. A festive atmosphere will accompany opening day with plenty of free samples along with recipes and "how to" handouts regarding various plants. Some offerings will include perennials and herbs, wild and cultivated mushrooms, baked goods, jellies, goat cheese, cow cheese, eggs, seafood, lamb, beef, chicken, dried flowers, fresh salad greens, seasonal vegetables and much more.

A wide variety of plants, fruits and vegetables will be added as the growing season progresses. Blackbird Farms and Cane Creek Valley Farm will again be using the Market as a “pick up” location for their CSA (Community Supported Agricultural) boxes.

The Village of Flat Rock Tailgate Market is sponsored by the Merchants of Flat Rock and has been organized by local residents whose goal is to offer to the community the highest quality produce and homemade products that are in season and locally/regionally produced. To assure that goal, all prospective vendors will be screened through an application process. To obtain an application to become a vendor or for further information about the Flat Rock Tailgate Market, please call Molly Sharp at 698-8775, Cheryl Stippich at 693-0781 or Sandra Poces at 698-8149.

Summer Music in Flat Rock 2010”



Summer Music in Flat Rock is preparing for our 6th season and needs some help from our community. The Flat Rock Merchants Association has presented the May-through-October free outdoor concerts featuring notable local and regional musicians. Our crowds have grown each year. We hear many positive comments from those who love the music, the setting and the family-oriented experience. The popularity of the concert series has created a problem: we have outgrown our sound system! With your help we can replace the present system with one that will insure quality sound and volume to all who choose to attend.

We encourage those who like the Summer Music series to support us by making a donation to our sound system fund drive. We hope to raise \$2500 by the end of May. If you would like to contribute please send a check made out to Flat Rock Merchants Association, noted for the sound system, and mail to P.O. Box 711, Flat Rock, NC 28731. You will receive a confirmation and thank you.

While funding for each concert is covered by local business, group sponsors and the Merchants Association, this capital expense is not. With your help we can continue offering these high quality monthly concerts. Many thanks to our supporters!

Our first concert is on Saturday, May 1st featuring the novelty jazz band Hot Duck Soup, 6-8PM. Watch for rack cards and posters.

David Voorhees, event coordinator.

Designer Showhouse Saluda Cottages

Historic Flat Rock, Inc. is privileged to announce the very first Flat Rock Designer Showhouse from August 14 through 29, 2010.

Saluda Cottages c. 1836 is the site of Historic Flat Rock, Inc's 2010 fund raising event. All three floors of this stunning estate house will be professionally decorated.

Special programs include a walking tour on the property's registered historic trees, and a special appearance and demonstration by Nationally known garden designer, author, and popular TV guest JON CARLOFTIS.

The Carloftis program and lunch will be held at Kenmure.

The Showhouse will be open Monday through Saturday from 10AM to 4PM and Sundays from 1PM to 4PM. Tickets for the showcase are \$25, tickets for the Carloftis event with lunch at Kenmure are \$50, and a season ticket which includes repeat visits to the Showcase, the Carloftis program, lunch and a \$5 coupon for our Boutique are \$75. All tickets will be available beginning June 15th, on line at www.historicflatrockinc.org, the Henderson County Visitors Center, The Book Exchange and The Wrinkled Egg. A limited number of tickets will be available at the door.

Cafe Sans Souci, catered by Chef Larc Lindsey and the Showhouse Boutique will be open daily. Ample parking is available on the grounds of Saluda Cottages. Regrettably, as with houses of this era, Saluda Cottages is not handicapped accessible. It is suggested that low heeled comfortable shoes be worn while touring the house. Strollers and backpacks are not allowed. No photographs may be taken inside house.

Historic Flat Rock, Inc., is a non profit organization devoted solely to the preservation of historic houses, land and scenic byways in the village of Flat Rock, North Carolina, know as "The Little Charleston of the Mountains". The Village is a National Historic District.

If you are interested in volunteering please call Chris McDonnell at 692-2929.

For all additional information call Carol Andrews 697-0208.

Hazard Tree Work to Begin at Carl Sandburg Home NHS

The work to remove overhead tree hazards resulting from winter storms is scheduled to commence on Monday, April 26. The tree work will be performed by Snow Creek Landscaping. The government contract was awarded to Snow Creek Landscaping, LLC through the bid process on April 15.

Tree work will take place in several areas throughout the park, including the Front Lake trail, Memminger trail, Big Glassy trail, the back service drive, the buck lot across from the barn and main house. Trail and road closures will be clearly marked and enforced where work is underway. As crews complete tree work and remove equipment, work zones will be reopened to pedestrian and vehicle traffic.

The Park is concerned for the safety of all who visit. We appreciate your patience and cooperation during recent trail closures. We thank you in advance for your continued cooperation as we complete the final phase of this project.

Carl Sandburg Home National Historic Site is located three miles south of Hendersonville off U.S. 225 on Little River Road. The park is open from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., daily, except Christmas Day. For further information, please telephone 828-693-4178, or visit our website at www.nps.gov/carl.



Carl Sandburg Home National Historic Site
Authorized October 17, 1968, as a unit of the National Park Service

Lisa Ward
Administrative Support Assistant
Carl Sandburg Home National Historic Site
81 Carl Sandburg Lane, Flat Rock, NC 28731
828-693-4178 phone
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www.nps.gov/carl

Village of Flat Rock
P.O. Box 1288
Flat Rock, NC 28731-1288

Schedule of Meetings

All monthly **Council Meetings** are on the **second Thursday** of each month, and will start at 9:30 AM.

Agenda Workshops are scheduled to start at 9:30 AM on the **Monday** 10 days prior to the Council Meeting, unless that Monday falls on a holiday.

The Planning Board meets the **first Tuesday** of each month from 9:15 AM until 11:30 AM.

The Board of Adjustment meets the **first Tuesday** monthly at 3:00 PM (if there are agenda items).

Village of Flat Rock office hours are 9:00 AM—4:00 PM, Monday through Friday.

The Zoning Administration office hours are from 2:00 PM-4:00 PM, Monday through Friday.

The deadline for articles to be included in the August 2010 issue of "The Village Record" is August 15, 2010

Village Directory

Mayor:

Robert V. Staton 696-4020

Council Members:

District 1

Nick Weedman, Vice Mayor 693-5300

Ronald L. Davis 698-8214

District 2

Dave Bucher 696-3269

Don Farr 697-6304

District 3

Jimmy Chandler 693-7455

Jim Wert 693-0132

Village Clerk:

Michelle Hill 697-8100

Deputy Village Clerk:

Martha Orr 697-8100

E-Mail Address: vofr@bellsouth.net

Website: villageofflatrock.org

Zoning: zoning@villageofflatrock.org