

Haw Creek

Community Association Newsletter



Re-imagining Tunnel Road -- Corridor Plan Meeting Sept. 8th

With the advent of sidewalks on Tunnel Road, some residents have begun to consider how else we might improve the main corridor serving east Asheville. Others believe eventually the car dealers will depart thereby creating opportunities to reinvent the look and function of Tunnel Road east of I-240.

For the first time since east Tunnel Road was expanded to a five lanes in the 1970's, residents will have an opportunity to consider these questions at a Sept. 8th meeting of the East Asheville Sidewalk Initiative featuring Asheville Planning Director Judy Daniel. Beginning at 7pm in the East Asheville Community Center, next to the library, Ms. Daniel will discuss what a corridor plan is and how it might apply to Tunnel Road.

Neighborhoods united for this event include Haw Creek, Beverly Hills, Bull Mountain, Redwood Forest, and Parkway Forest. If you have ideas for how we might re-invent Tunnel Road or just curious about how citizens can get involved and make a difference, please join us for this stimulating meeting.

By Chris Pelly

Haw Creek presents 'Partner in Progress' award to NCDOT

In an April 28th ceremony the Haw Creek Community Association and Haw Creek Elementary School 4th grade honor student, Mackenzie Martin, presented Department Of Transportation (DOT) Officials Kenny Wilson and Jeff Moore a 'Partner in Progress' award in recognition of their on-going efforts to improve pedestrian safety in east Asheville.

As noted elsewhere in this newsletter, the DOT has stepped up its efforts to partner with the City of Asheville in completing long-needed segments of sidewalk on Tunnel Road. Having earlier met with concerned citizens, DOT staff have redoubled their efforts to help improve pedestrian safety on Tunnel Rd.

Department of Transportation to Extend Sidewalk to Oteen

More good news for Tunnel Road sidewalk efforts as officials from the N.C. Dept. of Transportation have announced they will fund and build sidewalk from the VA Hospital east to the Veterans Restoration Quarters in Oteen. This stretch of road, noted for its infamous 'goat trails,' is a particularly dangerous section for pedestrians.

The 'Sidewalks for Safety' march of May 2010 included many veterans who daily had to walk in or on Tunnel Road to reach the VA Hospital. This newly approved sidewalk will make this problem obsolete.

In an unexpected and pleasing move, the City of Asheville has approved plans to build 1,800 feet of sidewalk on Riceville Road between Tunnel Road and the Blue Ridge Parkway bridge.

By Chris Pelly

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MacKenzie Martin (Haw Creek Elementary School), Jeff Moore, former District Engineer NCDOT, and Kenney Wilson, Division Operating Engineer, NCDOT and Chris Pelly President HC Association

From the President of Haw Creek Association

Dear Neighbor,

Many of you have told me you are thrilled to watch the progress of sidewalk construction on Tunnel Road. Not only is it improving safe walking options on a busy corridor but equally important, a visible reminder that citizen action gets results. Our Sidewalks for Safety campaign of 2010 is producing on-the-ground improvements in 2011. Yes, we still need sidewalks on New Haw Creek Road but our campaign has proven what is possible when neighborhoods unite to work together.

Should it have taken a major citizen campaign to get results? No, the need for sidewalks has long been known at City Hall, it just wasn't a priority until we made it so. But, that's why our citizen involvement was so vital to our success.

With city council elections coming in the fall, and myself as a candidate, I hope you will #1, participate and vote and #2, remember who has been in Haw Creek's corner on issues large and small.

Thank you, Chris Pelly

Sincere appreciation

As a community, as Asheville residents and as Americans, we wish to acknowledge all our brave firefighters, police officers and all the community service personnel that keep us safe. Thank you all!
In memory of Capt Jeff Bowen



**HAW CREEK COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION
2011 BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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2011 Meeting Schedule.
Please join us ! Meet new friends and neighbors !

Thurs Oct 27th 7:00pm
at St Johns Church

St John's Church is on
290 Haw Creek Rd.

*Any of the above are
subject to changes.
Please check the website
to confirm dates.

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Annual Haw Creek BBQ

The Haw Creek Association once again, hosted a very successful BBQ dinner at Haw Creek Park under the pavilion.

It was a beautiful evening and gave us all an opportunity to share time with family, friends and neighbors.

The event was catered by Ruby's on Beverly Rd. The menu included their award winning pulled pork sandwiches, specialty beans, and cole slaw.



Along with the beautiful setting, we also had the pleasure of listening to the wonderful Haw Creek String Band



Haw Creek String Band

If you could not attend this year, than watch for this annual event next year.

You will not be disappointed !

By Jeanette Fortuna

Haw Creek Native Interview with: BARBER MELTON

As a child, Haw Creek native Barber Melton had the ideal summer job. She and her cousin Jean Cordell were paid by their grandfather to ride horses all day. Not just any horses but “bad” horses purchased cheaply at the stockyards on the French Broad River. “If not for my grandfather they were headed for the cannery. Our job was to retrain those wild horses so grandpa could resell them for profit. We didn’t know enough to be scared,” laughs Barber who, to this day, carries a special place in her heart for her equine friends.



Barbara with Prissy her Blue Roan about 1966

Haw Creek back then was country and Barber remembers oil being sprayed to keep the dust down on unpaved roads. “Millers Store is what I miss the most. They had everything, carried the best meat, and always greeted you by name. Grandma would order groceries and Jim Lindsey would deliver them.

“I couldn’t ask for a better childhood. I was a tomboy from day one. My mother liked to say I was liberated before they had a word for it,” shares Barber. “I was more like my father who had a devilish streak. He and my uncle were pilots and on quiet Sunday afternoons they would fly over Haw Creek at treetop level scaring all the animals and some people too. And daddy used to take me to the old Weaverville race track where I met Lee and Richard Petty.

Wife of Turk Melton, mother of three and grandmother of five, Barber enjoyed a 36-year career with Bell South. “It was a union job with good pay and benefits that helped give my family a middle class upbringing, I’m pro-union all the way.

Barber first got “political” in the 1980’s when apartments were approved next door to her home on Melton Drive. “Although we lost that fight we gained a sense of community and realized we need to work together. It taught me the importance of not just complaining but of getting involved. “I went to city meetings and learned about growth and development issues so much so I was later appointed chairwoman of the Planning and Zoning Commission. Still active today in the Coalition of Asheville Neighborhoods, Barber was an original founder of the Haw Creek Community Association over twenty five years ago.

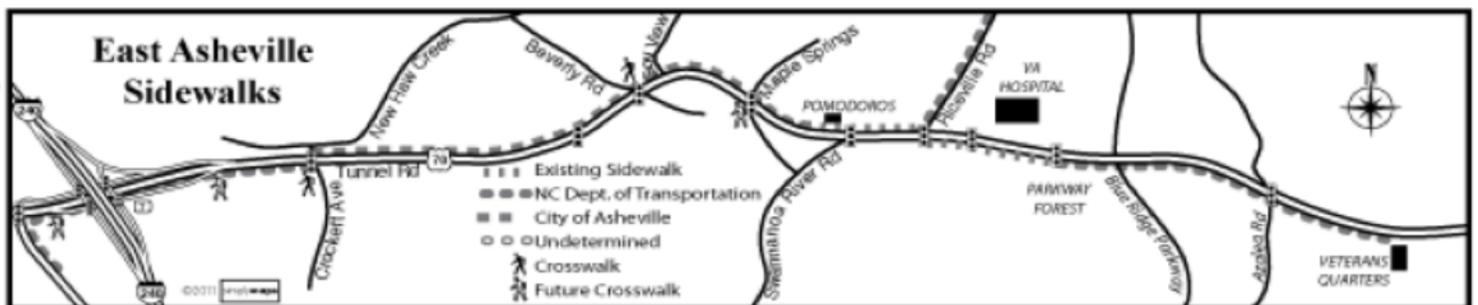
By Chris Pelly

Know a Haw Creek native with a story to tell? Call Chris Pelly at 231-3704

Sidewalks to extend to Oteen!

We are pleased to announce the NC Dept of Transportation has committed to place sidewalks to extend to Oteen. This will extend the Tunnel Road sidewalk improvement to from the VA Hospital and east to Oteen.

Please view map below.



The Haw Creek Community has spent a lot of time and dedication to place new sidewalks in the Haw Creek area. Let's all keep our new sidewalks looking great. Homeowners and tenants are responsible for maintenance.

Let's be proud that we live in Haw Creek, one of the best areas in Asheville.



Next Meeting
Thurs, Oct 27th at 7:00 pm
St John's Church
290 Old Haw Creek Rd

Community, School news and Upcoming Events

- Back to School Carnival at Bell Elementary

On Friday Sept 16th, 5pm - 8pm we will be hosting a carnival with inflatables, carnival games, bingo, karaoke, food and lots of fun for all ages. * Don't miss out on the raffle for a chance to win \$500 cash !

- Charles C. Bell Elementary School

Bell School welcomes a new principal this fall, Mrs. Klein!
Mrs. Klein moved from the Progressive Education Program of Buncombe County Schools.
Students and staff are all excited about her arrival and look forward to a great year.

- Haw Creek Elementary

Will be having a Fall Festival on Friday, Sept 30th from 4:30-7:30. They will have kid's karaoke, inflatable rides, face painting, game booths, mini putt-putt, hair spraying, and much more.

During the month of October, students at Haw Creek Elementary School will sell paper pumpkins in support of the Eblen Foundation.

Each pumpkin costs \$1 and will hang in the school hallway.

- The Eblen Foundation is a tireless supporter of public schools and the community so, if a student asks you to buy a pumpkin, please support this worthy cause.

Our Schools can use your help

Ingles Tools for Schools

- Don't forget to re-link your advantage card every fall for the area schools of your choice.

Box tops for Education

- Look for specially marked packaging, looks like a stamp, clip and give to your schools. Each box top earns the school 10 cents! Doesn't seem like much but it adds up real fast!