

Haw Creek

Community Association Newsletter

We Need Help

•Beth Jezek has most ably led the Memorial Day Children's Bike Parade these past several years. She is not able to this year and we need a go-getter to step in. If interested call Beth 299-0914 for more details.

•If you have computer skills and an artistic eye we are looking for someone to take on the role of newsletter editor. After many years of donating her skills Amy McCrea will be letting someone else take the reigns at the end of the year. If you are interested give Chris Pelly a call or email.

Haw Creek Association Annual Meeting January 27th

Please plan to join us for our annual meeting Thursday, January 27th at 7pm in St. John's Episcopal Church, 290 Old Haw Creek Rd. This year the meeting will be followed by a dessert social so plan to bring your specialty.

At the annual meeting we review progress and make plans. If you want to meet your neighbors, or have an idea for the community or just want to get more involved, the annual meeting is a good place to start.

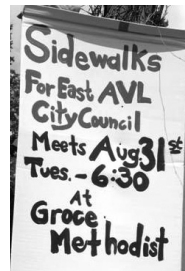
Sidewalks Campaign = Concrete Progress

With a snip from a pair of scissors by Mayor Bellamy, the first section of new sidewalk on Tunnel Road officially opened December 9. This culminates an important year of progress for East Asheville residents. What began last spring as an effort to shine a light on unmet pedestrian needs, quickly morphed into a full-fledged citizen campaign the likes of which never before seen in East Asheville.

Working in partnership with the East Asheville Sidewalk Initiative, the Haw Creek Community Assoc. participated in three major events that, taken together, created the political momentum that resulted in 1,200' of new sidewalk with more on the way.

First up was the April 19th East Asheville Sidewalk Summit at Bell Elementary. At this event, attended by 100 residents as well as city and state

transportation officials, the present-day reality of unsafe walking conditions was first expressed in a public forum. A month later, on May 22nd a cool Saturday morning, 228 residents marched two miles on Tunnel Road to dramatize the need for sidewalks along this busy roadway. And later still on August 31st, 450 residents came out when Asheville City Council met in Groce Church to hear first-hand about pedestrian needs in East Asheville.



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To its credit, Asheville City Council and the Transportation Department, under the leadership of Ken Putnam, have worked hard to respond in a positive fashion to the needs expressed during this campaign. In fact, Putnam has pledged that sidewalk construction along Tunnel Road will continue in 2011 with sidewalk to be extended this year west from the library all the way to the main Haw Creek entrance near I-240.

Your community association is committed to continuing to advocate for sidewalks on three major roadways; Tunnel Road all the way to Oteen, to better serve our veterans; New Haw Creek Road to the Sondley entrance and; Swannanoa River Road between South Tunnel Rd and east Tunnel Rd.

The newly built sidewalk is an important start but challenging sections remain to be completed. On Tunnel Road this includes east from Groce Church to the Ingles and from the VA Hospital to the Veterans Quarters in Oteen. Because Tunnel Road is a state-maintained road, we will be looking to the NCDOT to play a greater role in meeting this challenge.

-- Chris Pelly



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Special thank artist David Cohen and the AC-T for allowing us to use this cartoon.

From The President

Dear Neighbors,

2010 was an exciting and productive year in advancing the needs of Haw Creek and east Asheville. As reported elsewhere in this newsletter, real progress has been made in addressing unmet pedestrian needs. This demonstrates what is possible when citizens organize and work together under the banner of our community association.

As an all-volunteer outfit, we always need new faces and new supporters. Certainly we need your financial support but we also need your personal talents. Whether you be an artist, computer whiz, graphics specialist or just a people person, we can probably find a place for you. Think about joining in and becoming part of the association making a difference in Haw Creek. Call me if you'd like to talk it over.

Thank you,

Chris Pelly,
President
Haw Creek Community Association

Evergreen Students to Test Water Quality

The 8th Grade students at Evergreen Community Charter School will be embarking on a project this winter to study the status of water quality in the Haw Creek Valley. Partnering with RiverLink, the students will be completing chemical water quality tests on small streams in the Haw Creek Valley, as well as Haw Creek itself in several locations.

The students will be monitoring Temperature, pH, Turbidity, Phosphates, and Nitrates in Haw Creek, hopefully identifying ways in which we can improve water quality. RiverLink will be providing support in testing, stream location, and best practices to improve water quality. Look for a report on the students' findings in the Spring Haw Creek Community Association newsletter.

If you have questions or would like to help in this project, please contact Lead Science Teacher (and Haw Creek Community Association member) Stuart Miles at stuart.miles@evergreencs.org.



Haw Creek Community Association 2010 Board of Directors

President	Chris Pelly	95 Cisco Road	231-3704	cpelly@buncombe.main.nc.us
Vice President	Beth Jezek	62 Cisco Road	299-0914	pastacook@att.net
Treasurer	Vickie Gaddy	440 Governors View Road	275-2680	vjones@charter.net
Co-Treasurer	Calvin Underwood	7 Munn Dr	230-6317	calvin.underwood@charter.net
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Park Liaison	Dick Meehan	48 Alpine Way	299-0442	rhm2@att.net
	Alex Babak	450 New Haw Creek Rd	280-7255	abironworks@yahoo.com

MEMBERSHIP: Membership in the Association shall be available to residents, as well as property owners, in the Haw Creek community and there shall be one class of membership.

DUES: Twelve dollars (\$12) paid once annually in January. Make your check to HCCA and mail to: HCCA; P.O. Box 9193; Asheville, NC 28815

Please include: member names, postal address, phone number, and e-mail address.

Visit our website at www.hawcreekn.org.

2010-II Meeting Schedule

Thurs, January 27th, 7:00pm
St Johns Church

Thurs, April 28th, 7:00pm
St Johns Church

Thurs, July/Aug
Annual Bar-B-Que date to come

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

*Any or all of the above are subject to change at any time. Please check calendar with each issue for any changes or check the website.

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SCHOOL NEWS

Ways anyone can help support area schools.

- Box Topes For Education
- Target Red Card
- Ingles Advantage Card, *Remember to reactivate annually!*
- Coke tops
- Campbell Soup labels
- Dine out at area restaurants on school spirit nights

Changes to the Buncombe County School Calendar - Effective 1-12-2011

Jan 3 - REGULAR DAY
 Jan 14 - REGULAR DAY
 Jan 24 - NO SCHOOL except for N. Buncombe and Owen Districts which will have a REGULAR DAY
 Feb 14 - REGULAR DAY
 Mar 3 - REGULAR DAY
 June 6 - REGULAR DAY
 June 7 - REGULAR DAY

Charles C. Bell Elementary

-The school is proud to announce that smart boards have been installed in all 1-3rd grade class rooms. The SMART Board is an interactive, electronic whiteboard which can enhance instruction and learning. Teachers and students are excited about this technology that was made possible by Title I School Funds.

Evergreen Community Charter School

Evergreen Receives Award for Exceptional Environmental Education

-On Thursday, October 28, Evergreen Community Charter School became the first-ever recipient of the 2010 Exceptional Environmental Education Center award, given by the Environmental Educators of North Carolina (EENC). Evergreen was selected because of its commitment to creating an environmentally literate student body and encouraging its students to educate the general public about important environmental issues.

Haw Creek Native:

Interview with Clara Webb Cooper

By Chris Pelly

Raised in a log home at 209 Old Haw Creek Rd, Clara Cooper remembers snow and cold blowing in through the cracks. "Daddy had enough of the cold and bricked up the house to where today, the walls are about 15" thick," she chuckles. "Later my husband and I built a house around the corner on Dillingham Road in which we raised our family."



Clara's Dad outside their home on Old Haw Creek Rd, about 1959.

As a child Clara practiced being a teacher to the cows on the neighboring Roberson Farm, today the site of Hawthorne Villages. "The farm had a big 2-story farmhouse and they used to grow the sweetest apples from a tree near the springhouse." "In the back of the property was a pond in which daddy taught me to swim," she laughs, "He would tie a rope around my waist and send me in."



Clara Webb Cooper, 2010

An early childhood memory was when President Roosevelt came to Asheville and McCormick Field in 1935 for the ground breaking of the Blue Ridge Parkway. "He waved to me as his car past close by." Clara also has fond memories of her time at Haw Creek School where her best friend was Julia Brown Clark and favorite teacher was Mary Nesbitt, aunt of current State Senator Martin Nesbitt.

Bethesda Church has been a part of Clara all her life. "As a child, I remember daddy pulling us to church on sleds in the snow Sunday morning. Later, I met my husband Jim at Bethesda in 1954...he was



Clara's twin boys about 1964 outside their house on Dillingham, Roberson House in the background.

Sunday school superintendent and I sang in the choir when he proposed to me in the front row of church." Married in 1955, Clara and Jim enjoyed 50 years and four children together.



Clara's prom picture from 1950, Old Haw Creek Rd in the background.

Why is Haw Creek important to you? "It's home for me. Family, church and friends have defined my life and all can be found in Haw Creek."

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

Take A Walk On The Wild Side At Haw Creek Elementary

Did you know that Haw Creek Elementary has an incredible Nature Trail? Constructed in 1977, the trail is 6/10 of a mile and was designed as an integral part of the school's 29 acres. In 2008, Haw Creek was certified by the National Wildlife Federation as a wildlife habitat. This shows our continued effort to protect and sustain our green spaces. Recent renovations have encouraged teachers to use the trail for their courses of study (climate, erosion, habitat, and ecosystems) and for exercise.

Haw Creek families are welcome to enjoy the Trail, as well. If the gates are closed, you may park and walk. While on the trail, you will find things to explore: numbered markers, birdhouses, thermometers, native trees and plants. Please stop and review the maps located at the starting and ending kiosks. Remember to follow trail etiquette: stay on the path and do not eat any vegetation. A reference guide for the Nature Trail and maps are available upon request. Contact the PTA Outdoor Committee for further information: Lori Cole (colelori@bellsouth.net) and Addison Martin (armartin@charter.net).

Haw Creek Community Association
PO Box 9193
Asheville NC 28815



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Meeting

Thurs, Jan. 27th, 7pm

Location: St Johns Church



Vandalism Update

This past November nearly \$10,000 worth of damage was done to the restrooms at Haw Creek Park on Avon Rd. The damage included: broken windows, removed and damaged sinks, toilets and other bathroom fixtures, damaged outside utility meters, and damaged light fixtures. At this point, only the roof has been repaired. The power and water to the building have been turned off. Parks and Rec is currently obtaining bids to complete the other repairs.

To date there have been no leads and no arrests. The police hope that eventually someone who knows those involved will talk about it to someone. Typically, this type vandalism is done by those living nearby. Keep your ears open and if you learn anything please pass it along to the Brien Griffin, APD Resource Officer serving east Asheville. Brien can be reached at 552-1467 or bgriffin@Ashevillenc.gov.

Haw Creek Membership --Can we count you in?

Your community association exists to advance the needs and concerns of Haw Creek residents. In 2010 we worked to bring more sidewalks to east Asheville. While we have had some success, more work remains. And, in this time of limited resources we need more than ever to stay organized, vigilant and ready to advocate for our community. Please join HCCA and help us continue this work.

Being all volunteer, we run on a lean budget. For 2011 it is \$4,500, with most of that going to print and mail costs associated with the newsletter. We mail the newsletter to 2,900 households in Haw Creek four times a year.

Even though not everyone contributes \$12 a year towards membership, we believe everyone should receive the newsletter. This in order to strengthen the bonds of community. To help us continue we need you, if you are able, to join or renew your membership in the Haw Creek Community Association. This by mailing your check to P O Box 9193, Asheville 28815 or by visiting our website (www.hawcreeknc.org) and donating on PayPal.

Some generous neighbors even contribute more than the \$12 for dues. Last year 82 families added donations to their membership payment. And of course, as a IRS-certified non-profit, all dues and donations are tax deductible.

Thank you,
Your HCCA board of directors