



# The Village Current

An e-Newsletter of the  
Blowing Rock Chamber of Commerce

The mission of the Blowing Rock Chamber of Commerce, through the efforts of our membership, shall be to contribute to the cultural, social and economic development, growth and sustainability of Blowing Rock while preserving the charm and character of the village.



## Auctions Return!

A summer tradition has returned to Blowing Rock. Summer auctions will be held at the American Legion on July 13 and August 10. The Auction on June 15 was popular, although there are some up-beat changes to the formula. "We are allowing more time between auctions than originally planned in order to gather items from our area," said a representative. "Buyers love to hear the stories behind the items for sale, or know something about where it came from. It makes the auction so much more special." Following the success of the June 15 auction, the Great State Auction Company and the Blowing Rock Chamber of Commerce have also introduced reserve prices for the owners. To place items on re-



The crowd waits for the auction to begin Tuesday night.

serve, owners will pay a \$50 fee or 10% of the highest bid if the item does not meet the reserve, whichever is less. However, owners will also be able to specify a minimum price that must be met before the item is sold. If you have something you would like to auction, this option insures that you will not lose the item to an extremely low

bid. If you would like to get involved, antiques of all kinds, collectibles, glassware, pottery, silver, paintings, jewelry, furniture, etc. are being accepted for auction. Bring your buried treasures to the American Legion Hall between 4:00 and 6:00 PM the day of the auction to be registered with the auction company. To pre-register items email a picture of the items to the Great State Auction Company at [great-state@wilkes.net](mailto:great-state@wilkes.net) or call 336-667-9265 or call Ms. Miller at 828-295-9928. The Great State Auction Company with auctioneer Randall Woodruff and staff will set up the items for the preview and will begin calling the bids at 7:00 PM. (Great State Auction Company NCAFL #5058 Randall Woodruff Broker #33312 NCAL #6868). The

seller pays 30% on items less than \$50, 20% on items \$50.01 or more, and 15% on items \$100 or more to the auction company. Auction will take place on July 13 and August 10 at the American Legion in Blowing Rock. For more information, call the Blowing Rock Chamber of Commerce at 828-295-7851.

**ALERT! ALERT! ALERT!**  
**BLOWING ROCK AUCTIONS — TUESDAY NIGHTS LIVE!!!!**  
Turn your Treasures into CASH for YOU!  
NOW LOOKING for CONSIGNMENT ITEMS: Jewelry, collectables, etc.  
For JULY 13, 2010 Auction  
Information [greatstateauction.com](http://greatstateauction.com) (ASAP)  
Randall Woodruff or  
BR Chamber Representative Ms Miller [suzieline@bellsouth.net](mailto:suzieline@bellsouth.net)  
We need 160 items so do not be bashful. Give us a ring!  
**Thank you**

Volume 5, Issue 11

Friday,  
June 18, 2010  
UPDATED

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### Calendar of Events

- Sunday, June 20, Concert in the Park, Grandfather Mountain Highland Pipe band, Memorial Park, 4pm
- Tuesday, June 29, Blowing Rock Auctions, American Legion, Auction begins at 7pm
- Sunday, July 4, Independence Day
- Saturday, July 17, Art in the Park, American Legion Grounds, 10 am—5 pm
- Friday, July 23, Symphony by the Lake at Chetola, gates open at 5:30 pm

**Member of the Month:  
Emily Angle Photography**



*Emily Angle Photography is our Member of the Month for June.*

Emily Angle Photography is a full service photography studio offering wedding photography, classic studio portraiture, location portraiture, commercial and fine art photography. Emily has been in the High Country for nearly 9 years since her husband, local attorney Rob Angle, relocated the family to the area from Greensboro, NC. Emily has been a professional for over 20 years since graduating from Indiana University with a minor emphasis in photojournalism and is an active member of Professional Photographers of NC (PPNC). She operates her studio in the lower level of her Blowing Rock home and she can be

reached at 828-263-8850. Emily has been studying digital portrait painting for over 3 years with some of the premier portrait artists in the country and she recently took top honors at the Southeastern Professional Photographers of America annual competition with a first place in "Women" with her painted image called "Reflective Moment" and first in North Carolina with a painted Italian landscape in the Scenic/Fine Art division. Both images have been selected to be a part of a traveling loan collection from the Professional Photographers of America. Transforming my photographs into original paintings is both relaxing

and challenging for me and has opened a new avenue for expression," Angle stated. Emily offers unique commissioned paintings of your home, pets, children, grandchildren or even the view from your deck. She can also paint from your own photo. "I find that people love to have paintings of their beloved pets and since I am an animal lover this is one of my favorite things to paint/photograph. My husband loves our view of the wonderful mountains here so I surprised him with a painting of our view for his downtown office." For more information on Angle's photography or painted artwork visit: [www.anglephotography.com](http://www.anglephotography.com).

**Firefighters' Burned Children Fund Receives Contribution  
from Blue Ridge Wine and Food Festival**

The Fire Fighter Burned Children's Fund accepted a donation of \$1100 from the Blue Ridge Wine and Food Festival last Wednesday. Proceeds for the donation were raised by sales of Chef's Table seats at the Fire on the Rock Chef Challenge. Heather Landis of Blowing Rock Fire & Rescue accepted the donation on behalf of the Firefighters' Burned Children Fund. The Firefighters' Burned Children Fund assists burn victims and supports burn prevention efforts. This

donation will remain with the Watauga County Chapter of FBCF to help children and families in Watauga County. The FBCF raises much of its money through can recycling. According to Landis, the FBCF operates two can recycling collection centers, one at K-Mart in Boone and one at the Deep Gap Fire Department. The collection of cans is currently yielding a monthly income for the Fund. "In fact, we are hoping to use this donation to purchase a third recycling collection container, which will boost those funds" said

Landis. The Fire Fighter Burned Children's Fund's recycling center accepts aluminum cans (please do not include your "tin" cans). If you would like to help the Fund, please recycle your aluminum cans by placing them in one of the recycling collection centers.



**We are looking for Committee Members for the Blue Ridge Heritage Days Festival.**  
If you are interested in serving, call Stephanie at 295-7851.



### *A Message From the Fire Marshal, Aaron Miller*

Summer is in full swing. I know that each and every one of you are working hard to make sure that the visitors to Blowing Rock have a safe and enjoyable experience while visiting our Town. The staff, here at Blowing Rock Fire and Rescue share your goals. We too are working hard to ensure that our visitors have a pleasant experience and are able to feel safe and secure in our businesses, hotels and restaurants. To accomplish these goals and to comply with State law, the fire prevention division of Blowing Rock Fire and Rescue is tasked with performing fire inspections within our Town.

By now, I hope everyone knows the number one cause of home fires is cooking, especially unattended cooking. But do you know the primary causes of fires in commercial occupancies? One of those is the misuse of extension cords and electrical appliances. I know what you're thinking. Here goes the Fire Marshal again complaining about my extension cord. But the fact of the matter is that firefighters know that the misuse of extension cords cause fires! And not just extension cords but other electrical appliances. The North Carolina Fire Prevention Code sets the guidelines that we must follow to keep our businesses safe. Below is a list of electrical violations frequently found in Blowing Rock businesses:

- Multi-plug adapters, such as cube adapters and un-fused plug strips, are prohibited.
- Extension cords may not be used as a substitute for permanent wiring
- Extension cords may not be affixed to structures
- Extension cords may not be extended through walls, ceilings, floors or under floor coverings
- Extension cords should only be used temporarily and with portable appliances
- Open junction boxes and open wiring splices are prohibited.

Those violations can be corrected or prevented by following a few simple tips:

- Choose power strips with fuses, breakers or other overload protection instead of extension cords and cube adapters
- Remember to keep all covers on electrical panels and junction boxes
- Always use a licensed electrician to install new wiring or the repair existing wiring

Fire prevention is everyone's responsibility. Together we can build a safer community and attract visitors for many years to come.

Aaron Miller  
Fire Marshal



*This is not a scene you want outside your business. Take a moment to review this letter from the Fire Marshall.*

## Travel Outlook Promising for 2010

*From the VisitNC Newsletter*

Though there are still risks to recovery, there are also more reasons for optimism, according to the U.S. Travel Association in the June edition of the U.S. Travel Outlook. Leisure travel is predicted to see modest growth (+2.3 percent) domestically during the 2010 summer season, and more frequent travel is also forecasted (2.1 trips vs. 1.9 trips in the summer of 2009). Business travel is expected to rise 4.4 percent. Total travel expenditures in the U.S. should be close to \$748 billion in 2010. Consumer confidence improved in April from 2009 to 2010, and the perceived "money available for travel" increased significantly according to the most recent travel-horizons™ data, a quarterly survey conducted by the U.S. Travel Association and YPartnership. While consumers now appear to be more confident in having money and time to travel, the "perceived affordability of travel" decreased from April 2009 to 2010, indicating that consumers are aware of increased fares and rates by many travel service providers in the last few months. U.S. Travel warns that travelers remain very price conscious overall, and that companies and destinations should continue to be aggressive and competitive in marketing their travel offers.

In addition to the U.S. Travel forecasts, other groups such as AAA and Gallup are also forecasting optimistic views of the upcoming summer sea-

son. These organizations report a large number of Americans plan to travel this summer and spend more while traveling than they did last summer. A recent American Express survey found that family trips remain very popular (52 percent), as well as couple trips (26 percent), and girlfriend getaways (10 percent). Airline travel is also expected to pick back up this summer after declining the last two years. Smith Travel Research (STR) reports that April 2010 posted mixed results. Demand increased over 7 percent nationally, but room rates have yet to improve. The most recent North Carolina lodging report can be found at

[www.nccommerce.com/tourism/research](http://www.nccommerce.com/tourism/research). STR forecasts a good demand scenario for this summer (+4.4 percent), though it notes room rate growth remains a problem. They predict that the summer will end with a flat RevPAR growth, occupancy up 2.2 percent and ADR down 1.9 percent. Likewise, PricewaterhouseCoopers predicts continued recovery of demand and occupancy in 2010, with increased room rates holding off until 2011. Another bit of good news is that fuel prices have de-

creased and are expected to continue to fall. As of May 11, the U.S. Energy Information Administration forecasted that gasoline prices would average \$2.94 per gallon this summer's driving season, up from last year, but down drastically from the 2008 summer season. According to the Office of Travel and Tourism Industries (OTTI), 3.5 million international visitors traveled to the U.S. in February 2010, an increase of 22 percent from February 2009. The organization predicts that overseas arrivals will rise 6 percent in 2010 and 5 percent in 2011. For more information on the most recent U.S. Travel Outlook, visit [http://www.ustravel.org/sites/default/files/page/2009/09/June\\_public.htm#Cook](http://www.ustravel.org/sites/default/files/page/2009/09/June_public.htm#Cook).



*The current travel indicators are up... good news for Blowing Rock Chamber members.*

You are invited to attend  
the  
**Economic Outlook Breakfast**  
sponsored by  
United Community Bank

Thursday, July 1st  
8:00 a.m. until 9:30 a.m.  
Blowing Rock Country Club

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featured speaker  
**Dr. Harry Davis**  
Professor of Finance at ASU  
and  
Economist for NC Bankers Association

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R.s.v.p. by June 21st  
lindsey\_tester@uchb.com  
828-295-5354



**The Blowing Rock  
Chamber of Commerce**

*The Blowing Rock Chamber of Commerce  
2010 Board of Directors*

Contact the Chamber:

7738 Valley Blvd Phone: 828-295-7851  
PO Box 406 Fax: 828-295-4643  
Blowing Rock, NC 28605 E-mail: info@blowingrock.com

**Keep Up with the Latest on Issues that Effect  
Your Business.**

**Links to help you Stay in The Know**

[US Chamber of Commerce](#)

[NC Chamber of Commerce](#)

[United States Senate](#)

[United States House of Representatives](#)

*North Carolina General Assembly :*

[Senate](#)

[House of Representatives](#)

**E-Mail Your Elected Officials:**

U.S. Rep. Virginia Foxx – 202-225-2071 - [Web Email](#)

State Sen. Steve Goss – 919-733-5742 – [steveg@ncleg.net](#)

State Rep. Cullie Tarleton – 919-733-7727 – [culliet@ncleg.net](#)

**Officers**

**Nancy Santay, President**

*Cabin Fever*

**Margaret Holder, Vice President**

*Chetola Resort*

**Rita Davis, Past President**

*Wachovia Bank*

**Linda Gilleland, Secretary**

*Greystone Insurance*

**Deborah McDowell, Treasurer**

*Mountaineer Inn*

**Members of the Board**

**John Aldridge**

*Individual Representative*

**Tim Miller**

*Blowing Rock Frameworks & Gallery*

**Betsy Collins**

*Individual Representative*

**Joellyn Gibbons**

*Individual Representative*

**Don Hubble**

*Individual Representative*

**J. B. Lawrence**

*United Community Bank*

**Cathy Robbins**

*Tweetsie Railroad*

**Doug Pegram**

*Village Real Estate*

**Cindy Milner**

*Bistro Roca*

**Dick Goosman**

*Meadowbrook Inn*

**Christopher Brantley**

*Christopher's Wine & Cheese*

**Julie Robertson**

*The Last Straw*

**Genie Starnes**

*Individual Representative*

**Cathy Williamson**

*Kilwin's Chocolates & Ice Cream*

**Steven Price**

*Westglow*

**&**

**Jerry Burns, In Memory**

*Individual Representative*



Say Cheese. If you have photos you'd like to share, please send them to [Stephanie@blowingrock.com](mailto:Stephanie@blowingrock.com).

We're especially looking for photos from our Business Members in their Businesses!

**This Week in Photos**



*Scenes from Concierge 101!*



*Scenes from Business After Hours at Christopher's Wine &*

