

The change of the angle of the light in the sky, and bright blue sky and the crisp coolness in the air heralds that Winter is here in the Blue Ridge Mountains. The bare trees open up a whole new world, offering a new perspective in the topography and beauty that we have in the Tri-State area of Western North Carolina, North Georgia and Southeastern Tennessee. Mountains can be seen in every direction as a window to another world is opened up, allowing us to see the stunning vistas and views that normally are hidden and shrouded in green. Winter is absolutely the best time to look for property here in the Blue Ridge area, in my humble opinion. Why you ask? Only in Winter can you see everything around you. What may be hidden in the rest of the seasons with the leaves on the trees now is out and in the open for optimum viewing of your surroundings. You would be surprised what leaves can conceal and how different things can look when the leaves are on the trees in regards to your surroundings. Pricing is also typically better for buyers in the Winter in the Blue Ridge mountains. Marry this with low rates and it is the perfect climate for buyers to get the best deals that I have seen in the 10 years I have been selling real estate. This year, the market is already off to a good start as rates and low prices continue to give buyers the advantage that they have not had before in other markets. Now is the time to buy. If you are on the fence, I encourage you to come to the mountains this Winter and see for yourself the great buys we have on cabins and land in the Tri-State area. While you're here, come and visit one of our four historic downtowns in the mountains located in Murphy, NC, Blue Ridge, GA, McCaysville, GA and Copperhill, TN. Here are my featured picks for Bar/Restaurant, Artist, humanitarian and shop for the Winter 2012 edition of Just Blue. Enjoy!



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Humanitarian of the month

Feed Fannin was born on a cold day in February, 2009, when Barbara Ferer called a group of people together. Concerned that people in Fannin County were hungry, she proposed that a group of volunteers would grow a community garden while encouraging the community toward self-sufficiency.

The idea took hold, and now, three years later, Feed Fannin's motto, "One Community, One Spirit" has guided them well. Last year, they sponsored seven community gardens (three of which are at local churches), offered gardening classes in conjunction with the UGA Extension Office and local businesses, and helped "Snack in a Backpack" get on its feet. With over

7,000 pounds of produce delivered to the food bank from the gardens, and \$20,000 worth of food items collected in the Feed Fannin boxes placed in local grocery stores, the members of Feed Fannin are not slowing down.

What can you do to help? You can join this lively and committed group at 10:00 a.m. the second Tuesday and fourth Thursday of each month at Family Connection. There are several teams from which to choose if gardening is not "your thing." You can also make a donation to Feed Fannin's Tractor Drive by sending a tax-deductible gift to Feed Fannin, P.O. Box 1085, Blue Ridge, GA 30513. Together, we can make a difference!

Restaurant of the Month

Proprietor Terry Lee Wilson's dream was to own a bar with live entertainment. Never did he dream that it would become a reality in Blue Ridge. Since its' opening in June of 2010, Whistle Stop, the first bar in downtown Blue Ridge has been extremely successful. Recently doubling their space, they added a stage with a sound booth for live music venues; the Whistle Stop is on the right track to becoming a downtown favorite.

The relaxed atmosphere during week turns into a high energy scene on most weekend nights. You can catch live performances by up and coming artists like Nick Cowan and old favorites such as Ken Mellons. Or, perhaps a local favorite, or maybe, if you're lucky, Terry Brock, the lead singer from the popular rock band Kansas.

A pit stop can turn into an impromptu show worthy of the Hard Rock in any big city. Blue Ridge also gets a treat when local Tim Passmore, Travis Tritt's fiddle player, gets in the mood to fiddle around. Offering up great bar food favorites like fried mushrooms, fried green tomatoes, fried pickles and my favorite, the Whistle Stop Burger. The Whistle Stop Grill is sure to please all on board.



Next stop: We are adding steaks and seafood to our menu for the dinner crowd as well as some low-fat menu options (coming soon) for the lunching ladies. Come on down to the Whistle Stop, located track side on Roberts Way in downtown Blue Ridge.

Tuesday night is karaoke, Wednesday night for ½ price wings and open mike night, Thursday night for trivia, and live music most weekends. Open 11 am to midnight, every day but Sunday.

SHOP OF THE MONTH

Come see what all the fuss is about at Posh on Main, located in the eclectic downtown area of Blue Ridge, Georgia. Posh has a flair for filling their boutique with a unique blend of items that are elegant, funky, and above all, FUN! Your welcome to the shop begins with the slogan, "Spoil Your Soul", which graces the entrance doors, and that sums up what the owners, Matt Garrett and Millie Hughes, have in store. The rustic, modern design was lovingly created by Matt and Millie.

Each guest is welcomed with a delightful greeting; many leave as friends. Posh is definitely not a run of the mill Boutique. Matt and Millie are dedicated to bringing unique couture, fanciful accessories



and a wonderful selection of gifts to their shop. Many of the fun items are handmade by local artists, or constructed by craftsmen from all over the globe. The owners of Posh take pride in being globally conscious; they buy from countries that are part of the free-trade community. In some cases, these countries give back to the local women and children through education or through providing much needed health care.

Customers invariably find so many wonderful items to chose from that deciding which ones to buy isn't easy. With the amazing prices offered, don't be shy; go ahead and "Spoil Your Soul".

The feel of this vibrant boutique is funky, yet fun, meets lavish! On your next visit to downtown Blue Ridge, we know that you will delight in both the shop and the wonderful items you find at Posh on Main. They are located on Main Street in Historic Downtown Blue Ridge.

ARTIST OF THE MONTH

Marie Hunter, an artist, has recently relocated to the Blue Ridge mountains from Woodstock, Georgia with the intention of establishing a lifestyle that promotes her creativity. Taking up residence in Copperhill, Tennessee, Marie is in the process of establishing a related business with her sister. Marie, a multi-faceted, talented artist, is a welcome addition to the area.

In conjunction with being a licensed massage therapist, Marie's artistic talents include sewing, quilting, painting, drawing, and jewelry making, her primary focus for the past few years. With much of her interests in nature and the outdoors, her jewelry feeds her love of geology, as well as her love of color.

"As the artist behind these pieces, I value personal expression through color. I devote much time and energy into the balance, quality, and enjoyment of working with pieces of natural beauty. I find great peace in making these treasures for others, and myself, to enjoy. I have a love for geology and for all that the earth gives. Each piece is made with this love, for each customer to love."

Using gemstones, sterling silver, copper and occasionally glass, each piece is handmade, one of a kind—just like each customer. Special orders for bridal jewelry, gifts, and other requests for re-purposing/recycling old jewelry can also be accommodated. Marie will be happy to arrange a private jewelry party with your family and friends with as well.

Marie can be contacted by phone at 678-699-7705, or by email at krzpatches@yahoo.com. With a business location currently in the works, some of her pieces can be found at Posh in Blue Ridge and at the Four Seasons Boutique in McCaysville. Her business is scheduled to open for business in Copperhill in the near future.











377 FIGHTINGTOWN CREEK \$399,900

Breathtakingly Picturesque & Simply Serene! Creek Front Builder's Cabin with 250+/- Ft of Frontage on 50 Ft Wide Fightingtown Creek. Listen to the Rapids down below from any level! Trout fish, Kayak or Swim in the old Swimming Hole all from your Backyard Oasis. Immaculate, Open Floorplan. Grand Floor to Cathedral Ceiling Stacked Stone Wood Burning Fireplace Graces Great Room. 2 Huge Decks for Entertaining with Private Deck off Master, Wrap around on Main. Kitchen has Granite, Black Appliances. Full Finished Basement has Rocked Gas Fireplace, Wet Bar with wine chiller and refrigerator. Outside has Vineyard, Huge Garden Area, Fire Pit, Horseshoe Pit, Path to Creek, 2.5 Garage-Workshop with addtional parking for Boat & RV. 7K Bose Home Theatre & Music System.

57 WATSON GAP ROAD \$279,000

Stunning Timber Framed Custom Chalet with Fantastic Sunset & Mountain Views. Immaculate & Fully Furnished. Gated with no restrictions. Surrounded by Hardwoods — Completely Private. Backs up to approximately 100 acres of Horse Farm. Features: Cathedral Ceilings with Open Floorplan. Kitchen has Black Granite, Stainless Appliancess, Wine Cooler, Bar and Seperate Dining Area. Wood Burning, Floor to Ceiling Stone Fireplace. Master Suite on Main has Garden Tub, Tiled Shower. Walk-in Closets, Double Vanities. Full Finished Daylight Basement. Spacious Decks on two levels with ceiling fans. ADT Security System, Surround Sound inside & outside. Ample Parking. Paved Roads all the way to Door, Central Location 20 minutes to Blue Ridge GA, Copperhill & Murphy NC.









115 Mountain High Drive \$329.000

3 beds, 3 baths with long range mountain views facing west for sunsets in Mineral Bluff, GA. Drama and Beauty with this Stunning Custom Log Chalet! Amenities: Gated, Paved Roads, Underground Utilities, Fishing Pond, Hiking Trails with access into USFS & centrally located to 4 Historic Downtowns: Blue Ridge, GA, McCaysville, GA, Copperhill, TN and Murphy, NC. Spacious at 2,800 Sq. Ft. Open Floorplan, Master on Main, Master Suite with Jacuzzi Tub. Baths have Double Vanities and Tiled Showers. Spacious Entertainer's Kitchen with all Black Appliances. Cathedral Beamed Ceilings, Dramatic Floor to Ceiling Stacked Stone Fireplace and Fixed Glass Windows Facing Mountains & Sunset Views. Huge Open Loft, 3 Levels of Decks, Finished Daylight Basement with Game Room. Fantastic Rental History!

100 LAKEVIEW DRIVE \$299,000

3 beds, 3 baths with Lake Frontage and Privacy surrounded by Cherokee National Forest and Mountains in Turtletown, TN. Lovely Lakefront Home on Beautiful Campbell Cove Lake. Stunning Lake, USFS and Mountain Views! Lake Levels Constant. End of Road lake Lake Privacy. 2± Acres, Wooded, Peaceful and Quiet. Gentle Walk All the Way to Waters edge. Garden, Decks Overlook Lake and Mountains. Sit on the Porch Swing or Fish from your Private Dock. Swim, Kayak, Sail, Canoe in the Clean Water 90± Acre Boatable Lake is Spring fed and has Bass, Crappie, Brim, Trout and Catfish. Centrally Located to Murphy and McCaysville Copperhill. 20 minutes to Blue Ridge. Completely Remodeled 2009 with New Wood Floors, Metal Roof, New Kitchen Cabinets, Landscaping, Back Porch and Stairs, Basement Finished, Master Bed and Bath Remodeled. New Dock. Garage