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Dr. Michelle F. Ireland

310 Gilmer Ferry Road, Suite 200 Ball Ground, GA 30107

(678) 845-0366

www.IrelandDentistry.com

About DR. MICHELLE F. IRELAND



For over 20 years, Dr. Michelle F. Ireland has perfected the smiles of thousands of patients. Dr. Ireland graduated with her Doctorate of Medicine in Dentistry (D.M.D.) from the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) in 1994 and became licensed to practice as a general dentist. Upon graduation, she completed additional educational requirements and specialized training at the UAB School of Dentistry to become a prosthodontist.

Dr. Ireland has served as a professor at UAB School of Dentistry in the Department of Prosthodontics, where she enjoyed teaching crown and bridge prosthodontics and removable prosthodontics with an emphasis on esthetics, occlusion, and implant restoration.

Over the years, Dr. Ireland has counseled former students, general dentists and their patients, and continues to receive extensive training in the field of dentistry and prosthodontics. Dr. Ireland has a built a reputation as a caring, compassionate, and competent dental practitioner. Her additional expertise is a blessing and is evident in the way patients are accepting of her recommendations.



Splash Into Summer at Bent Tree Pools

By Jim Pryor, General Manager

While summer officially starts in June, in Georgia, it sure feels like summer starts in May. Everything is green, the temps jump into the 80/90's, the kids get out of school and all this signals the official opening of pool season.

Bent Tree offers 2 swimming pools for residents and guests located about 100 yards from each other in the Club Tamarack area of the community.

The Upper Pool is the larger pool that features a shallow end, deep end with diving board, and standard length for lap swim. This pool has a larger deck area and has its own pool house with restrooms and a concession area. The Upper Pool has always been considered the "family pool", ideal for kids because of the size, games, and diving board. We are excited this year to be adding a new diving board (replacing the old one), new umbrellas at the tables, and will be operating concessions on weekends featuring simple foods like hamburgers, hot dogs, drinks and ice cream.

The Lower Pool is a clover shaped pool with a much smaller deck area. The deck area does feature furniture and umbrellas. The lower level of Club Tamarack serves as the support facility for restrooms. The Lower pool is considered to be a "quieter, relaxing, and leisurely" atmosphere.

For 2025, the Bent Tree pools will officially open on May 23rd. The general community use time for the pools is 10am-8pm. In time for summer, BTAC will be offering their summer water aerobic class which takes place on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 9-10am, along with designated times for lap swim at the Upper Pool. The end of the pool season will be on September 6th.

2024 was an awesome pool season. The big change last year is that we converted from a private contracted pool company to operating things ourselves. Taree Darby, Director of Marketing & Community Services oversees the aquatics program. Bent Tree resident Roger Harriman serves as our Aquatics Supervisor during the summers. Roger does an excellent job

of maintaining the pools and pool areas, checking the chemical levels, and inspecting the facilities to make sure they are safe.

Like last year, the pools are open for use by residents and your guests. There is no guest fee or pass required. The use of pools is "at your own risk". There are no lifeguards or attendants on duty. Children need to be highly supervised by their parents or guardians. However, we do have BTCI staff occasionally checking the operations of the pools. In case of an emergency, please call 9-1-1. To report an issue, staff is only a call away at 404-602-2784.

While our pool facilities are getting older, our Facilities and Grounds teams do a terrific job of maintaining the pools. In recent years, preventative improvements have been made to both pools to prolong their use. Annually we seek to make the user experience an amenity Bent Tree residents feel is a great value.

I would like to wish everyone a great summer at Bent Tree...CANNONBALL!!!... SPLASH.



CONTACT US TODAY - 770-623-6220 - info@frontporchatlanta.com

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Creekside at Bent Tree

By Buddy Creef

The 28 acres at the intersection of Cove Road and Bent Tree Drive is known as the campground. It is my understanding that, in the beginning, it was exactly that. Prospective landowners would camp at the campground for the weekend and look at lots in Bent Tree where they built many of the structures we have today. It should be noted that the "campground" has not been used as a campground for many years. It is a location where Bent Tree stores equipment, where some residents keep their RV's, and where some of our vendors park trucks or other equipment temporarily. It produces about \$10,000 per year in net revenue to Bent Tree

In 2024, the Board of Directors formed a committee to see if there was a way that the campground could become of more value to the community. The committee considered a large number of options looking for one or more that would provide ongoing income to Bent Tree. After careful consideration, the committee has selected a developer and come back to the board and the community with the suggestion that we create an active adult community on that piece of land. We are calling that potential development Creekside at Bent Tree.

When approved by the residents, Creekside at Bent Tree will be an active adult community of 50 to 55 two-to-four-bedroom homes constructed on lots of approximately one-third of an acre. These ranch style homes will be built by Traton Homes, a family-owned builder and premier developer in the Atlanta area. Traton Homes has an excellent reputation in the industry, with attention to detail, quality and well-thought-out designed floor plans. Traton has been in business since 1971 and has won numerous awards for excellence including being named the Best Builder in Cobb County for the past 5 years in a row!

But what will it do for Bent Tree?

- Many residents have wished that Bent Tree's amenities included a fitness center. A fitness center available to all residents will be built at Creekside.
- We also hear residents wishing for a comfortable walking track. Creekside will provide a walking track of about 1/3rd of mile adjacent to the fitness center for safe exercise in a park-like setting.
- As residents age and are unable or unwilling to navigate the multi-level homes in Bent
 Tree, many are forced to give up the Bent Tree amenities and their Bent Tree friends to
 move to homes that are more accommodating. Creekside will allow us to move to single
 story living near our friends and our amenities.
- Assuming the final count is 53 homes, assessment revenues of over \$200,000 per year will be generated when the project is completed. Since the added cost will be minimal almost all of that will be available for capital improvements at Bent Tree.
- Using the same assumptions, Creekside will produce \$45,000 per year in AGUF and another \$250,000 in amenities revenue.
- Creekside will use Bent Tree water producing about \$100,000 per year in additional water revenues.

In short, the development of Creekside at Bent Tree provides benefits to Bent Tree residents both in terms of increased amenities and opportunities and in terms of revenue to meet our capital needs. Bent Tree has long taken pride in its ability to remain debt free, but many people note that our debt is really in our infrastructure that needs repair and/ or upgrades. The development of Creekside will raise capital for Bent Tree and help us to remain debt free.

You have been and will be hearing more about Creekside at Bent Tree in your community meetings and in upcoming town hall and information sessions. Please attend these sessions, become informed, and ask any questions you might have. And, when the ballots are sent, please make your feelings known by voting for the creation of Creekside at Bent Tree.

Public Safety Stats from 3/1/25 – 3/31/25

By Michael Koorey - Director, Donnie Arp - Fire Chief, John Hawkins - Assistant Director

Call Responses

| Fire | 16 |
|--------------------------|-----|
| Medical | 20 |
| Resident Complaints | 6 |
| Resident Assists | 12 |
| Property/Resident Checks | 4 |
| Animal Calls | 3 |
| Public Safety Calls | 38 |
| Total | 99 |
| 2025 Total | 254 |
| | |

Patrol Mileage

| Total Patrol Mileage (3/1 – 3/31) | 2,016 |
|-----------------------------------|-------|
| 2025 Total | 5,398 |

Violations

| Written Citations | 79 |
|------------------------------|----|
| Warnings | 13 |
| Total (3/1 – 3/31) | 92 |
| 2025 Total Written Citations | 84 |

40 Little Pine Mountain Road Jasper, GA 30143 ● 770-893-2628 publicsafety@bent-tree.com





GPS Directions to Bent Tree

Please give your visitors the following address (1 Little Pine Mountain Rd, Jasper, GA) to gain access into the front gate on Bent Tree Drive, which will alleviate GPS systems from sending them to the back gate off Grandview Rd.



We Want You...

- ... to email us short stories, interviews, poetry, and articles of general interest to our residents.
- ... to tell us what articles you would like to see.
- ... to share with us some of your amazing Bent Tree related images.

Thanks.

echo Editorial Committee

2025 Board of Directors

Buddy Creef – President buddycreef@bent-tree.com 713-623-3444

Michael Kahn - Vice President

The Courts Committee Liaison michaelkahn@bent-tree.com 404-931-4025

Arty Allen - Secretary

Lake and Wildlife Committee Liaison aallen@bent-tree.com
770-630-9566

Ralph Morse – Treasurer

ralphmorse@bent-tree.com 678-480-2411

Brian Feehan

Golf & Greens Committee Liaison brianfeehan@bent-tree.com 478-397-6880

Scott Hux

Food & Beverage Liaison scotthux@bent-tree.com 678-608-6625

David Johnson

Architectural Committee Liaison davidjohnson@bent-tree.com 225-205-2630

Charles Rice

LAD Committee Liaison charlesrice@bent-tree.com 470-330-6616

Sandra Stewart

Activites Committee Liaison sandrastewart@bent-tree.com 202-258-9821

Contact the Editor of the echo at **btecho@etcmail.com**

On the cover...

The cover image was submitted by Lynn Conrad.

Calling All Candidates for the Bent Tree Board of Directors

By Margie Robinson, Election Coordinator and Sandra Stewart, Election Liaison

The Bent Tree Board of Directors will have three members complete their terms this year. As a result, we will be holding elections for three new members. The Board is now soliciting those interested in serving on the Board for three-year terms beginning January 1, 2026. The qualifications, specifications, and deadlines for those interested in running for election are provided below.

Candidate Qualifications

Any candidate must:

- be a member of Bent Tree Community, Inc. at least 150 days before the Annual Election;
- file a notice of intent to run with the Secretary of BTCI containing such information as may be reasonably required by the Board;
- 3. have demonstrated a willingness and desire to serve; and
- 4. not be an employee of Bent Tree.

Bent Tree By-Laws, Art. III.A., § 9.

Candidate Timeline and Submission Requirements

May 16 – Letter of Intent and Letters of Reference

A candidate must be a member of BTCI 150 days before the Annual Meeting (on or before May 16th). Potential candidates may wish to confirm member status with Administration.

Candidates must submit by email to Board Secretary Arty Allen, allen@bent-tree.com AND to BT Administration through Deborah Guffey, dguffey@bent-tree.com, no later than May 16th:

- a letter of intent to run for the Board of Directors;
- 2. two letters of reference/endorsement from two other BTCI members in good standing; and,
- 3. a signed BTCI Board Member Code of Ethics form (forms available at Administration).

May 23 - Resume and Photograph

Candidates must submit to Margie Robinson, marjorierobinson@yahoo.com, Election Coordinator, Sandra Stewart, sandrastewart@bent-tree.com, Election Supervisor, AND Deborah Guffey, dguffey@bent-tree.com, BTI Administration, a resume and a photograph for publication in the July Echo and on the BTCI website.

Resume Content Requirements: Each candidate resume should contain no more than 300 words. This word count limit will be strictly enforced and resumes exceeding the word count may be rejected. The preferred format is standard resume/bullet point form. Each resume must begin with a block header, centered at the top, containing the following, in order:

Name (as it will appear on the ballot) Street Address Lot Number Email Address

Resume Format Requirements: The resume must be typed and double spaced in Times New Roman 12-point font. The resume must be submitted in two formats – Microsoft Word and Adobe pdf.

Photograph Requirements: A candidate should provide a photograph that is not a part of the resume and that is not affixed to the resume. The photograph should be a clear, recent depiction of the candidate. Please be sure your photograph is of you only.

June 6 - Essay

Each candidate must provide an essay of no more than 300 words outlining his/her "platform," the reasons the candidate is running, the vision the candidate has for Bent Tree, and why members should vote for the candidate. Details and specifications will be provided to the candidates upon their qualifying for the election. These essays will be published in the July Echo.

Mark Your Calendars

August 10 – Meet the Candidates Forum There will be a Meet the Candidates event at Club Tamarack on August 10th. This will give the candidates an opportunity to meet the voting members of Bent Tree and to answer their questions.

October 12th – Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors

The BTCI Annual Meeting will be on October 12th. The winners of the election will be revealed at the Annual Meeting.

Protecting Your Family and Home from Wildfire

By Michael Koorey, Director of Safety and Emergency Management

At the Front Gate, our Public Safety team constantly monitors emergency calls taking place in Pickens County. The past couple months have undoubtedly been the busiest I can remember with brushfires taking place outside of our gates. Some of these fires caused substantial damage and were out of control for extended periods of time. Bent Tree has been fortunate to not have a brushfire so far this year. However, that can change quickly with a lightning strike, downed powerline, a littered cigarette, or simply someone not following our rules that prohibit outdoor burning. There are many things residents can do to protect themselves from the heightened risk Bent Tree faces from wildfires.

First, remain in compliance with our NO BURN POLICY and quickly report violations of it to our team. Because of the topography and woodland characteristics of Bent Tree, our community has a greater risk of catastrophic wildfires. That is why outdoor burning of wood, wood products, paper products, or other combustibles is strictly prohibited by our Rules and Regulations (VI,C), and violations carry a \$1,000 fine. The only exceptions applicable to residents are as follows:

- 1. Attended charcoal or propane fire for cooking.
- 2. Attended propane fire with non-burning artificial media for heat and/or atmosphere.

We also ask residents to be especially observant of downed powerlines and fires they may cause during incidents involving high winds. It is very important for our team to be notified immediately of brush fires so we can quickly gain control of them. Downed powerlines or arching transformers are the most common cause of brushfires within Bent Tree. Thankfully, in recent years, residents have quickly spotted and reported these fires, helping us to respond without delay.

If a fire does get out of control, it is vital for residents to be familiar with our evacuation routes. Tremendous details of each route are included in the Public Safety section of the Bent Tree website. We keep this information updated and have also added more signs to direct residents to the routes. It is worth noting that our evacuation routes are inspected by our team monthly and should only be used if an evacuation has been ordered. Also, everyone likely knows the Front Gate well, but we have found that many residents are unfamiliar with the Back Gate. The front and back gates are the most likely evacuation routes that will be utilized, so residents should ensure they can find them easily. It is also very important for residents to be signed up for Bent Tree email and text alerts, which will be utilized to issue evacuation orders. Sign up by contacting Admin or the Front Gate.

As many residents know, the Wildcat Community, which Bent Tree is part of, has sought a significant federal grant to help mitigate the wildfire risk for our area. We expect to know within the next few months if the grant will be awarded. The Community Wildfire Protection Grant will help Bent Tree reach an unprecedented level of wildfire protection through the mitigation of natural fuels. New residents or residents who did not sign up for this when we made a major push for this in late 2023 should email me at michaelkoorey@bent-tree.com.

Without the above grant, residents still have significant control over their homes being protected from wildfires. We strongly encourage everyone to keep their home exterior and a five-foot perimeter around it free of burnable materials. Firewise refers to this perimeter as the Immediate Zone. The Immediate Zone is the most vulnerable to embers, and countless homes have remained safe during nearby wildfires by properly maintaining this zone. Start with the house itself, then move into the landscaping section of the Immediate Zone. Firewise recommends the following actions be taken within the Immediate Zone:

- Clean roofs and gutters of dead leaves, debris and pine needles that could catch embers.
- Replace or repair any loose or missing shingles or roof tiles to prevent ember penetration.
- Reduce embers that could pass through vents in the eaves by installing 1/8-inch metal mesh screening.
- Clean debris from exterior attic vents and install 1/8-inch metal mesh screening to reduce embers.
- Repair or replace damaged or loose window screens and any broken windows Screen or box-in areas below patios and decks with wire mesh to prevent debris and combustible materials from accumulating.
- Move any flammable material away from wall exteriors mulch, flammable plants, leaves and needles, firewood piles anything that can burn.

Remove anything stored underneath decks or porches.

The increase in destructive wildfires, not only in our area but around the country, is not something to panic over, but we need to be prepared. When emergency situations arise, the time to prepare is over, so please act on this information without delay. With your help and support, our team stands ready to respond to and mitigate the risk of brushfire incidents.



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Scholarship/Teacher Grants Fundraising Golf Tournament

Where: Bent Tree Golf Club Format: 4 Person Scramble

When: June 25, 2025; Shotgun start at 9:00 am.

Cost: *No cost to Bent Tree members who pay trail fee - donations needed

*Members who do not pay trail fee \$40.00 golf cart fee - plus donations

*Non-members \$40.00 cart fee - plus donations

All cart fees are to be paid in the Pro Shop

Donations are to be made payable to **Bent Tree Foundation**, Inc., (a 501(c (3) organization). A Director of the Foundation will be accepting donations and Team Captain forms at 8:30 prior to the beginning of the tournament.

| Player Name | GHIN Number |
|-------------|-------------|
| Player Name | GHIN Number |
| Player Name | GHIN Number |
| Player Name | GHIN Number |

Men play from white tees; Women play from red tees

Men - Age 70 plus index equals 84 - may play P-2 tees Women - Age 72 plus index 32 may play yellow tees

Entry Deadline: Monday, June 23, 2025

Prizes for the eight winning teams will be rounds of golf at the following golf courses:

Old Toccoa Farm Golf Course
Sanctuary Golf Course
Achasta Golf Course
Fairways of Canton Golf Course

Crystal Falls Golf Course
Butternut Creek Golf Course
Lake Arrowhead Golf Course
Bent Tree Golf Course

If you have any questions, call Judy Crain 770-894-3122

Out with the cold, in with the woo!



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678-880-1156

Who Would Have Thought Wine and Whiskers Went Together So Well!

The Bent Tree Foundation recently hosted a wonderful event, Wines and Whiskers, to raise funds to enlarge our current Animal Shelter. This fundraiser was a resounding WOW of a success! Our thanks go to our volunteers who organized and assisted in the execution of this event; to Sue Campbell, distributor for Jackson Family Wines, who provided the excellent wines that were paired with each of the five food courses; to The Tavern's staff who prepared and served our delicious food; to Kat Gonzales, who provided live piano music; to the donors of our Silent Auction items; to Bob Holfels for designing our event flyer; and last but certainly not least – our caring and loyal supporters who attended the event, who bid on our Silent Auction items and who filled out pledge cards that night!

The pledge system that we will be utilizing is the same format as the pledge system that was used for the Sally Doss Accessible Walkway when we partnered with the Bent Tree Lake and Wildlife Committee. We will be seeking pledges until we meet the cost of the construction (currently obtaining bids). Once that pledge goal is met, we will notify everyone that it is time to honor their pledge.



IMPORTANT: Please <u>do not</u> make your shelter expansion donation (cash, check or PayPal) until the appropriate time. The Foundation will not be depositing pledge donations until we have met our pledge goal and have a signed contract with the chosen builder. Thank you!

Our Bent Tree Animal Shelter is funded by the Bent Tree Foundation and staffed by amazing Bent Tree volunteers. We are asking our loyal donors and new donors to help us make this dream of a larger shelter come true.

Pledge cards are available at the Administration Building, the Pro Shop, the Courts and from LuAnn Chambers (678-414-1047), Leah Kelly (770-490-4551) and Sheila Thompson (770-402-6426).















Bent Tree // bent-tree.com

Niners Opening Day Tees Off with a Bang!

The Niners launched their 2025 season in style on Thursday, April 3, with an exciting Opening Day! After gathering for announcements, it was game time and the "Texas T Up Scramble" did not disappoint!

This fun-filled format was a big hit, letting players tee up their second shot and use mulligans to their advantage. Many players seized the chance to drive their second shot straight down the fairway - a strategic move that helped lower scores and boost the excitement!

Congratulations to our winners! Gross winners: Ellie Gerard, Linda White, Susan Paul, and Donna Short

Net winners: Ursula Chapman, Sue Weatherly, Judy Ferris, and Jan Davis

Winners took home some well-earned cash to spend in the pro shop — perfect for picking up fresh gear like apparel, golf balls, hats, shoes, and more!

We're thrilled to welcome several new members to the Niners this season: Donna Short, Erin Crawford, Paula DeArtiaga, Robin Roberts, Janet Vardaman, and Barbara White. With their addition, we're proud to have a strong roster of 26 fantastic women ready to take on the season!

We're also giving a warm welcome back to Sherry Sather, returning after a year off due to injuries — we missed you, Sherry! And a special shoutout to Janet Vardaman, who brings her experience from the 18 Holers — we're lucky to have her!

Looking for more golf fun?

Our "Lovely Ladies" casual playdays are back! Every Tuesday at 2:30 p.m., just show up and draw a card to form your group. Whether you land in a threesome or a foursome, it's the perfect chance to fine-tune your shots, make new friends, and enjoy the game — no pressure, just fun! Big thanks to Robin Roberts for coordinating.

Behind the scenes:

A week before Opening Day, the Niners held their Opening Breakfast, which kicked off with a delicious quiche meal, followed by a casual game of golf. The board mapped out an exciting 2025 season, including budget plans, upcoming Niners tournaments, and the highly anticipated June Ladies Invitational.

Meet your 2025 Niners Board:

- President: Dianne McMullen
- Vice President: Susan Paul
- Secretary & Treasurer: Donna Stapleton
- Tournament Chair: Michele Shaeffer
- Co-Tournament Chair: Kathy Craig

Welcome to our new board members we're in great hands!

With a calendar full of creative games, social fun, and spirited competition, 2025 is shaping up to be one of our best seasons yet.

Let's make it unforgettable — see you on the course! 🏌 🖺 🔩



The Niners recently held their Opening Breakfast to kick off the 2025 season.



The Niners gather for their recent Opening Breakfast. From left: Patti Sosebee, Caron Dambruso Peck, Erin Crawford, Laura Dutton, Jan Davis, and Janet Vardaman.



Niners board discusses upcoming tournaments and activities planned for the vear. From left: Susan Paul, Dianne McMullen, Michele Shaeffer, Donna Stapleton and John Leach of Golf Maintenance

Bent Tree Ladies Golf Association

By Lyn Orletsky

The weather may have been chilly, but hearts were warm, as everyone caught up on the past few months. Hugs and kisses for old and new friends started the day as we welcomed our new president, Lynn Manni. We played a modified scramble from the yellow tees so that we could finish in well under four hours, giving us plenty of time for our opening meeting.

An exciting opportunity for some of our long-time players. If you are 75 years old or older, plus a handicap of 32+, you may now play from the yellow tees on Tuesdays. This will make many players more competitive and add to the fun! Come join the BTLGA. We

play every Tuesday through October at 9:00. Each week is a new game, some are straight golf, and others are wild and wacky, but all add to the excitement and camaraderie, which ultimately is what golf is all about.

Opening Day Scramble results:

1st Place: Bonny Pearson, Gayla Smith, Kendall Fowler, Zandra Sommer, 62 Net

2nd Place: Karen Ballew, Cindy Williams, Lyn Fickes, Wendy Kaplan, 63.7 Net





RSVP HERE:





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May 5th

12 -8 The Tavern

Please RSVP

Food Menu

Tacos- Chicken, Beef, or Vegetarian Tacos – \$4 each or 3 for \$10

Loaded Nachos- Tortilla chips with melted cheese, jalapeños,
sour cream, guacamole, and choice of protein – \$12 (serves 2)

Quesadillas- Chicken, Beef, or Vegetarian – \$10 each
Guacamole & Chips- Fresh guacamole with crispy chips – \$6 or \$3

with drink purchase

Drink Menu

Classic Margarita – \$8 (Pitcher: \$22)
Paloma – \$8

Mexican Beers - \$4 - Beer Bucket (5 for \$18)

Tequila Shots – \$5

Tequila Flight (4 tequilas) - \$15

Specials

Taco & Tequila Combo: 3 tacos + margarita or shot - \$15







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MAY 11TH

10 - 3

Club Tamarack

Adults - \$25

SUNDAY

Kids 6-12 \$15

5 & under free

Free Mimosa

for Mom after

12:30

We've reimagined last year's favorites with a few fresh twists, all designed to give you a perfect Mother's Day Brunch.





Buffet Menu

OMELET STATION

Made to order with a variety of fresh ingredients like spinach, mushrooms, onions, tomatoes, cheese, ham, bacon, and more

SALADS & SIDES

- Peach & Arugula Salad Fresh arugula, sliced peaches, fresh mozzarella cheese, candied pecans, and a honey-balsamic vinaigrette
- Spinach & Roasted Beet Salad Tender spinach with roasted beets, walnuts, feta cheese, and a lemon-dijon vinaigrette
- Spring Fling Slaw A refreshing mix of green and purple cabbage, Brussels sprouts, carrot, and apple, topped with pumpkinseeds and dried cranberries. Tossed in a tangy-sweet dressing with honey, lime, and a hint of smoked paprika
- Herb-Roasted Baby Potatoes Crispy, golden potatoes tossed with fresh herbs and olive oil
- Fresh Green Beans Lightly sautéed with lemon zest and browned butter for a perfect balance of flavor
- Mini Croissants & Breakfast Breads Freshly baked, buttery croissants and assorted breakfast breads served with soft butter

HOT DISHES

- Peaches & Cream Stuffed Croissant French Toast Fluffy croissants stuffed with a sweet peaches and cream filling, served with maple syrup and butter
- Applewood Smoked Bacon Crispy bacon that's perfect for pairing with any dish
- Grilled Kielbasa & Sausage Links Savory kielbasa and sausage links
- Creamy Grits Rich, creamy grits, topped with fresh herbs
- Chicken Breast with Asparagus & Fresh Mozzarella -Stuffed chicken breast served with a nut-free Romesco sauce
- Grilled Shrimp with Peach Salsa Grilled shrimp served with a refreshing peach salsa and a drizzle of cilantro-lime crema
- Roasted Brussels Sprouts & Cauliflower Roasted to golden perfection with olive oil and seasonings for a rich flavor

DESSERTS

- Bars, Cakes, & Tarts A variety of mini pastries to satisfy every sweet tooth
- Yogurt Bar Yogurt with fresh berries, housemade granola, honey, and spiced peaches







TAVERN SUMMER HOURS:

CLOSED MONDAY

TUESDAY 11 AM - 10 PM

WEDNESDAY 11 AM - 6 PM

2 PM - 6 PM BAR SERVICE

THURSDAY 11 AM - 10 PM

FRIDAY 11 AM - 10 PM

SATURDAY 8 AM - 10 PM

8 AM - 11 AM BREAKFAST

SUNDAY 9 AM - 2 PM BRUNCH

2 PM - 4 PM BAR SERVICE

BAR SERVICE INCLUDES SPECIAL BAR FOOD MENU **KITCHEN CLOSES AT 9:00**

PLEASE COME IN



Ana the Witch (Part of the Bent Tree Untold Legends Series)

Submitted by Lynn Kaiser Conrad

Sometimes up here in these hills, the shrieking of the winds is not just the air rushing through and around the trees. Sometimes that disturbing and unsettling noise means more than we understand. Sometimes something tugs at us from inside, and we don't know why. Sometimes we see a shadow only to quickly glance in the direction, and there is nothing. These occurrences are perhaps illusions or coincidences, or just our imagination. Perhaps they are something more. Sometimes facts and fiction comingle, blurring the boundaries.

As we all know, Sallie Doss bought more than 240 acres in the late 1800s, in Bent Tree of course long before it was ever the community of Bent Tree. Once she was widowed, Sallie was known in the area for being a strong, self-sufficient woman, who would help those in genuine need. Nobody was going to take advantage of Sallie. She was a bit of a no-nonsense person, and she didn't tolerate fools or laziness.

Just before the turn of the century, Sallie was in her late 50's and living alone. She received a letter from a cousin of hers up by Franklin, North Carolina, an area that was quickly being settled. The letter asked Sallie to provide temporary shelter for a woman in dire need who was being hunted for witchcraft. The letter went on to explain the circumstances.

Ana was the town's midwife and was well respected until a baby was born with one brown eye and one blue eye. Since no one had ever seen this genetic oddity before (of course we now know it as heterochromia), someone started telling tales, as people often do when they don't understand something or if something is different or peculiar. The tales blamed Ana.

While everything was copacetic, the people in the little burgeoning hamlet were accepting of Ana and her odd or unusual ways. But once that baby was born, the rumors spread like fire in a dehydrated piney wood.

You see, Ana's people did not immigrate from England, Ireland, or Scotland, like most of the recent settlers. Ana's parents were Italian. So, Ana looked different with her olive skin. Ana had blond hair which was incongruous with her skin tone, so she

did not resemble any of the locals or even the indigenous people. Ana's parents died when she was young, shortly after they all arrived in the land of opportunity, the United States. Ana had moved to Franklin as a young adolescent with a German family who took her in when her parents died. The woman of the family was a midwife, and Ana became her apprentice, also earning her keep, if you will. After a dozen or so years, when Ana's foster mom, the town's midwife died, Ana took over the role of midwife. The remaining members of Ana's foster family moved away, and Ana remained a valuable and respected person in the town of Franklin, even with her odd ways.

Ana was called upon to assist with the birthing of animals such as livestock, cows and horses and domesticated animals, if in distress. Ana also attended all the baptisms and the funerals.

Ana had an herb garden and would make unusual teas and poultices to help the women through their pregnancies. All of this was observed, known, and accepted until the baby with two eye colors was born. Ana would sing in her native Italian, especially to women during labor and after the babies were born, as the melodious language acted as a calming medicine.

But once that baby was born, the town gossips turned on Ana and blamed her for the genetic curiosity. Babies had died during labor; babies had been born dead; women had died during labor, or shortly thereafter, rare as that was, yet everyone accepted these trials as part of the hardships in life, and no-one ever blamed Ana.

Once that baby was born, the rumors became fact, as sometimes happens, and it was decreed that Ana was a witch. The gossips twisted the truth. Her lullabies, it was said, became incantations and spells, and her teas became potions. Sallie Doss's cousin provided Ana with a safe hideout but knew she had to get Ana far away.

Well, the mail post back then was slow, as you can imagine. So literally, the day after the letter was delivered to Sallie, Ana and her long blond hair, flowing past her waist, and the cousin arrived. With literally no notice, Sallie generously allowed this

20-something year old to temporarily move in that winter, just before the turn of the century.

Ana planted a spring garden and grew her herbs and drank her teas and stayed close to home, avoiding contact with people for fear someone, anyone would harm her. Occasionally, she would be introduced to one of Sallie's friends or visitors. Ana's hair was remarkable. It was not dull lackluster color. It was a rich golden flax with slight highlights which caught the sun. Her tresses flowed down her back like a cascading waterfall in the summer. Once people met Ana, they remembered her.

Well, that next winter was harsh in the mountains, and Ana died of a cold. Perhaps it was influenza or pneumonia. She was buried in the local cemetery. When the spring thaw came so did a posse from Franklin, North Carolina, looking for a witch named Ana. Of course, the locals knew who they were speaking of because of her hair.

This posse defiled her grave. These grave robbers cut off her hair as a way to condemn her and strip away her witchcraft powers even after death. It is hard to imagine that these superstitious simpletons were familiar with Shakespeare, who some 300 years before this incident wrote in one of his sonnets:

Before the golden tresses of the dead

The right of sepulcher were shorn away

To live a second life on second head

Ere beauties dead fleece made another gay.

Of course, this posse was punishing Ana, not taking her hair for a wig for another.

When they were done disrupting the grave, they went back to Sallie Doss's property and spread coffee beans to eradicate lingering witchcraft. Another superstition.

Because of the horrible behavior of the posse, it is said that Ana haunts those grounds, and if you smell coffee, you know she is there, trying to set the record straight.

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BT Hikers Enjoy Bent Tree's "Wilderness Trails"

By Mason and Stephanie Holland

On February 18th, after several heavy rain delays, sixteen members of the Bent Tree Hiking Club took a short drive through the neighborhood to hike Bent Tree's own "wilderness trails" on the Chestnut Cove Trail System located at the end of Chestnut Cove Trail road followed by a hearty lunch at the Tavern.

This trail system is the newest developed hiking area and currently has approximately 1.6 miles of trails rated as moderate to strenuous:

- Creek Crossing Trail (white blazes) 0.43 miles in and out (0.86 miles roundtrip) with a total elevation gain of 285'
- High Vista Trail (yellow blazes) 0.36 miles in and out (0.72 miles roundtrip) with a total elevation gain of 320'
- Mountainside Trail (orange blazes) o.8 miles loop with a total elevation gain of 385'

All three trails follow old logging roads and cross multiple creeks in the watershed basin that supplies the Bent Tree water system. This area consists of wild terrain with many long elevation ascents and descents. The crossing of each of the small creeks requires rockhopping that may not be possible at a few locations immediately following a very heavy rainfall. For our hike there were several beautiful long cascading ribbons of whitewater and numerous smaller bubbling brooks. The white Creek Crossing Trail is the main trail leading to and from the parking lot with the yellow High Vista Trail and the orange Mountainside Trail both branching off to explore different areas of the mountain. While both the white and yellow trails reach dead-ends and must be hiked in and out over the same terrain, the orange Mountainside Trail follows a loop layout that extends upward on several old logging roads parallel to and above a fastmoving whitewater creek toward the top of the Bent Tree property. From there, it traverses a steep slope on a brand-new trail through the forest, constructed via the use of hand tools, alongside several large rock formations before it descends across the mountainside on long switchbacks and down a sloping ridgeline before rejoining the Creek Crossing Trail near the Mountainside Trail's starting point.

While most of our group hiked all three trails, all Bent Tree residents are invited to come and explore one or more of these trails anytime you have an hour or two to enjoy the mountain. If you choose only the Creek Crossing Trail, you will travel 0.86 miles with an elevation gain of 285'. If you add the High Vista Trail, you will hike a total of 1.58 miles with an elevation gain of 605' and if you complete all three by adding the Mountainside Trail, you will hike a total of 2.38 miles with an elevation gain of 990'. Another great option is to hike the Mountainside Trail and only that part to the Creek Crossing Trail necessary to reach it from the parking lot resulting in a hike of 1.28 miles with a total elevation gain of 550'. Please remember that all of these trails range from moderate to strenuous, and hiking sticks are recommended!

Parking for use of the trail system is at the Dorough Trailhead located at the top end of Chestnut Cove Trail road on the right-hand side of the cul-de-sac circle. This parking area and the access trail were made possible by a land swap between the adjacent neighbors, the Dorough Family, and BTCI, plus the generous donation of labor, equipment and materials from another Bent Tree resident, Big Bill Johnson. For

a complete description of the current Chestnut Cove Trail System refer to https://bent-tree.com/ Committees/LWSubs/Trails and scroll down to the Chestnut Cove Trail System. It should be noted that, in the coming years, the Bent Tree Lake & Wildlife Trails Committee is planning to add additional trails to connect the orange Mountainside Trail to the Eagle's Rest Trails at the top of Stump Mountain Road and possibly to connect the yellow High Vista Trail to the end of Shadowick Mountain Road, Sassafras Mountain Trail road and or Denny Ridge Trail in the coming years. If you would like to participate in the planning or development of these new trails, please contact Mason Holland at mhollandwin@ bellsouth.net. Also, if you would like additional information on future Hiking Club adventures, please go to https://bent-tree.com/Committees/ LWSubs/Hiking.



The Dorough Trailhead Parking Area



The Chestnut Cove Trail System



BT Hikers Reach the Cascade at the End of the Creek Crossing Trail
Back Rows Left to Right: Wayne Collier, Scott Baird, Karen Rooker, and Warren
Recicar. Middle Rows: Mason Holland, Peggi Hunt, Peter Kilpo, Mark Ruse,
Mary Ann Hoggard, Hugh Hassle, and Aynsley Bruce. Front Row: Vinnie
Zaccheo, Sherri McMullen, Cheryl Royster, and Nancy Recicar



CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT

BENT TREE COMMUNITY, INC. PWS 2270003 JASPER, GA 30143

REPORT DATA: JAN - DEC, 2024 - WATER QUALITY REPORT

The Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments require that, beginning in October 1999, all community water systems provide customers with an annual report on the quality of their drinking water. This report is presented by the Bent Tree Community, Inc. Water System to its customers. The report reflects the operation of the BTCI Water System from January 01, 2024 through December 31, 2024.

In order to do a better job for you, along with meeting new federal and state regulations, we are providing all of our customers with information regarding the water system at Bent Tree.

REGULATORY AGENCY - There are two (2) regulatory agencies administering to the quality of the BTCI Water Program. Both are governmental agencies. EPA, The Federal - Environmental Protection Agency and EPD, The State of Georgia - Environmental Protection Division. Both of these agencies pass down non-funded mandates to BTCI for compliance that must be met.

ENGINEERING - The BTCI Water Program is an engineered structure. Engineers were employed in 1988 to help plan the BTCIWP. This plan is in effect today. The plan is based on growth, which then specifies a time table for improvements in water treatment, water distribution and water storage.

INFORMATION ON THE WATER SYSTEM:

Bent Tree provides water to 1153 service connections. The water source is Lake Tamarack and the Chestnut Cove creek reservoirs. A 500,000 gallon per day surface water treatment plant provides the treatment of water under state and federal guidelines. Storage capacity is 878,000 gallons and water distributed through water lines from 2 inch to 10 inch in diameter. Currently, 250,000 gallons per day is being produced. All customers are metered and pay on the usage or pay a minimum bill.

DETAIL OPERATIONAL PLANS - The BTCIWP meets the governmental requirements of its permit each day. The improvements made over the years, and those planned for in the future, will continue to see that quality is met. There are four (4) areas of the BTCIWP:

- 1). Supply
- 2). Treatment
- 3). Storage
- 4). Distribution

A failure of anyone of these four (4) areas will create a failure for service to our customers.

SUPPLY - Lake Tamarack, along with the Chestnut Cove reservoirs, make up the supply of water for the BTCIWP. BTCI has a permit today for withdrawal of 500,000 gallons in a 24 hour period.

TREATMENT - The Trident Surface Water Treatment Plant, constructed in 1994, has a current capacity of 500,000 gallons or 347 gallons per minute treatment capacity. The existing building was constructed to house an additional 500,000 gallons in increments of 250,000 when needed. In 2018, a third Trident unit was installed. We are required to treat with chlorine, and fluoride.

STORAGE - One of the key elements in the process is storage. Because the water demand peaks at several key times in a 24-hour period, the system must be able to deliver during that peak. To do this, there must be ample storage. Also, during periods when power may be off, and pumps are not able to pump, as well as treatment not taking place, water still must be delivered to the service area. Storage allows for the withdrawal of water into the service area. At the present time, there are ten (10) tanks which provide 878,000 gallons of storage for the six (6) water districts inside BTCI. Current storage gives BTCI customers two to three days of water if interruption from some source

DISTRIBUTION - The BTCIWP consists of 60 miles of water lines. Most of the original installation was light weight PVC pipe 2 to 4 inches in diameter. Due to the general topography of Bent Tree, leaks are prevalent throughout the entire system. Where we have water line breaks, the water typically comes to the surface and can be immediately repaired, but where 20-foot joints are leaking small amounts and new leaks are forming consistently, the total line must be replaced. In conjunction with the Engineering Study of 1988, BTCIWP is replacing approximately 5,000 feet of pipe with 6-inch C900 PVC Pipe per year. This is the best PVC pipe available and is also providing our community with updated fire protection.

STAFF - The BTCIWP Staff is made up of 8 employees who monitor the plant operation, water distribution system, meter readings, and overall supply, treatment, storage, and distribution. The employees work together to ensure a successful implementation of all aspects of Bent Tree's Water Program.

BILLING - Our water employee in the Administration Office signs a new applicant up for water service, bills a quarterly bill and handles billing problems. BTCIWP bills each month, but customers only receive a bill quarterly. We read one of four sections (1/4) each month. Because of the growth in the program, staff is not able to read 1,000 plus meters each month, therefore (1/4) are read and bills are sent out. Minimum bills are very important to the program. Because many of our homes are part time, we have many people only paying the minimum. The minimum charge must be set at a fair rate for the customer, and for BTCI to be able to pay for the production of the

We hope that some of this information is helpful to you. We strive each day to improve on our performance in providing you quality service. Mountain systems are extremely difficult to operate. Water must be taken from the low point to the high point, brought back down to the low point and at all times be within a pressure range that provides adequate service. Staff is committed to giving you quality service and we believe that this is done on a daily basis.

TESTING REQUIREMENTS:

Bent Tree has contracted with the State of Georgia Laboratory to test drinking water samples each month. The reports come back to BTCI and then a second report is forwarded to the State. This report contains the number of hours the plant has run on a daily basis, the number of gallons treated and the level of chlorine used at the plant on a daily basis.

DEFINITIONS

MAXIMUM CONTAMINANT LEVEL (MCL) - "The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to the MCLG's as feasible using the best available treatment technology." This is the only level that is regulated through testing.

MAXIMUM CONTAMINANT LEVEL GOAL (MCLG) - "The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLG's allow for a margin of safety."

TREATMENT TECHNIQUE (TT) - "A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water."

ACTION LEVEL (AL) - "The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeding, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow."

VARIANCES AND EXEMPTIONS - "State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions."

RL - Reporting Limit

- * MINIMUM DETECTION LEVEL (MDL) Not Regulated
- * < LESS THAN
- * SECONDARY MAXIMUM CONTAMINANT LEVEL (SMCL) Not Regulated

Bent Tree Community, Inc. Water Program Compliance With Additional Drinking Water Regulations

- * RECORD KEEPING REQUIREMENTS All Requirements Met.
- * SPECIAL MONITORING REQUIREMENTS No "Special" Monitoring Required
- * MONITORING AND REPORTING OF COMPLIANCE DATA One (1) Violation. You can find a copy of the consumer notice following this section.
- * VIOLATION OF TERMS ASSOCIATED WITH VARIANCE, EXEMPTION, ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER OR JUDICIAL ORDER -No terms violated
- * VIOLATION OF TREATMENT TECHNIQUES Treatment Techniques Include:
- 1. Filtration And Disinfection
- 2. Lead And Copper Corrosion Control
- 3. Acrylamide And Epichlorohydrin

No Violations.



Important Information About Your Drinking Water From the Bent Tree Water Treatment Facility

Dear Customer/Consumer,

We are writing to inform you of an issue regarding the routine monthly RTCR (Total Coliform Bacteria) samples. Unfortunately, due to a problem with the postal service, or other unknown reasons, the State EPD lab did not receive our samples. This results in a Violation and requires a public notice. Even though this was not an emergency, and no action needs to be taken, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened and what we are doing to correct the situation.

We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether our drinking water meets health standards. During the compliance period of November 1st through November 30th, 2024 we did not complete all monitoring or testing for Total Coliform and therefore cannot be sure of the quality of your drinking water during that time.

Though samples prior to November 2024 have been acceptable, and all samples post November 2024 have been acceptable, we cannot assure you of the quality during that specific period.

Preventive measures have been implemented, for backup record keeping, in the event that future samples do not reach the EPD lab.

Please share this information with all the other people who drink, or consume this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

For any questions or concerns please contact the Bent Tree Water Treatment Facility: 770-893-2636.

State Water System ID# GA2270003

REQUIRED EDUCATION AND HEALTH INFORMATION - CONTAMINANTS AND HEALTH RISKS -

- 1) "Drinking Water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791)."
- 2) "Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advise about drinking water from their health care providers. "EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Crystosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791)."

Basic Watershed Principle - The following will inform the customers of BTCI Water System of basic quality principles.

The source of BTCI's drinking water includes Lake Tamarack and its tributaries. As the water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive materials, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals, such as BTCI's natural wildlife habitat or from human activity, such as construction or from natural erosion.

CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT cont'd

Contaminants that may be present in source water include the following:

- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- Inorganic contaminants such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring
- or result from urban storm runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
- Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.
- Organic Chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health."

SERVICE LINE INVENTORY

Under a 2021 revision to the "Rules for Safe Drinking Water" (40 CFR \$141.84(a)2) all water systems are required to make a detailed service line inventory for their corresponding distribution system.

In 2024 The BTCIWP conducted a service line inventory that consisted of inspecting each individual service line, Homeowner and Water System owned to determine weather or not it required replacing. Conditions in which the service line required replacing were as followed,

- Service line consists of lead
- Galvanized Requiring replacement (The service line is not made of lead, but a portion is galvanized and the system is unable to demonstrate that the galvanized line was never downstream of a lead service line.)
- Lead status unknown (Not enough evidence to show the classification of the service line)

While conducting the inspections the BTCIWP only found one service line that required replacement.

SPECIAL REPORTING AND INFORMATION REQUIREMENTS FOR NITRATE, ARSENIC, LEAD, AND TRIHALOMETHANES

EPA is granted the authority to require additional health information under the Safe Drinking Water Act. The Administrator has utilized this authority by including the following information regarding Nitrate, Lead, Arsenic, and Trihalomethanes. Note that certain portions of the following language must be included in your CCR based on finding these contaminants at specific levels. The required levels and the specific language for inclusion into your CCR (if appropriate) is as follows:

If the analysis of your finished tap water indicates any of the following, you must include required verbatim statements. Results are as follows:

1. Nitrate/Nitrite - above 5mg/L (or ppm) (50% of the MCL) but below 10 mg/L (100% of the MCL)

MCL 10 Result is not detected 04/15/2024

2. Arsenic - above 25 ug/L (50% of the MCL), but below 50 ug/L (100% of the MCL)

MCL 10 <5 ug/l No violation 02/09/2024

- 3. Lead above 15 ug/L (or ppb) (the action level) in more than 5% but fewer than 10% of the sites sampled. EPD Policy states that if a water program passes the Lead/Copper testing for 3 consecutive years, the next time tested will be during 1 out of the following 3 years. BTCIWP passed 2023; therefore, the next time tested will be 1 time out of 2024 - 2027. Testing was done in 2002, 2003, 2005, 2007, 2009, 2011, 2014, 2017, 2020, and 2023 at 10 sites. In 2023, All sites passed. Copper action level was 380 ppb. Lead action level was 2.1 ppb.
- 4. Trihalomethanes have a running annual average of 3.6 ppb but below the current MCL of 80 ppb. No Violation.

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Bent Tree's water treatment facility is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

2024 Contaminant Table

| Substances | Units | MCL/ MRDL | GOAL/ MCLG | Amount Detected | Range Detected | Violation? | Typical Sources in Drinking Water |
|---|----------------|---------------------------------|-----------------|--------------------|-------------------|------------|---|
| Disinfectant | | | | | | | |
| Chlorine | mg/L or PPM | 4.0 mg/L | 0.2-4.0 mg/L | 1.82 mg/L | 1.2-2.2 mg/L | NO | Used as a disinfectant in drinking Water |
| Inorganic | | | | | | | |
| Sodium | mg/L | N/A (Recommended 30-60 mg/L) | 0 | 8 mg/L | N/A | NO | Naturally occurring in the environment from rocks and soils |
| Fluoride | mg/L or PPM | 4.0 mg/L | 4.0 mg/L | 1.7 mg/L | 0.7-1.7 mg/L | NO | Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth |
| Disinfection By-Products | | | | | | | |
| Haloacetic Acids (HAAs) | μg/L | 60 PPB | 0 | 17.7 µg/L | 5.7 to 31 | NO | By-Product of drinking water disinfection |
| Total Trihalomethanes TTHMs | μg/L | 80 PPB | 0 | 15.9 µg/L | 4.1 to 34.7 | NO | By-Product of drinking water disinfection |
| Lead and Copper Results (Sampled in 2023) | | | | | | | |
| Lead | PPB | 15 | 0 | 2.1 μg/L | | NO | Corrosion of household plumbing |
| Copper | PPB | 1300 | 0 | 380 μg/L | | NO | Corrosion of household plumbing |

Acronym Key

MCL - Maximum Contaminant Level

MRDL - Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level

MCLG - Maximum Contaminant Level Goal

mg/L - Milligrams Per Liter or PPM

PPM - Parts per million or mg/L

μg/L - Microgram or PPB

PPB - Parts Per Billion or µg/L

Bent Tree's Water Treatment Facility provides water to all 3,500 acres and 1,126 homes in Bent Tree.

The purpose of the Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) is to provide the BTCIWP customer with knowledge of the program and also knowledge of the water that they drink.

STATEMENT - THE BENT TREE WATER DELIVERED TO YOUR HOUSE FROM THE BTCI WATER SOURCE, WATER TREATMENT, WATER STORAGE AND WATER DISTRIBUTION IS SAFE TO DRINK AND MEETS ALL STATE AND FEDERAL REGULATIONS AS PERMITTED BY THE STATE OF GEORGIA.

SOURCE - You can reach BTCI regarding your water bill Monday through Friday from 8:00 am - 4:00 pm by dialing 770-893-2629 ext. *2703. If you have an outage or wish to report a water leak, you may call 770-893-2628, 24 hours per day.

If you have any questions concerning the drinking water quality or wish to see the latest sample report sent to the State of Georgia, you may call 770-893-2636.



FINDING HOME: The "New Eyes" Challenge

By Chris Rumble

Enter our FUN CONTEST! \$50 Gift Certificate to the Tavern Goes to the First Place! \$35 to Second and \$15 to Third!

One of the greatest things about being on the front lines of Bent Tree Realty is getting to see our community through the eyes of the new friends who come through our gate for the first time.

Recently, one of these new friends said, "I never imagined that a place like this even existed! To think that I could actually live here is almost unbelievable."

At this point in our unfolding conversation, I usually say something like, "Cathy and I have lived here over 20 years and we still pinch ourselves every day."

And, incredibly, we are still discovering new and wonderful things about our community and feel like we are just getting started with finding out just how fun and beautiful life can be here in Bent Tree.

Recently, Cathy and I were asked to co-chair the Newcomers Committee. It has been an amazing experience thus far placing welcome phone calls, assembling gift bags, hosting "Newcomers Coffees" and in two days (at this writing) we will be hosting a game show especially for newcomers called "The Bent Tree Jeopardy Feud of Fortune!"

In only Saying "YES" to co-chairing this part of Bent Tree's "in-reach" has already brought beautiful people into our lives and has led to the launching of THREE new, fun happenings including, believe it

or not, the new Tap Dancing group led by my incredible wife and teammate Cathy Rumble! Tip Tip Tippity Tap!

We have found that every time we try something new here in Bent Tree, we make new friends, our lives are enhanced and we see our wonderful community with NEW EYES.

So, once again, Bent Tree Realty is issuing the "New Eyes Challenge."

- Take the summer to discover and dive into something new in Bent Tree! You won't regret it and your life will be enhanced!
- 2. Go to the Bent Tree Realty Facebook page at https://www.facebook.com/ benttreerealty and post photographic evidence of your experience along with a paragraph of 100 words or less describing the blessings you received.
- 3. Our panel of esteemed judges will select first, second and third place entries.
- 4. Winners will be announced and prizes will be distributed in mid-September!

Don't know what there is to do? Follow the link attached to the QR code below and start exploring!

Now, GET OUT THERE and do something you have never done in Bent Tree!

You will see your community with new eyes.



2025 Bent Tree Activities Committee Newcomers' Booklet

And, if you are like me, you'll fall in love all over again.

Heck, you may even win a \$50 gift card to The Tavern!

Have you tried the Chicken Tenders and Sweet Potato Fries? Holy smokes! They'll make you run around, hollering and clawing at yourself!

Bent Tree Realty Ready to Listen. Ready to Serve. Call Cathy at 770-617-8426, Chris at 770-617-8381 or our office at 770-893-2629, ext

Let's get started on something amazing!





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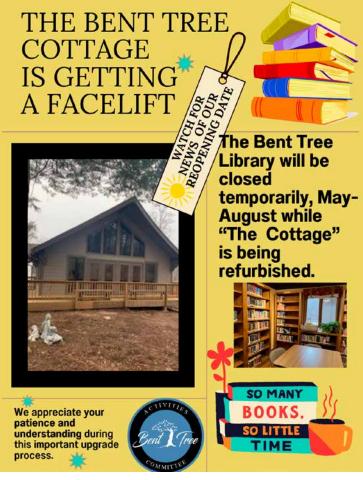
706-253-5947

371 N. Main Street • Jasper Monday - Saturday 10AM - 4PM

All proceeds go to caring for the stray and abused pets of Pickens County.

www.pickensanimalrescue.org







Registration Dates:

May 10th - May 17th

For more info:

May The Fur Be With You!

By By LuAnn Chambers, Photos by By LuAnn Chambers

Our Bent Tree Animal Shelter is bursting with love, literally . We have 20 older kittens and cats that are waiting for someone to adopt them. Plus, kitten season will soon be here!!!

So many 4-legged babies in one small building means many of our wonderful volunteers store clean laundry, extra litter and other supplies in their homes. There is no room for storing extra anything in our building. We kicked off our expansion plan pledge drive with 2 great events. A golf tournament in the fall and a wine dinner in March. Both events were very successful and enjoyable for all. Thank you to all who supported these events.

For more information on our expansion pledge drive please read The Foundation article in this ECHO.

These pictures are just a few of the amazing cats we have at our shelter. Look at these faces **S**. Please spread the word that these babies are ready to go home to a loving family. They are up to date on shots, spayed or neutered and chipped.

If you have any questions, would like to visit the shelter, would like to adopt, volunteer, or donate please call or text LuAnn Chambers 678-414-1047.

Thank you to all who support us.



And meet Milo...





Say hello to Gatsby and Watson...



This is Freedom...



And last but certainly not least, Jazzy Jersey!



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SPRING IS HERE!

The real estate market in Bent Tree is showing signs of spring activity! As of this month, there are 33 active listings and 4 homes currently under contract. In the past 30 days, 6 homes have successfully sold, with an average of 83 days on market. Which is down by 40 days from last month.

What does this mean for you as a homeowner? Inventory is rising, and homes are moving—but pricing and presentation are key. Homes that are priced strategically based on local market trends are the ones attracting serious buyers and selling faster.

If you've been thinking about selling your home, now is a great time to start the conversation.

Give me a call today for a free home evaluation.





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Craft Real Estate is again leading the way in sales for 2025. With 13 homes sold so far in Bent Tree for a volume of \$6,182,200, Craft sold six of those. There are currently 38 active homes on the market with four pending sales. Craft has 16 of the active listings. We need more houses to sell! There are still plenty of buyers looking in Bent Tree but there is very little inventory to sell them. If you are considering selling your home, please contact us. Craft outsold every other brokerage in 2024 with 15 of the 73 sales. We have the knowledge, the experience, and the contacts to sell your home for top dollar. Looking forward to working with you.





1397 Chestnut Cove \$925,000 | 5BD/3.5BA



1417 Crippled Oak Trail \$749,000 | 4BD/4.5BA



175 Fairview Court \$699,000 | 3BD/3.5BA



270 Sleepy Hollow Circle \$624,900 | 3BD/3BA



272 Bee Tree Ridge Court \$575,000 | 3BD/3.5BA



469 Moss Patch Trail \$529,000 | 3BD/3BA



188 Echo Ridge \$499,000 | 3BD/3B



757 Crippled Oak Trail \$495,000 | 4BD/3.5BA



354 Starcross Lane \$489,000 | 3BD/3.5 BA



150 Alpine Drive \$449,000 | 3BD/2.5BA



185 Alpine Drive \$425,000 | 3BD/2.5BA



173 Sleepy Hollow \$419,000 | 3BD/2BA



195 Valley View Trail \$399,000 | 4BD/3BA



255 Sunset Court \$379,900 | 3BD/2BA



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