



"No matter whether you're moving across country, or across town, I can help. Ask me how!"

A Thought For The Month...

"Dreams never hurt anybody if he keeps working right behind the dreams to make as much of them become real as he can."

- Frank W. Woolworth

Featured Listing



Beautiful lot in Anchors Landing – water front \$74,900.00 (\$30K under tax value!)

MLS# 9554479

Recipe - Summer Smoothie



Ingredients:

- 1 1/2 cups strawberries (frozen)
- 1 cup pineapple (frozen)
- 1/2 cup whole milk
- 1 1/2 cups yogurt
- 2 tablespoons sugar
- 1 cup crushed ice

Directions:

Blend together all ingredients on high until smooth.

Enjoy!

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Aug. 2010

"Memories, important yesterdays, were once todays. Treasure and notice today." ~Gloria Gaither~

Hickory News....

NEW BUSINESS

If you've driven up and down Hwy. 127 half as much as I have, you will know of the white cinder block building on the corner next to Walgreens that has been vacant for years. Before my time (over 20 years ago) it was the Hutto Store. Well, it is finally going to be something else – a new **Verizon** store! I will look forward to a shorter drive and a shorter waiting time. It will also be nice to have that building serving a useful purpose again and sporting a fresh new look.

Mellow Mushroom – is delayed and won't open now until at least September. It's going into the previous Rockola Café building.

Hickory Neighborhood College

Neighborhood College is a series of professionally led sessions designed to teach citizens about the City of Hickory and the services it provides. The class is an educational experience that will give participants insight into how the city operates on a day to day basis, as well as how it plans for the future. All classes are held on Mondays at various city facilities between 5:30 p.m. — 7:30 p.m. between September 13 – November 15. Graduation will be held on November 16 in conjunction with the Hickory City Council meeting. The citizens academy is limited to 25 City of Hickory residents and there is no cost to participate. The deadline to apply is September 3, 2010.

Applications are at www.hickorygov.com or call Communications Director Mandy Pitts at 261-2222 or email her at mpitts@ci.hickory.nc.us.

WELCOME to the new principal at Hickory High School!

A new principal will be in place for the start of the school year at Hickory High School. David P. Coyne was appointed to the position by the Board of Education. "Mr. Coyne's is an experienced administrator, coach, and teacher. He is dedicated to ensuring that every high school student receives a quality and rigorous education," said Dr. Lillie Cox, superintendent.

The Piano Project

August the 14th at 8pm – 11:30 PM is the unveiling of the Piano Project. On display will be 16 pianos that have been beautifully transformed by local artists. Over the past 24 weeks the artists have met every Wednesday to bring life back to something that would normally be overlooked and discarded. Putting new life back into old, worn pianos has not only created a unique piece of art but has brought together a group of people that will be forever connected. The night will include Music by one of our well known artists (Nathan Heffner) Horsdourves and beverages will be provided for a small donation. Place - The Warehouse, 18 2ND Street SE, Hickory, NC.

Business of the Month – Tiffany Day Photography

Tiffany is my new neighbor, and a very talented photographer.
She specializes in children & families, using natural light



www.tiffanvdavophotography.com

Thanks for Thinking of Me!

Did you know I can help you or any of your friends, family or acquaintances save time and money when buying or selling a home? Thanks for keeping me in mind with your referrals...and spreading the word! 828-238-0947

INTEREST RATES

courtesy of Wells Fargo

30-Year Fixed	4.500%
30-Year Fixed FHA	4.500%
15-Year Fixed	3.750%
5-Year ARM	2.875%
5-Year ARM FHA	3.125%

How much is your home worth?

If you are thinking of selling your home, you'll need to know exactly what it is worth before putting it on the market. As a Hickory area real estate professional, I analyze home values and determine market prices every day. By comparing your home to recent sales and other, similar homes on the market I can quickly tell you what your home is worth. This analysis is known as "Comparative Market Analysis", or CMA. **I'll be glad to perform a CMA for your home and provide you the results for FREE – no strings attached; no pressure!**

The Funnies

A new business was opening and one of the owner's friends wanted to send flowers for the occasion.

They arrived at the new business site and the owner read the card; it read "Rest in Peace." The owner was angry and called the florist to complain.

After he had told the florist of the obvious mistake and how angry he was, the florist said, "Sir, I'm really sorry for the mistake, but rather than getting angry you should imagine this: Somewhere there is a funeral taking place today, and they have flowers with a note saying, 'Congratulations on your new location!'"

Earn tax credits on new garage doors - (ARA) --

The tax credit eligibility for qualified garage doors will expire on Dec. 31. Now is your last chance to save 30 percent off the price of an energy-saving curb-appeal-inspiring garage door, courtesy of the U.S. government.

The savings come from a federal income tax credit. Through the end of this year, the U.S. government is offering up to a \$1,500 tax credit for homeowners who buy and install qualifying insulated garage doors. Full details can be found at GarageWowNow.com, a non-commercial home improvement resource dedicated to garage doors and garage door openers.

A taxpayer may claim a maximum of 30 percent of qualifying home improvement products, and a maximum of \$1,500 for qualifying purchases in 2009 and 2010. For example, if you replace two garage doors with two new qualifying insulated doors that cost \$1,000 each, you may claim a tax credit of \$300 per door, or a total of \$600, provided you have not exceeded the \$1,500 total over the two years of the tax credit period.

Trivia Contest – Winner receives FREE XL Pizza from Dante's – The Best in Town!

Q: What Olympic aquatic event includes such positions as the Flamingo, crane and fishtail?

Be the first to call, text or e-mail me! 828-238-0947, suzannewilliams@cbbh.com.

Real Estate Corner....

What IS selling in Hickory? Don't you want to know? I am going to give you the up-to-date numbers that you really want! Here are the numbers of single family homes, and their price brackets, that have **sold in the last six months** in NW Hickory, NE Hickory and Mountain View. Call or e-mail me for the statistics of other areas in the Unifour. I can even tell you about your particular neighborhood.

NW Hickory – Area 1

\$50K - \$100K – 23.....5 foreclosures
\$100K - \$200K – 72.....1 foreclosure
\$200K - \$300K – 31
\$300K – 400K – 17
\$400K - \$500K – 21
\$500K and up – 15.....1 foreclosure

NE Hickory – Area 2

\$50K - \$100K – 89.....13 foreclosures
\$100 - \$200K – 195.....8 foreclosures
\$200K - \$300K – 84.....1 foreclosure
\$300K - \$400K – 28.....1 foreclosure
\$400K - \$500K – 25
\$500K and up – 19

Mountain View – Area 5

\$50K - \$100K – 12.....4 foreclosures
\$100K - \$200K – 24.....2 foreclosures
\$200K - \$300K – 15.....3 foreclosures
\$300K - \$400K – 6.....1 foreclosure
\$400K - \$500K – 0
\$500K and up - 0

Q: What is a title search and title insurance all about?

A: Before closing, a seller's title must be searched to make sure he/she owns marketable title to the property. The buyer has the responsibility of determining whether the seller has a satisfactory marketable title that meets the requirements of the contract. The buyer accomplishes this by retaining and paying an attorney to check the seller's title. The attorney's search will determine if the seller has good record of title through the chain of sales, whether there are any outstanding encumbrances, deeds, contracts, deeds of trust, mortgages, judgments, tax or liens, easements or other defects of title that will prevent the buyer from getting a clear and marketable title at closing.

If title insurance is desired by the purchaser or required by the lender (as it usually is), the attorney submits a preliminary opinion on title to a title insurance company as an application for a policy. The title company then insures the buyer against any future claims on the title of that property. So, for example, a long-lost relative cannot come and say he has a claim to it.

How to make your outdoor living space cool and comfortable

(ARA) Americans love being outside in the summer, but extremely hot weather can force people to give up their patio-living, deck-loving ways before they are ready," says Rick Kelly, an outdoor cooling expert with Kuulaire, makers of portable evaporative cooling units. "It is simple and inexpensive to create an outdoor living space everyone can enjoy even on the warmest of days.

Air condition the outside with, a portable evaporative cooler from Kuulaire or other similar product. Made for both outdoor and indoor use, Kuulaire's line of evaporative coolers can lower the temperature in an area as much as 15 to 25 degrees, making patios and decks cool oases on sultry summer days. Depending on the size cooler you choose, you can cool 150 to 600 square feet of outdoor living space for as little as \$1 a day – less than the cost of running a hair dryer. The portability of the units makes it possible to also use them inside to cool a garage, kitchen or any other space where indoor temperatures tend to rise. Visit www.kuulaire.com to learn more or search "outdoor air conditioners" for other brands.

