

HEAVEN'S LANDING

Like no Place on Earth

May 2012

Heart of the Matter

Easter in Heaven

Serodino Giving Hope

Wings of Dreams

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The Heart of the Matter – by Jan Nash

Do you wake up each morning or arrive home after being away and feel invigorated? Perhaps feeling you are where you should be – *in the right place*— a place to make your home, raise your family, or live out your most treasured years? For many, Rabun County, Georgia is the right place—that brings great joy and reminds us we are a part of something great and beyond descriptive words.

I believe I may speak for the Heaven's Landing owners who fly over the county or travel these local roads experiencing joy and knowledge that this is home. Heaven's Landing is simply situated in a remarkable place with endless possibilities.

I was 16 when my father took a job in Western North Carolina. Being from the far west, I knew of the majestic mountain ranges and beauty of the wild and scenic areas of Northern California but nothing prepared me for this part of the east. I recall seeing a brochure of the fern laden, stream riddled, lush forest of the Southern Appalachian Mountains. This image of a dense forest with a carpet of ferns stuck with me over the years. My teenaged-self couldn't believe a place so mysterious and magical existed. I still often find myself in open-mouth wonder of it all.

For twenty years now, I have been fortunate to call this part of the United States home. Each day, I am thankful. I stay mesmerized and forever in wonder of the absolutely breathtaking seasonal changes Rabun County has to offer. I have seen a share of amazing places on Earth, but so far, as I drive down my beautiful road surrounded by National Forest and into my quiet valley, where I call home, I am reminded just how perfect and how amazing this life is.



Spring is my absolute favorite time of year in Northeast Georgia. Everyday is a new day. Every time you slow down enough to look around, down at the ground, or up in the forest canopy, you'll see something miraculous, new, and inspiring. This month I wish to share one of my most enjoyable local hikes—Warwoman Dell to Martin Creek Falls on the Bartram Trail (see page 5). I invite you to experience this excursion over and over again. I hope that for those who have yet to visit Rabun County, they too may experience standing in awe—from the majestic views to the minute beauty of a tiny wildflower in bloom, all of which surrounds us.

Easter In Heaven's Landing

"Easter at Heaven's Landing was perfect," Holly reports. Following various morning services held around the county, Heaven's Landing owners and guests gathered at the Heaven's Landing Clubhouse for a fantastic brunch, followed by a much anticipated Easter Egg Hunt. "We seem to consistently have great weather for Easter," continues Holly, "sunny and mid 70's with a clear sky made for a beautiful day."



Holly made sure all the guests were well fed with honey ham, fruit platters, quiche (from [Ishy's Grill](#)) and a wide variety of tasty desserts.

You and your guests are always welcome at our Heaven's Landing holiday events. Join us any season and time by calling 800-HEAVEN-2 (800-432-8362).

Serodino is Airlift Hope *Pilot of the Year!*

For patients in medical need, *hope* and faith are sometimes all they have. [Airlift Hope](#) volunteers provide free air transportation to patients living in Tennessee and North Carolina who are desperately in need of treatment and are not financially able to travel to specialized care and treatment facilities.



Heaven's Landing owner, Peter Serodino, who has been an Airlift Hope volunteer since 2009, was awarded on April 19, as the **Tennessee Pilot of the Year** for his outstanding service to the Airlift Hope organization during the 2011-2012 time period. Chattanooga Mayor Ron Littlefield presented the well deserved plaque to Peter at a ceremony at the Wilson Air Center at the Chattanooga Metropolitan Airport.



"Peter is an American hero in the truest sense of the word," Airlift Hope Executive Vice President Jim Smith stated. "The patients and families who call us for help are struggling with enormous medical and financial challenges. Without the trips provided by Peter and our other volunteer pilots, these folks would be medically stranded and lives would be lost."

—Reported from [The Chattanooga.com](#)

When he isn't spending his downtime in Heaven's Landing, Peter lives full-time in Chattanooga. Peter masterfully balances the running of his family business with monthly flights for patients to treatment facilities in the Mid-Atlantic region and beyond, proving even the busiest pilots can provide their aircraft, skill, and time to this amazing charity. Over the years, Peter's services have assisted patients of all ages with a varied range of medical needs, most frequently those urgently in need of organ transplants, burn care, and cancer treatments.

Heaven's Landing is extremely proud of Peter, his work, and the recognition he has received.

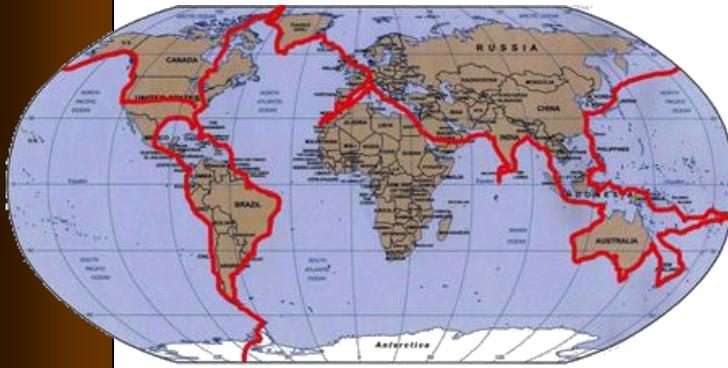
Airlift Hope is a sister organization of [Angel Flight](#) serving the Mid-Atlantic region. The 501(c)(3) charity is based in Virginia Beach, VA with approximately 600 licensed volunteer pilots. As with any non-profit group, your services are always welcome and needed.

Click the following links to help:

[APPLY](#)

[DONATE](#)

On the Wings of Dreams—Experience it on DVD



The Heuns hope to cover a tremendous portion of the globe!

The Heuns first documentary, *On the wings of Dreams*, recently has been completed. The [DVD is available](#) and with beautiful videography, it chronicles the Heun's triumphs and hardships as they trek across and down North and South America on an adventure that began on March 29, 2009.

During the first leg of their trip, Mike and Holly welcomed the couple to Heaven's Landing. The opportunity to spend time with Detlef and Liliana in the initial phases of the journey was a great opportunity. "They are two people who love living and truly love one another," reflects Holly. "To make this trip in such an intimate cockpit, had to be breathtaking and unbelievable." After months of putting off their wedding to prepare for their trip, the Detlef and Liliana found time to marry shortly after visiting Heaven's Landing. "Their wedding pictures speak for themselves," continued Holly, "there is a lot of love and friendship between them!"



Liliana and Detlef visit in North Georgia in 2009 with Mike, Holly, and Jerry and Monika Schulte.



Detlef and Liliana leaving Heaven's Landing.

Unfortunately, Detlef and Liliana are currently grounded as rules are changing in so many countries making trans-global journeys almost impossible. They are working to find a way to travel into Europe after the EASA declared FAA registered United States planes not valid. GA aircraft from the United States must now be EASA registered. US pilots must also be EASA trained to fly in European airspace—all of which is very costly. The real blow to the Heuns plans came when the EASA banned all home built experimental aircraft. The couple now has their beloved Vans RV-7 up for sale in order to resume their course and jump through these regulations.

Journey with the Heuns by purchasing their DVD and stay in touch with their quest for living out their dreams around the world!

Follow them on [Facebook](#) and at their [website](#).

Mission Control Meeting

The annual *MCHCOA* meeting will be held Saturday, May 5th from 1:00 - 3:00 at the clubhouse.

All hangar owners are invited to attend.



Alan Jackson Calls Rabun County Home



Credit: countrymusiclife.com

Heaven's Landing is proud to introduce a world famous new addition, to our also world famous fly-in community. Grammy Award winning country music star Alan Jackson, and his wife Denise recently became new owners at Heaven's Landing. You'll notice the couple flying in regularly in either their Falcon 50 or their Lear 24.



Throughout the course of his career, Alan has been honored with over 45 awards from the Academy of Country Music (ACM) and the Country Music Association (CMA). Jackson's "Where Were You When the World Stopped Turning", a song commemorating those lost in the September 11th terrorist attacks, earned him his first Grammy Award for Best Country Song.

"They are some of the most down to earth people that you will ever meet", says developer Mike Ciochetti Jr. Being an avid pilot himself, Alan appreciates his small fleet of private jets as he uses them for both business and family travel.

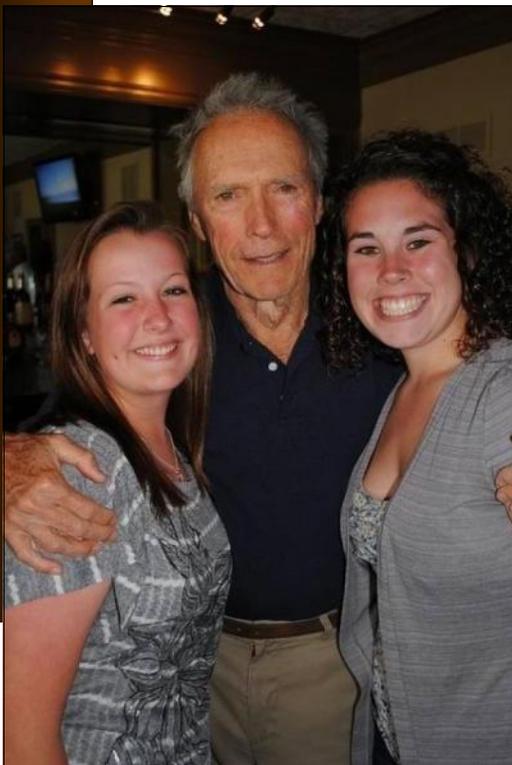
Heaven's Landing is proud to have both Alan and Denise as new members of the Heaven's Landing family of owners.

Left: The Jackson's Lear 24 arrives in Heaven's Landing. Top: The Falcon 50 looking graceful on the HL runway.



The Jackson Family at an awards dinner. Courtesy of cmt.com

Clint Eastwood - *Trouble with a Curve* Films Around Rabun County



As promised, the film *Trouble with a Curve* filmed around Rabun County in mid-April. This is the first film starring Eastwood that he hasn't directed since *Grand Torino* (2008). Eastwood along with co-stars, Justin Timberlake and Amy Adams were seen throughout the county filming along road sides and store fronts.

Both Eastwood and Timberlake enjoyed an afternoon of golf at the Lake Burton Club to the staff's delight!

Trouble with a Curve, a Warner Bros. film, directed by Robert Lorenz, is a baseball drama, centered around an aging recruiter (Eastwood) who takes one last scouting trip with his daughter (Adams). Timberlake's character is a competing scout who falls in love with the daughter. The film is slated for release in September 2012.



Around the Bend—Observing the Miraculous Changes along Becky Branch & Martin Creek Falls on the Bartram Trail

“Every flower is a soul blossoming in nature.”

- Gerard De Nerval, French novelist.

Change is Everywhere. There are changes occurring every day out in the woods. Some are subtle and some are unmistakable. Most are simply astounding, and to experience them over time is a gift worth sharing. All ages should get out and explore these mountains by visiting our local trails and witness the daily changes that occur as this spectacular transition season leads us into summer.



Maidenhair Fern (*Adiantum pedatum L.*)

Each day in the woods brings new floral treasures. You will find something new even as you walk into and out of a trail. Observing the vast variety of flowers and plants takes a walk in the woods to an entirely new level. The [Audubon Society Field Guide to North American Wildflowers](#) is a great resource to have along or check out the other regional guides at the [Chattahoochee-Oconee National Forest Chattooga Ranger District](#) office just north of Tallulah Falls.



Solomon's Seal (*Polygonatum bilorum*)

During the last few weeks, the Flame Azaleas (*Rhododendron calendulacem*), Dwarf-crested Iris (*Iris cristata*), Foamflower (*Tiarella cordifolia*), Solomon's Seal (*Polygonatum bilorum*), and various Trillium (*Trillium catesbaei*) were in peak bloom. This first week of May, as their blooms mature, fade and fall, you'll find the next harbingers of time, the spectacular Mountain Laurel (*Kalmia latifolia*), bursting open in great clusters of pink and white. Lower to the ground look for the shiny leathery-leaved Galax (*Galax urceolata*) which is just starting to bringing up its grand white spire of a flower. Look for the demure Yellow-Star Grass (*Hypoxis hirsute*), and the quirky wild gingers including a favorite, Little Brown Jug (*Hexastylis arifolia*) with the small jug-like flowers nestled in the leaf litter.



The Trail. Spring in the Southern Appalachian forest is magnificent. To take this all in and enjoy, I recommend the [Bartram Trail](#) leading to Martin Creek Falls (1.67 miles one way). This is an undulating trail, yet it is well-maintained and easily traveled. It is a popular trail but seldom over run. So, no matter your speed—one of peace and serenity by yourself, a stroll with a good companion, or a heart pumping hike in the woods, the journey to Martin Creek Falls is a great place for a few hours as you enjoy the seasonal transition nature has to offer.



A very showy bracket fungus.

- continued page 6.



Wild Ginger (*Hexastylis shuttleworthii*)



Foamflower (*Tiarella cordifolia*)



Yellow-Star Grass (*Hypoxis hirsute*)



Carolina Allspice (*Calycanthus glaucus*)

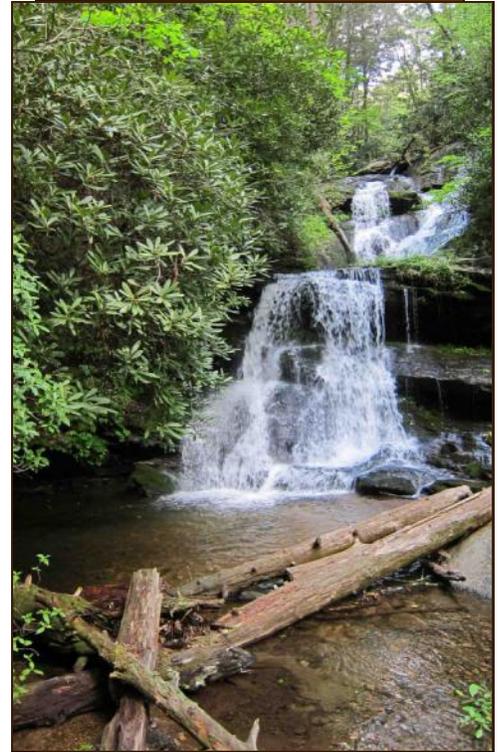


Catesby's Trillium (*Trillium catesbaei*)

Martin Creek Falls Continued—

Directions. Just 2.8 miles east from Clayton on Warwoman Road, you will see Warwoman Dell picnic area on your right. The Dell offers two great picnic shelters, a wealth of history, and plenty of parking. It is also the near mid-point of the 115 mile long Bartram Trail that traverses the hills and valleys from North Carolina across extreme Northeast Georgia and connects with other trail systems in South Carolina. The Bartram Trail is a historic trail that approximates the explorations of [Naturalist William Bartram](#) in the late 1700's.

The Hike. First, park at the smaller timber frame picnic shelter at Warwoman Dell. Walk up the road about 100 feet and turn right following the winding path up to Warwoman Road. At this point, you will see the historic plaque and trail marker for the *William Bartram Trail*. You are headed north. After crossing Warwoman Road, you will climb for a short distance, this is the steepest part of this section of trail. Only .25 miles and you will be reward with Becky Branch Falls, a beautiful 20 foot cascade. Make sure you check out the magnificent Jack-in-the-Pulpit (*Arisaema triphyllum*) that are on the far and outside corner of the observation bridge (away from the fall). They are an engineering marvel.

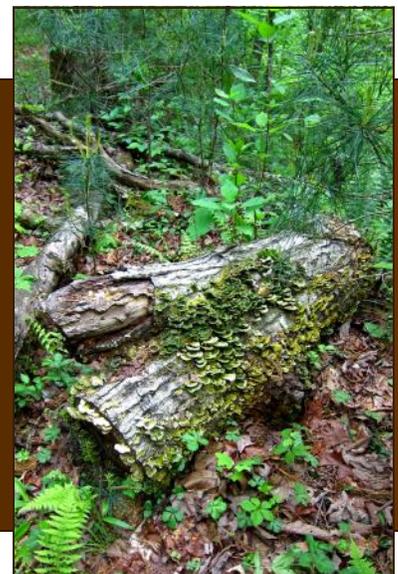


Now you are on your way to not only a great waterfall, but a fantastic journey getting there. The trail goes gently up the hill and you'll catch some scenic views over the small trees. Soon the path goes into the woods, up and down and over streams. Don't be alarmed when you come out to a dirt road. Just continue directly across to the trail. (Later, you might see campers in the small camp off Finney Creek Road and Bartram through hikers at a larger group camp.) Once you are in the large group camp follow the side trail to the right, traverse the foot bridge and continue up this side trail to Martin Creek Falls. Coming from the falls walk over the observation bridge and continue. Martin Creek Falls is a side trail, so this new path will take you back to the group camp. (The Bartram Trail continues north from the group camp—the trail will go up hill from this point to your right. Don't go this way unless you wish to extend your walk.) Walk across the group camp and out the way you came back to Warwoman Dell.

I hope you enjoy this trip as much as I do—again and again!



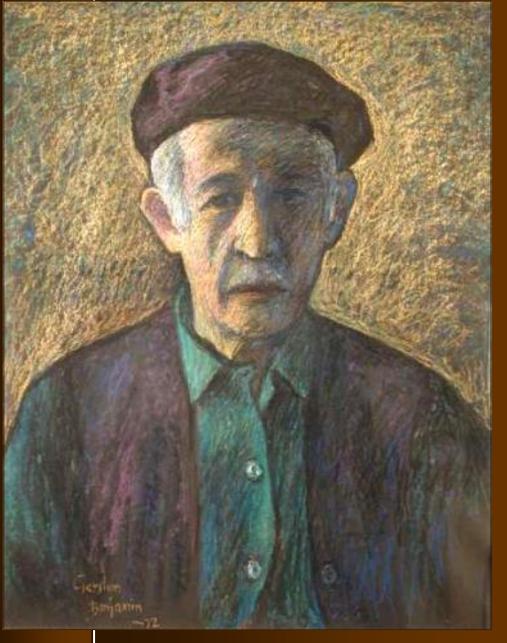
Mountain Laurel (*Kalmia latifolia*)



Major Exhibition comes to Clayton—Gershon Benjamin

Getting to know members of our community is priceless. When you have an opportunity to sit for a while and chat, you quickly realize that Heaven's Landing owners are a unique group. Many lead extraordinary lives.

Joahn Facey is an outstanding example of a neighbor you would do well to know. She has an amazing tale to tell; but alas, we will save the bulk of that for another day. It is important to know that a good part of her life centers around an intimate familiar relationship with the 19th century American Modern Expressionist, [Gershon Benjamin](#) (1899-1985) and his wife Zelda.



Self portrait of Gershon Benjamin, 1972.
Pastels on black paper.

Courtesy of the Gershon Benjamin Foundation.

Ms. Facey is the chair and president of the Gershon Benjamin Foundation Inc. She has brought a remarkable number of Benjamin works to [Lee Realty](#) in Downtown Clayton on loan from the Foundation and the [Spanierman Gallery](#) in New York City. The emotionally provocative collection includes portraits, still lifes, and land, city and seascapes that will captivate the artistically trained and untrained eye. “Kathy Lee of Lee Realty is hosting the exhibition in her lovely office at 13 Main Street,” states Ms. Facey. The public is invited and encouraged to enjoy and experience a sampling of Benjamin’s passion and vision which spanned over seven decades. The Exhibition will run from April 28 through the end of May (*an extended engagement*).

“On looking at his work one is suddenly overcome with an overwhelming honesty.”

-Ira Spanierman, Spanierman Gallery, NYC

The Romanian born and Canadian raised and educated Gershon Benjamin steadfastly devoted his life to his art. He followed his wife-to-be, Zelda, an actress, to New York City, and he joined a community of talented contemporaries. American art was in a period of rapid experimental growth which was the origination of [Abstract Expressionism](#). Gershon’s art preceded this movement and he is known as an early Modernist. His closest friend and confidant was [Milton Avery](#) (1885-1965) with whom he shared work, materials, and critical support.

Gershon Benjamin was a working man, spending years on the graveyard shift as a touchup artist for a New York Newspaper. After a night of work, he would make his way home through the quiet city streets to his New York apartment he shared with Zelda. Many of his cityscapes reflect a cool and almost “haunting” early morning light that was an integral part of his daily experience during this period of his life.

At the age of 12, Gershon knew the only thing he wanted to do with his life was to “paint beautiful pictures.” Throughout the years, Gershon sought every opportunity to pursue his artistic passion, sketching on any available surface—matchbook covers, newsprint, and discarded paper, seldom having access to higher quality materials. His artistic soul is found in all of his work. “Gershon’s goal was to arrest beauty,” Ms. Facey explains, “you see and enjoy the beauty he experienced. He never surrendered to commercial interests.”

After years of detailed cataloguing and archiving a lifetime of art, the Gershon Benjamin Foundation is actively exhibiting and enlightening the public to Gershon’s “soul-moving” work. Ms. Facey, a full-time resident in Heaven’s Landing, has brought this show to Clayton making these masterful works available to a new audience. The Foundation’s mission is to provide grants to “mid and late career artists” in honor of Benjamin’s dedication to his passion and contributions to the art community. The Foundation has already extended these gifts to the local art guild.

“I believe 200 years into the future Gershon Benjamin’s name will be as well-known as van Gogh’s is today,” confides Ms. Facey. “He followed his own path and represented life’s experiences as he witnessed them. He followed his heart and that shows through the decades of his work. I’m delighted to share this with the people of Northeast Georgia.”

Special Olympics at Rabun County High School



Top: Opening ceremonies at the 2012 Special Olympics held at Rabun County High School track.

Holly's son, Sean Macaulay competes with assistance from RCHS girls track team members, Bri English and Rabun Wright.

Left: Reining RCHS Queen, Bryleigh Bleckley, presents Sean with his medal.

Right: Holly joins the winning team with Special Education instructor Lynn Talley.



Congratulations Sean!

Simply Homegrown is OPEN!!



*Market Kicks Off! Saturday **May 5**. Join us for our first market of the season featuring vibrant locally-grown starter plants, garden fresh green and other veggies, eggs, baked goods and much, much more. Local artist and poet Laurence Holden will be leading us at 9AM in an invocation, blessing for our market's season, and Marie Dunkle will join in with lively fiddle music.*

Joleen Oh from the Kudzu factory will be demonstrating the weaving skills passed to her by her mother, Nancy Basket. One of her beautiful baskets filled with market goodies makes a perfect Mother's Day gift or a sustainable shopping basket for yourself!

Strawberries at their Peak!

If you love berries, you must visit Osage Farms Produce Stand on Hwy 441 N in Rabun Gap. All spring and summer they will have beautiful selection of produce items, but early May is the time for the best tasting strawberries ANYWHERE.



Upcoming Events

Heaven's Landing Expo Schedule:

Look for Mike and Holly at these major aviation fly-ins and events:

- [Cirrus Owners & Pilots \(COPA\) July 5-8 in Duluth, Minnesota.](#)
- [EAA AirVenture Oshkosh July 23-29 in Oshkosh, Wisconsin.](#)
- [Citation Jet Pilots Association \(CJP\) September 12-16 in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho.](#)
- [Aircraft Owners & Pilots Association \(AOPA\) October 11-13 in Palm Springs, California.](#)
- [National Business Aviation Association \(NBAA\) October 30– November 1 in Orlando, Florida.](#)



Area Events:

First Friday Fest

May 4

May kicks off 6 months of great music and fellowship at the Rock House garden in downtown Clayton. Bring your lawn chair for this monthly free event sponsored by the Clayton Merchants.

Simply Homegrown Market

May 5

Each Saturday from 9-2 this award winning farmer's market and their wide range of vendors will offer all varieties of farm grown products and produce. Now located at the Clayton City Hall just 1 mile from downtown on HWY 76 W.



Awakening of the Vines

May 5

Annual spring festival featuring a gourmet picnic, bonfire of the winter pruning and dancing in the vineyards by the [Marching Abominable Feed and Seed Band](#). This event is open to Wine Club members and their guests. If you are not a member and would like to take part in this event go to www.tigerwine.com or call 706-782-4777 for information.



Spring Farm Day

May 12

Come to this spring planting festival. There will be crafts, music, food, and special offers in the Country Store from 9 am to 5:30 pm. Call 706-782-4995 or visit www.hillsideorchard.com for more information.

Lakemont Art and Antiques Walk

May 18-19

Welcome to Lakemont Village. Join us during this spring weekend for refreshments, new merchandise, guest vendors, and a new venue at Harry Norman Building. From 8 am—5 pm both days. www.historiclakemontvillage.com

Warrior Dash

May 19-20

Back for their third year at Blue Ridge Camp, this crazy 3.2 mile 11 -obstacle course will leave you muddy and smiling. Sign up today for [Warrior Dash](#) in Mountain City, GA.

Second Annual Rodeo

June 1-2

Come out to the Rabun Arena for this second annual rodeo by [Bar-W Rodeo Company](#). This is a professional rodeo sanctioned by the Professional Cowboys Association (www.pca.com). Adults \$12, Ages 6-12 \$6, children 5 & under free. For more information please contact Van Canup at 706-781-9880.

Flower & Liturgical Arts Festival

June 9-10

You will be amazed at the beauty in bloom at St. James Episcopal Church's 6th annual Festival. This year's theme is "Take My Hands". Join us from 10-5 both days. Free admission. Special presentations will also be held. See the St. James Website for additional information or please call 706.782.6179.



Chattooga River Festival

June 22-24

Rabun County, GA & Longcreek, SC

The Chattooga River Festival was created to encourage environmental stewardship in conjunction with the responsible recreational use of the Chattooga River watershed. Its mission is to increase awareness of the importance of protecting and preserving the unique ecological environment & scenic beauty of this valuable resource. All events will be posted and in both Rabun County, GA & Longcreek, SC. For more information go to www.chattoogariverfestival.com

Our Community



- **Weather Link.** Stay up to date on the Clayton, GA weather conditions and forecast from NOAA. <http://forecast.weather.gov/>



- **Wi-Fi** is available at the Clubhouse. Stay connected with your personal devices as you enjoy the amenities.



- **Go Green!** Please update your contact information with our office at 706.212.0017 or sales@heavenslanding.com and make sure we have your latest email address, so you will stay informed.



- **Stay in Touch.** "Like" us on [Facebook](#), "[Heaven's Landing Residential Airpark.](#)"



- **Let us Know About Your Aviation Groups.** Give the office a call and share what groups and organizations you belong to, the website address, and the organization's contact information. (800) HEAVEN 2.

- Fish year round and enjoy our local lakes. 'Tis the season to go boating! We wish to remind all owners and visitors to take advantage of our area lakes and plan ahead for July 4th. Rentals are available at [Anchorage Boat Rentals](#) at 706-212-0534 or [LaPrades Marina](#) at 706-947-0010.

Personal Trainer—Elisa Hopkins



Heaven's Landing welcomes Elisa Hopkins. Elisa is a certified Personal Trainer and tailors training for men and women to the individual's interest and goals. Elisa currently conducts five classes ranging in aerobic, kick-boxing, dance aerobics, and strength training at the dance studio at Rabun Gap Nacoochee School. She has offered to conduct classes and specialized instruction for Heaven's Landing owners and their guests in the Clubhouse fitness room.



Contact Elisa at 706-982-2302.

Heaven's Landing Services

Heaven's Landing Concierge Service

We offer the finest, personalized, and professional services to meet your needs. Whether it's scheduling a trustworthy service to clean your home, picking up groceries, or keeping up with routine maintenance, Heaven's Landing Concierge Service will maintain your property, so you can fully enjoy your Heaven's Landing home. Please contact our office for an estimate: 706.212.0017 or sales@heavenslanding.com.



"Work with someone you know and trust."

Our Current Fuel Prices



Self Serve Pumps

AV GAS	\$5.95/ gal*
JET A	\$4.95/ gal*



**Prices Subject to Change. Prices as of May 1, 2012*

Thank you for being a part of Heaven's Landing. For an archived electronic library of our Heaven's Landing Newsletter showcasing the year's local and aviation events as well as the amazing beauty of Heaven's Landing and surrounding areas, please see www.heavenslanding.com and "[newsletter](#)" link.

For questions or comments regarding the newsletter please contact Jan at janclay@windstream.net.



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