



BREVARD/TRANSYLVANIA

Offering Newcomers Quiet Respite By Laurel Hyatt

Surrounded by waterfalls, endless mountain vistas, and filled with talented craftspeople and musicians, as well as unique shops and restaurants; the City of Brevard and Transylvania County offer visitors and residents alike the true meaning of the phrase variety being the “spice of life.” National news sources and travel magazines such as *The Wall Street Journal*, *Rand McNally* and *National Geographic Traveler* have consistently named the area one of America’s top places to live and play.

Nature’s Treasures

Whoever named the region certainly captured its spirit. Transylvania County (“trans” – meaning ‘across or beyond’ and “sylvan” – meaning ‘the woods’) has more than 300 miles of hiking trails with around 50% of the locale made up of federal- and state-protected land; including Pisgah National Forest, Nantahala National Forest, the Blue Ridge Parkway, DuPont State Forest and Gorges State Park.

The area is home to the largest concentration of waterfalls in the United States with over 260 spectacular waterfalls cascading down waterways such as the French Broad, Davidson and Horsepasture rivers. This “Land of the Waterfalls”

gives residents and visitors ample opportunity to enjoy the outdoors however they desire. Whether dry-fly fishing on the Davidson River, one of the best trout streams in America, or gearing up for an exhilarating climb up the face of the rock formation known as Devil’s Courthouse; the outdoors welcomes professionals and amateurs alike.

Gail Masterson, Director of Sales for Cadence Point Development, says their company chose the area for those very reasons. “The two strongest ‘selling’ points of this area was its natural beauty and, of course, its people. At Cadence Point we tell our prospective buyers it is like having a 100,000 acre backyard when you consider the amazing amount of forest-land, streams and waterfalls that surround us.” Masterson continued by saying, “If you add to all of this natural beauty the friendly and talented townspeople, craftspeople and musicians here, you understand why the area is rated so highly by national magazines and organizations and why it’s so attractive to companies like ours.”

John Graham is a financial advisor who moved his business to Brevard. “I expanded my financial planning business to Brevard from New England five years ago,” said Graham. “Besides

its lovely small-town feel and stunning topography and climate, Brevard has become a focal point for those thinking about retirement from throughout the States. As soon as we first saw Brevard, we decided we didn’t want to wait until we retired to live here – we moved down the next year!”

Like Graham more and more people are not even waiting until retirement age to move to Brevard. Its natural beauty is hypnotizing. Unique experiences in the “great outdoors” invite families from across the country.

Cradle of Forestry is a historic 7,500-acre site that commemorates “the birthplace of Forest Conservation in America,” the forestry school, founded by Dr. Carl Schenck, chief forester for George Vanderbilt’s Biltmore Estate, in 1898. Visitors can learn about forest conservation through a host of hands-on exhibits and hiking trails. Spring reopening dates, hours of operation and other information can be found at: <http://www.cradleofforestry.com/>

The Pisgah Center for Wildlife Education and the Bobby Setzer State Fish Hatchery, features hatchery raceways of brook, rainbow and brown trout. Visitors can see the entire growth process and can even “feed the fish” for some added fun. There’s also

an interpretive trail and garden for a glimpse of native flowers and plants.

Finally, enjoy an award-winning documentary on the natural history of the mountains as well as an “up-close and personal” visit with live animals including large aquariums holding fish, frogs, salamanders and snakes. The Center is open year-round except for some holidays and some small changes to hours of operations during winter months. For more information: <https://ncpaws.org/reservations/pisgah/welcome.aspx>.

Brevard’s White Squirrels

Perhaps the most unusual outdoor treasure of Brevard is the appearance of the famous White Squirrels.

According to local legend, the white squirrels were first introduced into the area by a family who brought a pair of squirrels back to Brevard from Florida as pets. One escaped and after the second was let go residents of Brevard soon began seeing what looked like white squirrels all around the area. The animals became so cherished by the townspeople, that in 1986 the Brevard

City Council voted unanimously to pass an ordinance protecting them. Biologists have since asserted that to their knowledge there is no known species of all-white squirrels in the entire world.

Town of Brevard

Brevard, county seat of Transylvania County, has fought the trend of small-town America to be bypassed and suburbanized into losing the endearing qualities of yesterday.

With a quaint and refreshing collection of downtown shops, antique stores, art galleries and restaurants, the town of Brevard has grown to become a pleasant blending of old world charm and modern-day technological advances. Everyone seems to have the same goal; preserving the town’s architectural, economic, cultural and environmental integrity.

Brevard/Transylvania Chamber of Commerce.

Since 1923, the Brevard/Transylvania Chamber of Commerce has served as a community partner and an advocate and resource for business. The Chamber’s member businesses come from all industries not only in Brevard but in surrounding areas of Transylvania County.

College Walk Retirement Community is one of the Chamber members working hard to improve the quality of life of the entire region. Diana Brettschneider is Marketing Director for College Walk. “College Walk is unique in that the community was conceived in the mid 1980s by a steering committee with the local AARP chapter. Many retired Brevard residents knew they were reluctant to consider leaving a town as special as Brevard if their homes were no longer working for them as they aged so the idea for College Walk was born.” Brettschneider added, “The community continues to attract area retirees, as well as retirees who are discovering Brevard for the first time. We think it’s a perfect match for someone who wants a sense of community and our full service, comfortably upscale amenities create a wonderful backdrop for >

All the Right Moves...

Relocation has its challenges. But worrying about your financial transition shouldn’t be one of them. So whether you’re just dreaming about moving here or you have unpacked the last box and breathed in some of that cool mountain air, why not take a fresh look at your financial picture?

As a CPA (former Big 5) and CFP Practitioner®, I bring more than 30 years of experience to my Brevard-based practice. I specialize in helping people relocating to this area design and fulfill their retirement goals. And I can help you, too.

Make another smart move by calling for your complimentary consultation today. Or e-mail JGraham@USWealthCompanies.com.

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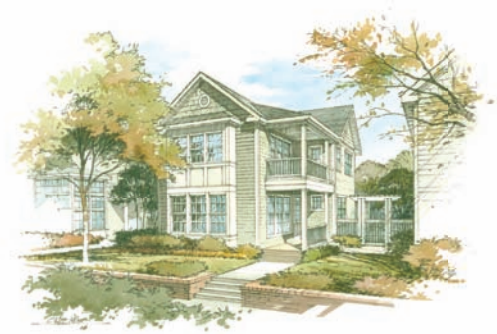
Here you'll find timeless home designs that are just the right size for your life. Open floor plans, 1st floor master bedrooms, gourmet kitchens, full span front porches and covered balconies inspire impromptu gatherings. An imminently walkable community with sidewalks, tree lined streets and a bike path invites neighbors to cross paths and get to know one another. And a kid's "vacant lot" playground, neighborhood relaxation park and community pavilion provide the ideal environment for cultivating community and friends.

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Franklin



Parkview



Maple

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individuals to create their own version of what retirement means to them.”

Heart of Brevard

Another organization aimed at keeping Brevard growing is the Heart of Brevard. This non-profit organization's purpose is to revitalize the downtown area through design, economic restructuring, promotion, and organization. The Heart of Brevard has a professional staff and is guided by a board of directors and membership made up of downtown business owners and civic leaders. Wimberly Construction is one of those members who have been part of Brevard's downtown business revival. For over 30 years they've offered high-end home, business and industry construction and remodeling to the area. Jenny Wren daughter of owner John Wimberly says like many of the area's companies, it's always been a 'family affair.' "I was actually born here and grew up here. Dad and mom moved up here from Florida and fell in love with the people and the area. I grew

up working in the business." Even Wren's brother, Westin, who has his own company, still works with the family business from time to time as a subcontractor.

Though primarily funded by tax revenue from these downtown businesses and properties, additional revenue for the Heart of Brevard is received from the City of Brevard and from their many festival sponsors.

Festivals and Events

White Squirrel Festival

By far the most unusual celebration/festival in Brevard is the Memorial Day weekend White Squirrel Festival. Each year around 25,000 people crowd the streets of the town for music, food, crafts and of course the Annual Squirrel Box Derby. A 5K/10K race was added to the roster of activities 2 years ago and has become a festival favorite.

The White Squirrel Festival was voted "Best Spring Music Festival in Western North Carolina" by Asheville Citizen Times News Poll in 2008 and 2009 looks to be just as exciting. The

6th Annual Brevard White Squirrel Festival is set for: May 23-24, 2009.

Fourth of July Celebration

Independence Day has always been a major event in Brevard. The festival is held downtown and the day starts off with the 5K/10K Firecracker Run, organized by the Brevard Rotary Club. During the day, downtown streets are closed as the Transylvania Community Arts Council hosts its Annual Fine Arts & Craft Showcase. Visitors can shop for items as well as meet many of the region's artists. The Classic Automobile Show stretches for blocks with a chance to auto-lust for 1920s to 1970s vintage vehicles. Throughout the day the music never stops.

The downtown parade on the 4th is created just for children. Here they can decorate and ride their favorite bicycles. Ribbons are awarded to the winners and for a brief while, a passing bit of bygone Americana is preserved for a new generation. As the day fades, the crowd is treated to a huge fireworks display guaranteed to please the whole family.

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Halloweenfest and Twilight Tour
 With a name like Transylvania (County), where else would you want to spend Halloween? This fun-filled end-of-October holiday is just one more reason to visit Brevard. Like the White Squirrel Festival and Fourth of July Celebration, Halloweenfest once again turns downtown Brevard into a shopping and food-filled playground for kids and adults alike. There are games for the whole family, food, treats, and of course music. The Flight of the Vampire 5K Race & Fun Walk round out the festivities. The

27th annual Halloweenfest is set for October 31st, 2009.

In 2009 Brevard will also hold its 22nd Twilight Tour through its downtown streets. Amazing and mystical lights adorn buildings and trees, sidewalks are lined with luminaries' glow, and choirs of school children and community groups fill the air with holiday cheer. There are horse-drawn carriage rides and the 5K Jingle Bell Run not to mention a great opportunity to get in some holiday shopping. The Twilight Tour is

scheduled each year during the first week of December.

Arts and music

Brevard Music Center and Brevard College with the Porter Center for Performing Arts.

Throughout the year, these venues produce world-class jazz and classical concerts, musicals and operas, attracting renowned performers. In addition to the regular season of concerts, Brevard Music Center orchestrates a summer program that is legendary for its performances and for its teaching and mentoring of talented young artists.

Brevard College is a celebrated four-year liberal arts institution. The 700-seat Porter Center for Performing Arts at Brevard College has earned recognition as one of the finest performance halls in the South. Outstanding acoustics and unobstructed sightlines compliment a stage large enough for a symphony, or intimate enough for a soloist.

Transylvania Community Arts Council

The Transylvania Community Arts Council is a nonprofit organization with the mission "...to enhance the quality of life in Transylvania County by celebrating and nurturing the creative spirit of artists, youth and individuals throughout the county." Some of their activities include: Artists' Residencies where North Carolina artists spend a week in the schools, giving students a hands-on art experience. The School Performance Series ensuring that every student in the county attends a live, professional performance annually, featuring multi-cultural music, theater and dance. The TCAC also works with other civic groups and business organizations to sponsor the many street festivals.

A great place to call home
 There is so much to see and do in this "Land of the Waterfalls" – Unsurpassed natural beauty, rich heritage, friendly people, talented craftsmen and world-class musicians. 's something for everyone. Come find your place here in Brevard/Transylvania County. *

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