



November 4th is fast approaching, and all Americans must make a very important decision.....**Who will be the next President of our great country?**

This election is a very important one, and it is the duty of every individual who is registered to cast their vote on Election Day. Don't miss your opportunity to make a difference! For Absentee Ballots, call 473-8235.

Troutville Texaco

By Jan Smith

"Hats Off" to Tony and his support staff, Debra and Butch, at the Troutville Texaco station! They are ready to greet us with a smile and provide us with a needed service whenever we drive up. If they are unable to fix it, they know the right resource to refer us to.

They are especially sensitive to the individual needs of others, and make special efforts to meet those needs. Troutville residents have relayed stories of various deeds "above and beyond the call of duty" performed for them. Residents also express a deep appreciation of the fact that the weather does not preclude them from providing service with a sweet spirit.

For most of us, our automobiles are a valuable and vital part of our lives; we are grateful for the "angels" who help us maintain them. *Thanks Texaco!*

The God and Service Award Boy Scouts of America

The Catawba District Boy Scouts of America have awarded Leslie Woodie of Troutville, the "God and Service Award". Leslie has given much of her time to her family, her church and the youth of Botetourt County.

Leslie has served as the Popcorn Chairperson, Troop 137 Committee, Board of Review for Troop 137, Pinewood Derby for Pack 137, Catawba District Friends of Scouting and Venture Crew Advisor. She has been a member of the PTA, Odyssey of the Mind Coordinator and Judge, served on After-Prom Committee and was Art Chairperson for the Fincastle Festival. Leslie is a member of Troutville Church of the Brethren, serves on the Praise Team and is the Music Chairperson.

Thank you Leslie, for all the work you do for the Youth of Botetourt County and others!

*Len Miller, Troop 137 Committee Member
Troutville Church of the Brethren*

Perfect Day at the Park

By Lee Minnix

Just recently, on a beautiful September Sunday afternoon, I took a stroll through the park – what a delightful experience it was!

A two-year old child was on the basketball court with his Mom...so happy to finally get his arms around that great, big basketball.

As I walked toward the picnic shelter, I saw a co-ed volleyball game in progress. I recognized a few of the players as our local volunteer firefighters. They looked like they were really good, and I was very glad they didn't ask me to join them.

As I rounded the corner, I noticed three picnic tables in the shade of a beautiful, old oak tree. They were nicely dressed with table cloths and lots of food. Several folks were having a wonderful time eating and visiting – perhaps a family reunion. As I watched, I started to miss my family in upstate New York; we did the same thing every Sunday afternoon in the summer on our farm. What sweet memories!

As I continued my stroll, a sweet, elderly couple caught my eye – they were sitting on the bench near the bridge holding hands. Once again, by thoughts drifted back to my family – my grandparents often sat together, hand-in-hand, enjoying each other's company.

There was another picnic table with Moms from Bonsack, whose children were playing on the slide and merry-go-round while Dad was home watching football.

The smaller shelter was full of balloons and streamers in preparation for an upcoming birthday party.

And I couldn't help but notice another family in the large, grassy area putting up a child-size volleyball net while the children waited anxiously to play.

As is usually the case, I wish I had had a camera with me. My friend, Len, would have loved to have snapshots of all this sweet activity for her town scrapbook.

We are so fortunate to have this beautiful park which is used and appreciated by so many. Maybe we should change the motto of our town to –

***"Troutville...-
The Town with the Park"***



Don't miss -
"Praise in the Park"
Saturday, October 18, 2008
10am - 2pm

Free Food and Live Music

Sponsored by Troutville/New Bethel Church of the Brethren

For more information on the "Friends of the Park", contact -

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