

# HEAVEN'S LANDING

## Like no Place on Earth

September 2011

### Heaven's Landing Turning 10! - A Review by Mike Ciochetti

*It is hard to believe, but Heaven's Landing will soon celebrate its 10th Birthday. Wow! What an amazing 10 years it has been. It seems as if we started this venture just the other day. Time sure flies when you're having fun!*

*Initially thought to be a crazy pipe dream, Heaven's Landing has grown over the past 10 years from a long strip of pasture land with mountains around it into what is now the finest fly-in community in the world.*

*Six hundred and thirty-five acres of pristine mountain vistas surrounded by the U.S. National Forest, yet we are still only 7 minutes from downtown. With a beautiful, long and safe 5,069 foot paved and lighted concrete runway, along with an architecturally stunning 13,000 square foot Community Clubhouse, complete with racquetball, steam and sauna, no other fly-in community offers what we have, where we have it.*

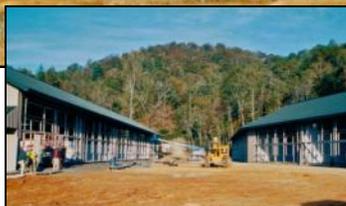
*Heaven's Landing is surrounded by an abundance of world class amenities, including some of the finest lakes in the world, numerous golf courses, shopping, whitewater rafting, zip lining, horseback riding, cycling, hiking, hunting, fishing, boating, kayaking, motorcycling, snow skiing, rock climbing and much more. Heaven's Landing is the perfect place to do everything, and also the perfect place to relax and do absolutely nothing at all.*

*It has taken the cumulative efforts of numerous people working countless hours to bring Heaven's Landing to where it is today. It began with sixteen dedicated partners who invested in the concept when a concept was all that there was. We developed great relationships with good bankers that believed in the dream. And, it was the hard work of numerous employees, architects, engineers, surveyors, contractors, law enforcement officers, along with the cooperation from a supportive county government, and finally, of course, our great Heaven's Landing customers which allowed it all to come together. Heartfelt thanks goes out to these amazing people and those in the GA community who have helped to make Heaven's Landing the wonderful place that it is today.*

Continued, page 2.



A "crazy pipe dream's" modest beginnings as pasture land.



Progression of the state of the art hangars archived on film.



Anniversary

P-51 !!

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**- Anniversary Continued.**

*None of it however has been easy! Over the past 10 years, Heaven's Landing has endured the loss of three partners to fatality. John Martin died in a fatal plane crash in Alabama. Joe Walan Sr., my grandfather, passed after succumbing to complications from leukemia, as well as Joe Walan Jr., my uncle, who died after a heart attack. They will forever be remembered for their support and sacrifice.*

*Heaven's Landing has also endured the terrorist attacks on 9/11 and the uncertainty that followed regarding U.S. aviation in general. None of us will ever forget that day, or that time. More recently Heaven's Landing has been forced to endure a weakened economy and a stock market crash.*

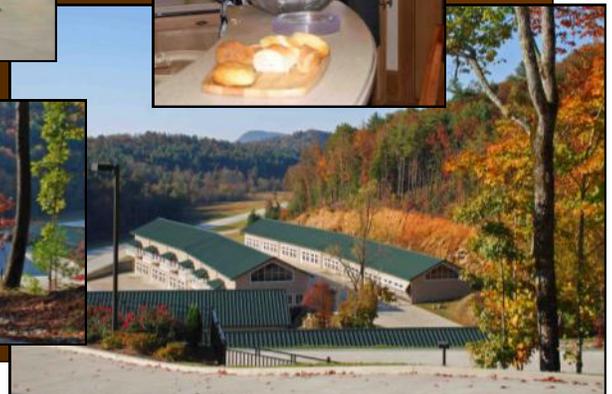
*The irony of it all is that with each pitfall over the past 10 years Heaven's Landing has come out stronger and more viable on the other side. In a strange twist of fate 9/11 turned into a windfall for general aviation as commercial travel became more and more inconvenient. And the downturn in the stock market now has the smart investors looking once again at the safe and tangible investment in real estate. Heaven's Landing truly has been blessed despite it all.*

*If you've never been to Heaven's Landing you owe it to yourself to come and take a look. Whether you stay for a couple of hours or a couple of days, we promise that you are going to want to live here forever! Heaven's Landing truly is like no place on earth!*

*Please try to make it a point to join the entire Heaven's Landing family on October 1<sup>st</sup> for our 10 year anniversary fly-in. We'll have good food, live entertainment, great static displays, lots of fun flying to watch, and most importantly some of the finest people you will ever meet, all in one really beautiful place!*



**Heaven's Landing Grand Opening Celebration  
October 2001**



## P-51 D Mustang "Gentleman Jim" and Mike Ciochetti

"It is the plane that won World War II for us!" exclaimed a beaming Mike Ciochetti. "After 10 years of promises and a lifetime of dreaming about it, I finally got my P-51 ride, and the circumstances could not have been any better."

In 2001, Mike and his family bought his father (Mike Sr.) a ride in the P-51 "Crazy Horse" for his 70<sup>th</sup> birthday present. Quite the gift at \$2,750 dollars! It was a wonderful memory that Mike Sr. and the family will never forget. It was shortly after that time that a nagging but delightful promise was made between good friends, Ray "Hollywood" Fowler and Mike Ciochetti Jr. Fowler told Mike that he didn't need to *buy* a ride in a P-51, Ray said that if Mike was patient he would get him his own brush with history for free. But just how patient???

Time passed, opportunities kept coming, but for 10 years Mike was never in the right place at the right time. Most recently there was an opportunity to transport Jim Hagedorn's P-51 "Old Crow" from Atlanta to Columbus, Ohio, but transportation for the return flight was needed; so, Mike gave his seat in the Mustang to his wife, Holly, while he flew chase in the Cessna 210. "I must really love her!" exclaimed Mike. "Man was I jealous!"

Then on the final day of Air Venture 2011 at Oshkosh, the stars lined up for the ride of a lifetime, and the fulfillment of a 10 year promise. Ray Fowler called Mike that morning and explained that he was going to shuttle Jack Roush's P-51D, "Gentleman Jim" to Ypsilanti, Michigan, and he had an empty seat. "Get us a shuttle back from Ypsilanti, and you can finally have your ride", said Ray.

Mike reports an immediate jump into action, but everyone that could potentially shuttle the pair back from Ypsilanti was otherwise occupied with the final day of Air Venture. "It was looking bad for me. Another disappointment and missed opportunity, until I began to consider the unthinkable".

"There are two things I won't let anyone use, my wife and my airplane", said Mike. "Now I guess there is only one!" Nicely, a good friend Jeff Lyons offered to fly Mike's Cessna 210 in chase to pick up Ray and Mike for the return trip back to Oshkosh. Jeff took off on the 250 nautical mile trip ahead of Mike and Ray as they made their last minute preparations for the flight.

"As I strapped on my parachute I was overcome with emotion, and could hardly believe how fortunate I was to finally get this opportunity", said Mike. "After all, this was not just any old P-51, it belonged to Jack Roush! In 2007 at Talladega, the last race of my 29 year driving career was in a Roush Racing Ford Fusion. Then there was my pilot, Ray Fowler who is an F-16 jockey in the National Guard with three combat tours in Iraq! How cool is that, and how could you ask for anyone better?"



"Gentleman Jim" arrives home (left).  
Jack Roush's P-51B "Old Crow" (right).

## - "Gentleman Jim" Continued.

"Over the southern tip of Lake Michigan, we executed a mock dog fighting maneuver as we intercepted Jeff in the C-210 from about 1,000 feet above. It gave us all a chuckle when Jeff yelled 'Whoa!' as we flashed by in front of him in a steep dive. It also gave me a small glimpse of what it must have been like to truly be in combat in what is considered to be one of the greatest fighter planes of all time."

"We then joined up with Jeff in tight formation, and this was the first time I had ever seen my plane in flight from the outside. It was all so very awesome! The culmination of the ideal plane, pilot and place, combined with great weather and a host of perfect circumstances made this my flight of a lifetime."



Mike's C-210 up close and personal.



*"My sincere thanks go out to everyone who made this flight possible, but my utmost thanks go out to the brave men who flew and fought in this aircraft to preserve the liberty and freedom of our country. Without them, my small taste of history may have never been possible. God bless America."*

*Mike Ciochetti Jr.*

## Resources to Plan Your Heaven's Landing Experience

### Hotel and Accommodations

[The Dillard House](#)—800-541-0671  
[Beechwood Inn B&B](#)—706-782-5485  
[Old Clayton Inn](#)—706-782-7722

### Rental Agencies

[Duvall Ford Company](#)— 706-782-4231  
[Enterprise Rentals](#)—828-349-0078

### Lake Resources

[Anchorage Marina](#)—706-212-0534  
[La Prades Marina](#)—706-947-0010

### Area Restaurants

[Beechwood Inn](#)  
[Zeppelin's](#)  
[Rumor HazIt](#)  
[Fromage and Other Fine Foods](#)  
[Universal Joint](#)—Located Main St. Clayton  
[Mama G's](#)  
[The Stockton House](#)

### Area Activities

[Southeastern Expeditions](#)—rafting  
[Nantahala Outdoor Center](#)—rafting  
[Wildwater, Ltd.](#)—rafting  
[Tallulah Gorge State Park](#)—camping and hiking  
[Black Rock State Park](#)—camping and hiking  
[Promenade of the Arts](#)—fine arts  
[Main Street Gallery](#)—fine arts  
[Butler Galleries](#)—fine arts  
[Andy's Trout Farm](#)—fishing



## Post Oshkosh AirVenture

After arriving home from EAA's AirVenture, Mike and Holly have worked virtually non-stop. "We've had 28 tours in 21 days," Mike reports. He emphasizes that the attendees were the "most qualified" that they had seen at an air show—"ever". According to many vendors, the show had a different and very positive attitude this year. AVWeb news' Mary Grandy says, "people were in a buying mood." EAA reports they had 541,000 in attendance.

Mike points out that he has noticed, when the economy has its downturns, the real estate business gets a boost. "Real estate is a tangible asset and stable investment," states Mike. "We deal with a segment of the population that is savvier than most."



Holly and the Heaven's Landing Angels greet attendees at their booth at AirVenture in early August.

Tours of Heaven's Landing are available 7 days a week. Contact the [office](#) at (800) HEAVEN 2.

## New Heaven's Landing Promotional Video

We are so proud to announce the newly revised Heaven's Landing promotional video. Aviation Cinematographer Jim Grosser updated the DVD using spectacular new footage and owner interviews.

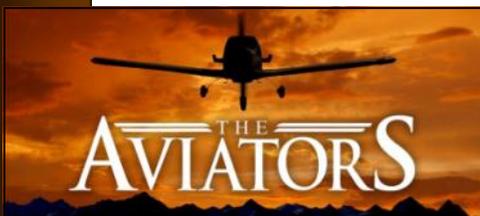
Pick one up and share it. Come visit Mike and Holly at major trade shows across the country or call (800) HEAVEN 2 for a copy.

Join Mike and Holly in Savannah, Georgia from September 1- 4 for the [International Comanche Society](#) Show.

Come out and see what great things are happening at Heaven's Landing!



## New Season of *The Aviators* Airs this Month



By now you are probably aware that all of us at Heaven's Landing are eagerly awaiting the new season of Public Television's [The Aviators](#). Check out their website and the Season 2 Preview. The opener is a montage of various scenes. You might recognize several images from Heaven's Landing and our owner's planes. The producers tell us **our** episode, filmed last May, will air as Episode 10. Stay tuned!!!

## Liberty Belle Restoration

Heaven's Landing is a proud supporter of the B-17 "Liberty Belle" restoration project. In Oshkosh, Mike and Holly sold raffle tickets for a ride in the [Liberty Belle Foundation's](#) P-40E "Warhawk." The fund raiser proceeds go directly to the restoration efforts underway for the B-17 due to the severe damaged sustained *after* a safe forced landing. To date, the tickets have generated over \$600. A winner will be announced soon.

It was two and a half months ago, when the Liberty Belle's crew stood helplessly watching this celebrated plane burn. Fire crews deemed it unsafe to allow apparatuses to enter the landing site. Private donations can be made by visiting the [Foundation's site](#).



### Visiting Planes

Oh, we've seen it all at Heaven's Landing in recent weeks. Here is just a small but varied sampling:



*It is great to see all of our guests from the air or on land. We'll see you again October 1!*

### John's New Plane (Or is it Susan's?)

Heaven's Landing owners John and Susan Cokinogenis keep us busy checking out their new acquisitions. "John says he buys them for Susan, who enjoys flying, but she is not the pilot in the family," reports Mike.

The latest Cokinogenis' baby is a [Panzl](#) S330, a handcrafted custom designed aerobatics plane. Mike contributed these photos; and because he knows John so well, Mike included his thoughts.



John with son, Quentin, at his Heaven's Landing Hangar.



### Laban Turns 4!!

Mike and Holly's grandson Laban Long turned 4 on August 5th complete with many smiles, friends, family and an awesome gift.



*Drive carefully and congratulations!*

## New Homes Taking Shape

Two new homes are coming along quickly in Heaven's Landing both under the supervision of builder Shaun Greer of SnK Specialties of Dillard, Georgia.

First is Dr. Tom and Jan Nasser's Montana Log Home located on Richard Bong Drive. The home arrived in Heaven's Landing on the back of 18 tractor trailers from its build site in Kalispell, Montana. Shaun received it and began the reconstruction process. "We are working on the finishing touches now," Shaun tell us. "Barbie White and Holli Watts from [Veronica Ann's Inc.](#) will begin the artistic fine detail work next week."



Shaun expects that the Nasser's can start the moving in process in October. "Shaun is doing an outstanding job with the finishing touches, and the closer it gets to being finished, the more excited we are," Jan Nasser states. "Tom and I, as well as a lot of our family, may be coming to spend Thanksgiving Day weekend—that is also when Tom will be turning the 'big 50.'" What better place is there to celebrate his birthday?!"

Nasser's home, top right; balcony view, above; and interior right.



The Johnson home as tresses are set in late August (above).

Going from ground breaking to raised tresses, the Doug and Sue Johnson home on Anderson Drive, is quickly taking form as well. Doug tells us, "we are currently in the midst of selecting faucets, tiles, shingles, flooring, and all the other goodies that make a house a home. Now that something is rising from the ground, of course we want to move in—yesterday!"

Your community is excited about the moves as well!

## A Fantastic Dinner Out at The Farmhouse

The Ciochetti', Cokinogenis' and Mike Greenwood stepped out on the farm for a gourmet dinner on August 18. Located adjacent to the Persimmon Creek Vineyards, [The Farmhouse](#) is a "soil to table" seasonal culinary delight, with Persimmon Creek Wines grown just feet from the restaurant's door. Each step of the process is overseen by proprietors Chef Vince Scafiti and his wife Donna.

"It was delicious," states Holly, "what a beautiful location." The Farmhouse is 3 miles from Heaven's Landing's entrance on Blue Ridge Gap Road.

The restaurant is open on Fridays and Saturdays and guests should make reservations. Call 706.212.2020 to reserve your spot and receive details regarding their seasonal menu offerings.



## Rhapsody in Rabun Invites You Out for a "Taste of the Mountains"

Rhapsody in Rabun is in its 20th year! It is an annual gala event that benefits a chosen local charitable organization, and YOU are invited.

This year's event will be **September 12 at the Rabun County Civic Center** benefiting the Chattooga Conservancy's Stekoa Creek Park Project. The evening will be filled with elegance, fun, and purpose.

Organizers have been planning for months in preparation for this beautiful park-themed black tie (optional) fund raising event. The evening begins as early as 5 pm, as guests may arrive to peruse the over 350 silent auction items while sampling appetizers and sipping local wines. At 6 pm, the dining room doors are open and the gourmet buffet is served.

As the evening gets underway, guests may eat, drink, socialize and check out the specialty items on display for the live auction event later in the evening.

This year the entertainment is the world renown group, [The Tams](#), and the 14 Karat Gold Band. Starting at 7 pm, their performance is guaranteed to get you up and moving either dancing with your sweetheart or grooving with friends at your table!

At 9:15 professional auctioneer, Greg Peters of Golden Memories Auctions will take center floor to auction off up to 10 highly valued specialty items including a handcrafted Dwayne Thompson signed breakfront, a portrait sitting with internationally known [Mary Villon de Benveniste](#) (who did the famous President and Mrs. Bush, Sr. portrait), vacations packages, and many more unique and exciting items.

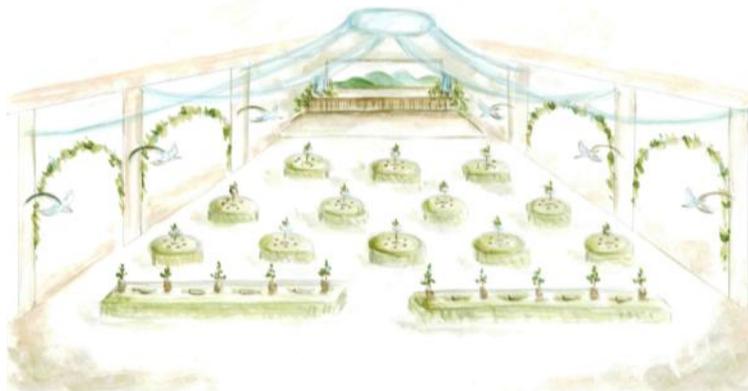
"This is a wonderful event for our community to come together for a great cause and have an amazing and affordable night out," commented Rhapsody President Margaret Patrick. All proceeds will go to the Conservancy's Park Project which will create a community park from a once mistreated piece of land. Soon locals and visitors will enjoy this green space with a walking trail, a large gathering pavilion, bridge, and natural gardens along the Stekoa Creek. The site is on Highway 441 North, 1/2 mile north of Highway 76 in Clayton next to the Georgia Mountain Flea Market.

Individual and group tickets are available now for this action packed evening. Bring a group or simply come out to see your community. Hope to see a Heaven's Landing group dancing the night away!

Contact [Mary Ann Rich](#) 706-490-1494 to complete the [reservation process. \(click here for a benefactor form\).](#)



Photographer Peter McIntosh's photo of the Stekoa Creek Park (top). Dwayne Thompson of Timpson Creek Gallery's handcrafted breakfront (above).



The 2010 Rhapsody Gala delighted the attendees. Gourmet offering from [Fromage & Other Fine Foods](#) (above left). Holli Watts sketch of the Rabun County Civic Center transformed into an elegant September 2011 gala evening (above center). April and Daniel Smith's artistic rendering of the Stekoa Creek Park (above right).

# Upcoming Events

## Heaven's Landing Trade Show Schedule:

**Heaven's Landing Anniversary Celebration Fly-In** **October 1**  
 Heaven's Landing celebrates 10 spectacular years. Join us for a weekend of aviation, camaraderie, and fun.

**Mike and Holly Ciochetti, with their brilliant display booth and the Heaven's Landing Angels, will cross the country this year. Plan along with us.**

<a href="#">Malibu Mirage Owners and Pilots Assoc.</a>	Hot Springs, VA	September 14-18
<a href="#">AOPA Aviation Summit</a>	Hartford, CT	September 22-24
<a href="#">NBAA</a> Booth C11522	Las Vegas	October 10-12
<a href="#">Citation Jet Pilots Assoc.</a>	Amelia Island, FL	October 25-29



## Area Events:

**1st Friday Fest** **September 2 & October 7**  
 Bring a picnic and blanket to the Rock House lawn in Downtown Clayton from 6 pm– 9pm and listen to local musicians perform! Brought to you by the Clayton Merchants and Business Association each 1st Friday May-October. Visit [www.downtownclaytonga.org](http://www.downtownclaytonga.org) for more information.

**Simply Homegrown Market** **Saturdays**  
 Simply Homegrown: A Farmers' Market is open Saturdays 9 a.m.-Noon. Offering all-locally grown produce and value-added goods. *Find us in our new location at the Municipal Complex on Hwy 76W.*



**Dillard Art Fest** **September 3-4**  
 Held on the grounds at the Dillard City Hall this outdoor show will features art and food vendors. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**Bluegrass and Fish Fry** **September 3**  
 Join us at Andy's Trout Farm and MacAfee Mountain for some great music provided by the Tallulah River Bluegrass Band. Eat fresh trout and enjoy the fellowship. Dance area available for those who want to shake a leg. 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. Call for tickets 706-746-2550.



**Camp Create-a-Lot Puppetpalooza** **September 6,7,8,12,13,14,15**  
 A two week hands-on puppetry workshop for kids 10-15 running from 4-6 p.m. at the Smoky Mountain Center for Performing Arts. Registration is \$25. Kids will take home what they make with a final showing Sept. 15th at 7:30 p.m. See [www.greatmountainmusic.com](http://www.greatmountainmusic.com) for sign ups.

**Driving Away Hunger** **September 10**  
 Hunger charity Car Show to benefit the Rabun Christian Food Ministry. From 9 a.m.—5 p.m. with contest and prizes all day. Clayton Baptist Church. Contact Diana at 706-982-9404.

**Veterans Memorial** **September 11**  
 Veterans Memorial Parkway Dedication by the City of Clayton. Rock House courtyard at 2 p.m. Contact Cissy Henry for more information 706-782-4512.

**Rhapsody in Rabun** **September 12**  
 Tickets are on sale now for the Gala Charity Event of the Year. Rhapsody in Rabun is a night of gourmet dining from local restaurants and vineyards, music from the Tams, and silent and live auctions benefiting the [Stekoa Creek Project](#). Contact [maryarich@windstream.net](mailto:maryarich@windstream.net) or 706-490-1494.



**Barrel Race Show** **September 23-24**  
 Rabun Arena host a two day barrel race show at 9 am—4 pm both days. Boggs Mtn. Road, Tiger, Ga. Contact Sherri Thornton 770-900-8059 [sherrismailbox@comcast.net](mailto:sherrismailbox@comcast.net).



## 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.



- **What's New with You?** Share photos and stories of what is new in your flying circles. Please send submissions to [janclay@windstream.net](mailto:janclay@windstream.net). (All submissions are subject to editing and the evaluation of content.)



- **Go Green!** Please update your contact information with our office at 706.212.0017 or [sales@heavenslanding.com](mailto: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".



- **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.



- Warmer weather is here and it is time to go boating! We wish to remind all owners and visitors to take advantage of our area lakes this summer. There are many boat rental facilities and boats go quickly. Rentals are available at [LaPrades Marina](#) at 706-947-0010 or [Anchorage Boat Rentals](#) at 706-212-0534.

## 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](mailto:sales@heavenslanding.com).



*"Work with someone you know and trust."*

## Our Current Fuel Prices



### Self Serve Pumps

AV GAS	\$5.65/ gal*
JET A	\$4.95/ gal*



*\*Prices Subject to Change. Prices as of September 1, 2011*

# Home For Sale



A large 4 bedroom brick custom home in beautiful Heaven's Landing with 3 full baths/ 1 half bath on a beautiful mountain view at 3000 feet elevation on 1.51 acre lot. Beautiful craftsmanship interior with hardwood floors, heavy trim, granite countertops and Jeld-Wen windows. Extensive cabinetry, jetted tub, marble master shower, 2 fireplaces, 2-story foyer with second back interior staircase, 2 levels of composite material decks, 3 car garage, large stubbed and studded basement. Propane generator system, dual fuel heat system with central a/c, security system, CO2 and smoke detectors, whole house water filtration system. Stainless steel appliances. Fully furnished. Ready to move in. Previously on the market at \$887,000.00.

Sales price is \$659,000.00.

Please call owner Colleen Brown at 706-202-1436 or email [brown206@windstream.net](mailto:brown206@windstream.net).

See virtual tour: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9NoQ-8kKO10>



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