

The Villager



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From Your HOA Board Members...

As we enter the new year, we want to share that your newly elected HOA board of directors got together with existing members to get acquainted and talk about the events of 2010 and what we hope to accomplish on behalf of the community during 2011 – regaining a sense of community, increasing and improving our communication in the community, and maintaining a quality of life we expect in our community.

As homeowners, families and members of the Charlotte workforce, 2010 has continued to be an economic challenge for us. There does appear to be light at the end of the tunnel (hopefully NOT

from an oncoming train!), but it won't come quick, and we'll continue to be careful with what we spend. This carries over into our duties you elected us to as board members – using our HOA assessments in an economical manner that provides all of us with the best community environment possible.

We all know that, in spite of our recessionary environment, costs have continued to rise – groceries, gas, medical care, and services as examples. This has impacted our HOA community as well; thus the need to raise the dues slightly and

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Subscribe to the Leacroft Yahoo Mailing List

Let's put the "community" back into Leacroft!! Subscribe to the Villages of Leacroft Yahoo Mailing List.

To subscribe, send an email to: LeacroftVillager-subscribe@yahoo.com.

Or go to <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/LeacroftVillager/>

The purpose of the Yahoo Mailing List is so neighbors can reach out to one another. The list is moderated to prevent spam or inappropriate posts. However, please utilize this list to ask advice

from neighbors about contractors, volunteer services like babysitting, ask for help in times of need, or to notify neighbors of goings on in the neighborhood. You can change your e-mail settings to Daily Digest to ensure you won't get more than one e-mail per day with all the activity from the list. If you have any questions specifically about the Leacroft Yahoo Mailing List, please contact Pam Wisniewski at pam@pamspam.com or Leacroft's new Communications Liaison Cheryl Jefferson at divamom3@bellsouth.net.

From HOA Board...

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drop the discount for early payment of assessments. And like our individual households, our HOA is faced with some maintenance and repairs that are significant cost items for this year, and they can't be put off without becoming even more expensive.

What we hope to do is to find ways to make these repairs as economical as possible without compromising the usefulness and life span of our common areas. So, we'll be taking a two-pronged approach, just as we do within our own households – identifying and tackling the things we might be able to do ourselves as HOA members and volunteers, and getting the best quality bids possible for the things we can't do ourselves. An example is the playground – we can renovate the ground around the equipment with new mulch from the CharMeck Recycling Center, and we can spray paint the graffiti on the slides. The damaged and worn parts will have to be purchased and replaced by a contractor (if possible); otherwise, we might have to replace the whole structure. The tennis courts will require an expert to fix the cracks and restore the court surfaces. And the pool house can probably be tackled by a combination of "sweat equity," recycled materials and expert contractor work.

On the "community spirit" front, the first step has been to convene a Communications Committee, headed by Cheryl Jefferson (thank you, Cheryl and team, for volunteering!). Members will be focusing on managing and improving our communication within the community – from the board and committees to the HOA members and back – through our newsletter, fliers, curbside signs, Web site and social networking site (Facebook, etc.), and via the telephone and face-to-face where possible. They will be working on updating and improving what we have, what we do and how we do it, and they will need your input and possibly some of your assistance. We want to get to the point where each of us is fully aware of our neighbors, our community and what is happening. So, we want and need your input and your help!

Inasmuch as your board members are only five (5) individuals, and there is a lot of effort expected to be

needed for 2011, we have identified some of the committees we need, and we are asking for volunteers to head these or to volunteer a little time each month to help get things done. If we get enough help from each of you – an hour or two a month – then we will be able to make a huge positive impact on our community! (*Some of these committees have existed already and have had folks volunteering their assistance; we've identified the individuals that helped before, and we will contact them to see if they are willing to continue.*) Here are the committees we anticipate:

- o **Amenities** – monitor and oversee the pool, pool house, tennis courts, playground and parking lot, including contract work and non-contract volunteer activities [*Patrick Bunn (pool)? Could use help from individuals with knowledge/expertise*]
- o **Landscaping** – oversee the landscape contract work, and coordinate volunteer work on non-contract items [*Bryan Lewis*]
- o **Architectural Review (ARC)** – monitor the community environment for compliance with established HOA architectural standards; recommend changes to the standards to the board for communication to the HOA community; communicate appropriate variances to the homeowners (verbally), the board and the HOA management firm; hold hearings on applications for ARC review and on variances, and report and escalate to the board as necessary [*Gena Ashley? Jean Keenan? Others?*]
- o **CC&Rs** – review the existing CC&Rs and coordinate any recommended changes, including review and approval by the HOA community [*Vince Smith?*]
- o **Building** – investigate and report on any capital improvement opportunities; oversee any approved capital improvement projects [*Rich Manning?*]
- o **Communications** – manage the HOA communications, including the newsletter, Web site, online social networks (Google,

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Holiday Decoration Contest Winners

Thanks so much to everyone who participated in the Holiday Decoration Contest. Our neighborhood looked quite festive. It was so much fun (and FREEZING) to ride around on the hay ride and see all the lights.

You can view pictures of all the winning homes on the Web site. www.leacroft.org

2010 Christmas Decoration Contest Winners:

- 1st Place - \$25 Harris Teeter Gift Card -
10608 Old Bridge
- 2nd Place - \$15 Gas Card -
10313 Worsley
- 3rd Place - \$10 Dilworth Coffee Card -
4021 Canterbrook

I hate to spoil the fun for everyone, but I have to add this little note. After the SL-Hay ride, the events team had to leave the firepits in the parking lot to cool down. Once we came to retrieve them, the last two had been taken by an unknown person/persons. This is very disappointing to us. One of the firepits had been graciously loaned to us by a family outside of the neighborhood to help us save money on the event. If ANYONE has any information on this matter, please call 704-549-1449. Or if you know who took them, please encourage them to return them. We had such positive feedback on having the firepits and hope to continue to have them available, but we cannot afford another loss like this. Thanks for your help. Jessica Moore

Important Contact Numbers

HOA Board

HOABoard@Leacroft.org

William Blackburn	(704) 548-9866
Jennifer DeMartino	(704) 503-7723
Joe Mercier	(704) 302-1565
Tami Merry	(704) 717-4942
Nick Sackinger	(704) 641-0046

(Positions will be determined at HOA board meeting later this month.)

Leacroft Committees

ARC Chair, Open	(704) 728-2098
Pool Chair, Patrick Bunn	(704) 717-2881
Events Chair, Jessica Moore	(704) 549-1449
Block Captains, Deb Peters	(704) 593-1271
Swim Team Manager, Ken Bury	(704) 307-4537

Additional Contacts

Henderson Management	(704) 535-1122
	Fax (704) 569-9669

Contact: Julie Shadrick

Email hoa@hendersonproperties.com

Phone 704-970-4155

Pool House	(704) 549-5803
University City CMPD Response Area 1	(704) 432-3900
Tennis Courts Code	3241
CharMeck Services	311



Have a comment or suggestion? Drop us a note in the locking mailbox in the common area near the playground.

The Traveler – Kings Mountain National Military Park

Most of us have passed Kings Mountain on I-85 on our way to South Carolina. Do you know what happened there more than 200 years ago?

In May of 1780, the British controlled Georgia and had just taken Charleston. General Cornwallis then decided to march north and west toward Charlotte (later he was to call Charlotte a Hornet’s Nest and the name stuck). The British army had little trouble fighting the regular American army but had a great deal of problems with the irregular soldiers, mountain men who knew how to fight and run, hide behind trees and rocks and disrupt supply lines.

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LenCon Travel

Lencontravel.com

LenTucker@Carolina.rr.com
4500 Highcroft Lane
704-907-1430

It is still...

84°

In Cancun. Think about it.

From HOA Board...

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Facebook), e-mail (incl. distribution lists), fliers, door-to-door activities [*Cheryl Jefferson & team (Sherrie Davis, Pam Wisniewski, Kim Blackburn,)*]

- o **Events** – Oversee and coordinate HOA community events [*Jessica Moore & team (Bridgette Stoll? Others?)*]
- o **Outreach (incl. Welcoming)** – prepare and disseminate welcoming information and gifts to new members of the HOA community; coordinate and/or provide assistance to HOA members with a temporary special need (such as a ride to the doctor, or picking up medication at a pharmacy)
- o **Block Captains** – distribute communications material to homeowners/HOA members [*Deb Peters & team*]
- o **Neighborhood Watch (NW)** – set up and oversee street teams to regularly monitor activity on their street and communicate with homeowners about observed activity and awareness of the NW program; handle incoming calls/e-mails from street teams and homeowners; pass on information to/from the CMPD; hold periodic meetings with the homeowners and CMPD on specific topics (such as home security, Operation ID, reporting suspicious activity) [*Monte Chisholm?*]
- o **Yard of the Month** – survey the homes in the community once per month and identify and award a home exemplifying high standards of care and aesthetics [*Bob Matthews?*]
- o **Swim Team** – manage the swim team activities, including recruiting of members and volunteers, training, coordination and scheduling of events (including use of pool(s) and supporting staff), conducting events [*Ken Bury*]

- o **Nominating** (*future board members*) – identify a slate of candidate board members for the next HOA fiscal year, confirm their willingness to serve, obtain a brief bio for communication to the HOA community (and provide it to the Communications Committee)

(For those of you whose name we have included above and who are not available to continue participating, please contact the committee chair or a board member to let us know. We will also be contacting you to discuss the activities for 2011.)
The board will have one of its members as a liaison to each of these committees, and each committee will be invited to the monthly board meeting to provide a quick update on what has been accomplished, what is expected to be accomplished next, and what the board and community can do to help.

Finally, as Villages of Leacroft homeowners and board members, we'd like to thank each and every one of you who have volunteered your time to make the Villages as much of a well-run and enjoyable community as possible to date, and we ask you and your neighbors to continue to be involved or to begin to be involved, because together we can make the Villages a valuable and enjoyable part of our lives.

Warm regards,

The Villages of Leacroft Homeowners Association
Board of Directors

Neighborhood Services

Babysitting:

Sarah Moore (Red Cross certified).....704-593-0306
Kylie Brown...704-549-0674

Pet Sitting:

Daniel Faler...704-510-0052
Colin Moore...704-593-0306
Noah Milan....704-277-4654
AL's Pet Sitting (Amy & Lisa DeCoste).....704-966-6644

Lawn mowing:

Daniel Faler...704-510-0052
Colin Moore...704-593-0306

Car washing:

Daniel Faler...704-510-0052

Please have your parent or legal guardian call or e-mail me to ensure your place on the list.

Contact info:

Kimberly Blackburn
knblackburn@yahoo.com
704-548-9866



The Traveler – Kings Mountain

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On October 7, 1780, the left flank of Cornwallis' army commanded by Major Patrick Ferguson and more than 1,000 Americans loyal to the King met around 900 patriots from North Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia at Kings Mountain. Major Ferguson was the only British soldier in the battle. The battle lasted just over an hour. Twenty-eight Americans and 225 Loyalist were killed, including Major Ferguson. This was one of the few battles won in the south by Americans. The battle re-energized the American Army. Thomas Jefferson described the battle as "the turn of tide of success." The battle halted to northern advance by the British army and Cornwallis did not make it to Charlotte.

The defeat of the British in this battle gave the American Army a break to rest and train and prepare for the next battle. The next major battle was at Cow Pens in January 1781 where General Cornwallis suffered his second major setback. Nine months later, General Cornwallis was forced to surrender to General Washington in Yorktown.

Kings Mountain was a very significant battle of the Revolutionary War and is only a few miles from Leacroft off I-85, Exit 2. It is one of two National Military Parks dedicated to the Revolutionary War. The visitors' center has a 27-minute film about the battle and there is a 1.5-mile hiking trail around the battlefield. Major Ferguson is buried on the grounds. The National Park is adjacent to the Kings Mountain State Park that has 16 miles of hiking trails and more than 16 miles of horse trails.

This is a great day trip to learn a little history of the region.

January Open House



~Be~
~Our~
~Guest!~
~Door Prizes~
~Refreshments~
~Review Budget~
~Schedule Event Dates~
~10508 Old Bridge Lane~
~Thursday, January 13th, 7pm~
~Help decide which events we do in~
~2011~
