

The Villager

Get Involved – Join a Committee



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As we get into the swing of things this new year, the HOA Board invites homeowners to get more involved in the community.

Have you ever considered joining a neighborhood committee? Yes. Well, now is the time. No. Why not consider it?

Right now, The Villages of Leacroft is trying to restart a Neighborhood Watch. Maybe you would be the perfect candidate to get it off the ground.

Are you athletic and love sports? Why not help the swim team?

The swim team is looking for a new manager to help our neighborhood swimmers swim their way to victory. You'll be the (s)hero of all the young swimmers.

Then, we also have other committees like:

- Landscaping
- Communications
- Architectural Review
- Events
- Common Areas

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Online Payment Option Available for Dues

Homeowners may pay dues online at www.smartstreet.com. Before visiting the site, e-mail Henderson Properties at hoa@hendersonproperties.com and request an access code/account number.

Click on "Online Payments" in the upper left-hand corner when you reach the site. You will then need to select a payment method. There is a \$9.95 charge for credit card payments; however, there is no charge for electronic checks.

This will direct you to another screen, where you will need to type in "Villages of Leacroft" and type in your homeowner account number and click Find. Then just follow the prompts to complete your payment.

Recurring payments can also be set up online, but you will need to remember to update the recurring information in January of each year.

Gardening Column – by Deb Peters

Gardening in North Carolina is very unique. It wasn't until five years after we moved here that my garden produced a bounty that everyone on Ingleton Court was proud of. The reason they were proud was because many times families would come home from work and find a basket (along with a note) of fresh veggies on their doorstep.

The first five years I did everything that I had done in New Jersey. We built boxes; we added compost; and we did all that was needed to grow veggies in my backyard. I waited and waited, but nothing from my tomatoes to my zucchini cooperated. I didn't get discouraged; but five years is a long time to wait.

Q—So what is it that made my garden so bountiful in recent years?

A—Learning how to deal with the red clay.

As I walk around our neighborhood, I see more and more people attempting to put a garden in. This is great! Especially in this economy. Even Michelle Obama has a garden in her yard.

Well let me tell you, gardening here is different from anywhere else. I had only heard of “red clay” before, (although some of my Southern neighbors did warn me about it.) I figure, if I have red clay in my backyard, then everyone in The Villages of Leacroft has red clay.

As I said before, it took me approximately five seasons to have a bountiful harvest from my garden. Here are some of the things I've learned along the way that I can pass on to maybe help others.

1. After you pick your spot, set up some type of border. (We used wooden boxes to make a raised garden.
2. Pull all the Kudzu and other vines out. You'll probably have to do this everyday for the life of your garden.



3. Dig down a couple of inches (4-6) and take all the red clay out. When we first did this we didn't get rid of it we just put topsoil on top of it and this proved to be unsuccessful as nothing but vines grow through red clay. Move the red clay to another part of your yard.

Continued on page 3

LenCon Travel
 Lencontravel.com
 Lentucker@Carolina.rr.com
 4500 Highcroft Lane
 704-907-1430

Why use a Travel Agent?

With the internet, you can find and book travel without using a travel agent, so why use one?

If your travel is mostly business - air, hotel and car rental, you probably don't need one. However, if you are going on a special vacation, a travel agent can be very helpful.

- **Experience**

My wife and I have been to most of the major islands in the Caribbean, taken numerous cruises, toured Europe, stayed at all-inclusive resorts. We can answer many of your travel questions.

- **Convenient**

Once you have established a relationship with a travel agent, planning a vacation is often just a phone call away. The agent will do most of the work

- **Economic**

Often, the travel agent does not charge for services. They are paid a commission by the travel provider. The price you pay is no more than you would pay if you booked the trip yourself and sometimes less.

Give us a try!

Important Contact Numbers

HOA Board		HOABoard@Leacroft.org
President, Joe Mercier		(704) 302-1565
Vice President, Nick Sackinger		(704) 641-0046
Secretary, Tami Merry		(704) 717-4942
Treasurer, Jennifer DeMartino		(704) 503-7723
At-Large Member, William Blackburn		(704) 548-9866
Leacroft Committees		
Architectural Review	mw99nd@gmail.com	
Mike Wisniewski		(704) 728-2090
Common Areas (Pool, Pool House, Tennis Courts, Playground, Parking Lot)		
Frank Keenan	fkeen989@aol.com	
Events Chair	dsjsmoore@earthlink.net	
Jessica Moore		(704) 549-1449
Outreach	asbger1234@edandgerrigercak.com	
Gerri Gercak		(704) 280-6034
Communications	divamom3@bellsouth.net	
Cheryl Jefferson		(704) 549-0549
Landscaping	degband@aol.com	
		(704) 510-0718
Bylaws & CC&Rs	vsmith109@hotmail.com	
Vince Smith		(704) 547-1206
Block Captains	dspeters9@aol.com	
Deb Peters		(704) 593-1271
Swim Team Manager		TBD
Yard of the Month	maeh_gran@bellsouth.net	
Bob Matthews		(704) 503-0887
Additional Contacts		
Henderson Management		(704) 535-1122
		Fax (704) 569-9669
<i>Contact: Julie Shadrick</i>		
	<i>Email hoa@hendersonproperties.com</i>	
	<i>Phone 704-970-4155</i>	
Pool House		(704) 549-5803
University City CMPD Response Area 1		(704) 432-3900
Tennis Courts Code		3241
CharMeck Services		311

Gardening Column, *continued from page 2*

4. Go to one of the recycle centers and pick up a truckload or two of topsoil, compost (black gold).
5. Once this is in the designated area, you can rototill it and add in other nutrients. Cow manure is my favorite.
6. Keep in mind that you should start small, maybe just a few tomato plants because it will take a few years for your garden to produce healthy, edible vegetables. Once established, you should add extra vitamins to the soil all season. I add eggshells and coffee grounds.

JUST REMEMBER - a garden needs nurturing, especially in the beginning, just like a child. And while we're all anxious, even though you can start to prepare your soil now, we live in what's called a zone 7, and it's still a month too early for the actual planting of vegetables. Sadly, we have to wait until April for that. In the meantime, we can just look through our gardening books and the pictures of what we hope our gardens will someday resemble.

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



Event Committee

Join us for our monthly planning meetings. Bring your ideas and suggestions. Help us determine what events we have and when. You can have a say in how YOUR neighborhood events are run!!!

All first-time visitors will receive a FREE coffee drink of their choice.

Also, all who attend 7 of the remaining 10 meetings

AND help coordinate one event will be

invited to our annual Event Planning Team dinner next January!

All meetings are held on the FIRST Sunday of each month EXCEPT where noted.

March 6th, 7pm

April 3rd, 7pm

May 1st, 7pm

June 5th, 7pm

July 17th, 7pm

August 7th, 7pm

September 11th, 7pm

October 2nd, 7pm

November 6th, 7pm

No meeting in December

Meet at Dilworth Coffee House ~ Prosperity Church Rd.

Neighborhood Events

This is a list of openings available for our neighbors to fill.
 If you are interested in any of these one time positions,
 please contact Jessica Moore at
 dsjsmoore@earthlink.net or 704-549-1449.
 We will have to cancel the event if we don't get all these filled!
 I will update the list each month as people volunteer.

Event	Date	Team List	Name
* Easter Egg Hunt	April 16th 11am- 1pm	Coordinator	Jessica Moore
		Volunteer	
* Spring Garage Sale	April/ May	EPT Consultant	Ellen Nunn
		Coordinator	Pam Becker
		Volunteer	
		Volunteer	
* Block Party	May 28th 5:30pm-11pm	EPT Consultant	Dave Milam
		Coordinator	
		Volunteer	
		Volunteer	
		Volunteer	
POP 2011 (Pool Opening Party)	June 10th 6pm- 10pm	Coordinator	Teena Ray
		Volunteer	
Patriotic Pool Party	July 4th 9:30am-2pm	Coordinator	Michelle Dunham
		Volunteer	
		Volunteer	
Dinner and a Movie	July 22nd 6pm-10pm	EPT Consultant	Jessica Moore
		Coordinator	Pam Becker
		Volunteer	
			More on Back>>>>>

Neighborhood Events, continued

Event	Date	Team List	Name
Summer's End Social Ice Cream / Movie	August 19th 7pm-10pm	EPT Consultant	Teena Ray
		Coordinator	
		Volunteer	
		Volunteer	
* Fall Festival / Chili Cook-Off	October 22nd 4pm-6pm	EPT Consultant	Jessica Moore
		Coordinator	
		Volunteer	
* Holiday SL-HAY Ride	December 13th 6pm-8:30pm	EPT Consultant	Michelle Dunham
		Coordinator	Michelle Dunham
		Volunteer	
		Volunteer	
		Volunteer	
Christmas light voting		Coordinator	

* Events noted will require RSVP - so be sure to watch for it and promptly submit.

** All events are subject to change or cancellation. Notes will be posted on the white board and website as well as the newsletter, time permitting.

BLOCK CAPTAINS

Neighborhood Services

Babysitting:

Sarah Moore (Red Cross certified).....704-593-0306
 Kylie Brown.....704-549-0674
 Jillian Manning...704-510-9296

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
 Jillian Manning...704-510-9296

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



Area	Description	Block Captain Contacts
1	Billingham	Paula Henriksen, bookworm@carolina.rr.com , 704-595-9288
2	Chadsworth & Fairbourne	Blake Thomas, 704-877-2386
3	Highcroft (from Stoneykirk to cul-de-sac)	Gerri and Ed Gercak, asbger1234@edandgerrigercak.com , 704-280-6034
4	Stoneykirk	Kristen Sackinger, kristenhunter_81@hotmail.com , 704-258-6297 Nick Sackinger, nsackinger@gmail.com
5	Bolton	Brad and Janet DeCoste, 10336 Bolton Court
6	Old Bridge	Christine and Richard Manning, rmanning44@yahoo.com , 704-510-9296
7	Highcroft (from Stoneykirk to Worsley)	Nina Harper, 980-230-6244
8	Suffield & Ainslie	Michelle Dunham, madunham01@yahoo.com , 704-770-1964
9	Ingleton & McKendree	Deb Peters, DSPeters9@aol.com , 704-593-1271
10	Worsley	Bob and Jane Matthews, maeh_gran@bellsouth.net
11	Canterbrook (from Worsley to Dunfield, from Dunfield to Turtle Cross)	Pam and Mike Wisniewski, pam@leacroft.org , 704-293-8978

WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE YOUR ARTICLE IN THE VILLAGER?

The Villager welcomes homeowners to submit an article you think might be of interest to your neighbors.

Submission Guidelines:

- 300-500 words
- Microsoft Word document
- E-mail to knblackburn@yahoo.com
- Deadline is the 15th of the month prior to publication month (for example, if you want an article in the April issue, please submit by March 15)
- Put "Villager Article" in the subject line
- Keep it relevant (local appeal)



Villages of Leacroft
16th Annual
Easter Egg Hunt
And Bake Sale (see page 10)



Who: All Age Groups

When: Saturday, April 9, 2011
11:00 am – 1:00 pm
(Rain date: April 10, 2011 4 pm – 6 pm)

Where: Pool Parking Lot and Common Areas

Time: 11:20 – 12:00 ages 8 –12 meet at pool clubhouse
(Scavenger hunt – parents can help)
11:30 ages 0-2 – Tennis Courts
11:45 ages 3-5 – Grounds around Playground
12:00 ages 6-7 – Grounds around Tennis Courts

Cost: \$4 per child
(Receive ½ price discount if you RSVP by April 5!)

Events:

- * Full petting zoo plus feeding animals
- * Charlotte Fire Truck
- * Pony Rides
- * Visit from Easter Bunny
- * Golden Egg Prizes

**Easter Eggs will be provided by the
Leacroft Event Planning Committee**

Please complete this portion and return it, check payable to “The Villages of Leacroft Social Committee” to **Jessica Moore**, 10508 Old Bridge Ln. by April 5, 2011!!!! **Call Jessica Moore for more information, 704-549-1449.**

-OR-

Register on line at www.leacroft.org

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Number and Ages of children attending: _____

Total amount enclosed: \$ _____

I can help with:

Scavenger Hunt: _____

(Need 2 volunteers)

Hiding Eggs: _____

(Need 5 volunteers)

Sign in Table: _____

(Need 1 volunteer)

Set up: _____

(Need 3 volunteers)

Get More Involved, continued from page 1

- Bylaws & Covenants, Conditions & Restrictions (now say that three times fast)
- Outreach

There are also Building and Nominations committees waiting for a leader, and who knows, the Block Captains or person who handles Yard of the Month might need some backup.

If you would like to become more involved, reach out to one of the committee chairs listed on page 3 in the Important Contact Numbers box. If



Their raising their hands to sign up for committees. Won't you join them?

the committee you're interested in is not listed or currently does not have a chair, contact our HOA chair Joe Mercier, and he'll point you in the right direction.

A&T Lawn Care

*Quality, Reliability, and Trust
Right Here at Home.*

*Tom Weir, Leacroft resident serving over 50
of your Leacroft neighbors over the last 5 years.*

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Weekly, Monthly, or Year-Round Pricing Options Available

Call for Free Estimates (704) 609-9066

Lawn Mowing ~ Trimming ~ Edging ~ Aeration ~ Fertilization
~ and MORE ~





Villages of Leacroft
Bake Sale



- Why:** Fundraiser for Leacroft Events
- When:** Saturday, April 9, 2011
11:00 am – 1:00 pm
(Rain date: April 10, 2011 ~ 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm)
- Where:** Pool Parking Lot and Common Areas
- What:** Donate your favorite treats and/or juice boxes

Baked goods and water bottles will be sold

Each child will receive one free juice box

Please make us aware of any **nuts** in your baked goods!!

Baked goods will be collected on Saturday, April 9 at 9:00 am

Please complete this portion and return it to **Jessica Moore**, 10508 Old Bridge Ln. by **April 5!!! Call Jessica Moore for more information, 704-549-1449**

-OR-

Register online at www.leacroft.org

Name: _____ **Phone:** _____

Address for pick-up: _____

Type and amount of baked goods you will provide: _____

Nuts: YES NO (Please circle one)

I can help with:

Collecting baked goods: _____ Setting up baked goods: _____
(Need 1 volunteer) (Need 2 volunteers)