

THE VILLAGER



A few day ago, Connie and I went to the movies. We got there at the scheduled time for the movie to start but thirty minutes later we were still being told to turn off our cell phones, buy snacks in the lobby and being shown 10 or 12 'previews of our coming attractions'. I was thinking about how movies were when I was a kid. We had a newsreel with news that was several weeks old, a chapter out of serialized movie where the hero went from one cliffhanger to another, a cartoon and then our 'featured attraction'. One cartoon I remember, but I don't remember the name, was about a very nice man that everyone liked but when he got behind the wheel of his car, he became a madman. No one was safe around him. When he returned home and got out of the car, he was the nice guy again. Over the past few months, I have received several emails from our neighbors with concerns about fast and dangerous drivers in our neighborhood. Several months ago, a speed bump was installed on Billingham. I seems to help but we still have speeders on Highcroft and other long streets. Last week, during the snowstorm, many people, especially kids, were playing outside and often sledding down the streets having fun. At the same time, others were playing in the same areas with motorized vehicles (cars and motorcycles). It was not safe.

We could and have reported this unsafe active to the police but the best way to prevent a possible issue is for each of us to drive slower, knowing that a kid may dart out into the street at any time, stop at all stop signs and in general be a safe driver. Speeding through the neighborhood will just get you to you destination just a few seconds earlier but...

While writing this, there was a news report that a man was killed by a hit and run driver and a 18 month old girl died after being hit by a car.
Think about it!

-Len

HOA Board

Message from HOA President



Winter is "almost" over and I am sure that a lot of you are glad that March is just around the corner. We had several pipe breaks in the community and I know there were thousands in the metro Charlotte area. Anyone who would like information on how to protect their pipes from freezing are encouraged to look at the January newsletter as there was a lot of good information in it that will help. If you have not taken those steps already, please do so now so even if we don't have another 5 days well below freezing this winter, you will be prepared for next year. It's the classic "an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure" – Ben Franklin, hits the proverbial nail on the head.

February is generally a quite month in Leacroft as we sit back and wait for it to get warmer so all is fairly quiet on that front. At the December 2013 Board meeting officer positions for 2014 were adopted and those results are;

President – Paul A. Greiner, CMCA, AMS, PCAM

Vice President – Bob Matthews

Secretary – Paula Henriksen

Treasurer – Bob Clifford

Member At Large – Beth Degrassi

The 2014 annual assessment was due in early January and I know that many homeowners have paid (Thank you) and many others have written into Henderson for written payment plans for equal payments in Jan – April to ensure their assessments are not late and paid in full by the end of April. If you have not paid your assessments in full or arranged for the payment plan, please do so as soon as possible as we will be paying very close attention to those numbers in the coming months and in April/May we will be holding hearings (which we don't like) to take next steps on those delinquent accounts. Please do all you can to assist by making sure your assessments are up to date.

Anyone ready for a lawn care tip? I know, it's around 38 degrees outside as I type this but the temps will be going up gradually and those of us with fescue lawns need to be ready for early/mid- March for the first batch of weed killer and fertilizer applications to control weeds and feed the turf so that it is healthy and ready to grow. Most fescue lawn professionals advise not to apply fertilizer much later than March 15 so be ready for the warm up and avoid the scramble at that time. Till next time, stay safe.

Paul A. Greiner, CMCA, AMS, PCAM

Message from HOA Vice President

Note From BOD Vice President..

Boy if this this year 2014 keeps going as fast as it started we will be celebrating Christmas before long, but it will be OK with me because I like to celebrate anything.

And I say this from my heart, because if Jane and I make it until February 22, 2014 we will celebrate our 61 years of marriage and for us that is a long time or as a lot of people tell us that is a long time for any couple.. Don't know yet but we are going to do some celebrating and have some fun. I hope if any of you reading this please pray for us because Prayer is something we believe in ..

Jane and I are proud to have been blessed to have 2 daughters,, Cindy and Joy. Cindy and our son-in- law gave us two wonderful grandboys Matthew who went to Florida State and then to a private law school and now has his own Law Firm in Deland,Florida. His first 5 years out of Law School he was Assistant State Attorney for the State of Florida, as a prosecutor, and as Matthew told us after 5 years he had enough and he open his own firm and doing really well.

By the way Matthew just turned 34 years old 6'5" and weighs 240 lb.

Now Adam is our 2nd. Grandson, also went to Florida State Graduated with a Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree and you see him on TV. He is in a lot of commercials, Walmart. Food Line, Banks, and has made several movies.

Adam is married to Amber and in May, they will celebrate 3 years of marriage plus Amber is in the same type of work.. In fact as I am typing this she is on her way home from South Africa where she was there making a commercials. Adam will leave New York this month for Los Angeles to make another movie. They live in New York and as close as I have been to their home is Conn. where they were married.

Adam said I can not come to New York because of my walking is not very good and that is fine with me. My Grands come to see us when ever I need them or want them..

Adam is 6'5 1/2" tall and weighs 167 lbs Both of my boys are handsome young men.. We call them our big boys and we were with them from birth until college grads. and loved every minute of it. Oh just like to add about Adam.

In movies he goes by his birth name, Adam David Thompson..

Joy and Michael Bland are parents of Evan who will be 20 years old February 10th. We are so proud of Evan who is in 2nd year of College. A bright young man and not sure what he wants to do now.

Hayden who is 14 years old and is in first year of High School. Hayden is also a young man who tells his Gran when he grows up he would like to be able to change the United States to be a better place to live. Hayden was picked from his 7th. grade to take the SAT test sponsored by Duke Tips.

Scored high and of course we were all so proud of Hayden.

Well I sure hope you enjoy about my Family,

If you are out shopping please,. Have fun But

<.. WATCH YOU WALLET..>

Bob M.



Travel

Connie and I just returned from a nice trip to Los Angeles where we helped celebrate our granddaughter's, Hailey, 8th birthday. As nice as the trip was and as cute as she is, that does not make much of a travel story. But I think this might.

Several months ago, I was able to get the round trip tickets on United to Los Angeles from Charlotte for less than \$250 from CheapTickets.com. That is less than \$125 each way. Also, when we booked the flights, we had the choice of stopping in Houston or Chicago. Flying in February...Houston, warm and dry...Chicago, cold and snowy. It was a no brainer...avoid Chicago. We were set, Charlotte is normally a little cool in February, normal highs in the 50s with a very little chance for snow and Houston is good.

Before we left on on February 4th, we had a little snow. Atlanta was a mess but we were fine, I thought. What could go wrong.

We were scheduled to leave LA on Tuesday February 11th. On Sunday the ninth, we received texts and calls from our son and daughter in Charlotte saying for us to get home as soon as possible. A big storm is coming in.

My first thoughts were; is one day going to make much of a difference and how much is it going to cost to change flight at this last moment even if flights are available.

Airlines normally charge at least \$150 to make a simple change to a ticket. Remember, the return ticket cost us less than \$125. I decided to wait until Monday morning to see if we could get a better weather forecast.

Monday morning's forecast showed that the storm was still coming and may be even worst that previously thought. I got on the internet to see if we could get last minute tickets to Charlotte and avoid Houston. Houston's weather was worst than Chicago's!

The cheapest tickets I could find were over \$350 each Monday. I called United to see what they could do for us.

UNITED



After going through all of the normal automated stuff on the phone, I was connected with a human operator. After I explained our situation, the operator was able to get us a flight out of LA at noon and we were routed through Chicago where the weather was clear and the runway open and we would be home late Monday night. How much was this going to cost us??? Nothing! I had the operator repeat that a couple of time. 'We are glad to help' she said. As of now, United Airlines is my favorite domestic airline.

Gardening with Deb Peters



HAPPY NEW YEAR !!!!

After the big winter storm last week, (you know the one that crippled

Atlanta) I'm thinking that it doesn't matter what Punxsutawney Phil or Queen Charlotte says it's cold outside. How cold? Well; I tried to turn over my compost pile but its frozen. I also tried to work the soil in the garden and a shovel wouldn't work.! I need an ice pick!!! Needless to say I was not a happy camper.

Saturday morning I didn't even bother going out, instead I checked my email, Well two of my favorite gardening sites said not to listen to Punxsutawney Phil. It continued to explain how you could garden in the winter. Okay, I'm game, so I followed the link. It took me to all these "extend your garden season" websites. I found out that I could purchase a plastic greenhouse, or I could install some type of "heating system". I could also cover individual plants with little plastic cones. (They reminded me of what a dog has to wear after surgery) Anyway the list goes on and on. The one thing they all have in common is that they cost a bunch of money and take a lot of work/time. And you are probably going to be doing it out in the cold. Not my idea of fun...While I don't garden to save money I also don't feel that I should have to spend money.

Sunday morning I went outside to throw some coffee grounds into my compost pile and guess what? It wasn't freezing; it was quite pleasant out. I spent the rest of the morning moving dirt around and turning over the compost pile. I'm emptying another one of my garden boxes out so Stan can build me another one like he did last year. It was so successful that he gets to do another one this year. Anyway I'm outside in short sleeves, the ice is gone and I don't even need an ice pick.

Gardening is once again fun!! And lets not forget therapeutic. I decided tat I am no longer trusting Punxsutawney Phil or Queen Charlotte. I'm just going to be prepared when I open my back door and take advantage of this unusually warm weather. And if I open the back door and its too cold, I'll just stay in and read all my gardening books,

The way I see it--If I open my back door, look up at the sky and feel the temperature I can probably predict the weather for the day, just as well as some silly rodents!!

Here's to green thumbs and Happy Gardening...

EPT 2014 Open House 3/3/14

Do you miss...

Patriotic Pool Picnic (July 4th)

Fall Festival/Chili Cook-off

Fall Garage Sale?

In the past we have had to eliminate events due to lack of participation and volunteers.

Join us for the 2014 revamping of the Event Planning Team and help us bring these events and others back to life!

Join us at this open house to see how you can assist our team for the 2014 event year. Very doable commitment for any busy Leacroft resident!

Monday, Mar. 3rd

6:30-8:00pm

Any Leacroft resident 13 and up welcome

Refreshments served

DOOR PRIZES

RSVP on fb or at leacroftept@gmail.com



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Leacroft List		
Air Conditioning / Heating		
Bradham Brothers (704) 392-8056	Quality Comfort HVAC PO Box 1726 Matthews NC 28106 Qualityhvac@alltel.net 704821-6920	
Appliance Repair		
NC Plumbing (Dishwasher install) 5205 Blackjack Lane Mint Hill, NC 28277 NCPlumbing.com 704-9620460	Expert Appliance Service Indian Trail, NC Expertappliancecnc.com 704-292-8429	Carolina Appliance 704-847-0004 http:// www.carolinaappliancecnc.com
Auto Repair		
Pitts Repair Service 704-786-6894		
Avon		
Eddit Okwara 704-606-6300		
Carpet and Rug Cleaning		
Lillard's Carpet & Rug Cleaning Charlotte, NC 704-728-2724		
Concrete		
Concrete by George 704-605-3709		

Leacroft List		
Dryer Vents		
Dryer Vent Wizard (David LaValle) Charlotte, NC DavidLaValle@gmail.com Charlottedryerventlady.com		
Electrician		
Robert Riley (electrician & handyman) Riley Electric Charlotte, NC 704-248-1214		
Gas Piping		
Clark's Gas Piping 6443 Pargo Road Charlotte, NC 28216 704-391-1042		
Glass		
Glass Solutions 10806 Reames Rd., Suite D		
Garage Doors		
Precision Door Service 4000-A Sardis Church Road Monroe, NC 28110 precisiondoor.net 704-347-0300	Elite Garage Door Service 704-293-9558 http://elitegaragedoor.com	

Leacroft List		
Handyman		Pest, rodent and snake services
Johnny Shue Shue's Home Improvements & Restorations Mt. Pleasant, NC 704-791-4046	Robert Riley Riley Electric Charlotte NC 704-248-1214	Southeastern Wildlife Company John Ricks 803-415-4371 Ask for Leacroft discount
Lawn Care		
A&T Lawn Care 704-609-9066 See ad in the Villager	Lawn of Dreams 704-262-9869	
Mailboxes		
Carolina Mailboxes Inc 327 W Tremont Avenue Charlotte NC 28203 704-334-3393 http://www.carolinamailboxes.com		
Notary Public		
Eddit Okwara 704-606-6300		
Painting		
Randy Tarleton Painter, wallpaper, Power washer 704-606-6401		
Roofing		
Ace Roofing 704-364-5774		
Tile and Marble		
Murdock Tile & Marble 365 Concord Parkway North Concord, NC 28027 704-793-1587		

Classified Ads		
	Leacroft Youth	
	These ads are free for Leacroft residents under 19 years old.	
Lots of room for ads	Babysitting	Lawn Care
	Sarah Moore is available for babysitting or pet sitting. She is Red Cross-certified for babysitting. Sarah can be reached at 980-225-7733.	John Caffrey 704-593-0581 rake leaves, lawn mowing, pet setting
	Jillian Manning is available for babysitting or pet sitting. She is Red Cross-certified for babysitting. She can be reached at 704-510-9296.	Tyler and Carson Moore Fall leaf removal 704-549-1499
	Pet Sitting	
	Rachel Caffrey Pet setting 704-593-0581	
	Daniel Faler Dog sitter (704)510-0052	

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Bob Matthews, Vice President	10517 Worsley Ln.	maeh_gran@gmail.com	(H)704-503-0887
Paula Henriksen, Sec.	10218 Billingham Dr.	bookworm@carolina.rr.com	(H)704-595-9288
Beth Degrassi	10310 Suffield Ct.	degband@aol.com	(h)704-510-0718 (c)704-534-1149
Robert Clifford	10316 Bolton Court	sossog2004@yahoo.com	(704) 510-1712
Events Committee			
Jessica Moore, Chair	10508 Old Bridge Ln.	dsjsmoore@earthlink.net	(h)704-549-1449 (c)704-607-1818
Ellen Mack, Treasurer	10318 Fairbourne Ct.	emmack32123@hotmail.com	(H)704-548-9379 (C)704-516-5386
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Communications			
Paula Henriksen, Acting Chair	10218 Billingham Dr.	bookworm@carolina.rr.com	(H) 704-595-9288
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Len Tucker, Newsletter	4500 Highcroft Ln.	LeacroftVillager@gmail.com	(C) 704-907-1430
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Joe Mercier, Acting Chair	10321 Billingham Dr.	merciej@hotmail.com	(O)704-302-1565 (c)704-302-1565

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NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH			
Bob Matthews, Chair	10517 Worsley Ln.	maeh_gran@gmail.com	(H) 704-609-4908
Welcoming			
Brigitte Stoll, Chair	10328 Bolton Court	bstoll1@carolina.rr.com	(H) 704-264-2259 (C) 980-254-3731
Yard of the Month			
Bob Matthews, Chair	10517 Worsley Ln.	maeh_gran@gmail.com	(H) 704-503-0887
Swim Team			
Kelly Schlicher, Co-Manager	10209 Ingleton Ct.	kaboodle@carolina.rr.com	(H) 704-503-5230
Trevia Hunter, Co-Manager	10206 Billingham Dr.	treviad@aol.com	(H) 704-953-3070

Tuesday, February 18, 2014

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