

VILLAGER

Villages of Leacroft



The first Labor Day holiday was celebrated on Tuesday, September 5, 1882, in New York City, in accordance with the plans of the Central Labor Union. The Central Labor Union held its second Labor Day holiday just a year later, on September 5, 1883.

In 1884 the first Monday in September was selected as the holiday, as originally proposed, and the Central Labor Union urged similar organizations in other cities to follow the example of New York and celebrate a "workingmen's holiday" on that date. The idea spread with the growth of labor organizations, and in 1885 Labor Day was celebrated in many industrial centers of the country.

Through the years the nation gave increasing emphasis to Labor Day. The first governmental recognition came through municipal ordinances passed during 1885 and 1886. From these, a movement developed to secure state legislation. The first state bill was introduced into the New York legislature, but the first to become law was passed by Oregon on February 21, 1887. During the year four more states — Colorado, Massachusetts, New Jersey, and New York — created the Labor Day holiday by legislative enactment. By the end of the decade Connecticut, Nebraska, and Pennsylvania had followed suit. By 1894, 23 other states had adopted the holiday in honor of workers, and on June 28 of that year, Congress passed an act making the first Monday in September of each year a legal holiday in the District of Columbia and the territories...From the US Department of Labor

September 15, 2014

Message from HOA President



Ahhh, it's just about fall, one of my favorite seasons of year. Cooler temperatures, changing leaves, and for all HOA's, pools are closing down which is a tremendous load off everyone.

We had a great pool season without any major incidents. While the beginning of the season was somewhat "tripped up" due to several plumbing issues that were traced back to the extremely cold January, all major systems survived and we made it through another season.

Of course, with the closing of the pool and October being right around the corner it is time for the Board to begin drafting of the 2015 operating budget. While most of our major contracts do come up for renewal this time of year we do not anticipate making any major changes in our service providers for landscaping, pool or management. However, there is upward pressure on costs we incur for these items due primarily to inflationary pressures. The Board will work to keep our assessments as low as possible while still maintaining the improved service levels we have enjoyed during 2014.

Also, please remember that our Annual meeting will be in mid/late November and we will be voting on Board members for 2 expiring terms. At least one of the current members with an expiring term has expressed interest in remaining on for another term we are uncertain about Bob Matthews as he has been dealing with some difficulties of late and I ask that you keep him and his family in your thoughts.

Board members (and all other volunteers) play a crucial role in the continued success of our neighborhood and without those volunteers many of our services and activities would surely be negatively impacted. Therefore, I ask everyone in the community to consider some level of service to the community to keep our success going and to make your personal mark on the community. Thank you to all have served, have indicated your continuing service and we all would welcome some additional help in many areas, even if it is just for one "special project".

I am off to the Florida Keys in the morning for a well anticipated vacation so in the meantime.....

Enjoy the cooler temperatures and Till next time, stay safe.

Sincerely - Paul A. Greiner, CMCA, AMS, PCAM

Message from HOA Vice President

Bob Matthews, our HOA Vice President is home after an extended stay in the hospital and rehab. Please keep him in your thoughts and prayers.

Message from Chairman Common Area Joe Mercier

Hi folks! The time for the Leacroft Annual Common Area Work Party is fast approaching – Saturday, September 27 at 9AM (Sat., Oct 4 if we have to postpone). We will be focusing on knocking down the underbrush in the wooded area at the perimeter of the common area with grass trimmers and removing low-hanging branches. We also have one downed tree at the creek that needs to be cut up with a chainsaw if someone has one. It should take us two hours or less if we 5 or 6 people. I hope to see you there! Thanks !!

Gardening with Deb



I know by now I must sound like a broken record, but its hot, hot, hot, and your garden needs water, water, water. Without enough H2O everything will wilt and die. Okay, now that that's out of the way lets talk about vegetables. August is the time of the year in Charlotte that your garden is producing enough

Veggies to feed your family and all your neighbors. Your zucchini are huge and you can't give them away fast enough. Your tomatoes are growing so fast that you would think they took lessons from the rabbits. Beets, eggplant, peppers and anything else you planted is on the verge of growing wild.

That being said; you might not like the next thing I am going to say. "You need to prune, prune, prune. Why? Well let me give you an analogy. Your daughter or son loves long hair, but the longer it grows the more scraggly, thin, and unhealthy it looks.

In order to make it look , healthier, and more alive

You take them for a haircut and have the dead ends cut off. Well you need to do the same thing with your plants.

After a vine produces a vegetable it dies off. As you pull your tomatoes off the vine you will see a number of dead (brown) leaves. THEY NEED TO BE CUT OFF. Yes, you may lose one or two green ones but by not clipping them back your plant will keep sending its energy and nutrients to leaves that are already dead or as plant people say "spent". If these leaves/vines are pruned back then the energy and nutrients are sent to the healthy growth. This is the same reason you "deadhead" your flowers at the end of each growing season-- So the old growth isn't zapping any energy that is intended for the new growth.

As far as putting all these yummy veggies to good use there are a slew of cookbooks and internet recipes out there. I have a zucchini cookbook, a tomato cookbook, and a few others. The trick is trying new recipes and then tweaking them to your own families taste.

This year I did a home made salsa from a recipe I took off the internet. Fresh Tomato Salsa from Allrecipes.com. Everything I used came out of the garden. I substituted banana peppers for the Serrano chilies. Well it was such a hit that my family won't let me buy salsa from a jar ever again. Now we just go out to the garden, pick what we need and make our own.

I'll be sorry to see this warm weather vegetable season come to an end. But by next week I'll get a fresh new start as I look forward to planting my fall garden of cool weather vegetables.

Until next time: Here's to Green Thumbs and Happy Gardening !!!

This article was written for the August issue but I did not receive it in time. Still good information!

Travel

I got the following article from Pinterest and all credit should go to the author, Laura.

Free things to do in Charleston, SC

Hi! I'm Laura (my blogging alter ego is Smallgood). I share small, good things about my life at Smallgood Hearth. Last year, I really enjoyed the Creating Really Awesome Free Trips series and showing you fun, free things to do in Raleigh. I wanted to share some free things to do in Charleston, SC, another city that has captured our heart.

Bigbad and I went there for part of our honeymoon, and we've been back several times. We love the vibe there that celebrates good food, good music, good gatherings. Everything is draped in that gorgeous Spanish moss that creates the movie set landscape that almost makes the humidity forgivable. It's easy to get caught up in the shopping and the food and all of the historical tours and museums and homes that you could easily spend far too much. But even with a small budget, the city is still a wonderful vacation spot. These are some of our favorite locations and attractions:

1. **Angel Tree:** What's the oldest thing you've seen? For me, my civics teacher is close second to this 300+ year old oak. Supposedly it's the oldest living thing east of the Mississippi. It's a beast. But I like to stop and think of the stories she could tell. She was here before the Declaration of Independence was signed. She's weathered a lot. I don't think going anywhere. The tree is on Johns Island and is free to visit. There is a small gift shop and some picnic tables.



2. **The Battery & White Point Gardens:** Iconic Charleston. Enormous day dream fodder. Go on your own walking tour. Canons from Civil War for kids to climb on.



3. **Charleston Tea Plantation:** If you're heading out to the Angel Tree, you might as well make the trek to the Tea Plantation. The factory tour is free and informative (gift shop attached). We didn't go on the trolley tour because we were pressed for time, but it looks like gorgeous land.

4. **Beach:** This goes without saying probably. Hours of relaxation and fun can be had at the beach— swimming, fishing, shell collecting, sunbathing, sitting around practicing your stand-up comedy routine. There's nothing quite like it.

5. **Arthur Ravenel Bridge:** On a nice day, you could walk or bike the third longest suspension bridge in the Western hemisphere. It's 4km long. I'm not ready to try running it until someone can meet me on the other side

6. **King Street:** Yes, it's primarily shopping. A shopping mall stretched out along a nice stretch of road. But even if you have no money, it's still worth the walk for all of the people watching and the atmosphere. Poking around cute boutiques is fun, but you have to stop and admire some of the old art in the architecture (Urban Outfitters is in a gorgeous old theater).



7. **Parks:** There are several nice spots to relax and have a picnic. Marion Square always has some activity going on no matter the time of year. Sometimes you'll see farmer's markets, festivals, or city Christmas tree. We had some photos taken of us at Washington Square Park which has monuments, pretty flowers, and most importantly, shade!

8. **Historic Homes:** Smallgood family did a tour of the Joseph Manigault House in Charleston in 2010. Touring the inside of many of the historic homes cost a fee, but some like the House at Snee Farm are free for visitors.

I hope one day you find yourself in The Holy City with the chance to take in all of its beauty, its stories, its culture, and its charm.



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Each Office is Independently Owned and Operated

Classified Ads

These ads are free for Leacrott residents under 19 years old

Babysitting

Sarah Moore is available for babysitting or pet sitting. She is Red Cross-certified for babysitting. Sarah can be reached at 980-225-7733.

Lawn Care

John Caffrey 704-307-0465 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

Rachel Caffrey Red Cross certified in CPR and First Aid
704-307-0465

Pet Sitting

Rachel Caffrey Pet setting 704-307-0465

Caroline Faler Pet Setting age 14
(704)510-0052

Leacroft HOA Links

HOA forms and documents (ARC forms, bylaws, covenants)	http://www.leacroft.org/?page_id=93
Leacroft Contacts (Board members, committee chairs etc)	http://www.leacroft.org/?page_id=89
Leacroft List (List of service providers recommended by Leacroft residents)	http://www.leacroft.org/?page_id=1311
Villager Archives	http://www.leacroft.org/?page_id=123
CMPD Newsletter Archives	http://www.leacroft.org/?page_id=965

Please Note Leacroft List.

I have seen several Facebook request for various services such as electricians and cleaning people. The Leacroft List is a good place to begin. If you know a company or person that has provided good service and you would like to share that with the community, let me know and I will add it to the list.