

VILLAGER

Villages of Leacroft



History of Veterans Day

World War I - known at the time as "The Great War" - officially ended when the Treaty of Versailles was signed on June 28, 1919, in the Palace of Versailles outside the town of Versailles, France. However, fighting ceased seven months earlier when an armistice, or temporary cessation of hostilities, between the Allied nations and Germany went into effect on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month. For that reason, November 11, 1918, is generally regarded as the end of "the war to end all wars."

Soldiers of the 353rd Infantry near a church at Stenay, Meuse in France, wait for the end of hostilities. President Wilson proclaimed November 11 as the first commemoration of Armistice Day with the following words: "To us in America, the reflections of Armistice Day will be filled with solemn pride in the heroism of those who died in the country's service and with gratitude for the victory, both because of the thing from which it has freed us and because of the opportunity it has given America to show her sympathy with peace and justice in the councils of the nations..."

The original concept for the celebration was for a day observed with parades and public meetings and a brief suspension of business beginning at 11:00 a.m.

The United States Congress officially recognized the end of World War I when it passed a concurrent resolution on June 4, 1926, with these words:

Whereas the 11th of November 1918, marked the cessation of the most destructive, sanguinary, and far reaching war in human annals and the resumption by the people of the United States of peaceful relations with other nations, which we hope may never again be severed, and

Whereas it is fitting that the recurring anniversary of this date should be commemorated with thanksgiving and prayer and exercises designed to perpetuate peace through good will and mutual understanding between nations; and

Whereas the legislatures of twenty-seven of our States have already declared November 11 to be a legal holiday: Therefore be it Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), that the President of the United States is requested to issue a proclamation calling upon the officials to display the flag of the United States on all Government buildings on November 11 and inviting the people of the United States to observe the day in schools and churches, or other suitable places, with appropriate ceremonies of friendly relations with all other peoples.

An Act, approved May 13, 1938, made the 11th of November in each year a legal holiday—a day to be dedicated to the cause of world peace and to be thereafter celebrated and known as "Armistice Day." Armistice Day was primarily a day set aside to honor veterans of World War I, but in 1954, after World War II had required the greatest mobilization of soldiers, sailors, Marines and airmen in the Nation's history; after American forces had fought aggression in Korea, the 83rd Congress, at the urging of the veterans service organizations, amended the Act of 1938 by striking out the word "Armistice" and inserting in its place the word "Veterans." With the approval of this legislation on June 1, 1954, November 11th became a day to honor American veterans of all wars.

Later that same year, on October 8th, President Dwight D. Eisenhower issued the [first "Veterans Day Proclamation"](#) which stated: "In order to insure proper and widespread observance of this anniversary, all veterans, all veterans' organizations, and the entire citizenry will wish to join hands in the common purpose. Toward this end, I am designating the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs as Chairman of a Veterans Day National Committee, which shall include such other persons as the Chairman may select, and which will coordinate at the national level necessary planning for the observance. I am also requesting the heads of all departments and agencies of the Executive branch of the Government to assist the National Committee in every way possible."

President Eisenhower signing HR7786, changing Armistice Day to Veterans Day.

On that same day, President Eisenhower sent a letter to the Honorable Harvey V. Higley, Administrator of Veterans' Affairs (VA), designating him as Chairman of the Veterans Day National Committee.

In 1958, the White House advised VA's General Counsel that the 1954 designation of the VA Administrator as Chairman of the Veterans Day National Committee applied to all subsequent VA Administrators. Since March 1989 when VA was elevated to a cabinet level department, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs has served as the committee's chairman.

The Uniform Holiday Bill was signed on June 28, 1968, and was intended to ensure three-day weekends for Federal employees by celebrating four national holidays on Mondays: Washington's Birthday, Memorial Day, Veterans Day, and Columbus Day. It was thought that these extended weekends would encourage travel, recreational and cultural activities and stimulate greater industrial and commercial production. Many states did not agree with this decision and continued to celebrate the holidays on their original dates.

The first Veterans Day under the new law was observed with much confusion on October 25, 1971. It was quite apparent that the commemoration of this day was a matter of historic and patriotic significance to a great number of our citizens, and so on September 20th, 1975, President Gerald R. Ford signed Public Law 94-97, which returned the annual observance of Veterans Day to its original date of November 11, beginning in 1978. This action supported the desires of the overwhelming majority of state legislatures, all major veterans service organizations and the American people.

Veterans Day continues to be observed on November 11, regardless of what day of the week on which it falls. The restoration of the observance of Veterans Day to November 11 not only preserves the historical significance of the date, but helps focus attention on the important purpose of Veterans Day: A celebration to honor America's veterans for their patriotism, love of country, and willingness to serve and sacrifice for the common good.

I remember several years ago when my younger son was a boy scout, we placed small American flags on the graves of veterans in a federal cemetery in West Los Angeles. That was always a moving experience. I am sure that many of you have similar memories of passed Veterans'/Armistice days. Let's all remember those that served and especially those that gave their all.

from the HOA President:



My how time flies. This time last year I had just finished my case study paper for my PCAM designation and it is hard to believe that was 12 months ago. Oddly, I am more behind now with Leacroft business than I was at that time.

The Board met in October to review, finalize and adopt the 2015 operating budget for the community. For those of you on “pins and needles”, the 2015 budget provides for a small increase of \$10.00 per home per year bringing the

total annual assessment to \$495.00. Based on some responses and “fodder” around this time last year when we had an increase of \$5.00 per year, I thought I would address it up front to give everyone a little insight as to the major driver of the decision this year.

- 1) Pool – If you recall the brutally cold weather of January 2014 you know the problems that it can cause with anything water related. While all major components survived just fine due to proper preparation, we did have a number of “smaller” issues that had to be addressed with some of the interior plumbing of the pool facility. Also, in 2015 our regular full time operating period will be one week longer than it was in the last few years simply due to the timing of the CMS school year.
- 2) Prosperity Church Brick wall – Over my tenure at least on the Board it was incorrectly assumed that the city would bear the expense of the upkeep and maintenance (and eventual major repairs) of the brick wall that separates our community from Prosperity Church Road. We have noticed some relatively minor deterioration of the wall and thus reached out to the city for their assistance. We were then informed that it is the HOA’s (ours and Hayden Commons to the North) to maintain and repair this. We have allocated some money for some repair and investigative work for 2015 and will need to update our reserve study for the long term.
- 3) Billingham median islands – We have struggled with these in determining how to best approach these two items as over the years as they have always been a challenge to keep them looking good and trying to get grass to survive there. We consulted with our landscaping provider as well as others and have dedicated a material amount of funds to deal with the problem correctly, for the long term.

- 4) Inflation – We all know it's out there and we all have to deal with it one way or another. The CPI index for all consumers for the 12 month period ending October 2014 is ~2.2% and the increase in assessments from \$485 to \$495 is equal to 2.02% so we have managed to keep in line with that. Along those lines, if we look back to 2008 when I landed in Leacroft, I recall the dues (even for those that paid early and got a "discount" the dues were \$420.00 for that year. So from 2008 to 2015 we have gone up \$75.00 which is 15.5%, but when divided by those 8 years comes out to increases that average 1.9375% per year.

The annual meeting notice and related documents should be mailed this week and hopefully you will have all of that information in your mailbox by the time you see this message. If for some reason you do not receive them, we will be posting that entire package on the web as soon as all details are finalized.

The Annual Meeting of the Members will be held on November 20, 2014 and will begin at 6:30PM. The location, which we are waiting on will be included in the formal notice. I would like to stress the importance of attending the meeting as it is the most important meeting of the Association each year and will provide much information on how we did in 2014 and how we see 2015 playing out. Details will be provided on the 2015 operating budget as well as our reserve study updates and its overall status.

Last but not least, 2 of our Board members have expiring terms which end December 2014. Both Board members with expiring terms (Bob Clifford and Bob Matthews) have been nominated for additional 2 year terms and both have agreed to serve if elected. Of course, we welcome and encourage others to get involved in the community by serving in any capacity, be that as a Board member, Committee Member, or simply by assisting with a project here and there that help in keeping our neighborhood a great place to live and assessments reasonable for our community in relation to similar Associations in the surrounding areas.

Please make every effort to attend the meeting, I promise, it will be informative and enjoyable. If you are unable to attend, I ask (beg) that you fill out and return your proxy to give someone the authority to vote on your behalf, or simply to be counted for quorum purposes. Without a quorum (29 Lots/Homes), we are prohibited from voting on any item and cannot elect Board members for new terms. The proxy allows you to assign the Board President (me) or any other person to vote for you. If you choose someone other than me as your proxy, please make sure that person does attend the meeting as if they do not, your proxy cannot be counted.

Gardening with Deb Peters.

I'm ready!!! My garden is ready anyway. If you've been following my column you will remember that last year I was caught off guard by the first winter frost. My freeze hoops didn't arrive until after the fact. Well that's not happening this year. My summer garden has been harvested and my freezer is full of ratatouille, eggplant that has been peeled, cut and frozen. Along with all that I also chopped, peeled and froze onions, peppers, and whatever herbs I still had left.



I've finished planting my fall garden with kale, Brussels sprout, cabbage broccoli, cauliflower, spinach, carrots and beets. It should be a plentiful Thanksgiving. I also planted one new thing every year. This year for the first time ever I planted garlic. Stan requested that I plant a "salsa garden". Although this year I did have all the ingredients for salsa, they were spread out all over the garden. Come spring of 2015 one of my garden boxes will now become the "salsa box"

By now you should have cleared your entire garden of warm weather veggies, unless they are still healthy and producing. I'm still picking eggplant and banana peppers so I'll leave those plants in for a little while longer. You'll want to pull up any remnants of the warm weather garden. Most of it can be incorporated back into the ground when you turn your garden. The only thing you need to remember is that if your veggies died due to disease or insects they should not be mixed in with the new soil. The bugs and/or disease will become part of your new garden if you mix them in. As far as adding compost-my compost pile that I built last year is outstanding. Within that short amount of time it turned into a nice rich "black gold" I'll be covering what I did to build it in an upcoming issue.

OOPS Strayed off the path...back to being ready.

1. So the old garden is torn up and turned over. As I said before my eggplant and banana peppers are still producing so I'm just working around them.
2. I added new soil, compost (made by me), coffee grounds, and just worked it all in together. Having several small garden boxes makes it easier to work the soil without a tiller, just by hand.
3. I put up my garden hoops--Hopefully Len will post some pictures.
4. Planted my fall garden.
5. Water, Water, Water. Even though it's cold out it's been very dry lately; so do the finger test every day to make sure your garden is getting enough water.

6. Although we haven't had a freeze here yet, by the time you read this we will. Just make sure you listen to the weather report and if the temps are going to drop below freezing go out and cover your garden. You don't need fancy hoops like mine a sheet and some bricks will do. You can improvise. Just use your judgment and bundle them up, just like you would dress your children for walking to the bus stop. Enough to keep them warm but comfortable enough so they can walk around and breathe.

Well that's it for this month. Now I'm going to make some pumpkin chili and relax and read some of the holiday garden catalogs that have already started showing up in my mailbox.

Until next time: Here's to green thumbs and happy gardening.



Here are several opportunities to support local small businesses.

*** The 3H Shoppes in Ballantyne Village. Homemade, Handmade, Hand crafted. Tuesday & Saturday 12-6p, Fridays 5-8pm. 14825 Ballantyne Village Way ste.140 Charlotte.**

*** Folklife Festival Nov 8th and 9th at Latta Plantation in Huntersville, NC 10 - 4 pm - Saturday & Sunday.**

*** Winter Wonderland Craft Show At the Dairy Barn in Fort Mill, SC 9 -2 pm, Nov 29th small business Saturday.**

From Sutrina Bengé

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

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Classified Ads	
These ads are free for Leacroft residents under 19 years old	
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 704-307-0465 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 704-607-1818 Call or text
Rachel Caffrey Red Cross certified in CPR and First Aid 704-307-0465	
Pet Sitting	
Rachel Caffrey Pet setting 704-307-0465	Brittany Moore - Pet Care in our home or yours text or e-mail sweetiepierose99@gmail.com or Call 704-607-1818
Caroline Faler Pet Setting age 14 (704)510-0052	



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