



Villager



8.7%

Voting for our governmental representatives has always been an American 'right'.. However, at the time the constitution was signed, in most states, only white male landowners (property tax payers) over 21 could vote. After the Civil War, the constitution was amended to allow all men over 21, including former male slaves, to vote, however, women still could not vote. For nearly 100 years, many people worked very hard to get this right for women (19th amendment in 1920). Then in 1971, the 26th amendment to the constitution permitted 18 year olds this precious right. It was successfully argued that if 18 year olds could serve in the military service for the country, they should be able to vote. Voting is very important in a democracy. We would all be upset if this right was removed.

However, in our last primary, only 8.7% of the eligible voters in Mecklenburg county cared enough to cast a vote. We have a presidential election next year. If we are lucky, 60% of the eligible voters will vote.

I know that statisticians at polling companies can predict the outcome of an election based on very few votes but that is beside the point. The point is this; this country belongs to us. Many have fought and died that we can have the type of country that we want. The way we decide on what we want is to vote. Of course, we want to vote responsibly and that means that we should do our homework, not just listen to sound bites on TV commercials.

*The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is **for good men to do nothing.** Edmund Burke*



HOA President



I hope everyone is enjoying the cooler temperatures as much as I am and don't forget to complete all of your fall landscaping chores before the really cooler weather gets here and it's too late.

Over the last few months, I and the Board seem to have been getting quite an increase in emails/questions/comments/ etc. (mostly negative of course) regarding why violation letters are sent. As I have worked in the HOA business for over 14 years now I know the frustrations that come with them and I also realize that no one likes to get those letters. I do however understand why and the fact that no one likes to live next to a home that is not well kept. As an example, I'll take a posting from earlier this year I wrote to provide another side of the story ...



Monday, October 12, 2015

The above picture is of my home, notice the little "yard decoration" out front? Yes, that is a toilet. Jenn and I have been renovating in the house and part of that was replacing toilets. As a joke to Jenn as she was out of town at the time, I put it out front, took a picture and asked her thoughts as she indicated she would like another flower pot somewhere out front. She of course objected to my "idea". I then got a phone call and got distracted for a bit and while on the phone, I noticed my neighbor, who just bought the home a week or so ago come home, see it, shake his head and walk inside. Imagine what was going through his head at the moment. The "decoration" was promptly removed after about 30 minutes but it is a great example of why we have restrictions, rules, and thusly, why we send out violation letters. While I realize the above is a bit of an extreme although funny example, it is indeed on point. Imagine if your neighbor did this, kept it there and would not remove it. Now imagine you just listed your home for sale. I am confident that any potential buyer would take issue with it. Luckily, we don't have any examples of the above in Leacroft, we do however have many others that can have similar impact on the decisions of potential buyers.

2015 Annual Meeting: Our Annual meeting will be held on November 18, 2015 will start at 7PM and will be in the upstairs conference room of Bass Pro Shop at Concord Mill mall as it has been for the past several years. Please mark your calendar and be on the lookout for the annual meeting notice and other information which should be mailed out late October or early November. At the meeting we will be adopting the 2016 operating and reserve budgets and voting on Board members for 3 expiring terms. The terms of myself as well as Paula and Beth are expiring at the end of this year and we will need some volunteers as at this time, it is unlikely that I will run again for a Board position in order to give others a chance to serve and to simply take some time off the Board to focus on more personal and professional endeavors.

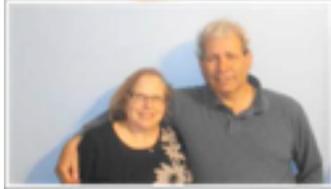
Board members (and all other volunteers) play a crucial role in the continued success of our neighborhood and without those volunteers many of our services and activities would surely be negatively impacted. Therefore, I ask everyone in the community to consider some level of service to the community 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". So please mark your calendar for the evening of November 18, 2015

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

Sincerely

Paul A. Greiner, CMCA, AMS, PCAM

Gardening with Deb



Here it is October and once again we are dealing with “Mother Nature” The back of my backyard is about a foot under water. I thought I was going to have to build the ARC. Check out the pictures. The good news is that my fall garden is planted and thriving. The fall plants are loving the rain.

I pulled out any leftover warm weather crops except for one of my hot pepper plants. Just like the Energizer Bunny it keeps going and going. The little red peppers that are left are so cute that I’ve decided to let them be for a little while longer. Back to the rain and the garden. As you can see it looks like a little jungle, and right now my freezer is on overload with peppers all chopped up, Onions all chopped up, eggplant all fried up (for eggplant parm) and zucchini. (Not sure how this is going to work out) and lots and lots of basil and rosemary. Probably enough to get me through a couple of months.

As far as the zucchini goes this is what Stan and I would do all summer long. After it was picked I cut each one into spears and then cut the spears in half, so I wind up with approximately 12 six-inch spears. I would drizzle them with EVOO and then season the spears with sea salt, or Kosher salt, and black pepper. Then I would grill them until the outer skin is charred. WOW!! This is really good. So good in fact that it became one of our favorite summer veggies, Last time I made them I was going to try and freeze the leftovers, but there were none. So, I took another zucchini and did the same thing, but instead of eating the spears, after they were charred on the grill I put them in the freezer. I figure I’ll take them out for Thanksgiving. My thought is to bake them at 375 degrees for about 15 to 20 mins. I may need to stick them under the broiler for an extra minute to crisp them up. I will let everyone know how they turn out.

Thanksgiving will be here before you know it so I’ve started making up my menu, based on what will be available from my garden. So far I am planning on the following:

Thanksgiving Menu November 2015

1. Apple-butternut squash soup (home made with farm-fresh squash and apples)
2. Turkey—Store bought.
3. Kale/beet/carrot salad—(fresh from the garden)
4. NC sweet potatoes—(farm fresh)
5. Roasted Brussels Sprouts—(fresh from the garden)
6. Roasted zucchini—(frozen from the garden)
7. Cranberry Sauce—(home made from fresh cranberries)

I don't know about you, but I'm already salivating and the smells aren't even in the house yet. Dessert will be our one guilty pleasure of a store-bought apple pie with ice cream. Pies have never been my forte and if I only by one then we won't have any leftovers.

As Thanksgiving draws closer remember to reflect and think about what you are thankful for. I'm thankful that Stan's heart attack wasn't a fatal one, that it was only a wake-up call and that it pushed us into a healthier living and eating lifestyle. So folks: there you have it. A healthy delicious Thanksgiving. Hopefully yours will be just as yummy!!

HERE'S TO GREEN THUMBS AND HAPPY GARDENING.



Monday, October 12, 2015



New Neighbors



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We are Ben and Felicia Miley and we just moved into a house down Stoneykirk Lane. We just moved from East Charlotte after living in Dallas, Texas for six years. We have three children. Alannah is 2.5 years old and Lucas and Dillon are 6 months old. Ben is from Wooster, Ohio and is a big Cleveland sports fan and enjoys basketball and football. Felicia is from Paris, France and enjoys spending time with family and watching HGTV and the cooking channel. We will probably see you out at the pool and playground with the family. We look forward to spending time in the neighborhood and meeting new people

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McDowell Nature Center and Preserve.



Last month, I wrote about some very enjoyable day trips. This month's topic is McDowell Nature Center and Preserve. We have been there several time, often taking the grandkids. We have always had a great time walking the trails through forest, playing in the water and having our lunch over looking the lake.

McDowell is nearby, just a few miles off of I485 (Exit 4) in North Carolina and on Lake Wylie. You can go down for the day or rent a campsite and stay for a while.

All of the trails are easy or moderate. Many, if not all, allow mountain biking.

If you are looking for something different (and cheap) to do on a Saturday, pack a lunch and come on down and hike through the woods for a couple of hours. You and the kids will enjoy it and you will get a little fresh air and some exercise.

We have seen families having birthday parties there (just a thought)

Here are a few things I cut from their website.

Features:

- Nature Center
- 1,107.6 acres
- 56-Site Camp Ground
- Copperhead Island - Fishing and Boating Access, Primitive Group Camping
- 7 miles of hiking trails
- Playgrounds
- Picnic areas
- Wildlife viewing opportunities

Reservable Facilities:

- ▣ McDowell Campground
- ▣ Copperhead Island (Shelter and Primitive Group Camp)
- ▣ Red Fox Medium Shelter
- ▣ Large Pavilion
- ▣ Waterfront Deck

Neighborhood News



Our grandson, Dan Snyder, entered the U.S. Marine Corp on September 21, 2015. He is now in bootcamp at Parris Island, South Carolina. He will graduate from bootcamp on December 18 and will go to advanced infantry training at Camp Lejeune North Carolina.

If you would like to enter a article about an event in your family, just send it to me.

Classified Ads

Leacroft Small Businesses		
Avon	Brenda Brown	4645 Highcroft Lane, 704-906-9624, youravon.com/ brendabrown4645
Insurance	Carla Chacon chacoc1@nationwide.com	Nationwide Insurance 3900 Canterbrook Dr 704-548-0500 x107
Lawn care	A & T Lawncare (see ad)	Tom Weir 704-609-9066 10209 Fairbourne Court
Web and Print Design	Nicolas Thorley	3407 Turtle Cross Lane 704-345-5854

<p>Pink Daisy A Home, Bath and Body Company A natural line of products free from harmful chemicals Pinkdaisyhomebody.etsy.com 704 907 3526 Sutrina Bengé Leacroft Resident</p>	<p>Brenda Brown Avon Representative youravon.com/brendabrown4645</p>
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If you need some help around the house; painters, plumbers, electricians, handyman...just check out the Leacroft List below

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



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 sitting 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 Dog Sitter and Baby Sitter Age 15 (704)510-0052	

Computer Repair
 Christian Salazar – 704 465 0631
 Virus cleanup, Speedup, Upgrade,
 keyboard, screen fix, etc.
Call/Text before dropping computer

Hello neighbors,
I know a fresh round of HOA letters just recently went out and I wanted to offer my pressure wash services at a discounted rate for the month of October for all Leacroft residents that may need it.

Single story homes \$125 (normally \$140)

Driveways \$40 (\$10 off)

Hope you all have a great day.

John

704-258-1541



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