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It's a dog's life
Dogs in Cornelius have
it pretty good
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July Things to do

Town proclaims July 19 'Big Day at the Lake Day'

More than 100 Boat Hosts are needed

The 10th year of Big Day at the Lake is July 19. It means some 200 at-risk children and youth from Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Charlotte will come to Lake Norman for a day of fun.

More than 100 "Boat Hosts" are needed to take the children—along with their mentors—out on Lake Norman for a morning of fun, concluding with a picnic for 600-plus participants at Duke Energy Explorium.

"More than 75 volunteer positions have been filled, so what we need now is more Boat Hosts," said Dave Yochum, the founder of Big Day at the Lake. **To register as a Boat Host, go to www.bigdayatthelake-lkn.com.**

Big Day at the Lake has three simple goals: Provide a day of fun on Lake Norman for children who would not otherwise get out on the lake; recruit "Bigs," or mentors; and raise money for BBBS of Greater Charlotte.

NC Secretary of Commerce visiting Cornelius on July 14

NC Secretary of Commerce Sharon Decker will speak at The Lake Norman Chamber Power Lunch July 14 at The Pearl Event Center on West Catawba Avenue. Cornelius Today and BusinessToday are two of the sponsors of the event, which starts at 11:45 a.m. To register, call the chamber at 704-892-1921. Members pay \$20, non-members, \$25.

Movies in the parks

July is outdoor movie month in Cornelius. The PARC Department (for Parks, Arts, Recreation and Culture) is showing these movies just after sunset in July.

July 9: Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs 2 - Kenton Place

July 19: Delivery Man - Ramsey Creek Park

July 23: Despicable Me 2 - Kenton Place

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Benji is a 3 year old terrier mix who was recently picked up as a stray in Cornelius. He has a long shaggy yellow coat and cute perky ears. He is friendly and playful and a nice size for a family pet.



Elvis is a large, 2 year old domestic short hair who has been at the shelter for several months now. He has a thick, soft grey coat and light green eyes. He has a quiet, mellow personality and would make a great companion. Please consider giving this deserving cat a loving home.

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ON THE COVER

Keith Blankenship designed this month's cover, with a photo supplied by Camp Wagging Tails

Lake People RUN DEEP

STAFF

Editor: Dave Yochum, nebiztoday@gmail.com; **Sales and Marketing Director:** Gail Williams, gail.todaypubs@gmail.com; **Account Executives:** Sara Foley, sara.todaypubs@gmail.com; **Production Director:** David Boling, production.todaypubs@gmail.com. Send us your news: corneliustoday@gmail.com

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EVERY DAY'S A DOG DAY IN CORNELIUS



Poolside at Camp Wagging Tails

BY DAVE YOCHUM

It is the best of times, it is the wurst of times, it is the age of liverwurst treats, Snausages, Liv-A Snaps, rawhide chews, Milk-Bones anxd Gravy Train. It's all good if you're a dog in Cornelius.

By our measurements, Cornelius is the fourth most dog-friendly suburb in the United States. Dog business abound.

"We have TVs, music, people socialize and meet friends, and their dogs are running around. Take a dog park and put a sports bar in the middle of it, that's what we are," says Randy Waugh, the owner, with his wife Kelly, of Lucky Dog Bark & Brew on Statesville Road. As if you didn't know where it was.

You might say Randy and Kelly are lucky, having started a business less than two years ago that is thriving today. On a typical Saturday 100 to 150 dogs sort of to the water bowls while their owners belly up to the bar which sits inside 3,000 square feet of covered space.

There's another 8,500 square feet outside for pups and people to roam in safety.

Revenue is on the order of \$600,000 to \$800,000 a year this, on a business built around people-oriented animals.

Indeed, the business of dogs is good enough for the Waughs to be on the

verge of successfully selling franchises.

An entrepreneur in Asheville is gonna bite. The franchise fee: A cool \$35,000. A McDonald's franchise costs only \$10,000 more.

Next up for the Waugh's is a second location in South Charlotte.

Dogs are special, even though they are on an entirely different radius in the circle of life here on earth.

a hedgehog—Norton thought it was a porcupine—but it's really all about puppies and dogs.

Speaking of church and religion, do dogs from Cornelius go to heaven?

"I don't see why not," Norton says. "I'd say there will be dogs in heaven and other animals." In fact, Isaiah 11:16 (King James Version) says this about the afterlife: "The wolf also shall dwell

Celia Bensman, the godmother of the organized dog world in Cornelius, says dogs make us laugh. "They make you smile. The greeting one gets when you return home—even if it only was five minutes—amazes me. The best part, they give you lots of licks and loves and snuggles anytime of day or night. I could not imagine not having a dog. Or two. Or three."

Along with her husband Jim, she was the founder of Camp Wagging Tails, a thriving dog spa, if you will, on Bailey Road.

New owner Richard Colven—the Bensmans moved to Colorado, not before spearheading the new Cornelius Animal Shelter on Meridian Street—says doting moms and dads bring 20 to 40 doggies to day camp, depending on the season.

"Our customers report that the dogs get very excited when they know they are going to camp. Some who come on the same day each week swear their dogs can tell time and they are ready to go when they know it's camp day," Colven says.

A typical day at Camp Wagging Tails is like spending the day at a resort, complete with naps and water sports.

with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them."

Whether dogs have souls or not, is really anybody's guess. Bred as human-kind's chief four-legged companion for uncountable centuries, dogs might not have been made in the image of God, but they can make us feel like we're in heaven.

"I'd say there will be dogs in heaven and other animals. I don't see why not."

Travis Norton

Pastor
Community in Christ Lutheran Church



DOGS from page 4



"The dogs get to run around all they want," Colven says. "We also make sure that our campers get plenty of rest, so we have mandatory nap time inside in the middle of the day."

So many dogs are regulars at Camp Wagging Tails, that when one comes in, it's like a scene from "Cheers," only there's more sniffing than wisecracks.

Dog care is obviously big business in Cornelius. Veterinarians are expanding and opening up new locations. The North Mecklenburg Animal Hospital more than doubled in size last year.

Dr. Lori Hoe, a partner at the Main Street Veterinary Hospital in downtown Cornelius, says the influx of young families here means that pet ownership will keep growing.

Veterinary is also about who's the alpha dog. Her biggest challenge is taking on established pet practices in Cornelius "and proving that our quality of care, customer service and value is superior."

The love of animals in Cornelius is such that there aren't a lot of dogs at the Cornelius Animal Shelter from which to choose. Volunteer Cathy Haisfield says the flow of animals is decreasing. No one knows the exact cause, but Trey Nodine, Cornelius Animal Control officer, says we're a "low-key town. You don't hear about abuse."

There's a modern-day twilight bark, think "101 Dalmatians," when there is trouble. Jack Salzman, who owns Lake Norman Chrysler Dodge Jeep along with his wife Robin, says an email went

out in late June about a dog that needed a new home—the owners had to give her up.

"Within hours that dog was saved," Salzman says. The Salzmanns, who donated a 2014 Dodge Caravan worth \$25,000 to the Humane Society of Charlotte to transport homeless animals, are also helping launch Friend of the Animals in Lake Norman.

The couple is working on a \$3 million facility on donated land at LangTree at the Lake in Mooresville. Their donation: Something in the six-figure range.

"Our dogs are like our kids; they're part of the family. They give you unconditional love," Salzman says. "If you go out and come right back in, they're like 'where have you been.'" With seven dogs, they kinda know.

Dogs, of course, are good for everybody. People who have canine companions live longer and are less frequently depressed.

Even the Town of Cornelius gets behind dogs and dog ownership.

The town's annual All American Dog Show is held every October at Bailey Road Park. It's not highfalutin in any way, says Woody Washam, no less than the mayor pro tempore of Cornelius. Dogs compete—not that they know it—in the categories of best dressed, cutest senior, cutest puppy, best spots, best trick, best kisser and most all-American.

"We don't miss it," Washam says.



Dr. Hoe

Dr. Goodwin

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John Washam looks back at three-quarters of a century in Cornelius

Rotarian, Legionnaire and optician

BY DAVE YOCHUM

At 81, John Washam is as busy as he ever was, although he works only one day a week at the optical shop he opened on Westmoreland Road back in 1978.

He has a variety of projects to attend to. There's Lake Norman Rotary every Wednesday at The Peninsula Club, A group of old-timers meets frequently for breakfast at Wendy's, plus there's church on Sunday. The Korean War veteran still goes to American Legion Post 86 in Cornelius, but he's no longer the commander after a 19-year stint.

He led this year's Memorial Day observance behind Town Hall. Col. Mike Puckett, a Huntersville resident, is now the commander of Post 86, which has played a big role in Cornelius history after World War I.

For John, there's furniture to repair, as well as his grandfather's old blacksmith

shop. He restored it and moved it to his property at the corner of Westmoreland and Washam-Potts. There's a gas-powered Maytag against one wall.

Cars whip around the corner of Westmoreland and Washam-Potts as he carves a piece of wood to make a repair.

Yes, his father was the J.V. Washam for whom J.V. Washam Middle School was named. The Washams go back almost too many generations to figure out how all of them are related, but at one point a Washam married a Potts. He and Cornelius Mayor Pro Tem Woody Washam are distant cousins, but they don't know how many times removed.

Ancestor William Potts was a planter who owned 2,000 acres here, as well as slaves. Today there are Potts' who are black, a reflection of the way things were before Cornelius was Cornelius back in the early 1800s.

"When I grew up Grandfather Potts had tenant farmers. Us kids, black and white, grew up together and inter-mixed. We were just kids growing up," Washam says.

One of the older kids was baseball player Hoyt Wilhelm who went on to pitch for



John Washam: He's seen Cornelius grow up all around him

See WASHAM, Page 7

Washam from page 6

the New York Giants, the St. Louis Cardinals and the Baltimore Orioles.

His father, J.V. Washam Sr. built schoolhouses and churches; he was a member of the school board before the north county school consolidation. In the summer Wilhelm would work for him, back when a career in the Major Leagues didn't pay very much.

Washam-Potts Road went unpaved for many years. Washam himself doesn't remember having a bike; the kids rode horses wherever they needed to go or wanted to go. They dammed a creek to make a swimming hole; this, before Duke dammed the Catawba River to create Lake Norman.

Everyone skipped church to watch the engineers blow up the bridge just beyond what is now the end of Bethel Church Road.

In addition to being employed as a builder, the Washam family raised cotton. "We did very well," Washam explains.

At age 18 he joined the U.S. Army, serving in the Infantry. As a communications chief, he climbed countless telephone polls.

He got out of the Army in 1955, and married Violet at Huntersville Presby-



Gas-powered Maytag

rian Church. The wedding reception was in the fellowship hall.

She had a 1950 Ford, which John still tinkers with. It's in nice condition.

Together they operated the optical shop that's still there on Westmoreland, next to Dr. Royce Syracuse's office. John Jr. prescribed the glasses; Violet ran the business side of the operation. They were married 54 years before Violet passed in October of 2011.

They paid \$3,000 for a lake lot in the mid-1970s and lived on Senlac until Violet died. John Jr. kept the house for rental income, and moved to their old house at the corner of Washam-Potts and West-

moreland.

Virtually everybody who drove by 30 years ago would have bought their eyeglasses from the Washams. Now that Violet is gone, he pretty much focuses on old customers.

"It's hard when someone passes away. You have to keep going. That's the reason I have the hobbies," Washam said. He has the antique cars, an ancient railroad inspection vehicle, the blacksmith shop. "You never expect to outlive your wife. She never spent a day in the hospital. She was active in church, the ladies auxiliary. She was my business manager."



An old cider press in the blacksmith shop

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Robbins Park 'hotel' offers temporary shelter to turtles

BY DAVE YOCHUM

They made movies about cattle roundups in the old west. Welllll, this is a story about a turtle roundup in Robbins Park, a few hundred feet from West Catawba. The Town of Cornelius is spearheading the temporary relocation of pond turtles from one pond to another, as deteriorating dams are replaced.

The project should be completed by the end of the year, according to Del

Arrendale, chairman of the town's Parks, Arts, Recreation and Culture Department, better known as PARC.

Two Davidson College undergraduates and an adjunct assistant biology professor have been trapping turtles in two Robbins Park Ponds since late April. They've caught some three dozen turtles and have temporarily relocated them into the nearby fenced-in retention pond.

Arrendale said the students, Emma



Del Arrendale: Chairman of PARC Dept. joins Robbins Park turtle rescue

Johnson and Cyrus Bahram, check traps every other day, and move the turtles to the other pond. They also keep an eye on frogs, snakes and fish. They'll also study the effect of the relocation on their behavior. Arrendale says their job is important, otherwise the turtle might want to migrate toward Lake Norman—and get killed crossing West Catawba.

"Students have been studying turtles on these ponds for 10 years," Arrendale said, explaining that the herpetologists (those who study amphibians) collect migration data and homing pattern information.

"We don't know when they move or why," he said, adding that the turtles are for the most part scavengers.

The herpetologists put sardines inside of hoop-net traps to capture the turtles. Then they are taken to a lab on campus to be marked, measured and weighed. The department main-

tains a data base which has been collected over 10 years.

Some of the turtles are fitted with thermometers to measure shell temperature vs. the temperature of nearby water or mud.

The Davidson research team has also built what amounts to a sundeck in the middle of the temporary pond. They can watch the turtles catch some tanning rays.

There are loads of frogs, which means the environment is healthy, Arrendale said.

The town plans to stock both ponds with fish, as well as build piers and observation platforms, paved trails and boardwalks connecting Robbins Park to the adjacent Westmoreland Athletic Complex.

Additional recreation facilities include a sand volleyball court, an intermediate-level disc golf course and an octagonal dodge ball pit.



Turtle marked for observation



Turtle Trap

For Sue Grabowski, mentoring is both a mission and a passion

BY DAVE YOCHUM

Cornelius seems to produce women leaders who grab life by the shoulders and push it in the right direction. Arlene Berkman, the founder of the Foundation for Respect Ability, an anti-bullying organization, and Margi Kyle, the founder of Little Smiles, a children's charity, are two examples.

Sue Grabowski, a 26-year resident of Cornelius, is producing young female leaders.

She is the founder of Cornelius-based Young Elites, an intensive and comprehensive leadership program for high school girls "to enter college ready to lead and develop a culture of leadership for their lives." One hundred teenagers—most of them from North Mecklenburg, but some come from as far away as Georgia and South Carolina—completed a one-week "summit" in June, which is conducted at Davidson Day School. There are tune-up sessions in the fall and spring semesters.

"High school girls involved in the Young Elites program will enter college prepared to lead," says Grabowski, who lives in Shearwater Point.

The selection process includes a recommendation from a teacher or coach, according to Young Elites' executive director, Jennifer Shiley.

The program, started two years ago, is diverse: 65 percent of the girls are white, 22 percent African American. "We're reaching out beyond Cornelius," says Grabowski, 51.

A former partner in a sports marketing company, Grabowski has a 19-year-old daughter, Jeanine, who is a graduate of the program as well as a volunteer. (Son Austin, 22, is going to Campbell Law School in Buies Creek.)

They met because Shiley was Jeanine's English teacher at Davidson Day.

The Young Elites program centers on a five-day program the two wrote. Each day has a different theme, corresponding with the letters in Elite: Excellence, Leadership, Initiative, Tenacity, Execution. The program runs from 3:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday, allowing those who work to keep their summer jobs or remain in summer sports leagues. Friday is a full day, starting at 9 a.m. and closing at 5 p.m.

"No one has ever done it this way," Grabowski says, explaining that the changes in the girls by the end of the



Sue Grabowski and Jennifer Shiley: Focus on helping pre-college girls

week are incremental but real. "The girls don't know that they're changing," she says, but surveys before and after show they look at things differently.

Sponsors include Lake Norman Realty, Master Title, My Aloha and Brook-

lyn South. Davidson Day donates the facility. The annual budget is \$100,000.

Speaker-mentors include Kristi Graham, a lawyer with the Mecklenburg County Department of Social Services; Judy Rose, the athletic director in

charge of all sports at UNC-Charlotte; and Lauren Perdue, the Olympic swimmer who lives in Charlotte.

The program even has the endorsement of Hillary Clinton, who said: "This gathering is a wonderful opportunity for you to gain the skills and experience that will help you become the next generation of leaders."


Grabowski said she and Shiley "saw a need and didn't see it being met out there. Mostly because we are women and we just see the need, we wanted to just really start empowering young women and teaching them skill sets that are [beneficial] for their future."

The business world is changing quickly, with more women moving into the higher positions disproportionately held by men. But young women don't automatically come with the skill sets needed in a more collaborative, team-oriented approach to business.

"You really have to learn that through participation and action, get pushed out of your comfort zones mentally and physically," Shiley said.

For more information on Young Elites, visit www.grabowskifoundation.org


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News E news from www.corneliustoday.com

Once planned for this year, public swimming on LKN dips into 2016

By Dave Vieser
The new public swimming area at Lake Norman's Ramsey Cove Park is apparently two years away from opening. The beach received formal approval this month from the Lake Norman Marine Commission, but must still be authorized by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the state Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and Duke Energy.

Visit Lake Norman Executive Director Sally Ashworth says the opening of the beach can't come soon enough. "One of the most frequent questions we get at the Visitors Center is where families can access the lake for swimming and I hate it that I have to send them out of the county."



ASHWORTH

Currently, the only public swimming area on the lake is at Lake Norman State Park in Troutman, a solid half hour drive away from the Cornelius area.

Back in 2012, officials were sure the park would open for swimming this year.

According to Mecklenburg County Commissioner Karen Bentley, the length of time needed before the facility can open is due, in part, to the approval process required by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC).



BENTLEY

"Our timeline is really at the mercy of the FERC so we do not have complete control of the process" Bentley said. "Additionally, we want to make sure a traffic impact study is completed so that the increased traffic flow resulting from the availability of a beach doesn't create issues for local residents."

Red Line doesn't make key regional transportation planning list

By Dave Vieser
Improvements to the existing



Eighth grader donates 10 inches of hair to Locks of Love

Jillian Macha, an eighth grader at Bailey Middle School, had some 10 inches of her hair cut for Locks of Love, a non-profit organization that provides hairpieces to financially disadvantaged children suffering from long-term medical problems. The daughter of Lee and Debbie Macha of Lagoona Drive, Jillian made the decision on her own, according to her grandmother, Barbara Hatcher, who lives in Biscayne Park. "Her parents are so very proud of her and hope that her actions will encourage others to be more giving to people who are in need," She said. Sherrie Freeman with South Mane Salon donated her time as well.

railroad right-of-way to facilitate the implementation of a commuter "Red Line" to the Lake Norman area has failed to make a tentative, but, key list of over 100 transportation projects to be undertaken during the second half of the decade. The failure of the project to make the planning list which will eventually comprise the region's TIP (Transportation Improvement Plan) casts further doubt on whether the rail line will ever be a reality.

Meanwhile, widening Hwy.21 between Westmoreland and Northcross Center Circle scored high on the TIP list.

At their June 11 meeting several members of the Lake Norman Regional Transportation Commission (LNTC) indicated they had been recently advised that the funds needed to make the existing freight line customer connections compatible with a passenger rail operation were prohibitive.

The Charlotte Regional Transportation Planning Organization (CRTPO) has a complex process by which each

future transportation project is assigned a certain number of points to establish its funding priority. No rail projects were included on the tentative list which is currently under review.

The subject of the Red Line status was raised by commission members as Neil Burke, CRTPO's senior planner, was explaining the next steps for the TIP at the June meeting. Burke revealed that the tentative list of over 100 transportation projects to be funded between 2016-2020 will be the subject of public comment on their web site during the next month, as well as in-person public discussion at the July 16th meeting of CRTPO at the Government Center on East Fourth Street in Charlotte.

While there were no rail projects on the list, some road projects of interest to the Lake Norman area scored near the top, including the widening of Highway 21 from Northcross Center Circle in Huntersville to Westmoreland Road in Cornelius; improvements at the I-77 Exit 23 interchange in Huntersville; widening of Highway 73

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Home Sales



17308 Players Ridge Drive, \$412,000

PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS

These property transactions were recorded by the Mecklenburg County Register of Deeds.

Cornelius

5/12/14 \$557,000 Mary Barker to Stacey Jenks, 16811 America Cup Rd.
5/12/14 \$1,150,000 Stacey Jenks to Michael & Cynthia Hosey, 18315 Harbor Light Blvd.
5/12/14 \$131,000 Albert & Becky Ernst to Hanoch & Ballanne Toren, 20101 Henderson Rd. Unit C

5/12/14 \$323,000 James & Mary Anne Nolan to Robert & Maygan Malone, 19706 Valiant Way
5/13/14 \$350,000 South Creek Homes to Dennis Lynch & Susan Harper, 18030 Coulter Pkwy.
5/13/14 \$266,000 Florence & Joseph Jr. Reardon to Dean Snannon & Deborah Knapp, 19618 Valiant Way
5/13/14 \$1,375,000 Henry & Anne Lomax to Won One Real Estate LLC, 18033 Mollypop Ln.

See HOMES, Page 16



118315 Harbor Light Blvd, \$536,000

Cornelius



16505 Jetton Road - \$3,995,000

WATERFRONT

The Peninsula



UNDER CONTRACT

16909 Flying Jib Road - \$699,000

The Peninsula



UNDER CONTRACT

17403 Summer Place Drive - \$425,000

The Peninsula



17304 Jetton Road - \$749,900

GOLF COURSE

The Peninsula



17606 Westward Reach Road - \$2,749,000

WATERFRONT

The Peninsula



BOAT SLIP

18118 Sunset Cove Lane - \$639,900

The Peninsula



16504 Pelican Point Lane - \$669,000

The Peninsula



18010 Lochcarron Lane - \$575,000

SOLD

The Peninsula



18927 Peninsula Club Drive - \$959,000

GOLF COURSE

Wrights Emerald Cove



UNDER CONTRACT

20627 Queensdale Drive - \$775,000

The Peninsula



18830 Peninsula Cove Lane - \$669,000

GOLF COURSE

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UNDER CONTRACT

18208 Moorings View Cove - \$895,000

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HOMES from page 14

20520 Rio Oro Drive, \$230,000

5/13/14 \$323,500 MI Homes of Charlotte to Micheal & Jennifer Beecham, 21644 Old Canal St.

5/13/14 \$178,000 NVR Inc. to Ashley Wyrick, 19759 Playwrights Way

5/13/14 \$175,500 NVR Inc. to William Van Every & Ione O'Hara, 19763 Playwrights Way

5/14/14 \$304,000 Bradley & Tracy Buerck to Charles & Janice Stanier, 18733 The Commons Blvd.

5/15/14 \$340,000 MI Homes of Charlotte to Cheri & Glenn II Lassiter, 21640 Old Canal St.

5/15/14 \$168,000 Matthew & Ashley Kelley

to Nahid Amini, Ray Armini, Tamara & Kyarash Amini, 19506 Deer Valley Dr.

5/16/14 \$412,000 Donald & Susan Rutz to Kenneth & Jamie Gebhardt, 17308 Players Ridge Dr.

5/16/14 \$330,000 South Creek Homes to David & Marjorie Lewis, 18010 Coulter Pkwy.

5/16/14 \$405,000 Mark & Patricia Leisure to Robert & Nancy Van Buskirk, 17425 Summer Place Dr.

5/19/14 \$730,000 Jessica Kane to Roland & Tracie Chan, 17623 Springwinds Dr.

5/19/14 \$242,000 James Jansen Sr. to Xiao-



17623 Springwinds Drive, \$730,000

See HOMES, Page 18

LAKE NORMAN'S MOST DISTINCTIVE HOMES



Waterfront Villa

One of a kind Mediterranean style villa with spectacular view. Stucco exterior w/barrel tile roof, cast stone details. Elevator, hardwoods, Travertine tiles, Groin Vault ceilings, 7 FP's, 2 master suites. Gourmet kitchen with antiqued glazed cabinets, granite, Wolf range, subzero refrigerator & wine storage. Wine room, billiards, media. Loggia/FP, resort style pool & spa. 4 car garage. MLS# 2210106 Agent: Lori Ivester Jackson/Reed Jackson

\$ 4,950,000

Peninsula Waterfront

Stunning sunset and island views from this European Country style estate on dual point lots in The Peninsula. Gourmet kitchen w/ Viking, Subzero & Bosch appl's, accesses one of a kind covered outdoor dining terrace. All BR's en suite w/granite & custom cabinetry. MBR on main w/270 degree water views & spa bath. Lake level wet bar, GR, wine cellar, media. Resort pool/spa w/2 tier patio. MLS# 2217819 Agents: Lori Ivester Jackson/Reed Jackson

\$ 3,790,000



Crown Harbor Waterfront

Charming oasis w/ quiet grandeur and enchanting views. 9K+sqft interior w/ master & 4 BR suites, exercise room, wine room, lower level living w/ kitchen, BR w/ private bath, living area w/ FP. Richly appointed w/ intricately wrought iron and Brazilian cherry wood spiral staircase. Kitchen features custom granite and onyx counter tops. Unique loft, arches, & art niches. MLS# 3002347 Agent: Lori Ivester Jackson/ Jan Sipe

\$ 3,100,000



Cornelius Waterfront

Fantastic updated Cornelius waterfront with great casual chic flair. Expansive waterside kitchen w/ Wolf appliance package and walnut cabinetry. 2 master suites. Elevator, flagstone terrace and screened porch overlooks resort style pool and spa, shoreline covered gazebo. Guest apartment over garage with gourmet kitchen, private BR/bath, and terrace. MLS# 2207654 Agent: Lori Ivester Jackson/Reed Jackson

\$ 2,249,900



Cornelius Waterfront

Spectacular water front home, great for entertaining. Full back balcony overlooking the pool, lake, and hot tub. Custom crafted home with luxury throughout. 1.3 acres of privacy, with lush landscaping. Large private basketball court. Overhead garage workroom. Large wine cellar in 2nd living quarters/lower level that leads out to lanai with swimming pool. MLS# 2133717 Agent: Lori Ivester Jackson

\$ 1,890,000



Cornelius Waterfront Estate

Estate setting w/lots of h'woods, mature landscaping. Elegant stone, brick, & stucco. Circular drive is stunning entrance into this 5BR. Cherry cabs, granite, 4 FP's. 4 car garage. MLS# 2167610 Agent: Lori Ivester Jackson

\$ 1,999,000



Cornelius Waterfront

Remodeled charming ranch. 5BR. HDWDs on main level, stone FPL. Basement w/ additional kitchen and bath. 2+ acre lot. Screened porch, deck for privacy. On-site boat slip. A Must See! MLS# 3005960 Agent: Gayle Phillips

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The Peninsula

All brick home w/ views of the 14th green. Custom designed fireplace in 2-story GR. Kitchen w/ Wolf gas c/top, custom cabinets/island granite. Outdoor living space w/ fire pit, Viking grill and c/top. MLS# 2222542 Agent: Pam Boileau

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The Peninsula

4BR, full brick home. Formals, plus office & bonus rm. Kitchen w/ granite, tile bkspish, lg island, Dacor cooktop. HW thruout main living areas, custom painting. New roof 2014. MLS# 2209409 Agent: Lori Ivester Jackson/Reed Jackson

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Home Sales

HOMES from page 16



18101 Harbor Mist Road, \$469,000

Juan Yang, 18101 Harbor Mist Rd.
5/19/14 \$469,000 Classica Homes to Felicia

Byrd, 9116 Robbins Preserve Rd.
5/19/14 \$208,000 Richard & Raven Lamber to



21312 Rio Oro Dr. \$600,000

Sean & Camerin Watson, 18012 Bluff Inlet Rd.
5/20/14 \$290,000 Sean Doull-Connolly & Beryl Owen to Michael Elliott, 17509 Calverton Rd.
5/20/14 \$430,000 Penny & Randy Wheeler to Gary Fleming & Sandra Hannon, 21907 Riddles Ct.
5/20/14 \$199,000 Mark & Carrie Lancaster to Philip Cataldi & Dominick Cataldi, 9704 Bailey Rd.
5/21/14 \$245,000 Mary Davis to Manuel & Maria Cervantes, 18605 Cloverstone Cir.

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Home Sales

HOMES from page 18

55/30/14 \$212,000 Walter Jr. & Regan Brown
6/10/14 \$150,000 Malcolm Leirmoe & Amy Hein to Ricardo & Milina Gonzalez, 19106 Long Pond Ln.

6/10/14 \$1,182,500 Brett & Mary Kay Portaro to Stephanie Schuetz & Jonathan Bayless, 21413 Baltic Dr.

6/11/14 \$215,000 Ricky Carter to Gail Murphy, 17735 North Shore Cir.

6/12/14 \$175,000 Richard & Ann Marie Lanigan to Alicia Lingerfeldt, 10937 Shelly Renee Dr.

6/16/12/14 \$240,000 South Creek homes to Joyce Zimms, 17917 Coulter Pkwy.

6/12/14 \$168,000 Alicia Lingerfeldt to Terrence Morrison, 19044 Long Pond Ln.

6/12/14 \$320,000 Todd & Jannifer Ghiloni to Troy & Katherine Smith, 18725 The Commons Blvd.

6/12/14 \$570,000 Thomas & Wanda Wright to Timothy Bagg & Bridget Tunney, 19214 Yachtman Dr.

Davidson

5/14/14 \$759,500 Monterey Bay Homes to Gregory & Doline Hatchett, 15618 June Washam Rd.

5/15/14 \$330,000 Michael Granieri to Kyle & Jill Griswold, 17316 Silas Place Dr.

5/16/14 \$365,000 Cynthia Scully to Francisco

Crespo, 100 Martin St.

5/16/14 \$410,000 Michael & Patricia Winters to Craig & Jeanette Westmoreland, 13319 Robert Walker Dr.

5/19/14 \$345,500 Jeremy & Shireen Cmapbell to the Trustees of Davidson College, 412 Concord Rd.

5/19/14 \$364,500 NVR to Amanda & Lance Feldman, 13725 Helen Benson Blvd.

5/20/14 \$285,000 Darryl & Brenda Keaton to American Homes 4 Rent Properties Nine, 20112 Verlaine Dr.

5/21/14 \$495,000 Kelly McCray & Patricia Scruggs to Jeremy & Shireen Campbell, 145 Parkview St.

5/21/14 \$253,500 William & Brenda Ryan to Todd Sigler & Patricia Brooks, 809 Kimbrough Square Ct.

5/23/14 \$422,000 Tamala Hoke to Iain & Jana Watt, 20028 Davidson-Concord Rd.

5/29/14 \$420,000 David & Patricia Green to Joshua & Vanessa McCutchen, 18640 Greyton Ln.

5/29/14 \$463,000 Edward Sito to Victor & Della Casteel, 19680 Fwooden Tee Dr.

5/30/14 \$510,000 Paul & Kelli Koch to Stephen & Anna Vinson, 18507 Rollingdale Ln.

5/30/14 \$251,000 Jill McLory to Thomas & Margaret Henry, 119 View Lake

6/4/14 \$200,000 River Run Ltd. to William Grissom, 18229 Shearer Rd.

6/4/14 \$299,500 Patrick & Rebecca Cronin to Stanley & Meredith Sostek, 742 Naramore St.



15618 June Washam Road, \$759,500

MSC Industrial Supply executive vice president speaks at the June Newsmakers Breakfast



Doug Jones, executive vice president, global supply chain operations for MSC, spoke at the BusinessToday/Cornelius Today Newsmakers Breakfast June 17 at The Peninsula Club in Cornelius.

The executive vice president of MSC Industrial fielded questions about one of the largest companies in Lake Norman, including the reasons behind the establishment of their co-headquarters in Davidson.

Jones has overall responsibility for all aspects of the multibillion-dollar company's supply chain, including product management, global sourcing, distribution operations, logistics, engineering, facilities and purchasing.

MSC was one of the biggest corporate recruitment stories in 2012, when it announced it would bring some 400 employees to Davidson during the next several years. MSC is a leading distributor of solutions, services and supplies to North American manufacturers.

The presenting sponsor of the Newsmakers Breakfast is Realtor Dixie Dean, an agent at Allen Tate's Cornelius office. Breakfast sponsors are Donna Moffett Accountants and Consultants and Epcon Communities. Coffee sponsors are Davidson Wealth Management, Master Title Agency and Payroll Plus.

Newsmakers Breakfasts are wide-open question and answer sessions with people who make the news, and focus on business issues in the Golden Crescent region, which stretches from Lake Norman to Cabarrus County and University City.



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Town Hall Update

Town board addresses concerns of neighbors of Nantz Road project

BY DAVE VIESER

Following a public hearing, the Cornelius Town Board unanimously approved a rezoning request by EPCON Communities of Huntersville, which means 67 homes may be built on Nantz Road, near West Catawba Avenue.

The project, designed for active adults, is called The Courtyards at Nantz Road.

Before the vote, however, the commissioners rejected a recommendation from their planning staff to connect the new project with Harbor View Drive, which is in the Lake Norman Cove development.

Over 60 residents filled the town's meeting room to voice their displeasure with the recommended interconnection.

"Who is going to make up for the decrease in home values we experience when potential buyers find out that Harbor View Drive is being made into a through road?" asked Anthony Grisanti.

Steve Robinson, a retired Southern California firefighter, summed up his



thoughts with a neatly worded sign stating "connectivity is not a traffic solution."

Town Planning Director Wayne Heron said that connectivity has always been a problem in Cornelius. "This may be the last chance to provide an alternate connection between Nantz Road and West Catawba."

However, the commissioners were not impressed. "I'm skeptical about this connection," said Commissioner Dave Gilroy. "What do we gain by doing it?"

Mayor Pro Tem Woody Washam said he liked the project overall, "but the connectivity and what it could do to Lake Norman Cove concerns me greatly."

In response to a question from Commissioner John Bradford, Herron said

the project can be safe without the connection. The board then indicated they were not in favor of the road connection for vehicles, and would only consider such a connection for emergency vehicles and possibly pedestrians.

With the connectivity issue out of the way, the remainder of the project sailed through with relative ease.

Still of concern among both residents and commissioners is the awkward intersection at Nantz Road and West Catawba Avenue. Most want to see a traffic light installed at the intersection. However, any decision to erect a full traffic signal would ultimately rest with the DOT.

For the short term, EPCON has agreed to spend \$260,000 for Nantz Road intersection improvements ac-

cording to EPCON's Phil Fankhauser. "We are aware of the need for improvements at that corner and that's why we plan to donate a portion of our property to the town so Nantz Road can be realigned and intersect with Catawba Avenue in a T, or 90 degree configuration."

Fankhauser noted that the selling price for each of the homes was being raised by \$1,000 to cover the cost for the intersection improvements.

Before approving the rezoning at the 21 acre site from residential to single family age-restricted, the commissioners outlined a list of additional measures which must be done by the developer:

Nantz Road must be realigned at the connection to West Catawba Avenue with a two lane approach but also allow for future lanes in accordance with widening plans.

Preliminary and final plats must show right-of-way land dedication to NCDOT for the future West Catawba Avenue road widening. The right-of-way dedication must occur before the recording of any plats for the development in a manner that is acceptable to the Town and DOT.

All required intersection improvements for Nantz Rd./West Catawba Avenue must be completed prior to the recording of a plat for the office development or any plats that total 50 percent of the proposed residential properties.

The commissioners also asked EPCON to consider building turning lanes sooner than later, to insure that grading is done in a manner which would be esthetically pleasing, and to redesign what mayor Chuck Travis called 'an engineered pond.' They also suggested that an updated traffic study may be needed.

The homes themselves would be single-family, one-story ranch style, ranging in size from 1,600 to 3,200 square feet. Price range would be from the mid \$200,000s to the low \$400,000s. Each home would have a two and half car garage.

The age restricted zoning would require that a minimum of 80 percent of the homes must be owned by those 55 and older; the remaining 20 percent would be open to owners of any age. EPCON estimates that construction would begin in about a year, and be completed three years later.

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ONE-OF-A-KIND FURNITURE MAKEOVERS



Before

BY JAMIE MCNEILIS

Before kids (when I had more time on my hands), I enjoyed dabbling in rehabbing furniture finds from thrift stores and flea markets. Some of the pieces I refurbished we were able to enjoy in our home for years. They were unique and one of a kind. Most recently I stumbled across a wonderful business Facebook page named Creative Brushworks. Owner Robin Puckett specializes in murals, decorative wall finishes, and furniture. Over the last several months I have appreciated



Puckett's before and after photos that she posts on her company Facebook page and wanted to share her work with our readers.

Here we are featuring one of her refurbished side boards. Before tackling a painting project such as this one, make sure the piece of furniture is structurally sound and solid wood is preferred. Unless you have great carpentry skills, only buy something that you can fix up with a little wood glue and wood filler. You can't fix wobbly legs with a coat of paint! For any paint to have good adhesion, the piece needs to be clean and free of debris.

Next remove all the drawer pulls/hardware. If you like the hardware,



After

you can just clean it up or spray paint it. If you don't like it, replace it. Any doors should be removed and painted separately. Be sure to glue any loose joints and fill any holes/gaps with wood filler if needed. Then sand the piece to remove surface scratches, smooth out any repairs and to lightly scuff up high gloss finishes. It is highly recommended that you wear a dust mask while sanding.

After sanding the piece should be cleaned (be sure to wear rubber gloves to protect your hands). Puckett uses powdered TSP (Trisodium Phosphate) mixed with water in a bucket and then wipes it down with a cloth. She rinses the cloth frequently in the water solution to remove any debris (note TSP is sold at hardware and paint stores, read directions carefully). If only light cleaning is needed, you can use a cleaner like Simple Green. If the piece needed heavy sanding or repair you should prime it before painting.

Next comes the fun part where you begin to see results – painting! There are many different types of paints out there, but Puckett's favorite is Paint Couture, a low VOC, 100% acrylic paint formulated just for furniture and cabinets. The paint line also includes pre-mixed glazes and sealers so you can purchase everything you need for a custom finish. This paint

is sold through several local distributors which you can find on PaintCouture.com. If you decide to stain part of a piece like she did for the buffet featured here, she recommends Min-Wax stains.

For ideas and inspiration, look at home décor magazines such as HGTV and Pinterest.com. Don't be afraid of bright colors! You can also use stencils, stamps, even decoupage paper on to your furniture. Replacing or spray painting the drawer handles/hardware on a piece can make a big difference. There are all types of metal spray paints available that work great on hardware. Be sure to have fun with your project, it's so rewarding to see how amazing an old piece can look freshened up with paint!

Jamie McNeilis is an Accredited Staging Professional and owner of Centerpiece Home Staging in Cornelius. Email Jamie at Jamie.McNeilis@CenterpieceHomeStaging.com for home decorating and improvement topics you would like covered in Home Decor.



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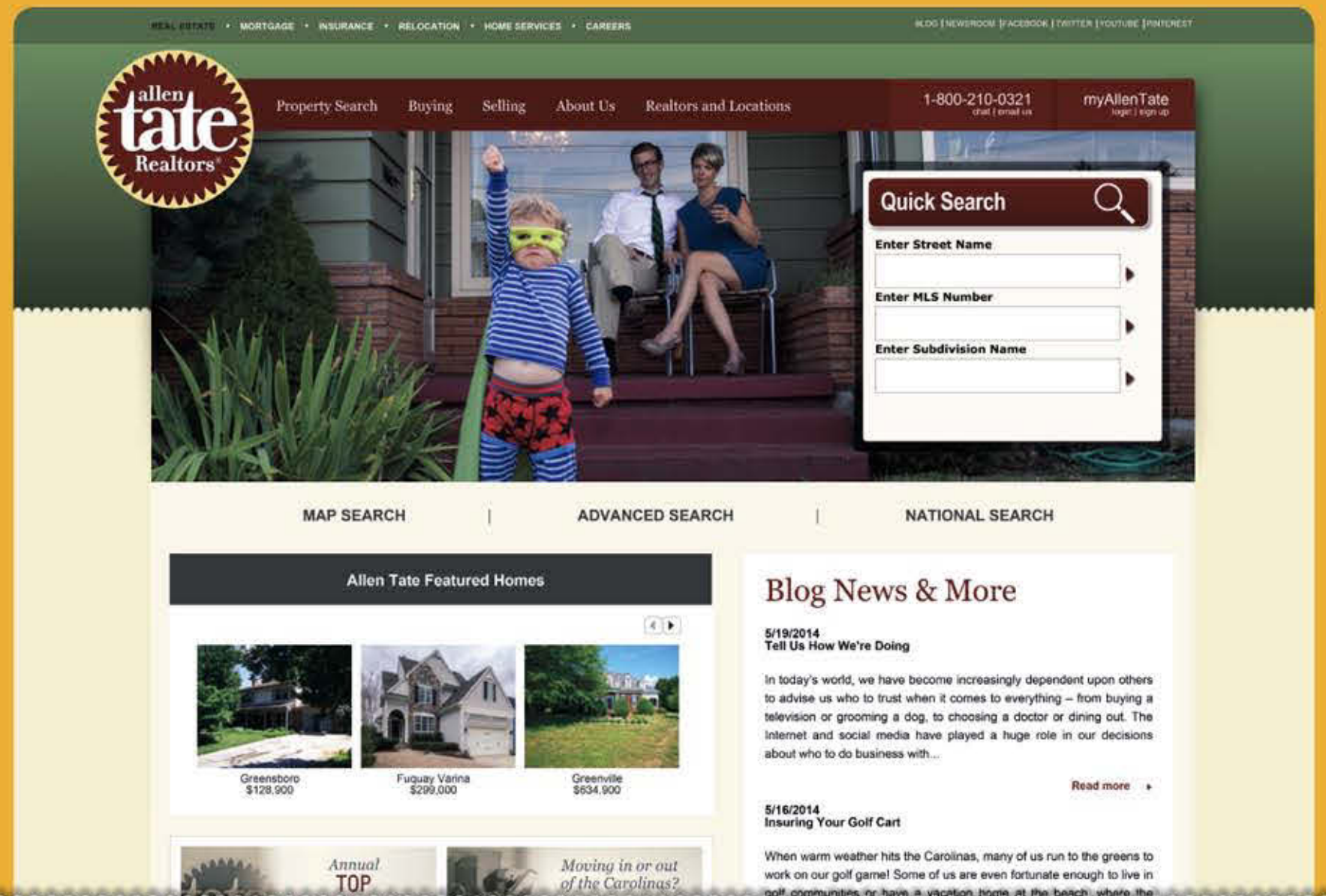
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Senior News

There are all sorts of benefits to putting a song in your heart

Sing a song of sixpence, a pocket full of rye, four and twenty black birds baked in a pie. I'll bet you were humming that tune just now as you read the title of this article. Or how about "doe, a deer, a female deer, ray, a drop of golden sun." How about this one by the Irish Rovers: "All God's creatures got a place in the choir, some sing low, some sing higher, some sing out loud from the telephone wire and some just clap their hands or paws or anything they've got now." I really like that one because it embodies all creatures no matter their particular singing ability.



Joanne Ahern
Seniors Columnist

Then there's always the "Hallelujah Chorus" from Handel's "Messiah." Singing that with a group of 100 or more people at Christmas just brings chills to my spine. It doesn't matter what part you sing, or whether you're



on key, you just sing for the pure joy of it.

We sing to our infants, we sing in the shower, we sing along with the radio, we sing when we're happy, we sing when we're sad, we sing at a bonfire, we sing in church, sing, sing, sing—ah the joy of singing. You don't need an audience, or maybe you do. Some sing in solitary for the inner benefits, others with a chorus for the camaraderie of friends. It is a universal language. And, you guessed it, singing has amazing health benefits.

Exercise and strength. Singing improves posture, increases lung capacity, tones abdominal, intercostal and facial muscles and the diaphragm, clears

the sinuses and respiratory tubes, and stimulates circulation. It makes us breathe more deeply than many forms of strenuous exercise, so we take in more oxygen, improve aerobic capacity and experience a release of muscle tension.

The immune system. Group singing boosts the immune system, helping to fight disease and prolong life expectancy.

Vocal cords. Singing exercises the vocal cords and keeps them youthful, even in old age. The less age-battered your voice sounds, the younger you will feel and appear to others.

Pain relief. Singing releases pain-relieving endorphins. A great deal of research is being done into how music can relieve pain. Research published in the Journal of Music Therapy in 2004 suggested that group singing helped people to cope better with chronic pain.

If you have ever wondered why choral singers look to be on a high, here are some of the reasons.

The health benefits of singing are well documented:

- Improves your mood. It releases the same feel-good brain chemicals as sex and chocolate!
- Is very effective as a stress reliever and improves sleep.
- Improves posture.
- Lung capacity increases
- Clears sinuses and respiratory tubes
- Mental alertness improves
- Tones your facial and stomach muscles

- Confidence increases
- Increases poise, self-esteem and presentation skills.
- Strengthens concentration and memory.
- Broadens expressive communication.
- Adds a rich, more pleasant quality to speech.
- Animates the body, mind and spirit.
- Enriches one's ability to appreciate the art of great singers.
- Is an ageless enjoyment – you are never too young or too old.
- Is therapeutic both emotionally and physically.

Music not only stirs our deepest emotions, but active participation can increase energy and vigor to see us through even the most stress-filled life commitments. Good vocal technique goes beyond the basics to include both physical and vocal warm-ups, proper nutrition, adequate rest and emotional commitment.

With that list of benefits, I think I'll go cancel my gym membership. If singing can do all that, I'm all for it.

In fact, the North Mecklenburg Senior Center is starting a chorus for all 55+ persons in the community and the first rehearsal/meeting is Monday July 14 at 1 p.m. Lenzy Wallace will be our director/organizer and is highly qualified with an amazing background in choral performance and directing.

Come share the joy of singing with us. It will enrich your life far beyond the notes and music. Add a healthy, new dimension to your life – try singing. And more importantly, try singing with the North Mecklenburg Senior Center Chorus.

Just call 704-875-1270 to let us know you're coming.

Joanne Ahern is the director of North Mecklenburg Senior Center Inc., a United Way Agency. You can reach her at 704-875-1270.

CORNELIUSCooks

Jan Friedman shares her recipe for buttery ginger snap cookies

Raised in Iowa, Jan Friedman would spend summers in Georgia, where her family would stay with friends who had a cook they called Miss Lowe. "I would stay back at their house and watch her cook and bake. At the age of 8, she gave me my very first cookie cookbook. To this very day, I still use many of the recipes," Jan says.

She and husband Steve Friedman moved into their home on Bluff Point five years ago. They have four grown children, who like home-baked cookies, not to mention the staff at the Friedman Eye Care on West Catawba.

It's only natural, Jan's fondness of baking. Her first job in high school was baking and selling in a pretzel shop.

"I have been making gingersnaps ever since those summers. I make them frequently. It's one of my most requested cookie recipes by my family and Steve's office staff," Jan explains.

The couple likes to jet ski and kayak. In addition to baking, Jan likes walking and stamping.



Jan Friedman at home

JAN'S GINGER SNAP COOKIES

- | Ingredients | |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| ¾ cup butter | 2 tsps baking soda |
| 1 cup sugar | 1 tsp cinnamon |
| ¼ cup light molasses | ½ tsp cloves |
| 1 egg | 1 tsp ginger |
| 2 cups sifted flour | ¼ tsp salt |

- | Directions | |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| Combine cream, butter and sugar | Roll dough balls into sugar to coat. |
| Add molasses, egg and beat well | Bake at 375 degrees for 7 minutes |
| Sift dry ingredients | Let cool and enjoy |
| Add dry ingredients to creamed mixture and mix well | Makes 4 dozen |



More recipes served up online:
www.CorneliusToday.com

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Steve Paynter and Denis Bilodeau, treasurers

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Focus on Business

Shopping center tenants soldier on despite dearth of neighbors, traffic

BY DAVE VIESER

With the departure of the UPS Store, the once-thriving shopping center at One Norman Blvd in Cornelius is now about 75 percent vacant. However, the center still has three solid businesses: Choplin's, Thai Marlai and Fancy Nails Salon. The center's broker, Gibson/Smith Realty, is optimistic new tenants can be announced soon.

"Based on the number of people we've had looking at that site, I feel confident that we'll be filling up those empty stores sooner than later," said John Jones, a broker with Gibson Smith Realty in Charlotte, which has the listing for the center.



Sources said a smaller tenant is on the hook at this point, but not one who is ready to take on the 42,000 square foot former Bi-Lo and Salvation Army location.

Meanwhile, town officials say they are marketing the site as aggressive as they can with the help of the Lake Norman Economic Development Corp. "We are working hard to market the property," said Mayor Pro Tem Woody Washam, the town's delegate to the EDC. "I've had conversations to make sure it is high on their radar. It is just too good of a site, with good parking."

All those empty stores make it challenging for the small business owners who remain. Wes Choplin, owner and operator of Choplin's Restaurant, says new tenants would be a good thing. "The closings have hurt traffic a bit, but our business is still very good. If they can attract a solid anchor store in here, I think the empty stores would fill up fast."



To remind customers about their continued success, Choplin placed a new sign on a bench facing One Norman Boulevard. "We've had five great years here and we want people to know that we're still going strong."

The center was built 20-plus years ago for Bi-Lo, which opened a 42,000 square foot store. However, Bi-Lo closed eight years later as the chain began to reduce their presence in the Charlotte region.

A portion of the former supermarket was carved out for the UPS Store, which operated successfully at that location for several years. However, they recently moved to 19701 Bethel Church Road. The remainder of the old Bi-Lo was used for several years as a Salvation Army retail store, but is now vacant.

Meanwhile, Blockbuster's, which occupied a prime corner retail slot, closed their doors for good last year.

Gibson-Smith's web site describes the 48,000 square feet of available property as "nice retail space in a high-income area, close to I-77." Jones also noted that the new Exit 28 interchange will help bring customers to the center.

The leasing rates range from \$10 a square foot for the larger supermarket section to \$14 a square foot for the 4,800 square foot former Blockbuster's site.

Lake Norman Chamber of Commerce President Bill Russell believes the center can attract new stores. "There's a lot of synergy right now about Catawba Avenue and the right store with a quality product and good customer service could still do very well at that spot."

Russell points to the Fresh Market shopping center on Torrence Chapel Road as an example of how a strong anchor can benefit an entire row of retail stores and offices.

Focus on Business

New Corporations

These corporations have registered with the N.C. Secretary of State

Cornelius

5/19/14 RTS USA Inc., John Francis Hanzel, 19425 G. Liverpool Pkwy., Cornelius
5/20/14 Plum 197 LLC, Robert R. Stevanovski, 10819 Harbor Lights Blvd., Cornelius

5/20/14 Rustgate Inc., Monica Setzer, 20100 North Cove Rd., Cornelius

5/20/14 Tarragona LLC, Robert S. Stame, 18525 Statesville Rd., Cornelius

5/20/14 W.I.L.D. at Eagles Nest Inc., Hugh Franklin, 19421 A Liverpool Pkwy., Cornelius

5/21/14 Monoglam LLC, Josh Isreal, 21529 Ogden Cove Dr., Cornelius

5/22/14 High Caliber Real Estate Inc., Kimberly Renee Snyder, 21116 Cornelius St., Cornelius

5/23/14 Sirat Fashion LLC, Reshma D. Kolagad, 18902 Victoria Bay Rd., Cornelius

5/27/14 A.H. Real Estate LLC, Michael R. Harmon, 18951 Peninsula Point Dr., Cornelius

5/27/14 Fresh Edge Food LLC, Sokhun Moon, 20107 North Cove Rd., Cornelius

5/27/14 Guardianor Osso Trapp LLC, The Guardianor Inc., 16821 America Cup Rd., Cornelius

5/27/14 Harbor Light Realty LLC, David Hanby, 18038 Harbor Light Blvd., Cornelius

5/27/14 HBV LLC, Michael R. Harmon, 18951 Peninsula Point Dr., Cornelius
5/27/14 Premier Novelties LLC, John F. Hanzel, 19425-G Liverpool Pkwy., Cornelius

5/27/14 RHFS Sport Horses LLC, Yvonne Washburn, 10508 Quarrier Dr., Cornelius
5/29/14 Carolina Housing Solutions LLC, Shawn Newton, 18710 Oakhurst Blvd., Unit 1D, Cornelius

5/29/14 GBC Distribution LLC, Michael L. Griffin, 19109 W. Catawba Ave., Ste. 200, Cornelius

5/29/14 Nuza Holdings LLC, Jaylene Moss, 9624 Bailey Rd., Ste. 290, Cornelius
5/29/14 Rexburg Holding Company LLC, John F. Hanzel, 19425-G Liverpool Pkwy., Cornelius

5/29/14 Total Home Renovations Inc., Wesley M. Priddy, 10630 Quarrier Dr., Cornelius

5/30/14 Akoustis Inc., Lora Shealy, 20513



Queensdale Dr., Cornelius

5/30/14 GTPM Enterprises LLC, Geraldine P. Morgan, 15536 Fisherman's Rest Ct., Cornelius

5/30/14 M2 Capital Inc., Rebecca Metzger, 19413 Makayla Ln., Cornelius

5/30/14 Smith Slovik Residential Design Group LLC, Troy S. Smith, 8817 Washam Potts Rd., Cornelius

6/3/14 Edev3 LLC, Ross Helfer, 9923 Willow Leaf Ln., Cornelius

6/3/14 La Capelli Salon LLC, Amanda L. Forney, 20000 L. One Norman Cir., Cornelius

Davidson

5/19/14 DunnPilates Inc., Jamie D. Dunn, 115 View Lake St., Davidson

5/19/14 Shae Blu Salon, Kimberly Hatchell, 10912 Tailwater St., Davidson

5/23/14 Sustainable L.I.F.E. Fitness LLC, Sonya Lucille Pelletier, 227 Harbour Place Dr., Davidson

5/27/14 Carnegie Mews Property Owners Association Inc., Rodney A. Graham, 618 James Alexander Way, Davidson

5/27/14 Moon House Properties LLC, Brent Reino, 16512 Landen Forest Ln., Davidson

5/29/14 Kindred Restaurant LLC, Katherine Kindred, 247 Jetton St., Davidson

5/30/14 Azalea Solar LLC, Michael D. Whitson, 442 S. Main St., Ste. 12, Davidson

5/30/14 Branchmark Credit Repair LLC, John Colin Ocello, 15204 Holly Trail Ln., Davidson

5/30/14 Cattail Solar LLC, Michael D. Whitson, 442 S. Main St., Ste. 12, Davidson

5/30/14 Coco-Belle LLC, Susan McDermott, 18628 Town Harbour Rd., Cornelius

5/30/14 Cork Oak Solar LLC, Michael D. Whitson, 442 S. Main St., Ste. 12, Davidson

5/30/14 Sunflower Solar LLC, Michael D. Whitson, 442 S. Main St., Ste. 12, Davidson

6/3/14 Westphalian Energy LLC, Westphalian LLC, 4660 Sugar Plum Ln.,

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Your comments and opinions

Nice job Marc

"Thank you, Marc, for saying what needed to be said to Mr. Anonymous! I am tired of reading his negative, petty comments. Mr. Anonymous, please seek anger therapy instead of our town paper. I feel blessed to be able to own a home in this little town. It is safer than any I have lived in across the South. We have a beautiful lake, nice parks, local shops and eateries. I commend the police force for keeping my neighborhood, and town, free from crime. The firemen respond to medical emergencies, fires and accidents—and many of them are volunteers. I feel the town board cares about this town and the people who reside here. There are

people from all areas of the country who have moved here because they are attracted to all Cornelius has to offer. I support this town as my home. I take pride in living in this beautiful town of four seasons. Mr. Anonymous, have you ever sat in Jetton Park by the lake and truly looked and listened to what was around you? Instead of concentrating on pavement and people, try listening to rustling trees, chirping birds, or water quietly lapping against the bank on the lake. Thank you, Marc, for stepping up for Cornelius."

—via anonymous contact link on www.corneliustoday.com

• **Editor's Note:** This very nice SoundOff is in response to the signed SoundOff from Marc Haren last month about taking a positive approach to life. Haren's SoundOff in June was titled "Time to be open, direct and do something positive!"



Holiday racket in The Peninsula

"Three residences on Balmore Pines Lane in The Peninsula had lawn service companies mowing lawns at different times on Memorial Day. How inconsiderate the homeowners were of their neighbors, especially those hosting backyard get-togethers!"

—via anonymous contact form on www.corneliustoday.com

In response to 'Red Cup Boss'

"Grow up and quit being such a d----- bag! If you focused on being a nicer person and stopped harassing all your neighbors, then you just might make some friends in the hood and be able to walk around with your very own red Solo cup. Really...get a life!"

—via anonymous contact form on www.corneliustoday.com

Fox trot

"To the parent who saw a fox running on Green Dolphin Lane recently...what did the fox say?"

—via anonymous contact form on www.corneliustoday.com



Sexy town I

"Is there a lingerie shop in Cornelius that I don't know about? I've lived here 20 years and can remember two (The Scarlet Lady and Erma's Lingerie) that are out of business. Victoria's Secret is in Birkdale."

—via anonymous contact link of www.corneliustoday.com

Sexy Town III

"Being the fourth-sexiest suburb in America is all well and good for right now, but is it sustainable? As our population ages, can we keep this up?"

—via anonymous contact link on www.corneliustoday.com

Sexy town II

"What happens in Cornelius stays in Cornelius. Right? Hopefully."
—via anonymous contact link on www.corneliustoday.com

• **Editor's Note:** The news last month about Cornelius being the "fourth-sexiest suburb" in America (based on a flawed Movoto data analysis) struck our funny bone. Apparently, a number of people agreed, as these three SoundOffs attest. The Movoto survey was based on the number of hotels, lingerie stores and massage parlors per capita, as well as the summer heat index. FYI, Movoto did not respond to our requests for a more thorough explanation.

T-Mobile's Day Off

"I'm curious about the customer service at the T-Mobile store on Sam Furr Road. What happened to it? Where are the people. Hello? Bueller? Bueller? Anyone?"

—via anonymous contact form on www.corneliustoday.com

Will I-77 deal take a toll on

Tillis, Tarte?

"The I-77 toll road proposal is the worst deal in NC to come along in years. Tillis and Tarte should be embarrassed to have this done to their constituents in their own backyard."

—via soundoffcornelius@gmail.com



Road Hogs

"To the two people biking in the middle of the right lane on Jetton on Saturday...you have a lot of nerve. STAY TO THE RIGHT WHERE YOU BELONG."

—via anonymous contact link on www.corneliustoday.com

Cheap labor hoe

"Hello SoundOff! So you're using a backhoe in your backyard after 7 pm? Really? That is rude when I and the rest of the world are enjoying their decks and trying to relax, your backhoe is beeping. How about using a real contractor like everybody else? Someone who has insurance and stops working at 5 or 5:30."

—via anonymous contact form on www.corneliustoday.com



Blue light not special

"Can someone please tell me why there are so many Patrol boats on the lake. If your thought is safety then maybe they should patrol the whole lake and not hang out in the cove next to the Rusty Rudder all the time. Seeing a flashing blue light all day and night is getting really old."

—via anonymous contact link of www.corneliustoday.com



More on the light at Bailey Road

"I set at that intersection almost every day at some time, living on Washam Potts Road. Many mornings I do set and wait extended periods because a vehicle has not pulled up far enough to trip the light. The solution is not to add more signage for the stop light signal at the intersection of Statesville Road (Highway 21) and Bailey Road. The solution is to relocate the sensor further back from the white line, so that a vehicle will trip the light when it approaches the white line. Can the Town of Cornelius not communicate with the NCDOT and resolve the problem?"

—via soundoffcornelius@gmail.com

soundoffcornelius@gmail.com™

Your comments and opinions

Letters to the Editor



Article on Thurman Ross, town commissioner

I want to thank you for your wonderful article about Thurman Ross in the June edition of Cornelius Today. Very rarely does a news article stir my thoughts and emotions as did that article. You did an excellent job of letting our town know what a great asset we have in Thurman. I have always admired his calm demeanor and spirit. However, you told us so much more about the man and his service to Cornelius. Thank you.

- Rod Beard

Beard lives in the 100 Norman Place neighborhood with his wife Susan. He is the vice president of American Solar Integrators, which is headquartered at 19300 Statesville Road.

Mayor Travis on Thurman Ross

One of the great honors of being the Mayor of Cornelius is having the opportunity to serve with Commissioner Thurman Ross. In your June edition of Cornelius Today, your feature article ("Veteran Town Commissioner Grew Up With Cornelius") regarding Thurman's service to our Town for nearly two decades is a truly exemplary story. Thurman has been an impactful influence on the Town and Region and has witnessed first-hand how our Town has "grown up." I previously served with Thurman as a Commissioner for four years prior to being elected Mayor, and your article truly captured the impact he has made as a leader. He is known to be "soft spoken" yet extremely effective to those who visit Town Hall. Thurman is a man of his word with deep convictions to do the right thing – not just the popular thing. As Mayor, I am learning how valuable Thurman's calm guidance on the Town Board has become. I can always count on Thurman for sound advice, support when I ask for it and a true critique of my positions on issues that we may be debating. Thur-

man has relationships with political leaders and friends throughout the region and state, evidenced during our Board's trips to Raleigh to meet with legislators - they all know and acknowledge him whenever we visit. As your article stated, Thurman is the only Commissioner from the east side of our Town, the only Democrat, and the only African American – and everyone on our Board will tell you that he represents all residents of our Town without prejudice. After reading your article about the changes Thurman has witnessed in his life, I applaud him for his exemplary service to our Town.... and for making a positive difference. Our Town is still moving forward and with leaders like Thurman, our best days are in front of us. Best wishes for many more years of service Mr. Ross!

TRAVIS

- Chuck Travis, Mayor of Cornelius

Jetton dangerous for children and parents

"I travel up and down Jetton Road extension in front of the private schools. I can't believe the number of cars that speed past the parents who are dropping off children or picking them up. It is a very dangerous place for the parents to get their children. It would make more sense for the parents to pull into the parking lot to get the children in or out of the car. I hope a child does not run out in the road and get hurt or killed before something is changed. I know it is faster for them to get back in traffic but I would think that safety would come first. The speed limit doesn't make a difference because most people do not obey the speed limit unless they see a police car patrolling."

—via anonymous contact link of www.corneliustoday.com

Speeders on Jetton

"PEOPLE !!!! (and Commissioners and Police)... What is your problem? There are NO SPEED LIMIT SIGNS on Jetton Road west from Catawba until you get to Peninsula Shores. What are you all arguing about? These people are speeding and getting away with it! There's a gold mine in fines just a-fly'in down the road."

—via anonymous contact link on www.corneliustoday.com

(((Speak up!)))

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