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CORNELIUS TOWN HALL

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Relay For Life
MAY 5
Cinco de Mayo
MAY 6
Primary Elections
VOTE!

MAY 11
Mother's Day
MAY 17
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INSIDE

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Budget on his mind:
Town Commissioner
Dave Gilroy is Town
Hall's resident fiscal hawk
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May Things to do

Relay for Life May 2

The American Cancer Society Relay for Life fundraiser will start at 6 p.m. May 2 at Bailey Road Park. The community is encouraged to come out and support the event, which honors cancer survivors and the memory of those who have lost their battle with cancer. It's a family-friendly event with prizes and raffles. More info: www.facebook.com/hvcrelay

Nine kitchens on charity 'Nosy Neighbor' tour May 2

Nine recently renovated kitchens in The Peninsula area will be open for tours May 2. Proceeds from the self-conducted tour, which costs \$35 per ticket, will benefit Safe Alliance, an organization that provides support for victims of domestic abuse in Mecklenburg County. There will be a variety of styles represented on the tour, including a traditional white kitchen with Carrera marble countertops and an English farmhouse kitchen with exposed brick walls. Local chefs will offer gourmet tastings at sev-



eral of the homes. On the day of the tour, ticket holders can pick up brochures and maps at the Jetton Village Gazebo. Carpooling is encouraged; there is limited parking at some of the homes. Info and tickets: <http://www.safealliance.org/nosy-neighbor-kitchen-tour/>

Hand Bell concert May 17

The Charlotte Bronze Hand Bell Choir will perform at 7 pm May 17 in the Family Life Center at Mt. Zion United Methodist Church. Charlotte Bronze is a community ensemble under the direction of nationally acclaimed director and composer Timothy H Waugh. Mt. Zion is located at 19600 Zion St. in Cornelius. A free will offering will be taken at this event to defray costs for this concert.

Main Street Vet open house

Main Street Veterinary Hospital will hold an Open House 12:30-3 pm Saturday May 3 in honor of their first anniversary. Food will be catered by Fork Restaurant; there will be tours, a bounce house, face painting and pretend surgery for the kids. The event is open to the public; pets and friends are invited as well. Main Street Veterinary is located at 20306 N Main St. More info: 704-765-1115 or www.MainStreet-Veterinary.com

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Erma, an adorable light brown tabby, is about 4 months old and we would love to find her a forever home. She has cute little spots on her sides, and black and brown stripes on her face. She is a little shy, but loves to explore and play.

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ON THE COVER

Keith Blankenship designed this cover featuring Town Commissioner Dave Gilroy.

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A LIFE IN BALANCE

Cornelius Commissioner Gilroy works hard at family, business, public service

BY DAVE YOCHUM

Every spring, when Cornelius officials are tinkering with the town's roughly \$20 million budget, Dave Gilroy comes into his own. A pragmatist with an unmatched financial background, Gilroy is the recognized expert on the town's finances, which are in excellent condition.

He says this year's tentative \$20.7 million budget "is one of the best I've seen in 12 years of studying Cornelius budgets carefully."

"We're on very solid fiscal ground in this Town. I believe it's possible we could be even tighter on cost control — sure, but it might be challenging for me to get two other votes to join me," he says.

Indeed, the town's tax rate of 24 cents is among the lowest of comparable-size towns in North Carolina.

Is the tax rate sustainable?

"Yes, it is definitely sustainable assuming we have a modicum of discipline. The real opportunity is to bring our tax rate down further over time, especially given rapidly inflating assessed property values. Again, I'll need two like-minded commissioners to vote with me," Gilroy says.

Insert eye-rolls here. Of course, the budget has been the subject of considerable debate over the years, with Gilroy on the side of deeper cuts as opposed to more and better services.

That said, Gilroy, 48, has the respect of fellow commissioners who understand his passion for fiscal discipline.

"Dave is a true fiscal conservative. He doesn't mince words and he does not play favorites. Even if we happen to disagree on an issue during a meeting we always leave as friends with professional respect for each other. I always appreciate his candor," says Commissioner John Bradford.

A Princeton graduate with an MBA from one of the temples of finance, Harvard Business School, Gilroy is a successful business owner.

He is the co-founder and managing



Dave Gilroy: Graduate of Princeton University and Harvard Business School

partner of Scale Finance LLC, a company that serves fast-growth entrepreneurial enterprises, by providing flexible corporate finance and accounting support when they need it. Think Rent-A-CFO, with dozens of clients — the kind you read about in Inc. magazine or Forbes — including Just Push Pay, a next-generation payments software company, and OrgSpan, an enterprise collaboration software company.

Scale Finance has 45 employees and revenues on the order of \$4 million a year.

"I am a capitalist's capitalist without a doubt," Gilroy says.

There's a flip side to Gilroy that provides enduring satisfaction to this 48-year-old, and a certain amount of amusement for his colleagues on the commission. He is a devoted family man. He also brings his daughters to events where they're the only kids around. The results are fun for anyone who has an appreciation for children and families.

At a recent Chamber of Commerce ribbon cutting at a fitness business in Cornelius, Gilroy was the only town commissioner in attendance, with his daughter.

Indeed, Gilroy says having a family

motivates and inspires him.

"It is fascinating and fun raising four daughters ages five to 15...I think what motivates me is family and quality of life. To me, this is nourishing to the soul every day," Gilroy says.

He and his wife Dee, short for Diane, attend St. Mark's Roman Catholic Church in Huntersville.

Gilroy stays close to Cornelius, shunning trips to Charlotte as much as possible. He likes to walk each of the girls to their bus stop every morning. "That's what keeps me out of the breakfast circuit," he says, referring to frequent business- and town-related events in the morning.

"By spending time every day on the things I like to do...making sure that time is allocated to the things that you really value and really enjoy, that really contributes to the quality of your life," he says. Gilroy works primarily from his home office near the end of Torrence Chapel Road.

He says preserving the small-town feel and inherent beauty of Cornelius for everyone drives him as an elected official. Like his four colleagues on the town board, he votes on new developments and changes to land use codes.

"We all benefit in ways we can't appreciate even today from Cornelius fulfilling the vision of this spectacular place," he says, explaining that investments in parks and roads and even a new \$4 million town center — approved in the bond referendum last fall — benefits everyone.

Where it gets challenging is how

to share the vision of a nearly perfect community with every resident regardless of income. Some neighborhoods, including Center Street and Meridian to the south of Cornelius Elementary, appear down at the heels.

"Redevelopment of those areas and gentrification of those areas has got to be a top priority for fulfilling the vision for Cornelius," Gilroy says.

The issue comes more into focus for Gilroy when he ponders new developments with relatively affordable homes along Bailey Road, or new apartments in Kenton Place.

"When you look at what we're wrestling with off of Bailey Road where we have beautiful pasture and woodlands, how do you get those same market forces to see opportunity in redevelopment in blighted areas?"

He says the town can do so being "creative and aggressive, by taking the initiative and talking to property owners, talking to private developers, talking to banks." He praised Mayor Chuck Travis for starting to talk with Bank of America about creative investment opportunities in Cornelius.

"It's easy to say what I just said, but having two votes with me, having the discipline to say 'no' to the kind of residential development that we don't need," he said. "If they [developers] can't do this, then they are more likely to think about doing that [redevelopment]."

For example, he said "new high-density, multi-family projects on West Catawba are something we should avoid like the

See GILROY, Page 5

Vote May 6 in Primary

The primary elections May 6 will help determine who represents us next year. There are no local Cornelius seats up for grab, but there are contests for county sheriff, county commission, the N.C. State House, Congress and the U.S. Senate.

Here's where to vote in Cornelius: Town Hall on West Catawba; Waterfront Hall in Jetton Park; Bethel Presbyterian Church on Bethel Church Road; and Community in Christ Lutheran Church on Norman Island Drive. Polling places are open 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Bradford vs. Rinker: All eyes on former colleagues in District 98 race

BY DAVE YOCHUM

The battle between John Bradford III and Lynette Rinker to replace Thom Tillis in the N.C. House of Representatives is polite. But beneath the surface, there's plenty of tension, not to mention other candidates, including Sharon Hudson, another Republican from Huntersville, and Natasha Marcus, a Davidson resident who is running unopposed in the Democratic primary.

But Bradford and Rinker — both Cornelius residents — are the front-runners in the GOP primary May 6. Rinker, the former mayor and mayor pro tem, and Bradford, a current town commissioner, were colleagues in our non-partisan local government.

Commissioner Bradford has the backing of a number of current and former board members of the Lake Norman Chamber of Commerce. Rinker has just distributed a campaign mailer, which includes a picture of her and Gov. Pat McCrory. It points out that, as Mayor Pro Tem, she led the effort to hire Cornelius' first economic development coordinator.

Bradford, meanwhile, announced that he has landed the support of the Charlotte area Real Estate & Building Industry Coalition. REBIC will distribute a voter guide to all its members. Meanwhile, Alan Simonini, a prominent luxury homebuilder and Cornelius resident, has

GILROY from page 4

plague, especially given the saturation we have on that side of the market."

Controlling "low-quality, high-density residential" on the east side of town is just as important, "where we have the objective of preserving rural character. That's another kind of problem."

Pointing out that Bailey Road at Highway 115 is "an unmitigated congestion disaster," Gilroy said new high-density residential development must be considered based on their impact on traffic and infrastructure. And, of course, the town budget, taxes and how lower-cost development will affect the tax rate.

It looks like Gilroy is happy serving the public on the town board.

Will you run again in 2015?

"Yup."

Are you considering running for higher office?

"Nope."

Then he said, "If we can't laugh at ourselves in this life, it's gonna be a long grind."

held a fundraiser for Rinker's campaign.

Rinker is no shrinking violet, either, when it comes to big campaign announcements. She says eliminating the state's personal and business income tax will be her top priority if she is elected.

While no one is ignoring Sharon Hudson, a long-time member of the North Meck Republican Women, this is her

first bid for elected office. Some observers

are suggesting she may split the women's vote, giving Bradford an edge.

But clearly, political insiders are watching every move by Bradford and Rinker.

One insider who knows both had this to say: "The citizens of District 98 are incredibly fortunate to have two qualified candidates to replace Speaker Tillis. There are huge shoes to

fill, which makes this a critical election. Mr. Bradford is smart, extremely energetic, and is experienced in running a very successful Cornelius business. He is an effective Cornelius commissioner and has a bright future in the political world. Ms. Rinker is a hard-working, determined and experienced politician. She is committed to her party and her own ideals. District 98 citizens are indeed fortunate that the two leading candidates are from Cornelius and have served in local capacities that assure that they are current on the entire region's goals and needs."



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Family guy: Gilroy (back row) and one of his daughters (third from left) attended a ribbon cutting at Tatu Fitness



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Not a lot of optimism for commuter rail to Charlotte

BY DAVE VIESER

At the April 9 meeting of the Lake Norman Regional Transportation Commission, members were reminded that the state doesn't have enough revenue to complete prioritized road projects. Executive Director Bill Thunberg followed that sobering reminder with a report that offers little hope for a commuter rail line between the Lake Norman area and Charlotte.

For a number of years, local transportation officials have been eyeing the existing Norfolk Southern Railway freight line, which runs through Huntersville, Cornelius, Davidson and Mooresville as an ideal corridor for a commuter rail line. However, it's not likely to happen without Norfolk Southern's cooperation — and Thunberg thinks that will be a tough sell.

"At the moment, Norfolk Southern is so focused on their freight operations, they don't want to be distracted by any discussion or consideration of passen-



THUNBERG



Commuter service seems to be on the slow track, at best

ger rail service," Thunberg said. "To put it bluntly, we're nowhere and we're going nowhere slowly."

The only encouraging note was that a meeting was held in early April on the staff level between Norfolk Southern and Charlotte Area Transit System



(CATS) to explore options for the Red Line corridor. The outcome of that meeting hasn't been released. "That meeting aside, we're reaching the point where we will need to make a decision on whether we can realistically continue to explore the rail line option," Thunberg said.

Also at the April meeting, the commission members announced that they will be sponsoring a Regional Transportation Summit on Sept. 30 at the Charles Mack Center in Mooresville. The forum is being framed as an opportunity for regional cooperation around the lake, and the aim is to bring planning and transportation officials from Lincoln and Catawba Counties into a collaborative operation with planners and officials from Mecklenburg and Iredell Counties.

"We're also seeking a CEO from the west side of the lake to possibly be our summit's keynote speaker, for a discussion of land use and transportation," said commission member Melinda Bates, a member of the Huntersville Town Board.

The Commission is a joint agency of Huntersville, Cornelius, Davidson and Mooresville, and meets monthly at rotating town hall venues. April's meeting was held at Mooresville Town Hall.

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Rhonda Lennon: CMC board member moves to Cornelius

'I don't fit in a box; I think they broke the mold'

BY DAVE YOCHUM

One of Cornelius' newest residents is also one of the region's most influential political figures. Rhonda Lennon, 52, moved into Jetton Cove in March with her son, Mason, a 12-year-old at Bailey Middle School, from their house in Huntersville.

Rhonda is thrilled. For one thing, Mason stays in the same school. But the school activist says she always wanted to live at the lake. "My first impression of Cornelius is I love it. I've lived in Charlotte, around the county and Huntersville, but my long-term goal was to have a place near the lake. It's a dream come true," she says.

They have two kayaks in the basement of the three-story town home, and they have roots and friends at Mt. Zion



Former school activist is now one of the most powerful women in Mecklenburg politics

United Methodist Church.

Lennon was first elected to the board in 2009, but her history of education activism goes back to the early 2000s. Charlotte and Mecklenburg County

were growing rapidly and school populations were soaring. Education trailers were a common sight.

Lennon got involved in the PTA at David Cox Elementary; she was a room

parent with former Cornelius Mayor Jeff Tarte, a political mentor and now a North Carolina state senator.

In 2003 she started FUME: Families United for North Mecklenburg Education. The goal was to reduce overcrowding and accomplish change on the CMS board, which was struggling to keep up with a fast-changing, fast-growing population.

Race continued to be an issue, with a famous school-assignment lawsuit going all the way to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit in Richmond, Va. "The Dream Long Deferred," by Frye Gaillard, who covered school integration for the Charlotte Observer, chronicled the landmark struggle for desegregation.

Rampant growth, not just the court system, brought change.

"We were bursting at the seams. We had so many mobiles, they couldn't even give us more mobiles," Lennon says, explaining that there were more than 3,000 kids at North Meck High School and 1,400 at Cornelius Elementary School.

FUME parents met in the Tarte family's basement on Meta Road in Cornelius. When they held a meeting at Cornelius Town Hall, several hundred people attended, Lennon remembers.

"We did a bunch, we raised a lot of noise," she says. Back then political

LENNON from page 8

leaders such as former Town Commissioner Jim Bensman and Thom Tillis, who went on to the N.C. House and is running for U.S. Senate, were coming into their own in local politics. They were all friends of Lennon, including Tarte and, later on, former Cornelius Mayor Lynette Rinker.

Lennon decided to run for the CMS District 1 seat held by incumbent Larry Gauvreau in 2005. It was her first bid for public office, and she lost by just 700 votes out of some 17,000 cast.

Lennon spent more than \$10,000 on her first campaign, but people like Tillis, Bensman and Tarte were impressed.

"I was super disappointed but also proud that I came that close against an incumbent," Lennon says.

After her loss, she was appointed to a statewide education committee and served on the Citizens Capital Budget Advisory Committee.

In 2009 she decided to make another run for school board. "I was still so deeply involved," Lennon says. When Gauvreau announced he would not seek re-election, the timing was exactly right. She had two opponents; all three debated several times and Lennon won more than half the vote in a three-way race.

Lennon led in early voting, and she never wavered as each precinct reported. "It was really cool, but bittersweet," Lennon says. Her grandfather, who was also a school board member in the 1960s, was dead. Her father, a Kroger executive passed away in 1999.

Meanwhile, her marriage ended and Lennon was on her own. (In addition to Mason, she has two daughters: Amanda, 22, an artist in Hawaii, and Madison, 20, a nursing student in Swansboro at Coastal Community College.

A trained nurse — she got her nursing degree from Central Piedmont Community College — she went on to get a degree in business administration from UNC-Charlotte, and then sold medical equipment and pharmaceuticals.

Lennon went through some tough times after her divorce, including a bankruptcy and a partial hip replacement. Lennon went to work for Coram Infusion, which was bought by CVS earlier this year. "I went and got a mortgage and here I am," she says.

Lennon was re-elected in November, winning 66 percent of the vote against Christine Mast.

Former Mayor Rinker has high praise for Lennon. "Rhonda serves with intense passion and tenacity. She has always cared deeply about education going back to when she served in the Capital Study Committee prior to being elected to the school board," Rinker says.

Lennon says she is proudest of saving middle-school sports, as well as helping to recruit and hire "the best school superintendent in the nation and helping improve our graduation rate to 81 percent." It had been in the 60s.

She's on the phone with Superintendent Heath Morrison once or twice a week; they text back and forth regularly. All told, Lennon's school board duties take up about 12 hours a week.

"Heath is the most energetic, passionate educator I've ever met. He is phenomenal," Lennon says. "He has given CMS a new vision and done such a great job."

Right now Morrison and the 9-member CMS board are working on the budget, which is expected to be on the order \$1.29 billion this coming fiscal year.

"I am a fiscally conservative, budget-minded person," she says.

Lennon is looking for increased CMS collaboration with higher education partners and local charter schools in

the coming year. "We'll see partnerships with UNCC and CPCC," she says.

She sees herself as a servant leader, having been mission coordinator for University City United Methodist Church. "That's kind of my thing — I love to do things for other people," she says.

Nevertheless, she has to be political to be successful. Known for colorful, straight-forward commentary, Lennon was endorsed this past November by Tillis, Tarte, former Mayor Gary Knox, Rinker and Town Commissioner John Bradford.

Now both Bradford and Rinker are running for the same District 98 House seat currently held by Tillis. She's not endorsing either one because of her friendship with both.

"I am endorsing Thom Tillis," she says.

She might seem as mainstream as it gets, but she likes cowboy boots and has a tattoo that says "Dance in the rain."

She says life is too short to "avoid the storms so you have to learn how to dance in the rain."

"It doesn't really matter what happens or the adversity that happens... we're only on this little rock hurtling through space for a short amount of time. You have to learn how to survive. I am," she says.

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Home improvement: Builders are in high gear as economy improves

BY SUZANNE FULTON

Are Cornelius homeowners altering their abodes for their own enjoyment or for a top-dollar sale? Is funding for large projects more readily available?

Nearly six years have passed since the nationwide economic recession began, and business is building, according to Nicole Goolsby, a Cornelius resident who owns and operates Cornelius-based Rion Homes.

"The recession caused my custom building business to flip flop to 80 percent remodeling, and I like that, especially the creative aspects. It's now my focus," she says.

The recession also impacted her ability to keep employees. "I went from six to one to none," Goolsby explains. But in February she hired a lead carpenter. "I have a pipeline now forcing me to say to clients that it will be a couple of months' wait to begin a project."

The former president of the Lake Norman Home Builders Association says homeowners have "just now gotten to the point where they feel comfortable going ahead with long-desired larger renovation projects."

The National Association of the Remodeling Industry (NARI) says members reported a clear upward trend — not quite a leap — in the fourth quarter of 2013. The fourth-quarter backlog "has given remodelers confidence that the overall business conditions will remain positive," said Tom O'Grady, chairman of NARI's Committee on Strategic Planning and Research.

Really big projects are becoming more common, including whole-house renovations.

Brooks Henderson, owner of Henderson Building Group of Cornelius, says business is up 50 percent, including improvement in demand for large remodels that involve a complete gut and renovation or an addition or garage.



Nicole Goolsby

Brian Tarle, owner of International Kitchen and Bath, a 25-year-old enterprise in Davidson, says customers are now going for more expensive products and bigger projects than they were between 2008 and 2012.

"I've definitely seen an uptick in folks looking to remodel their bathrooms or kitchens," Tarle says. "Our business is up 50 percent overall since that time period. During the recession, we were primarily presented with small jobs, like replacing a vanity or toilet when necessary. At that time, it made no economic sense for homeowners to spend money on a significant remodel."



TARLE

Now Tarle's customers are looking at larger projects, including entire rooms, which encompass a remodel, reconfiguration and update.

How are homeowners paying for their remodels? The old-fashioned way: "Clients tend to tap their equity line to finance the work now that home prices have risen," Henderson says.

Lake effect: New fines for boating violations

BY DAVE VIESER

Boaters take note: There are changes going into effect this year on Lake Norman and throughout North Carolina which will have a significant impact on monetary fines issued by law enforcement officers. The new regulations will impact a number of violations, including boating while impaired (BWI) and speeding in no-wake zones.

"The new rules include, for the first time, mandatory minimum fines for such moving violations as BWI," said Sgt. Ron Robertson from the NC Wildlife Resources Commission, which has over a dozen officers who patrol the lake. "At the same time, some of the fines for equipment violations have been adjusted to a more realistic level."

The net effect of the new laws, according to Robertson, is that the previous practice of issuing warning citations for moving infractions would end, with hard citations that carry monetary penalties being issued for the same infractions.

Some of the changes are as follows:

- **Boating While Impaired:** The new laws mandate a minimum fine of \$250 plus court costs upon conviction. Previously, there was no minimum fine, with the amount left up to the discretion of the judge.

- **Speeding in No Wake Zone:** Minimum \$50 fine; again, no minimum fine previously.

- **Operating Personal Watercraft (Jet Ski) from sunset to sunrise:** This is a new law which carries a minimum \$50 fine.

- **Fines for boaters without certain safety equipment,** such as fire extinguishers, have been "fine-tuned" to a minimum of \$50. Previously some equipment violations could result in misdemeanor level violations. "Without minimizing the importance of the safety equipment, the new regulations are an effort to keep someone in this category from being branded a criminal."

- **Boater safety courses** will now be required for all individuals born on or after January 1, 1988.

The NC Wildlife Resources Commission is one of several law enforcement agencies which patrol the lower part of the lake and issues summons. Others



Cornelius Police patrolling Lake Norman

include both the Charlotte/Mecklenburg and Cornelius Police.

Robertson urged all boaters to access the commission's web site: www.nc.wildlife.org, to get locations of markers, buoys and no-wake zones on Lake Norman, as well as the state regulations which govern nautical operations.

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News E news from www.corneliustoday.com

Cornelius PARC's Hershey's Track & Field Games May 10

April 19 Cornelius, Davidson, and Huntersville's Parks and Recreation offices will hold Hershey's Track and Field Games program on May 10. Registration will begin at 9 a.m., and the event will kick off at 9:30. The event requires a birth certificate at registration. Participants can pre-register at any of the towns' Parks and Recreation offices. The event is free. For more information, visit www.cornelius.org/parc.

DAR meets May 8 at Mt. Zion

April 19 The Alexandriana Chapter of the DAR will meet 11 a.m. May 8 in the Hut at Mt. Zion United Church. There will be a covered dish luncheon and Martha Cook Jenkins, author of "Marching to Zion," will be the speaker. Info: 704-756-1604.

Warehouse will feature "Life As We Know It"

April 17 Della Freedman will direct "Life As We Know It" at The Warehouse Performing Arts Center. The 90-minute show will play April 24-27 and May 1-4. "Life As We Know It" will feature five satirical comedies and a monologue about everyday life, written by North Carolina playwright Elaine Alexander. For tickets, visit www.warehousepac.com/life-as-we-know-it.

Beginner's Day at Washam Elementary April 30

April 17 J.V. Washam Elementary School will hold a Beginner's Day for the parents of new students on April 30. Check-in will start at 8 a.m. in the gymnasium, followed by an information session from 8:30-10 a.m. Administrators and staff will provide parents with an overview of the kindergarten curriculum. The school is located at 9611 Westmoreland Road. Parking is available in the bus lot.

Learn to sail at Blythe Landing

April 15 The Cornelius PARC and North Carolina Community Sailing and Rowing (NCCSR) are launching a new adult sailing class, designed to assist



Stopping hunger, 30,000 meals at a time

April 15 Third, fourth and fifth graders at Mount Zion United Methodist Church are sponsoring a meal packing event on Saturday May 3. The goal: More than 30,000 meals for Stop Hunger Now. The event starts at 9:30 a.m. in the Mt. Zion gym.

Those interested can help in two ways:

1. You can come on May 3 and help with the meal packing. Feel

free to invite family, friends and neighbors to assist in helping stop hunger around the world.

2. Contribute financially. The cost of each meal is 25 cents. The more offerings received the more meals that can be packaged, so please support this ministry.

To sign up, visit www.mtzionumc.net/stophungernow

new sailors in learning the broad span of skills needed to become confident and successful on the water.

The two-day classes will be offered May 24-25, June 28-29, July 19-20 and Aug. 9-10. All classes will run from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Blythe Landing. The fee for each two-day class is \$150 per participant. For an additional \$10 you will receive a copy of the book, "Learn Sailing Right".

Cap sizing is part of this course and is required as part of the first lesson. For more information contact the Town of Cornelius PARC Department at 704-892-6031 ext. 188 or visit us online at www.cornelius.org/parc.

Cintra is apparent winner of I-77 widening contract

April 11 Cintra Infrastructures, a leading company in the managed lane business, is the apparent successful bidder for the NC Department of Transportation's first public-private partnership. The contract to improve the traffic flow along 26 miles of I-77 from Lake Norman to Charlotte is valued at \$655 million.

"We are excited to take this significant step forward and address a criti-

cal need," said NCDOT Chief Engineer Mike Holder. "Innovative funding solutions like this one are vital to keep up with growth and infrastructure needed to strengthen the economy despite declining transportation revenue from traditional sources."

Cornelius Town Commissioner Dave Gilroy, however, said the project and any underlying financial assumptions must be carefully reviewed before the contract is finalized.

"We have not seen anything even remotely like an Excel spread sheet, even at the highest, most summary level...we don't know the cost to maintain it as well as fair revenue, nor how the bonds will be paid back," Gilroy explained.

"It's hard to contemplate this...so they have got to be transparent and forthcoming in all the details," he said.

Known as P3s, public-private partnerships combine public and private funding to hasten improvements to infrastructure.

In a prepared statement NCDOT said the agreement is expected to be signed

in June, with construction beginning as early as this December. The project is expected to be complete in 2018.

Cornelius likes the idea of taking over Jetton Road

April 8 It's looking more like Jetton Road will be taken over by the Town of Cornelius — after a pricey new repaving job is paid for by the state of North Carolina. The Cornelius Town Board unanimously approved a motion calling on the DOT to repave Jetton Road from West Catawba Avenue to John Connor Road, after which the town will take over maintenance of Jetton Road. Town Manager Anthony Roberts told commissioners that the DOT has temporarily patched the deteriorating surface along portions of the 1.9 mile four lane stretch of the road several times, but the repairs do not last.

Moreover, test results of samples drilled out of the Jetton Road roadbed have come back — and they're bad. The winding road, which has speed limits ranging from 25 mph to 45 mph, will have to be replaced down to its core.

"The DOT is willing to do a complete resurfacing and repaving as long as the town takes over maintenance after they are finished," Roberts said. "Truth is, we may wind up getting the road whether we take it over now or not, based on recent comments we're hearing from Raleigh."

The commissioners seemed to agree with the takeover concept, even though details of how much the project would cost and when it could begin were lacking. "I like the idea," said Mayor Pro Tem Woody Washam. "In this manner we can essentially control our destiny. If we look at Jetton Road it's a precedent. We eventually have to look at some other roads too, such as Bethel Church, Nantz and Torrence Chapel, which once crossed



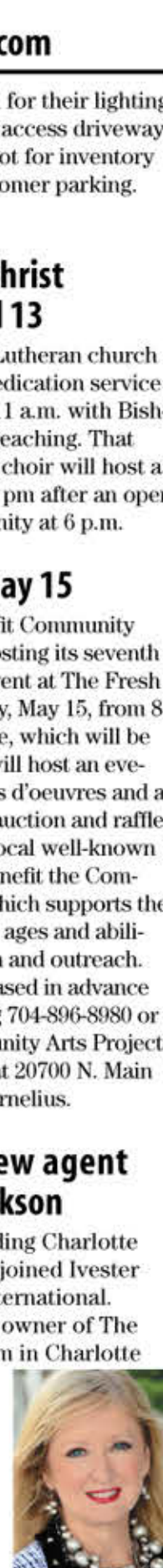
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Cornelius Commissioner Jim Duke
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News E news from www.corneliustoday.com

Continued from page 12

over to Lincoln County. We would want to do a real thorough cost study of what maintenance might look like," Washam added.

Jetton Road was originally built as part of the Crescent Resources Peninsula development, but it was not built to the standards which can sustain the daily traffic which uses the only main thoroughfare in and out of the area.

Roberts said the resurfacing would be done to DOT's standards, which he described as "good standards." — *Dave Vieser*

Auto dealer expansion highlights quest for growth vs. aesthetics

April 8 The Cornelius Town Board Monday night unanimously granted a Conditional Use Permit, which will permit Modern Nissan to add a 32,600 square foot, 99-space new car inventory parking lot on Highway 21, north of Westmoreland Road. Construction should begin by June.

The approval by the Town Board highlights the struggle in Cornelius — and other communities — between design aesthetics and commercial growth. An ordinance puts limits on auto dealer expansions in Cornelius.

Modern Nissan opened in 2001 at the Highway 21 location. The land where the parking lot will be added is just south of the entrance to Lake Norman Mini Golf. It is currently occupied by a vacant, single-family home, which will be demolished to make way for the new parking/storage area.

During the public hearing, Commissioner Dave Gilroy voiced concern about the "sea of cars" which would be created by the additional 99-space lot, even with additional landscaping. Wes Smith, engineer for the project, indicated that the intent of Modern Nissan was to add landscaping in the corners of the new lot, but leave some spaces in the middle so the new cars on display would be visible to passersby. He also suggested that the grading for the new lot should provide better visibility for the nearby mini-golf course.

The approval was contingent upon Modern Nissan developing a more extensive landscaping/buffer plan, ob-

taining town approval for their lighting plan, gating the north access driveway and limiting the new lot for inventory parking only, not customer parking. — *Dave Vieser*

Community in Christ dedication April 13

Community Christ Lutheran church will hold an official dedication service on May 4 at 9:30 and 11 a.m. with Bishop Leonard Bolick, preaching. That evening a community choir will host a celebration event at 7 p.m. after an open house for the community at 6 p.m.

Taste of Art is May 15

April 2 The non-profit Community Arts Project will be hosting its seventh annual Taste of Art Event at The Fresh Market Store Thursday, May 15, from 8 pm to 10 pm. The store, which will be closed to the public, will host an evening that includes hors d'oeuvres and a wine tasting. A silent auction and raffle will include art from local well-known artists. Ticket sales benefit the Community Arts Project which supports the growth of artists of all ages and abilities through education and outreach. Tickets may be purchased in advance for \$30 each by calling 704-896-8980 or by visiting the Community Arts Project at their new location at 20700 N. Main Street, Suite 112 in Cornelius.

Pam Boileau new agent with Ivester Jackson

Pam Boileau, a leading Charlotte businesswoman, has joined Ivester Jackson/Christie's International. Boileau has been the owner of The Marketing Consortium in Charlotte for over 27 years, 22 of which included overseeing branding programs, public relations efforts and web-based campaigns for the firm's real estate clients. Ivester Jackson announced its affiliation with Christie's International in December.

Boileau was awarded "Woman Business Owner of the Year" by the Charlotte chapter of the National Association of Women Business Owners.



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18402 Peninsula Cove Rd., \$2,005,000

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Cornelius

3/11/14 \$147,500 Sharon Sells to Flavio &
Nilda Sambo, 19809 Deer Valley Dr.

3/11/14 \$245,000 Scott Tucker to American
Residential Leasing Co., 19320 Torrence
Chapel Estates Cir.

3/12/14 \$638,500 Classica Homes to Edward
& Tamika Schettler, 18916 Henry Lee Knox Ln.

3/14/14 \$1,275,000 Becky Brown to Paul
Adkins, 20613 Lagoon Dr.

See HOMES, Page 15

Home Sales



18137 Sunset Cove Ln., \$1,690,000

HOMES

3/14/14 \$332,500 John & Tanya Paxton to
Michael & Jennifer Logan, Lot 142 Jetton
Cove

3/14/14 \$2,005,000 Michael & Michelle Clark
to Robert Zafari-Esfahani and Ateessa Samari
Kermani, 18402 Peninsula Cove Rd.

3/18/14 \$159,000 Troy Rutten to Richard &
Kathryn Clendenning, Unit 18736 Nautical
Dr.

3/19/14 \$360,000 Ellis Winton III to Susan
Conley, 19603 Galleon View Dr.

3/20/14 \$129,000 Roger & Yvonne Huff to
Brian Honey, Lot 15 Oakhurst

3/21/14 \$740,000 Thomas & Susan Tillis to
Andrew & Leslie Reed, 17209 Green Dolphin



20400 Marblehead Ct., \$310,000

3/21/14 \$726,500 Jill Runion to John & Jill
Matthews, 17819 Peninsula Club Dr. North

3/26/14 \$175,000 Paul & Juli Jordan to Pahl
& Shannon Davis, Kelsey Davis, 940 Gardners
Way

3/26/14 \$555,000 Classica Homes to Gary &
Colleen McAuliffe, 9112 Robbins Preserve Rd.

3/28/14 \$168,000 Bruce & Lindsey Gandy to
David Allen & Tabitha Berry, 10924 Heritage
Green Dr.

3/28/14 \$392,000 Shad & Jennifer Kayser to
James & Heather Hall, 20324 Middletown Rd.

3/28/14 \$638,000 James & Lisa Ann Martel

See HOMES, Page 18

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\$ 4,950,000

Waterfront Estate

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



Waterfront Estate

Panoramic views from almost every room. Two story great room. Master BR with access to lakeside terrace-library & private study. Gourmet kitchen opens to living room & lakeside breakfast area. 2nd master bedroom upstairs w/ private terrace. Basement level features open media area, billiards, bar exercise room, steam shower, recreation room, bedroom, & study. Lakeside pool w/entertaining area. MLS# 2199778 Agents: Tracy Davis/Reed Jackson

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Peninsula Waterfront Retreat

Waterfront custom home w/ understated elegance at every turn creates a perfect lakeside retreat. Each room adorned with the finest custom details, walnut HDWD on main, 100% wool carpet, new Currey & Co. chandeliers, imported reclaimed French tile. Marble and granite counters, large master 2/rotunda sitting area. Chef's kitchen w/long range lake and sunset views. MLS# 2220378 Agent: Lori Ivester Jackson/Reed Jackson

\$ 3,199,000



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 Estate

Estate like setting w/lots of h'woods, mature landscaping & gardens.

Elegant home of stone, brick, and hard coat stucco. Circular drive through Porte Cochere is stunning entrance into this 5BR with private guest suite w/separate entrance. Cherry cabs, granite, 4 FP's, gas logs, beautiful moldings and h'wood flrs. Spectacular water views. 1.24 acre lot. Oversized 4 car garage. MLS# 2167610 Agent: Lori Ivester Jackson

\$ 1,999,000



Cornelius Waterfront

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

\$ 1,995,000



Cul-de-Sac Waterfront

Beautiful coastal accents with 3 floors of premium architectural features. Granite & custom stone throughout. Dramatic two story vaulted entrance extends to water side wall of windows. Stained and wide plank hardwoods. Walkout lower level recreation and entertainment areas. Stone terrace with columns overlooking lake.

MLS# 2216666 Agent: Lori Jackson

\$ 1,925,000



Patrick's Purchase

INDOOR SPORTS COURT! This home is located on a huge lot in Patrick's Purchase. Over 8000 sf of living space. 4 BR's with designs for a 5th. Wine cellar. Gourmet kitchen with Wolf/Subzero appliances. Private pier/boat slip, lakeside gazebo, fenced rear yard, salt water pool w/hot tub, waterfalls. This house is a must see! MLS# 2219742

Agents: Reed Jackson/Patty Howe

\$ 1,895,000



Westward Reach

Extra-wide sandy beach, great Lake views & pier w/boat lift. 2 large screened porches, 3 large balconies, lower level utility garage/workshop. Kitchen cabs w/washed finish, decorative trim & granite.

Spacious master BR. His/Her closets w/built-ins. Master bath w/separate dressing. Plantation shutters. Paved drive. Main level extra wide center garage. MLS# 2173481 Agent: Lori Ivester Jackson

\$ 1,595,000



Peninsula Waterfront

4 mile sunset view. Remodeled kitchen w/glazed cabs, 2 islands, seeded glass, granite, tile, Wolf range & Thermador appl's. Remodeled master bth w/ pedestal tub. LL great rm w/bar, stone FP & 2nd master suite. Fresh paint, refinished h'wood flrs. Pier w/ sitting area & slip. MLS# 2209630 Agent: Lori Ivester Jackson

\$ 1,423,000



The Peninsula Waterfront

Elegant "perfect size" home with miles of lake views. 3 car garage, built-in hot tub on deck, unfinished walk-in attic. Private pier w/sitting area, partial covered deck, storage under deck, stainless steel appliances & granite in kitchen. New roof.

MLS# 2200866 Agent: Lori Ivester Jackson

\$ 1,250,000



Waterfront

Custom built home w/ open floor plan. Numerous living spaces. 4" hickory floors on main. 5BR's/4.5 BA's. Master BR features cathedral ceiling, lakeside balcony, his/her closets. KIT w/lrg island, granite, JennAir stove w/SS range hood, slate floor & walls. Trex deck, Sandy beach. MLS# 2205769 Agent: Lori Ivester Jackson

\$ 1,249,900



Sawyers Landing Waterfront

Rare waterfront at Exit 28 under \$1M! Like New! 4300 plus 2300sf unfinished bsmt w/workshop. Subzero, Miele, Sacor SS appl's. 3 car garage. Deeded boat slip & many more custom features. Stone & cedar shake exterior. 2 staircases, 2 gas FP's, 6 BR's, screened porch. MLS# 2207607 Agent: Lori Ivester Jackson

\$ 899,000



Peninsula Cul-de-Sac

Stately brick home w/3 car garage (epoxy flrs). Kitchen w/cherry cabs, granite counters & new SS appl's, new Aircor & heating system. Upgrades: HDWD flr in workout rm, main BR & dressing rm. Full surround system, wine cooler in butler rm, EPI HDWD on deck. Beautiful gardens & backyard. MLS# 2202763 Agent: Lori Ivester Jackson

\$ 789,000



Peninsula Cul-de-Sac

Gorgeous 4BR, full brick home! All formals, plus office & bonus. Kitchen has granite, tile backsplash, lrg island w/Dacor cooktop, SS appl's, and limestone floor. HW thruout main, plantation shutters. All closets have custom cabs. Custom painting thruout. Move-in ready. MLS# 2209409 Agent: Lori Ivester Jackson

\$ 739,000



The Peninsula

Elegant cedar shake home located on quiet cul-de-sac. Former custom builder's home. Formal living & dining rm with Master BR on main floor. Open plan living. HDWD floors on main. Gourmet kitchen w/ granite. Fenced in yard with rear covered porch. MLS# 2195093 Agent: Jayne Coffing

\$ 629,000



The Peninsula

Traditional 4 BR brick Simonini home located on a quiet Peninsula cul-de-sac. Enjoy seasonal water views from wrap around porch. Updated kitchen, open floor plan w/HW floors thruout 1st floor. Rear entry drive, 2.5 car garage. Trey ceilings, bay windows & built-ins. Open corner lot. MLS# 2208760 Agent: Jayne Coffing

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Home Sales



20613 Lagoon Dr., \$1,275,000

HOMES from page 15

to Dale Haggman, 16815 America Cup Rd.
 3/28/14 \$125,000 Andrew & Sympheon
 Graham to Andrew & Cynthia Gross,
 19827_M Henderson Rd.

3/28/14 \$1,690,000 Chris & Jacqueline Cot-
 tone to Paul Ramsay, 18137 Sunset Cove Ln.
 3/28/14 \$187,000 Cynda Ranking to Cherie
 Gipko, 1553 Crossing Gate Dr.

4/1/14 \$388,000 South Creek Homes to

David & Lois Handy, 18410 Neville Ave.
 4/1/14 \$267,000 South Creek Homes to
 Joanne Melodia, 18205 Coulter Pkwy. Cor-
 nelius
 4/1/14 \$142,000 Robert & Debra Passarelli to
 Courtney & Norman Wolf from Lot 132 Bahia
 Bay
 4/1/14 \$223,000 Karen Guest to Dimitrios
 Zaravelis & Ioannis Zaravelis, 19416 Makayla
 Ln.

See HOMES, Page 19

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Home Sales



19416 Makayla Ln., \$223,000

HOMES from page 18

4/1/14 \$458,000 Maryanne Stephens-Shook to
 Monty & Catherine Taylor, 21606 Rio Oro Dr.

4/3/14 \$330,000 Monty & Catherine Taylor to
 Jerrie McCann, 20205 Northport Dr.

4/4/14 \$160,000 Laurie Wheeler to American
 Homes 4 Rent Properties, 11251 Heritage
 Green Dr.

4/7/14 \$212,000 Robert & Jennifer Mautz to
 Doron & Melissa Mizrahi, 18715 Victoria Bay
 4/9/14 \$310,000 John Jr. & Camilla McWil-
 liams to John & Lisa Wood, 20400 Marble-
 head Ct.

4/9/14 \$156,000 Tate & Joanna Harris to
 Randall & Barbara Schuetz, Lot 179 Heritage
 Green

4/10/14 \$138,000 Patricia Jen to Patrick
 Nelson, 17937 Train Stati 18916on Dr.

4/10/14 \$160,000 Jennifer & James Pressley
 to Darlene & Terry Maxey, 10522 Caldwell
 Depot Rd.

4/10/14 \$690,000 Kenneth Sr. & Reva Irwin

See HOMES, Page 20



9112 Robbins Preserve Rd., \$555,000

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as December 2008, search
transactions at**

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to Stephen & Patricia Kowalchuk, 17527
 Springwinds Dr.
 4/14/14 \$347,000 Southcreek Homes to
 Alice Mikovch, 18422 Neville Ave.
 4/15/14 \$235,000 Leah Poovey to James &
 Juliann Toya, 17424 Staysail Ct.
 4/16/14 \$245,000 Samuel & Julia Litzler t
 WGH North Carolina LLC, 17412 Torrence
 Chapel Estates Cir.
 4/16/14 \$313,500 MI Homes of Charlotte to
 Michael Tolbert, 2011 Bishops Ct.

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Home Sales

HOMES from page 19

Davidson

3/13/14 \$215,000 DR Horton to Whitney & Michael Clayton, 12925 Helen Benson Blvd.
3/19/14 \$394,000 Weekley Homes to Duncan & Melissa Hunt, 11914 Bradford Park Dr.
3/25/14 \$280,000 Tower Inc. to Eric Symonds, 747 Amalfi Dr.
3/27/14 \$328,500 Weekley Homes to Susan Sieg, 12322 Bradford Park Dr.
3/31/14 \$279,000 Rex & Sandra Kragh to Tracy Lawson & Mitch Cohen, Lot 212 A New Neighborhood in Old Davidson
3/31/14 \$380,000 Paul & Dione Goyette to The Trustees of Davidson College, 160 Morrison Hill Rd.
3/31/14 \$265,000 DR Horton to Daniel & Sharon Hudson, 15715 Carley Commons Ln.
4/3/14 \$327,000 SouthLake Co. to Richard & Anne Howe, 346 NW Dr.
4/11/14 \$334,000 Carolina Cottage Homes to Bruce Jr. & Leslie Coakley, 17222 Summers Walk Blvd.
4/11/14 \$375,000 Drury & Linda Grigsby to James Jacobs & Cynthia Holley, 241 Fairview Ln.
4/14/14 \$246,000 Nelson King Jr. & Rosalie Allen to Cathleen Santeiu, Edwin Jones Jr., Carolyn Jones, 788 Naramore St.

4/15/14 \$361,500 Weekley Homes to Chad & Stephanie Johnson, 17803 Bartlette Creek Dr.
4/16/14 \$272,000 Frank & Janet Myers to Paul & Ann Hosutt, 160 Harper Lee St.

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Foreclosure actions have been started on the following properties. Items show the date, owners, property address, lien holder, lien amount. After required notices are published, the property is sent to auction. The property then can be sold, not sold (examples: bankruptcy files or action dismissed without prejudice) or the sale postponed.

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3/21/14 8401 Forest Shadow Cir., Wachovia Mortgage \$245,100
4/3/14 18801 2C Oakhurst Blvd., Wells Fargo Bank \$157,605
4/4/14 21141 Pine Ridge Rd., CitiMortgage \$101,000

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3/26/14 928 Southwest Drive #312, American Home Mortgage \$188,000

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Chase Hazelwood, president of Lake Norman Pest Control, educates a homeowner

It's crunch time for pests that can destroy a home in no time

BY DAVE YOCHUM

It's spring and homeowners' thoughts turn to home improvement projects. Termite thoughts turn to wood, wherever it is, inside, outside, all around your house.

With lots of rain and temperatures on the rise, look for an active swarming season. Indeed, termites cause over \$5 billion in structural damage each year which is more than storms and fires combined. And, most termite damage isn't covered by homeowner's insurance, according to Chase Hazelwood, the president of Lake Norman Pest Control.

A third generation home services guy, Hazelwood says he has been navigating crawlspaces to look for termite damage since he was 11 years old. "I was the only one who could fit," he says.

Hazelwood took over Lake Norman Pest in 2011. With a total of three full-time employees, he goes up against the big guys like Arrow Exterminators. Unlike them, none of his employees are sales people, he says, so there's not as much incentive to make a sale.

He said common advice like sealing cracks and holes is not as effective as most people think. "They can fit in holes that are paper thin," he says.

"Termites here are so prevalent, that all homes need to be inspected on a

regular basis. They're so prevalent, that if wood is left on the ground for a year, there will be termites," he says.

Once a termite infestation begins, the damage can occur very quickly, according to Shay Runion, with Arrow Exterminators. "Many homeowners believe that termites don't exist simply because they can't see them. However, the absence of typical 'swarming' signs doesn't mean there is no termite activity happening below the surface of a home."

Arrow has these tips for homeowners:

- Eliminate moisture around foundations. Also, divert water from the house by using proper downspouts and gutters because termites are attracted to moisture.
- Do not stack firewood or lumber near home, and inspect it carefully before bringing it indoors.
- Keep tree branches, shrubbery and ground covering well trimmed and away from the house.
- Reduce humidity in crawl spaces with proper ventilation.
- Have your home inspected annually by a licensed pest professional who specializes in termite control.
- Consider installing a protection system that can be monitored on a frequent basis.

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21007 Catawba Ave., Worship 11 am
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17301 Statesville Rd., Worship: Sunday - 8 a.m.,
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19600 Zion St., Worship 8:30 am, 9:45 am, 11 am
- NorthCross Church**
11020 Bailey Rd. Ste. H, Worship 10:15 am
- Point of Grace Lutheran Church**
20700 N. Main St., Worship 8:30 am, 11 am
- The Church of the Good Shepherd,**
LKN YMCA, 21300 Davidson St., Worship 10 am
- The River Church**
18731 W. Catawba Ave., Worship 10:30 am
- Union Bethel AME Zion Church,**
20736 Catawba Ave., Worship 11 am

Is brass making a comeback?

For years I have recommended that clients replace their dated brass fixtures to help sell their house. These brass fixtures include but are not limited to plumbing, lighting, and cabinet hardware. Nickel, aged bronze, or chrome finish materials have been more desirable and popular among buyers in recent years. Even though there has been chatter about brass making a comeback, I won't be recommending it by the truck load any time soon as this trend is still evolving.

On a recent lighting expedition for a client renovation, I had this very same discussion with Terry MacCallum, a Lighting Consultant at LightStyles in Cornelius. When I asked her about brass making a comeback, her immediate answer was "well yes, and no." The brass that is starting to sur-



Example of brass chandelier that dates the home



Example of similar size new trending brass in "Brushed Gold" finish by Capital Lighting

face in lighting stores is quite different than the cheap shiny brass fixtures installed in tract housing and custom homes more than a decade ago. Depending on the manufacturer, this new brass comes in several finishes including brushed gold, winter gold and gold leaf, among others.

While the main lighting display at the front of LightStyles store features

a cloud of these new chandeliers, there is still a wide variety of other fixtures and finishes throughout the store other than gold or brass. When I recommend new lighting or plumbing fixtures to clients, I often shop for lighting both online and in person where I can get a better feel for the actual product.

The type of product and finish I recommend depends on the price point and style of the home, whether or not other fixtures have already been updated in the home and a general feel for the space. While homeowners should choose fixtures they like, they should also keep resale in mind. You never know if or when you'll need to sell your home, so it's always a good idea for a homeowner to consult with a lighting consultant, interior designer or home staging professional when updating lighting in your home. These professionals will guide you to make a choice that is both tasteful and timeless.

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



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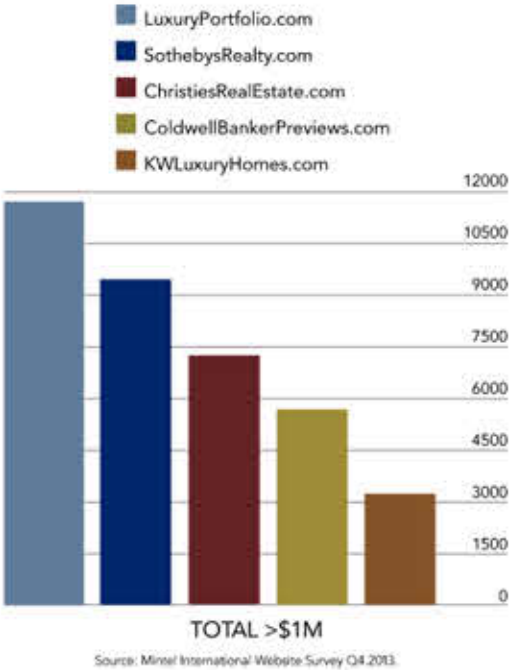
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Senior News

Elvis and music therapy

*You ain't nothin' but a hound dog
Cryin' all the time
You ain't nothin' but a hound dog
Cryin' all the time
Well, you ain't never caught a rabbit
And you ain't no friend of mine*

Wait, wait, is that Elvis that I hear in the hallways of this facility? I listen more and am drawn to the activity room where several residents are gathered and there she is, a student strumming her guitar and singing that old Elvis chestnut while the residents are moving and groovin', well as much as they can at least, in their chairs with their walkers close by, and in wheel chairs. As far as they're concerned, they are actually listening to the King and reliving memories of days gone by, memories that are brought to



Joanne Ahern
Seniors Columnist



the surface of those whose recollections are not as sharp as they used to be.

Now the student is holding up a tambourine and asking an older adult to tap it every time she sings the word Hound

Dog. And then she moves it to the right just a bit and asks the resident to tap the tambourine in the new location. On and on this goes until I realize that what is occurring is an exercise class for the residents as they move their upper bodies as well as engage their brains. Upon further investigation, I find out that this is no ordinary exercise class; it is Music Therapy. And the student with the guitar? She is studying to be a Music Therapist.

According to the American Music Therapy Association, "Music Therapy is the clinical and evidence-based use of music interventions to accomplish individualized goals within a therapeutic relationship by a credentialed professional who has completed an approved music therapy program".

"Music therapists assess emotional well-being, physical health, social functioning, communication abilities, and cognitive skills through musical responses; design music sessions for individuals and groups based on client needs using music improvisation, receptive music listening, song writing, lyric discussion, music and imagery, music performance, and learning through music; participate in interdisciplinary treatment planning, ongoing evaluation, and follow up."

Older Adults in nursing facilities can sometimes face social isolation, monotony due to lack of family contacts.

According to Lindsay Nuckols, a senior at Queen's University Charlotte studying Music Therapy, a new face and having fun with an old song can create fun and activate memories from younger years such as that first kiss, family outings, dating, or other significant events. This then helps to maintain current functioning and can help to prevent further decline of the disease. Nuckols says, "Music can reach all parts of the brain, providing a different pathway to process information that is otherwise impacted by the decline and functioning from the particular disease."

Music therapy can help maintain physical functioning through dance, movement, singing, eye contact, sensory stimulation and help target specific goals set up for the client. For example, an 80 year old could remember songs from the 40's and 50's, perhaps even humming or singing along and when asked what that person is experiencing, their words may come out in what Nuckols calls "word salad". The words are there but not in the right order, but that's ok. The music may also engender toe tapping, hand clapping, heads nodding or other techniques that promote physical functioning which are often used alongside Physical or Occupational Therapy. All serve to collaborate with the goals for each individual and help maintain the person's quality of life.

Music Therapy is for persons of all ages. There is a misconception that the client or patient has to have some particular music ability to benefit from music therapy — they do not. That there is one particular style of music that is more therapeutic than all the rest — this is not the case. All styles of music can be useful in effecting change in a client or patient's life. The individual's preferences, circumstances and need for treatment, and the client or patient's goals help to determine the types of music a music therapist may use.

Now, Elvis is not my favorite recording artist and certainly would not bring about pleasant memories. But the Beatles? Now that's my style.

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

CORNELIUSCooks

Rosemary Pitts' chicken and rice dish is fast and easy

Rosemary Pitts has retired from IBM and raised four children, but she still likes to serve "Busy Day Chicken & Rice." For one thing, she maintains a busy schedule volunteering at Habitat for Humanity's Restore operations in Cornelius and Mooresville.

For another thing, the dish is really tasty. "I made it a lot working full time and raising four children. Everybody loves it — it is so easy," she says. It takes only 15 minutes to prepare and 45 minutes to cook.

Originally from Montauk on the tip of Long Island, Rosemary grew up in an entrepreneurial family. Her mother ran a garbage company called Montauk Disposal Service, which her father started with \$400 and a Studebaker. He also started the local fire department, not to mention the first pizza shop in town.

"Chicken and rice was a guaranteed weekly dish and it was easy to prepare, delicious and all the kids enjoyed it," Rosemary says, explaining that her mother ran the waste business while raising three children. The recipe reminds her of grow-



Rosemary Pitts: Chicken-rice dish brings back memories of growing up on Long Island

ing up in Montauk, even though her mother never really had time to teach her how to cook. She learned

more or less by trial and error. "I'm comfortable with a little bit of this, a little bit of that," she says.

Growing up surrounded by water in Montauk, Rosemary says Cornelius was a natural place to live. "We are water people...the next best thing [to the ocean] was the lake. We love boating, jet skiing, we are a family of the water, we moved here for the water," she explains.

Husband Richard, who is from Upstate New York, has worked for IBM more than 40 years. Together they have raised four children — Trinity, Nicholas, Christopher and Will, who is a student at Central Piedmont Community College. The three older children are cinematographers and photographers working at the same studio in SoHo in New York City.

Rosemary is enjoying retirement. "I love a mean game of Yahtzee," she says.

Busy Day Chicken & Rice

Ingredients

4-6 pieces of chicken (I like skinless breasts best)
1 cup of Uncle Ben's converted rice (uncooked)
1 can of cream of celery soup
1 can of cream of mushroom soup or 1 can of cream of chicken (whatever your preference)
1 to 1-1/2 cans of milk

1 tablespoon of dried minced onion
1 tablespoon of dry mustard
1-1/2 teaspoons of paprika
2-1/2 tablespoons of melted butter
salt, pepper and garlic powder (to taste)

Directions

Preheat oven to 350 degrees:
In a 13 X 9 baking dish (Pyrex pan works best) **pour** both cans of soup directly into Pyrex dish.
Pour milk into Pyrex dish
Blend milk and soup till smooth
Pour uncooked rice into soup mixture
Mix rice well in soup mixture
Add minced onion and dry mustard to mixture
Place chicken directly on top of

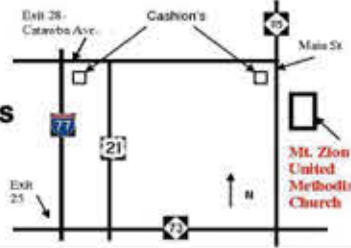
soup mixture
Melt butter and then add paprika to the melted butter
Spread butter mixture onto chicken
Sprinkle dry ingredients of salt, pepper and garlic powder over the entire dish
Bake in preheated 350 degree oven for 45 minutes.
Serve with salad and Italian bread

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MLS 2177156 - \$815,000

WATERVIEW



18817 Nautical #302, 2b/2ba
MLS 2200573 - \$124,900

WATERFRONT



18701 Nautical #301, End Unit
MLS 2194164 - \$225,000

WF - Ground Floor End Unit



779 Peninsula Dr., Davidson
MLS 2214283 - \$189,000

Garage Available +\$25,000



18816 Nautical #6
MLS 2222362 - \$210,000



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3rd Annual

**CHICKS
WITH
STICKS**
GOLF INVITATIONAL



**Monday
June 16, 2014
Northstone
Country Club
Huntersville**

9:00 a.m. Shotgun Start
Captain's Choice / Best Ball Format
\$75.00 - Per Player
*(includes green fees, cart fees, luncheon,
T-shirts courtesy of Sam's Club & goody bags for players)*
DEADLINE TO REGISTER : JUNE 6



Register at
www.lakenormanchamber.org



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**Cornelius
TODAY**

Focus on Business

Aquesta earnings rise 23% in the first quarter of 2014

Aquesta Financial Holdings, parent company of Aquesta Bank, reported operating income rose 23 percent during the first quarter of 2014 compared to last year. The Cornelius-based company reported unaudited net income of \$428,000 compared to net income of \$347,000 for the first quarter of 2013.

Total assets increased to \$236.1 million at the end of the first quarter, compared to \$233.9 million at the end of 2013. During that same period total loans grew to \$137.2 million compared to \$130.3 million, for an annualized growth rate of approximately 21



ENGEL

percent.

"As I have consistently communicated over the past two years, 2012 marked the change of focus from defensive to offensive strategy for Aquesta. This change in focus, while maintaining good asset quality, is allowing Aquesta to capture market share to the benefit of our customers, community and shareholders," said Jim Engel, president and CEO of Aquesta



Chamber Diversity Council at work



Left to right: Ann Garrity, Julia Holyfield, Jessie Mullen, Rhondlyn Hawthorne, Vickie Stevens, Margi Kyle and Barbara Najenson are putting the finishing touches on plans for the Chicks with Sticks golf tournament in June. Cornelius Today and BusinessToday support the Diversity Council. Gail Williams, marketing director of both publications, took the photo.

Hough High Career Day



Organized by Hough's Future Business Leaders of America, the career day brought out some 1,400 students who visited with some 40 local companies and individuals. Participating organizations and individuals included the Cornelius Volunteer Fire Department, the Police Department, Joe Gibbs Racing, FBI and Secret Service, as well as a surgeon, chemist and Air Force pilot. Planning for the event was led by Matthew Norrito (FBLA), Zachary Brisson (JROTC), and Matthew Dahlem (FBLA).

Focus on Business

New Corporations

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

Cornelius

3/26/14 ERB Prime LLC, John F. Hanzel, 19425-G Liverpool Pkwy.
3/26/14 Southeastern Land Development LLC, Jaylene G. Moss, 9624 Bailey Rd. Ste 290
3/28/14 Boss Unleashed LLC, Singletary Law Firm PLLC, 19109 W. Catawba Ave Ste 118
3/28/14 Captive Insurance Asset Management LLC, Josh Knipp, 19901 W. Catawba Ave. Ste 103.
3/28/14 Waterfront Group Tranquility LLC, Hugh Franklin, 19421-A Liverpool Pkwy.
3/31/14 Bevy Interior Design LLC, Cathy Reed, 15920 Robbins Green Dr.
3/31/14 Bond Babe Mission Control LLC, Singletary Law Firm PLLC, 19109 W. Catawba Ave. Ste 118
3/31/14 BWR Ventures LLC, Robert B. Newkirk III, 19810 W. Catawba Ave. Ste E
3/31/14 Cabarrus Endocrinology P.C., John F. Hanzel, 19425-G Liverpool Pkwy.
3/31/14 Purple Penguin Properties Inc., John F. Hanzel, 19425-G Liverpool Pkwy.
3/31/14 The Rowdy Roller LLC, Singletary Law Firm PLLC, 19109 W. Catawba Ave. Ste 118
3/31/14 Secure Enterprises LLC, Robert B. Newkirk III, 19810 W. Catawba Ave. Ste E
4/1/14 East Coast Pools And Spa LLC, Singletary Law Firm PLLC, 19109 W. Catawba Ave. Ste 118
4/1/14 Mr. Quick Pick Towing Inc., William F. Johnson, 17214 Poole Place Dr.
4/1/14 Peete River LLC, Hugh Franklin, 19421-A Liverpool Pkwy.
4/1/14 Twentysix Investments LLC, Justin W. Jamieson, 7528 Waterview Dr.
4/2/14 Deborah Beam LLC, Deborah Beam, 7542 Waterview Dr.
4/2/14 Tidemark Medical LLC, James W. Wilson, 16513 Green Dolphin Ln.
4/3/14 BAX Holding Co. LLC, John F. Hanzel, 19425-G Liverpool Pkwy.
4/3/14 Emozzo LLC, Jon M. Vezendy, 21000 Torrence Chapel Rd. Ste 101
4/4/14 Half Moon Medical Associates PLLC, Gregory A. Moon, 19701 W. Catawba Ave. Ste F
4/7/14 Agilis Business Consulting Corp., Thomas Trickett, 19119 Brookgreen Garden Pl.
4/7/14 FPJ Enterprises LLC, Paul Crandall, 1973 Kunkleman Dr.
4/7/14 Motoblasting LLC, Jonathan Hunt, 7309 Swansea Ln.
4/7/14 Optimal Firm, LLC, Melinda Knorr, 21301 Pecan St.
4/8/14 Synapse Management Inc., Sharon D. Allen, 17043 Doe Valley Ct.
4/9/14 AKB LLC, Martha Riggins, 20416 Gre-



enway Heights Dr.

4/9/14 Choice Fries Inc., John F. Hanzel, 19425-G Liverpool Pkwy.
4/9/14 Emory Holdings LLC, Steven Emory Helms, 10208 Danesway Ln.
4/9/14 Mac Capital Group LLC, Rachael L. McNamara, 18605 Northline Dr. Ste A2 Mailbox 1
4/10/14 Contribuyoution LLC, Alex Klaus, 18449 Old Statesville Rd.
4/10/14 DWJ Advantage LLC, Patsy M. Shinn, 18515 Statesville Rd. #C- 01
4/10/14 Iron Willow Solutions LLC, Lisa Mele, 18709 Nautical Dr. Ste 304
4/10/14 KJB LLC, Martha Riggins, 20416 Greenway Heights Dr.
4/10/14 The Pit Box LLC, John F. Hanzel, 19425-G Liverpool Pkwy.
4/11/14 Battleboro Solar LLC, Olee Joel Olsen Jr., Po Box 1395
4/14/14 Southeast Fund III LLC, Rosemary T. Butler, 21201 Senlac Ln.
4/14/14 Wiley C. Properties LLC, Steven Haimbaugh, 15947 Jetton Rd.
4/15/14 ATG. USA LLC, Thomas L. Tragesser, 8804 Magnolia Estates Dr.
4/15/14 Nikrooz Enterprises Inc., Ali Nikrooz, 20422 Queensdale Dr.
4/16/14 Pop's BBQ Smokehouse Inc., Clyde Richard Beal, 19901 S Main St.
4/26/14 Wilson Arby's LLC, Ron L. Turner Jr., 568 Jetton St. Ste 200
4/2/14 Overleaf Investments LLC, N. Brian Peace, 19317 Overleaf Ln.
4/3/14 Cornstalk Solar LLC, Michael D. Whitson, 442 S. Main St. Ste 12
4/4/14 Go 2 Green Landscape And Turf Management LLC, Carl J. Kistel III, 534 Jetton St.
4/7/14 Strategic Talent Assessments LLC, Virginia D. Roseman, 21121 Shearer Rd.
4/8/14 Jack Moellendick Consulting Inc., Paul Jack Moellendick, 19913 River Falls Dr.
4/15/14 Cottonwood Solar LLC, Michael D. Whitson, 442 S. Main St. Ste 12
4/15/14 Team Creatif USA LLC, Shawn A. Copeland, 215 S Main St. Ste 301
4/16/14 Blanchette Research LLC, Christopher M. Blanchette, 207 McConnell Dr.
4/16/14 Tekrevision LLC, Glen Carpenter, 452 S. Main St. Ste H

More new corporation listings
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Your comments and opinions



Stock boys and turtles
OH MY

“My peeve is when the grocery store has too many stock boys working on a Thursday morning and they are in the way when I try to select things! They used to stock at night. What happened? TURTLES ARE GREAT... THEY TAKE THEIR HOUSES WITH THEM!!”
— via soundoffcornelius@gmail.com

What would Dave say?

“Why is it that Cornelius has the worst Wendy’s restaurant I’ve ever been to? It’s always filthy and the service is below par (even for fast food). To make it worse, it’s directly off of I-77 so travelers stopping for a quick bite will think it’s a reflection of the entire town. It’s time that the owners step up and put a little effort and money into making it a place that the town is proud of, not embarrassed by!”
— via anonymous contact button on www.corneliustoday.com



Droll, succinct

“Here are the 2,700 pages of the Affordable Care Act condensed into one sentence.
ObamaCare: To insure the uninsured, we first make the insured uninsured, and then make them pay more to be insured again, so the original uninsured can be insured for free.”
— via soundoffcornelius@gmail.com



Left onto One Norman from W. Catawba

“My husband and I find it very difficult to see oncoming traffic while trying to turn left (with a blinking yellow light) off W. Catawba Avenue onto One Norman Boulevard (by Bank of America). The problem arises when there are cars trying to turn left in the opposite direction off of Catawba (you can’t see around them). The lane should have been moved over more to the left so people could get a better visual of oncoming cars.”
— via soundoffcornelius@gmail.com

I’m Cranky Today

“Thank you for my latest Cornelius Today. Nice to see the continued wasting of taxpayer money on essentials such as artificial turf, greenways and ‘improvement’ of downtown”. It was also great to hear of the delay in building the toll lane on I-77 that will solve nothing and that no one wants (except the corrupt Lake Norman ruling class and those greasing their palms). And let’s not forget about sports tournaments as the basis for ‘growing’ the economy. Keep giving us that propaganda, Cornelius (er Peninsula) Today.
— via anonymous contact button on www.corneliustoday.com



• FYI, The Peninsula is properly referred to as The Peninsula, so we’re suggesting The Peninsula Today is a better choice of words than Er Peninsula Today.

Unhinged at Town Hall

“OMG! That squeaky front door at Town Hall is like nails on a chalk board! Have they ever heard of spraying WD-40 on the hinges?”
— via soundoffcornelius@gmail.com



▼ Road rage

“Why is Jetton Road constantly getting repaired and paved while other roads like Bethel Church Road have not been paved in years? I think we pay taxes too!”
— via soundoffcornelius@gmail.com



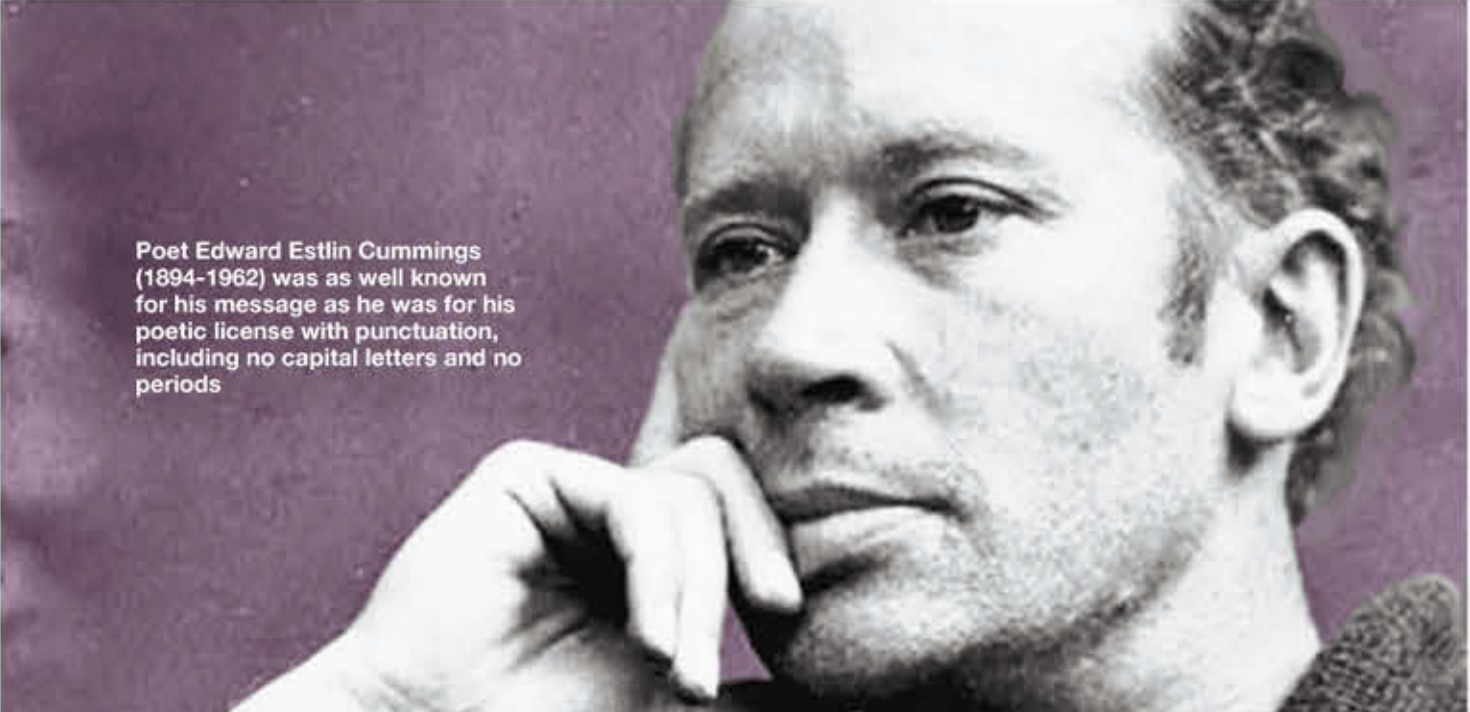
▲ Speeding on Bethel Church Road

“Attention Cornelius Police Department: Officers need to actually drive down Bethel Church Road to catch the speeders. No one is driving fast when they are passing the church.”
— via soundoffcornelius@gmail.com



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Your comments and opinions



e e cummings sounds off

“I’m sounding off about the very large, loud ford pick-up truck passing and weaving multiple cars on west catawba avenue when we were going 35 mph or even a little more; where are cornelius police when it appears this horrific beast was going well over 45 mph”
— via anonymous contact button on www.corneliustoday.com

Sounds like
Hummer envy

“Last year, ‘the media’ reported several instances of foxes being seen and photographed at The Peninsula Club golf course, and even reports of foxes running through backyards and crossing streets. Haven’t heard a thing this year. Were they successfully driven out? If so, I hope they weren’t driven out in a Hummer. That’d be two environmental disasters. Sign me Animal Lover.”
— via soundoffcornelius@gmail.com



Red fox photographed on The Peninsula Golf Course in February 2012

SteinMart not the same

“I’d like to call your attention to the service at SteinMart, or lack thereof. I remember when there was good service and the sales help was courteous. It has changed and I am most disappointed. Also, the sales do not seem like sales to me.”
—via anonymous contact button on www.corneliustoday.com

(((Speak up!)))

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