

### **Sunset Hills December 2018**

Greensboro, North Carolina

#### Annual Neighborhood Events

January Echanom

February

March

April

Easter Egg Hunt

Great American Clean-up

May

Annual Pig Picking

June

July

July 4th Parade and Picnic

August

National Night Out

September

Big Sweep Event

October

**Neighborhood Meeting** 

Halloween Party in the Park

November

Lighted Christmas Ball Workshop

December

Lighted Christmas Balls

Food Drive, Running of the Balls

#### A Message from the President

By Scott Michaels

It's beginning to look a lot like the most magical time of the year in Sunset Hills!

The Lighted Christmas Ball workshop is complete, and the Lighted Christmas Balls are going up in the trees. I see this as our annual gift to the City of Greensboro and, indeed, to all the surrounding areas. People come from far and wide to drive through our beautiful neighborhood. And to top it all off, it's a wonderful fundraiser for food for those less fortunate than most of us. It truly is a special time.

So many activities are going on. The annual Lighted Christmas Balls workshop is behind us. (Many thanks to Anne Smith for organizing and handling it again. One year, I may actually make it there!) The Running of the Balls is coming on December 15. The Candle Tea at the Moravian Church is the first weekend in December and other Churches around town will be having special music programs. Our neighborhood

(continued on page 3)

#### Sunset Hills Neighborhood Association Board of Directors

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Scott Michaels scottmichaels100@gmail.com

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Elaine Brune sunsethillsgsonc@gmail.com

Mail dues to: 2504 Sylvan Rd.

Neighborhood Watch

Mary Schwarz 720marybeth@gmail.com

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Neighborhood Watch / Block Captain Coordinator

Elaine Brune (South of Market) sunsethillsgsonc@

gmail.com

Jerry Pifer (North of Market) jpifer@earthlink.com

**Transportation Committee Chair** 

Gerry Alfano mtisdel@att.net (336)272-3512

**Social Events** 

Lauren Davidson laurendavidson1@gmail.com

Brittany Semones bsemones@gmail.com

**Event Coordinators** 

Easter Egg Hunt -

Cindy Ramsey

Fourth of July - Open

Halloween in the park -

Michael Driver michael@yourhometriad.com

Annual Pig Pickin -

Gary Rogers grgrlr@mindspring.com

**Environmental Affairs - OPEN** 

Garden Club Representative

Michelle Togut togut@gmail.com

Web site coordinator

Robin Timmins timmins203@gmail.com

**Listserv** coordinator

Adam Graham-Squire bijaypur@yahoo.com

Historian

Troy Hopkins troy.hopkins@lfg.com

**Newsletter Team** 

Elaine Brune and bardsley-brune@triad.rr.com

Roger Bardsley (336) 378-1990

Lauren Davidson laurendavidson1@gmail.com

Carl Phillips cwpjr5524@aol.com
Carole Potter cllindse@gmail.com
Chip Potter jcpottergm@gmail.com
Marlene Pratto mrpsunset@gmail.com
Robin Timmins timmins203@gmail.com
Jerry Pifer jpifer@earthlink.com

Representative to the Neighborhood Congress

Mike Pendergraft, Gerry Alfano

Sources of Neighborhood Information

The Sunset Hills Neighborhood Association has a website, Facebook page, and a listserv. Many pictures of neighborhood events appear in color on the website and on the Facebook page.

Get to know your neighbors in text and print and learn the news: http://www.sunsethillsneighborhood.org. If you are not on the listserv go to *Email listserv* and submit your email address to be added as a member of the monitored listserv. The neighborhood Facebook page is:

https://www.facebook.com/SunsetHillsGSO

When you have a question about tradespeople, spot a stray dog or cat or note something unusual, submit a message to the listserv and the message goes out to all the members. The listserv is monitored to keep the messages relevant to this area and on topics about the neighborhood. You must have paid your 2018 dues to submit a non-emergency message to the listserv.

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DUES are due in January. However, it is never too late to pay for the current year. Please remit your \$10 directly to the treasurer, Elaine Brune at 2504 Sylvan Rd. Checks for more than \$10 will be accepted as donations to the Sunset Hills Neighborhood Association.

#### (continued from Page 1)

Bestway Store and restaurants are looking festive. There are numerous holiday movies showing nearby at the Carolina Theatre.

And it's not just Christmas that people are celebrating this month. I also want to wish a Happy Holiday Season to all our friends who celebrate in different ways and for different reasons. It's also the season for Hanukkah. The Winter Solstice is December 21st. Kwanzaa begins on December 26th- which is also Boxing Day. There is something for everyone to celebrate this month. It truly is a magical time for us all.

So, if you getting frustrated hanging our Lighted Christmas Balls, remember the joy you are spreading. It means a lot to so many in so many different ways. And it helps bring us all together and helps us to give back to our community.

That's what really makes the holidays magical-especially in Sunset Hills!

And remember, sometimes the hardest thing to do is not to be so overwhelmed by the preparations for the Holidays that we lose sight of the many joys of the Season. Please take time to relax a little and enjoy them with your friends and families.

In closing, no matter what, if or why you celebrate. I hope everyone has a safe and festive Holiday Season! On to 2019!

## Are you interested in the Community Advisory Council??

The second Monday of each month (6:00 - 7:00 PM), the Greensboro Police Department holds an informational meeting with neighborhoods in the western metro area. If you are interested in attending these meetings, please contact Mary Schwarz (720marybeth@gmail.com) for more information. In the past, we have had two neighbors sharing this position, however, with Scott Michaels' recent move to fill the role of Board President, it would be helpful to have another person help with the CAC role.

#### SUNSET HILLS ENGRAVER:

Don't forget...Sunset Hills owns a Dremmel Electric Engraver, available for neighbors to use when marking identification on personal property. Email 720marybeth@gmail.com to borrow this tool.

## Rates for 2017 Newsletter Advertising

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Add \$10 if your dues are not up-to-date. Contact Carl or Marlene (see Newsletter Team on page 2) to arrange for an ad. Then send your check to Elaine Brune, address on page 2. Thanks to our advertisers for helping to offset the cost of this newsletter.

#### Ad and Photo Submission

Adobe InDesign is used for layout of the newsletter. All photos and graphics that are submitted should be high resolution (300 dpi plus). Photos should be sent as jpeg images. High resolution pdf is also good. Remember, it is always easy to change to 72 dpi for the web, but not as good to change low resolution to high resolution. Please submit ads in the actual size you want.

If you have questions, please contact me at cllindse@gmail.com and I will be glad to help.



#### Airbnb, VRBO, Short Term Rentals

#### By Mike Pendergraft

I expect you all know about Airbnb, or Vacation Rentals by Owner, or HomeAway. Each is an on-line service that facilitates the rental of a room, or a part of a house, or an entire house, for a specific length of time; usually for a short period. They resemble the local practice of renting houses during furniture market.

Rules for these rental services vary from company to company. Every location, moreover, has zoning rules that can affect how property is used. Greensboro is beginning to look into our current rules and how they interact with the new phenomenon of short-term rental. As part of the process, they seek input from the community, as does your Greensboro Neighborhood Congress.

The city currently regulates these short-term rentals as "Tourist Homes," and these regulations are applied to bed and breakfasts and similar short term places. A tourist home is defined as a dwelling in which lodging (with or without meals) is provided for overnight guests for a fee. A tourist home must be located within single-family residential zoning, and the owner is required to obtain a Special Use Permit from the City. The minimum fee is \$1,140, and the process for obtaining that permit is similar to a rezoning request and requires, among other things, notice to neighbors within 600 feet of the property and a public hearing before the Zoning Commission.

If the special use permit is granted, additional limitations exist for the operation of a tourist home.

- 1. The home may not be located within 400 feet of a rooming house or another tourist home.
- 2. No more than six guest rooms are allowed.
- 3. The owner or operator of the tourist home must reside on site.
- 4. Tourist homes are allowed only in buildings originally constructed as dwellings.
- 5. Only one kitchen facility is allowed. Meals may be provided only for guests and employees of the tourist home. Rooms may not be equipped with cooking facilities.
- 6. Patrons may not stay in a specific tourist home more than 15 days within a 60-day period.
- 7. Sign regulations applicable to home occupations must be used for the tourist home.

There do not appear to be other regulations, safety, fee, or permits regarding these homes, other than any tax regulations that may apply. Yet many Airbnb rentals are already active but do not comply with these zoning requirements. This is why the City wants to hear from you about whether or not these requirements should be applied to or modified for short-time rentals; whether the city should develop a new category of requirements or change any of the current requirements, or any other thoughts you have about Airbnbs. Contact Mr. Mike Kirkman, Zoning Administrator at 336-373-4649, or via regular mail. Greensboro Neighborhood Congress

I would also like your input, and you may contact Sunset Hill's representatives, Gerry Alfano at 336-707-5406, or me at 336-339-2788.

In the meantime, if you have complaints about tourist homes or an Airbnb (similar companies) you may call the Code Compliance Office at 336-373-2111, or the City's Contact Center at 336-373-CITY (2489), or send a letter addressed to:

City of Greensboro Code Compliance Office 300 W. Washington St. Greensboro, NC 27401

Or via the email form at <a href="https://www.greensboro-nc.gov/departments/neighborhood-development/learn-more-about/code-enforcement-overview">https://www.greensboro-nc.gov/departments/neighborhood-development/learn-more-about/code-enforcement-overview</a>.







Reflecting on 2018 and preparing for 2019, we are blessed beyond measure to come together as a community to support the Second Harvest Food Bank once again.

Daniel McCoy & Susan Gentry - Residents of Sunset Hills



#### Daniel McCoy (336) 255-0445

Branch Manager • NMLS ID# 485895 daniel.mccoy@mvbmortgage.com

#### Danny McCoy (336) 210-1343

Senior Loan Officer • NMLS ID# 485898 danny.mccoy@mvbmortgage.com

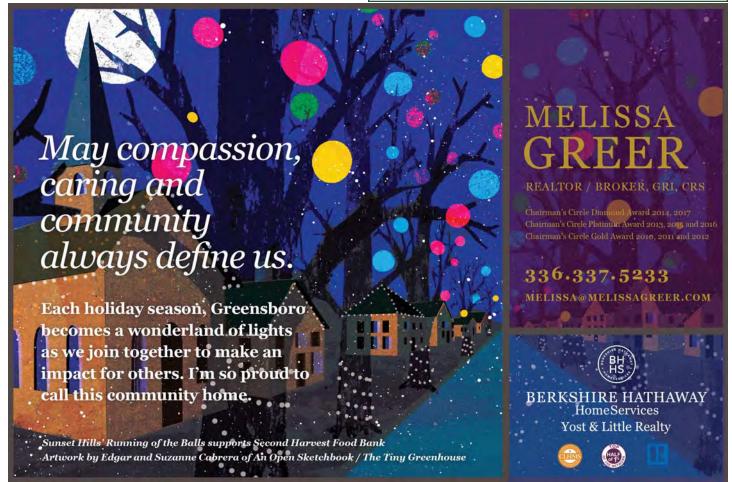
#### Eric Gillespie (336) 580-7350

Loan Officer • NMLS ID# 1325664 egillespie@mvbmortgage.com









#### **Preventative Home Renovations**

By Leslie Stainback

From full-scale room remodels to lighting fixture upgrades – maintaining your home is no small task. It requires an investment of time and money. Thankfully, though, even if you don't have the budget or time to take on a major renovation right away, you can make some headway by consolidating and tackling those preventative projects on your list – including those seemingly minor jobs and regular maintenance tasks that help you avoid major issues down the line.

#### **Moisture Management**

One critical component of preventative maintenance is keeping moisture away from your home. Consider enlisting a professional to check your roof for things like leaks, loose shingles and broken tiles. It's also important to have your drainage systems and gutters inspected and cleared as they protect the foundation of your home from water damage.

#### Annual Checkups

There are several projects that professionals recommend checking every year that oftentimes go overlooked ... until a major issue occurs. Avoid the drama by consolidating several tasks into a single maintenance project. (Think: inspecting and servicing HVAC units, fireplaces, etc...)

#### Get 'Smart'

If your home doesn't currently include many 'smart' features, it may be advantageous to invest in them. Maximize your time and money by simultaneously upgrading several home features to smart technology. While there are many options to choose from, focus first on the features that make your home more efficient and secure, like automated light switches and bulbs, smart home sensors and smoke detectors and electronic doorbells and locks.

Large or small – be sure to fully research the renovation and consider at least three bids before you begin. While focusing on preventive upgrades may not seem as significant as a large-scale renovation, tackling these projects now will save you time and money and will add value to your home down the line.





#### **Greensboro Adopts New Rules for Electric Scooters**

The City Council adopted new rules regulating the use of standup electric scooters recently. The new ordinances include rules for how riders should act as well as regulations for scooter-share businesses.

Residents who use standup electric scooters, including rental scooters from businesses like Lime and Bird, should follow these rules:

- Only ride your scooter on city streets with a speed limit of less than 35 miles an hour.
- Follow all traffic laws like other vehicles, such as riding only on the right side of the road, stopping at traffic signals and stop signs, and yielding to pedestrians.
- No riding on sidewalks or in parking decks.
- You may use bike lanes.

benches.

- When parking your scooter, please pay close attention to the area around you. If parking on the sidewalk, leave at least a 6-foot wide clear pathway for pedestrians. Do not block sidewalk dining areas, bus stops, handicapped ramps or parking, driveways, loading zones, bike racks or
- Helmets are strongly encouraged.

Council also created a permit pilot program for businesses that operate a scooter-share program that uses the public right of way. Businesses must obtain a \$500 permit and pay a \$50 fee per scooter. Businesses are responsible for scooters being properly parked and must educate customers about safe operating practices, parking rules and applicable laws. Businesses must also report usage and crash data to the City.





#### Climate Change?

#### By Jo Rainey Tisdale

I know that some people do not believe in climate change. However, with each passing year, I see evidence of it in my yard. When we moved here more than 30 years ago, there was a nice camellia bush growing by the side of the garage. Several years later, we had a very cold snap. The bush was hit hard. I cut back all the dead branches. I even thought it might die. But it didn't. It is now taller than the garage. I cut off the bottom branches so that it looks like a small tree. We have not had that kind of a cold snap since the '80s.

This camellia is covered with lovely red and white blooms every year. At first, more than 30 years ago, it started blooming at the end of January. About 10 or 15 years ago it began blooming earlier - the first of January. I was amazed the first time it bloomed at Christmas. Then it was early December; then, Thanksgiving. Last fall, it bloomed mid-November. As I write this in mid-October, buds are forming. How much earlier can it bloom?

Each year, when we have a cold snap after it has started blooming, most of the buds and blooms freeze. I pick as many of them as I can the day before to enjoy inside. When it warms back up, more form to bloom again. I can see this camellia from my kitchen window. In the middle of winter's cold and dark days, I look forward to seeing it bloom. It used to be a reminder that spring was coming soon. Now it encourages me that spring will come eventually, just not in a month or two.

I have had a similar experience with daffodils blooming much earlier than they used to. In 1986, my earliest daffodils bloomed mid-February. I remember because it was close to when my father died. Now they bloom in January. Last spring, the early, middle and late blooming ones opened closer to each other than they used to, so the sequence was compressed.

Traditionally, peonies bloom Mother's Day weekend, the middle of May. The past two years, mine have bloomed a good month ahead of time. Something is going on. Pollinators and other insects time their arrival to coincide with when the plants they depend on for food and shelter are in bloom. When that expected time changes, it can have an effect on their survival. That, in turn, can affect our food supply since many of our crops depend on being pollinated.

Even if climate change is not your particular concern, I encourage you to check out Draw Down: the most comprehensive plan ever proposed to reverse Climate Change. The book was edited by Paul Hawken. The website is www.drawdown.org. This project is based on scientific research to determine the most effective actions for reducing climate change. These solutions are then ranked by their effectiveness. Drawdown is defined on the site as "that point in time when the concentration of greenhouse gasses in the atmosphere begins to decline on a year-to-year basis."

Solutions already exist to decrease greenhouse gasses. These are actions that many people can take. For instance, number three in effectiveness is to reduce food waste. I encourage you to go to the site and look at the impact reducing food waste can have on climate change. There are connections to many resources for more information. What a surprise that reducing food waste can have such a big positive impact! Climate change affects us all and is already here. There is much that we as individuals can do to help slow it.

This October, for the first time, I had my air conditioning on. Shortly after that, it was so cold for so long that I turned on the heat. What happened to the nice four to six weeks we used to have between the air conditioning and heating seasons? We called it fall. It was a time when no air conditioning or heating was needed and you could even leave the windows open. I miss it.

It is late November now. The large camellia by the garage has fat buds, but so far no blooms. However, the white azalea nearby has been blooming sporadically for the past three weeks. It is not covered the way it usually is in the spring, but it is definitely blooming. My neighbor also has two azaleas that have been blooming for the past several weeks. What signs of climate change do you see in your yard?



#### Sunset Hills Neighborhood Association Meeting - First Christian Church November 12, 2018 at 6:30 PM

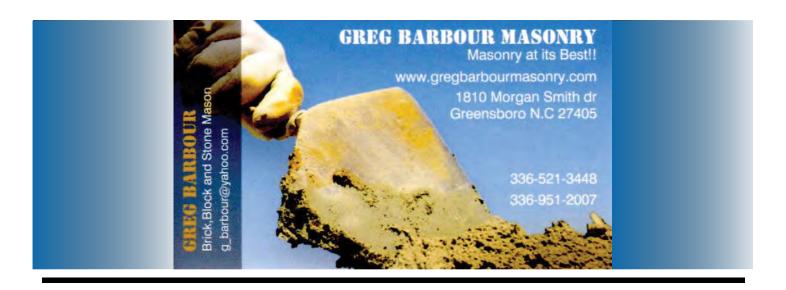
- 1. New President Scott Michaels opened the meeting and current Board members in attendance stood up so we could see them.
- 2. Rev. Lee Hull Moses welcomed us to the church and expressed appreciation for the on-going working relationship between the church and the neighborhood.
- 3. Lighted Christmas Ball making workshop: the organizers need more feedback and RSVPs to help in the planning process. Please RSVP, attending or not, and remind your neighbors to do so as well. The date of the workshop is this Sunday, Nov. 18, from 2:00-6:00 PM at Madison & Ridgeway.
- 4. Nick Loflin, from Running of the Balls, introduced himself and spoke about this year's race, December 15. Registration filled quickly (capped at 4,000 participants) for people outside the neighborhood. Registration will close Dec. 1 for Sunset Hills residents. This is a rain or shine event. There are plans for 8 bands to be along the course and they are hoping to raise \$60,000-\$70,000 for Second Harvest Food (already in good shape with the sponsorships). He is open to suggestions on what to do and what to change to make this a fun and pleasant experience for residents.
- 5. Judson Clinton, City of Greensboro Arborist, spoke a bit about tree care, responsibilities of the homeowner, and responsibilities of the city regarding trees. He answered questions from the audience. He recommended checking for a qualified arborist on the sites of two arbor societies: International Society of Arbor-culture and the Tree Care Independent Arborist Association (TICA.org). It is best to be watching your trees seasonally for changes, damage, etc., rather than wait for a storm to come through.
- 6. Lauren Davidson, Social Committee representative, presented current happenings. She is currently revamping the New Neighbor Welcome Packet. The Sunset Hills Halloween Party was a great success. There will be an Easter Egg hunt in the spring and volunteers are needed!! Contact Cindy Ramsey to get involved with the egg hunt. Sunset Hills is now on Instagram (SunsetHillsGSO) please check it out & participate
- 7. Gerry Alfano, Board member, updated us on the traffic control situation. There will be no stoplight at Greenway & Friendly, not enough traffic to warrant that, according to the traffic study performed by the city. There will be one permanent flashing yellow light at Friendly and Greenway. The city has removed the digital speed signs facing west on Friendly and north on N. Elam. Those two signs belonged to the police dept. and needed to be recharged. We are trying to get those signs replaced permanently, because they do help slow down traffic. We are also trying to get two of the digital speed signs re-installed at S. Elam and Camden.

Gerry talked about the Greensboro Neighborhood Congress, which meets monthly, all are welcome to attend. Currently, the GNC is supporting the adoption of a program called Cure Violence, a public health approach to violence to the city. It has been successful in reducing violence in other cities.

Gerry also spoke about the rules for Airbnb rentals in the city. Currently, the owner must live at the same property as the rental rooms/property. The city is looking at designing more rules for this type of rental.

- 8. Elaine Brune, Sunset Hills treasurer, gave a brief update on finances. 321 (of 840 total) homes have paid the \$10 dues. That is 40 fewer than last year. There will be a box at the Lighted Christmas Ball workshop and an envelope in an upcoming newsletter.
- 9. Scott Michaels noted that there are several Board positions open at this time, namely, Vice President and Secretary. We are also looking for a Community Advisory Committee member to attend monthly police meetings (along with Mary Schwarz).
- 10. Meeting was adjourned.

Sunset Hills



## Don't forget to check out www.SunstHillsNeighborhood.com for the full color version of the Sunset Hills Newsletter



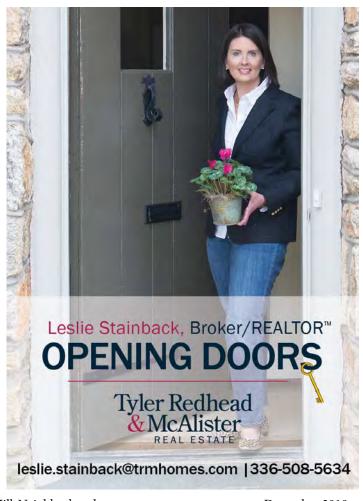
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#### **Almost Perfect Oatmeal Muffins**

1 c. old fashioned oats soaked in 1 c. milk for 15 minutes or so

Sift into mixing bowl, ½ c. all purpose flour with 2 t. baking powder

Add ½ c. white whole wheat or other whole grain flour and whisk.

Whisk 2 eggs and ¼ c. liquid oil or butter that is melted with 1.4 c. brown sugar and 2 T. molasses (about that since I just pour and eye measure).

Add the wet to the dry and mix just to get all dry incorporated.

Pour into 12 units greased muffin tin

Bake 375 convection or 400 regular oven for 20 minutes.

Let cool slightly then run a plastic knife or utensil around each muffin and dump out. I actually place muffins face down a short time and then use the knife.

- I don't use paper because half the muffin is in the paper.
- The extra egg is what makes these good, I think. I modified this recipe from two others.
- I think that soaked in the milk or warm water raisins would be a good addition.
- If I had sour milk, I would adjust the baking powder and use some soda.

#### The Best and Easiest Brown Rice You'll Ever Make

#### **INGREDIENTS**

1 cup of uncooked rice 1 can of beef consomme soup 1 stick of butter 1/2 cup of chopped onions

1 can of beef broth 1 small jar of sliced mushrooms

#### **INSTRUCTIONS**

Saute chopped onions in a little butter. Spread the uncooked rice over onions in a baking dish. Add mushrooms. Add the broth and consomme. Stir. Add stick of butter. Cook in oven at 375° for 1 hour, 15 mins until the rice is tender. Stir midway through cooking.

Cathy M. Jordan - 336-312-3919

(continued on Page 13)

#### Stuffed Delicata Squash (vegan; mywholefoodlife.com)

#### By Mary Schwarz

This stuffed squash is so good – I make double the filling to have leftovers. I use it as a side dish for my family and sometimes a main course for myself.

#### **Ingredients:**

1 delicata squash (other gourd-type squashes will do)

½ cup quinoa

1 ½ cups vegetable broth

6-7 mushrooms, diced (optional)

1/4 cup onion, diced

1 – 2 garlic cloves, minced

2 Tbs olive oil

2 Tbs balsamic vinegar

½ cup slivered almonds (or chopped whole almonds)

salt to taste

#### **Directions:**

- Preheat oven to 400°
- Cut squash lengthwise & remove seeds
- Brush with olive oil and sprinkle with salt
- Roast the squash face down for about 20-30 minutes. It's done when you can easily push a fork through the flesh
- In a small saucepan, bring quinoa and broth to a boil. After it's boiling, turn down the heat, cover, and simmer until liquid is absorbed (usually approx. 10 minutes).
- In a large saucepan, sauté mushrooms, onion, garlic, and oil until they soften
- Add cooked quinoa, almonds, and balsamic vinegar to mushroom/onion mixture and sauté for another 5 minutes. Keep covered and set aside.
- When squash is done roasting, spoon the mushroom/quinoa mixture into the squash and serve immediately. Approximately 2-3 servings.

  (Continued on page 14)





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#### Cinnamon Banana Crêpes

#### By Mary Schwarz

We make these for breakfast on special occasions, such as Christmas or New Year's day. They are easy to make, but a bit labor intensive, so can be made easier by making the crêpes and keeping them warm under a hot towel until you have enough prepared to serve everyone.

#### Crêpes:

1 cup all purpose flour

1/4 cup confectioners' sugar

1 cup milk

2 eggs

3 Tbs butter, melted

1 tsp vanilla

1/4 tsp salt

#### Filling:

½ cup butter

1/4 cup packed brown sugar

1/4 tsp cinnamon

1/4 tsp nutmeg

1/4 cup light cream

5 – 6 firm bananas, halved lengthwise

whipped cream & additional cinnamon, optional

#### **Instructions:**

- 1. Sift flour and confectioners' sugar into mixing bowl. Add milk, eggs, butter, vanilla, and salt; beat until smooth.
- 2. Heat a lightly greased 6-inch skillet; add about 3 Tbs batter to coat the bottom of the skillet. Cook until lightly browned then flip to the other side.
- 3. Remove to a wire rack and repeat with remaining batter, greasing skillet as needed. Makes about 10-12 crêpes. (I usually wrap them in a towel on the rack to keep them warm.)
- 4. For filling, melt butter in a large skillet. Stir in brown sugar, cinnamon, and nutmeg. Mix well. Stir in the cream until slightly thickened.
- 5. Add half of the bananas at a time to the skillet; heat for 2 3 minutes, spooning the sauce over them.
- 6. Remove bananas from heat and roll each in a crêpe. Spoon sauce over the top of each and add whipped cream and sprinkle with cinnamon if desired. Makes 5-6 servings.
- 7. For additional variety, strawberries, blueberries, Nutella, peanut butter, powdered sugar, lemon curd, etc., can be available so people can choose their fillings.

(continued on page 15)

#### Peppermint Bark

(continued from page 14)

#### By Lauren Davidson

- 1 t. butter
- 3 (11.5 oz) packages of chocolate morsels
- 12 cream and mint filled chocolate sandwich cookies, broken into pieces
- 1 c. small pretzel sticks
- 1 ¼ c. coarsely chopped and soft peppermint candies, divided

#### How to make it

#### Step 1

Line a jelly-roll pan with parchment paper; grease with butter. Microwave milk chocolate morsels in a large bowl at HIGH 1 to 2 minutes until melted and smooth, stirring at 45 second intervals. Gently stir in cookie pieces, pretzel sticks, and ¾ c. coarsely chopped candies. Spread in prepared pan. Let stand until firm about 6 hours). Break or cut into pieces. Store in cool place up to 3 days.

#### Step 2

Note: we tested with Oreo Double Delight Mint 'N Cream Cookies. Do not freeze bark as freezing with cause a powdery white coating called bloom.

#### At the Annual Lighted Christmas Ball Party







### WELLNESS WEDNESDAYS

Now University Animal Hospital is offering Wellness Wednesdays. Schedule your pet for a wellness visit either by appointment or using our convenient drop off service and receive a 10% discount off of their nose-to-tail annual exam, vaccines, age appropriate blood work and internal parasite check. Early disease detection and vaccinations against infectious diseases will keep your furry loved one healthy.

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BRITTANY SEMONES, D.D.S.

MARK WILKINSON, D.D.S.







#### YOU CAN DO IT. YES, YOU.

Everyone is busy, but all or most of you reading this live in Sunset Hills.

The Sunset Hills Neighborhood Association ((SHNA) needs you to come forth and take a leadership role.

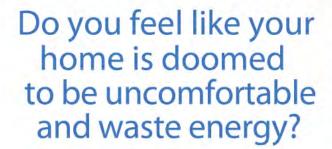
SHNA needs you to serve as vice-president or co-president. As vice-president your duties would be to conduct business in the absence of the president and act as special assistant to the president. As co-president you would preside at meetings, develop agendas and assign areas of responsibility to board members after consultation.

As secretary you would take minutes at board meetings and meetings of the association. That is at most six meetings per year.

In addition we need another person to serve on the Community Advisory Committee member to attend monthly police meetings with Mary Schwartz.

Please send an email about your desire to serve to

Scott Michaels: scottmichaels100@gmail.com.



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Gary Silverstein & Paul Swenson info@ersofnc.com



#### Trees

Judson Clinton was the speaker at our November neighborhood meeting. He spoke about the trees in our neighborhood and in general. He left us with notes which we are sharing here with some editing for readability - Some basics about understanding trees, their growth, problems and care (a more complete version will be posted on the internet.)

#### **COMPETITION**

- Competition for light, water and the same basic nutrients
- Maintenance needs for one can be detrimental to the other.
- Much of the competition takes place below ground.
- Although some tree roots can be found well below the surface, the fine roots that absorb water and minerals are generally in the upper 6 inches of soil
- Competition for moisture can lead to stress in trees and turf.
- Stressed plants are predisposed to other pests and diseases.

#### **FERTILIZATION**

- An inaccurate belief is that trees must be "deep—root" fertilized.
- Mulch leaves with mower instead of hauling them away Fallen leaves will be broken down by fungi, insects and other beneficial organisms. These macronutrients improve your soil and it will help it drain better.
- Soil that is enriched by the slow decay of leaves over time becomes lighter in texture and easier for roots to penetrate.

#### **IRRIGATION**

- Too much irrigation, or irrigation at the wrong time, can be stressful and cause the eventual death of a tree. Irrigation without proper drainage is a problem.
- Frequent, shallow watering can encourage surface root formation.
- Excess irrigation of trees creates favorable conditions for nutrient deficiency, decline in the canopy, poor growth, or a host of other symptoms.

#### PRUNING (to increase light penetration)

- Less is More
- Excessive Crown Raising, Topping, & Removal of All Interior Limbs should be avoided
- · Raising the crown too much may increase the likelihood of wind throw

#### ROOT PRUNING AND PROACTIVE DESIGN

- Root barriers are installed vertically in the ground to prevent root penetration and redirect root growth. Practical for newly planted trees and juvenile to intermediate.
- Most juvenile to intermediate, vigorous, healthy trees can tolerate the one-time loss of 25 percent of the root system.
- Older trees do not tolerate this treatment.
- If roots must be pruned, avoid doing so during periods of active shoot growth or stressful periods.
- If major support roots are severed, the tree may be at an increased risk of blowing over.

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### RECENT SUNSET HILLS HOME SALES:

| Address           | Beds | Baths | List \$   | Sale \$   | Sale Date  | DOM | Sq.Ft. |
|-------------------|------|-------|-----------|-----------|------------|-----|--------|
| 2103 Rolling Rd   | 4    | 2.5   | \$319,900 | \$318,000 | 8/13/2018  | 21  | 1,874  |
| 421 W Radiance Dr | 3    | 2.5   | \$275,000 | \$278,000 | 8/23/2018  | 3   | 2,070  |
| 1820 Madison Ave  | 4    | 3     | \$475,000 | \$420,000 | 9/12/2018  | 18  | 2,700  |
| 103 Ridgeway Dr   | 3    | 2.5   | \$425,000 | \$425,000 | 9/27/2018  | 1   | 2,135  |
| 308 N Chapman St  | 4    | 2.5   | \$398,900 | \$405,000 | 10/11/2018 | 6   | 2,825  |
| 1905 Walker Ave   | 3    | 1     | \$199,900 | \$199,900 | 10/22/2018 | 12  | 1,410  |
| 2511 Sylvan Rd    | 4    | 2     | \$389,000 | \$390,000 | 10/31/2018 | 2   | 2,354  |
| 225 S Tremont Dr  | 4    | 3     | \$535,000 | \$539,378 | 11/01/2018 | 0   | 2,770  |
| 405 W Radiance Dr | 4    | 2.5   | \$260,000 | \$260,000 | 11/19/2018 | 6   | 2,318  |



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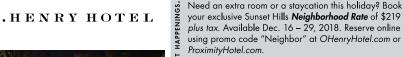
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(H) O.HENRY HOTEL







#### **DECEMBER HAPPENINGS**

Here are a few things to do at our places.

- O.Henry Tea & Nutcracker Tea: A family tradition! • O.Henry Live Jazz & Package: See the schedule and learn more at OHenryHotel.com.

  - Songs from a Southern Kitchen: See the schedule and learn more at Lucky32.com
  - New Year's Eve Packages & Events: See all the festivities at ProximityHotel.com.
- Winter Menus: We're featuring favorites from the farm: beets, mushrooms, kale and more...oh my!



#### December 2018 Treasurer Report - Membership List By Elaine Brune

#### The Envelope Please! 2019 Dues Accepted

Enclosed with this newsletter you will find an envelope addressed to the treasurer, Elaine Brune, for 2019 dues and contributions.

Dues are \$10. Any amount over the dues is a welcome donation. These funds go to fund activities, projects, and newsletters within the neighborhood. Our most recent event was the Halloween Party in the park and Neighborhood Night Out.

Please send dues to me in the envelope enclosed or drop it off at my house. There will be a small red British Post Box on our porch table if you care to drop it off. Also, we accept PayPal through our website: http://www.sunsethillsneighborhood.org/contact.html.

#### 2018 Members (Bold & \* indicates contribution as well as dues paid)

David & Stephanie Adams Lonnie & Susan Albright

Ellen Ammirato

Jennifer Jones & Jon Anderson Will & Kristine Andrews Bob & Betty Arms Robert & Patricia Arnett Spencer & Susan Andrews Karen Hill & Don Atkinson Lennie Averna & Mark Albers\*

Diane Aycock Kym Bain

Lee & Denise Baker Brian & Audrey Baldwin

Elaine Brune & Roger Bardsley\*

Vance & June Barron\*

Beverley Gass & Anthony Bartholomew

Bryan & Annetta Bartle Carl & Linda Bass Dezree Bass\*

Mariche & Holli Bayonas

Sarah Beale

Andrew & Christine Belford **John & Charlotte Bernard\*** Reto & Emmy Biaggi John & Mary Ellen Boelhower

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I as A see Describer see

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Ann Loftis & Stephanie Edwards

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Kathi Ellis\*

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