

### Sunset Hills May 2016 Greensboro, North Carolina

#### Annual Neighborhood Events

January February March Neighborhood Meeting Easter Egg Hunt April Great American Clean-up Mav Annual Pig Picking June Iulv July 4th Parade and Picnic August National Night Out September **Big Sweep Event** October Halloween Party in the Park November December Lighted Christmas Balls Food Drive, Running of the Balls

#### "How Old Is That?" ByTroy Hopkins

I often think that the simple question "how old is that" is a universal one. It's not a question confined to a specific culture. But rather, it is born out of something common to all. It's a question everyone will wonder about, ask, and seek answers to at some point in life. Whether it's about an old car, the town you grew up in, your house, or even something as mundane as date of an old coin you unexpectedly find, you will ask "How old is that?" We look for reflections of who we are when we look at the past. You see, I think we're all fellow historians. We rally around a great story. And each of us has one to tell.

An early designer of houses in Sunset Hills has his own story. Colonial Revival and Tudor homes built in the 1920's were designed and architected by a man who would later serve as senior architect at the White House, a post he would serve for twenty years. Architect Lorenzo S. Winslow designed most of the homes in Sunset Hills that were built between 1924 and 1930. He was a graduate of MIT where he studied engineering and architecture. During World War

(continued on page 18)

#### Sunset Hills Neighborhood Association **Board of Directors**

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**Environmental Affairs - OPEN** 

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#### Listserv coordinator

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**Troy Hopkins** 

troy.hopkins@lfg.com

#### Newsletter Team

Elaine Brune and Roger Bardsley	bardsley-brune@triad.rr.com 378-1990
Carlee Dempsey	
1 5	dempseyc18@gmail.com
Carl Phillips Carole Potter	cwpjr5524@aol.com
	cllindse@gmail.com
Marlene Pratto	mrpsunset@gmail.com
Robin Timmins	timmins203@gmail.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. The *information* tab contains a list of tradespeople recommended by neighbors. 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

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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 2016 dues to submit a nonemergency 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.

#### Rates for 2016 Newsletter Advertising

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

This wonderful neighborhood comes together every holiday season to create beauty through our lighted balls. Even more importantly, Sunset

Hills is a major player in raising money for Guilford County's food banks through *The Running of the Balls* and donations, and through food collection trailers throughout Sunset Hills. The totals for this past December were almost \$58,000 and over 20,000 pounds of food, enough to provide over 300,000 meals to those in need.

Be sure to see the flyer on page 19 about the Second Harvest Food Bank and all they do to fight hunger.



**Cone Health** – Volunteers are always needed within the many facilities within Greensboro. Whether you are volunteering in one of our great gift shops or assisting patients and families, you will find health care volunteer work incredibly rewarding. Please take 30 minutes of your valuable time to attend an information session and learn all about our fantastic volunteer programs. The information sessions are held at Moses Cone Hospital on the 1st Wednesday of every month at Noon and the 3rd Wednesday of every month at 5:30pm.



## Help for Today, Hope for Tomorrow

By Kathleen Martinek

Ten days before our annual Team Hope Walk for Huntington's Disease, only 30 walkers had registered and we'd raised just \$1000. Not a good sign, we thought, since last year we topped 200 walkers. With optimism we ordered 125 tee-shirts and nervously assured ourselves that we could pull this one off again. As the grass-roots NC chapter of the Huntington's Disease Society of America we often call on our sense of humor and team spirit to empower us.

And so it happened. We cranked up the publicity, the outreach, the appeal to neighbors and local businesses. And they came through!

On that cold, drizzly Saturday April 30 at Bailey Park in Winston-Salem we had almost 200



participants and tallied up almost \$14,000. We had a free lunch of bbq and slaw, KISS FM, balloons, huge families and lots of energy.



Now it may be the same scenario with every fundraiser for every organization-it starts out slowly, inches forward after a period of 'nothing happening', and then numbers build at the end, eventually leading to loud cheers over the final results.

But I am using this analogy to show how it reflects the dynamics of HD itself. Once people find out the lifechanging news that they are gene positive for HD they

often isolate themselves. This "devil of all diseases," medical as professionals call it, is а

directly hereditary brain disorder. Each child of a parent with the defective Huntington gene has a 50% chance of inheriting the disease. What starts out as small missteps and a flare-up end up taking a person's ability to feel, think and move. Eventually, they become totally dependent. There is no treatment or cure.

Sometimes people with HD may not even talk with family. One or more of their siblings may have the defective gene also. They may not know which parent was affected because (s)he died before clear symptoms appeared...or their aunt or uncle kept it hidden. And since there is no cure or effective treatment, there is often no incentive to have the predictive, (continued on page 5)



### Rules for posting on the Sunset Hills email listserv:

Please remember this service was started so that neighbors can more easily help each other. This is not the place for posting opinions or "me, too" messages. The moderator team appreciates your understanding and use of these rules.

1.Only neighbors who have paid their \$10.00 association dues are allowed to post non-emergency emails. Send checks to Elaine Brune, 2504 Sylvan Rd, 27403. Check your status by sending email to sunsethillsgsonc@gmail.com.

2.If you wish to agree or disagree with a posting, please contact the individual who sent the email. This can be done by clicking on the "reply to sender" link at the bottom of each post.

3. The listserv cannot be used to vent anger or call names.

4.Un-solicited business recommendations are not permitted. Neighbors may request recommendations and then it is okay to respond.

5. You should personally introduce yourself to immediate neighbors, not post on the listserv.

6.State facts when using the listserv. Opinions should be kept to a minimum, or not expressed at all.

7.NO EMAIL FORWARDING is allowed unless it's official city or government related business.

8. Events happening in Sunset Hills can be posted; events happening outside the neighborhood cannot unless a member of the listserv asks a question.

#### (continued from page 4)

and expensive, blood test. This is what I experienced in my own family, too.

But when people open themselves up to the resources through education and awareness programs, publicity, and support groups, they experience the healing effects of community and family support. Their symptoms actually improve and stress is relieved because they are not alone. Although they've lost their jobs, the long, 2-year wait for Medicare approval is diminished and they can pay their bills. There are others who understand what they're going through. They are empowered, just as we were for the Walk.

The optimism, the guts, the faith and the creative spirit that surround HD families is real. We are small, but the North Carolina Chapter of the Huntington's Disease Society of America (northcarolina.hdsa.org) and HD Reach in Raleigh (www.hdreach.org) are on a mission to support and bring hope to all those affected by one of life's most challenging illnesses.



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# Melissa Greer, GRI, CRS

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#### Upcoming Fall 2016 Friends of the UNCG Libraries Events

Visit the Friends of the UNCG Libraries blog at uncgfol.blogspot.com for more information or call 336-334-5880,

September 9-12: Author and Storyteller Joe Bruchac will appear under University Libraries sponsorship at the Bookmarks Festival in Winston-Salem on Saturday, September 10, and the National Folk Festival in Greensboro on Sunday, September 11, and will make appearances for elementary age children at selected locations in Winston-Salem on Friday, September 9 and on Monday, September 12 at UNC Greensboro. See http://www.bookmarksnc.org/ and https://nationalfolktestival.com for details.

Monday, September 19: Friends of the UNCG Libraries Book Discussion - Red Brick, Black Mountain, White Clay: Reflections on Art, Family, and Survival by Christopher Benfey, led by Dr. Emily Stamey of the Weatherspoon Art Museum in conjunction with the 75th anniversary of the Weatherspoon.

4 p.m. Hodges Reading Room, Jackson Library 2nd floor, UNCG.

Monday, October 10: Friends of the UNCG Libraries Book Discussion - Looking for Palestine, by Najla Said, led by Dr. Jeff Jones of the History Department.

7 p.m. Hodges Reading Room, Jackson Library 2nd floor.

Saturday, November 12: Women Veterans Luncheon (fee), exhibit and program featuring a discussion of the issues surrounding the deployment of women in combat roles and assignments.

11:30 exhibit, Noon-2:00 p.m. lunch and program. Cone Ballroom, Elliott University Center, UNCG. For information call 336-334-5838.



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#### News from Lindley Elementary by Becky Deakins

At Lindley, we are wrapping up another fun school year. We just had a festive Spring Carnival and are busy registering little ones for Kindergarten. There is still time for a tour for any neighbors with rising Kindergarteners. Just call the school anytime (336-294-7360).

And even though our year is wrapping up, there are always volunteer opportunities at Lindley. Here are a few to keep in mind:

- **Test Proctors!** End of Grade tests will be given to 3rd, 4th & 5th grade classes on June 1st and 2nd. Proctors are desperately needed. Many of you know how stretched our schools are for assistants, so these extra hands on deck during testing keeps the assistants from being pulled out of the other classrooms to help. No experience or training is necessary. Email our curriculum facilitator, Kim Adame at adamek@gcsnc.com if you can help.

- Garden Volunteers! Families take turns during the summer to help weed, water and harvest our community garden. It's a fun and rewarding way to help out while also checking out what the kids are learning in their lessons in the garden. Also - be sure to look out for our produce on sale at the Corner Market! Please email Palmer McIntyre at mcintyrepalmer@gmail.com if you'd like to take a shift in the Lindley garden this summer.

- Library Books! Our librarian tries to send home summer reading books for all Lindley students. If you've got extra books for our library or take-home readers, please donate to the Lindley Media Center. Keep in mind that Lindley is a Title 1 school with many families in need, so these books are treasures for kids who need them. Contact our librarian, Robin Hardy, at hardyr@gcsnc.com if you have books to donate.



### Greensboro Participatory Budgeting Process District 4 – Voting Results

#### Funded Projects (all of the projects are in the Sunset Hills and Lindley Park neighborhoods):

#### Greensboro Arboretum

• Three bridges at the Greensboro Arboretum are rotting and need repairs. *Safety and Environment* 

#### Spring Garden & Howard Pedestrian Crosswalk

- This project consists of providing a safer path for pedestrians at the busy restaurant-retail hub, which includes Hops, Scrambles, Fat Dogs and Barbaritos.
- Create a high visibility, handicap accessible pedestrian crosswalk with improved lighting at each of the four junctions of the intersections.

Streets Sidewalks & Transportation

#### Walker Avenue Bridge Railing

• Make Walker Avenue bridge safer for pedestrians crossing Wendover by replacing the bridge railing with a taller and more aesthetically pleasing design.

Streets Sidewalks & Transportation

#### **Bus Tracking Mobile Application**

• A system that will enable city buses to transmit their GPS locations to the cloud. PASSED in All Five Districts *Special projects* 

#### Walker Avenue Painted Walkway

• The Walker Avenue Bridge is a major traffic connector that warrants a clearly demarcated pedestrian walkway, which would make the bridge feel safer to users *Streets Sidewalks & Transportation* 

#### Crosswalk Elam & Camden

• This project would entail adding a stop sign and crosswalk to Camden Road and South Elam Avenue. *Safety and Environment* 

Please contact me if you have any thoughts or questions Bradley Davis-Rogozinski, Safety and Environment Volunteer Facilitator, bradleyjd1@icloud.com

All of the projects were presented to the city council by City Manager Jim Westmoreland for inclusion in the FY2016-17 budget. The public hearing on the budget is May 17 and the city council is scheduled to vote on the budget June 7. The actual completion of the projects will depend on the complexity of the project, the interrelatedness with other planned community projects and whether the project will require a request for bids.



This primary is to select candidates to run in each of the US House districts in North Carolina.

Early voting will be available. Watch the Board of Election website for information.

#### What are they doing now?

Neighbors mentioned that they would like to read stories about what children who grew up in the neighborhood are doing now. One is Rene Lawrence and she wrote a story for this issue. Please consider writing a story or stories of what your child, children, or a neighbor's child are doing now. This is one of those things you can do at any time and submit it. We will hold it until the next issue. Photos are a great accompaniment, but are not required. Send to mrpsunset@gmail.com.



9



# Sandy Gets Her Bounce Back

Sandy is a one year old Dane mix who was diagnosed with Immune Mediated Polyarthritis. She was chronically lame due to painful distention of her wrists and ankles. A life of steroids and pain medication was not a good option for this boisterous youngster. In January of 2016, Sandy received Stem Cell injections in her affected joints and intravenously. Within four weeks of her treatment, Sandy's joints were normal and pain free. She is off all of her medications. With stem cells cryobanked for any future treatments, Sandy is all smiles again.

# University Animal Hospital



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ENERGY STAR

#### Where is she now?

By Rene Lawrence

One of the nice things about living in the same neighborhood for 30 years is watching the neighborhood kids grow up. As they grow up and move out, I sometimes wonder where are they now?

Cassandra Liuzzo, one of our Sunset Hills kids, is the owner of Shelf Life Art and Supply in the Historic Lawndale Shopping Center. Cassandra grew up on Elam Ave and her Mom and Dad still live there. She graduated from Grimsley High School and went on to earn a BS in Art Education from Appalachian State University. After student teaching she decided that working in the public school system was not the best fit for her. But sharing her knowledge was in her blood. The idea for Shelf Life grew of her desire for a way to exchange art supplies she no longer needed.



#### £



Cassandra started small in a windowless basement storage room under the Geeksboro Coffeehouse. Quickly out-growing that space, she moved to a storefront at 2178 Lawndale Drive, just down the way from the new Hops. With more space, and yes, a window, she is able to offer an even broader selection of supplies. Everything from high-end brands such as Strathmore paper and Gamblin paints to sets of pre-owned color pencils. By far my favorite part of the store is the selection of non-traditional art supplies: corks, bottle caps, cardboard tubes, bits of wire and even odds-and-ends of metal, all just asking to be turned into something beautiful. In the back corner of the store, you will discover a selection of North Carolinamade frame moldings. Cassandra is serious about environmental sustainability; she sources local when possible, stocks brands that are committed to healthy environmental practices and offers a place to recycle those forgotten art/craft supplies. She accepts donations of all types of art supplies or items that can be re-purposed. Donate and receive store credit.

With more space come new adventures. In the past 4 months Shelf Life started offering classes. Once again Cassandra is coloring outside the lines. Along with standard classes such as drawing and jewelry making, you can also learn to play the Banjo or Mandolin or do a little Tai Chi. There is an 8 week Making Comics Class and a variety of Mini Summer Art Camps for the kids. For a complete schedule of classes go to the web site http://www.shelflifeart.com/ and sign up for the newsletter to receive updates. Cassandra has hosted several community art projects such a knit-in for the Knit the Bridge – Lindley Park project, last year. Coming in June, Shelf Life will host the FRIENDGE project a free collaborative art event with artist Andrea Vail.

Hard to believe that Shelf Life is only 2 years old because it already it has the feel of a Greensboro intuition. I asked Cassandra, what's next?



In November, Cassandra hopes to have her first Shelf Life Salon, featuring local artists displaying in the salon style. Long term plans are to grow Shelf Life in response to the changing needs of the art community. It looks to me as if Cassandra and Shelf Life will be here to watch the next group of neighborhood kids grow up.



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### Come Play With Us!

If you've been by the corner of Overlook and Market lately, you may have noticed that First Christian Church has a new playground. Our previous equipment - which was built as an Eagle Scout project in 1999 - had been well loved and well used, and it was time for something new. A crew of volunteers dismantled the old playground back in February to make way for the new set, which has swings for babies and big kids, a climbing wall, two big-kid slides, and a smaller climber and slide for little ones.

Our kids gave it a test run during our Sunday evening program



for children and youth, and judging by their squeals of d e l i g h t,



we think they approve. We are happy for families in the neighborhood to make use of the playground; all are welcome.

Visit us on the playground anytime, or join us for worship at 10:00 Sunday mornings. Learn more about First Christian atfccgreensboro.org or find us on Facebook.

Thanks for being good neighbors!

# First Moravian Church

304 South Elam Avenue Greensboro, North Carolina 27403 www.greensboromoravian.org 336-272-2196



Kids, come and enjoy the bounce hou Join us for great fellowship on the church lawn. Sponsored by the Men's Fellowship



#### **CONFESSSIONS OF A LITTER HATER**

#### By Gerry Alfano

If I had a dollar for every piece of litter that I have picked up over the last 50 years, I would be spending my retirement in a Tuscan villa. The sight of litter sets my teeth on edge. I can't resist picking it up and disposing of it properly. I do a lot of walking, so I have many opportunities to pick up litter. I have noticed in the more than 28 years that I have been walking in Sunset Hills that, in general, there is less litter in our neighborhood. I believe it is due to an increased awareness of the damage that litter does. Fewer people seem to be littering and more residents are picking up litter in the neighborhood. I may not be spending my retirement in luxury, but I do have the satisfaction of knowing that I have contributed to the health and beauty of our community.

Why is it important to avoid littering and to pick it up when you see it? Studies show that people are less likely to litter in clean areas than in areas that already are littered. It's as if the presence of litter gives them permission to litter. You are also setting a good example for your children. I found it very distressing that there were many empty candy wrappers all over the neighborhood the morning after Halloween. I believe we should be teaching our children to pick up after themselves and not to expect others to clean up for them. In addition, some forms of litter are a danger to pets as well as to feral animals. I have had my dog go after chicken bones when we were out walking. If you have ever had a dog, you know how dangerous chicken bones can be. We should not be discarding any form of human food for animals to pick up. Some animals will ingest plastic which can be deadly. Recently, I have picked up quite a few latex gloves. Yard workers are using them and are being careless about discarding them.

There seem to be trends in the type of litter that is discarded. When we first moved to Sunset Hills 28 years ago, our driveway on Friendly was littered with cigarette butts. We must have picked up at least a hundred butts per week. Now we have to pick up very few, which is probably the result of the decrease in smoking and the realization that cigarette butts are litter. I have found that there is never a shortage of fast food containers to pick up. Recently, I have been picking up lots of water bottles. Most likely, it's due to the fact that so many of us drink bottled water. Glass bottles and aluminum cans will decompose, but plastic bottles are around forever. If you use bottled water, you may want to reconsider. It will not only help the environment, but it will also save you money. And then there are the News and Record's Clipper Ads. These are delivered, unsolicited, to residents who do not subscribe to the News and Record. They look like newspapers, but they are a bundle of ads. Many of them are never picked up and create additional litter in the neighborhood. I have personally recycled hundreds of these.

I will go on picking up litter as long as I am able to do so. I will continue to believe what I do makes a difference. Many thanks to all the neighbors who are also picking up litter and keeping our neighborhood clean. This is a battle we can win if we each do our part to clean up.





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### Stepping out of the neighborhood... To The Renaissance Community Co-op By Cheryl Hopkins and Mary Louise Smith

We are fortunate to live in one of the friendliest, most desirable neighborhoods in Greensboro. In addition to our great neighborhood events and lovely homes, we have some of the best grocery shopping in Greensboro only a mile or so from home. Maybe that's why some Sunset Hills neighbors have taken an interest in a food desert problem in northeast Greensboro.

We (Cheryl and Mary Louise) got involved because we have friends in northeast Greensboro. We heard from people in the neighborhood about how great a burden it is for folks with low incomes and no cars to ride multiple buses to go grocery shopping with a two-bag limit on groceries. The only alternative is to buy expensive, highly-processed food from convenience stores nearby. This neighborhood, centered on and around Phillips Avenue, is a food desert.

#### Solving the Problem of a Food Desert

After almost two decades of trying and failing to replace a grocery store on Phillips Avenue, the neighbors came up with their own new concept – a food co-op that is a full-service grocery store with an emphasis on selling affordable and conventional healthy foods, unlike most co-ops that emphasize organic foods. They decided to name the new store the Renaissance Community Co-op (RCC). Cheryl and I were excited to support their efforts. We have bought shares, attended monthly community meetings and served on a committee since the co-op began organizing in 2012.

#### How It Took Shape

With the help of the Fund for Democratic Communities (F4DC), a Greensboro-based foundation serving the Southeast that specializes in promoting co-operative businesses, the neighbors have sought volunteers, written by-laws; elected a board of directors, sold owner shares, raised funds and held monthly meetings to involve the owners in building community and learning how they can support the co-op.

After four years of hard work, construction is now underway at the former Bessemer Shopping Center – now the Renaissance Shops at Phillips Ave. The co-op's fundraising is very close to its goal of \$2.48 million, with only \$25,000 to go. The RCC board has hired a project manager who will become the store manager when the store opens in the fall.

#### How You Can Make a Difference

How does this involve all of us in Sunset Hills? The RCC's start-up plan includes recruiting 1,000 owners to buy a \$100 lifetime share by opening date this fall. The project is only 230 owners short of that goal. Other Sunset Hills neighbors have already bought a share, including Melanie and Bo Rodenbough, Larry and Claire Morse, Marlene Pratto, Michael Roberto and wife Sharon Weber, Matilda Kirby-Smith and husband Alex Forsyth and others. We hope you will join us. You may say that you'll never shop there – and that's okay, because buying an owner share is a way of supporting a permanent solution to a food desert in Greensboro. These folks aren't asking for charity – but they would appreciate our investing in their hard work to get access to safe, healthy food.

Buying a share can be our way of saying, "We're with you! We are ONE city – more than a collection of diverse neighborhoods – and we care." We invite you to join us in supporting this life-changing project on Phillips Avenue.

To buy an owner share in the co-op, go to http://renaissancecoop.com/ownership/.

Editor's note: "Stepping out of the Neighborhood" could well be used for several articles in this issue and in others. Neighbors like to read about neighbors and their activities. We have covered businesses whose owners live in Sunset Hills, and organizations that are larger than the neighborhood, and travels that are definitely out of the neighborhood. We want to encourage you to submit articles focusing on topics similar to these. If you live in Sunset Hills, please consider writing an article for the newsletter. We always send out a reminder that we are getting ready to produce a new issue, but feel free to write at any time and we will include your writing in the next issue. We want to include writings of our younger neighbors as well so consider the last scout camp trip, a story about a school play. Write and see your name in print!



Cheryl Hopkins, left and Mary Louise Smith, right, with Renaissance Community Co-op Board Chair John Jones and Northeast Greensboro community leader Goldie Wells in front of the Phillips Ave. construction site for the Renaissance Community Coop, which will open in the fall.



#### (Continued from page 1)



**Troy Hopkins** 

I, serving in the Corps of Engineers, Lorenzo was assigned to General Pershing's headquarters between 1917 and 1919. After the war, he lived in Paris for a year to study architecture and design. Those European influences can be seen in the homes of Sunset Hills. He moved to Greensboro by way of an encounter with Harry Barton at the Pinehurst golf course in 1920. Lorenzo lived in Greensboro for twelve years, working on such projects as the renovated Norman Revival First Presbyterian Church in addition to Sunset Hills.

Winslow moved to Washington DC as a result of the Great Depression and pursued opportunities resulting from FDR's New Deal. The White House architect position was created specifically by Franklin D. Roosevelt after Lorenzo won a competition to design a West Wing heated swimming pool to help FDR's polio-stricken legs. He was considered one of the "most influential architects in the history of the White House".

FDR spoke of Lorenzo's "excellent taste exhibited in the selection of colors, materials, and proportions." He designed the second floor balcony, known as the Truman Balcony, and renovated the Grand Staircase, now famous and seen in countless movies. The same craftsman who architected and designed wonderful homes in Sunset Hills binds the architectural character of Greenway Drive to Pennsylvania Avenue. Look for those signatures on your next walk in the neighborhood. Curious to know if your house is a Lorenzo Winslow? Sign up for the Sunset Hills listserv to find out.

I'm a fan of history because of the adventure it leads to. My wife and I and our two children have lived in Sunset Hills for 13 years. Recently, we ripped out ivy that was overgrown from when we purchased our home.

I have always known there were rock boulders underneath the ivy. However, to our surprise, we discovered a rock wall that looked old. It reminded me of the colonial rock walls found commonly in New England. We decided to restore the original wall, with all the original boulders hidden by the ivy. Ripping out the ivy brought out the historian in me, and I spent hours that evening searching the internet, asking "how old is that wall?" Now I've seen hundreds of similar boulders around yards of Sunset Hills. There are stories yet to be discovered in all those rocks, and maybe a future article to share.

The Sunset Hills Board welcomes Troy Hopkins as the new Sunset Hills Historian.



http://www.sunsethillsneighborhood.org

### Summer Inspiration for the Running of the Balls and the Food Trailers

Second Harvest Food Bank is one of the beneficiaries of the Sunset Hills Lighted Christmas Balls display and activity event, the Running of the Balls. We obtained a lot of information about food needs in Greensboro, Guilford County and NW NC and we are sharing a portion here. The food we collect goes to other food banks in the area as well. Among those are Greensboro Urban Ministry and the Friends Food Pantry. The needs are the same for each and each has its unique distribution and other programs.

#### **GROWING SUSTAINABLE SOLUTIONS**

Food takes care of hunger for today. Strong partnerships and engaged communities will solve hunger tomorrow. Toward this end, Second Harvest Food Bank of Northwest NC:

- Provides guidance and grants to increase our partner programs' capacity to serve residents in need.
- Cultivates a partner agency network for idea exchange, coordination and engagement in community priorities around food
  access and local food systems.
- Empowers partner staff and volunteers to serve as effective hunger-relief advocates.

#### **CORE PROGRAM**

Second Harvest Food Bank serves as a critical source of food and grocery products for:

- 232 Pantries
- 40 Soup Kitchens
- 18 Shelters

65% of the food distributed by partner programs serving Northwest NC comes from Second Harvest Food Bank.



84% of programs report that not having access to Second Harvest Food Bank as a resource for food would have a major effect on their ability to serve their community.

For additional information, contact our Director of Agency Relations at 336.784.5770.

#### SPECIAL INITIATIVES CHILDHOOD HUNGER PROGRAMS

Targeted childhood hunger programs supplement school nutrition programs to provide additional nutritional support for children in need and their families after school, on weekends, over long school breaks and during the weeks school is out for summer.

- 104 BackPack Programs
- 20 Other Weekend Meal Programs
- 15 School Pantries
- 20 Summer Food Service Programs

For additional information, contact our Director of Childhood Hunger Programs at 336.784.5770.

#### CONNECTING HUNGER AND HEALTH

Among those seeking food assistance from Second Harvest Food Bank's partner agencies:

- 60% of households have at least one member with high blood pressure
- 33% of households have at least one member with diabetes

Our Nutrition Services Program works to:

- Increase access to healthy food and promote good nutrition.
- Empower partner agencies and recipient families to create solutions through knowledge gaining nutrition literacy and skills such as shopping and cooking healthy on a budget.

For additional information, contact our Nutrition Services Coordinator at 336.784.5770.

#### FOOD AND NUTRITION SERVICES OUTREACH

Food and Nutrition Services (FNS) can provide additional nutritional support for Northwest NC's most vulnerable families. It is estimated that every \$5 of FNS assistance spent generates \$9 in economic activity. Second Harvest Food Bank supports partner agencies in connecting potentially eligible individuals and families to FNS services by:

- Providing partner agencies with free FNS information materials for distribution to individuals and families.
- Providing on-site assistance and training to partner agencies in helping individuals and families with the FNS application process.

#### Safety News By Doug Therbon

Monday, May 9, we had our Monthly Crime Watch meeting with the Greensboro Police Department. There were a few neat things put out.....

1) Recording possessions to help in retrieving them should they be stolen.

The link below takes you to a site where you may register all your property. They prefer that you register by serial number, e.g. from your TV, but you may also enter numbers that you have engraved on your items. One person at the meeting had used his driver's license number.

How this works: The Greensboro Police Department (GPD) has an agreement with all pawn shops. Pawn shops are required to try to match the serial numbers of anything brought in against this database (the serial numbers or other ids entered by us form the database). If there is a hit, the police buy the item back from the pawn shop. That way the pawn shop has no loss. Because all items bought by a pawn show have the seller's ID, the police can then go after the



presumed thief. The police department recovers the money from the court fees.

So how about jewelry that is stolen from you???? Well, all the places in Greensboro that buy jewelry, whether to resell or melt it down, have an agreement with the GPD as well. If you take photos of your jewelry you can either put them online yourself, or at the time of theft, give them to the police who will enter them. The shops will get copies of the ID's of sellers in their shops and view the stolen images looking for matches of stolen items. If found, they can recoup their money from the police who will again get the money back from the seller.

In both cases the police will always get their money back from the court fees. Sometimes they can also prove theft, but always possession of stolen goods. Take a look at the site and take the time to enter the serial numbers of your items.

https://reportit.leadsonline.com/

#### 2) Maps of crime occurrences

The reason I have not posted graphics of trending or changing numbers of crimes in our area is because the crime

mapping website is not owned by Greensboro. Its a national crime mapping website that Greensboro is not the best at updating. It does link to a Greensboro website where crime reports can be viewed but they acknowledge that the system is far from perfect. I have asked them to look into improving the site and will push for it. This is the website I use for those of you who want to look things up yourselves. http://www.crimemapping.com/

3) Where the police department patrols

The new Captain of the neighborhood resource officers was in attendance Monday and explained how the GPD determines where to send patrolmen. Push pins/dots on each reportable crime are placed on a map. If they see a trend or concentration of crimes they dedicate more resources to that area. This brings me to the point of "PLEASE REPORT CRIMES" and "SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY". The captain asked that we please report any criminal activity so they can apply the proper resources to the needed areas. Even if it's a day or two late, or even a week, please report the crime. They can still get it mapped and that could bring more drive by's in our area.

4) Bike theft

Six more bikes were stolen this past month. None were from our area.

We had a much better month than last month. Keep up the good work locking your car doors and garage doors.

#### Everyone take care and be safe.



#### The Virtual Reality Reality By Greg Potter

#### Part I – So What? Birth of a New Medium

My eyelashes graze the glass lens in front of them, my face pressed against the surrounding shroud that obscures my physical reality from view. I am entranced with the moving images shining into my eyes. I am transported from the bounds of my actual reality – an escape to the world flashing in front of my view. It feels as though I could reach out and touch the scene in front of me. I fall deeper into this feeling and reach out, only to be brought back to reality as my hand abruptly and somewhat painfully runs into the wooden box in front of me. This is truly a new medium – the birth of a new art form, a new way of telling stories. Make note of this year, because it is a momentous one. 1893, the year I looked into a box and saw the future – a future of motion pictures.

Humans are storytellers, and humans are story lovers. We always have been. We desire to form some sense of structure around our lives in order to process them. Our self image is nothing more than a narrative we repeat to ourselves, much in the way stories were repeated through the generations before the advent of widespread reading and writing; the story changing ever so slightly with every new repetition.

Humans are also explorers, and we've certainly taken to exploring new boundaries to tell stories throughout our existence. Traditions of aural storytelling, battles with bison drawn out on cave walls, written word, music, dance, sculpture, movies... we've conglomerated quite the assortment of ways to tell stories – new ways of sharing our experiences, both real and imagined, and our stories live perhaps longer than any other part of us. Just look at The Epic of Gilgamesh, millennia old.

Each of the ways in which we tell stories have grown and found their own strengths and weaknesses, and with every dawn of a new medium, we have gained an entirely new way of communicating with each other – a whole new kind of language of expression. It is this new way of interacting and altering each other that makes the birth of a new medium so exciting and so historically impactful.

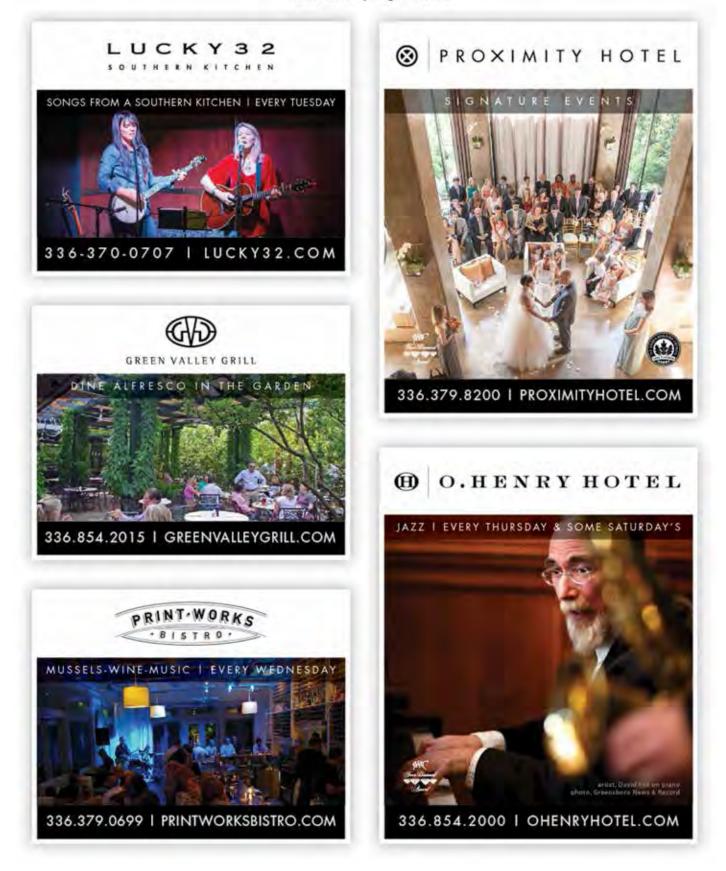
Since the introduction of motion pictures, we've only really gained one new populous medium, and it is just now finding its voice: video games. Cinema had become the dominant medium of our time, at least from a fiscal sense, over its first century of existence, but video games have quickly grown in their first half century of existence to rival and even overtake the cinema industry by many fiscal metrics. Particularly in the last decade, we have seen video games reach far more widespread appeal beyond a niche audience through diversification of genre, form and shape factors, and monetization schemes.

I bring this to light, because virtual reality is going to be far more than just video games, and I mean that not only from a content standpoint, but also in its far reaching impacts on society. This outlook could be quite muddied to virgin eyes, as the first generation devices out on the market now are primarily being marketed as gaming devices, but look no further than Facebook, which owns the virtual reality company Oculus, to see that there is more at play here.

The current focus on gaming is merely a strategy to attract early adopters to the technology who will help mold and refine it into something more palatable for the general population. This is the first baby step of a new medium that may grow into something as societally impactful as the internet, especially with the inclusion of augmented reality (in which a virtual view is overlaid on the real world) under the umbrella of virtual reality.

Some areas that virtual reality will expand into are scientific visualization (for use by doctors, students, rocket scientists, etc.), remote social presence (a physically interactive Skype replacement), virtual tourism (explore places you can't get to), new forms of narrative entertainment (movies where you are actually there in the scene with characters, and can mildly interact with them and objects around you.), dangerous work environment simulation (for training workers with the necessary skills to prevent accidents), and really many, many more. These are just some areas in which virtual reality with go in the next few years. It will go far beyond these into areas that we can't fathom yet. Virtual reality should be on your radar, because it is going to be a very big thing, and it will affect your life, even, if only, indirectly.

We're kaput if we are not supported by our neighbors, so we are sponsoring this newsletter to support our neighbors. — Dennis & Nancy King Quaintance



#### Part II – Why Now? Technology Soup

From the acoustic design of theaters in ancient Greece, to the printing press, to the advent of home computers; new mediums tend to come via new technologies, and more specifically, they tend to come to the greater population as those technologies mature into the affordability of everyday people. This brings us to the question of Why now?. What about our current time makes it ripe for virtual reality to finally take its first steps into the world of mass media?

Consumer level drones: those flying machines with propellers turning, ready to help you get into aerial videography, have fun racing your friends, or possibly even deliver your next Amazon package. They are a politically hot topic right now, because the same technologies that have matured to the populous-fiscal-opportunity stage to make consumer level drones possible, are the same technologies that make Now the time for the virtual-reality reality. It mostly comes down to two things: the miniaturization of computers, and the mass market created by smartphones for small pixel dense screens and sensor technologies.

The real start of the miniaturization of computers came with the invention of the transistor. Transistors are what are now used as the basis for processing the binary 1s and 0s that computers use for storing and processing information. They replaced the much bulkier and less efficient vacuum tubes that came before them, and a large part of computer advancement since their introduction has been based around making them smaller, more efficient, and cheaper.

This steady advancement of miniaturization lead to the coining of Moore's Law: the observation that the density of transistors you can pack into an integrated circuit, doubles about every two years. To get across how small we are starting to make transistors, we are getting to a point where Moore's Law is slowing because transistors are getting so small that we have to deal with phenomena at the size of atoms. This poses not only manufacturing hurdles, but also physics hurdles, as we approach singular atom scales. The physics of how electrons move and interact changes at this scale. All of this, suffice it to say that with all of the R&D poured into making our computers smaller, faster, and more efficient, computers have reached a stage where they can process graphics fast enough for virtual reality devices.

This miniaturization of computers also led to the existence of smartphones. As we could fit more processing power and storage in ever smaller form factors, we reached a point where handheld devices became a smooth enough experience for the everyday user. The explosion of the smartphone market with the introduction of the iPhone set the stage for the form smartphones have taken since. This includes a design centered around a form factor filling display, a camera, and included sensors such as accelerometers and gyroscopes for sensing device orientation and movement.

The giant market created by smartphones lead to a lot of R&D going into these areas, which in turn improved their quality and lowered their cost. Most importantly, the screens used by smartphones became far more pixel dense, able to produce a more detailed image, and this directly transferred to the display technology needed for virtual reality, where you want a small screen, with a high pixel density. The development of these screens, along with the various sensors used in smartphones, that came with explosion of the smartphone market, was the last puzzle piece needed for making virtual reality a reality, and is why the

first virtual reality devices are coming on to market right now.

Greg Potter is a lifelong resident of Sunset Hills, son of Carole and Chip Potter. He graduated in December from GTCC with an AAS in Simulation and Game Design, and also in Entertainment Technology - Sound Engineering. He also attended Minnesota State College Southeast Tech where he earned a Diploma in Guitar Building and Repair. He plays mandolin, guitar, bass, trumpet, sax, and French horn, as well as composing music.





http://friendlypark.com/

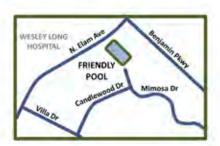
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#### Membership Report as of May, 2016 By Elaine Brune

Haven't paid your dues yet? Send a check made out to SHNA for \$10.00 to me, Elaine Brune, 2504 Sylvan Road or you can pay using PayPal. The link is found on our website under Calendar and again under Email List-serv. http://www.sunsethillsneighborhood.org/calendar.html. For households with multiple last names or if you want your name listed differently than on the check, please let me know. Any questions or comments, email me at sunsethillsgsonc@gmail.com or call 336 378 1990.

Dues are \$10. Our fiscal year is January to December, and dues are for the current year only. Any additional amount is considered a contribution. Membership entitles you to use the listserv, a wonderful way to stay in touch with the neighborhood, ask for help, sell/give away stuff, get vendor recommendations from your neighbors, and help reunite the occasional lost dog/cat/bird/keys with its frantic owner. Dues are also used to pay for this newsletter, social events in the neighborhood, and special projects needed to keep our neighborhood a great community.

As of May 12 we have 229 paid households. Many people took advantage of the envelope that came in the February newsletter and mailed their dues to Emily Brune. *This should have been Elaine Brune*, but I accepted your money anyway. Thank You!

Thanks to everyone listed below for their dues. Names that are in bold and \* also made a donation. Thanks to all of you. And welcome new members!

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Ellen Ammirato	Brigitte Chauvigne*	Cheri George*
Robert Arnett	George & Frances Cheek*	Susan McMullen & Bob Gingher
Anne Ashby*	Sam & Sarah Cook	Michelle Togut & Vladimir Goldenberg*
Maureen O'Keefe & Paul Ashby	Lee Comer	Daniel & Stephanie Goodrich
Karen Hill & Don Atkinson	Catherine Crowder	Brooks Graham
Peggy Auten	Stephen Culkin*	Melissa Greer*
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