

# The Waxhaw Gazette

A CSgN Publication serving the people of Waxhaw, North Carolina

Fortieth Edition, Updated 1:30 PM

Publishing Every Week on Friday

August 29th, 2008

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Welcome to this weeks  
edition of The Waxhaw  
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news worthy happenings



## Does Anybody Know the Origin of Labor Day?

by John Tiley

All Holidays are centered on some momentous event or observance such as the 4th of July being our celebration of our independence as a nation. New Years Day is the observance of the first day of the new year, etc. But, what about Labor Day... It used to be the last holiday right before the kids went back to school, but not anymore. It does give us one last long weekend before summer is over but that in itself doesn't mean anything, so what is at the root of this one last hurrah before summer ends? From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia:

### Labor Day

Observed by United States, Federal Holiday;  
and State Holiday (in all 50 US States)  
Date first Monday in September  
2008 date: September 1, 2008

Labor Day is a United States federal holiday observed on the first Monday in September. The holiday originated in 1882 as the Central Labor Union (of New York City) sought to create "a day off for the working citizens".

Therefore, unlike today where most of us have every weekend off we also get a holiday or three off just about every month of the year, except August of course, the prospect of time off from work was a truly important event back then. Something an employee of the day could really look forward to. Remember those who fought, suffered, and died for workers rights, including the 40-hour work week, the weekend, Social Security, and health care. Never take it for granted.

Congress made Labor Day a federal holiday in 1894. All fifty states have made Labor Day a state holiday.

Traditionally, Labor Day is celebrated by most Americans as the symbolic end of the summer.

Labor Day has been celebrated on the first Monday in September in the United States since the 1880s. The form for the celebration of Labor Day was outlined in the first proposal of the holiday—a street parade to exhibit to the public "the strength and esprit de corps of the trade and labor organizations," followed by a festival for the workers and their families. This became the pattern for Labor Day celebrations. Speeches by prominent men and women were introduced later, as more emphasis was placed upon the economic and civil significance of the holiday. Still later, by a resolution of the American Federation of Labor convention of 1909, the Sunday preceding Labor Day was adopted as Labor Sunday and dedicated to the spiritual and educational aspects of the labor movement.

OK, if my memory of history class serves me correctly, back at the turn of the century Unions were just beginning to take hold and it was common for employees of the day to be forced into working long hours all week long with maybe some time off on Sunday to go to church, no nine to five back then!

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## Fiasco at the United Way

Gloria King asked to leave.

Why are those responsible still there?

by John Tiley

It is bad enough that we are continually assaulted by news of Corporate Executives getting totally absurd salaries and bonuses, even at times when their companies are spinning down the drain taking investors and employees alike down the tubes. They are privately owned

If the people who are really responsible don't stand up to their miss-deeds and step down now, nobody is ever going to believe them again no matter what they do. What else are they hiding? I am sure there is no way to actually prosecute them, especially with their high standing in the corporate community, but they have been exposed and their continued affiliation with the United Way will only serve

## News Around Town:

More Interesting Facts About the United Way

Red Cross Preparedness Month.

From the Mayor: Certification & Construction Standards.

I did have a very good interview with Bonnie McManus this week but she made me promise not to tell... so sorry... everybody else must be hiding or not getting caught, yet, so no new ScuttleButt this week either }8-(



planned or know of someone new coming in, send me a press release and I will be happy to include it. Contact me directly with comments or suggestions at: [jtiley@thewaxhawgazette.com](mailto:jtiley@thewaxhawgazette.com)

for profit companies' lead by incompetent leaders perhaps, but not a direct concern of the average person. But to have this happen in a non-profit organization with the social responsibilities that the United Way is tasked with? Totally unconscionable! And the idea that firing Gloria King will hide the fact that she is not the person that approved her compensation is a poor attempt at subterfuge. I am amazed that mainline media hasn't already gone after the Board of Directors as the perpetrators of this misappropriation! After all, Gloria King didn't approve her compensation, she accepted it when she should have know better, but it was the Board of Directors that made the decision to hand out such lavish amounts of their funds. The ones contributed one dollar at a time by average people that thought they were giving their money to help the poor and homeless of our community.

If something drastic is not done and done now, the year and perhaps even the future of the United Way here in Charlotte is over!

to decimate the organization further.

**UPDATE:** Editorial Coming In, New Material now in place. Check back for more as we get it!



*Continued on page two >*

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## Fiasco at the United Way

**Gloria King asked to leave.  
 Why are those responsible still there?**

Yes, these are the people that need to step down if there is any hope of regaining the respect of the people that are really the supporters, the average citizen and employee that give their hard earned money.

The upper level board members, as publicly listed on the **United Way website** do make for an impressive list:

Graham Denton, Chairman of the Board; Carlos Evans, First Vice Chair/Strategic Planning Chair, Wachovia Corporation; Jeffrey Kane, Treasurer and Chair, Finance Committee, Federal Reserve Bank; Morrison Creech, Asst. Treasurer/Vice Chair, Finance Committee, Wachovia Corporation.

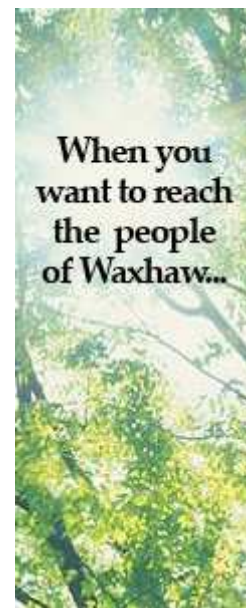


Many more Board Members below Gloria King's level are listed there as well.

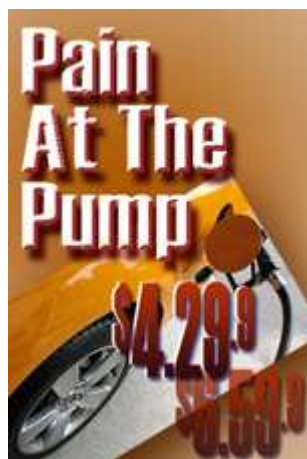
Will people on the board and within the

organization do the right thing and own up to their complicity?

Only time will tell, but I am sure when asked if you will be giving, and you look at their logo, you will think to yourself "is that the giving hand , or the taking hand?"



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### Area prices for gas in the Waxhaw area as of 8/29/08

	3/20/08	8/29/08
Texaco:	\$3.19.9	\$3.65.9
Pure:	\$3.24.9	\$3.65.9
Little General:	\$3.24.9	\$3.69.9
Shell:	\$3.24.9	\$3.69.9
Wax. In n Out:	\$3.26.9	\$3.65.9
Mineral Springs:		
M. S. Grocery	\$3.20.9	\$3.65.9
Texaco:	\$3.21.9	\$3.65.9
BP on New Town	\$3.21.9	\$3.65.9

*Editors Note: Usually I personally check the prices posted for the above companies. However, occasionally when time is short as it is today, I will call the stations on the phone to check for current prices. If no pricing is offered the above reflects the last visually confirmed pricing.*



## Does Anybody Know the origin of Labor Day?

Things have certainly changed a lot since the 1880's and other than an excuse for every retailer in the Continental Unites States to have a Gigantic, This Weekend Only, Blow Out Sale, the weekend serves to give all us a chance to relax one last time before the fall rush to get serious and do some real business, elect a new President ....and of course, look forward to some Football!



**Let's "Keep Waxhaw Alive" folks by supporting our local merchants!**



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## More Interesting Facts About the United Way

In 2007 the United Way of Central Georgia raised \$4,440,431.00 which was a 4.6% increase over 2007. There is nothing on their website that shows how much they paid out.

The 2 million dollars yet to be paid out to Ms. King, well you can see what that does to donations.

United way in itself does not contribute any money to any person in need. They instead contribute to the organizations which provide those services. United way is nothing more than a collection committee for other charitable organizations.

Once an organization has signed up to receive funds from United Way, they cannot conduct any other fundraising activities. They can accept donations but they cannot actively campaign for them. They may only do that through United Way.

Once United Way has taken it's operating expenses off the top for running their company (which in this case looks to be in excess of 50% locally and we have yet to add the National Corporate expenses that hire all those Football players to campaign for them), they then donate to the local charities which have to take their operating costs off the top. That feels an awful lot like double dipping to me.

Now, I do not know how true it is but I once heard that for every dollar (\$1) given to United Way, 17 cents actually finds its way to a person in actual benefit. Yes that is correct, 83% used up in bureaucracy.

Also, If you sign up to have money taken out of your check each week for 1 year, at the end of that year you have to tell them to stop or they will continue to take it out (at least that is how it works at my job). My company requires me to fill out a pledge card even if I plan to pledge nothing. But I do not have to do that for anything else they sponsor.

Can you tell I am no longer a contributor to the United Way fund?

## Certification & Construction Standards of Kensington Road between Cureton commercial & Waxhaw-Marvin Road.

Dear Friends,

There have recently been some concerns raised about the certification and construction standards of the portion of Kensington Road between the Cureton commercial area and Waxhaw-Marvin Road. Please allow me to share with you the background and current situation which differs significantly from the misinformation that is currently being disseminated.

The portion of Kensington Road in question was constructed by GS Carolina, a developer whose previous and ongoing projects in Waxhaw include Quellan, Cureton and Millbridge. Given that the road created new connectivity between Highway 16 and Waxhaw-Marvin Road, the intent was for the road to eventually become a part of the town-maintained road system as the various projects came on line although hard and fast documentation of that intent has not yet surfaced.

One of the key areas of concern is the Union County Public School system's policy regarding the routing of school buses on private roads. UCPS currently has a policy that avoids using private roads except in cases of extreme need and then only upon written permission from 100% of the property-owners along that road. Given the rapid rate of development in western Union County and the fact that many new roads

In addition, the bridge must be inspected by a third-party chosen by the town staff. This third-party inspection must be done by the DOT or by a firm authorized by the DOT to conduct these types of inspections. Once these inspections are completed and any deficiencies remedied, the town Commissioners will consider whether to take the street and bridge into the town-maintained road system.

The Cuthbertson Road re-alignment is currently underway. Also, the road improvements for the first phase of Cureton retail have been constructed and there are no further road improvements required until Phase II begins.

I hope that this information helps to reassure each of you regarding the safety of traveling Kensington Road. The upshot of the situation is this; the roadway and bridge are constructed to DOT standards and have been inspected. The inspection by town staff prior to the town taking over the road is to ensure that any degradation of the road that may have occurred during construction is remedied by the developer.

The staff and officials of the town are grateful for your patience and understanding as we work to continue improving the standards and processes by which the town operates. Engaged and informed citizens are critically important to good governance and I invite each

**Is Your  
Tree House  
Getting A  
Little Too  
Small?**

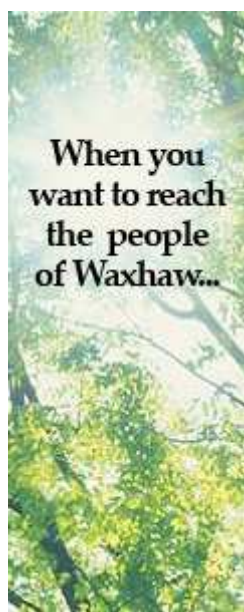


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When you  
want to reach  
the people  
of Waxhaw...



are initially private until some benchmark is reached within the overall development (I believe Waxhaw requires 90% of the development be built out before we will consider accepting the roads), routing school buses is an ongoing challenge for UCPS.

The bridge crossing a tributary of Twelve Mile Creek at the wastewater treatment plant was designed by Triplett-King & Associates, Consulting Engineers out of Rock Hill [www.triplettking.com] in 2005 with approval of the plans supplied by Davis & Floyd who reviewed it for conformity with NCDOT and AASHTO standards. The approval letter on file with the town is dated March 2, 2005. After construction, Triplett-King inspected the bridge and, on May 15, 2007, issued a letter to that effect to the developer recommending acceptance of the bridge.

In early August, 2008, the developer came to the town to begin the process of having the town take over the road. In order for that to take place, town staff will inspect the roadway to ensure that it is built to the standards that were in place at the time that the CUP was granted in 2004. Those standards are the same as the DOT's current standards although the town enacted more stringent standards earlier this year.

of you to get involved and help us make Waxhaw a better place to live!

Best,

Daune Gardner  
Mayor of Waxhaw

PO Box 6  
Waxhaw, NC 28173  
704-843-2195 (Town Hall), 704-843-5040 (Business)

[mayor@waxhaw.com](mailto:mayor@waxhaw.com)



[www.waxhaw.com](http://www.waxhaw.com)

*Let's "Keep Waxhaw Alive" folks by supporting our local merchants!*

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## In Your Opinion

Do you have something to say, we want to hear it.....

# Little Leaguer Kicked Out for Pitching Too Fast?

by John Tiley



I am not sure if anybody else has heard the stories about Jericho Scott of New Haven, Conn. who was banned from playing because, for a nine year old, he was pitching too fast for the other teams liking. To me, this really tops all of the run-of-the-mill stories you hear about parents getting too involved with their kids games, you know the type... yelling and getting in fights with the coach over their kids performance. Making sure everybody gets a trophy, even when they haven't earned one, if all they did was show up? Evidently this kid can pitch a fast ball at forty miles an hour! Pretty darn good for a nine year old. Yet the opposing teams won't play against him saying it isn't fair and they might get hurt even though Jericho hasn't thrown a wild ball yet! They would rather forfeit than face him? I really wonder what kind of kids we are raising if this is how parents treat them. Although I don't have fond memories of things not going my way all of the time as a kid, it went a long way in teaching me that in life, fair is not an every day entitlement.

And oh, by the way, the Little League Officials? They said he can still play just as long as he doesn't pitch!

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everything  
that's going on...

The Waxhaw Gazette welcomes your letters. and opinions wether we agree or not. Please include your name, address and a point of contact where we can reach you. We only alter your letters for grammatical and spelling issues and will, as long as they are written in good taste and are relevant, publish all letters sent.

Thank You,  
The Management

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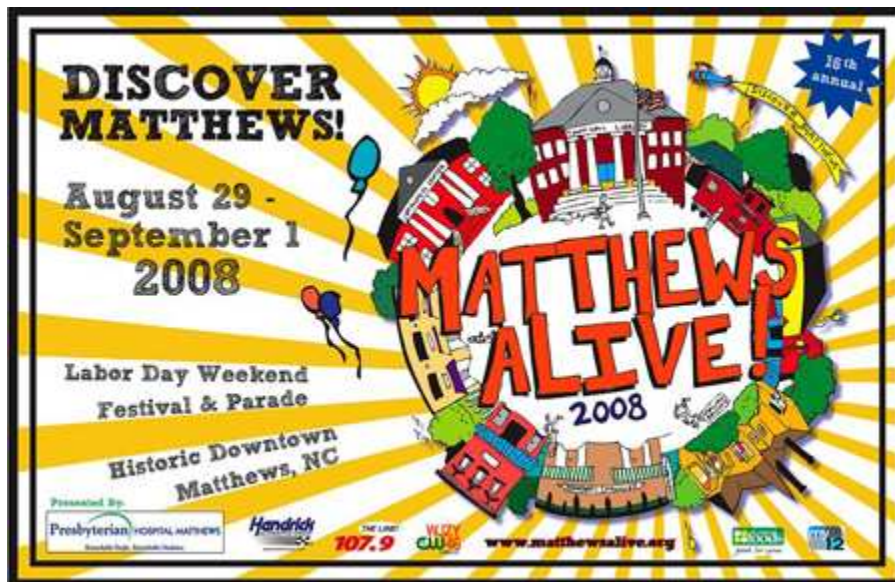
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# Waxhaw's Events Calander



It may not be in Waxhaw, but happening this weekend is the Matthews Alive event running from Friday through Monday. Its Free, Its Fun & if you have the opprotunity to get by, it is one great way to spend some time!

For Information go to: <http://www.matthewsalive.org>

## Is Your Tree House Getting A Little Too Small?



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**THIS IS INDIA.  
IT IS WHERE  
YOU CALL  
WHEN YOU  
HAVE A  
TECHNICAL  
PROBLEM WITH  
YOUR  
COMPUTER.**

"I leaned over and went "Pssst!" and it didn't move."

## A SENIOR MOMENT I HOPE I HAVE THEM LIKE THIS

*A 98 year old woman in the UK wrote this to her bank. The bank manager thought it amusing enough to have it published in the Times.*

Dear Sir,

I am writing to thank you for bouncing my cheque with which I endeavoured to pay my plumber last month. By my calculations, three 'nanoseconds' must have elapsed between his presenting the cheque and the arrival in my account of the funds needed to honour it. I refer, of course, to the automatic monthly deposit of my Pension, an arrangement, which, I admit, has been in place for only thirty eight years. You are to be commended for seizing that brief window of opportunity, and also for debiting my account £30 by way of penalty for the inconvenience caused to your bank.

My thankfulness springs from the manner in which this incident has caused me to rethink my errant financial ways. I noticed that whereas I personally attend to your telephone calls and letters, when I try to contact you, I am confronted by the impersonal, overcharging, pre-recorded, faceless entity which your bank has become. From now on, I, like you, choose only to deal with a flesh-and-blood person.

My mortgage and loan payments will therefore and hereafter no longer be automatic, but will arrive at your bank by cheque, addressed personally and confidentially to an employee at your bank whom you must nominate. Be aware that it is an offence under the Postal Act for any other person to open such an envelope. Please find attached an Application Contact Status which I require your chosen employee to complete. I am sorry it runs to eight pages, but in order that I know as much about him or her as your bank knows about me, there is no alternative. Please note that all copies of his or her medical history must be countersigned by a Solicitor, and the mandatory details of his/her financial situation (income, debts, assets and liabilities) must be accompanied by documented proof.

In due course, I will issue your employee with a PIN number which he/she must quote in dealings with me. I regret that it cannot be shorter than 28 digits but, again, I have modelled it on the number of button presses required of me to access my account balance on your phone bank service. As they say, imitation is the sincerest form of flattery.

Let me level the playing field even further. When you call me, press buttons as follows:

- 1 - To make an appointment to see me.
- 2 - To query a missing payment.
- 3 - To transfer the call to my living room in case I am there.
- 4 - To transfer the call to my bedroom in case I am sleeping.
- 5 - To transfer the call to my toilet in case I am attending to nature.
- 6 - To transfer the call to my mobile phone if I am not at home.
- 7 - To leave a message on my computer (a password to access my computer is required. A password will be communicated to you at a later date to the Authorised Contact.)
- 8 - To return to the main menu and to listen to options 1 through to 8.
- 9 - To make a general complaint or inquiry, the contact will then be put on hold, pending the attention of my automated answering service. While this may, on occasion, involve a lengthy wait, uplifting music will play for the duration of the call.

Regrettably, but again following your example, I must also levy an establishment fee to cover the setting up of this new arrangement.

May I wish you a happy, if ever so slightly less prosperous, New Year.

Your Humble Client

Remember: This was written by a 98 year old woman. I think most of the population would love to do this.

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