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Welcome to this weeks edition of The Waxhaw Gazette! If you own a business and have any news worthy happenings 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



**Infrastructure!
Water, Sewer, Power?**

Lets not forget the Roads!

This is the second in a series of articles addressing our infrastructure

by: John Tiley

Union County roads were never intended to handle the traffic they are now carrying. They are country roads used to serve a rural farmlands needs. Certainly not the urban traffic they are now being subjected to. They are narrow, curvy and not properly graded for today's vehicles. In many cases they are falling apart and becoming downright dangerous.

Over the years I have been here I have heard a lot of talk about the planning that has happened around here concerning the roads. Recently, Park dale Mills in Mineral Springs was in the news because they wanted to run double trailers and extra long through Waxhaw. I guess they forgot about the tremendous amount of damage trucks had done to the intersection and potential damage to the historic buildings prior to the entire 16/75 intersection being replaced not that many years ago. And why hasn't anybody mentioned our Park Way? Essentially a by-pass for through traffic, I don't suppose many people living here now even know about our planned by pass?

Some many years ago, even before my time here, it was decided and planned for to put in the parkway which would run around downtown. It's been some time since I have seen the drawings but as memory serves me, it crosses 16 right next to CVS in Jackson Station heading out to Route 75 in South Carolina. In the other direction, up behind Jackson Station, it crosses Route 75 perhaps 2 or 3 miles out and ends up right in the middle of that new development on Waxhaw Mineral Springs Road. It then crosses and connects to Providence Road South to take you all the way to Cane Creek Park and beyond.

Now just this past week, I see that at long last Route 16 widening was set to begin. I wonder how that will impact us?

In local happenings:



First JAARS Day takes place March 1

Waxhaw, N.C. February 22, 2008 – JAARS invites visitors to attend JAARS Day and learn how people are transformed through the word of God. JAARS Day is an opportunity to see how this life-transforming work is done and how people can be a part of it.

Please see the [Events Page](#) for the full story!



COME PLAY IN OUR STREETS!

Saturday, May 17 – 10 am – 6 pm and
Sunday May 18 – 1 pm – 6 pm!

Doggie Idol competition, Sk8 competition, great food and entertainment and the Kids Zone!

Please see the [Events Page](#) for the full story!

We look forward to seeing you at Spring Fest!

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WAXHAW, NC WINNERS OF NANTUCKET INN NATIONAL OLD LOVEBIRDS CONTEST



**Waxhaw Couple
Married Over 30 Years
Win Prestigious Contest**

(Nantucket, MA) – February 25, 2008. The 16-room Century House on Nantucket set out to celebrate two milestones this year: First, it is the only inn on Nantucket that celebrates 175 seasons of continuous operation, as the oldest guesthouse on the island. Second, innkeeper duo Gerry Connick and Jean Ellen Heron celebrate 25 seasons of making their own Century House history.

To share their milestone anniversaries, the Century House introduced a Valentine's Day national anniversary contest calling "old lovebirds" that have been married for at least 25 years, to enter to win a three-night stay on Nantucket at the Century House. **Gail and John Hutchinson**, a delightful Waxhaw couple, won the national contest out of nearly 1000 entries!

"Our first date was taking our bicycles out on the ferry to Nantucket," reminisces John Hutchinson. "I had been given two free tickets on the ferry. We took with us a block of cheddar cheese, a box of triscuits and a bag of cherries. After arriving on the island we bicycled down to the south beach and sat there enjoying our crackers and cheese and cherries."

Gail and John married two years later, and all these years they still talk about Nantucket. "This gift from Century House will be a wonderful trip down memory lane for us. It will bring us home nearly 34 years after our first date," says John of winning the contest.

Innkeeper Gerry Connick says, "At Century House we create memories for couples just like the Hutchinsons. Nantucket offers countless ways for people to discover themselves. Century House celebrates Nantucket, and now that our history has moved into the 21st century it continues to operate with the attentive hospitality it did in the late 1800's."

**About the Century House,
175 Years of Nantucket Discovery**

The historic Century House, the Inn on the Cliff, dates back to the Cliff Road land purchase in 1833. According to research performed by Edouard A. Stackpole, renowned Nantucket historian and former director of the Peter Foulger Museum, a member of an old Nantucket family of Scottish roots, Captain Robert Calder, built the Century House. Over the years, Capt. Calder took part in several long, successful voyages to hunt whale, and eventually completed the construction of the house in the early 1840's. It is said that Capt. Calder chose this site because of the privacy, the ocean breezes, the views, and the genuine serenity the location provided in the 1840's and still exhibits today.

According to Mr. Stackpole, the Century House is the oldest continuously operating guesthouse on Nantucket Island.

Visit www.centuryhouse.com for details.

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The Town of Waxhaw Announces
Sponsors for Annual Spring Event
Come Play in Our Streets!

Waxhaw, N.C. February 25, 2008—The Town of Waxhaw invites families to play in its historic downtown on Saturday, May 17 from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m., and Sunday, May 18 from 1 p.m. until 6 p.m. to celebrate Spring Fest '08. This year's headline sponsors are The Waxhaw Exchange, The Waxhaw Business Association, K-9Z to 5 Dog Training, The Furry Godmother and The Community Works of Waxhaw

Both days will bring exciting opportunities for everyone in the family to enjoy. Pick up your copy of The Waxhaw Exchange at the festival to view the great collection of open market finds such as antiques, arts, crafts, wood art, collectables, food and exciting band stand entertainment. The Waxhaw Business Association returns with the 4th annual Kids Zone designed for kids of all ages!

Saturday features two returning events to jump start the weekend: the 3rd Annual Doggie Idol Competition and the 2nd Annual SK8 Competition. Bring your pooch to the Waxhaw Band Stand to compete for ribbons in categories such as shortest/longest tail, best dressed, most hair, and pure breed. The most talented dog will take home the Doggie Idol trophy. Doggie Idol is sponsored by K-9Z To 5 Dog Training and The Furry Godmother benefiting animal rescue in Union County. Come early, registration begins at 9:00 a.m. the first 100 will receive a gift bag from Nutro Natural Pet Food.

The SK8 Competition, hosted by Community Works of Waxhaw, invites all Skateboarders, In-line Skaters and BMX Bikers to the Waxhaw Church Street Park at 1 pm. to compete for trophies and ribbons. Registration begins at noon. Participants must bring and wear helmets and knee pads to compete.

The weekend continues with exciting events at the bandstand and throughout the festival. For up-to-date information please go to the Town of Waxhaw web site at www.waxhaw.com

Spring Fest '08 is a rain or shine event

CONTACT: Town Events Coordinator: Caroline Hasty
Waxhaw Town Hall, PO Box 6, Waxhaw, NC 28173
704-843-2195 or events@waxhaw.com



ANNOUNCING JAARS DAYS EVENTS FOR 2008

First JAARS Day takes place March 1

Waxhaw, N.C. February 22, 2008 – JAARS invites visitors to attend JAARS Day and learn how people are transformed through the word of God. JAARS Day is an opportunity to see how this life-transforming work is done and how people can be a part of it. According to JAARS, 2,251 language groups around the world have no Scriptures.

The new season of JAARS Days opens on March 1. The first event focuses on logistical support: construction and maintenance; materials transportation; and purchasing and shipping.

Rick Herr, who served with his wife Terri in Colombia, South America for 18 years, says, "We want to show people how the support roles we do help accomplish Bible translation and impact lives." Herr, the JAARS Construction and Maintenance Department's operations manager, hosts the 10:00 a.m. opening program on March 1.

Ann Rodgers, director of tours at JAARS, commented on the JAARS Day programs. "We had four successful JAARS Days in 2007 and we look forward to the new season. We appreciate being able to give a complete picture of the role each department has in helping to accomplish Bible translation at each JAARS Day."

Rodgers added, "We are thankful for each person that comes. It is an exciting day!"

In addition to the March 1 event, JAARS will host three other JAARS Day events in 2008. May 17, JAARS will celebrate their 60th anniversary—60 years of God's faithfulness. The Vernacular Media Services Department will be highlighted August 2; and land, air, and water transportation will be highlighted on October 4.

Guests can meet representatives from every major JAARS department and see demonstrations each JAARS Day. A new feature added last fall was the exciting "Mission Adventure ride." Guests can experience missionary travel by taking a four wheel drive trip through the woods followed by a brief airplane ride on the STOL (short-take-off-and-landing) Helio Courier airplane, taking off from a dirt airstrip.

JAARS, staffed by members of Wycliffe Bible Translators members and volunteers like Ann Rodgers, provides training and world-wide coordination for technical services speeding Bible translation. Log on www.jaars.org and www.wycliffe.org for an informative and interesting look at these two related organizations.

JAARS daily tours begin at 9:30 a.m. For reservations or more information, please call the JAARS tour office at 704-843-6130 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday-Friday, or send an e-mail to: tours_JAARS@sil.org.

More information on JAARS Days, daily tours, and also on the Mexico Museum and the Museum of the Alphabet, can be found on the "VISIT" section of www.jaars.org.

There is no cost for the JAARS day program or visiting the JAARS Museum of the Alphabet or Mexico Museum.

Aircraft rides and lunches are purchased on JAARS Day. A Voluntary Release of Rights and Waiver of Liability must be signed by all who fly by a parent or guardian if a minor. See <http://www.jaars.org/visit.shtml> for a form to be signed prior to a visit if a child is not accompanied by a parent or guardian.

Contacts: Arthur Lightbody, APR, JAARS Media Relations Officer. Office Phone: 704-843-6048, Cell phone: 704-608-3033, E-mail: arthur_lightbody@sil.org
Ann Rodgers, Tour Director: 704-843-6130

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In Your Opinion

Locals having something to say, and want you to know...

From the Editor:

I have seen letters like this circulating on the internet for some time now, however as this did come in as a signed letter, reflects a legitimate point of view and is topical with the problems facing the pottery industry currently, I believe it should be published....

Dear Editor:

So many letter writers have based their arguments on how this land is made up of immigrants. Ernie Lujan for one, suggests we should tear down the Statue of Liberty because the people now in question aren't being treated the same as those who passed through Ellis Island and other ports of entry.

Maybe we should turn to our history books and point out to people like Mr. Lujan why today's American is not willing to accept this new kind of immigrant any longer. Back in 1900 when there was a rush from all areas of Europe to come to the United States, people had to get off a ship and stand in a long line in New York and be documented. Some would even get down on their hands and knees and kiss the ground. They made a pledge to uphold the laws and support their new country in good and bad times. They made learning English a primary rule in their new American households and some even changed their names to blend in with their new home.

They had waved good bye to their birth place to give their children a new life and did everything in their power to help their children assimilate into one culture. Nothing was handed to them. No free lunches, no welfare, no labor laws to protect them. All they had were the skills and craftsmanship they had brought with them to trade for a future of prosperity.

Most of their children came of age when World War II broke out. My father fought along side men whose parents had come straight over from Germany, Italy, France and Japan. None of these 1st generation Americans ever gave any thought about what country their parents had come from. They were Americans fighting Hitler, Mussolini and the Emperor of Japan. They were defending the United States of America as one people.

When we liberated France, no one in those villages were looking for the French-American or the German American or the Irish American. The people of France saw only Americans. And we carried one flag that represented one country. Not one of those immigrant sons would have thought about picking up a nother country's flag and waving it to represent who they were. It would have been a disgrace to their parents who had sacrificed so much to be here. These immigrants truly knew what it meant to be an American. They stirred the melting pot into one red, white and blue bowl.

And here we are in 2008 with a new kind of immigrant who wants the same rights and privileges. Only they want to achieve it by playing with a different set of rules, one that includes the entitlement card and a guarantee of being faithful to their mother country. I'm sorry, that's not what being an American is all about. I believe that the immigrants who landed on Ellis Island in the early 1900's deserve better than that for all the toil, hard work and sacrifice in raising future generations to create a land that has become a beacon for those legally searching for a better life I think they would be appalled that they are being used as an example by those waving foreign country flags.

And for that suggestion about taking down the Statue of Liberty, it happens to mean a lot to the citizens who are voting on the immigration bill. I wouldn't start talking about dismantling the United States just yet.

Rosemary LaBonte

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Video Links
This is a GREAT Video

Top Gear: Bugatti Veyron vs Eurofighter Typhoon



An episode of Top Gear featuring a race between a Bugatti Veyron and a Eurofighter Typhoon.

For the Action Video, go here. Enjoy!

Hey Bob,

I was having trouble with my computer. So I called your son Jeremy, my favorite computer guy, to help me over the internet. Jeremy clicked a couple of buttons and solved the problem.

He gave me a bill for a minimum service call. Just before he signed off, I asked him, "So, what was wrong?" He replied, "It was an *ID Ten T Error*." I didn't want to appear stupid, but nonetheless I inquired, "An *ID Ten T Error*? What's that, Jeremy? ... in case I need to fix it again?" Jeremy answered.... "Haven't you ever heard of an *ID Ten T Error* before?"

"No," I replied.

"Write it down," he said, "and I think you'll figure it out."

So I wrote down: I D I O T

(I used to like Jeremy, Bob)

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The Stranger

A few years after I was born, my Dad met a stranger who was new to our small Texas town. From the beginning, Dad was fascinated with this enchanting newcomer and soon invited him to live with our family. The stranger was quickly accepted and was around from then on.

As I grew up, I never questioned his place in my family. In my young mind, he had a special niche. My parents were complementary instructors: Mom taught me good from evil, and Dad taught me to obey. But the stranger...he was our storyteller. He would keep us spellbound for hours on end with adventures, mysteries and comedies.

If I wanted to know anything about politics, history or science, he always knew the answers about the past, understood the present and even seemed able to predict the future! He took my family to the first major league ball game. He made me laugh, and he made me cry. The stranger never stopped talking, but Dad didn't seem to mind.

Sometimes, Mom would get up quietly while the rest of us were shushing each other to listen to what he had to say, and she would go to the kitchen for peace and quiet. (I wonder now if she ever prayed for the stranger to leave.)

Dad ruled our household with certain moral convictions, but the stranger never felt obligated to honor them. Profanity, for example, was not allowed in our home... Not from us, our friends or any visitors.

Our longtime visitor, however, got away with four-letter words that burned my ears and made my dad squirm and my mother blush. My Dad didn't permit the liberal use of alcohol. But the stranger encouraged us to try it on a regular basis. He made cigarettes look cool, cigars manly and pipes distinguished. He talked freely (much too freely!) about sex. His comments were sometimes bla tant, sometimes suggestive, and generally embarrassing.

I now know that my early concepts about relationships were influenced strongly by the stranger. Time after time, he opposed the values of my parents, yet he was seldom rebuked... And NEVER asked to leave.

More than fifty years have passed since the stranger moved in with our family. He has blended right in and is not nearly as fascinating as he was at first. Still, if you could walk into my parents' den today, you would still find him sitting over in his corner, waiting for someone to listen to him talk and watch him draw his pictures.

His name?..... We just call him "TV."

He has a wife now....We call her "Computer."

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