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Why is CMS Having Such Monumental Cash Flow Problems?

Did management cut Arithmetic 101 Class?

by: John Tiley

No matter what the economic outlook, it seems like CMS is always having some kind of money trouble. When times are good, they don't have enough teachers or facilities. Nor enough money to full fill the reported needs. Now that we are in a full fledged depression, they can't fire their people fast enough!

I realize that Charlotte Mecklenburg Schools System is undoubtedly the largest in North Carolina and probably one of the biggest in the nation, but really, we're talking basic arithmetic 101 here.

When we first moved here over 15 years ago, we lived in an apartment for a year while looking for a house. In that time my son spent one year in a CMS elementary school and to the wife's credit, she did some amazing research and in depth investigating on the school systems here in the Charlotte area. In very short order she discovered some very troubling aspects of the CMS system and as a result, we ended up moving into Union County, became Waxinians and have never questioned the choice.

Even back then there were issues as to how the teachers were treated and communication between schools and parents were stressed. Now you hear of parents going directly to the news media with problems. Always there are stories about infighting amongst the "Board" who have some pretty flamboyant people in the ranks. And of course we now have the second in a string of "Uber Level Superintendents" in Peter Gorman. Sadly what has become apparent is that CMS is actually a Hugh political football with many high profile careers complete with six figure salaries attached. And that the actual core duty of teaching the kids is really very secondary. Why else would a concern such as CMS cut its planning and attached funding so close to the bone that they are constantly in a risk situation?

For example, how can you end up cutting your security force by upwards of forty percent? Where can a system such as CMS manage with Gorman firing over 1,300 people, that is 1,300 people less to do the same job next year as are doing it now? Come on!

Yes I understand things are tough, they are tough all over but you don't hear the same level of gnashing of teeth coming from Union County or Stanley or Burke..... sure there going to be cutbacks all over but the approach I see CMS taking is unnerving. And it really makes me wonder about the integrity of the people in charge that they are handling "the taxpayers' purse strings" the way they are.



I feel that the people in charge must have spent an awful lot of time with the bankers we have been hearing so much about lately. It is the only explanation I have for their actions. The way they handle the money; The lack of regard they show toward the people working for them; And some of the proposals they are putting into place, such as hiring "new teachers" from the pool of teachers for America.... you know the ones. They are the people that want to spend a year or two in the education industry then move on to their chosen professions in industry and politics with another "Uber Experience" added to their resume. Personally, it is the people that chose to spend their lives teaching. Never getting rich but passing along the skills and koWledge that kids are going to need in their future, whether they become an executive or a gang member. Everybody deserves to be able to read write and do a bit of arithmetic. Beyond that it is up to the individual to want to succeed or not. But not under the flag of Politicization or as one of their footballs in their game!

From the Desk of the Mayor:

Dear Friends,

Attached as a PDF is an executive overview of a proposal for establishing a research park in the Waxhaw area. The proposed site has many advantages and the concept has garnered the attention of a number of potential significant stakeholders throughout the Charlotte area. At the May 12, 2009, meeting of the Waxhaw Board of Commissioners, the board expressed enthusiastic support for exploring the idea through a Stakeholder Summit to take place in Waxhaw on June 18, 2009.

Assistance needed:

Those who want to help with **Event planning** would be involved in planning the actual Summit. This would entail securing a location including appropriate furnishings, arranging for food, invitations, programs, goodie bags (optional), etc.

Publicity would involve creating press releases and getting the word out to the various media sources, hopefully to include local talk radio shows, and arranging for there to be significant media coverage the day of the event.

Recruiting would involve contacting potential stakeholders and securing their commitment to participate.

Research would involve working exploring how other projects have worked such as RTP and the business park that is on the NC/TN border so that we have as much information as possible to anticipate the questions and concerns that may be raised by the stakeholders.

If we have 3 - 4 people on each task over the next few weeks that would be

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



The Waxhaw Farmers Market Now Open!

ideal. Please let me know if you can help with this exciting project.

Best,
Daune Gardner
Mayor of Waxhaw

PO Box 6
Waxhaw, NC 28173
704-843-2195 (Town Hall)
704-843-5040 (Business)
mayor@waxhaw.com



Seventy Seventh Edition

Published, On-Line, Every Week on Friday

May 15th , 2009

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A Night of Pretty Colors

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By: Hunter Crosswell, Contributing Writer

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This past Monday, I was cordially invited to the Pretty Colors Gallery for it's first art show in Waxhaw. Hosted by Charles Klaus, it was the place to be that night. It seemed like anyone who was anyone was there, and everyone was having fun.

Every work of art was made by someone local including a wall dedicated to the many works of Charles's own son Jamie. The crowd circled around the room, people picking the ones they loved most; and as the night went on, no piece of art went unnoticed or unappreciated. Believe me, they were astounding.

But the one that really caught my eye was a piece of wood in a window with a cartoon carved on it. It was pulled out of the basement the day before, for the first time in at least eighty years.

It was just a part of Charles's plan for Waxhaw though. The whole night was not for business, or just for fun, but to bring the town's artists together in one place to work as a team, a team that promotes art throughout our town. Charles also plans to open up a permanent Pretty Colors Gallery so that this one fun night can be an ongoing thing, making Waxhaw the most colorful place around.

Town of Waxhaw Plans Memorial Day Remembrance Ceremony

Waxhaw, N.C. Plans are under way for the 2009 Memorial Day Remembrance Ceremony in historic downtown Waxhaw. The program is slated for Saturday, May 23rd beginning with breakfast and registration for veterans at 9am. The official public program will begin at 10am in front of the Waxhaw Military Wall of Honor. The Wall of Honor is located in the East North Main Street block in historic downtown. The program will be emceed by Ken Conrad and will include: the changing of flags by American Legion Post 208, The National Anthem by Laura Pettler, Laying of the wreath, guest speaker John W. Falkenbury Lieutenant colonel, U.S. Army, retired and President of the N.C. USO., a three round volley from the overhead bridge, taps, Ken O'Neil on bag pipes and a symbolic releasing of doves. The public is urged to attend this event to commemorate all war veterans. Far too often, the nation as a whole takes for granted the freedoms all Americans enjoy. By honoring the nation's war dead, we preserve their memory and thus their service and sacrifice in the memories of future generations This event is free to the public. For more information on the Memorial Day Remembrance Ceremony please go to www.waxhaw.com or call 704-843-2195 ext 26.



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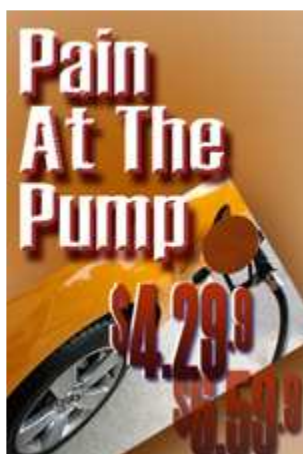
Laura Petler Music Performance Schedule 2009

May 16, 2009, 5pm-6pm, Spring Fest, Waxhaw Bandstand, Waxhaw, NC

May 23, 2009, time TBA, Memorial Day National Anthem, Waxhaw, NC

***We are grateful for every opportunity extended to us to serve our communities.**

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Prices for gas in the Waxhaw area... Where are they headed this week?

	3/20/08	5/14/09
Texaco:	\$3.19.9	\$ 2.28.9
Pure:	\$3.24.9	\$
Little General:	\$3.24.9	\$ 2.28.9
Shell:	\$3.24.9	\$ 2.28.9
Wax. In n Out:	\$3.26.9	\$ 2.28.9
Mineral Springs:		
M. S. Grocery	\$3.20.9	\$
Texaco:	\$3.21.9	\$ 2.28.9
BP on New Town	\$3.21.9	\$

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

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Waxhaw's Events Calendar



Waxhaw, N.C. May 7, 2009—The Town of Waxhaw invites everyone to come enjoy the beautiful days of Spring in historic downtown on Saturday, May 16th from 10a.m. until 6 p.m. and Sunday, May 17th from 1p.m. until 6 p.m.

Featuring over 100 artists and crafters, live entertainment, food court and a separate KIDS ZONE, Spring Fest is sure to offer something for everyone in the family. Start Saturday with our Clever Canines Dog Talent Contest at the band stand starting at 10 a.m. followed by Rick Hubbard and his Kazoobie Kazoo Show . KIDS ZONE will also offer face painting, bouncies, a petting

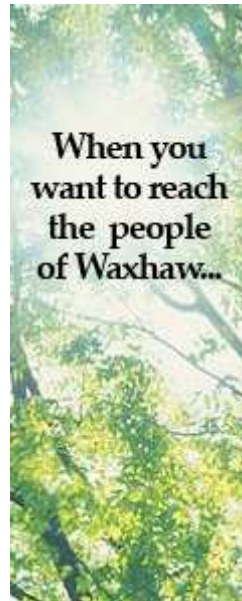
zoo, caricature artist, nail salon, and more. Don't miss Seldom Blue, RJ Adams and Laura Pettler at the main stage. Calling all skateboarders, rollerbladers, and speed skaters for the wXw SK8 SLAM competition at the Waxhaw Skate Park on Caldwell Street. The Museum of the Waxhaws re-enactors will also be in town on Saturday at 11:00a.m. as part of their re-enactors weekend at the museum.

Sunday will feature more of Rick Hubbard and the smooth sound of the 5 Stones Worship Band on the main stage.

Don't miss the wide selection of food in the food court featuring: BBQ by Butts R Us, hamburgers, hot dogs, Philly steaks, sno cones, funnel cakes, pizza, cotton candy and more.

This weekend is proudly sponsored by: Futurity First Insurance Group, Windstream Communications, Medical Group of Waxhaw, The Enquirer Journal/Waxhaw Exchange, Summerfield Auto Repair, Carolina Home Remodeling, Bath Fitter, and five stones church.

Contact Cathy Murphy at 704-843-2195 ext 26 or events@waxhaw.com



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**...have a  
Great Day!**

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# And now, Our Weekly Dose of Humor directly from the Internet.....

bits and pieces that your Editor will not testify to for correctness, accuracy nor even believability but they are certainly humorous? So Enjoy!

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*"Always do  
right - This will  
gratify some  
people and  
astonish the  
rest." --Mark  
Twain*



## KFC and the Pope



After watching sales falling off for three straight months at Kentucky Fried Chicken, the Colonel calls up the Pope and asks for a favor.

The Pope says, "What can I do?"

The Colonel says, "I need you to change the daily prayer from, 'Give us this day our daily bread' to 'Give us this day our daily

chicken'. If you do it, I'll donate \$10 Million Dollars to the Vatican ."

The Pope replies, "I am very sorry. That is the Lord's prayer and I can not change the words."

So the Colonel hangs up.

After another month of dismal sales, the Colonel panics, and calls again.

"Listen your Excellency. I really need your help. I'll donate \$50 million dollars if you change the words of the daily prayer from 'Give us this day our daily bread' to 'Give us this day our daily chicken.'"

And the Pope responds, "It is very tempting, Colonel Sanders. The church could do a lot of good with that much money. It would help us to support many charities. But, again, I must decline. It is the Lord's prayer, and I can't change the words."

So the Colonel gives up again.

After two more months of terrible sales, the Colonel gets even more desperate and phone His Holiness once again.

"This is my final offer, your Excellency. If you change the words of the daily prayer from, 'Give us this day our daily bread' to 'Give us this day our daily chicken' I will donate \$100 million to the Vatican."

The Pope replies, "Let me get back to you."



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



**...have a  
Great Day!**

So the next day, the Pope calls together all of his bishops and he says . . . "I have some good news and I have some bad news. The good news is that KFC is going to donate \$100 million to the Vatican."

The bishops rejoice at the news.

Then one asks about the bad news.

The Pope replies . . . "The bad news is we lost the Wonder Bread account."

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**STATE FARM**  
INSURANCE

**Gary L Cooper Ins Agency Inc**  
**Gary Cooper, CPCU**  
Phone: 704.814.7100 | Fax: 704.814.7183  
e-mail: gary.l.cooper.icg9@statefarm.com

**Auto** | **Life** | **Home**

Like a good neighbor,  
State Farm is there.®

The advertisement features the State Farm logo, contact information for Gary L. Cooper, and three panels illustrating insurance services: Auto (a woman driving), Life (a man and woman reviewing documents), and Home (a man and woman celebrating in front of a house).

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