

The Waxhaw Gazette

Serving the people of Waxhaw, North Carolina

Fifty ~ Second Edition

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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

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Swimming in a sea of cars, both imported and domestic!



by John Tiley

Before I begin.... A fact or two; currently there are more autos licensed in the US than there are licensed drivers so we have reached and exceeded the point of saturation. Next are the consumers... at best, if they still could afford one, they are too concerned about the financial debacle our country is dealing with to consider purchasing such a high priced and obsolete piece of equipment. Dealerships are on the verge of closing due to losses and as a result new cars can't be delivered to them. So; the newest ones aren't even making it to the Dealerships, there are thousands of finished cars ready to be sold that are languishing in port facilities and holding yards across the country.



Of course there will always be a need to replace the old and "beyond repair" vehicles on the road, but those are not the numbers the automakers need to support their business. And after all it is the simple fact that of all the makes and models that are out there, the small and efficient ones we really need are far too few and heavily over priced for such a skittish market.



Sometimes, you just feel like the world is going mad! Banks, Wall Street, and now the auto makers are all crying over their impending demise as if it was somebody's fault other than their own. With bad management and a bloated business model, they have insisted in building the wrong kinds of vehicles for decades, we knew this was coming back in the seventies after the last time when the oil cartels decided to put the squeeze on us.

In all of this time, has anybody marketed a good, efficient and moderately priced vehicle to the masses? No, it has been far too easy to build BUFFS (Big Ugly Fat Fellas) where there was tons of money to be made and greed was the incentive ...and NO thought of the future!

Trucks, SUV's and such, all getting as bad if not worse mileage than the old muscle cars of the sixties were sold hand over fist. The domestic automakers refused to acknowledge the facts in the seventies and they paid a heavy price back then, giving the Asian makers the time to gain a huge foothold with the kinds of cars we needed then. Today, as a result I don't believe Detroit can ever fully recover.... and against all logic, they haven't seen the handwriting that's been on the wall for all of these years. Everybody is getting hurt in these times but the Asian companies appear to have had at least the foresight to anticipate bad times and therefore are far better capitalized to weather the coming storm.

On another point, with few exceptions, it has become increasingly difficult to tell the difference between the manufactures, they all are offering the same fare at the same prices. The imagery and style American car once possessed that set them apart is gone. Perhaps we are truly overdue for a pairing down of these companies. I really don't think anybody holds hope for these bloated behemoths to survive. I am however sure GM will remerge post bankruptcy as a much leaner and competitive company, hopefully with people in the drivers seat with the courage and moral conviction to build the products the country is really going to need in the future.



Around Town:



The Holidays are upon us now. Read all about the planned festivities [on page two](#)>. In the meantime, the Town of Waxhaw is still accepting applications for the annual Christmas parade.

~ ~ ~

LAST CALL!



Bring

**your shoe box to:
Ice Cream &
Pizza Works
any time before
November 22nd.**

Place a rubber band around each closed shoe box. [More Info in Events](#)>.

~ ~ ~

Just Like Dominoes...



First Wall Street crashes and burns... and that is a continuing saga, the index is what, as low as it has been since the Depression? Then the Banks start failing, how many have closed in the last five or six months? Insurance Companies with major holdings are collapsing even with "bail-out help" from the government, taking with them the retirement savings of how many American senior citizens? Most recently is the impending collapse of the automotive industry, and not just the Big Three!

iAnd these major headlines say nothing off all of the smaller companies, housing, manufacturing and service that are feeling the effects. Resulting in hundreds of thousands of jobs lost and retirements disrupted if not ruined all together.

And most recently, to the utter surprise of most economists, instead of an inflationary run, we are actually experiencing a devaluation trend where the consumer prices are dropping at an unprecedented rate. And that spells
DEPRESSION

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Just Like Dominoes...



What is next in the line of dominoes? Most likely healthcare! The last of the over-inflated industries existing in America! If people talk about the American Auto Industry being bloated and past being competitive what does that say for healthcare with it's decades worth of spiraling rise in cost far outpacing inflation. What will happen when there are few people if anybody left with insurance to support that behemoth? And that day is on the horizon. For decades the government has struggled with healthcare, both as it affects Medicare for the Elderly and Medicaid for the "less fortunate? If ever there was an industry bringing America to its financial knees, it has to be healthcare and the insane insurance industry associated with it! We can do without new cars, bigger houses and elaborate entertainment, but when we get sick and can't afford the ridiculously inflated out of pocket prices what will happen? Just like the auto dealerships and bank lobbies, the doctor offices and hospitals will empty out except for the "indigent" and another industry is going to go through a major correction, one that has been long overdue. For decades the government has been trying to initiate an overhaul of the healthcare industry to no avail.

The fact of the matter is, if you look closely at all of the woes we are enduring now, the root of all of these problems can be directly traced to poor management, the total lack of loyalty & morality in business, mostly in leadership but in the file and ranks as well. And at the very core of course, is that evil monster, Greed that has run rampant through corporate America for the better part of the last three decades. Now, we get to experience the price first hand. The question is can we pay it and what is it really going to take to turn things around and get us back on track, or can we?

The Town of Waxhaw presents...



Waxhaw
Christmas Traditions

2008 Holiday Parade, Snack with Santa ... and Tree Lighting.

Celebrate the arrival of the most magical time of the year in historic downtown Waxhaw, Sunday, December 14th, 2008. This day is proudly sponsored by The County Edge, The Waxhaw Business Association, Oldies 106.1, The Waxhaw-Weddington Sunrise Rotary Club, Summerfield Auto Service and The Medical Group of Waxhaw.

The day begins with the Holiday Traditions Parade at 3pm: featuring this year's Grand Marshall Rufus from the Charlotte Bobcats accompanied by the Lady Cats and emceed by Ken Conrad of OLDIES 106.1 WOLS. Children of all ages will delight in the Oasis Shriners Steel Drum Band, recording artists Laura Pettler and Sharelle Quick, Miss North Carolina-Amanda Watson, Marvin Ridge and Parkwood High School Marching Bands, beautiful horses and holiday floats.

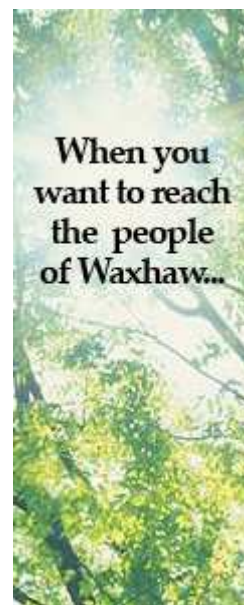
The Waxhaw-Weddington Sunrise Rotary Club will once again host the VIP lounge. Located at Rippingtons Restaurant, town leaders and designated VIPS will be invited to enjoy a warm drink.

Following the parade, the Waxhaw Business Association invites the children to bring their Christmas wishes to Santa at the Waxhaw Volunteer Fire Department located on Southeast Main Street. Children will enjoy an assortment of holiday goodies, make a craft, and have their picture taken with Santa courtesy of photoEdge photography.

Finally, top off the holiday festivities with the Mayor's (Daune Gardner) Tree Lighting in front of Rippingtons Restaurant and Café Fino. Led by National recording artist Laura Pettler, also enjoy carolers, the Carolina Dance Company, and warm drinks provided by local merchants.

Enjoy a little holiday time with your family in our quaint downtown while enjoying the sights and sounds of this wonderful season. The Town of Waxhaw wishes you and yours a joyous and safe holiday. For more information about the holiday festivities in Waxhaw, visit us on the town web site www.waxhaw.com or call Cathy Murphy at 704-843-2195 ext 26. Applications to be in the parade will be accepted until December 5th, 2008.

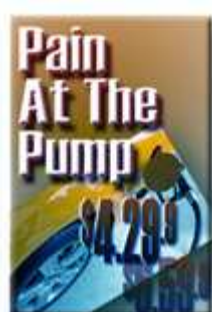
This event is scheduled rain or shine. However, in the event of unsafe conditions, the event will be rescheduled.



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



Steeplechase
The only Re/Max
Real Estate Office
in Union County



Prices for gas in the

	3/20/08	11/14/08
Texaco:	\$3.19.9	\$1.96.9
Pure:	\$3.24.9	\$2.15.9
Little General:	\$3.24.9	\$2.09.9
Shell:	\$3.24.9	\$2.02.9
Wax. In n Out:	\$3.26.9	\$2.09.9
Mineral Springs:		
M. S. Grocery	\$3.20.9	\$1.96.9
Texaco:	\$3.21.9	\$1.96.9

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Waxhaw's Events Calendar

The Town of Waxhaw presents...



The Town of Waxhaw is now accepting applications for the annual Christmas parade in historic downtown Waxhaw, N.C. The parade will take place on December 14th (Sunday) at 3pm. The deadline for applicants is December 5th. Holiday festivities (snack/photo with Santa, crafts, Christmas carols and the Mayor's tree lighting) will follow the parade. Applications for entrants are available at www.waxhaw.com or through Cathy Murphy at 704-843-2195 ext 26 or events@waxhaw.com. You are encouraged to represent your neighborhood, business or group in this old fashioned and traditional Christmas parade.



Operation Christmas Child brings joy and hope to children in desperate situations around the world through gift-filled shoe boxes and the Good News of God's love. Since 1993, more than 61 million shoe boxes have been packed, shipped, and delivered across the globe. People of all ages can be involved in this simple, hands-on missions project while focusing on the true meaning of Christmas—Jesus Christ.

National Collection Week is November 17-24.

How to Pack a Shoe Box

1. SHOE BOX

Use an empty shoe box (standard size, please) or a small plastic container. You can wrap the box (lid separately), but wrapping is not required. Most importantly, pray for the child who will receive your gift.

2. BOY OR GIRL?

Determine whether your gift will be for a boy or a girl, and the child's age category: 2-4, 5-9, or 10-14. Print out the appropriate boy/girl label shown above. Mark the correct age category on the label, and tape the label to the top of your box.

3. FILL WITH GIFTS

Fill the box with a variety of gifts that will bring delight to a child. Use the gift ideas provided on the bottom of this page.

4. INCLUDE YOUR DONATION

Please donate \$7 or more for each shoe box you prepare to help cover shipping and other project costs. You can give online by using our EZGIVE option, or you can write a check to Samaritan's Purse (note "OCC" on memo line) and place it in

5. DROP OFF

Place a rubber band around each closed shoe box and drop off your box(es) at:

**Ice Cream & Pizza Works
 any time before November 22nd.**

You can also send your shoe box gift to:

**Samaritan's Purse
 Operation Christmas Child
 801 Bamboo Road
 Boone, NC 28607 | 1-800-353-5949.**

GIFT IDEAS

TOYS

small cars, balls, dolls, stuffed animals, kazoos, harmonicas, yo-yos, jump ropes, small Etch A Sketch®, toys that light up or make noise (with extra batteries), Slinky®, etc.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

pens, pencils and sharpener, crayons or markers, stamps and ink pad sets, writing pads or paper, solar calculators, coloring and picture books, etc.

HYGIENE ITEMS

toothbrush, toothpaste, mild bar soap (in a plastic bag), comb, washcloth, etc.

OTHER

Hard candy and lollipops (please double bag all candy), mints, gum, T-shirts, socks, ball caps; sunglasses, hair clips, toy jewelry, watches, flashlights (with extra batteries)

A PERSONAL NOTE

In a separate envelope, you may enclose a

Is Your Tree House Getting A Little Too Small?



Let the experts at MultiCraft Renovations show you how to branch out with a home renovation or addition.

**MultiCraft
 Renovations, Inc.**
 Complete Restoration
 Services Available.
 704-243-2265
 info@multicraft.biz
 www.multicraft.biz

an envelope on top of the gift items inside your box. If you or your family are preparing more than one shoe box, please make one combined donation.



NEED LABELS?
[Click to download.](#)

note to the child and a photo of yourself or your family. (If you include your name and address, the child may write back.)

DO NOT INCLUDE:

Used or damaged items; war-related items such as toy guns, knives or military figures; chocolate or food; out-of-date candy; liquids or lotions; medications or vitamins; breakable items such as snow globes or glass containers; aerosol cans.



Waxhaw Woman's Club presents the 2008 Holiday Tour of Historic Homes

The Waxhaw Woman's Club presents the Holiday Tour of Historic Homes on Saturday, December 6th from 10 am to 8 pm and on Sunday, the 7th from 1- 5 pm. The Holiday Home walking tour features eight homes in Waxhaw's Historic District. Ticket prices are \$15 per adult and \$7.50 for each child ages 2 - 12. Presale tickets to groups of 4 or more are \$12.00 per ticket. Tickets can be purchased at select Waxhaw merchants and at the Waxhaw Woman's Club located at 200 East South Main Street on the day of the Home Tour. For more information contact Paula Kovack at (704) 243-4049.

About Waxhaw Woman's Club

The Waxhaw Woman's Club was founded in 1911 and is a non-profit organization dedicated to the betterment of the community through service, fellowship, the preservation of historical heritage, and a confident look toward a bright future. The Waxhaw Woman's Club is located at the historic Belk Building in downtown Waxhaw, NC.

Contact: Paula Kovack
 Email: KovackP@carolina.rr.com | Ph: (704) 243-4049

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

**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!

A successful business man was growing old and Knew it was time to choose a successor to take over the business.

Instead of choosing one of his Directors or his children, he decided to do something different. He called all the young executives in his company together.

He said, 'It is time for me to step down and choose the next CEO. I have decided to choose one of you. 'The young executives were shocked, but the boss continued. 'I am going to give each one of you a SEED today - one very special SEED. I want you to plant the seed, water it, and come back here one year from today with what you have grown from the seed I have given you. I will then judge the plants that you bring, and the one I choose will be the next CEO.'

One man, named Jim, was there that day and he, like the others, received a seed. He went home and excitedly, told his wife the story. She helped him get a pot, soil and compost and he planted the seed. Every day, he would water it and watch to see if it had grown. After about three weeks, some of the other executives began to talk about their seeds and the plants that were beginning to grow.

Jim kept checking his seed, but nothing ever grew.

Three weeks, four weeks, five weeks went by, still nothing.

By now, others were talking about their plants, but Jim didn't have a plant and he felt like a failure.

Six months went by -- still nothing in Jim's pot. He just knew he had killed his seed. Everyone else had trees and tall plants, but he had nothing. Jim didn't say anything to his colleagues, however. He just kept watering and fertilizing the soil - He so wanted the seed to grow.

A year finally went by and all the young executives of the company brought their plants to the CEO for inspection.

Jim told his wife that he wasn't going to take an empty pot. But she asked him to be honest about what happened. Jim felt sick to his stomach, it was going to be the most embarrassing moment of his life, but he knew his wife was right. He took his empty pot to the board room. When Jim arrived, he was amazed at the variety of plants grown by the other executives. They were beautiful -- in all shapes and sizes. Jim put his empty pot on the floor and many of his colleagues laughed, a few felt sorry for him!

When the CEO arrived, he surveyed the room and greeted his young executives.

Jim just tried to hide in the back. 'My,

As Thanksgiving Approaches, here are a few wise words from Maxine!



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



what great plants, trees, and flowers you have grown,' said the CEO. 'Today one of you will be appointed the next CEO!'

All of a sudden, the CEO spotted Jim at the back of the room with his empty pot. He ordered the Financial Director to bring him to the front. Jim was terrified. He thought, 'The CEO knows I'm a failure! Maybe he will have me fired!'

When Jim got to the front, the CEO asked him what had happened to his seed - Jim told him the story.

The CEO asked everyone to sit down except Jim. He looked at Jim, and then announced to the young executives, 'Behold your next Chief Executive Officer!'

His name is Jim! Jim couldn't believe it. Jim couldn't even grow his seed.

'How could he be the new CEO?' the others said.

Then the CEO said, 'One year ago today, I gave everyone in this room a seed. I told you to take the seed, plant it, water it, and bring it back to me today. But I gave you all boiled seeds; they were dead - it was not possible for them to grow.

All of you, except Jim, have brought me trees and plants and flowers. When you found that the seed would not grow, you substituted another seed for the one I gave you. Jim was the only one with the courage and honesty to bring me a pot with my seed in it. Therefore, he is the one who will be the new Chief Executive Officer!'

* If you plant honesty, you will reap trust

* If you plant goodness, you will reap friends

* If you plant humility, you will reap greatness

* If you plant perseverance, you will reap contentment

* If you plant consideration, you will reap perspective

* If you plant hard work, you will reap success

* If you plant forgiveness, you will reap reconciliation

* If you plant faith in God, you will reap a harvest

So, be careful what you plant now; it will determine what you will reap later. Author Unknown

Australian Logic

A man in Australia calls his son in London the day before Christmas Eve and says, I hate to ruin your day, but I have to tell you that your mother and I are divorcing, forty-five years of misery is enough.

'Dad, what are you talking about?' the son screams.

'We can't stand the sight of each other any longer,' the father says. 'We're sick of each other, and I'm sick of talking about this, so you call your sister in Ireland and tell her.'

Frantic, the son calls his sister, who explodes on the phone. 'Like hell they're getting divorced,' she shouts, 'I'll take care of this.'

She calls Australia immediately, and screams at her father, 'You are NOT getting divorced. Don't do a single thing until I get there. I'm calling my brother back, and we'll both be there tomorrow. Until then, don't do a thing, DO YOU HEAR ME?' and hangs up.

.....The old man hangs up his phone and turns to his wife. 'Okay,' he says, 'they're coming for Christmas and they're paying their own way.'

Cold as it's been lately, you could be a Cop in Canada....



Click

*here for a
Very Funny Video!*

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