



## Hearthstone Homes Are In Demand

By Sarah Hamlin & Stacey Manley

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### Special points of interest:

- Home Values Rising
- Get Out of School Party great fun!
- Community Service makes great progress
- Block Party for everyone
- Be sure you have your correct information in the neighborhood directory.
- "Safe Houses" needed for children

Realtors and hopeful residents are putting flyers in our mailboxes, home prices are rising and homes are being snatched up in the first week on the market. Recent home sales show updated homes selling for \$135 per square foot. Plus, the board continues to receive approval requests for home renovations, additions and updates. If you are thinking about selling your home, be sure to educate your realtor about recent home sales and the great interest in our neighborhood. We have been told stories about realtors who strongly encouraged residents to lower their asking price only to see the house be snatched up in the first week...and only a few thousand under asking price!

Emily Glaub (of Wilkinson and

Associates Real Estate), a top producing real estate agent with 23 years of experience in the Charlotte market, is a big fan of Hearthstone. She has said that she believes Hearthstone is "one of the most beautiful mid-range neighborhoods in the Charlotte/Weddington area." We asked her about what attracts buyers today.

She stressed that first impressions mean everything. Clients will want to visit a home if the home and yard are well-kept. People notice the craftsmanship of Hearthstone homes immediately and feel that they are getting a solid, well-built home. Kitchen and bath updates are always popular. However, simple updates like new paint, flooring and lighting can immediately increase the value of your home.



Every home improvement you make today increases your home's value and makes your house more comfortable for you and your family.

If you are selling your home, be sure to use the neighborhood website [www.hearthstoneneighborhood.com](http://www.hearthstoneneighborhood.com). You or your realtor can scroll to the bottom of the home page to find a link to the neighborhood brochure. This is a great way to tell potential buyers about how special and unique Hearthstone is.

## Get Out of School-Petting Zoo Party

by Sandra Maxwell

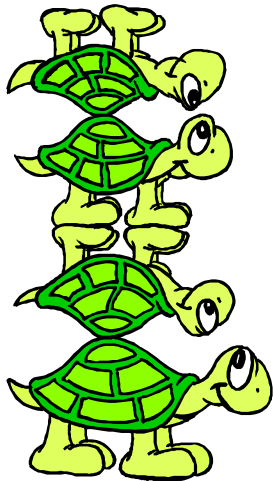
The Hearthstone Children's Social is having a Summer Kick-off Party on June 3<sup>rd</sup> at 4 pm in the Maxwell's backyard at 3141 Butterchurn Lane. Party Pets will be here for an interactive experience and hands on time with the

animals. Each child gets hands on time with all the animals including snakes, a giant tortoise, bunnies, hedgehogs and a large and varied assortment of animals from scaly to cuddly. They do a wonderful job and even wrap the snakes

around and tie them on as belts for the willing children!!

This is an all ages party for all the children of Hearthstone. There will be snacks

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## *Get Out of School-Petting Zoo Party - Continued*

*by Sandra Maxwell*

and lizard cake for desert!! Parents are encouraged to stay if possible but it is not mandatory. Please RSVP as soon as possible, but no later than May 30th with the number of children attending to [srmaxwell@alltel.net](mailto:srmaxwell@alltel.net) or 704-321-3380. We may need a few animal handling parent volunteers from those with slightly

older children that are able to sit by themselves during the show. If interested in volunteering to assist, please include that in your RSVP. We really hope to see you here. It really is a tremendous amount of fun and will have the kids talking for weeks!!! The website for Party Pets is [www.PartyPets.org](http://www.PartyPets.org).

Sandra Maxwell

704-321-3380

704-806-7477

[www.kodakgallery.com/cakesbysandra](http://www.kodakgallery.com/cakesbysandra)

[srmaxwell@alltel.net](mailto:srmaxwell@alltel.net)

## *Roadside Cleanup & Park Patrol by Stacey Manley*

**Roadside Cleanup:** A great big “Thank you” to Scott and Kathy Mathews, Roger Manley, Tanya Johnson, Mark Brooks, Billy Jernigan, and Ken, Jonathan, and Mallory Walls for working so hard and accomplishing so much on Earth Day. Tilley Morris looks

wonderful and the time you all put in to cleaning it up is greatly appreciated.

**Park Patrol:** Please be considerate (and ask your children to be considerate) to property owners bordering the

park. If you often access the park by walking through your neighbors’ yard, please be sure you first obtain permission to do so. Don’t assume that it’s alright to repeatedly walk through someones yard simply because you have always done it.

## *Network Security by Dana McKittrick*

There are many “home networks” in Hearthstone alone. And you would be amazed at how many are completely unsecured. Within 3 houses in either direction, most of us can find no less than 2 other networks. Basic

security is generally all that is needed. What a snoop can’t see, they won’t know about. All home networks that I am familiar with offer at least a couple of ways to secure your wireless network. Take the time to read your router

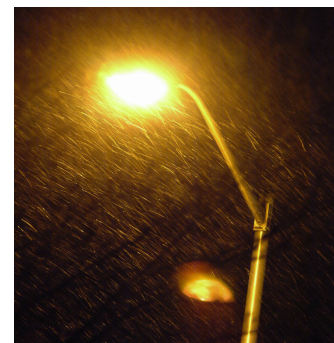
manual on Broadcasting and WEP or WPA security. A Firewall alone is not an adequate solution. That way you won’t get the message that someone else is logged into your network when you’re supposed to be the last one logging off for the day!

## *Street Light Maintenance*

*by Scott Matthews*

Four streetlight bulbs were recently replaced by Duke power. To report a streetlight outage, call Duke power’s 24 hour customer service at 704-594-9400. Be prepared to give

the address of the streetlight when you call. Duke power responds to the call within a few days. Let’s keep Hearthstone safe with well lit streets.



**Be sure you keep your home network secure. Be sure you are not broadcasting your network name.**

## Hearthstone Charity Drive by Oliver Maxwell

Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina is a nonprofit, charitable organization providing food to over 500 nonprofit agencies in NC and SC. 90,000 children in the Metrolina area live in poverty, at risk for hunger every day. 1 in 3 people seeking emergency food assistance has to choose between paying rent and buying food. Many of these children receive free or reduced hot meals every day at school. With summer coming and school closing for the summer months, there is a great need at this time to make sure the children do not go hungry.

We in Hearthstone are very fortunate and as we celebrate with food and friends at the

June 9<sup>th</sup> block party, would like to remember those less fortunate in our area. Please bring items to donate to the Second Harvest Food Bank and deposit in the neighborhood collection bin. The most needed food items at the moment are canned or packaged foods including: chicken, beef stew, peanut butter, mac and cheese dinners, ham, tuna, dried beans, turkey, salmon, chili. Also canned item including fruit, juices, vegetables, evaporated milk and soup. Packaged items such as cereal, baking mixes, oatmeal, and powdered milk are very welcome. Nonfood items that are appreciated include paper products, personal hygiene items and cleaning supplies. All non

perishable donations are appreciated and the items needed are not limited to the items above. Grab a grocery bag or box and clean out some of those unused items or multiples in your pantry and help someone in need!

Please, no glass containers. If you are unable to make the block party on June 9<sup>th</sup> you are welcome to bring your contributions to the Children's Social on June 3<sup>rd</sup> or drop them off on the Maxwell's porch at 3141 Butterchurn Lane anytime up to June 9<sup>th</sup>.

Thank you,  
Oliver Maxwell  
Hearthstone Charity  
Committee  
Questions? 704-321-3380

**90,000 children in the Metrolina area live in poverty, at risk for hunger every day.**

## Neighborhood Watch by Jonathan Spence

The Hearthstone neighborhood watch program is going to be revitalizing some programs that we have had in the past. Specifically, the "Helping Hands" program; whereby willing residents will be volunteering their homes to be a safe place for our children (or adults) to run to in the event of an emergency or perceived danger. We can mark the mailboxes of these houses, but it is up to the parents to teach their children

not only how to react in such situations, but also to recognize these safe places and to go there if it is closer than their home or of there is no parent at home.

Also, in the past we have had "block captains" who looked after their respective parts of the neighborhood and were the first line of communication in the event of any incident.

Participation in either program is completely voluntary of course and those who do participate are identified in the directory. If there are questions regarding this or any other security matter, please contact me. Those wishing to participate should contact either Sara Hamlin or myself.

Jonathan Spence  
704-847-6051  
jon\_spence@yahoo.com



**HELPING HANDS needs "Safe Homes" for our children.**

## Important Dates

- June 3 – Children's Social and Petting Zoo**
- June 9 – Block Party and Canned Food Drive**
- September 21 – Annual Dinner**

## Annual Block Party by Dawn Banick

It is time for our Hearthstone Annual Block Party and this year's promises a little sprinkle of fun. Please join us Saturday, June 9th @ 4:30 pm. Our host will be the Bards Ct cul-de-sac. This is a great time for all the families of Hearthstone to get together and just enjoy those lazy days of summer.

We will enjoy these lazy days of summer with a little extra cooling off. My husband Dave - your neighborhood Deputy Chief of the Providence Volunteer Fire Department is bringing the fire truck to "sprinkle" the kids and keep them cooled off this year. So bring your bathing suits &

towels and get ready for some old fashion fun via the fire truck. Dave will be set up

run off into the culvert drain. Onto the next best thing of



directly past the cul-de-sac so that adults can stay dry yet the kids are still close and the majority of the water will be

those lazy summer days. The smell of the grill. The hamburgers, hot dogs, buns, and water will be provided by

your Association. Also, the great Snowcone machine will make its way to Hearthstone again.

Now, the alphabet food group request - If you last name begins with A - I, chips/appetizers / J - R, side dish / S - Z, dessert. Please bring your best summer recipe to be enjoyed by all.

With so much to look forward to this year - we hope to see all of you there. Get out your chairs, blankets & bug spray and meet us at Bards Ct. Please RSVP to Dawn Banick 704.844.0161 or Leslie Walls 704.849.0688 with your families head count

CUT HERE and SUBMIT

# 2007 HearthStone Neighborhood Directory

The 2007 neighborhood directory will be delivered to all dues paying Hearthstone Homeowners Association members at the end of May.

There are some advertising spaces still available and if anyone is interested in advertising their business in the Directory, please print this page, complete the section below and drop it in my mailbox with ad material and a check made payable to "HearthStone Neighborhood Association" by May 21<sup>st</sup>.

If you have any questions, please call Kim McClintock at 704.847.2691 or email: [home@mcclintockhvac.com](mailto:home@mcclintockhvac.com)

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

Your Company Name \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Business \_\_\_\_\_

Contact phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Please circle your interest:	Outside	Inside	Inside
	Back Cover	Back Cover	Front Cover
	\$50.00	\$25.00	\$25.00

by



## *Congratulations Graduates*

### *Michelle Stillman*



### College Graduates

**Sarah Huskey** recently graduated with honors from **Western Carolina University** with a degree in Education & Applied Professions. Her concentration is in Birth to Kindergarten with a minor in Special Education.

**Margaret McCanless** is receiving her degree in Industrial Engineering from **Clemson University**. She has a job with a company in Lawrenceville, GA.

### High School Graduates

**Noelle Bondy** is graduating after many years of home-schooling. Noelle plans to attend **Berry College** in Rome, GA this fall.

**Billy Hawks** is graduating from Covenant Day. He will be attending **Coastal Carolina University** in Conway, SC. Billy received a scholarship in their Professional Golf Management program. When he finishes at Coastal Carolina he will have a business degree and his PGA card.

**Jay Mahan** is graduating from Providence High School. Jay will be attending **Western Carolina University** in the fall.

**Emily McCanless** is also graduating from Providence High School. She will attend **UNC-Wilmington** next fall.

**Mary Kathryn Dilisio** is graduating from Charlotte Catholic High School. In the fall she will be attending **Centre College** in Danville, KY where her mother also attended college.

## *Hearthstone Web Site Tips*

### *by Trevor Hancock*

Happy May, everyone! I have two website ([www.HearthstoneNeighborhood.com](http://www.HearthstoneNeighborhood.com)) tips for y'all this time around: pictures and avatars.

Posting pictures to [www.HearthstoneNeighborhood.com](http://www.HearthstoneNeighborhood.com). The picture posting process is really simple: just send them to me in e-mail, to [admin@HearthstoneNeighborhood.com](mailto:admin@HearthstoneNeighborhood.com). If you have photos that you'd like to see posted on our website, be they of a personal or community nature, simply send them to me, along with a caption for each, and I will see that they're posted. Pretty simple, huh?

In the context of our website, avatars are no more than a little picture associated with your profile. If you visit the forums and see any of the posts I have made as "Admin" or "TrevorH", you will see that the posts are accompanied by an avatar. If you'd like your own avatar on the website, here's how:

Log into [www.HearthstoneNeighborhood.com](http://www.HearthstoneNeighborhood.com)

Click your login name in the upper right-hand corner of the screen. This will take you to your profile editor where you can enter personal information, such as your signature, bio, and your e-mail address. You can also configure site options here, as well as set up an avatar.

Click the "Avatar" tab.

Select "Yes" for "Enable Avatar".

Click the "Browse" button next to the "Upload Avatar" box and locate a picture on your local computer to use as an avatar. NOTE: for best performance the picture will be shrunk to a size of around 80 x 80 pixels when uploaded, so you should choose a pretty small one to begin with.

When you've selected your picture, click the "Update" button. This will upload the picture to the website and complete the process.

In about 10 minutes your avatar (picture) will be available and you will start seeing it associated with your new posts in the discussion forums. Head on over to the "General Chat" forum, say hello and check it out!