

The Thornblade News

April 2011

www.ThornbladeInfo.com

2011 HOA dues update

Our 2011 annual dues campaign was a success as 99 homes contributed. Thank you for supporting our front entrance maintenance, an annual expense of about \$5,000. For a breakdown of how your dues are used within our neighborhood please contact Ellen Colitti.

Gear up for the neighborhood garage sale on Saturday, May 14

Now's a great time to clean out your closets and garages and participate in the neighborhood yard sale on May 14 from 8:00 a.m. to noon. The HOA will post signs and advertise.



Large charitable yard sale set for Sept. 10

Neighbor Jodie Blocker at 1810 Thornblade Ridge Drive is having her 4th annual yard sale to raise money for S.A.F.E. Animal Haven. She would love your donations and can provide a receipt from the 501(c)3 organization. Email ourfosters@yahoo.com for more information.

Help make our streets safer for everyone

Stop sign petition is under way. Your signature could help!

After two near tragic incidents last year involving speeding cars and children exiting the school bus, we have contacted the town of Matthews regarding the placement of a stop sign at the corner of Thornblade Ridge and Ivy Bluff. The town requires that we obtain 75% signatures from a list they gave us of 75 homes identified near this intersection. Any additional signatures will help the cause.

Last year's neighborhood survey showed overwhelming support for the stop sign at Thornblade Ridge. Our board will be contacting you soon to sign the petition.

Thank you for your support of this very important initiative.

Memorial fund established for neighborhood teen

We extend our condolences to the DiMaggio family who lost their son Michael on April 8. A foundation has been set up in his honor to help underprivileged children play baseball. Donations can be sent to The Michael V. DiMaggio Foundation, 2819 Bumble Bee Drive, Matthews, NC 28105.

Hello Neighbors!

Happy Spring! We have lots of news to share! Please call us if you have any questions.

Thornblade's web site

Karen Nunziata has developed a web site for us. You can find all our neighborhood information by visiting www.ThornbladeInfo.com

- ⇒ Newsletters
- ⇒ Announcements
- ⇒ Thornblade real estate news
- ⇒ Neighborhood businesses
- ⇒ Classified ads and Matthews links

Submit your information to Karen via knunziata@carolina.rr.com and get into the habit of checking our web site regularly!

Spring Cleaning!

Please mow and trim your lawn weekly, pull weeds and freshen your landscape beds. There are a handful of homes that look neglected. We are proud of our neighborhood and want others to be attracted to it! Please be aware of the following areas:

1. Repair, paint and replace mailboxes. They are now 11-13 years old and look it!
2. Power wash siding.
3. Paint and repair falling shutters.
4. Clean stained roofs. Mold grows on the north side and can be cleaned inexpensively by a roofer.
5. Please light and paint your gas lamp so our neighborhood doesn't seem so dark (see instructions on page 2).

Neighbors open their pantries to help others

Last November neighbors in Thornblade generously gave contributions of food items that benefitted the Matthews Help Center. More than 100 needy Matthews families enjoyed a nice Thanksgiving meal thanks to your donations.

This summer, neighborhood volunteers will collect donations of school supplies for the Matthews Help Center. Look for more information this summer, and thank you for your generous support.



How can you improve your curb appeal?

Overgrown shrubs?

Are your tree limbs hitting our walkers in the head? Hedges spilling out onto the sidewalk? Please trim back your trees and shrubs, especially near where neighbors walk. This also keeps walkers and children on the sidewalks instead of in the streets.

Remember, overgrown shrubs around your mailbox post may obscure your house number and could make it difficult for crews to find your home in the event of an emergency.

Let's keep Thornblade a pedestrian friendly neighborhood!

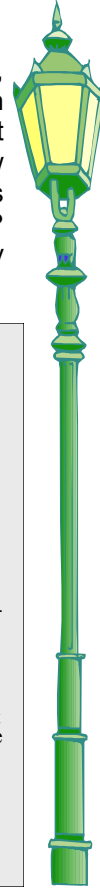
Thank you to the neighbors that are keeping their homes and yards looking presentable. Does your home or yard need some TLC? Here are a few easy ways to boost your curb appeal.

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5. Please light and paint your gas lamp so our neighborhood doesn't seem so dark.



Let's brighten up our neighborhood!

As you may know, there is no money in our budget for street lights. Did you know you can light your gas lamp for as little as \$7? Check out the handy instructions below.



How to light your gas lamp

- Purchase mantles at Renfrow Hardware
- Turn off gas with screwdriver at front screw
- Remove glass by screw in the lamp
- Install mantles per instructions on package
- Slowly turn on gas with screwdriver at front screw
- As your gas turns on, light the flame under the mantle - It will catch fire and turn from black to white
- Replace the glass

Thornblade HOA Board

Thank you so much for your support. Please contact your HOA Board if you have any questions or if you would like to volunteer your time to one of our neighborhood committees.

Vernon Roberts
vernonroberts@evokelearning.com

Ed Smallwood
smallwood@carolina.rr.com

Karen Nunziata
knunziata@carolina.rr.com

Kathy McRorie
Kathy.mcrorie@charlottecountryday.org

Ellen Colitti
ecolitti@msn.com

Michelle & Steve Haggard
hagcamp@windstream.net

Rebecca Kyler
rebeccakylér@yahoo.com

Danny Gladziszewski
Daniel@avenueappraisals.com

If you would like to be on the crime watch email distribution list or want to communicate an incident to help protect your neighbors, please email Karen Nunziata at knunziata@carolina.rr.com.

To sign up for *Citizens Alert* reports through the Matthews Police Department go to www.matthewspolice.org and click on "Citizen Observer" from the front page.

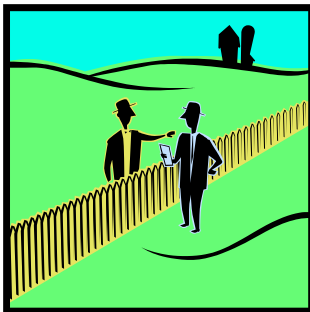
Remember to keep your car doors locked and your garage door closed!



Tame those termites

A number of neighbors on Thornblade Ridge, Night Shade and Mountain Ashe have mentioned seeing termites around their property. Black Pest Control has confirmed this problem.

Termite damage can be costly so have your home inspected.



Other important information

- Every home in our neighborhood is subject to the Covenants and Restrictions.
- Long-term signs at the front entrance are not permitted and will be removed.
- Please pick up after your dogs! Please do not litter and if you see litter please pick it up.
- Please contact Steve Haggard at 704-849-2397 for approval of any changes or additions to the exterior of your property.
- Please contact Ellen Colitti at 704-849-2908 or ecolitti@msn.com if you need a copy of the directory or covenants and restrictions. Updated information is always appreciated.