

# The Woods Watch

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Sardis Woods Neighborhood Newsletter

Volume IV, Issue 1

March, 2008



## PASSING OF THE TORCH

Since May of 2005, I have attempted to develop a positive method of contact with all the great people who call Sardis Woods home. My task has been merely to share with all of you the several projects tackled by a number of wonderful volunteers who want to bring a new sense of community to Sardis Woods. I so appreciate the contribution of those serving as block captains; they have worked to increase safety, awareness, and accountability among all of us. Others have volunteered for special projects the Sardis Woods Watch and Association have undertaken.

I am excited to see this Woods Watch continue to grow, and now even more pleased to pass the torch to a group of young women in Sardis Woods who will take this newsletter to new levels. They are young, talented, and know how to use a computer! (These qualities are not my strengths!) They will introduce themselves, but I present them to you happily as the next generation of leaders in our neighborhood. Thanks to them and thanks to you for your interest and encouragement over these years. David and I will continue to be active in the Sardis Woods Neighborhood Watch and serve as co-chairs of that organization. Dave will remain the moderator of the block captains and the neighborhood meetings. I am going to look forward to every newsletter that comes via my computer and know all words will be properly spelled! Judy Clark.



## COMMUNITY CLEAN-UP

Last year's was such a success we've decided to do it again! Bring the whole family and meet at the corner of Longbrook and Covedale on April 19<sup>th</sup> at 8AM. We'll have coffee and donuts before we hit the streets to pick up trash and yard waste in our neighborhood. Gloves will be provided but please bring a few trash bags. Please contact Mia D. [mia3del@yahoo.com](mailto:mia3del@yahoo.com) to RSVP.

## NEW YEAR, NEW WATCH

Sardis Woods has seen several changes over the years, with people moving in and moving out, houses being updated, street lights being installed. This neighborhood continues to grow and evolve with the times, and the newsletter that represents this great neighborhood should be no exception to the evolution. Although Woods Watch has been in very good hands since its inception, a few of us "newcomers" have been asked to take over the newsletter and take a fresh look at the ins and outs of the neighborhood.

### *Meet the new crew:*

**-Kathleen H.:** Hi, my name is Kathleen and I live on Longbrook Drive. My husband Bill and I have lived in Sardis Woods for almost 5 years. We have an 18 month old son, who loves to explore outside and stalk neighborhood dogs. I am a stay-at-home mom and work a few hours a week at home for an attorney.

**-Stacy D.:** I have been a Covedale Drive resident now for a couple years. My husband and I are former 'yankees' and are enjoying raising our young daughter in Charlotte.

**-Christie D.:** Hello, I'm Christie. My husband and I live on Winterset Drive with our daughter and our spirited Weimaraner. We've lived in Sardis Woods for 5 years. My husband and I are UNCC alumni, as well as Campbell University and NC State University graduates.

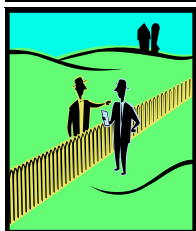
**-Katy O.:** I graduated from the University of Georgia (Go Dawgs!) with a journalism degree and now work as a licensed real estate assistant for a team of agents at a local RE/MAX office. My husband Jay and I live on Covedale Drive with our 5-month-old son.

We are excited about this opportunity to get to know more of our neighbors and hope to continue to produce a neighborhood newsletter that you can be proud of. Communication is key, and we hope that everyone will share with us their ideas, events, special occasions and concerns. Our mission is to put into words how great a neighborhood Sardis Woods is. Mission: Possible.

### HELP! THERE'S NO WATER UNDER THE BRIDGE

Rain and winter storms in December and January have delayed the need for Stage 4 water restrictions in the Charlotte area. However, The National Weather Service predicts conditions that are warmer and dryer than normal through April.

So what kinds of things are you doing to conserve water? Post your unique ideas on the Sardis Woods discussion forum <http://forum.sardiswoods.org/> or email them to [k\\_pane@hotmail.com](mailto:k_pane@hotmail.com) and we'll include a few of the creative ideas here in our next issue.



### NEW NEIGHBORS IN THE WOODS

We would like to welcome new neighbors to the Sardis Woods neighborhood:

- Harps Mill has 2 new neighbors:
  - Diego and Sandra Machado from Florida and
  - Elisia Balsamo.
- Winterset has new neighbors as well:
  - Meghan and Zack Sanford, Zack is from Charlotte and Meghan hails from Michigan.
  - Mike and Andrea Hopkins are also new to the street and are both from Charlotte.
- Covedale also welcomes new neighbors:
  - Terry and Lori Liggin, with daughters Ajah and Keziah, from Kentucky.

We all hope you love this place as much as the rest of us do!

### SEMI-ANNUAL NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING

THURSDAY, MARCH 13 AT 7:00 PM  
EAST BAPTIST CHURCH  
6850 MONROE ROAD  
(Next to East Mech High School)

As a Neighborhood Watch, we have this opportunity twice a year to meet with an officer of

### WHAT IS A NEIGHBOR?

Our world keeps getting more and more isolated. With drive-thru restaurants and ATMs, self-checkout lines at the grocery store and online deliveries of practically anything, it's amazing to see how much human interaction decreases as technology advances increase. So how lucky are we to live in the neighborhood that we do and be surrounded by friendly faces literally right at our door steps? According to *Dictionary.com*, a neighbor is not only defined as just "a person who lives near another" but also as "a person who shows kindness or helpfulness toward his or her fellow humans." Together, we can help Sardis Woods be defined by the latter rather than just the former. As the weather begins to warm up and more people are out in their yards, stop by and say hello. Get to know those around you! Here are some other things you can do to be a better neighbor:

- Offer to get their mail and bring their garbage cans up if they are going out of town.
- If you're out on a walk and see someone searching for their pet, join in on the search.
- If you haven't seen your neighbor out in a while, call or stop by for a visit just to make sure everything's OK, especially during this nasty cold and flu season.
- If you happen to notice your neighbor's headlights or interior car lights are on for a while, let them know.
- Even if you don't know your neighbor that well, drop off a greeting card at Christmas, Thanksgiving or anytime!

the CMPD and get an update on crime in Charlotte and specifically crime problems in Sardis Woods. We can also ask questions and state our opinions to the CMPD representative. This year we expect to meet Officer C. Brent Helms, our new contact with the Independence Division.

Why not come and meet other neighbors? The meeting gives all of us a chance to discuss neighborhood needs, ideas, and brings us in contact with those who are ready to be a positive influence in our neighborhood. **AND** there will be drinks and desserts for everyone.



## NEWS FROM THE CHAR-MECK POLICE DEPT.

Our former CMPD representative, Dave Cristy has been moved to another level in the CMPD and our new representative is Officer C. Brent Helms. As our Community Coordinator, Officer Helms stays in constant contact with our HOA presidents, Dave and Judy Clark. He asks that questions and issues be filtered through them via email [judysincharge@carolina.rr.com](mailto:judysincharge@carolina.rr.com) and they will forward to him as needed.

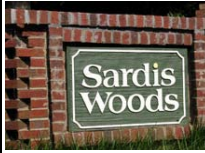
As a reminder...911 should always be your first call for an emergency or whenever you see someone or something suspicious. 311 is the phone number for non-emergency questions, such as scheduling a bulky item pick up.

## AN EXTREME MAKEOVER IMPACTING SARDIS WOODS

Cashel Rock Investors is interested in acquiring and developing 24.5 acres on Monroe road that backs up to Smokehouse Drive. Cashel Rock is in the early stages of planning, but the tentative plans for the property would include 240-260 residential units, projected to be in the middle to upper middle class category. As well as a shopping center toward the front of the property, near Monroe Road, on the side closest to Arby's. A few concerns already expressed include: increased traffic entering and exiting Monroe Road, noise levels, and the price range of the units proposed. Dean De Villers, President of Cashel Rock Investors LLC, has been invited to speak and answer questions at our upcoming Neighborhood Meeting.

## ATTENTION MOMS: SPRING CONSIGNMENT SEASON IS HERE!

A great way to find deals on pre-owned baby/children's clothing, shoes and accessories is to shop local consignment sales. You can also sign up to be a consignor and earn money while cleaning out your children's closets!



## GOODBYE 80'S... HELLO 21ST CENTURY!!

The revitalization of the Covedale entrance signs would not have happened without the generous support of time and money by many of our neighbors! Many thanks everyone who volunteered, including Judy Clark, Ellen Dillard, Cindy Campbell, Voneta Blevins, Tom Bilbro, Enrique Nassar of Genesis Painting, Brenda Brantley and Corey Nutting of Center City Realty, and John Marus of The One Man Handyman.

We have not forgotten about those who donated money to repair and update the entrance signs on Sunnywood, those funds are in the Sardis Woods designated savings account at the Bank. We ask for your patience while we wait for news on the development planned for that corner which has delayed this project for sometime.

## FULFILL YOUR NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION TO VOLUNTEER BY BECOMING A BLOCK CAPTAIN!

Block Captains are still needed on Barksdale, Sunnywood (501-535), and Wishing Well. Volunteering to represent a few homes on your street by becoming a block captain is a fun way to get involved in your community and meet your neighbors! Block Captains are asked to distribute newsletters to their assigned neighbors and attend Block Captain meetings and socials. If you are interested in becoming a block captain please email: [judysincharge@carolina.rr.com](mailto:judysincharge@carolina.rr.com)

Our thanks go to Casey Powers for her work as block captain on Surreywood for the past few years! Danielle C. has offered to take Casey's place as the new Block Captain for the even numbered homes on Surreywood. Thanks Danielle, we look forward to meeting you!

- Sardis Presbyterian Church Mar. 8, 7am-9pm
- Matthews United Methodist Church Mar. 15, 8:00-12:00pm & 1:00-3:00 (half price sale)

## LOOKING FOR FAMILY FUN AROUND TOWN?

Tired of doing the same old things with your family? Here are some different ideas that the whole family will love.

- **Charlotte at PLAY**

**10504 McMullen Creek Parkway.**

A museum for the young child, designed for 1- to 6-year-olds. Promotes learning through imaginative play. Hours : Mon.-Sat. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sun. 1 to 5 p.m. Admission \$6 per person, children under 1 are free. Annual family membership available. (704) 542-0877 <http://www.charlotteatplay.com>

- **EnergyQuest**

**Catawba Nuclear Station, 4850 Concord Road, York, S.C.**

Hands-on fun for learning about electricity, energy and nuclear power. Kiosks and games demonstrate nuclear fission and energy production. Mon.-Fri., 9am.-5 p.m. by appointment. Free admission. (800) 777-0006 <http://www.duke-energy.com/visitor-centers/energyquest.asp>

- **Lazy 5 Ranch**

**N.C. 150 East, Mooresville. Home of 400 exotic animals from six continents.**

Take a safari ride or visit the petting zoo, playground and picnic area. Mon.-Sat. 9 a.m.-7 p.m., Sun. 1-7pm. \$8.50 adults, \$5.50 ages 2-11 and seniors. (704) 663-5100 <http://www.lazy5ranch.com>

- **Blast Extreme Fun Center**

**4301 South Blvd.**

Indoor fun center with rock climbing wall, paintball shooting gallery, mini golf, arcade, billiards, inflatable bouncers, preschool play day, parties. (704) 525-5525

## POOL NEWS FROM JUST AROUND THE CORNER IN SARDIS FOREST

Spring is on the way and before you know it the Sardis Forest Swim Club pool will be open! Do you know that you and your family can swim all summer long for less than what you'd pay for *one* week at Myrtle Beach?

The swim club board of directors is in the process of making slight modifications to the pricing structure and will be posting the 2008 Membership Dues soon on the website — [www.sardisforestswimclub.com](http://www.sardisforestswimclub.com) - so keep checking!

The annual member meeting is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, April 17th. Mark your calendars and remember that they offer discounts on membership if paid on or before their annual meeting. If you attend the meeting and pay your dues, you are also eligible for the drawing for a free membership. I know I will be catching some rays by the water this summer!

## HAVE YOU CHECKED OUT THE LOCAL MATTHEWS FARMERS MARKET?

During the winter months they operate with an abbreviated schedule, but still offering meats, baked goods, veggies and plenty of extras to keep us going until the summer. Check out <http://matthewsfarmersmarket.com/> to get a schedule and a glimpse of what is coming up as the weather turns warm. Don't want to leave your home to get some goodies? I recently found out about a local farm that will door-deliver your organic goods to you! Yes, every week a lovely little box of fruits and veggies are waiting for me when I get home! I spoke to Vonda who told me that the Sardis Woods delivery is set up for Tuesdays. At <http://theabsoluteorganics.com/> I registered (and got a free \$10 off coupon!) and was able to figure out an economical solution to our veggie needs as a family. Have another market or farm suggestion? Let me know [shamrockstac@yahoo.com](mailto:shamrockstac@yahoo.com).

## NEW GRUB AT THE GALLERIA

One of the main reasons people move to Sardis Woods is for its close proximity to practically everything. And now, with three great Charlotte restaurants opening just around the corner, our neighborhood just got more convenient. Whatever you're craving- burgers, pizza, subs, salads- it's now all at the Galleria on Monroe Road.

### Five Guys

Most of you have probably already eaten at one of their many Charlotte locations. But if you haven't (maybe you just moved to Charlotte or are a vegetarian...), you now have no excuse. The award winning burgers at Five Guys are more than deserving of its accomplishments. They serve up the best of the best with a wide array of toppings, not to mention French fries made from fresh Idaho potatoes. And be sure to not overlook their kosher hot dogs- melt-in-your-mouth delicious!

### Jimmy Johns Gourmet Sandwiches

Fresh sandwiches in a fun atmosphere. A perfect combination. They don't serve soups or salads or wraps, just sandwiches, plain and simple. But their focus is right on target with delectable meats, soft breads and friendly service. And the best part is, they deliver, too! And super fast!

### Tony's Pizza

Authentic New York style pizza without having to hop on a plane... and a cab and a subway. Their pizza slices are gigantic with the flavor being just as big. The crust is unbeatable with a perfect balance of chewy and crunchy. Not in the mood for pizza? Tony's also has sandwiches, salads and a wide array of Italian cuisine. And don't forget to save room for dessert- tiramisu, anyone?

## MATTHEWS IS HOPPIN'...

I checked out the Matthews newsletter and was so happy to see all of the planned activities: Easter egg hunts, lunch with the Easter bunny, movie nights, etc. Oh and do you need to relax a little? Being that I am a mom, of course I do! The town has Anusura yoga and meditation-even offered on Saturdays! (ommmmm....) Here is an online version of the newsletter. <http://www.matthewsfun.com/Portals/27/Department%20Newsletter--February%202008.pdf>

Check it out to see all the extra curricular activities like mom and dad date nights, fun classes (Ballroom dancing anyone?) and child summer camp info. Maybe I will tackle that underwater basket weaving class someday....

## Gardening FAQs

### Q: What kind of flowers grow in outer space?

A: Ipomoea alba, Helianthus annuus, Pentas lanceolata, and Cosmos (Moonflowers, Sunflowers, Star Clusters, Cosmos)

### Q: What do you get if you cross a four-leaf clover with poison ivy?

A: A rash of good luck.

### Q: Why don't you ever iron a four-leaf clover?

A: You might press your luck.

### Q: What insect is musical?

A: A humbug.

### Q: What do you call it when worms take over the world?

A: Global Worming.

### Q: Everyone knows how the Green Giant dresses when he works in the field. But when he goes to a corporate board meeting, what does he usually wear?

A: A three-peas suit.

GET THE LATEST NEWS, LINKS AND  
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