



WOODS WATCH

The Official Publication of
The Coventry Woods Neighborhood Association

December 2012
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Ready to Twinkle?



Holiday Award: Bill Walsh/Gene Tedder, 6214 Knollgate
Once a year, the Coventry Woods Neighborhood Association awards the after-dark Holiday Yard of the Month for the best December holiday display. Holiday Yard of the Month judging this year was Sunday, Dec. 16. The winner received a \$50 gift certificate from Home Depot and has the CWNA Holiday Yard of the Month sign displayed in their front yard.

What does it take to win? That's hard to say. The CWNA Light-Meisters may give top honors to all variety of displays: the tasteful, the glitzy, the outrageous, the elegant. There were so many households that decorated this year, honorable mentions: 1142 and 1039 Cedarwood, 4838 Holbrook, 4701 Wildleaf, 5100 Glenbrier and 4715 Amity, et al... We hope you'll drive or walk through Coventry Woods to enjoy your neighbors' decorations. We live in a very special and beautiful place. And for this, we are thankful.

Yard of the Month

Every month of the year, a home in Coventry Woods is saluted for its yard -- the lawn, the trees, the shrubbery, the flowers or improvements.

October: David & Tyler Palmer, 5511 Amity Place
November: Gus & Jane Deal, 5210 Coronado Drive
December: Alex & Maria Vellve, 5218 Glenbrier Drive

Big changes in 2013

Independence construction gets in high-gear;
Eastland future will be decided

By John Autry
5th District City Council Representative

When you say goodbye to 2012 on Dec. 31, you'll be waving farewell to a transformative year for our area - and hello to a year that will usher in great changes for Coventry Woods and other East Charlotte neighborhoods.

This year, the N.C. Department of Transportation tore down many buildings along Independence Boulevard between Sharon Amity Road and the Idlewild and Conference Drive intersections. With the exception of former Office Depot building near Independence and Sharon Amity, most of the tear-down work is completed in preparation for the work on our section of the Independence freeway. (Office Depot, remember, moved just up North Sharon Amity, to its new location at Albemarle Road. Next time you're there, thank them for sticking with the community).

Construction on the actual freeway is slated to begin with the start of 2013.

There will be some short- and long-term access difficulties for merchants along the road; on the south side of Independence, for example, many will lose parking areas that have been between their stores and the roadway.

The city and state are trying to keep minimal any traffic hassles associated with road construction. There will be, for instance, no road closings during workday hours. Most of the invasive construction will be done at night.

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Independence construction

That said, we all need to be keeping an eye for cut-through traffic during the reconstruction of the Independence/Sharon Amity exchange.

I've been in meetings with city staffers and N.C. DOT to make sure that residential areas along the approaches to this interchange and others will be "sound-proofed" when the work is completed. We're aiming for the attractive and functional brick barrier walls like those already in place on completed sections of the Independence freeway, and along Albemarle Road near Independence. In Coventry Woods, the areas affected would be adjacent to Sharon Amity near Holbrook and Kipling.

Something else I'm following closely is "orphaned" parcels: When the state bought lots along Independence, only the portions closest to the thoroughfare will be used for the widened road. I want to make sure that the best use possible is made of the remainder of those now-vacant lots. Because they won't be well-suited for commercial development, making them into "green space" buffers may be the best option.

Work on Independence will complicate everyone's life in the short run. And some things will be missed - like being able to turn left onto outbound Independence from the light at Farmingdale. (Farmingdale will be right-turn only when construction is completed.)

But when the work is finished, there will be less cut-through traffic, and the ability to reach uptown and other parts of Charlotte more quickly will prove to be an asset. Coventry Woods quickly will prove to be an asset. Coventry Woods will be more "commutable." Neighborhoods closer to central Charlotte - between Sharon Amity and the Elizabeth area - have gone through similar changes on their stretches of Independence, and now enjoy higher property values.

Update on Eastland

By mid-summer, if not before, there will be clarity on the future of the Eastland Mall site, which the city purchased in 2012. The parcels there have been consolidated - that had always been an obstacle to redevelopment - and the city is going through the process of finding the best potential partner for developing it anew.


A consulting firm has been hired to write the RFP (the formal request for proposal and RFQ (request for quotation). The RFQ will outline the desired results for the property that the city wants.

I'm actively involved in this civic-improvement project and will keep you posted on how it's coming along.

Like the current and impending re-do of our stretch of Independence Boulevard, the Eastland project starts off with complicated prep work and the ironing out of details. But when everything is in place and ready to roll, you'll see profound and rapid changes for the better.

NOTE: City Council Member John Autry is also a long-time member of the CWNA board of directors

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December 24th, 2012
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 Pastor: Rev. Betsy Williamson

We are an all-volunteer association; membership dues of \$25.00 per household per year – are used to pay for Woods Watch, events, and event flyers. We'd love to have you and your families become a part of the neighborhood association.

Membership Registration Form
Name: _____ Address: _____ Home Phone: _____ Email: _____
We are interested in helping with the following: Membership _____ Communications _____ Real Estate _____ Civic Meetings _____ Social Events _____
For future event planning purposes, please complete the following: Number of Adults in Household _____ Ages of Children in Household _____ Comments:
Please mail with your \$25.00 check: Bill Cooper CWNA Treasurer 5310 Coronado Drive Charlotte, NC 28212

Support our Neighborhood Businesses

PLACE YOUR AD IN THE COVENTRY WOODS WATCH NEWSLETTER

Woods Watch is our quarterly newsletter. We have a circulation of over 500 households in the 28212 zip code.

Advertisement Rates:

- \$25 Business Card
- \$50 Quarter Page
- \$75 Half Page
- \$100 Full Page

Publication Dates:

- March
- May
- August
- December

The newsletter is a black and white publication. Please send ad copy to info@coventrywoods.org and indicate what size ad you would like, and how many issues you would like your ad to run. Payment is due prior to publication.

Coventry Woods Neighborhood Association



Our roots run deep

Coventry Woods People

Michael & Ashley Grant gave birth to their 1st child – Alexa Belle Grant on Oct. 8th, 7 lbs. 14 oz.

Chris, Tami and Big Brother Ollie Roberts have a new addition to their family – 2nd son – Anson Roberts was born on Oct. 25th, 8 lbs. 5 oz.

Brian and Katherine Hetherington gave birth to their 1st child – Elizabeth Nolan Hetherington on Oct. 19th.

John and Rebecca Autry’s son, Chris and his wife Shaunis, gave birth to their son – Jude Alexander-Levon Autry on Oct. 21st, 8 lbs. 5 oz.

Happy Birthday – Tiger Lily Barlow.

Brett Hudspeth, grandson of Jack and Carolyn Hudspeth, longtime Coventry Woods residents who raised their 3 children (Mark, Brett’s dad) here was recognized by The Raleigh Sports Club as The Student Athlete of the Week for the Raleigh area in September. A representative of the club introduced Brett with his academic as well as his athletic accomplishments followed by another introduction from his Varsity Football Coach. Brett has a 4.5 GPA, is the Captain, Quarterback and Punter of the football team. He also will be the catcher on the Baseball team. He is applying for acceptance at the University of South Carolina. His ambition is to be a pilot. Congratulations to Brett and the Hudspeth family.

Coventry Woods Neighborhood Association,
Board of Directors wishes you and yours a
very Happy Holiday Season and a Happy,
Healthy and Prosperous New Year!!!!

See you in 2013.

Coventry Woods Neighborhood Events

JANUARY MEMBERSHIP DRIVE – The CWNA Board and family members will be hitting the streets, knocking on every door within our community to build our membership. We are an all-volunteer association; membership dues of \$25.00 per household per year are used to pay for Woods Watch, events, and event flyers. We’d love to have you and your families become a part of the neighborhood association.

FEBURARY SPAGHETTI DINNER & GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING – Get ready for another free spaghetti dinner for the neighborhood. The event will take place in February and will be held during our General Membership meeting. We will also be voting our 2013 Board Members into the board. If you are interested in becoming part of a highly diversified, committed board, please pay your membership fee and we will put your name in the hat. Looking for a few good neighbors to be part of the Board.

MARCH PINE NEEDLE SALE – Over the past couple of years, CWNA has had a Pine Needle Sale. This is a big fund raiser for our neighborhood, and enables us to have events, publish our Newsletters and much, much more. Please show your support and purchase Pine Needles from us. More information to follow about this important event.

“Please observe our custom: Nod, smile and wave at anyone you meet when walking, jogging, bicycling or driving in Coventry Woods.

We who live here are not strangers.

We are neighbors.”

The new COVENTRY WOODS T-shirts are now on sale for only \$10.00;
E-mail your order to info@coventrywoods.org.

GET YOUR SMILE ON!

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