

What Is The CCCR of NC?

An organization of residents of continuing care retirement communities in the state. Its objective is to protect and further the interests and welfare of residents of CCCRs throughout the state.

How Did It Begin?

It was incorporated in 1988 under the leadership of Dr. Harry Groves, a retired law school dean who was concerned about our inadequate state laws covering CCCRs. Its first project was to win enactment of basic legislation for the licensing and regulation of such communities. This was achieved in 1989. The position of Manager of Continuing Care Retirement Facilities was created within the NC Department of Insurance. Currently Jeffrey A. Trendel is the Manager. He has jurisdiction over 51 facilities (housing 16,000 residents) across the state. There are three more CCCR facilities awaiting licensing at this time. The Department has recently reactivated its Continuing Care Advisory committee on which CCCR of NC is represented.

What Does It Do?

CCCR of NC monitors Federal and State legislative proposals that may impact on our communities and their residents. These include health care and long term health care insurance bills before Congress and the State Legislature; Federal and State tax proposals; major changes suggested nationally in health care and HMOs; and potential changes in Social Security and Medicare.

CCCR of NC encourages development of strong, effective resident associations in every retirement community across the state and active resident participation in the formulation of policies and programs that affect them. It seeks to support the fiscal soundness and effective management of all our communities. It strives to work closely with community administrators and boards of trustees (and with all other agencies and organizations concerned) to develop the best in safe, happy and productive retirement living.

Please Join Us Now

CCCR of NC Membership

Name(s) _____ Date _____

Mailing Address _____

_____ NC _____
City Zip Code

Your Retirement Community _____

Please check as appropriate: New Member Renewing Member

Individual
 One year \$5.00
 Life Membership \$50.00

Couple
 One Year \$10.00
 Life Membership \$100.00

Please make checks payable to **CCCR of NC** and give to your representative. If you do not have a local representative mail to:
Management Services for Organizations
P. O. Box 1783
Salisbury, NC 28145-1783



THE HOTLINE

THE HOTLINE is published four times a year for the *Continuing Care Community Residents of North Carolina* (CCCR of NC), incorporated in 1988 "to further the interests of residents of continuing care residents communities in North Carolina.



Congratulation to Glenaire

Wake County was given \$5,400 to the Glenaire Retirement Community in Cary to support and expand its recycling program.

The one-time grant is part of the county's waste reduction program. In some cases the county gives grants to businesses that are trying to start up a recycling program, but Glenaire will use the money to refine a program that is already well-established.

"We recycle practically everything you can think of," said Don Platz, Glenaire's director of environmental services.

"Everything" includes glass, metals, batteries, plastic, all kinds of paper, including office paper and the residents' newspapers, and junk mail.

"The kitchen recycles both cooking scraps and the leftovers from residents' plates. Food alone adds up to about two tons a month that stays out

of a landfill," said Associate Director Paul Gregg.

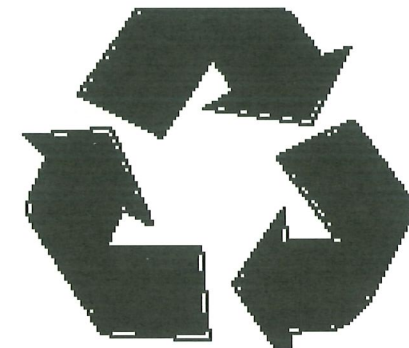
All of the recycled materials go to Brooks Contractor, a Chatham County recycling firm. Gregg said that Glenaire pays Brooks about \$9,000 a year to handle its recycling, an amount that the grant will help to defray.

The program was allowed Glenaire to halve the amount of waste that goes into its dumpster, Platz said that the recycling program is overseen by the residents.

Glenaire's six-member Environmental Service Committee comes up with new ideas, checks on the current systems and lobbies local governments to improve recycling services.

"The real concern is the whole world," Platz said, "not just our little site here."

Adapted from article by Ann Claycombe
Staff writer Raleigh News & Observer



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Board Meeting Summary

Seventy-five plus individuals attended the CCCR of NC's Board Meeting at Glenaire on March 18 in Cary, NC. Former president Woody Sugg and his wife, also in attendance, received a special welcome from Don Hasty.

Dr. Sam Stone, Executive Director at Glenaire, welcomed all.

Ruth Page, representing Management Services, said that the total membership was 3344.

Ken Sell, treasurer, reported that income is somewhat behind the budgeted amount, but expenses are also running somewhat less.

Ruth Bittenbender, Friends Homes West, reported on behalf of the joint planning committee from Friends Homes West and Friends Homes Guilford. She noted that there will be a preregistration fee (\$10 until 9/15) and regular registration (\$15 from 9/15-10/11). Contrary to an article in March HOTLINE parking space is not ample so the committee request that people carpool when possible.

Don Hasty reported on his and Sterling Whitener's meeting at the DOI (see next article) Sterling Whitener reported on his, Don

Hasty and Myles Walburn's meeting with NCANPHA (see March HOTLINE).

Bill Koehline, Nominating Committee chair, appealed for help from everyone present to search for and recommend officers for next year: president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, and editor of HOTLINE. Prospects need a reasonable amount of time as well as reasonable ability to use the computer.

Frank Earnheart commented on highlights of the proposed bylaw changes to numerous to list here (your representatives have copies). It was noted that it is not a revision of the old bylaws, but rather a new set of bylaws. One major change was organization name change to ASSOCIATION OF CONTINUING CARE RESIDENTS OF North Carolina. Voting on this may take place at the Annual Meeting in October.

A video of Glenaire was shown during lunch and tours were offered after lunch.

Next Board meeting will be at Scotia Village, Laurinburg Wednesday May 19, 2004.

Background is Important

There are three umpires at a baseball game. One is an engineer, one is a physicist and one is a mathematician. There is a close play at home plate and all three umpires call the man out. The manager runs out of the dugout and asks each umpire why the man was called out.

The physicist says, "He's out because I calls 'em as I sees 'em."

The engineer says, "He's out because I calls 'em as they are."

The mathematician says, "He's out because I called him out."

Perry Friedman
 Stanford University

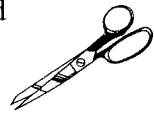
Go through next two stoplights. Merge into center lane for the next left onto Sycamore Lane. Pass Sycamore Lane Middle School on your left. Scotia Village entrance straight ahead. Take first left turn after you get onto the Scotia Village property. Continue to parking lots and administration. The receptionist will tell you where the conference is being held.

From Raleigh area

Take US 1 to Southern Pines/Aberdeen area. Follow US 15/501 South in Aberdeen. At the ABC store in Aberdeen at the stoplight, turn left onto 15/501 South. Entering Laurinburg, go over railroad tracks at the Eaton Golf Pride business on the right. Immediately past the tracks turn right onto 15/501/401 Bypass. Pass Scotland Crossing Mall (Belk's), Clinton Inn and Comfort Inn on your right. Go through next two stop lights. Merge into center lane for the next left onto Sycamore Lane. Pass Sycamore Lane Middle School on your left. Scotia Village entrance straight ahead. Take first left turn after you get onto the Scotia Village property. Continue to parking lots and administration. The receptionist will tell you where the conference is being held.

From Lumberton

From 1-95 South, take Highway 74 West. It is about a 40-minute drive to Scotland County. Pass Scotland Memorial Hospital (on left). Exit right on 15/501/401 by-pass. Signs will read to ("Bennettsville/ Fayetteville"). This will put you at Scotland Crossing shopping center. Pass shopping center. (Comfort Inn on the right). Continue through two stop lights (Exxon station on your right) and merge to the center lane for the next left turn onto Sycamore Lane. Pass Sycamore Lane Middle School on your left. Scotia Village entrance straight ahead. Take first left turn after you get onto the Scotia Village property. Continue to parking lots and administration. The receptionist will tell you where the conference is being held.



Registration Form

CCCR of NC Board Meeting, Scotia Village, Wednesday May 19 2004

Please fill out **one** form for each attendee, providing all necessary information. Use additional forms as required.

Return ASAP to Jim Ellis, 1017 Scotia Village, 2200 Elm Ave., Laurinburg, NC 28352

E-mail: ellisjogs@servusa.com

Phone: 910-277-1462

Wednesday, May 12, IS THE DEADLINE FOR RESERVATIONS

Name _____ Community _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

\$8.50 (Check to Scotia Village)

Pay at the door

Very Punny

A backward poet writes inverse. A man's home is his castle in a manor of speaking. Dijon vu –the same mustard as before. Practice safe eating always use condiments. Shotgun wedding: A case of wife or death. A man needs a mistress just to break the monogamy. A hangover is the wrath of grapes. Sea captains don't like crew cuts. Does the name Pavlov ring a bell? Reading while sunbathing makes you well red. When two egotists meet, it's an I for an I. A bicycle can't stand on its own because it is two-tired. A will is defined as a dead giveaway. Time flies like an arrow. Fruit flies like a banana. In a democracy your vote counts. In feudalism your count votes. She had a boyfriend with a wooden leg, but broke it off. A chicken crossing the road is poultry in motion. If you don't pay your exorcist, you get repossessed. With her marriage, she got a new name and a dress. Show me a piano falling down a mineshaft, and I'll show you a flat minor. When a clock is hungry it goes back four seconds. The man who fell into an upholstery machine is fully recovered. A grenade thrown into a kitchen in France would result in Linoleum Blownapart.

Author Unknown

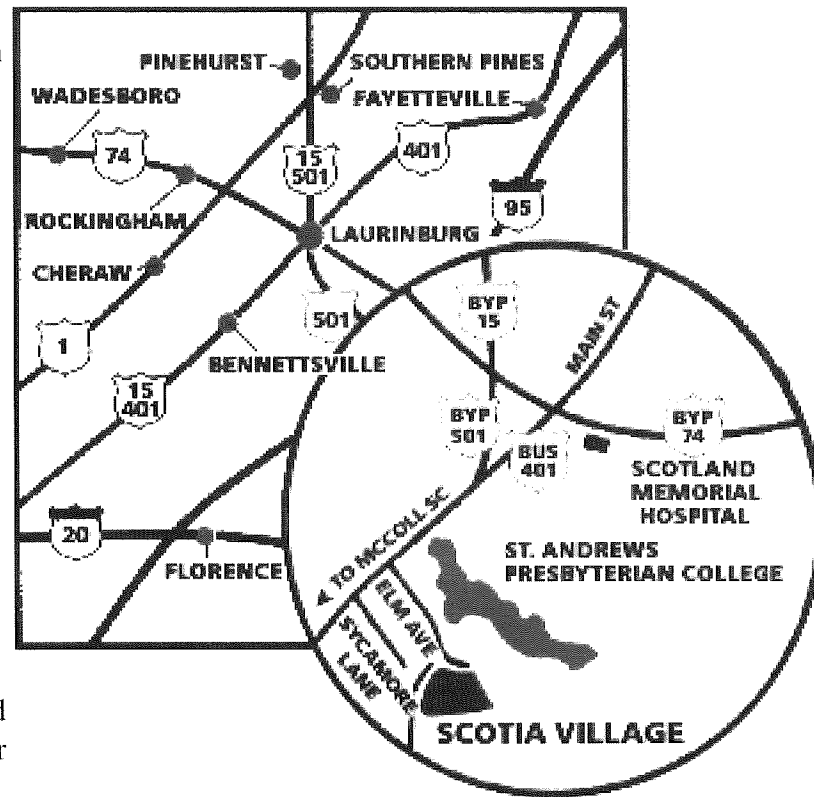
Directions to Scotia Village

From Charlotte area

Take 74 East.
 Bypass Rockingham, Laurel Hill; and in about 25 minutes you will enter Laurinburg.
 Exit right onto 401 Bypass. (Fayetteville/Bennettsville). going toward Bennettsville.
 Pass Scotland Crossing Mall (Belk's), Clinton Inn and Comfort Inn on your right.
 Go through next two stoplights. Merge into center lane for the next left onto Sycamore Lane.
 Pass Sycamore Lane Middle School on left. Scotia Village entrance straight ahead.
 Take first left turn after you get onto the Scotia Village property. Continue to parking lots and administration. The receptionist will tell you where the conference is being held.

From Greensboro area

Take 220 South to Rockingham
 Go through Rockingham and Laurel Hill. In about 25 minutes you will enter Laurinburg.
 Exit right onto 401 Bypass. (Fayetteville/Bennettsville). toward Bennettsville.
 Pass Scotland Crossing Mall (Belk's), Clinton Inn and Comfort Inn on your right.



Paths to the Annual Meeting in Greensboro

As mentioned in the March Hotline, this year's Annual Meeting of CCCR of NC will be held at Christ United Methodist Church on Holden Road in Greensboro on Thursday, October 21, 2004. This is a new experiment since our annual meetings in the past have been held in retirement communities. Friends Homes West and Friends Homes at Guilford are the host communities in charge of local arrangements. We hope you can join us. Our lunch will be prepared by church personnel. The Fall Hotline that will give registration details for the annual meeting is scheduled to reach member retirement communities by September 1. Early registration with payment by September 20 will cost \$10. Thereafter until October 11, regular registration will be \$15. We regret that we cannot accept payment after that date.

Below is a schematic map of West Greensboro to give you some idea where the annual meeting will be held. A detailed map and directions will be in the September Hotline.

After the meeting we hope many of you will have time to visit the host CCRC's - Friends Homes at Guilford, engaged in a major construction and expansion program, and Friends Homes West with its state-of-the-art Wellness Center serving each of the host communities. Both are west of the church less than three miles away.

Ted Benfey

Friends Homes at Guilford
 benfeyot@infionline.net

DeWitt Barnett,

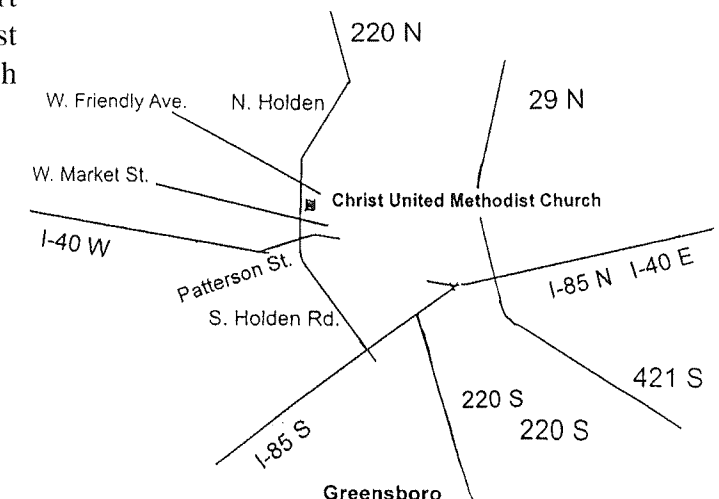
Friends Homes West
 hdbbrmb@triad.rr.com

Children are Funny

A little girl was talking to her teacher about whales. The teacher said it was physically impossible for a whale to swallow a human because even though it was a very large mammal its throat was very small. The little girl stated that Jonah was swallowed by a whale. Irritated, the teacher reiterated that a whale could not swallow a human; it was physically impossible. The little girl said, "When I get to heaven I will ask Jonah". The teacher asked, "What if Jonah went to hell?" The little girl replied, "Then you ask him".

A Kindergarten teacher was observing her classroom of children while they were drawing. She would occasionally walk around to see each child's work. As she got to one little girl who was working diligently, she asked what the drawing was. The girl replied, "I'm drawing God." The teacher paused and said, "But no one knows what God looks like." Without missing a beat, or looking up from her drawing, the girl replied, "They will in a minute."

Author Unknown



DOI Continuing Care Advisory Committee

Don Hasty and I attended the March 11, 2004 meeting of the DOI Continuing Care Advisory Committee. Jeff Trendel of the Financial Evaluation Division, Special Entities Section of the NC Department of Insurance led the meeting. As all NC State meetings come under the open meetings law, two visitors were welcomed: Susan Williamson, CEO of NCANPHA and Dan Knee, a CCCR of NC member and resident of Plantation Estates.

Jeff Trendel first reported on four new CCRC starts: Ashmont, a for-profit facility to be located in Hendersonville, NC; Springshire, a not-for-profit community in Greenville, NC; Galloway Ridge, located within Fearington Village, seeking tax-exempt status, presently appealing IRS denial; Cedars of Chapel Hill, which is to be completed prior to December 31, 2004.

Mr. Trendel also reported on three recently licensed CCRC's and a change in a fourth: Quail Haven Village's restricted license has been replaced by a continuing care license; River Landing at Sandy Ridge near Colfax, NC; The Village at Brookwood near Burlington, NC. The Department has determined that Friends Homes West and Friends Homes at Guilford should be licensed as two separate communities rather than one.

Four communities were granted permission to expand their facilities in excess of 10%: Cypress Glenn, Greenville, NC; Croasdaile Village, Durham, NC; Givens Estates Asheville, NC; Pennybyrn at Maryfield, High Point, NC.

An update in administrative rules was noted by Mr. Trendel. This is not often undertaken as there is a rules review which requires public comment. In this case, the update is largely a matter of legal definitions. He shared a financial

analysis of seventeen entities, a number of which come under an incorporated board which operates multiple facilities, but reports financially as a single unit. He stated that though they reported in a combined manner to the Department of Insurance, each community was required by law to report separate financial data to its residents semi-annually. The national recession could be noted in comparing year 2002 with 2003 because of loss of investment earnings.

The final discussion centered on the two issues raised by CCCR of NC: Could this committee or other group work toward a basic financial reporting format as a guide for semi-annual meetings? How can we work together to assure that those conducting the meetings will offer the information required by the Statute 58-64-40?

It was quite clear that there is a great reluctance on the part of providers to try to mandate the reporting process. There seemed agreement, however, that when providers were open, residents were happier. Their response to our #1 issue was that we did not need to work on a specific set of interim financial reporting guidelines. They think that such reports are ordinarily provided in the annual disclosure statements. Many CCRCs routinely give full reports semi-annually to their residents.

In answer to our #2 issue, Jeff Trendel promised to write the providers managing multiple facilities reminding them of the broad nature of the statute as reinforced by the new amendment of 2003. HB 253 clearly assures that the reports must focus on the single-licensed community and not the combined financial situation of the Board of Trustees, and that there be free discussion of subjects and proposed changes in policies, programs and services.

Sterling Whitener

Friends Home West

thing to do in his spare time.

Going into the championship, Kirkpatrick said he needed a lot of luck to win, while Shaw said he would concentrate on anticipating the next shot.

Residents from the two facilities acted as "cheerleaders" and were eager to see both men play well. Of course, many had their favorites in mind, including Bob Hauser, who chanted for Shaw with a lively, "Larry, Larry, sis boom bah. Larry, Larry, rah, rah, rah." The players and the crowd of spectators who came to support the match agreed that the game is mainly for fun and fellowship, a sentiment echoed several times throughout the competition.

"We always emphasize the fun of the game and do not to take it too seriously," said Jack B. Smith, the winner of the 2003 tournament. The game was officially launched with a rendition of "The Star Spangled Banner," after which one spectator exclaimed at the end, "Play pool!"

The two sportsmen took their time making shots at the start of the first match-up, aiming carefully at each ball. As time pressed on during the game, both spectators and players grew more involved in the competition, grimacing and gasping each time a ball teetered on the edge of a pocket.

During the second set, the players concentrated on their moves and showcased more skillful play. The end of the match drew near as the two competitors—each down to one ball—felt the pressure to pocket the eight ball. After ten minutes of maneuvering, Shaw pocketed the eight ball and claimed his victory as grand champion.

Shaw said he was elated after the game, while Kirkpatrick showed good sportsmanship and congratulated his competitor. "He was the better player," Kirkpatrick said. Shaw's wife of 57 Years, Ellen, said the game was great and she

was glad for his win.

Meyer said the residents look forward to the pool matches and other events offered by the two facilities are important social gatherings to which

Plans are being discussed to expand the activity room at the Presbyterian Home in an effort to accommodate more activities.

Adapted from article by Katsha Hayes

SCAMS

Securities Association warns of scams targeting older investors. The North American Securities Administrators Association is alerting seniors to the dangers of investment fraud and urging them to take control of their finances. The group, which represents state and provincial securities regulators in the United States, Canada and Mexico, has announced investor education programs and a senior investors resource center on its Web site <http://www.nasaa.org/nasaa/sirc/sirc.asp?nav_id=11> Christine Bruenn, the group's president and Maine's securities administrator said that regulators are deeply concerned that a perfect storm for investment fraud is brewing and our nation's 35 million seniors are most at risk. Scams currently in vogue targeting older investors include sales of unregistered securities, bogus promissory notes and charitable gift annuities, viatical settlements in which terminally ill people sell their life insurance policies for upfront cash, and Ponzi schemes that pay some investors returns with money raised from later investors, according to the regulator's group. Millions of retired or soon-to-be-retired people are concerned, some even desperate, about their finances and are more vulnerable than ever to investment fraud and abuse, Bruenn said. For a look at some other scams aimed at seniors visit: <<http://www.seniorcitizens.com/scams/>> and <<http://www.seniorsite.com/scams/>>

Residents' Medical Update Programs at Carolina Meadows.

In 1993, realizing, that Carolina Meadows residents were in the fortunate position of being a short distance from the UNC School of Medicine, Martin Green, M.D., a recent C.M. retiree took steps to invite faculty members to speak to the resident body. Thus began, what has continued for the past ten years, a program of regularly scheduled medical update lectures on a monthly basis, except for three summer months and December, when residents often go away.

To facilitate this, Dr. Green developed a relationship with the UNC Speakers Bureau, who obtain from the teaching professors agreements to speak on specific dates about subjects in their specialty fields. The Bureau now maintains a website of available speakers and their topics. At times the Bureau places notices of these lectures in the local papers for the public's benefit. For the past 3 1/2 years, Drs. Smarr and Sternschein, on behalf of the Residents Health Care Committee, have succeeded Dr. Green in making these arrangements. Sometimes speakers from outside UNC are also invited.

The presentations are usually given the third Thursday of the month at 2:00 PM in the auditorium, preceded by a notice monthly in "The Meadowlark" newsletter and announcements on in-house TV. and posters in the dining hallway. Attendance varies between 30 and 100. Professors bring their own pinpoint projectors or slides. Often they give the same information that they give to their medical students. Following a 45-60 minute presentation, they are always ready to entertain questions from the audience, in some cases their patients.

Since we are a geriatric audience, the subjects we request are most likely to be those our residents are most interested in, either for them-

selves or their families. During the current year, for example, we are having presentations about geriatric dermatology, pharmaceutical interactions, insomnia, depression, cancer research, digestive disorders, breast cancer and headache.

The Residents Health Care Committee is a standing committee of the Resident Association, advisory to Administration, which may also sponsor other health education programs; but this Medical Update series is entirely a resident-organized activity.

Erwin R. Smarr, M.D.

Irving Sternschein, M.D.

Carolina Meadows

Senior Sharks

Seniors from retirement communities competed in their own Super Bowl game of sorts during a championship pool match at the Presbyterian Home of High Point. Residents of River Landing at Sandy Ridge and the Presbyterian Home attended the tournament to support Lawrence "Larry" Shaw and Charles Kirkpatrick, who represented the respective facilities.

Shaw claimed a victory in the first-ever championship game by winning the double elimination match. Shaw, 78, is a resident of River Landing. He began playing the game during his teen years and then started back up again when he moved here in 1999. Shaw said that he likes playing because it's a challenge and a highly skilled game. One has to know exactly where to hit the ball.

Shaw's competitor and second-place winner, Kirkpatrick, 81, has been a pool player for four years and has been a Presbyterian Home resident for five. He took it up as a hobby, some-

TAKE GOOD CARE OF YOUR BODY

That ancient book of wisdom, the Bible, declares, "The body is the temple of the Holy Spirit which you have from God." We are expected to take good care of this extraordinary house that contains our spirit, mind, and soul.

Keep yourself clean. The old saying by Benjamin Franklin, "Cleanliness is next to godliness" gets truer as the years go by. When suffering, sickness, and mental deterioration come upon older people it is more difficult for them to keep clean, but, it is a necessity, even if we must hire someone to help. To be unkempt is the surest way to hasten the problems of old age.

Exercise regularly and moderately. Older people often are sedentary and have problems with exercise and activity. To stay alive, exercise isn't a choice, it's a necessity. I can remember how pleased I was to get my electric wheelchair, only to discover that I quickly lost body strength when I stopped pushing myself around. Now my electric wheelchair is in a semi-retired condition and I am getting better.

I remember Betty Johnson, a patient at the Riverside Convalescent Home. She was just 35 years old, but she got tired of life and refused to move. It only took her a year to wither and die without exercise. I used every argument I knew trying to get her to move her body. She had chosen this vindictive form of vengeance against her family--the slow suicide of not moving her body. A sedentary life style can be a form of suicide. We must persuade ourselves and others to keep moving as old age approaches.

Eat a little less, but be sure the food is well balanced and nutritious. Growing a garden is a neat idea. There is nothing better than fresh

vegetables. It seems to me that some warning needs to be made about fad diets and peculiar eating habits. If people have reached retirement age, probably they need to go slow in radically changing their mode of eating. The older we get, the less we eat for pleasure and the more we eat for survival. We eat, not so much to satisfy our appetites, but to satisfy our nutritional needs.

One 90 year-old lady said to me, "I don't feel like eating any more, so I won't." I said to her, "You can't fool God that way. Your choice is slow miserable suicide, and you are just as guilty of taking your life as the person who chooses a gun." She was a wise and mature spiritual lady so she said, "I never thought of that before. You are right! I will start eating again." She did, and the next 5 years were quite beautiful.

Take a sensible approach to dieting. Many people who reach retirement age are overweight. Now is the time to do something about it. The magic formula is simple: eat a little less and exercise a little more. Don't go on a crash diet. Fast weight loss only means fast weight gain. Gradually cut down on fat, sugar, and the amount you eat and increase the amount of exercise. Gradual weight loss by changing your life-style of eating and exercising is the only way.

I knew a man by the name of W. A. Moore who lived to be 105, worked every day, and weighed over 300 pounds. Research tells us that when you get to be a certain age (probably over 70), weight no longer is a factor in longevity. But don't count on it. If you are overweight reduce it a little if you can. Sometimes the worry over weight is more serious than the weight itself. So try to reduce, but, don't kill yourself trying.

Adapted from Senior-site.com

AROUND THE STATE



Birds In-Style

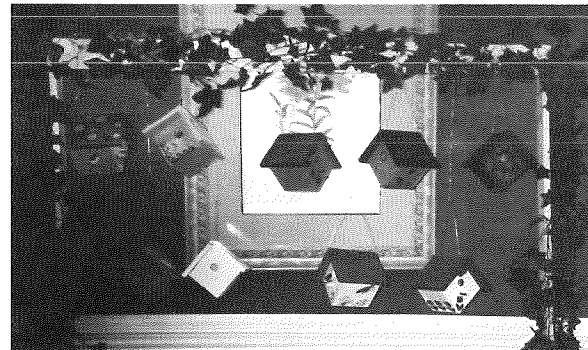
On Wednesday, February 25, 2004 nine men from Covenant Village Retirement Community set out to construct nine birdhouses. The idea originated with one of the residents, Mr. Dick Nielsen, who also serves on the Craft Committee of the Residents' Association. Mr. Nielsen suggested the idea and with the help of the Craft Coordinator, Karen Lemon, the two came up with a plan to implement the activity. Mrs. Lemon purchased the wood and other materials, advertised the session and designed the display arch with the help of Shannon Patterson from Maintenance. Mr. Nielsen cut out all the wood for the project and helped spread the word about the activity.

At 2:00 p.m. on the 25th the sound of hammering began. Once in the Craft Room one could see how serious the atmosphere had become to accomplish this task. The men were busy hammering away and making sure the houses were constructed just right. There was no need to talk to the men while they worked because this was serious business. A job needed to be done and, by gosh, they were the ones to do it.

The following day eleven Covenant Village women armed themselves with paint, brushes and stencils to decorate the birdhouses. They were very careful choosing their designs not wishing to upset the men since they worked so hard the day before. As a matter of fact, several of the men came by while the women were decorating to make sure "their" birdhouses were receiving "quality" care and careful handling.

In all nine wren birdhouses were constructed and decorated. They were decorated in various ways: clown face, NC State décor, flowers, sailboat motif, fall leaves and more. They were displayed outside the Dining Room on an ivy-covered archway for several days for all to see. Everyone oohed and ahed at the beautiful work. Several people wanted to purchase them to give away as gifts or keep for themselves, but the birdhouses already had a home on the Covenant Village walking trail. Much pride and creativity were put into these birdhouses. Each time one takes a stroll down the trail one can marvel at the creations and see the many birds making homes in these vibrant and cozy birdhouses. This project was fun for everyone participating and will be enjoyed now and in the future!

Karen Lemon
Covenant Village



Moore "Children are Funny"

One day a little girl was sitting and watching her mother do the dishes at the kitchen sink. She suddenly noticed that her mother had several strands of white hair sticking out in contrast on her brunette head. She looked at her mother and inquisitively asked, "Why are some of your hairs white, Mom?" Her mother replied, "Well, every time that you do something wrong and make me cry or unhappy, one of my hairs turns white." The little girl thought about this revelation for a while and then said, "Momma, how come ALL of grandma's hairs are white?"

Croasdaile Library Update

According to the December 8, 2003 issue of the Durham Herald-Sun, Security procedures were stepped up at a Durham retirement community hit by a string of fires in the past several weeks. The most recent fire occurred Nov. 25 at Croasdaile Village. The suspect set fire to the grass outside one of the buildings. Two days earlier someone had set fire to a chair in the library of the community's administrative building. The chair had been treated with a fire retardant, leading investigators to believe the suspect used some sort of flammable liquid. In mid-October, a set of draperies in a sitting area of the same building was ignited the investigator said. The draperies, which covered a large picture window, also had been treated with fire retardant materials. Although the fires were contained in the immediate areas where flammable liquid was applied, considerable damage was caused by water from overhead sprinklers and acrid black smoke and soot.

In the library water and smoke completely ruined more than 300 books and damaged many more which were salvaged. One standing bookcase was charred and soot ruined the computer hard drive. All the books in the library were carried into the nearby auditorium where wet ones were opened and spread on the floor. Massive fans were turned on them to dry them out. Valiant labor by Croasdaile staff and volunteers had the empty library open again in a few weeks, with a new paint job, replaced overhead lights, new windows (heat had cracked the old ones) -and a new computer. Late in February a formal reopening of the library was celebrated.

Residents and outsiders have made generous donations to a replacement book fund and gifts of replacement books have been almost overwhelming. Neighboring CCRC's have been

especially generous.

On December 17 a part-time employee of Croasdaile Village was arrested and charged with five counts of arson. The case has not yet come to trial. Tighter security measures have been put in place at Croasdaile Village, including re-keying of all outside doors, improvement of outside lighting, installation of surveillance cameras and employment of an additional security guard.

Florence Blakely
Croasdaile Village

Brawl Breaks Out at Retirement Home

A dispute at the salad bar turned into a food fracas at an upscale retirement home, with a man taking a bite out of another's arm and other residents suffering minor injuries.

Police said resident Lee Thoss, 62, of the Spring Haven Retirement Community was picking through the lettuce, which disgusted 86-year-old William Hocker, who was standing in line behind him. Hocker told Thoss no one wanted to eat food he had been playing with. Thoss yelled and cursed at him, Hocker told police, and Hocker called him a nasty name.

Witnesses' said, Thoss began punching Hocker in the face. In the buffet melee that followed, Allen Croft, 79, tried to grab Thoss, who bit him on the arm.

Thoss' mother, Arlene, in her 80s and also a Spring Haven resident, jumped in to break up the fight and ended up with a cut arm.

From Gaston Gazette 3/1/2004