



The Village at Hilton  
Indian Fork Road  
Chapin, S.C. 29036

# The Village Voice

Volume 1, Issue 4

October 1, 2007

## "The Village Voice" Fourth Issue!

This is the fourth issue of your neighborhood newsletter. Hopefully you will enjoy reading about your neighbors, events in your neighborhood and other community activity and news. A special **thank you** to all the committee members and block captains who provided all of the information for our newsletter!

**Trash Community Pick up Event! Saturday, October 6 9:00 am**  
See Page two for details!

**Tutoring** for grade levels 1-4: Call Sharon Simmons, 345-3086. \$25/hour

**Pet sitting** for small pets, house-sitting: Call Sherri Evans, 345-2636

**Pet sitting, lawn services:** Jordan DeLoach, 932-4095

**Babysitting:** Katelyn Burgess, 234-6184. Katelyn has completed the "Safe Sitter" babysitting course in December 2006, is "great with kids, and also is an awesome gymnastics coach"!

Village Trader

## First Annual Fall Festival at The Village at Hilton

Our first annual Fall Festival will be held on Sunday, October 21, 2007 in the Cabana Common area from 4—7 PM. If it rains, it will be held the following Sunday, October 28. We will grill hamburgers and hot dogs. If you plan to come, please let your Block Captain know and get your money to them for the supper. We will have a hay ride, face painting, crafts and a touch table. If anyone has any ideas for the festival or would like to volunteer to help in any way, please get in touch with your Block Captain. Flyers with complete details were distributed last week in your newspaper boxes.

In conjunction with the Fall Festival, we are holding our first annual scarecrow building contest. Be creative, have some fun and put together your best scarecrow. Judging will take place on Saturday, October 20th. Please have your scarecrow in your front yard by 3PM. There will be one winner per street. Winners will be announced at the festival!

## SPOTLIGHT ON : Caffè Venezia by Kim Smoak

Kim discovered Caffè Venezia in the new Food Lion shopping plaza at Exit 97, 11107 Broad River Road, Ste F, and stopped in to try their Gelato, or Italian ice cream. It is made fresh daily from the freshest ingredients, and is the "real thing," – delicious! Kim loved it so much, she took her husband Spencer back that same evening so he could enjoy some! Caffè Venezia's Gelato is 94% fat free and very low sugar, making it a very healthy treat as well as delicious. They are open Monday through Thursday 7 a.m. until 10 p.m., Friday until 11 p.m., and they open at 10 a.m. on Saturday and Sunday. Caffè Venezia also serves coffee, cappuccino, espresso, frappuccino, lattes, pastries, birthday cakes, panini, milk shakes, and smoothies. They don't have their sign up yet, but look for the chairs and tables outside the front door!

## South Carolina Backyard Wildlife Habitat™ Program

Want to help wildlife in South Carolina? Look no further than your own backyard. Habitat destruction is one of the leading causes of species decline today. The Backyard Wildlife Habitat™ Program is one way that you can help enhance wildlife habitat right in your own backyard! It is easy to provide a natural habitat for a variety of birds, butterflies, mammals, and other animals on your land.

### Consider the benefits to you and your family:

- Birds, butterflies, and natural plantings splash flurries of color onto the landscape.
- You'll enjoy the sound of music...bird songs, frog choruses, insect trills...through the seasons.
- Attracting wildlife brings the pageant of life to your doorstep.
- Green space needs to be protected in our rapidly growing state.
- What better place to learn about nature than your own home?
- Many animal species eat pests in your yard and dwelling.
- The Backyard Wildlife Habitat program was started by the National Wildlife Federation in 1973, and is administered in partnership with the South Carolina Wildlife Federation. The objective of this program is to educate about the benefits, for both people and wildlife, of creating natural landscapes. While restoring wildlife habitat in your own community, you will be doing your part to restore the ecology of the land on which you live. You will begin to see how you can have daily wildlife experiences by creating sustainable, wildlife friendly landscapes. Once you create your habitat, submit an application to become certified by the National Wildlife Federation and join the thousands of other South Carolinians who are gardening for wildlife!

If you would like to certify your backyard habitat with SCWF, go to their website at [www.scwf.org](http://www.scwf.org) and click on Education Programs, then Backyard Wildlife Habitat, or you can email Sara Green, Director of Education, at [sara@scwf.org](mailto:sara@scwf.org).



### Discover Scuba In Your Own Backyard or Neighborhood Pool!

Great for families, birthday parties, neighborhood parties or to get you started on becoming a certified diver. There is nothing else like scuba diving in the warm waters off Florida and the Caribbean. Marine life is right out of Dr. Seuss. It's easy and safe. In only an hour you can get a real feel for scuba diving. Ages 8 - adult. The cost is only \$25.00 per person for the Discover Scuba Experience for individual homeowner pools or **\$10.00 per person if held at our neighborhood pool for a group of our families**. And even that will count toward the tuition for full open water certification. You set the day and time, we'll bring EVERYTHING but water! Contact Gary or Sue Kelly @ 345-6242 on Hilton Village Drive.

**Trash pickup Event!** The common areas committee will be holding a litter pickup event on Saturday, October 6, starting at 9:00. We will meet at the pool cabana. We anticipate the event only taking about 1 hour, depending on the number of people involved. No RSVP is required. We will be picking up trash around the pond, pool, behind the dam, and any other common areas that need it. Please email Paul Evans at [paulevans@sc.rr.com](mailto:paulevans@sc.rr.com) if you are aware of any other common areas in needs of litter cleanup. Trash bags will be provided. If a few people could bring rakes to help reach those hard to get items in the pond, it would be helpful also. Volunteers are encouraged to wear long pants, as some may be walking through wooded/high grass areas that may have some bug, briars, poison ivy, etc."



**POOL COMMITTEE:****Swimming pool closed for season!**

By the time you receive this edition of the newsletter, the swimming pool will have closed for the season – that is, 30 September at the end of normal hours. The pool committee was pleased to be able to keep the pool operating through the end of the very hot month of September. Although the pool is closed for the season, the cabana will remain open. But don't be tempted to use the pool. The pool water is now **unsafe** for swimming and will remain so until the pool reopens next spring. You may make reservations for use of the cabana for group functions by calling Heather Jurgensen 803-740-5649. Group events will require a reservation and a refundable cleaning deposit of \$50.00. Call Heather for details. The addition of a cleaning deposit may come as a surprise. We had a couple of incidents during the past season where groups using the cabana left a mess following their event: trash on the tables and within the cabana, food ground into the cabana floor and the pool deck and the lake. We believe that a cleaning deposit will encourage more responsible behavior. Please note that the deposit will be refundable if the area is cleaned following the event.

**Pool committee working on rules revision**

As its first order of business upon organizing, the pool committee developed a statement of mission and duties. You can read the statement on The Village at Hilton website:

<http://www.neighborhoodlink.com/chapin/tvh/>. Look under "Community Pages" and click on the Pool Committee link. Two sets of rules govern the operation and maintenance of our pool complex. One set derives from the South Carolina DHEC (Department of Health and Environmental Control) regulations governing the operation of "Type B" public pools (that's us). Excerpts from the DHEC Rules are posted on the pool enclosure opposite the cabana. The other warning signs around the pool such as "Swim at your own Risk," "No Diving" and the like also come from the DHEC rules. The DHEC rules are, in effect, state law. The other set of rules that we'll call "Pool Rules" are posted on the brick wall inside the cabana above the water fountain. Those rules also govern operation of the pool complex. They were developed by the HOA (Homeowners Association) – that is, when the pool opened in 2003. The HOA remains under the control of the developer of The Village at Hilton. The pool committee will revise those rules over the seasonal downtime and in conjunction with the HOA reissue them in time for the 2008 season. Expect some changes. If you want to input to the revision process, call any member of the pool committee with your suggestion(s). Pool committee members are listed on the website. The pool complex at the Village at Hilton is a community resource available for the enjoyment of the residents of The Village and their guests. The pool committee's job is to operate and maintain the pool complex for you.

**Common Areas Committee Update**

The first meeting of the common areas committee was held in late August. The members of the committee are as follows: Paul Evans (Chair), Jeff Herndon (co-chair), Ron Snyder, Todd Coey, Clay Zaffiro and Joanne Schrank. The main responsibilities of the committee were determined to be:

- Common areas maintenance (define landscaping needs, solicit bids, choose contractor, follow performance of contractor, etc.)
- Pond maintenance (beaver control, weed control, bridge construction, trash control)
- Development of common areas (In the future, define areas of potential improvement of the common areas)

Until the homeowner's association is turned over to the homeowners, the committee will be working with Rusty and Wendee to resolve any issues. The committee is well aware of the common areas maintenance issues (particularly in the non-grassed common areas) and will be working with Rusty in the near future to resolve this issue. We are also actively working on better defining where the common areas are and the landscaping needs for each area. Additionally, we will be working with Rusty to express our desire to continue with the originally planned bridge over the dam.

## UNITING THE NEIGHBORHOOD IN INFORMATION AND FUN!

This summer a Village at Hilton homeowners meeting was held on June 12 for the purpose of gathering information and solutions for concerns expressed by many residents; a subsequent Annual Meeting of the Homeowners Association and Association board members was then held on July 25. An Advisory Committee as well as several sub committees of residents who volunteered have been formed as a result of those meetings. These committees and their members are listed in this newsletter. It is the hope of the Advisory Committee that this organization can facilitate communication and resolution of concerns in a timely and pleasant manner.

Blake Jurgensen has also constructed a website where this information can be found, along with many other features concerning the Village at Hilton:

<http://www.neighborhoodlink.com/public/main.html?nneighid=508117383&nsupercity=114302996>

Be sure to take some time to look at the website - it will be a wonderful tool in addition to the newsletter for getting and sharing information about your neighborhood! This site includes a forum for discussion as well as a calendar of events, which can be added to by any resident of the Village. Many more features will be added as time and info availability permit. Watch for fun events to be scheduled, and post your own!

If you have information or concerns you would like to communicate to the Homeowners Association, you may contact the appropriate committee chairperson or your block captain. They will then respond to you directly or forward your information or request to the appropriate person for a prompt and helpful response. They would like to hear from you! If you would like to add something to future newsletters, please contact either your block captain or Sherri Ray directly ([sray1725@gmail.com](mailto:sray1725@gmail.com)) with your information. The newsletter and the website are for you!

It is our hope that this organization can be a source for improved communication and more efficient operation of our Village - It is the mission of the Block Captains to establish and maintain a friendly network of the residents throughout the development where the residents know their neighbors and are kept informed of current news and events relating to The Village at Hilton.

**If you have an interest in helping out, or serving on one of these committees, please contact either your block captain or one of the committee members listed in this newsletter. We would love to have you!**

The upcoming Fall Festival is highlighted in this issue - be sure to look for it and plan to attend - get to know your neighbors! There is a small ticket price for attending to help cover a portion of our costs in hosting it.

## NEW VILLAGE AT HILTON DIRECTORY

Every resident should by now have received a questionnaire from your block captain so that we may update our Village directory. Please return this to your block captain as soon as possible if you have not already done so. The directory will be updated and distributed as soon as we have all the forms returned. No information will be included in the Directory that you do not wish to include.

## Committee News!

The new Covenants and Bylaws Committee has met three times, most recently on September 19th. Members of the committee include Mike Smith (chair), Ira Schrank, Damon Hubert, Michael Wilks, and Susan Herndon. Look for a flyer soon from the committee that will address common covenant violations and that will seek input on neighborhood concerns. In the meantime, problems and concerns can be addressed to Mike Smith, [mrsmith24@bellsouth.net](mailto:mrsmith24@bellsouth.net).