
THE SUMMERFIELD HAYSEED

Volume 1, Issue 3

October 2011

Summerfield Youth Council Accepts Town Funds but Refuses to Open Books for Inspection

Youth organization run by Councilwoman Dianne Laughlin and Councilman Bob Williams daughter, Kim Jackson, hires attorney when asked for financial disclosure.

By Dwayne Crawford
Editor

The Summerfield Youth Council (SYC), a local non-profit organization (now a not-so non-profit; more on this later), was established in 2003 by former town clerk, Dianne Laughlin, and Michael Garrett, son of School Board member Darlene Garrett. Since 2003, the SYC's address of record has been 4117 Oak Ridge Rd, Summerfield NC. The official contact phone and fax numbers were and remain 643-8655 and 643-8654, respectively. Some might think twice about establishing a non-profit business at town hall, but this was apparently not a problem for Laughlin (town clerk) and Garrett. Subsidized at taxpayer expense, no-cost shared facilities and resources (phone/fax) have been a huge benefit

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Hundreds of Summerfield Candidate Signs Stolen; \$1000 Reward Offered for Person(s) Responsible

Late Night Sneak-Thief Selectively Targets Certain Candidate Yard Signs.

By Dwayne Crawford
Editor

Who could miss all the political yard signs that started popping up everywhere this fall just like the mushrooms. Someone apparently has a problem with the presence of certain mushrooms...I mean signs...on the landscape, so they've decided to harvest the ones they find offensive without permission. Unauthorized taking (stealing) of political signs is illegal in North Carolina. Making the issue more serious is fact that the thief is often trespassing on private property to steal the signs. Worse still, we're dealing with a person or persons who clearly want to limit the free speech of certain candidates and the citizens that support them.

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What Does Oceans 11 and Your Money Have in Common?

It Never Ceases to Amaze, the Lengths Some People Will go Just to Enjoy Other People's Money

By Dwayne Crawford
Editor

"Ocean's Eleven", a Hollywood movie from 1960, remade in 2001, tells the story about a small group of people plotting and executing a Las Vegas casino "heist". Oceans Eleven was also the featured film in this year's "Summerfield Movies in the Park" event held on May 21, 2011. Touted as a "free" event for all to enjoy by the Summerfield Parks & Recreation

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to the SYC. But the perks don't end here...

Since 2003, council members Dena Barnes, Mark Brown, Bob Williams, and now Dianne Laughlin herself have showered the SYC with praise, privilege, and taxpayer funds. Councilman Williams recently volunteered from behind the council table that the SYC's exclusive, profit sharing, agreements with the town are the organization's main source of income for the year. Until a little over a year ago, at every council meeting, the SYC had a special time slot reserved just for their representative to speak.

When the IRS revoked the SYC's non-profit status last year, we thought it would be interesting to take a look at how they had been spending all that money. Per IRS rules, a non-profit is obligated to open its books for inspection when asked. We sent registered letters to Garrett, Laughlin, and executive director of the SYC, Kim Jackson (who happens to also be Councilman Williams daughter), asking them for a time certain to meet at town hall and inspect their documents. None of them have responded. Instead they hired an attorney. Its been over two months and we're still waiting to inspect the SYC records. At this point we are starting to believe Laughlin, Jackson, or Garrett do not have any intent to comply. ❖

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Committee, you know someone had to foot the bill. In this case that would be you, the Summerfield taxpayer.

You spent \$1,813, plus the cost of Town employee time, paying for the Oceans Eleven entertainment event. Dividing the cost by the 25 people who came, you paid around \$72 a head for others to watch a decade old rerun. According to the best information we can gather, it appears that eleven of the 25 movie goers were town employees and their spouses. Employees and their spouses were not eligible for the advertised promotional giveaways, some of which you also paid for.

Giveaways? Yes, giveaways. The Summerfield Parks and Recreation promoted the event as "Dinner – Movie – Games of Chance." Scratch off cards were given out to movie attendees (not necessarily to Summerfield citizens). Prizes included a pair of \$25 in gas cards and one \$50 certificate for dinner at PF Chang's...all of which you paid for. You might also find it interesting to know that the scratch off cards themselves were crafted by paid town employees, adding yet another cost to the "free" movie you helped pay for. ❖



After having her signs repeatedly stolen, Summerfield Council Woman Alicia Flowers started replacing them with ones having this rather clever message.

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More than once, often multiple times at the same location, signs for candidates Alicia Flowers, Elizabeth McClellan, Jane Wilson, and Don Wendelken have been wiped out. Signs just across the street for the opposing candidates are left untouched.

Frustrated with the fact that their signs were selectively stolen (on some nights well over 100 signs), candidates Alicia Flowers, Elizabeth McClellan, Jane Wilson, and Don Wendelken are offering a \$1000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of persons stealing their property.

Flowers, McClellan, Wilson, and Wendelken have all filed stolen property reports with the Guilford County Sheriff's department. Some property owners have also filed reports of unauthorized trespassing. Flowers, McClellan, Wilson, and Wendelken are asking you to call the Sheriff at 373-2222 or Crimestoppers at 202-0488 if you have any information on who is stealing signs and freedom of speech in Summerfield ❖

The Summerfield 300

Less than 300 Votes Will Decide this Year's Election

Do you plan on voting this year? You should. Summerfield has a strong record of close elections. Ultimately less than 300 votes will decide the outcome of this year's Summerfield Municipal election. These people will have control of your money and the direction of Summerfield's future for the next 4 years. Are you going to leave such an important decision to someone else? Do the right thing. Do your homework, use your head, not your heart, and most importantly, get out an vote. Your vote counts more in Summerfield than anywhere else. ❖

Town Hall Brick Debacle

We couldn't make this up if we tried.

By Dwayne Crawford

Editor

Summerfield town hall has finally admitted no bricks are missing from the Summerfield municipal building. This, admission comes after the town has spent thousands reacting to a false claim by recently promoted Town Maintenance Supervisor, George Holub, that bricks were falling out of town hall.

George's flair for dramatic ineptitude spans many years. Much of this we've documented in past issues of The Summerfield Hayseed (available at <http://summerfieldhayseed.com>). If you're interested in more details on the Holub/brick problem, we've put together a short 60 second video that tells all. Just go to <http://summerfieldhayseed.com> and click on the "Holub Hole Problem" link.

Clearly some of you are paying attention to the silly business



Summerfield Park Volunteer Park Supervisor Town Maintenance Supervisor, George Holub, posing with the brick he claimed fell out of Town Hall.

going on down at town hall. Below we have a poem submitted by a Summerfield citizen titled "The Holub Needs a Hole". We think this poem captures the essence of what is wrong with Summerfield government. We hope you enjoy reading and sharing it as much as we have. ❖

The Holub Needs a Hole

A Poem by an Anonymous Summerfield Resident

It was the dark of the moon
on the 14th of June
When Holub came strolling by
And there it lay
As plain as day
As though fallen from the sky.
It was a portent, a sign, an omen
To the council straightway Holub ran
And being quite the showman
He sold them on his plan.
"The building is rapidly falling.
It's disintegrating piece by piece
We must have 25 thousand
Let's round up some taxpayers to fleece."
The murmurs of worry began rumbling
From council members to manager and around
"Oh, we're desperate", said Holub
"It's crumbling. The thousands
Just have to be found".

Then he sat and said nothing further
For Holub could well plant a seed
And his seeds grew well in Summerfield
Council always convinced of a "need".
But wait...there's a voice from the people
Like the "Who" child
who questioned the Grinch.
"Where's the hole that the brick fell out of?
Finding it should be a cinch".
A gasp rose up from the chamber.
They could hardly believe their ears
Someone dared question the Holub
And his expertise of so many years?
"A hole.....a hole? How dare you?
We don't need a hole to spend cash!
Holub says the building is falling.
How dare you ask questions so brash!"
And business proceeded as usual
Council continued the same old Spend game
Cause that's how it's done in Summerfield
If Holub is your name. ❖

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The Summerfield Hayseed publication is privately owned and paid for by Summerfield Resident Dwayne Crawford

Letters to the Editor, OP-ED submissions, corrections, story ideas, and advertising inquires should be sent to: Hayseed, c/o Dwayne Crawford, PO Box 331, Summerfield, NC 27358

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ELECTION DAY IS TUES, NOVEMBER 8

Voting will be held at the polling places from 6:30 AM to 7:30PM

Bur-Mill Clubhouse Early Voting:

Wednesday – Friday Nov 2 to 4, 10:00 AM to 6:30 PM

Saturday, Nov 5, 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM

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On the Internet at: summerfieldhayseed.com

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