

Newsletter



Caroling at Cool Branch

On December 24th the Cool Branch Family came together & went house to house singing Christmas Carols throughout the Community. Some of the folks on the list were the elderly, sick, shut-ins, and whoever else just needed an extra boost of Holiday Spirit.



Pictured below are some of the residents who participated in the Caroling.

Pictured to the left is Violet Thomas enjoying the songs of the night.



"Name Your Newsletter"

Please Help!

Our Newsletter needs a name. Management is asking all residents to participate in a contest.

The rules are simple; just stop by the Community office to pick up an entry form and

drop it off by May 1, 2008. All entries will be taken into consideration and a final decision will be made by May 19, 2008.

The winner will be awarded a gift card to a store of their choice and will be announced in our

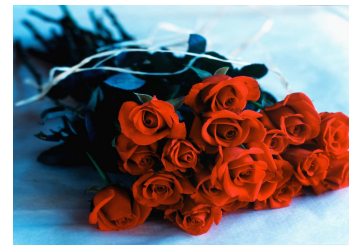
next quarterly newsletter. Please support your community newsletter by participating. If you have any questions please call the office.



Issue 4

March 2008

A special Thank You goes out to all who participated in the Valentine's Day flower giving event. Contact Doc Semper at 302-629-3419 for upcoming events.



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SOME RELIEF FOR RISING COST OF FUEL

At the pump...

Save up to 20% at any gas station using these simple tips.

Shop Non-Brand Name Gas Stations:

Most non-brand name gas stations use the exact same product as the brand names. Save a few cents every gallon getting a very similar product.

Use the Right Grade of Gasoline:

Some people believe premium grade is the best for cars. Not true.

Read your car manual to see what's recommended by the manufacturer (many times they recommend regular grade). Use the lowest grade recommended.

Don't Top Off:

Many studies have shown that the "top off" usually remains in the hose or is lost to evaporation. Don't bother!

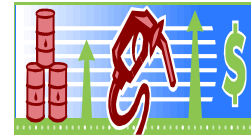
Avoid Sudden Stop and Go:

Driving less aggressively WILL

increase your gas mileage. Rapid acceleration and braking burns more fuel and is harder on your vehicle. Using cruise control is most efficient for gas mileage.

Tire Pressure:

Driving on tires that are not fully inflated can cost you 10% or more in lost gas. Check your pressure once a month.



And in your home...

Seal air leaks and insulate:

One of the simplest and most inexpensive ways to cut down on costs is to seal any air leaks that are in the home. The biggest leaks are often the skirting or crawl space.

The savings can be significant. Add up all the leaks in the average American home, and the draft let into the home is the equivalent to leaving a window open all year long. In fact, homeowners can shave off 10% of their annual energy bills just by air sealing their homes and adding insulation in areas such as attics and crawl spaces.

While some homeowners may feel comfortable doing this project on their own, others might want to hire a professional to do the work. Professionals also might find leaks that homeowners wouldn't find on their own.

Seal duct work too:

Make sure that heat isn't escaping through the duct work. Sealing and insulating ducts will likely require the help of a professional, but in some cases it could improve

the efficiency of a heating and cooling system by 20% or more. Well sealed duct work is especially important if a homeowner is considering the replacement of their heating, ventilation, and air conditioning system. "You can buy an efficient unit ... but if there's inefficient duct work, that's a waste of money."

Get a programmable thermostat:

Programmable thermostats might cost around \$100, but they'll save a homeowner about 10% on heating and cooling bills and will likely pay for themselves in a year. The device conveniently will turn down the heat during the hours that no one is at home, and turn it back up before people return -- so that homeowners return to a warm house.

Remember, however, that the thermostat must be programmed correctly for it to actually cut down on costs. The device could shave \$150 off of the average homeowner's energy bills.

Little things add up:

Other small ways to cut down on heating costs include keeping the furnace filters clean, setting the water heater to 120 degrees, and considering a water heater blanket for added insulation. Doing laundry in cold water instead of hot water can also save about \$70 a year for the average family that does about seven loads of laundry a week.

Let the sun shine in:

Finally, don't dismiss the power of sunlight in heating the home.



Overwhelming Community Response

Once again I would like to personally thank every resident who participated in the food, toy, and clothing drive for needy families in Sussex County this Holiday Season. My office was filled to the brim with all types of non-perishable foods and an assortment of beautiful toys, coats, gloves, sweaters, etc. I am pleased to say this was our best year thus far. Please stop by the office to see the letter from Delaware Health and Social Services thanking us for our donation.



New Addition to Cool Branch

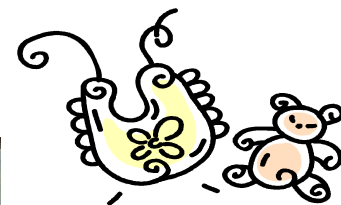
Meet Cool Branch's newest Community member.

Kiley Anne Reyes

Born: January 30, 2008

9 lbs. 3 oz.

22 1/2 inches long



**Proud Parents:
Kahla Rickers and John Reyes.**

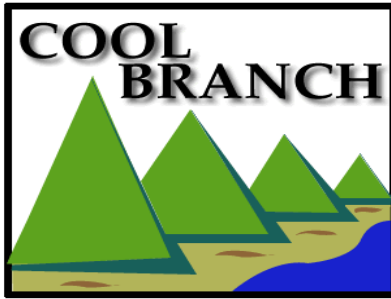
**Proud Grandparents:
Tom and Debbie McKinney
of 364 GBR.**

Resident Congratulations!



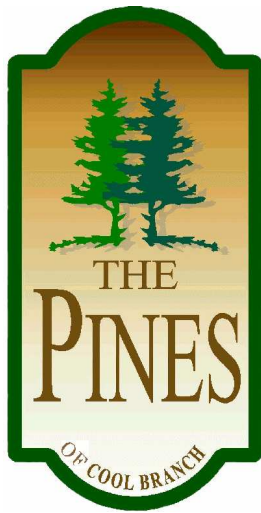
Toni & Tanner Tiritilli of 89 HPC along with Jeremy & Jacob Dulis of 58 HPC are happy to announce the engagement of their parents, Jeffrey Lee Dulis & Marlene Olivia Tiritilli. Their families become one on June 14, 2008 at the Christ United Methodist Church in Laurel, Delaware.





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“Community Alert”

Spring time is right around the corner which means annual inspections will be starting. Please refer to your lease for “Home Standards” on expectations from the Community Office.

Once again we have been incurring additional expenses concerning waste water. Please **DO NOT** flush anything down your commode that doesn't belong (i.e.: shop rags, cigarette butts, pill bottles, dog toys, etc) We all suffer from additional expenses. **Remember this is your Commu-**

Sharp Energy Customers



No one likes costly propane market spikes. Avoid them with Sharp Energy's Pro Cap Plan. Please sign up before September 1, 2008. The Pro Cap plan is for the heating season only (Sept. 1 to April 30). You must be a customer in good standing. In the past few years, Sharp Energy Pro Cap customers saved as much as \$0.30 per gallon on their propane. Visit or call (302-856-6648) your local Sharp office to take advantage of this benefit.

You've earned it! Sharp customers who are at least 62 years of age can receive a \$0.02 per gallon discount on their propane bill. You may be asked to show proof of age.

HOLIDAY LIGHT CONTEST WINNERS

The 2007 Holiday Light

Winners were as follows:

1st Place - Elizabeth Hendershot of 7 Big Mill Branch.

2nd Place - Dan and Shirley Kern of 108 Hitch Pond Circle.

3rd Place - Don and Lil Journey of 110 Hitch Pond Circle.



Several other awards were given out to Residents for categories such as: best porch in the Village and Pines, Santa Cough award, Charlie Brown Award and Honorable Mentions. Thank You to all who participated. Start planning your unique scene early for the 2008 awards.