



News from the Board Joyce Jalbert, President

Hardees: The boys of summer are back! The lawn mowing crew came through on Tuesday March 10th. They said that they will come back again in 2 weeks as most of the yards are still very short. If you have any questions on yard mowing, please contact Jean Grady, the liaison to the Hardees Group.

Waccamaw Visit: We are pleased that Waccamaw only had to send out violation letters to 7 residences. They were only looking for weeds and landscaping issues as it is still too cold for any painting. Thank you all very much for getting out there and taking care of those d.....weeds.

Volunteer Appreciation: The BOD is excited to announce that we will again this year be hosting Volunteer Appreciation Night. We are lucky to have so many of you give your time and energy to help out the community. We have nearly 50 people volunteering and many of them volunteer on several different committees. This event is going to be held on **April 20th**.

This Event is by invitation only.

If YOU would like to attend next year's gala, please think about joining a committee or the BOD!

MTS Website: As many of you know Linda Downes is our Webmaster and she does a heck of a good job! You can access our Website by going to www.myrtletracesouth.org. The password is **mtshoainfo2013**. There you can check out the Financials, Committees, By Laws, Forms and Lists, and much much more. Check it out!

The next Monthly HOA BOD Meeting is **April 1, 2026 at 9:00am**.

Hope to see you there.





CLUBHOUSE POOL COMMITTEE

Jennifer DenDanto Chair

The St. Patrick's day party was a culinary delight. The 28 attendees enjoyed salad, appetizers, corned beef, potatoes and a delicious array of desserts.

There is a lot coming up in our little clubhouse! We will be opening the pool sometime **around 4-15-26**. We do not have a firm date as of yet. There will be an eblast inviting all to a little pool opening party with hot dogs as soon as we have a date.

We will also need some power washers to clean the patio furniture. Please let me know if you can help (845-649-0206)!

We are also having a Hat decorating party on **4-11-26 from 10 AM to 2 PM**.

The hats made at the Hat decorating party will be on full display for a contest **on 5-2-26** at our Kentucky Derby Party! (See flyers)



FIREWISE COMMITTEE

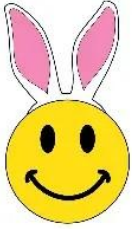
Colleen Meitzler

Happy Spring to all! We are excited to report that we received a Firewise Grant this year and will be able to resume our Firewise activities.

Please review our Spring Clean Up flyer in this Gatepost. The clean-up will be **April 27 – May 1**. We will have bags and gloves available. They can be picked up at the clubhouse on **April 23 rd from 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM**.

With April holidays approaching, please take a moment to review our Firewise Safety Gatepost flyer on Cooking Safety.

We hope you are enjoying the beautiful Spring weather! Stay safe!



SUNSHINE COMMITTEE NEWS

Jean Grady

Many of our neighbors have suffered losses this past month. Please keep in your prayers Donna and Gary Hunt after the loss of their son in law, Steve and Donna Burns over the loss of Steve's mother Miss Millie, and Connie Hall and Teresa Edwards on the death of their husband and father Corbett. Lastly Joan Burke who was living in California, please remember Wally and her family.

We also have neighbors Margaret Serafin and Helen Hajnal recuperating in rehab. Please also remember Jerry Stypinski and Vonnah Lett who are dealing with health issues.

For all of the rest of our neighbors who might be having health issues we send you positive thoughts

If you know of anyone who could benefit from a bit of sunshine please reach out to anyone of the members of our committee: Ginni Boam and Janet Pechalonis of Sand Ridge , Berri Lowman on Trawler Bay, Eileen Sause of Rudder Court, and Linda Downes or Jean Grady on Helms Way.

THANK YOU NOTES FROM OUR NEIGHBORS

I'm so glad I live in a caring neighborhood. I really appreciate all the thoughts, cards, calls and prayers after Corbett's death. They meant so much.

Bless you all.

Connie Hall

Steve and I would like to thank everyone for their prayers, kind words, cards and baked goods on the passing of Steve's mother Mildred. Your thoughtfulness and support was greatly appreciated.

Thank you so much,

Steve and Donna Burns

Thank you to our MTS neighbors for all the cards, e-mails, texts, cookies and brownies. What a wonderful neighborhood to retire in. True friends that show up and lift you when needed it the most...

Sincerely,

Gary & Donna Hunt and the Daugherty Family.



MODIFICATION COMMITTEE

Anne McOwen, Chair

Modification requests have ramped up with the warmer weather with several requiring members of our committee to come out to view intended projects. To help our volunteers, we ask that you save us some time by completely filling out a **CURRENT** Request Form which you can print off the website or from the bottom of each month's Gatepost Newsletter. Many are not including their LOT number which can be found on the Resident Map that is posted periodically. Please make sure the form is also signed by at least one homeowner.

Keep in mind that we do our best to turn the requests around in minimal time but, although rare, it may take up to 45 days to approve depending on your project. Please do not have work done before you get approval as you may incur a fine. Also, please call me at **843-234-1166** or email me at annemcown5240@gmail.com to let me know you are dropping off a request in my mail tube. This helps when I am away and have a fellow committee member checking the tube in my absence. We appreciate all the assistance we can get.

Last month, I gave info about the purchase of the pineapples and scrollwork for mailboxes should you have a need for one. The BOD has made the decision that, going forward, the Modification Committee Liaison, Ed Huyer, would be the source of these items. If you should need them, please contact Ed and he will give you the current pricing, etc.



NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Ellen Witalis and Nancy Thornburgh



Spring has slowly sprung! Don't you be slow, too! Contact us to become a volunteer on a committee here at MTS. We've got lots of fun committees to join. OR, run for a place on our BOD. It's really easy! Just contact either Ellen Witalis or Nancy Thornburgh for a great chance to get to know your neighbors!

Also, we won't come knocking on your door, pressuring you to volunteer! Kidding! Seriously, it is a great way to learn about this great neighborhood!

Please contact: Ellen Witalis (Board Liaison) at 843-347-7101 or Nancy Thornburgh (Happy Volunteer) at 989-798-1782



WELCOME COMMITTEE

Angel Mangarelli and Suzanne Gilman

We are pleased to welcome Diane and Wayne Blythe at 743 Helms Way. They come to us from Florida (originally PA). They have 2 children and 2 grandchildren.

Diane enjoys walking, renovation projects, camping, dogs and reading.
Wayne enjoys projects, camping, walking and dogs.

Diane can be reached at 772-240-8761 and wdtrees56@gmail.com.
Wayne can be reached at 772-240-8716 and wdtrees56@gmail.com

MEDICAL SUPPLIES

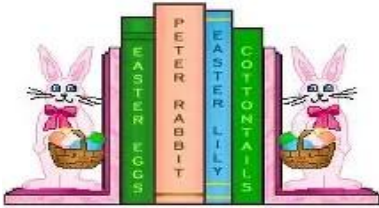
Janet Pechalonis



Often times, when an injury occurs or a special need arises, medical equipment may be necessary for a short period of time. Many of our residents have walkers and wheelchairs as well as other items in their homes which they no longer use. These very generous folks are willing to lend, on a temporary basis, to those in need, when a family is in a situation of caring for others.

Although, I do not have the equipment in my home, I will direct you to the person who may have what you need. Thank you for your donations.

If you are in need of borrowing, please contact me **Janet Pechalonis** by phone: **843-349-0093**,
Text 203-558-4013 or email petchco@sbcglobal.net.



BOOK CLUB

Ellen Witalis

Our March read was one of the best we've shared in a long time. **The Remarkably Bright Creature** by Shelby Van Pelt is a stand out story of a sad and lonely woman who nightly cleans an aquarium. A very smart octopus who is also aging and lonely develops a kind and caring relationship with Tova, his tank cleaner. Marcellus the octopus understands Tova's grief of the loss of her son many years before, and helps her deal with her loss. All of the characters in this novel share their stories in a small town atmosphere that ultimately works together for acceptance and kindness. We rated it 10.

A Netflix movie starring Sally Field as Tova is scheduled to be released on May 8. We can't wait to watch it.

April's book will be **The 2nd Mrs. Astor** by Shana Abe about the life of an 18 year old debutante who catches the eye of John Astor IV, the extremely wealthy scion of the Astor family who is 47 years old. Their romance and marriage form an unlikely bond in the early 1900's among the wealthiest New Yorkers and socialists. This novel is based on the story of their life together and the tragedy of the sinking of the Titanic in 1912.

May's book will be a true story about 9 women who survived the worst of Nazi Germany by Gwen Strauss. **THE NINE** by Gwen Strauss is a nonfiction book about nine women French and Dutch resistance workers who developed a close bond while in Nazi prisons and concentration camps. Ultimately they escaped from a forced labor camp and made a 10 day journey across enemy lines in 1945 to freedom. It is based on the author's great aunt experiences during WW II.



NANA'S CLOSET

Ellen Witalis

It's almost vacation time again for schools in the Northeast. My grands will be here as of April 20, and are looking for some fun in the sun.

Most the items in Nana's Closet come from their use when they were quite young. If you have visitors this month please let me know what you need. Call me at 843-347-7101 or email me at elplusp@aol.com. There are beach toys and chairs, an umbrella stroller, and rainy day games, and other little people needs.

Ellen Witalis
843-347-7101
843-503-1662
elplusp@aol.com

HAT DECORATING PARTY



Kentucky Derby hats can be elaborate or simple & can be homemade!
Please join us for a hat making party on
4-11-26 from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM.

Please bring potluck decorating stuff (ie: flowers & ribbon). Please bring a hat to decorate.

Also...please bring a lunch!

Our homemade hats will be part of a contest at the Kentucky Derby party!

Please RSVP by **4-5-26** to **Deb Medeiros** at **508-496-7197**.



April Ladies Social

Thursday, April 9th, 2:00pm

Please RSVP to Deb Medeiros at 508-496-7197

or Jen DenDanto at 845-649-0206.



**MTS COMMUNITY YARD/GARAGE SALE
 SATURDAY, APRIL 25TH!!!
 8 AM UNTIL NOON.
 RAIN OR SHINE.**

On Friday, the 24th, you may pick up your balloons from 9am to noon and pay your \$3.00 advertisement fee per participating household for local advertisements.

**Contact Barbara Volante: 738 Helms way.
 843-234-2852 H
 843-421-2513 cell**



CANASTA GROUP

The Friday afternoon Canasta group is continuing to play every **Friday at 1PM** at the clubhouse.



BUNCO (DICE GAME)

Ladies Bunco will be held on Wednesday, **April 8th at 6:15 pm.** The first twelve people to respond are guaranteed a spot so please RSVP soon to **Eileen at (203) 494-7643.**



EDITOR'S CORNER

Reminder –Effective **April 1st** Santee Cooper peak hours change to afternoons – **from 3 to 6PM**. Get your laundry done early morning!!



HAPPY EASTER TO ALL!!!



APRIL

5 – Sandy Watts
 6 -- Amanda Ho
 7 – Walt Cashdollar
 8 -- Patrick Downes
 11– Joseph Pechalonis
 12 –Jeanne Renner
 12 – Miriam Coward
 14 – Linda Downes
 14 – Jay Stiltner
 15 – Bruce Conway
 17 – Robin Gillis

BIRTHDAYS

18 – James LaTorre
 18 – Mary Ann Wisniewski
 19—Steve White
 20 – Jerry Stypinski
 21 – Ruth Graham
 22 – Michelle Maylock
 23 – Penny Cortez
 27 – Bill Stebler
 28 – Joe Cangialosi
 28 – Gary Watts
 29 – Jeff Edwards

APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

4 – Bruce McConnell & Colleen Meitzler
 6 – Henry & Mary Heavens
 6 – Ken & Lesley Trinkley
 6 - Richard & Ella Bryant
 8 –Dave & Dawn Tucker
 9 –Chris & Iris Boam
 12 – Rick & Kathy Becker
 13 – Don & Pat Edwards
 17 – Glen & Denise Daniels
 27 – George & Maureen Bertolet

KENTUCKY DERBY PARTY



This Photo by Unknown Author is licensed under [CC BY-NC-ND](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/4.0/)

Come join us for a fun day of horse racing!

Saturday May 2nd

Bring appetizers & mini sandwiches to share!

Bring singles & fives if you want to participate in Blind Cup Betting starting with the **4:00 PM** race & ending after the Derby race at 7:00.

There will be a homemade hat contest!

Please RSVP to **Eileen Hajnal at 203-494-7643 by 4-27-26** with what are you bringing.

April Ladies Birthday Lunch

APRIL 21 2026

11:30 AM

COPPER'S RESTAURANT

201 LAUREL STREET, CONWAY

BIRTHDAY LADIES

5th-- SANDY WATTS

12th--MIRIAM COWARD

12th-- JEANNE RENNER

14th-- LINDA DOWNES

18th-- MARY ANN WISNIEWSKI

21st-- RUTH GRAHAM

22nd-- MICHELLE MAYLOCK

23rd-- PENNY CORTEZ

**Please RSVP by Friday, April 17 to Janet Roche 843 347-0116
or Ellen Witalis 843-347-7101**

PARKING IS AVAILABLE AT A CITY OWNED LOT ACROSS THE STREET



MTS Firewise Annual Spring Yard Clean-up April 27 – May 1, 2026

The Firewise Committee will again hold our annual Spring community clean-up.

This is your opportunity to spruce up your yard, remove leaves, pine straw and trim trees and shrubs. Your yard debris, bags and any branches (neatly stacked) will be picked up at the front edge of your property between **April 27 – May 1**.

Stop by the clubhouse on April 23rd between 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM to pick up your leaf bags, work gloves and a blank Firewise Activity Sheet. Please complete and submit your activity sheet at the conclusion of your yard clean up so we can remain a Firewise Community.

Please contact any Firewise Committee member with any questions.

****Reminder: NO PLASTIC BAGS OR CONTAINERS –**

We strive to be a Firewise and Environmentally Friendly Community.

Firewise Committee

Colleen Meitzler	cbomer12@yahoo.com
Glen Daniels	glen.daniels2814@gmail.com
Gail Di Maio	gedimaio@gmail.com
Bruce McConnell	bruce.mcconnell1@gmail.com
Dennis Vander Ryk	joggerman46@yahoo.com



Cooking Safety

Cooking brings family and friends together, provides an outlet for creativity and can be relaxing. But did you know that cooking fires are the number one cause of home fires and home injuries? By following a few safety tips you can prevent these fires.

“COOK WITH CAUTION”

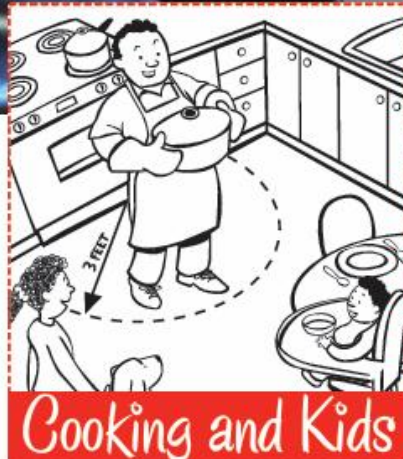
- Be on alert! If you are sleepy or have consumed alcohol don't use the stove or stovetop.
- Stay in the kitchen while you are frying, boiling, grilling, or broiling food. If you leave the kitchen for even a short period of time, turn off the stove.
- If you are simmering, baking, or roasting food, check it regularly, remain in the home while food is cooking, and use a timer to remind you that you are cooking.
- Keep anything that can catch fire — oven mitts, wooden utensils, food packaging, towels or curtains — away from your stovetop.

If you have a small (grease) cooking fire and decide to fight the fire...

- On the stovetop, smother the flames by sliding a lid over the pan and turning off the burner. Leave the pan covered until it is completely cooled.
- For an oven fire, turn off the heat and keep the door closed.

If you have any doubt about fighting a small fire...

- Just get out! When you leave, close the door behind you to help contain the fire.
- Call 9-1-1 or the local emergency number from outside the home.



Cooking and Kids

Have a “kid-free zone” of at least 3 feet (1 metre) around the stove and areas where hot food or drink is prepared or carried.

FACTS

- ❗ The leading cause of fires in the kitchen is unattended cooking.
- ❗ Most cooking fires in the home involve the kitchen stove.



NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION
The leading information and knowledge resource on fire, electrical and related hazards

MYRTLE TRACE SOUTH (MTS) HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

MODIFICATION REQUEST APPLICATION FORM

HOMEOWNERS MUST RECEIVE WRITTEN APPROVAL BEFORE WORK CAN COMMENCE. THE MODIFICATION COMMITTEE AND/OR BOARD OF DIRECTORS (BOD) WILL REVIEW YOUR REQUEST AND RETURN AN ANSWER WITHIN 45 DAYS OF RECEIVING THIS WRITTEN REQUEST.

NAME: _____ DATE: _____

ADDRESS: _____ LOT#: _____ PHONE: _____

PRIMARY E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

SECONDARY E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____ FAX #: _____

DESCRIBE THE MODIFICATION PROJECT (use additional pages if necessary):

DESIRED START DATE: _____ EST. COMPLETION DATE: _____

LOCATION OF PROJECT: _____

(PROVIDE: MARKUP, SURVEY, HOUSE PLANS, PHOTOGRAPH, LANDSCAPING LAYOUT OR OTHER APPROPRIATE DOCUMENTS)

MATERIALS: _____

(DESCRIPTION OF THE MATERIALS, BROCHURES, WEBSITE INFORMATION AND/OR SAMPLES SHOULD BE PROVIDED)

COLORS: _____

(A LISTING OF THE COLOR(S), SWATCHES, BROCHURES OR SAMPLES MUST BE NOTED. ONLY COLORS APPROVED BY THE MTS MODIFICATION COMMITTEE AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS MAY BE USED)

PLANS: ATTACH LAYOUT, DIAGRAMS, SURVEY AND/OR PLANS FOR THE PROJECT IF CONSTRUCTION RELATED

ATTACHMENTS: PLEASE CHECK APPROPRIATE BOX FOR ANY ATTACHMENTS: YES NO

By signing this application, you are accepting full responsibility for the modification project and acknowledge that: a) the HOA may not be held responsible for any injuries or damage resulting from the modification being done; b) All applicable permits that may be required by law are obtained prior to start of the modification; c) any commercial contractor(s) used is/are licensed and insured; **d) For any roof work projects, the homeowner must include copies of the contractors' business license, and liability and/or workers compensation insurance with this Modification Request Application;** e) The Modification Committee, at its discretion, may ask to view permits, proof of insurance and licensing for construction, retaining wall, drainage alteration, or other substantial modifications by contractors; f) The Modification Committee has the right to conduct on-site inspections of the modification project.

Signature of Homeowner

Date

Signature of Homeowner

Date

Rev. 8/2025



MYRTLE TRACE SOUTH

COMMITTEE VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

_____ would like to be considered to serve as a
(Print Your Name)

member of the following committee(s) of the Myrtle Trace South Homeowners' Association, Inc.

Please place an **X** next to the committee(s) you have an interest in:

- Pool/Clubhouse Committee Grounds Maintenance Committee
- Modification Committee Nominating Committee
- Firewise Committee Ponds Committee
- Sunshine Committee Welcoming Committee

Your OCCUPATION: (if retired, former occupation) _____

Your EXPERIENCE: _____

What TALENTS/GIFTS do you have that lead you to apply to serve on the above committee(s)?

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Property Address: _____ Phone: _____ Email: _____

Please complete and return this form to:



Ellen Witalis - 1023 Rudder Court - 843-347-7101 - elplusp@aol.com

On behalf of the BOD of MTS, thank you for "stepping up" to serve in our community!

APRIL



2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
			Board Mtg 9AM  Happy Passover	Senior Exercise 9AM CHCP Mtg 10:30AM	Hand and Foot Canasta 1PM	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Happy Easter  Sunday HE IS RISEN		Senior Exercise 9AM	Bunco 6:15 PM	Senior Exercise 9AM Ladies Social 2PM	Hand and Foot Canasta 1PM	Hat making party 10 to 2
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
A Sharper Edge 9 to 2 PM		Senior Exercise 9AM	Book Club 6:30	Senior Exercise 9AM	Hand and Foot Canasta 1PM	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	Volunteer Appreciation 6:30 to 8:30 PM	Senior Exercise 9AM Ladies Bday Lunch 11:30		Senior Exercise 9AM Pickup gloves and bags 10 to 11AM	Hand and Foot Canasta 1PM	Community Yard Sale 8 to noon
26	27	28	29	30		
	Spring cleanup starts	Senior Exercise 9AM Bingo 6:30 PM		Senior Exercise 9AM		