

# Eagle Ridge News

**September 2007**

## Back to School in Wake County Means another year of Growth!



WCPSS student population has doubled since 1985 and another 130,000 students are projected by the year 2025. Here are some facts about our growing school system:

- WCPSS is the second largest school system in North Carolina and the 23rd largest district in the United States.
- Next year, the student population is expected to increase by 7,000 students. This is more than every man, woman and child currently residing within the Town of Knightdale.
- Each of the last three years has set a record for increased student enrollment, with 16,131 students added to the system since 2002.
- The school system is currently using more than 1,000 mobile/modular classrooms; this number will increase by at least 100 for the 2006 school year.
- One of every four elementary school students is in a temporary mobile/modular classroom.

• Relative to goals established by the school board, WCPSS is short 15,000 classroom seats today, and will need 58,000 seats by 2010 and 91,000 seats by 2015.

• Since 2000, more than 57,000 single-family housing permits have been issued in Wake County.

• In 2005 alone, Wake County, Raleigh or the school system were included in 27 “Best of” lists across the United States.

• WCPSS outperforms all of the other major school systems on virtually every indicator in North Carolina, at a local cost per student far below most of them.

• At \$0.604, Wake County has the lowest property tax rate of the largest school districts in the state.

• It takes property taxes from two new homeowners to cover the cost of one new student.

• It takes only six to nine months to build the average house in Wake County. However, it takes 14 months to build an elementary school, 19 months for a middle school and 26 months for a high school.



## Recent Neighborhood Sales

Property values have been on the rise in Raleigh, and Eagle Ridge has been at the top of the statistics! The following homes in our neighborhood closed or were listed in the last several months. Notice the range in prices and days on market. This is primarily determined by square footage, condition and features.

**For more information on your home’s value and how to maximize the return on your investment, please call Christen Paul at (919) 332-1436!**

Date Closed	Address	Sq. Ft.	Bedroom	Bath	Price	Days on Market
6/13/2007	105 Zaharis Cove	2890	4	3	\$409,500	31
6/28/2007	100 Faldo Cove	2578	5	3	\$277,000	9
7/06/2007	402 Seastone St	2900	5	2.5	\$338,900	18
Pending	145 Ryder Cup	2055	3	2.5	\$199,441	7

# Slow Cooker Beans

Like refried—without the refrying!

## INGREDIENTS

- 1 onion, peeled and halved
- 3 cups dry pinto beans, rinsed
- 1/2 fresh jalapeno pepper, seeded and chopped
- 2 tablespoons minced garlic
- 5 teaspoons salt
- 1 3/4 teaspoons fresh ground black pepper
- 1/8 teaspoon ground cumin, optional
- 9 cups water



## DIRECTIONS

1. Place the onion, rinsed beans, jalapeno, garlic, salt, pepper, and cumin into a slow cooker. Pour in the water and stir to combine. Cook on High for 8 hours, adding more water as needed. Note: if more than 1 cup of water has evaporated during cooking, then the temperature is too high.
2. Once the beans have cooked, strain them, and reserve the liquid. Mash the beans with a potato masher, adding the reserved water as needed to attain desired consistency.

## Christen's Tips

### Money-Saving Water Conservation Tips

- Consider native and drought-tolerant plants and grasses when making landscape choices.
- Get your irrigation system tuned up for efficiency.
- Adjust your sprinklers so there is less watering on cool and overcast days.
- Water your lawn when it needs it. Step on your grass. If it springs back when you lift your foot, it doesn't need water.
- Consider reusing some household water to irrigate your landscaping by using a graywater system or by using a bucket.
- Water your lawn during the cool and less windy times of day. Early morning is better than dusk. Less watering means less growth, therefore less mowing and fertilizer.
- Set lawn mower blades one notch higher. Longer grass means less evaporation.
- If you have an evaporative air conditioner, direct the water drain line to a flowerbed, tree base or lawn.
- Put a layer of mulch around trees and plants. Chunks of bark, peat moss or gravel slow evaporation.
- Water in several short sessions rather than one long one. Three ten-minute sessions spaced 30 minutes to an hour apart, for example, will allow your lawn to better absorb moisture than one straight 30-minute session. Install moisture sensors in your lawn' to pinpoint if you need to water.

## Did you Know...?



North Carolina has 1,500 lakes of 10 acres or more in size and 37,000 miles of fresh water streams.



**New Listing! And it TALKS!**  
**132 Faldo Cove Raleigh, NC 27603**



- Built in 2006
- 2 Story Traditional
- 3015 sq/ft
- 5bd / 3ba
- .22 acre
- Fenced Yard
- Golf Course
- Cul-de-sac

*Please call Christen Paul @ 332-1436 for a private showing.*



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### Raleigh Makes Top 50



Raleigh has surpassed Wichita, Kan., to become the 50<sup>th</sup> largest city in the country, according to population estimates prepared by the City of Raleigh Planning Department's Growth Management Division.

Raleigh's estimated population as of July 1 is 367,995, an increase of 8,663 persons since Jan. 1 when the city's population was estimated to be 359,332. The city's population increased by 4.07 percent from July 1, 2006 to July 1, 2007. Raleigh is now the ninth largest city in the South behind Jacksonville, Memphis, Charlotte, Louisville, Nashville, Atlanta, Virginia Beach and Miami. Estimates are based on the number of dwellings, the average number of people per dwelling, and the dwelling occupancy/vacancy averages.

In 2006, Raleigh passed Tampa, Cincinnati, Pittsburgh; and St. Louis to become the 51<sup>st</sup> largest city in the nation," said City of Raleigh Planning Director Mitchell Silver. "If our growth rate continues, we project that Raleigh will pass Arlington, Texas, Minneapolis and Colorado Springs, Colo., next year."

Mr. Silver said a strong local economy, housing prices, quality schools and "numerous other amenities" have sustained the population growth in Raleigh.

"Raleigh continues to be one of the fastest growing cities in the United States," he said. "The rank of 50<sup>th</sup> largest city in the country is based on the Department of Planning's projections. The U.S. Census Bureau's estimates lag one year behind local estimates. However, I am optimistic the U.S. Census Bureau will confirm Raleigh's 50th ranking when it releases its 2007 population in June 2008."

### Council Amends Water Conservation Ordinance

The Raleigh City Council has amended its Water Conservation Ordinance to include a \$50 fee for New Lawn Irrigation Establishment Permits for new and revitalized lawns. The fee is effective for new lawn irrigation permit applications received on or after August 8.

On July 2, year-round water conservation measures went into effect that restrict the times and days Raleigh water customers who use automatic and non-automatic irrigation systems and garden hose-attached sprinklers to water their lawns and outdoor plants. City of Raleigh water customers who are planting new lawns can apply for a special permit that temporarily exempts them from these permanent water conservation measures.

Under the permit, users can irrigate new sod yards or newly-planted lawns daily for 45 consecutive days. The permits can be obtained from the City's Public Utilities Department, One Exchange Plaza, Suite 620; or by calling 857-4540.



**"We never know the worth of water  
'til the well is dry."**

-English Proverb

# LOCAL EVENTS

## **Sept. 8—KidFest 2007**

Admission is free! Spring Forest Road Park, 4203 Spring Forest Road 12 noon.

## **Sept. 15—AKC Responsible Dog Ownership Day**

Fun and educational activities for all dog lovers, including the ever popular "Meet the Breeds" (over 50 different AKC breeds), free Canine Good Citizen Tests (CGC), agility, rally, obedience, and flyball demonstrations, as well as fun activities for all participants. AKC Companion Animal Recovery will offer \$20 microchipping. Dog-related vendors, free games, contests and giveaways - free goodie bags to the first 500 attendees.

Event Hours 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Free admission NC State Fairgrounds Holshouser Building.

## **Sept. 15—Bugfest**

The 11th annual version of the world's biggest and most popular "buggy" event will offer outstanding displays, activities and compound-eye-popping shows. Experience the refreshing Garden and Kid Zones, enjoy delicious bug-filled delicacies at the Café Insecta, cheer on your favorite entry at the Roachingham 500 roach races, view incredi-

ble and bizarre live animals, and see the un-bee-lievable beard of bees! At 5 p.m. BugFest transitions into the Twilight Zone. Visitors will get into the evening groove with a fresh round of activities, entertainment and live music for the (slightly) more adult at heart. Museum of Natural Science.

[www.bugfest.org](http://www.bugfest.org)

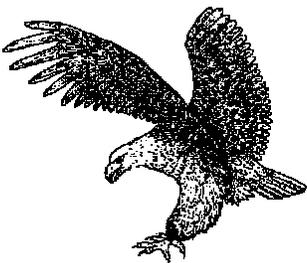
## **Sept. 16—Summer Performance Series: Hispanic Arts Initiative**

Celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month and Mexican culture with a traditional Mexican Independence Day program that features music, dancing, and singing. 3:00-4:00 Museum of History.

## **Sept. 29—Battle of the Bands**

Raleigh Parks and Recreation's Teen Program will present the Third Annual Battle of the Bands. The event is held at Laurel Hills Community Center in Raleigh. Music kicks off at 5 p.m. and ends at 10 p.m. Doors will open at 4:30 p.m. Cover charge is just \$5. Teens will enjoy food vendors, live music, and fun in a concert setting..

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# *Eagle Ridge News*