

The Ford Forum

Building a Better Carolina



Michael A. Ford

A Word from the Builder

Wow! The end of 2019 is approaching. The years to seem to fly by faster and faster! It's been quite a whirlwind here at our company this past year and 2020 is looking very exciting with new opportunities. I'm absolutely thrilled to share the details of our newest project, Yorkshire Village, with you all. Plus, we now have recorded lots in Remington Hills and home construction finally starting. There are a few other projects that are underway and I hope to share more information with you in the next issue.

I also want to take this opportunity to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! Our company hopes that each of you enjoy a wonderful holiday season with family, friends, and loved ones. Let's take a moment to reflect on what this time of year truly means...I truly am thankful for all of the blessings that this company and I have received.

Yorkshire Village Coming Soon!

Coming soon! Yorkshire Village is a cozy 22-lot neighborhood that will be located near the intersections of Highway 42 & 96 in East Clayton, North Carolina. The plan is to build homes between 1,600-2,200 square feet with prices starting in the mid \$200s.

Large wooded lots will average around one acre in size. The neighborhood is located in the River Dell Elementary, Archer Lodge Middle, and Corinth Holder High school districts. This is an excellent location for those still wanting to be near city amenities while maintaining a quiet, country setting. The goal is to start home construction by the first of the new year with move-in homes ready by Spring 2020!



We are excited to announce the new development at Yorkshire Village. This cozy 22-lot neighborhood is located in East Clayton, North Carolina.

Remington Hills Update

Phase 3 on the Remington Hills project is progressing nicely. House lots are recorded and new home construction is set to begin shortly!



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Christmas Around The World

'Tis the season to be jolly! However, not everyone celebrates the Christmas holiday in the same way. Test your holiday knowledge by guessing the foreign Christmas traditions below:

1. In Germany, Santa Claus is known as:
 - a) Osterhase
 - b) Weihnachtsmann
 - c) Zahnfee
 - d) Kobold
2. Eating Kentucky Fried Chicken for Christmas dinner has become a tradition in which country?
 - a) China
 - b) Italy
 - c) Egypt
 - d) Japan
3. *Sinterklaas* is the name for Kris Kringle in which Northern European country?
 - a) The Netherlands
 - b) Sweden
 - c) Norway
 - d) Denmark
4. Christmas is not celebrated on December 25th in all but which of the following countries?
 - a) Ethiopia
 - b) Bulgaria
 - c) Greece
 - d) Armenia

Answers: 1) b, 2) d, 3) a, 4) b

Techniques For Career Success

Hard work is essential to success on the job, but there's more to it than that. The *Entrepreneur* website offers these tips for getting—and staying—ahead:

- **Manage your time.** You may feel you have too little to do—or too much. Set up a routine that lets you schedule your work efficiently. This may mean getting up early, creating a to-do list at the beginning of the day, or saving emails that aren't urgent until the end of the day—whatever keeps you productive throughout the day.
- **Set goals.** Don't wait for success to come to you. Set concrete goals for yourself—a promotion in two years, for example, or just eliminating your college debt. This will help you focus your efforts where they can get the best payback.
- **Be ready to work hard.** This may seem obvious, but it's important—you won't get ahead if you don't show a willingness to work. Getting results is only part of it—you'll show the people around you that you're dedicating to getting your job done right, whatever it takes.
- **Find a mentor.** Seek out people with more experience for advice and support. Be willing to listen, and respect your mentor's words. A good mentor can steer for forward and help you avoid dead ends.
- **Always seek development.** To get ahead, you've got to stay up on the latest skills. Volunteer for training within your organization, and find it outside wherever you can—consider joining professional organizations that offer development courses.

“Nothing in life is to be feared; it is only to be understood. Now is the time to understand more, so that we may fear less.”

—Marie Curie

Find The Suspect

A police officer was testing three people who wanted to become detectives on their skills in recognizing a suspect. She showed the first man a picture for five seconds and then turned it over. “This is your suspect—how would you recognize him?”

“That's easy—we'll catch him fast because he only has one eye!” The police officer frowned. “That's because the picture I showed is his side profile.” Annoyed by this ridiculous response, she flashed the picture for five seconds at the second man. “This is your suspect. How would you recognize him?” The second man smiled. “Ha! He'd be too easy to catch because he only has one ear!”

The officer grew angry. “What's the matter with you two? Only one eye and one ear are showing because it's a picture of his side profile! Is that the best answer you can come up with?” Extremely frustrated, she showed the picture to the third man and in a very testy voice asked, “This is your suspect—how would you recognize him? Think hard before giving me another stupid answer.”

The third man looked at the picture intently for a moment. “The suspect wears contact lenses.” The policeman was surprised. “Wait here for a few minutes while I check his file.” She left the room and went to her office, checked the suspect's file on her computer, and came back with a beaming smile on her face.

“Wow! I can't believe it. It's true! The suspect does, in fact, wear contact lenses. Good work! How were you able to make such an astute observation?”

“That's easy,” the third man replied. “He can't wear regular glasses, because he only has one eye and one ear.”

Saturn Beats Out Jupiter For The Most Moons

Move over, Jupiter. Twenty new moons have been discovered orbiting the ringed planet Saturn, bringing its total number of moons to 82. Jupiter, formerly believed to be the planet with the most moons in our solar system, has 79.

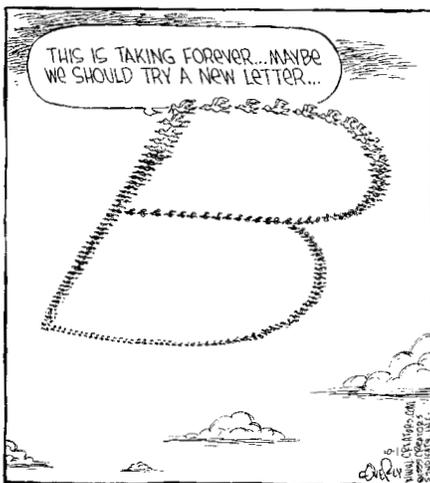
The *BBC News* website reports that the moons, discovered by the Subaru telescope on Maunakea, Hawaii, are about three miles in diameter. Seven of them orbit Saturn “backwards”—in the reverse direction of the planet’s rotation. Those moons take more than three years to complete an orbit around the gas giant, while two of the moons in the more common “prograde” orbit take just two years.

Scientists believe the moons are remnants of at least three larger bodies that were broken up by collisions between other moons or with passing asteroids. “Studying the orbits of these moons can reveal their origins, as well as information about the conditions surrounding Saturn at the time of its formation,” says Dr. Scott Sheppard from the Carnegie Institution for Science in Washington D.C., leader of the team responsible for the discovery.

The Carnegie Institution is holding a contest to name the 20 new moons. Submit your name suggestion on Twitter using the hashtag #NameSaturnsMoons.

SPEED BUMP

Dave Coverly



Reading Makes People Better, Study Suggests

Do you read a lot? If so, chances are you’re more kind and empathetic than most people, according to a study reported on the *Peace Quarters* website.

Researchers in Great Britain asked 123 people about their reading or television watching habits. Then they analyzed participants’ social skills, asking questions like, “How often do you consider other people’s points of views versus your own?” and “Do you go out of your way to actively help others?”

The results showed that the book readers, usually considered introverted and antisocial, displayed more empathetic traits than people who primarily watch television. The genre of books seemed to make a difference as well. Those who read romance and drama books showed more empathy and skill at seeing situations through another person’s eyes.

Of course, it could be that empathetic people tend to read more, instead of reading creating more empathy. Either way, it’s good news for bookworms.

Inventive Women From History

Some of the most common things we use every day were invented by creative women. Here are a few, gathered by the *Mental Floss* website:

- **Circular saws.** Tabitha Babbit, a weaver in a Shaker community, suggested that instead of a two-man pit saw that worked only when being pulled forward, a circular saw would be more efficient. She attached a prototype to her spinning wheel in 1813 and filed a patent thereafter.
- **Paper bags.** Margaret Knight created the modern, flat-bottomed paper bag in 1868. Before then, paper bags looked like envelopes. A man tried to steal the idea and file a patent, but Knight filed a lawsuit and won the rights to her creation.
- **Windshield wipers.** Mary Anderson invented the first manual windshield wipers in 1903. They didn’t take off because most drivers thought it was safer to simply drive through rain and snow than keep pulling a lever to clear it. Another woman, Charlotte Bridgwood, invented an automatic version in 1917, but it wasn’t accepted either. Still, by 1920 windshield wipers were everywhere, starting with Cadillac, which began installing them on all its cars.
- **Liquid paper.** A secretary named Bette Nesmith Graham corrected her typing mistakes with white tempera paint. After years perfecting the formula in her kitchen, she patented Liquid Paper in 1958. Gillette bought her company in 1979 for \$47.5 million.
- **Kevlar.** This lightweight material will stop a bullet. It’s five times stronger than steel. A chemist named Stephanie Kwolek discovered it by accident in 1966 as she was trying to develop a lightweight fiber for car tires.

“The crowning fortune of a man is to be born to some pursuit which finds him employment and happiness, whether it be to make baskets, or broadswords, or canals, or statues, or songs.”

—Ralph Waldo Emerson



Mayfield Lot 2
 57 Darcy Drive
 Clayton, NC 27527
New price!

- \$359,900
- 3 bedrooms/3.5 bathrooms
- 2,689 square feet
- 0.61 acre lot

- Walk-in pantry
- Finished loft
- Bonus room
- Covered back porch



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P.O. Box 9
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Steep Hill Farms Lot 10
 272 Farmall Drive
 Smithfield, NC 27577

- \$286,900
- 3 bedrooms
- 2.5 bathrooms
- 2,239 square feet
- 0.42 acre lot

- Downstairs master suite
- Large finished bonus room
- Formal dining room
- Study/office space