

## Weekly Pile for Week of February 28 2011

Hello Everyone (Horse Emailer's),

Included is the Weekly Pile of Information for the Week of February 28, 2011, Extension's Equine related educational information & announcements for Rockingham & Guilford Counties. To have something included in the Weekly Pile, please follow these simple guidelines.

- Information included needs to be educational in nature &/or directly related to Rockingham or Guilford Counties.
- Please E-mail information to me by Wednesday each Week.
- Please keep ads or events as short as possible - with NO FORMATTING with NO unnecessary Capitalization's, and NO ATTACHED DOCUMENTS. (If sent in that way, it may not be included)
- Please include contact information - Phone, Email and a like.
- PLEASE PUT WEEKLY PILE IN SUBJECT LINE when you send in to me.
- THERE ARE NO CONTINUAL RUNNING SPOTS - Ads must be sent in each week
- The Weekly Pile is not for listings for Commercial type properties or products.

If I forgot to include anything in this email it was a probably an oversight on my part. BUT PLEASE, LET ME KNOW!

If you have a question or ideas that you would like covered in the Weekly Pile, please let me know and I will try to include. As Always - I would like to hear your comments about the Weekly Pile or the Extension Horse Program in Rockingham or Guilford Counties!

Included in This Weeks Pile:

1. Extension Horse Management Short Courses
2. Horse Industry Promotion Referendum March 15, 2011
3. Coyotes & Feral Dogs In Our Future? Part II March 10th
4. Cost Saving Tips for Equine Operations
5. College of Veterinary Medicine Equine Health Symposium - April 2-3
6. World food shortage a scary thing
7. Seven reasons why Extension is needed today
8. Cooler Horsemanship Spring Show at Fiore Farms May 7
9. You Asked: Do you have to have a rooster for chickens to lay eggs?
10. New club called the Central Carolina Horse Association
11. Help the Veterans at the VA Hospital - Bring In Your Magazines!
12. Hay Directory
13. A POEM WORTH READING and sharing!
14. Swap Shop - For Sale/Wanted - Equestrian Facilities Available
15. Take A Load Off

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1. Monday Night - 2011 Extension Horse Management Short Course  
Please support these Programs!

2011 Extension Horse Management Short Courses  
Location: Guilford County Agricultural Center, 3309 Burlington Road,  
Greensboro, NC 27405

Time: 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Each Evening

Monday, March 7 - Trail Riding & Safety  
Shannon Hoffman, St.Clair Red Mule Farm, Zebulon NC

Monday, March 14 - Therapeutic Riding  
Jan Clifford, Horsepower/ Piedmont Saddle Club, Colfax NC

Monday, March 21 - Natural Horsemanship  
James & Kate Cooler, Cooler Horsemanship, Summerfield NC

Horse Management Committee - Randy Boles, David Dick, Sara Jo Durham, Steva Allgood, Rita Nott,  
and Georgianne Sims

- Registration Fee: \$30 for entire series or \$5.00 per session.  
- Registration Fee will be waived for 4-H members presenting an official current 4-H Program Membership ID Card.

For additional information,  
Call Ben Chase, Rockingham & Guilford County Extension Livestock Agent,  
North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service at [1-800-666-3625](tel:1-800-666-3625),  
342-8235 or email - [ben\\_chase@ncsu.edu](mailto:ben_chase@ncsu.edu).

In case of inclement weather, please call [1-800-666-3625](tel:1-800-666-3625) or 342-8235 for a recorded message.

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## 2. Come & Vote! Horse Industry Promotion Referendum - March 15, 2011

### A Fact Sheet for Horse Owners

The Horse Industry Promotion Referendum will be conducted on March 15, 2011. North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service has assembled this fact sheet to inform horse owners of North Carolina about the Referendum.

#### General Information

#### Q. What is the Horse Industry Promotion Referendum?

A. The Horse Industry Promotion Referendum is a vote by the horse owners of North Carolina as to whether they are willing to continue an assessment of \$2.00 per ton of any commercial feed or supplements labeled for horse use (equivalent to 5 cents per 50 lb. bag).

#### Q. How was the Horse Industry Promotion Referendum established?

A. The Horse Industry Promotion Referendum was established through House Bill 1529 - The Horse Industry Promotion Bill, which was passed by the North Carolina General Assembly on September 24, 1998.

#### Q. What is the purpose of the assessment?

A. To provide funds to the North Carolina Horse Council for the purpose of promoting the interests of the North Carolina horse industry.

#### Q. What is the North Carolina Horse Council?

A. The North Carolina Horse Council (NCHC) is the organization recognized as representing the interests of the horse owners in North Carolina.

#### Q. How would the assessment be collected?

A. The assessment will be remitted by the feed manufacturer or distributor (not retailer) to the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services who will in turn remit all

funds collected to the North Carolina Horse Council.

Q. How long would the assessment be in effect?

A. Three years.

Q. If the referendum passes, is it possible to receive a refund?

A. Yes. The request must be submitted to the North Carolina Horse Council within one year of purchase and must be accompanied by proof of purchase.

#### Voting Details

Date: Wednesday, March 15, 2011 Time: 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Polling Places: County Extension Centers

Eligibility: Any North Carolina resident who has complete or partial ownership or lease of an equine (horse, pony, mule, donkey or hinny). Individuals must sign a statement of ownership/lease at time of voting.

Age: Must have reached 9th birthday as of January 1, 2011.

Ballot Specifics: "Yes" indicates a vote in favor of continuing the assessment. "No" indicates a vote against continuing the assessment.

Absentee Voting: Opportunity available. Details will be provided at a later date.

Ownership Challenges: Opportunity available. Details will be provided at a later date.

#### Frequently Asked Questions

Q. How much would the assessment cost me?

A. Approximately \$ 1.80 per horse per year.

Q. How will the assessment be utilized?

A. The North Carolina Horse Council has identified several areas of intended utilization:

- Promote benefits of horse ownership to the general public.
- Enhance development and delivery of educational programs for horse owners.
- Expand access to trails. Help protect and maintain existing trails.
- Support equine related research.
- Represent the interests of horse owners in the state legislature.

Q. Is the assessment a tax?

A. No. A tax is for the support of a government; the proposed self-assessment is for the interests of horse owners. The assessment is also fully refundable upon written request.

Q. How much revenue will the assessment generate?

A. Based on collections from the first two years of the assessment, annual receipts are approximately \$200,000.

Q. Do any other commodity groups in North Carolina have a similar assessment?

A. Yes. Other commodity groups in North Carolina having a similar, self-assessing system include beef, strawberry, peanuts, soybeans, etc.

Q. Is anyone available to visit my group, club, etc., to provide information about the referendum?

A. Yes. Contact your local County Extension Center. They will put you in touch with an agent, REINS (Regional Equine Information Network System) volunteer or 4-H horse volunteer leader or representative from the NC Horse Council.

Q. How can I contact/find out more about the North Carolina Horse Council?

A. Additional information regarding the North Carolina Horse Council may be obtained by contacting: North Carolina Horse Council, P.O. Box 12999 Raleigh, NC 27605-2999 [919/854-1990](tel:9198541990) (phone) [919/854-1989](tel:9198541989) (Fax) [www.nchorsecouncil.com](http://www.nchorsecouncil.com)

Q. How can I obtain a copy of HB 1529 - The Horse Industry Promotion Bill?

A. A copy of HB 1529 may be obtained from your local County Extension Center.

Q. What reports or fees will the feed retailer be required to submit?

A. No reports, no fees.

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### 3. Coyotes & Feral Dogs In Our Future? Part II March 10th

Part II of the two-Part Educational Program aimed for the Northern Piedmont of North Carolina and Neighboring Counties in Virginia called "COYOTES AND FERAL DOGS IN OUR FUTURE?" will take place on March 10th for the purpose educating all that are interested about this growing concern.

On Thursday, March 10th - 7pm - Managing Coyotes and Feral Dogs.  
To be held at the Rockingham County Agricultural Center, 525 HWY 65,  
Wentworth, NC

This program will cover - Introduction and Laws affecting Coyotes and Feral Dogs, Presented by Barry Joyce, Master Wildlife Law Enforcement Officer, North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission, Rockingham County, also to be covered will be the History of Coyotes in the Northern Piedmont presented by Perry Sumner, NC Wildlife Resources Commission, Wildlife Management Division, Section Manager Surveys/Research & Wildlife Diversity. Dr. Chris DePerno, Associate Professor of Wildlife Science and Wildlife Extension Specialist, North Carolina State University, will cover The Ecology and Management of Coyotes and Feral Dogs on the Landscape with a Wrap-up. & Q&A session to follow.

The Sponsors for these programs are: North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service - Rockingham & Guilford Counties, USDA-APHIS, Wildlife Services, North Carolina Office, North Carolina Trappers Association, Hunting Advisory Committee, Rockingham County Board of Commissioners, Dumaine Farm Trust, Wentworth, NC, Area Cattlemans Associations, Area Sheep and Goat Producers, Area Poultry Producers, Area Horse Owners

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### 4. Cost Saving Tips for Equine Operations Chris Mortensen, PhD, Clemson University, Extension Horse Specialist

Evaluate the nutrition and overall management of your horses with the rising costs of operation. Under the current economic climate, horse owners are feeling the cost burden of owning horses more than ever. Coupled with the current sustained drought conditions in portions of the South, times are tough for horse owners. However, if owners are careful and frugal, there are many ways to reduce operation costs.

#### Feeding Based on Body Condition

A large portion of operating expenses is feeding costs. Only housing tends to cost more. There are many tips that can help reduce costs; however, owners need to be cautious as a proper balanced diet is critical to your animal's health. The first tip that can help in reducing feed cost is to feed your horse based on their weight and current body condition score (BCS). The ideal body condition for a horse is 5.0 - 5.5 on a scale of 1 (emaciated) to 9 (obese) and horses need 2.0 – 3.0% of their body weight (BW) per day in feed. How much of that is forage (hay) and how much of that is concentrate (grain) depends on horse workload. For example, horses that are ridden less frequently or not at all can be sustained on good quality hay. Horses that are ridden frequently, but not in intense competition, can be maintained on 2.0% BW hay and 0.5%-1.0% concentrate of BW per day. For equine athletes that compete and train frequently (i.e. polo, racing, endurance riding) can require up to 1.5% hay and 1.5% concentrate of BW per day. Each horse differs metabolically, much like people, and the best gauge on how well your horse is being fed is based on body condition. Many resources can be found on how to body condition score your horse. It is important to remember that keeping your horse too lean (4 or less BCS) or too fat (7 or greater BCS) can be dangerous to your animal's health and can result in expensive veterinarian bills.

### Adding Fat to a Horse's Diet

Another tip to maintain weight on a horse is to substitute fat for more expensive concentrate. A shift has taken place within feeding practices based on current equine nutrition research. Rather than feeding additional concentrate, leading nutritionists are recommending to incorporate fat. The fat can be in the form of oil, i.e. vegetable oil, soy oil, flaxseed oil. This can be an excellent way to safely add body condition to horses, up to 1.0% BW per day in fat can be fed. An important reminder is, change a horse's diet slowly over a 2-3 week period. When changing a diet, whether it is changing type of hay, or feeding a new concentrate, the first week feed 75% old diet 25% new diet, week two 50% old diet 50% new diet, and third week 25% old diet and 75% new diet. Additionally, horses should be fed at minimum 2x per day.

### Estimating Body Weight

One way to estimate a horse's body weight using a simple weight tape, that should be available at any feed store, and using the simple formula below. First, measure body circumference by measuring all around the horse using the highest point of the withers. Second, measure body length by starting at the point of the shoulder down the side of the horse to the point of the buttocks. Use the equation below, heart girth x heart girth x body length then divided by 330, for a good estimate on live horse weights.

### Hay Handling

Other nutrition tips include feeding hay in a feeder, or using round bales (tend to be more economical) in a feeding ring, to reduce waste.

### Supplement Usage

Critically evaluate the need for expensive supplements as many of the horses daily required nutrients can be met with a balanced diet. If feeding supplements, the best recommended addition to a diet would be a vitamin/mineral mix. However, equine athletes in extreme competition may require additional nutrients and in those cases consult with your veterinarian.

### Other cost saving tips includes:

Store hay properly to reduce waste, i.e. up on pallets and covered or indoors

Utilizing more pasture feeding vs. feeding hay

Keep horse in paddocks or on pasture to reduce shavings use/cost

Trim hooves yourself (be cautious however, many times owners can injure an animal with poor hoof trimming without proper training), or have horses go barefoot (no shoeing)

Buy hay and bedding in bulk (with neighbors/friends)

Reducing travel or showing

Repair or reuse old tack/equipment, shop for best prices or sell old tack/equipment

Breed fewer horses

Practice preventive horse care with proper feeding, vaccinations, and deworming which can prevent expensive vet bills

Change boarding from stall to pasture, discuss options with stable owners

What if I can no longer care for my animal?

The biggest question many may ask is "What if I can no longer care for my animal?" With the closure of the nation's horse abattoirs, horses are no longer being slaughtered. This has increased the number of "unwanted horses" in the United States and has strained many outlets horse owners previously had, i.e. horse retirement/rescue farms. However, horses are still being sold in these tough economic times, and local sales or local circulars can be used to advertise animals for sale. If however, all options are exhausted (e.g. animals cannot be sold, donated, leased, etc.), then a frank discussion with your veterinarian about euthanasia may be a consideration. Unfortunately these decisions are difficult and this issue is a tough dilemma facing many owners.

References: C.J. Mortensen. Feeding your horses during drought. Clemson University Extension Circular. [http://www.clemson.edu/cafls/departments/animal\\_vet\\_science/equine\\_extension/feedingyourhorsesduringdrought.pdf](http://www.clemson.edu/cafls/departments/animal_vet_science/equine_extension/feedingyourhorsesduringdrought.pdf)

P.G. Gibbs and D.D. Householder. Estimating horse body weight with a simple formula. Texas A&M Extension Circular. Nutrient requirement of horses. National Research Council. 2007. Washington D.C.

J.W. Evans. Horses: a guide to selection, care and enjoyment. 2001. Henry Holt and Co. LLC, New York, NY.

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5. College of Veterinary Medicine Equine Health Symposium - April 2-3, 2011  
Hosted by NCSU Equine Health Program and NCSU-Student Chapter of the American Association of Equine Practitioners (SCAAEP) This annual event provides a quality educational opportunity to equine owners, caretakers, and riders, as well as veterinarian, veterinary students and technicians.

APRIL 2: Focus on Hot Topics in Equine Medicine; for Veterinarians and Veterinary Students - Participants will attend formal lectures, round-table topics, tour of the Veterinary Teaching Hospital, and CE Credit is available - Topics of interest: Emerging Infectious Diseases, Imaging and MRI, Orthopedics, Podiatry, Equine Welfare

APRIL 3: Focus on Preventative Care of the Horse and on the Equine Athlete – for Owners, Caretakers, and Riders - Participants will attend formal lectures, tour of the veterinary teaching hospital, meet the faculty at NCSU-CVM - Topics of Interest: Acupuncture, Sports Medicine, Pre-Purchase Exams, Geriatric Care, Nutrition, Colic, Infectious Disease, Mare and Foal Care

All participants will receive a free T-shirt. Lunch is provided. Exhibitors will be available both days so participants can learn about new products or make purchases.

Full list of speakers and complete schedule can be found on our website.  
To register, please go to [www.ncsuequinesymposium.com](http://www.ncsuequinesymposium.com)  
Space is limited, so register early!

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6. World food shortage a scary thing  
<http://southeastfarmpress.com/markets/world-food-shortage-scary-thing>

"During those years we had a system of agricultural research via our Land-Grant agricultural experiment stations and outreach via our Cooperative Extension System that was the envy of the world.

Now, when we need these battle tested institutions the most, we seem determined to tear them down. The loss of agricultural research dollars and Extension personnel has been alarming, to say the least, in recent years."

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7. Seven reasons why Extension is needed today -  
By Jim Langcuster, Auburn University  
Excuse the hyperbole, but I originally titled this "Seven Reasons Why Extension Will Survive and Thrive (and Possibly Even Save the Planet) in the 21st century. I admit that would have been a tad too rhetorically overblown, but there is a ring of truth to it. Despite these looming budget cuts, despite all this talk of Extension having passed its prime, I still believe that we not only will survive in the 21st century but also carve out lasting presence that not only will enrich millions more lives but also help make the world a safer, greener, happier place.

Here are seven reasons why:

1. We are sustainers:

Sustainability is taking on new meaning.

Many of the nation's governors are using it to underscore in these lean fiscal times why Americans must become good stewards in all facets of their lives. One example: Tightening budgetary restraints on the U.S. healthcare system are prompting more Americans to adopt lifestyle practices that safeguard against

chronic disease.

Meanwhile, farmers are gearing up to feed a projected 9 billion people by mid-century with less cropland and water and in the midst of spiking fuel and fertilizer costs, even as they are being called upon to develop safer, greener production systems that emphasize organic- and locally-grown foods. Even with online sources literally available at their fingertips, people can't solve these problems entirely on their own.

Extension is uniquely equipped to help people adopt sustainable practices in all facets of their lives.

## 2. We are catalysts:

One Alabama cattle producer underscored recently the invaluable role Cooperative Extension educators serve as catalysts — in this case, helping him install a GPS device to reap substantial costs savings.

"It's gotten me started a little sooner than I would have," the farmer wryly observed, admitting that it likely would have been years before he had discovered and installed the device on his own.

Through the Internet, farmers are as readily exposed to new ideas and ways of thinking as the rest of us, but they still need catalysts — trained experts who can see the larger picture and who can point to cost-effective solutions they otherwise would not have considered because of time constraints, professional pre-occupations or other factors.

What applies to farmers applies to all of us.

## 3. We are an agency of empowerment:

As New York Times columnist Roger Cohen soberly observed recently, the 2008 stock market downturn followed more recently by severe federal and state budgetary cutbacks have left all Americans in a "different mental place." Likewise, as British sociologist Anthony Giddens has stressed, policymakers in this age of austerity are placing an increasing emphasis on dialogue and empowerment, approaches that encourage individuals and groups to address change by making things happen rather than having things happen to them.

A pre-occupation with personal empowerment will persist for a long time. The good news for us is that personal empowerment is our business. We are an agency of empowerment.

As government searches for cost-effective alternatives in the midst of these budgetary restraints, the role we serve enabling people to do more with less will garner a renewed appreciation — at least, so long as we are telling our story.

## 4. We are human infrastructure:

We all know that in the 21st century, there is a strong emphasis on building technological infrastructure. Small wonder why: It offers enhanced opportunities for intellectual exchange, which, in turn, creates enhanced opportunities for creativity and innovation.

Let's not forget that we are infrastructure — not the inanimate stuff like high-speed rail or Internet connections — but the flesh-and-bone variety — human infrastructure.

Even in this wired age, there remains an enormous value in the dense network of face-to-face relationships that characterize the Cooperative Extension mission. They have enormous potential for enhancing the connections that emerge from this newer, technological infrastructure.

## 5. We are contextualizers:

The bad news: As flesh-and-bone knowledge providers, we cannot hold a candle to virtual knowledge sources, especially search engines — no doubt about that.

The good news is that we still possess something that search engines and other online applications lack: the ability to provide our audiences knowledge within deep, enriched learning contexts. We help our diverse audiences not only understand knowledge within a wider learning context but, even more important, how to use it to enhance their lives in lasting, meaningful ways.

## 6. We are synergists:

Our longstanding experience with forging and cultivating partnerships among diverse groups has often enabled us to succeed where others have failed. As our work in community resource development has underscored time and again, Extension educators have provided the crucial impetus that moves ideas from the drawing board to the assembly floor and, ultimately, to the end user.

7. We are collaborators:

To an increasing degree, wikinomics, which emphasizes the power of collaborative wisdom and learning, is being adopted by everyone from global companies to educational institutions.

Extension pioneers Seaman Knapp and Booker T. Washington anticipated this 21st century mindset more than a century ago: They didn't view their clients as passive subjects; they considered them equals — more than that, they regarded them as active collaborators in their outreach efforts. Simply put, they viewed them as equals.

Wikinomics is written into our organizational DNA — a trait that gives us an enormous competitive advantage over other public and private entities that are just now coming to terms with new demands of the 21st century knowledge economy. A charge to keep.

I'll close this by admitting to something — bias. I love Extension work. I feel fortunate to have served a quarter century in an agency — an educational movement — that puts knowledge to practical use. Even in this cash-strapped era, we have a charge to keep. In the midst of this gloom, I believe that our longstanding appreciation for dialogue, forging partnerships and empowering people uniquely equips for the challenges of the 21st century.

This article can be found at :

<http://southeastfarmpress.com/government/seven-reasons-why-extension-needed-today?page=2>

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8. Cooler Horsemanship

Trailer Loading Demonstration with Red Dog Farm rescue horse Molly

Saturday, March 12th at 1:00 p.m.

Join us at Purgason's, 4901 Auburn Rd. Summerfield, NC 27358

At the corner of Hwy. 150/220

Building Willing Cooperation, Communication and Companionship through Trailer Loading.

We will use both a stock trailer and a straight load horse trailer to demonstrate the different ways that horses react to different kinds of trailers.

Come early and stay after to visit, ask questions and shop!

Molly is one of five horses available for adoption. Please help them and all the animals at Red Dog Farm find forever homes

[www.CoolerHorsemanship.com](http://www.CoolerHorsemanship.com)

[www.RedDogFarm.com](http://www.RedDogFarm.com)

[www.Purgasons.com](http://www.Purgasons.com)

[kate@coolerhorsemanship.com](mailto:kate@coolerhorsemanship.com)

[843-304-3407](tel:843-304-3407)

Cooler Horsemanship Spring Show at Fiore Farms May 7, 2011

Equine Communication without Boundaries. More information to come.

[kate@coolerhorsemanship.com](mailto:kate@coolerhorsemanship.com)

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9. You Asked: Do you have to have a rooster for chickens to lay eggs?

Absolutely not. The hen will produce an egg without a rooster. Most hens used for egg production in large egg houses never see or have seen a rooster. Roosters are removed as soon as they hatch and taken elsewhere. The hens begin laying eggs at about 4 to 6 months old and never lay a fertilized egg, but they lay an egg daily. All breeds of chicken are like this. Hens do not have to have a rooster to lay eggs & the eggs will not hatch. However, if you want baby chicks you have to have a rooster to fertilize the eggs.

I have had some chicken eggs with black spots, are they safe to eat? These are called blood spots. Blood spots are the result of broken capillaries in the reproductive system. When a capillary ruptures, a drop of blood leaks out and becomes part of the egg. The presence of a blood spot does not mean the egg is fertile or that an embryo is beginning to form. Egg processors try to identify and remove all eggs containing blood spots before eggs go into the carton. Occasionally one is missed, but if the blood spot is small, it can be removed and the egg used. They are harmless and do not mean the egg is inedible. Small ones disappear when you are cooking the egg. Some people pick them out with a spoon before cooking.

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10. New club called the Central Carolina Horse Association

In January a meeting was held at the Hardin's Farm and Mill that included a small group of friends and families to form a new club called the "Central Carolina Horse Association". This club was formed with these objects in mind to have fun open horse shows and trail riding events throughout the year in which a percentage of the proceeds will be donated to a charity of the clubs choice at each event. The whole idea is to give back to the community while providing equestrian events which horse lovers can enjoy. The first horseshow is scheduled for Saturday May 14th at the Hardin's Farm and Mill at 8201 Millrun Rd in Stokesdale, NC . A percentage of the proceeds for this event will be donated to "Red Dog Farm" which is a rescue organization in Greensboro that adopts dogs, cats, goats, horses and many other farm animals.

The club offers memberships for people with horses or even those that love to be around and with horses but do not have one. It also will allow you to have cheaper class fees and be able to attend the end of the year parties. For more information on the events or club you can see our website [www.ch-ha.org](http://www.ch-ha.org) or you can contact our President Steve Nelson at 688-8845 or Vice-President Helen Isley at 580-4532.

Fun open horseshow Saturday May 14th 9:00 am  
Hardin's Farm and Stables 8201 Millrun Rd Stokesdale NC 27357 for more information see website [www.cc-ha.org](http://www.cc-ha.org) or contact Steve Nelson at 688-8845 or Helen Isley 580-4532

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11. Help the Veterans at the VA Hospital - Bring In Your Magazines!

We are collecting magazines for Veterans in the VA Hospital. If you have any magazines that you have read and need to dispose of, please drop them off at the Farm Service Agency located in the Rockingham County Agricultural Center. (or at either one of my offices) There are women as well as men located in this hospital and all variety of magazines is appreciated. This is an excellent way to 1) RECYCLE and save our environment and 2) boost the morale of the Veterans that have served our Country and protected our rights as Americans.

Thanks in advance for your contribution.

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12. HAY DIRECTORY - A Hay Directory is maintained by the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service for the Rockingham County and Guilford County area. This directory is intended as a service to both hay producers and buyers in the area. If you are in need of hay or would like to be added (or removed) from this list please call me at [1-800-666-3625](tel:1-800-666-3625) or 342-8235 and let me know your name, address & phone #, type of hay, number of bales, (square or round bales) and weight per bale.

\*Please let me know if you have Hay to Sell or looking to purchase!

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13. A POEM WORTH READING and sharing!

Thanks for sending this in. I am the son of a WWII Vets and we are losing them everyday. In fact this week we lost the last WWI Vet.

He was getting  
old and paunchy  
And his hair was falling fast,  
And he sat around the Legion,  
Telling stories of the past.

Of a war that he once fought in  
And the deeds that he had done,  
In his exploits with his buddies;  
They were heroes, every one.

And 'tho sometimes to his neighbors  
His tales became a joke,  
All his buddies listened quietly  
For they knew whereof he spoke.

But we'll hear his tales no longer,  
For old Bob has passed away,  
And the world's a little poorer  
For a Soldier died today.

He won't be mourned by many,  
Just his children and his wife.  
For he lived an ordinary,  
Very quiet sort of life.

He held a job and raised a family,  
Going quietly on his way;  
And the world won't note his passing,  
'Tho a Soldier died today.

When politicians leave this earth,  
Their bodies lie in state,  
While thousands note their passing,  
And proclaim that they were great.

Papers tell of their life stories  
From the time that they were young  
But the passing of a Soldier  
Goes unnoticed, and unsung.

Is the greatest contribution  
To the welfare of our land,  
Someone who breaks his promise  
And cons his fellow man?

Or the ordinary fellow  
Who in times of war and strife,  
Goes off to serve his country  
And offers up his life?

The politician's stipend  
And the style in which he lives,  
Are often disproportionate,  
To the service that he gives.

While the ordinary Soldier,  
Who offered up his all,  
Is paid off with a medal  
And perhaps a pension, small.

It is not the politicians  
With their compromise and ploys,  
Who won for us the freedom  
That our country now enjoys.

Should you find yourself in danger,  
With your enemies at hand,  
Would you really want some cop-out,  
With his ever waffling stand?

Or would you want a Soldier--  
His home, his country, his kin,  
Just a common Soldier,  
Who would fight until the end?

He was just a common Soldier,  
And his ranks are growing thin,  
But his presence should remind us  
We may need his like again.

For when countries are in conflict,  
We find the Soldier's part  
Is to clean up all the troubles  
That the politicians start.

If we cannot do him honor  
While he's here to hear the praise,  
Then at least let's give him homage  
At the ending of his days.

Perhaps just a simple headline  
In the paper that might say:  
"OUR COUNTRY IS IN MOURNING,  
A SOLDIER DIED TODAY."

YOU can make a difference!!!

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14. Swap Shop - For Sale/Wanted - Equestrian Facilities Available –

- Pasture Board - NE Guilford \$150/mo. Good pasture, cross-fenced, run-in sheds, arena. Brought into 8-stall barn once daily to feed your grain. Tack room, hot & cold wash, trails in area. Call Sandy [336-584-5617](tel:336-584-5617) or [larknspursandy@bellsouth.net](mailto:larknspursandy@bellsouth.net).

- Wanted: Someone to build a 60X80 covered riding area for our students. If you would like to bid on this job, please contact Denise Bailey. References will be required. email:[graystone@triad.twcbc.com](mailto:graystone@triad.twcbc.com) or call: [336 280-3049](tel:336-280-3049).

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15. Take A Load Off –

An airline pilot wrote that on this particular flight he had hammered his ship into the runway really hard. The airline had a policy, which required the first officer to stand at the door while the passengers exited, give a smile, and a Thanks for flying XYZ airline. He said that in light of his bad landing, he had a hard time looking the passengers in the eye, thinking that someone would have a smart comment, but no one seemed annoyed. Finally everyone had gotten off except for one little old lady walking with a cane. She approached and asked, conspiratorially, Sonny, mind if I ask you a question? Why no Maam, what is it? Did we land or were we shot down?

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I always want to know what you think of the Weekly Pile, good or bad, especially if it has had ANY IMPACT on you. Let me hear from you!

\*\*\*\*\*I NEED YOUR IDEAS FOR ARTICLES In FUTURE WEEKLY PILES!\*\*\*\*\*

I WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

\*Please remember our Troops who are serving our Country (and there families) those who have come home with wounds and the families that paid the ultimate sacrifice. We owe everything to those who are and have served! Thank You!

I hope that you all have a Great & Safe GREAT Weekend!

Ben

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