Bermuda Run Garden Club hosts Thanksgiving luncheon

By Alice Bostrom

There was much excitement in the air as school buses arrived at Bermuda Run Country Club November 20. Approximately 170 Exceptional Children from 10 Davie County schools, their teachers and bus drivers were guests of the Bermuda Run Garden Club for a holiday luncheon that has become a tradition the week before Thanksgiving.

Garden Club President Sue Whittaker welcomed everyone as pianist Mike Hendrix played holiday favorites for a sing-along. Several special guests joined the festivities this year including the Mayor of Bermuda Run, Ken Rethmeier, who enjoyed spending time visiting with students and staff. One young man, Jacob, said that he had dressed up especially to meet the Mayor. Mrs. Jennifer Custer, Exceptional Children's Program Director of Davie cellino and her committee County Schools was also in attendance to see the smiles on the students' faces.

Many students had made individual cards and beautiful Christmas ornaments which they personally delivered to garden club members during the sing-along. Other gifts included colorful posters, orange paper pumpkins,



Members Shelby Nichols and Pat Wagner holding Thanksgiving poster.

and even a red paper poinsettia plant, all expressing tender holiday "thank you" messages.

Chairperson Lynn Marcomposed of Shelby Nichols, Alice Bostrom, Pat Wagner and Marbee Gingras began planning many months in advance. They spent much time arranging for food donations and decorations provided by many garden club members. Special appreciation was expressed to Lowe's Foods and

for their donation of 68 lbs of turkey.

Bermuda Run Country Club Catering Director Lucy Gidley, and Executive Chef Eric Kirkeeng as well as the club wait staff assisted with time and talents in preparing and serving turkey, green beans, macaroni and cheese, mashed potatoes, deviled eggs, rolls and beverages. For dessert, numerous tasty cupcakes and cookies were shared.

Such a special day for store manager Matt Bratton these students has truly be-



Bermuda Run Garden Club members, above, who helped serve the meal to Davie County exceptional children.



Students and garden club members gathered inside the Bermuda Run club house to enjoy a holiday banquet.

come one of the highlights of the year for the Bermuda Run Garden Club members as well as the Bermuda Run Country Club staff. Everyone associated with this event appreciates the opportunity of being able to share and give back to Davie County.



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One of the state's big newspapers almost lost a subscriber last week when she received a notice increasing the annual subscription rate by almost \$100. It was not so much the amount of the increase that put her in a cancellation mode; rather, it was some fine print at the bottom of the notice.

"Subscribers will be charged an additional \$2 on Thanksgiving Day and an additional \$1 charge" for each of seven other special days "for additional premium content in these editions. These charges are not included in our subscription prices and will change your expiration date."

The result: an additional charge of \$9 a year that does not

show up on any bill.

Small change, maybe. But the artful nature of the charges unnerved her.

Until this moment she had viewed the newspaper as a trusted friend that rooted out and protected her from cheap scams, not as a perpetrator of them.

Nevertheless, after a few more angry thoughts about her disappointment in the newspaper, my friend bit her lip and renewed her subscription, still declaring, "It will never be the same."

Her subscription renewal is testimony to the loyalty that she and many others have for their newspapers. We think of our local papers as partners keeping our ties to the communities, neighbors, and events in the places we call home, whether or not we still live there.

That affection is at the heart of a portion of an unfinished memoir by Joseph Mitchell (1908-1996) in the December 1 issue of The New Yorker magazine. Mitchell was born in Robeson County. At age 21 he moved to New York City where he lived almost all of the rest of his life. As a regular contributor to The New Yorker and author of "Up in the Old Hotel," he became one of the country's most admired chroniclers of life in New York.

His memoir focuses on his affection for Robeson County, its landscapes, its people, and The Robesonian, the daily

paper that had served for more than 100 years, and still serves, as the chronicler of life in Lumberton and Robeson

When you read his descriptions of the farmlands, swamps, forests and waters of his native county, you will want to save a copy as a hymn of gratitude for the God-given memories of home, the wonders of North Carolina's rural landscape, and for Mitchell's love of his hometown newspaper.

Mitchell continued his subscription to The Robesonian long after he moved to New York City because it kept him

> attached to his growing-up places and people he loved.

"It arrives at my apartment house every third or fourth day in batches of two or three or four issues, each issue tightly rolled and tightly wrapped in a brown-paper wrapper, and when I open my mailbox and find a batch waiting for me I am almost as glad to see it as I was during my first year or so in the city....Reading The Robesonian has long since become one of the rituals of my life. I tear the wrappers off, and then I arrange the issues in the order of their day of publication, and then I sit down and read them in that order."

Martin As long as our newspapers continue to connect us to the places and people we love, many of us will not be able to give up our subscriptions even when price increases seem outrageous.

But that affection would certainly last longer and be stronger if our newspapers avoid the temptation to squeeze a few extra dollars from their readers by the use of fine print chicanery that might be expected from a pay-day lender or cable company, but not from a best friend.

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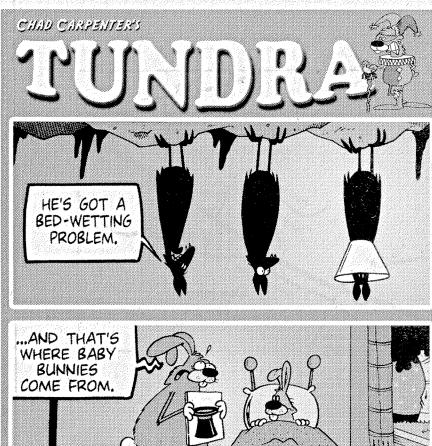
HOUSEHOLD AND COLLECTIBLES: Phoenix slow cooker gas grill w/water trough-All stainless steel "Shole Pig" slow cooker- Cast Iron stove by W Loth Stove Co. Penn Peer 109 fishing reel- Garcia 1431 Reel w/ South Ben rod-fishing lures and poles-1/pt. COBLE Milk Bottle - COBLE Flag for extra orders of milk-2 Center Church plates-2 Maple Dining room tables w/6 chairs each- 4 shelf book shelf-China Hutch- Iris Herrington vase- chicken on the nest- double candle holders- milk glass- Set of brown USA oven proof dishes- cook books- Blue fruit jar w/lid- set of 6 dishes by Pfaltzgraff-Fire King- Oil lamps- Small appliances- 2 TVs- Oak bed room suite by Link Taylor-Maple Cannon Ball bed room suite- Entertainment center-Recliner chair- Old toyscanning jars- Dempsey Essick table runner & print -Jade bowls- 3 small tables made by JC- Roseville Pottery- Xmas tree and decorations- old aluminum Xmas trees-Pictures-Coleman lantern Safe- scales-Pepsi trash can & old Pepsi bottles- Smooth top cooking range- Bread machine-Portable window fan- Army cots- Lamps- Bob Timberlake book (Somewhere in time). Floor lamp- pressure cookers- USM stainless military pans-Old baby stroller-, Set of 20 Standard Treasure of Learning books- Old games-floor lamp-lots of old baskets- old radio, cameras and telephones- enamel ware- stove mat- old recordsbowl & Pitcher- throw rugs- wall mirror- Duncan Phyfe Mag table- Elite Supreme Hoover Vac- Sewing machine-child's wagon- bicycle- milking stand for goats- gun cabinet made by JC- Oyster can- Horse shoe set- Swing and frame made by Jake Beck- wheel chairvalkers- elevated toilet seats-coolers and Thermos jugs- Solar pa

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