

# Rotary



## Club of Belmont

### Bulletin

For Wednesday, July 24, 2024

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



#### Birthdays

No Birthdays Found

#### Wedding Anniversaries

No Wedding Anniversaries Found

#### Club Officers



Kenneth J Pahon  
President



Jennifer Grant  
Treasurer



Ted B. Hall  
Public Relations/Image  
Chair



Michelle Petty  
Membership Chair



Thomas M. Hunter III  
iPast President

#### District Officers



Kevin Kendrick  
District Governor



Donna M Moffett  
DG - Elect



William J. Bradley  
Assistant Governor-  
Mecklenburg County Center



Hayden Paul Kramer  
Assistant Governor- Union  
County

#### Club Meeting

**Belmont First Presbyterian Church**  
102 S. Central Ave.  
Belmont, NC 28012

Wednesday at 12:30 PM

#### Speakers

**July 24th**

Logan Thomas, owner  
of TowBoatUS Lake Wylie

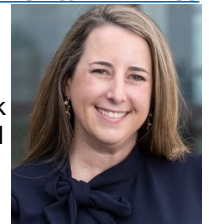
The third generation of his family to grow up on Lake Wylie, Logan Thomas is the owner of TowBoatUS Lake Wylie, which provides services much like an auto club for recreational boaters needing assistance on the water. Rotarian Dick Cromlish will host the program.



**July 31st**

Tracey Montross, Regional Director of  
Government Affairs, American Airlines

Ms. Montross will speak about American Airlines partnership with the CLT Airport and how they work together to provide a good passenger experience. Rotarian Sam Stowe will host the program.



**August 7th**

Megan Kanal, Red Light Therapist,  
Belmont Wellness

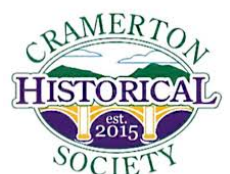
Red Light Therapy uses low-level wavelengths of light to penetrate the skin, promoting cellular regeneration, reducing pain and inflammation, and accelerating muscle recovery. Rotarian Don Hartsoe will host the program.



**August 14th**

Cramerton Historical Society officers

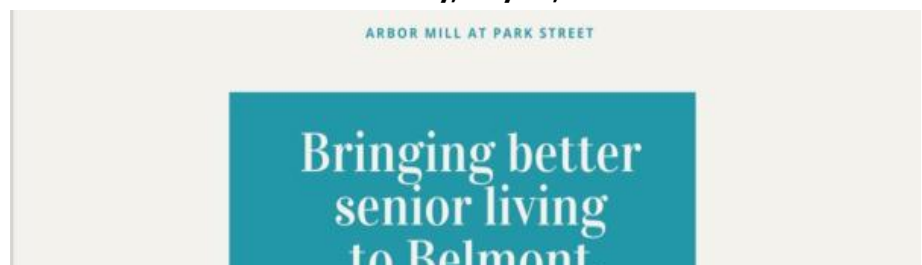
Learn about the Cramerton Historical Society and its programs and activities from President Doug Glenn, Vice President Dixie Abernethy and Executive Director Richard Atkinson. Rotarian Beth Hollars will host the program.



#### LAST WEEK AT ROTARY

### Church plans for senior living center in Belmont is meeting roadblocks

Wednesday, July 17, 2024





Robert Lewis Remsburg III  
Assistant Governor-  
Anson/Richmond/Stanly  
County



Steve G. Buteau  
Assistant Governor-  
Ashe/Alleghany/Wilkes/Alex  
County



Dana Ritchie  
Assistant Governor-  
Cabarrus County



Peter H Bagley  
Assistant Governor-  
Cleveland County



Laurel Roe Morris  
Assistant Governor- Gaston  
County



Jeff Smith  
Assistant Governor- Central  
Iredell/Rowan County



Jennifer L Gibson  
Assistant Governor-  
Mecklenburg County South



David Brian Keith  
Assistant Governor- The  
Lake Area



Cindy Brown Fink  
Assistant Governor- Rowan  
County



Park Street United Methodist Church in Belmont wants to lease part of its property to build an independent living center for senior citizens who now have to leave the community to receive these services. In the accompanying photo, Park Street Pastor Rev. J. David Hiatt is shown at left, after speaking to the Belmont Rotary Club, with club President Ken Pahon (center) and Rotarian Wallace Aldrich, who is a member of Park Street United Methodist Church.

***"To take the next step, we have to write a very big check, so we need to engage people in the community and ask for their support."***

*Rev. J. David Hiatt, Pastor  
Park Street United Methodist Church  
Belmont, NC*

Building a senior living center in Belmont has been a goal of the Park Street United Methodist Church congregation for six years, but city zoning challenges continue to block progress on the project.

The church's plans conflict with city leaders' efforts to restrict new apartment development to the Wilkinson Boulevard corridor and their opposition to buildings of more than three stories. Zoning changes are required to allow the project known as Arbor Mill at Park Street to go forward.

The church property on which the senior living center would be built is about half a mile from Wilkinson Boulevard, and the developer the church is working with on the project needs a four-story building to achieve the 100 units required to make the center financially feasible.

Park Street UMC Pastor David Hiatt briefed members of the Belmont Rotary Club on the plan and the obstacles encountered during a recent meeting.

He said gaining approval to build the senior living center is critical for the church's financial future, because leasing the land to the developer of the center would generate a large percentage of the church's annual income. "The old model of passing the collection plate to pay for everything a church needs is coming to a close," Rev. Hiatt told Rotarians.



The pastor said that after years of delay and a huge financial investment, it's now urgent for the church to resolve the issues and move forward on the project. Noting there are other four-story buildings, including apartments, within a short distance from the church, he encouraged club members and other Belmont citizens to contact city officials in support of the Arbor Mill at Park Street senior living center.

"To take the next step, we have to write a very big check, so we need to engage people in the community and ask for their support," he said.

For more than a hundred years, Park Street United Methodist Church has occupied one of East Belmont's most prominent corners at the intersection of Park Street and Catawba Street. In 2018, church members began to consider how land owned by the church could

be used to benefit the community and the church, Rev. Hiatt said.

"Growing discipleship through relationships is the church motto," he said. "And that means relationships with God, with people and with the community."

In group discussions about the best use of land surrounding the sanctuary and family life center, serving senior citizens quickly became a focus. The church already has several programs serving seniors, including a "Young At Heart" ministry, a fitness program for older citizens and a weekly free-lunch program in which many senior citizens participate.



The congregation turned to Wesley Community Development, an affiliate of the United Methodist Church of Western, North Carolina, which helps churches determine how to utilize their property to serve both the church and the community. After months of discussion and study, building a senior living center became the goal, and the church began working with Ridge Care Senior Living of Kernersville, NC.

Ridge Care owns several independent living and assisted living centers in North Carolina.

The plan is for the church to retain ownership of the property and enter into a long-term lease to Ridge Care. "We don't want to lose control of the property," Rev. Hiatt said.

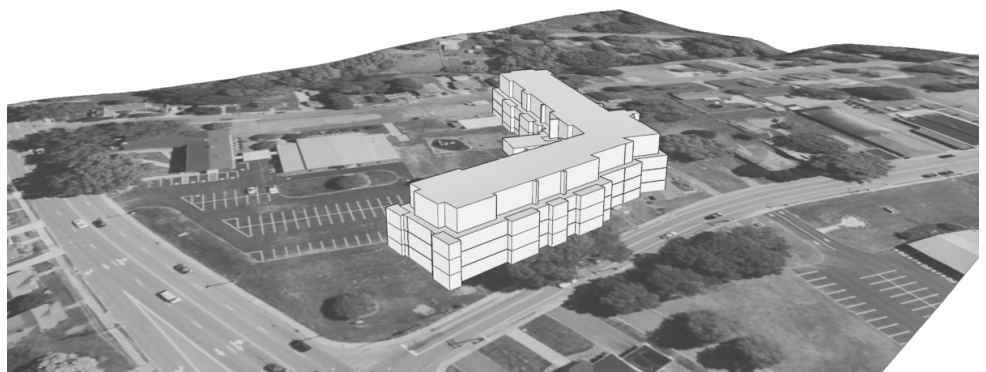
In his comments to Rotarians, Rev. Hiatt said when Belmont senior citizens become unable to live on their own, they have no option but to leave their hometown. The independent living center the church hopes to build would provide seniors studio, one-bedroom or two-bedroom apartments, three meals a day, weekly housekeeping, transportation to medical appointments, planned activities, social and wellness programming and more.

There would be no costly buy-in requirements and no long-term leases. The expected monthly rate would be around \$3,750, much less than the cost of an assisted living facility, Rev. Hiatt said.

"While the facility would be for people 55 and older, the average age at Ridge Care Senior Living Centers is 84," he said. "Few of the residents at other Ridge Care senior living centers have cars, so parking and increased traffic are not issues."

The proposed building is L-shaped and would front on Catawba Street, with an 8-foot sidewalk and a planting strip along the street to provide a visual buffer, according to printed material and a website on the Arbor Mill at Park Street project. Rev. Hiatt also said the fourth story of the building would be set back from the third to avoid a cold, monolithic feel.

For more photos and more information on Arbor Mill at Park Street, visit [www.ridgecare.com/belmont](http://www.ridgecare.com/belmont)



**Rendering shows how the Senior Living Center building will sit on Park Street UMC property.**