

Marshall Heights

H O M E O W N E R S A S S O C I A T I O N



FALL 2003 FLYER

FROM THE PREZ

It has been an interesting few months for the Board of Directors and the community as a whole. We have been aggressive about making repairs and improvements throughout the community. You have probably already noticed many of them, with many more upcoming, including:

- Painting and landscaping the mailboxes. All mailboxes have been repainted and the footings have been landscaped. Remaining work entails a retaining wall to be installed to protect the footings from being washed out
- Sidewalk repairs – thanks to everyone who moved their cars and dealt with the inconvenience so we could do much-needed repairs to the concrete
- Tree trimming – the community is doing an ongoing process of cutting back community trees to give clearance on sidewalks and to keep branches away from property
- New stair railings – the rotted wood railings on the stairs near Dominion Heights Court were replaced with wrought iron railings that match the porches in the community
- New front entrance – the brick wall at the Marshall Drive entrance will soon be repaired and the “Windsor Park” sign will be replaced with an engraved stone saying “Marshall Heights”
- New retaining walls – the rotting retaining walls will be replaced in the coming months. Replacement walls are currently being engineered, and should be replaced in the next few months (weather permitting!)

SPECIAL MEETING

Marshall Heights Board has called for an association meeting on October 28th, 2003 at 7:30 pm. Check in begins at 7:00 pm.

PLACE: George Marshall High School Room – Michael Hall
7731 Leesburg Pike

PURPOSE: The purpose of this meeting is to approve the increase of our quarterly assessment by \$20 per quarter. According to our bylaws, any increase above the rate of inflation cannot be done by a vote of the board alone, the homeowners must approve it. A quorum of 60% of the membership is necessary in order to vote.

The Board is proposing the increase because:

- We are in a budget shortfall due to costs increasing
- Assessments have not been raised in recent years to keep pace with inflation
- We need to increase our deposits into the reserve account to plan for future maintenance.

If you cannot make the special meeting, it is critically important that you return the proxy form to ProCam or give it to a neighbor you trust who will be attending the meeting in person. No matter your vote on the subject – for, against, or neutral – we must have your proxy form to get a quorum and make the meeting legal.

The proxy form can be downloaded from the www.mhha.net website.

HOLIDAY DECORATIONS

The holiday season will soon be upon us, bringing the delightful annual tradition of decoration to our neighborhood. Be sure to get out and enjoy the shiny, twinkling, sparkling decorations. If your house looks especially beautiful and the ARC notices you, you'll get mentioned in the next newsletter!



TRICK OR TREAT

Last year's Halloween was a fun and festive one in Marshall Heights. We hope to see more unique and fun decorations around the neighborhood. Let's start the night off in a fun way by meeting at the Hutchison Grove Court playground to show off our costumes. We'll have \$1 pizza slices and free juice again, and will meet from 6:30-7:00 on Friday, October



31st, weather permitting. Monsters and princesses are welcome to join us as we parade up Hutchison Grove Court to let everyone

know that we are coming for treats not tricks!

DOOR TAGS

As some of you may have noticed, the Architecture Review Committee (ARC) has restarted the practice of putting door tags on homes with minor violations. Structural violations such as paint colors are not being tagged. The first tag is a warning, but ongoing or repeat violations could bring an assessment.



1) Please keep your trash in the back yard – it is against the rules to keep any trash in the front yard, except to put it out the evening before a trash pickup. Storing a garbage can in the front yard is a violation, even if it is well hidden behind bushes.

2) The light poles are a vital part of the safety of the community, not only to fight crime but also to keep paths well lit for nighttime pedestrians. Please keep a working light bulb in your pole at all times, and remember that a non-working fixture is the responsibility of the individual homeowner.

3) The area outside your fence belongs to the community. Please do not store personal items there. This is especially true of firewood, which invites rodents and poses a safety hazard. If you are storing items outside of your property, please bring them inside the fence.

You community thanks you for participating in keeping our neighborhood beautiful.

FALL BACK

Don't forget to change your clocks back an hour on Sunday morning October 26th.



BITTER FRUIT

Many of you have noticed the annual fall tradition of rotting fruit on our sidewalks. This fruit attracts insects and frequently rolls down streets to bother neighbors who live far from the trees. Please remember that homeowners are responsible for cleaning up any fruit that falls from trees in their yards. If you wish to get rid of your fruit-bearing tree, you may cut it down as long as you replace it with another tree soon thereafter.

QUARTERLY PAYMENTS

Please use the coupons that ProCAM sent you for paying your quarterly homeowners dues. The next coupon booklet will be sent out shortly and will cover payments due on the 1st of January, April, July, and October 2004. If you do not receive a booklet by the middle of December, please contact ProCAM.

FUN IN FALLS CHURCH

The City of Falls Church has several events going on this fall including a Halloween Carnival and the continuation of their popular Farmer's Market on Saturdays. For more information on local events, visit their website at www.ci.falls-church.va.us and click on "calendar of events".

2003 COOKOUT

This year's cookout was held on a drizzly-turned-beautiful Saturday afternoon in September. Over thirty residents showed up for food and fellowship. Thank you to the people



who volunteered their time to make it a success and thank you to all for bringing food to share. Everyone went home happy and one lucky homeowner went home even happier with a gift certificate to Home Depot. Check out the website www.mhha.net in News section for more photos of the event. We hope to see you at the 2004 cookout!

WE NEED YOU

The Marshall Heights Board of Directors is looking for a homeowner to fill an opening on the Board of Directors. The open position is "member-at-large" and entails 3-5



volunteer hours a month including attending board meetings and communicating via email. This is a great opportunity to get involved in your community and help keep our neighborhood a safe and attractive place to live. If you are interested, please contact Kasanda at ProCAM at 703-536-5200 for more information.

CONTACTS

The current board members are:
Shane Ham, President
J.D. Powell, Vice President
Dori Brady, Secretary
Steve Feeley, Treasurer

Volunteer community leaders:
Becky Ham, ARC Chair
J.D. Powell, Webmaster

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