

Emerald Hills Homeowners Association
PO Box 1024
Fishersville, VA 22939

September 27, 2020

Letter from the President of the HoA

Dear Neighbors,

Some recent comments from homeowners regarding keeping folks better informed with respect to neighborhood activities have prompted this e-mail.

The month of September has been busy for most of us. The pandemic is still with us, schools are back in session, a few houses have been sold and several more have gone on the market, the annual garage sale was held on September 12th and the annual HoA meeting was held on September 14th.

Garage sale: On September 12th approximately 10% of the homes opened their driveways and garages with treasures to sell. Perhaps the rainy weather, pandemic or timing contributed to somewhat of a low turnout this year. The schedule change from years past from May to September was intended to be more convenient than a month that is busy with graduations and Mother' Day. The date for next year's garage sale will be discussed at the quarterly Board meeting that is scheduled for December 6th.

County Board of Supervisors neighborhood visit: Scott Seaton, Wayne District Board of Supervisors, visited the neighborhood on Saturday September 19th. Jacques drove him through each street so that he could see the condition of the roads. He took notes and photos so that he could talk about the needed road repairs at the next Board of Supervisors meeting with VDOT. A recommendation was made at the annual HoA meeting to collect signatures on a petition to be sent to VDOT requesting that our tax dollars be used to perform some needed road repairs. If someone would like to coordinate that initiative, please let me know.

Volunteers needed: There continue to be three open positions in our homeowners' organization. They are: Welcome Committee, Webpage and e-mail Administrator (i.e. Webmaster) and an Architectural Review Committee member. Job descriptions for each have been written and are being posted on the webpage and Facebook page or can be obtained by contacting one of the Board members. If you are interested in volunteering to help out the organization please contact one of the board members whose names are listed below. The more tasks that we are able to handle ourselves the less money we need to pay the property management company.

As previously announced, the annual Homeowners meeting was held on September 14th. It was held online via ZOOM. Topics included: a financial report, discussion of road conditions., speeding drivers and the recent report of feral cats. A copy of the meeting minutes will be posted on the web page.

A request was made to the Augusta County Sheriff's Department to help control speeding in the neighborhood. They specifically responded to the complaint about the high-speed motorcyclist driving recklessly through the neighborhood.

Please don't feed the stray cats that are roaming the neighborhood. Clearly there is a health and safety concern related to the feral cat colonies in Virginia. The Cats Cradle organization has been contacted to assist with controlling this recent contentious issue.

Lawn signs: Placement of political signs on your lawn are not allowed. The by-laws and covenants of the neighborhood, which homeowners (and renters) agreed to abiding by when they purchased homes in this neighborhood, clearly states that. Certainly, there is excitement about the forthcoming election; however, lawn signs are limited to small for sale signs when a specific home is on the market. Similarly, commercial advertisement signs are not allowed. There has been tolerance for contractor signs only during ongoing construction work.

Neighborhood Halloween plans: Questions have been asked if the neighborhood was planning on anything scheduled or structured on October 31st. In light of the CDC suggestion that Halloween activities be suspended for this year there is no organized plan or schedule for the neighborhood children. *I have heard from a reliable source that there could be a return of the traditional "Booing of neighbors" during the month of October.* It is up to each homeowner to decide what they would like to do every year.

Bicycle and pedestrian safety. Walk on the left and ride bikes on the right. Children on bicycles need to be reminded that they should not be speeding around road intersections.

A donation check from the HoA for \$250.00 was recently sent to the firefighters and rescue squad members at the Preston I. Yancy station. Their work responding to emergencies is critical to our safety. They have also allowed us to use their meeting rooms for our quarterly and annual HoA meetings.

This letter is being sent out electronically and mailed via snail mail to approximately 35 homes for which there is no e-mail address on file. In order to reduce postage expenses, the technology and convenience of e-mail will continue to be exploited to communicate neighborhood concerns. If you are still not receiving HoA e-mails contact Suzanne at vp@ehhoa.info or Jack at webmaster@ehhoa.info.

Finally, I wanted to thank my fellow Homeowners Association Volunteers: Frank Battaglia, Nicole Baucom, Suzanne Reich, Brent Adams, Stark Smith and Jack Cameron for their time and ongoing support.

Sincerely,

Jacques L'Heureux, President EHHA
president@ehhoa.info