

# Ashborough Happenings

November 2009

## 2009 Election and Annual Meeting

The 2009 Annual Meeting of the Ashborough Civic Association is set for 7PM on Thursday, December 10, 2009 at the Civic Building. Annual meeting materials have been mailed out to all property owners in good standing and who are eligible to vote. Look on the Ashborough website under Annual Meeting for information regarding the Annual Meeting. If a replacement ballot is needed, email [ballot@ashborough.org](mailto:ballot@ashborough.org) or call the help line, 875-5841.

Dear Ashborough Homeowner;

It's approaching the time for the annual meeting so I thought it would be appropriate to talk about some of the accomplishments that have been made this year. When the current board began its term this year, there were several areas of financial concern that required immediate attention. Some of these areas involved uncollected annual assessments from prior years, liens that were payable but not being tracked and collected, expenses from prior years that had not been paid and incomplete tax return filings. Many of these items had a direct impact on the budget. The economy had a further impact with foreclosures taking place in Ashborough. The economy also impacted some neighbor's ability to pay their annual assessments. The board took action and found ways to mitigate the impact on the budget by looking for ways to reduce expenses. The board and landscaping committee worked with the landscaping company to renegotiate this year's portion of the contract to reduce expenses in this area. The board made the decision to not pay down the pool loan as had been done in prior years. The newsletter was revamped to save on postage and printing costs. The website was re-hosted to save money and provide additional capability for the future.

With the help of Dorchester Real Estate Services (DRES), past due amounts to the ACA were sought and received, properties were sold and prorated annual assessments were collected, and more category D members voluntarily paid assessments which helped offset the unexpected expenses that needed to be paid.

In reviewing the financial records and monthly budget report, improvements were needed which the board addressed. The monthly budget report has become a monthly financial report that provides more meaningful information for all ACA members to see. The proposed 2010 budget has been revamped to better show where expenses have gone and how the budget for 2010 was determined.

I'm pleased to report that the financial state now of the ACA is much better than the board expected it to be some months ago. The pool loan is going to be paid off early (using a fully matured CD) which will save interest and position the ACA to be able to begin a capital improvements program which is long overdue and to establish cash reserves in accordance with the bylaws. This is shown in the proposed budget, and the board has received favorable responses already. Your attention to the proposed budget is greatly appreciated!

The condition of the amenities is much improved because of a lot of hard work performed by neighborhood volunteers. This much needed attention has prompted a lot of residents to comment on the positive impact these improvements have made. I want to say "Thank You" to all residents who have made a contribution this year in improving Ashborough!

As always, the Board welcomes your suggestions and input to make our neighborhood a great place to live. Thank you for your time! Ed

## Neighborhood Fundraiser

We are planning a neighborhood fundraiser for the start of the 2010 year. This is a large endeavor and we are looking for your support and help. If you are interested in helping raise money for our amenities and would like to earn free pictures of your children or grandchildren, give us a shout. Email your interest to Angela at [teammcmicking@gmail.com](mailto:teammcmicking@gmail.com) for more information.

### Monthly Board Meeting Attendance

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov
12	19	22	13	15	22	11	18	9	14	15

### Covenants and Restrictions Letters sent Year-to-Date

Trash cans/Debris in view	49
Improper Boat/Trailer Parking	20
Yard/Lawn Maintenance Required	16
Parking on grass/street overnight	12
Paint/Maintenance	9
No ARB Approval	8
Misc Items in view	4
Inoperable Vehicle	2
Unauthorized Greenhouse	2
Company Sign in Yard	1
Wood pile in view	1
Animals	1
Excessive time for POD on property	1
Plastic play structure	1
Tree Removal	1
Satellite Dish in view	1

### Covenants and Restrictions Fines assessed Year to Date

Yard/Lawn Maintenance Required	1
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### Covenants and Restrictions Fines being assessed

Yard/Lawn Maintenance Required	1
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### Covenants and Restrictions Issues In-progress

Property Color	8
ARB Request Needed	3
Vehicle Parking	1
Satellite Dish	1

### Dorchester Real Estate Services (DRES) Update

The annual services agreement between the ACA and DRES was recently re-negotiated and the services provided by DRES expanded slightly. This expansion will provide mailing services for ACA related business such as the monthly newsletter, annual meeting, amenity code mailings, and coordinate the paperwork for ARB requests. In this agreement, a property transfer fee will be charged by DRES to the buyer or seller to create the paperwork showing that all assessments are paid and that there are no covenants and restrictions or architectural review board issues to hinder the sale of the property. If the property is undergoing foreclosure, the time spent preparing the additional paperwork is more extensive. The new agreement went into effect Nov. 1, 2009 and runs through Oct. 31, 2010.

### Hospitality Update

Karene Feltner has expressed interest in co-sharing the Civic building scheduling duties. If you are interested in co-sharing this activity with Karene, please let me know. Angela Coggins (875-7865) is temporarily handling the rental of the Civic Building until Dec. 31, 2009.

Tonya Mantooth  
851-3584

### Dorchester Road Project

The petition was provided to the Transportation Authority at their meeting on Oct. 11. At the Nov. 9 meeting, residents of Ashborough East were present asking for design changes to lower the cost of the project and reduce the impact on their neighborhood. The co-chairman of the committee expressed concern about the cost of the noise barrier and the requests by neighborhoods along Bacon Bridge Road to have noise barrier protection. He also asked about whether or not Ashborough and Ashborough East have been working together. He was surprised when the response by Ashborough East was "No". The Ashborough East speaker was approached after the meeting and a joint meeting between Ashborough and Ashborough East to discuss coordination activities and share information is being planned. So far, our petition has not been denied.

Additional information will be posted on the Ashborough website as it becomes available.

### Pool Update

The Ashborough pool will be CLOSED from November, 2009 until May 1, 2010. The lock combination will be changed until the pool opens at which time a new combination will be mailed out.

Tonya Mantooth  
851-3584

### Christmas Luminarias

Christmas Eve luminarias have been a beautiful established tradition since 1988. Candles and bags are placed along the edge of your yard about 3 feet apart on Christmas Eve. Many hardworking neighbors have been working to gather orders and the overall Ashborough participation rate so far is nearly 60%! There are some areas with well over 90% participation. Thank you for helping to make Ashborough a neighborhood we can all be proud of!

Questions? Contact Angela Coggins (875-7865) or Jody Wilhelm (821-2150)

### **Board of Director nominees**

There are three candidates for the upcoming election at the Annual meeting. The biographical information for the candidates is below.

#### **Mike Hobson – 1009 Ariel Court**

Mike Hobson and his family, wife Tracey and sons Frank and Sam, have lived in the Summerville area for 7 years, the last four in Ashborough. The kids are on the swim team each summer and the whole family just loves the neighborhood and their neighbors. Mike has 22 years of experience in the hospitality industry, and has been employed as a Brand Performance Consultant with Choice Hotels International the last 6 years, where he is responsible for the operations and success of over 70 hotels throughout South Carolina. Over the years, Mike has been active in the hotel community, serving on the board of directors for hospitality associations and marketing co-ops. With the belief that HOAs should not be political in nature, but an organized effort to maintain and improve the quality of life and value of property for our neighbors, Mike would welcome the opportunity to serve Ashborough on the board.

#### **Bob Johnson - 115 Hampton Drive**

Born and raised in Indiana, BS and MS degrees in Engineering from Purdue University.

My wife and I have lived at this location for 28 years.

Raised 2 boys in the neighborhood. Both were members of the swim team.

Many of our close friends are from the neighborhood and they also have lived here a long time.

I recently retired from Bosch where I served as one of the plant directors. My wife is retired from the Dorchester 2 school system.

As a board member, I would hope to bring my years of management experience to support the structure of the board and assist in the various physical maintenance and capital improvement plans needed to keep a high standard for our neighborhood. I also believe the board has the dual role of supplying support to the residents as well as control of our covenants and bylaws. I trust I will be able to maintain this balance.

#### **Brandon Page - 106 Patriot Place**

I am originally from Florence, S.C. and graduated from The Citadel with a degree in Business Administration in 1989. Married my wonderful wife Kylie in 1998 and have 3 incredible children (Mary Frances is 9, Emma is 6, and Jack is 2.5). We have lived in Ashborough for about 4 years and are both happy and proud to be part of such a great community. I currently work for UniFirst Uniform Company as an account consultant but have several years experience in water front land sales. We are very active in the community and attend Dorchester Presbyterian Church.

Ashborough has so much to offer families and is one of the most scenic neighborhoods in the Lowcountry. In the past few years I have enjoyed several cook outs and 4th of July celebrations and look forward to working in the community to secure our property values and improving our present amenities. Ashborough has come a long way in a short period of time, and I truly believe that, through community involvement and leadership, it will be place for us all to be proud to call home. Thank you for your time and consideration and I look forward to working for you in our community activities.

### **Trail Work Day**

The Facilities Maintenance Committee sponsored a Trail Work Day on Saturday, November 14. One of the tasks accomplished was the filling in of some low-lying areas of the trail using pieces of concrete provided by Steve and Judy Ulmer from their driveway replacement project. Thanks to Steve and Judy for your contribution along with the numerous volunteers who helped work on the trail!

# FAT Chili Cook-off



## Kitty Lonergan crowned Chili Queen for 2009

Friends of Ashborough Trail (FAT) held their first annual chili cook-off fundraiser on Saturday, November 7th at the picnic shelter by the civic building. The event was well attended and raised \$320 toward improvements to our leisure trail at Mayfield Park. Kitty Lonergan's "Meatage a Trois" chili entry took 1st prize and Tonya and Katie Mantooth took second with their "Mavalous Chili". Kasey Grossman won honorable mention for her 3rd place entry. The event was a bunch of fun and the FAT boys plan to hold the event again next fall.

### November Ashborough Garage Sale

Thanks to everyone who participated in the Ashborough Garage Sale. A special thanks goes to Susan Wright who took care of all the details to advertise this event and make it a big success!

The next Ashborough Garage Sale will be held in early May, 2010

### Put those neighborhood boys to work!

Kyle Ball is an enterprising young man who has a lawn and yard maintenance business, A Boy and His Mower, available for use by Ashborough residents at very reasonable rates. Contact Kyle at 609-7942 or [smschamp@knology.net](mailto:smschamp@knology.net) for your free estimate.

ASHBOROUGH CIVIC ASSOCIATION  
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PRSRT STD  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
SUMMERVILLE,  
SC  
PERMIT No. 356

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

ECRWSS R.R. 520  
CURRENT ASHBOROUGH RESIDENT  
SUMMERVILLE, SC 29485