

Ashborough Happenings

September 2009

Dear Ashborough Homeowner;

With the end of the summer comes the planning for the annual meeting which includes electing 3 neighbors to the board of directors and voting on the 2010 budget. The annual meeting is scheduled for Nov, 10, 2009, so please mark your calendar with this important date.

There have been a number of vehicle break-ins recently. These vehicles were locked and the windows were broken out. With the cooler nighttime temperatures, some neighbors I have talked to have suggested leaving a bedroom window partially opened so that outdoor activity can be heard. This is a good idea. Keep the Dorchester County Sheriff's number close at hand so that a call to them can be made quickly.

With regards to the Dorchester Road Noise Barrier slated for portions of Ashborough, a petition requesting a noise barrier that is the complete length of Ashborough will be coming through the neighborhood in the next couple of weeks. Your support of this petition will be greatly appreciated!

The alligator in Ashborough Lake is still on the loose. Thanks to Uwe Fetzer for locating the most recent location of the animal. The trapper has been informed and has been diligently trying to catch it. **THANK YOU** to the neighbors around the lake that have provided assistance to the trapper and allowing him access to your property!

A recent change in Dorchester County requires ARB approval prior to a Dorchester County building permit being issued. If your home exterior improvement project requires a building permit, remember to plan accordingly and allow sufficient time for the Ashborough ARB approval process to review and approve your project prior to obtaining a building permit. There have been several new residents that have submitted ARB requests that will enhance the appearance of their new homes and the appearance of Ashborough. **THANK YOU!**

In the last few weeks, a number of letters regarding covenant compliance have been sent and the cooperation has been outstanding! **THANK YOU!** This compliance will have a positive impact on our neighborhood. There are still some matters that need to be addressed while others are still being sorted out. We have some work to do in this area while making sure that all violations are evaluated and treated uniformly.

One item that will be addressed next is fence maintenance along Dorchester Road. We don't expect property owners to perform major repairs with the upcoming road widening project but a reasonable standard of maintenance needs to be enforced. Having all the fence boards properly in place is one of the minimum standards that will be enforced.

Another item that will be addressed is parking. Parking on lawns, parking overnight in the street and unused vehicles apparently being stored in driveways and backyards will be enforced. This is a very easy fix so your advance cooperation in remedying this will be greatly appreciated.

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

2009 Election and Annual Meeting

The time is drawing near for the annual meeting and hence the election of 3 Board of Director positions. The ACA Board is accepting nominations for these director positions that will run from 2010 thru 2011. If you are interested in one of these positions, please let any board member know. The clock is ticking as the Annual meeting is scheduled for November 10, 2009 so please don't delay in either submitting your name or that of a qualified neighbor for one of these positions. Ballots and other material for the annual meeting will be mailed out in early October. Space for all candidate's biographical information will be made available in the newsletter and also posted on the Ashborough website. All nominations will be confirmed with the nominee.

Monthly Board Meeting Attendance

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

Covenants and Restrictions Letters sent Year-to-Date

Trash cans/Debris in view	48
Improper Boat/Trailer Parking	19
Yard/Lawn Maintenance Required	16
Parking on grass/street overnight	11
No ARB Approval	6
Paint Maintenance	3
Misc Items in view	3
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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Hospitality Update

Judy Ulmer has decided to retire from scheduling the Civic Building after 22 years! Thank you Judy for your long service to Ashbrough!!

If you are interested in the scheduling of the Civic Building, please let me know. Angela Coggins (875-7865) is temporarily handling the rental of the Civic Building.

Lisa Jolly will be taking over the role of Hospitality Chairperson in January from Kitty Lonergan. Kitty and her team has handled this duty for the last 3 years and their service to Ashborough is greatly appreciated!

Tonya Mantooth
851-3584

Reward - \$200.00 - For return of keys, jump drive and school papers that were taken from a break in on September 1, 2009. Please contact the association or Dorchester County Police. There are two sets of keys, one for personal use and one for a school(on a black lanyard). Papers were in a black rolling brief case. There was also a canon digital elph camera taken. All items are eventually being replaced with the exception of the photos of my family. Thank you.

Pool Update

The Ashborough pool will be OPEN during the month of October thanks to Judy Ulmer. Judy has graciously offered to check the pool water chemistry during the days when normal pool maintenance is not scheduled. If anyone wants to volunteer to check the chemicals 3-4 days a week from Nov-April since we only have part time pool service for those months please let me know. If the chemicals are not checked 7 days a week then the pool is not compliant with DHEC regulations. The Pool committee is also considering recommending closing the pool from November to April as a way to save budget funds. Thanks for any interest!

Tonya Mantooth
851-3584

Each year the Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts sell numerous varieties of popcorn and cookie to provide funding for their activities. This year is no different. There are numerous neighborhood scouts that are going door-to-door selling. Please be generous and support these neighborhood children in their selling activities.

Sound Barrier for Dorchester Road

As reported in the last newsletter, a petition seeking a noise barrier the entire length of Ashborough along with some other noise reduction changes is coming through the neighborhood. The response so far has been overwhelmingly positive! Your signature in support of the petition will be greatly appreciated!

New Ashborough Residents

John and Maria Morris, 104 Beaumont

Chris and Laura Phillips, 103 Laurens

Mark and Mariella Murdock, 601 Mayfield

Sandra and Tania White, 408 Mayfield

Luminaries

It is time to order candles and bags for the Christmas Eve Luminaria. The Ashborough Women's Club has been sponsoring this event for more than 16 years now. Candles and bags are placed along the edge of your yard about 3 feet apart on Christmas Eve. Street representatives will pass out order forms for the candles and bags. Return the order form and your check to your representative whose name is on the envelope by Oct 31. The price is 3 candles and bags for \$1. Please order in sets of 3. This year we are not able to sell the white bags without the candles. Profit from the Luminaria sales will be donated to the Playground Revitalization Project. Let's light up Ashborough!

Here are some of the donations that the proceeds have funded in past years:

Refrigerator purchased for CB
Microwave cart for CB
Kitchen project CB sink, counter, water heater, lower cabinets
Barbeque pit
Picnic tables
Contribution to ACA for AC/H unit replacement
Painted interior of CB
Replaced entrance brick wall at Nantucket
New tile floor in CB
Microwave and coffee pot for CB
New wreaths and bows for all entrances
Lifeguard Chair for the pool
Sofa and loveseat for CB
Replacement refrigerator for the CB
Kirby vacuum sweeper for the CB
Upper cabinets for kitchen in CB
New roof for the playground shelter at Ashborough Ave playground

The above list represents nearly \$13,000 in purchases and repairs for Ashborough since the inception of the luminaria!

Materials to order candles will be sent out shortly. Please contact Barbara Chapman or Angela Coggins if there are any questions.

Ashborough History

A great piece of Ashborough History is now posted on the website. This artwork was donated by Eleanor Fuller. Thank you Eleanor!

Lighting along the canals and Ashley River

Recently an Ashbrough resident installed a powerful light at the dock on his property. The purpose of the light was to deter thieves and provide security for his property.

While the Board is completely in support of the protection that lighting brings to all property owners, exterior lighting needs must be submitted to the ARB for approval (except for those lighting styles already addressed in the Covenants and Restrictions). This is important not only for the property owner but also for the neighbors of that property owner as well.

The Board spent time with not only the resident but with a neighbor of that resident as well so that multiple points of view could be heard. The Board also recognizes the need to establish a policy and guidelines for lighting along environmentally sensitive areas. The Board would like to solicit input from property owners along the canals and the Ashley River as to what types of lighting they would like to see. This input should include everything about the light such as wattage, intended operational schedule (dusk to dawn, motion sensor, timer, remote activation, etc), diameter of coverage and installed height. Please send that input to any board member.

Ed Coggins
875-7865

Neighborhood Walking and Bicycle Riding

With the return of cooler temperatures comes walkers who are out enjoying the beauty of Ashborough. With that also comes shorter days and neighbors walking when it's darker. To ensure the safety of walkers, please remember to keep an eye out for vehicles and follow Federal Highway Association rules which state that you should ALWAYS walk facing traffic. This allows the walker to see oncoming traffic and provide time to move towards the curb in order to provide sufficient clearance from vehicle traffic. If you are walking when it's dark, remember to carry a flashlight and wear reflective clothing to make yourself more visible to vehicles. If you are walking in a group, it is important to follow guidelines and walk single file when a vehicle is approaching.

Bicycle riders also need to take precautions when cycling in Ashborough. Remember to ride single file WITH traffic, wear reflective clothing to make yourself more visible to drivers, and make sure your bicycle has reflectors.

Neighborhood Work Day

The Facilities Maintenance Committee took care of a couple of more items that needed attention. The Mayfield Park has 2 new swings replacing the old horse and rocket swings while the Ashborough Park has a new tire on the tire swing with the tire being lowered to better comply with playground standards. Some of the fencing along the Ashborough tennis courts was repaired to prevent intruders from entering the tennis court by scooting under the fence. The drain at the lake was cleared of debris, added screws to the oyster tables and repaired a picnic table bench at the Mayfield Park. Additional items that are slated for attention are:

1. Replace and re-paint the wood on the Kiosk in front of the tennis courts
2. Pressure wash and repaint the street signs throughout the neighborhood
3. Minor repairs and additional painting at the pool before next year

Here is ther schedule of facilities/trail events through November:

Neighborhood Work Day, Sat, Oct. 31/Nov. 7
Trail fundraiser, Sat, Nov. 7
Trail Work Day, Sat, Nov. 14

Facilities Maintenance Committee (Steve Jolly/Al Saracina)

Facilities Renovation

There hase been some talk recently about renovating the Civic Building and adding new features in order to make the Civic Building more attractive. One idea that has been mentioned is the addition of a flat-screen TV so that the big game (football, baseball and basketball) can be watched which would increase the number of rentals and provide more opportunities for neighborhood events. One neighbor has suggested adding a foosball table. What are your thoughts about renovating and expanding the features that the Civic Building offers? Another idea is the addition of a covered shelter along the end of the pool near the kiddie pool. This would provide a dry place to stand when those afternoon rain showers come and provide some shade when the temperature is high. Please let Tonya Mantooth, Angela Coggins, and Steve Jolly know what you think!

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