

Westerlee Community News



A Proud Covenant Controlled Community

July, 2006

www.westerleenews.com

A Message from the President...



Dear Neighbors,

Instead of the usual address I would like to provide you with a few news items that might be of interest to you. I wish you all a pleasant summer.

Russell employee parking approved:

The zoning commissioner of Baltimore County approved Russel's application for commercial parking in a residential zone. The 25 space parking lot will be constructed north of Powers Lane on the lot where formerly a house stood. Westerlee had placed conditions on lighting and landscaping that the applicant had accepted.

Stop sign at Dlong Road will be removed



The somewhat ambiguous and unsafe

conditions of the three way stop arrangement at Dlong and Chantilla Roads had been discussed at the annual meeting and was brought to the attention of the traffic engineers at the County. They decided to reinstall the condition of pre-1993 which gives Dlong the right of way with Chantilla having stop signs. This will mean that in the future drivers coming down on Dlong turning left into westbound Chantilla have to yield to oncoming traffic.

Catonsville Mews: Pathway complete

The Catonsville Mews project is nearing completion. The for sale townhomes are all completed and most of them have been sold. The general landscaping has been postponed until the fall planting season. A connecting pathway to Nuwood road and along the open space has been paved and is open for use by Westerlee residents.

Large Tree Cut



A healthy mature and very large tree

was cut in Cedar Circle Court apparently

on the order of a new resident who has not moved in

Westerlee Community, Inc. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President Vice President Secretary Treasurer

Directors: Bettye Gray Ron Matthews Chuck Sprague Charles Yingling



Klaus Philipsen Shirley Smith Marilyn Maxwell Jim Holman

Ed Hastry George Simon Dorn Wagner

as of yet. It appears that buyers at times fear trees near the house which have stood in Message from the President, continued on p. 4 *Are You Interested...*

... in knowing what's going on around your neighborhood? You can find out quickly by going to our website: <u>www.westerleenews.co</u>m. It contains



all the latest information we have which affects us in Westerlee.

And, since our neighborhood is so spread out, and we don't always hear what's happening, if you have some information that you don't see there, please email it to us at <u>westerleenews@comcast.net.</u> We'll make sure it gets on the website.

Some Security Tips (article submitted by Marilyn Maxwell)

At our March, 2006 General Community meeting, Captain Barry Barber and Officer Deb McAuley of our local precinct, addressed us.



One of the services they suggested the police could perform for us was a residential security survey, in which one or two police officers would come to our home and make suggestions as to how we can better protect our home. Now, having lived here for many years, my husband and I know that this is a pretty safe neighborhood, but I was curious to see how secure our home is, so we requested a survey (the form for doing so is on our website).

Two police officers from the Police Community Relations division of Precinct 2 came to our home a couple of weeks ago. It was a very pleasant, enlightening experience. At the end of this newsletter you will find copies of one of the handouts they gave us. They contain just commonsense, very inexpensive suggestions - precautions we know instinctively, but which we sometimes forget. Read them over (as a reminder), and call on the police if you would like to know more regarding the security of your home.

These officers are happy to come, and, I assure you, it will be a worthwhile experience. They also told us that if we plan to go on vacation, we can have the police drive by your house daily - just looking to see if everything looks OK. I have attached the "Vacant House Form" to this newsletter. This is vacation season. Why not ask the police to check on your house while you're away? You can send the form to our local precinct. The address is above the form. (P.S.: Also attached, by request of our local police, is an invitation to the National Night Out sponsored by the police and held at our local precinct. It sounds like fun!)



From the Archives:

March 6, 1972: Mr Lawrence brought up street lighting in the area to discourage observes He was told that many residents? would not want specifights an that most felt that if people used their flood

Abridged Board Meeting Minutes



Because there were some extraordinary issues which required immediate response, there was an additional board meeting during this quarter. Both sets of abridged minutes are here.

June 8, 2006

Russel zoning hearing regarding the zoning variance the dealership is requesting (to use the vacant residential lot at the corner of Dlong Road and Powers Lane for commercial parking) will be held on 6/12/2006. With the hearing being imminent we would make our conditions

regarding lighting, landscaping, curb cuts, etc., part of the record at the hearing with the goal to have them be stipulated by the hearing officer.

It was proposed that we approve this variance with two additional stipulations: that the parking lot be locked after business hours, and lighting be shut off at night; and that trees on the property be protected. The motion was passed by an 8-4 vote.

There was a shed application for 2200 Cedar Circle



Drive. The submission materials (shed picture, site location plan) was circulated among the three members of the Architectural Review Committee and all three had approved the plan. It was noted that the area is fenced and wooded, so the shed would not be very visible from the street. The entire board was in favor of approving the plan.

One of our neighbors has requested a crime watch, indicating that there was one operational in Westerlee in the past. It was discussed that this requires a certain structure of surveillance. Ed Hastry suggested Block captains; Dorn Wagner volunteered to reorganize block captains. Bettye will help. It was suggested that the matter needs more discussion and that the two volunteers formulate a concept for the role of the block captain and how to get volunteers and report the concept proposal at next board meeting.

It was reported again that anyone who sells a home must have clear title. This includes payment of Homeowner Association dues. More discussion to develop a clear plan for collecting the dues is needed.

Change in traffic pattern on Dlong. In response to our letter to Mr. Weber at Baltimore County Traffic requesting a four-way stop sign at the corner of Dlong and Chantilla, Stephen Weber, Chief of Traffic Engineering for Baltimore County, wrote back to us their decision to revert back to the pre-1994

decision, which was to place the stop signs only for Chantilla Road. The board then voted their preference (pre-1994 or the current situation, and the



vote was split: 6 voted to leave the signs as is; 6 voted to revert to pre-1994. It was decided to write a letter to Mr. Weber again to reflect the Board's vote.

A Liquor License has been applied for at the One Mile West Shopping Center: At the time of the Board Meeting, no hearing had been scheduled, and the board did not propose any action at this time.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:08 p.m.

July 13, 2006

It was noted that Bernard McClelland's resignation from the Board became effective after the previous Board Meeting held in June, since he and his wife are moving out of the community. We thank him sincerely for his service.

Several code (and covenant and by-law) violations in the

community have been noted at past meetings. A form letter to be used by board members pursuing these violations has been prepared and was unanimously approved. The letter would be signed by the Board members doing the site visit, at which time they would note the nature of the violation on the letter.

Among these violations, two are especially prominent: unlicensed cars parked in driveways, and the fact that all the homes in Westerlee are, by our covenants, single-family homes, and one or two seem to be in violation of this.

<u>The proposed Russel parking lot:</u> Klaus reported that he had attended the zoning hearing The application of the lot was approved by the County with the conditions that we had requested except for "no other Russel project north of Powers Lane".

<u>Dlong/Chantilla Stop signs</u>: Steve Weber from County traffic engineering decided to stay with the previously discussed solution for Dlong having no stops signs (two way stop for Chantilla only). This will be implemented by the end of the month. The Board will take no further action as of now. (editor's note: You can read more about this in this newsletter. The entire communications with the County Traffic Engineering Department are published on our website, www.westerleenews.com.

<u>Hoffman's farm east</u>: Klaus reported that the previously discussed application with NeighborSpace Inc. for keeping the eastern portion of the former Hoffman farm open space (through purchase of development rights) is still pending. The County-supported group has limited resources and might not be able to buy such a large piece of land.

Other items discussed, but with no immediate resolution were: a new directory; trash must be placed in lidded trash bins; that a Westerlee sign be placed at the entrances to the community, indicating that we are a covenant-controlled community.

From the archives:

May 1, 1972: Nuwood, Wisteria and Colebrook: There was a discussion of streets and accesses from Westerlee into Woodbridge Valley. These streets will not be cut thru. It was suggested that a barrier of some kind be put up. Our president will check with Towson to see what

Are you following the Baltimore County Trash Collection Regulations?

Here they are (from the Baltimore County website):

(http://www.co.ba.md.us/Agencies/publicworks/soli d_waste/trash_collection_faq.html#q4)

Please follow all these Baltimore County regulations for residential trash containers:

* Trash containers are limited to a filled weight of 50 pounds.

* Trash containers must not have a capacity greater than 32 gallons.

* <u>Lids on trash containers should fit snugly</u>, but must not be secured or fastened with rope, wire, chains, springs, hinges, or by any other means. (Note: This implies that trash cans must have lids!)

Recyclable bottles & cans must be placed out for collection in open-top bins (such as laundry baskets and storage bins) OR in see-through plastic bags (blue, clear, tan, white, etc.).

No trash containers and no red/pink or yellow bags.

Recyclable mixed paper must be placed out for collection in paper bags, cardboard boxes, or tied with non-plastic string. The bags, boxes, or bundles may be placed out in open-top bins.

No paper in plastic bags (even if it's raining!) and no trash containers.

Failure to comply with these regulations could result in missed trash collection and/or collection worker injury. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Next Board Meeting

You know that you are always welcome to attend board meetings, which are usually held 4 times a year. The next one will be on Thursday, October 12

at the home of Shirley and Edward Smith, 2016 Cedar Circle Drive, at 7:00 p.m.

From the archives:

May 8, 1972: Water problems. Mr. Mertz had calls from residents of the even side of Fernglen complaining about water problems after the recent heavy rains. It was suggested individuals should write formal letters of complaint to the proper County authorities.

Note Traffic Change

PLEASE – take note that around the end of July, <u>there will be a</u> <u>traffic pattern change at the corner</u> <u>of Chantilla and Dlong</u>. The Baltimore County Traffic Engineering Department has determined that the pre-1994 traffic pattern (stop signs <u>only</u> on Chantilla Road – east and west sides) will be



best for our neighborhood. All of the communications with the traffic engineering department are posted on our website, <u>www.westerleenews.com</u>. For those of us who lived through the change in 1994, we know the difficulty involved in making this change. For all of us, it will take a great deal of concentration at that intersection to get used to the change. Please be careful!!

New Neighbors

We welcome these new neighbors...

Edward and Jonnice McQuay 2108 Fernglen Way

John and Jacqueline Johnson 2102 Cedar Circle Drive 443-341-4239

Chris and Ric Goatee 2118 Cedar Circle Drive 410-744-4002

Wayne and Charlene Rowley 1900 Cedar Circle Drive 443-341-6141

Dennis and Donna Flood 1201 Cedar Circle Court

Roger and Jennifer Johnson 2105 Cedar Circle Drive 410-744-6035 Be a good neighbor... make them feel welcome. Summertime, when we spend more time outside, is a good time to say hello. Add their names to your directory, too!

Recipes

Here are some quick, easy summertime recipes. Try them!

Chicken Salad Almondine

12 oz. chicken breast meat, chopped 2 c. celery, diced

- 2 c. seedless grapes, halved
- 2 tsp. curry powder
- 2 oz. blanched slivered almonds
- 8 tbsp. salad dressing or mayonnaise
- 1 tsp. curry powder
- 1 c. fresh pineapple chunks

Combine salad dressing and 1 tsp. curry powder. Set aside. Combine chicken, celery grapes and almonds with salad dressing mixture. Chill 3 hours or more. Spoon onto lettuce leaves. Serve cold. Serves 6.

This one's even good for breakfast!

Favorite Fruit Salad

- 1 c. canned or fresh pineapple chunks
- 1 medium banana
- 1 pint strawberries, halved
- 1 c. seedless grapes
- 1 tsp. cinnamon
- 1⁄2 tsp. nutmeg

Drain pineapple, reserving ¼ c. liquid. Toss banana in reserved liquid; drain. Combine with fruits; chill. Sprinkle with cinnamon and nutmeg before serving. Makes about 6 servings.

<u>Message from the President, continued from p. 1</u> these locations for the entire time Westerlee has been in existence. Residents should understand that mature trees enhance property values, reduce AC cost, improve the air and absorb storm water



run-off. Most Westerlee residents are proud of our many mature trees dotting lots and streets. Removal of healthy trees should be avoided to preserve the character of the community.

Open Space Application Filed

With consent of the board an application was filed with NeighborSpace to consider acquisition of the easterly half of the former Hoffman farm to protect it as an open space in perpetuity. The matter is under consideration by NeighborSpace, a non-profit County group acting with the support of County **Executive Jim Smith.**

Another liquor store?

An application for a "package good store" (liquor store) at the "one Mile West" shopping center will be heard by the Liquor Board on August 7 at 11;30am at the County office building at 111. W. Chesapeake Ave. in Towson. Councilman Moxley encourages residents to voice their concern about another



liquor store in the area, N.H. Ruly ideally by showing up at the hearing.

Welcome Signs

The board will investigate if we could place welcome signs at the entry points to the community

From the Archives:

May 8, 1972, Sidewalks: Mr Mertz said the Baltimore County School Board has petitioned the County for sidewalks in the 1900 and 2000 blocks of Cedar Circle for the spring of 1973. This is for children attending the new Cedar Branch Elementary School in Woodbridge Valley to open in September of 1973. Discussion followed. It seems certain that Nuwood and Wisteria will not be cut thru into Woodbridge Valley, but inevitable that Cedar Circle will be, even though Monumental Properties say they don't want it any more than we do, but the County is insisting. Mr. Walch moved and was seconded that the President get up a petition signed by residents to fight the sidewalks. Motion carried..

that state that this is a covenant controlled				
community.	VACANT HOUSE	C		
Block Captains				
NAME: The Westerlee Board decided to try reviving th	ADDRESS:			
block captain concept. Block captains are	TO:			
volunteers who address community issues in a	small	MONTH	DAY	YEAR
area (likely where they live) and act as a condu between residents and the Board. Anybody	uit			
interested in being a block captain TIMER UTILIZED (Lights Appliances) please contact Dorn Wagner at 410-719-7510 o	or NO	•		
Bettye ANYONE HAVE ACCESS TO THE HOUSE YE Gray at 410-744-1188. One of the first activities		IF YES, WHO?		
be to gather information for an updated comm CAN OWNER BE CONTACTED WHILE AWAY? directory. Block captains will also enhance set in the	unity curity NO	IF YES, WHERE?		
community as they will address recurity issues their neighbors?	SS <u>with</u> NO	IF YES, WHO?		
TAG NUMBER(S) OF VEHICLES LEFT ON PREMISES:				
OTHER PERTINENT INFORMATION:				
DISTRIBUTION: Original - Filed at Desk Area Copy - Appropriate Post Car FORM 29 (REV 7/91)				

If interested, send the Vacant House form below to:

Woodlawn Precinct #2 6424 Windsor Mill Road Baltimore, MD 21207

Catonsville Farmers Market

Do you know that there is a wonderful Farmer's Market right here in Catonsville? It's at the



Bloomsbury Community Center 106 Bloomsbury Avenue Catonsville, MD May-November Wednesday, 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

If you've never been there, it's a great experience, with area farmers presenting their freshest produce. It's worth the trip!

Advertizing in Our Newzletter



Advertising in our newsletter reaches many of your neighbors who might need a service

performed that you do professionally. It's a good way to spread your message, and allow us to give our business to our neighbors. At the same time, it will help defray the cost of the newsletters. All advertising in the newsletter is <u>paid</u> advertising, and does not reflect the views or recommendations of the Board of Directors or the editor of the newsletter.

Fees are as follows:	
A quarter page ad	\$10.00
A half page ad (vertical or horizontal)	\$20.00
A full page ad	\$40.00

You will be responsible for creating the artwork and layout (I will be glad to help) and can send it, with your check, to

Westerlee Newsletter, 2019 Cedar Circle Drive Baltimore, Maryland 21228

If you need a copy of our covenants, bylaws or directory, send an e-mail to <u>westerleenews@comcast.net</u>

Our Website

Try to make it a habit to check our website frequently. It contains items of interest to all of us, and is updated frequently. It's the best way we have of getting information disseminated in a timely way. It's easy to remember: <u>www.westerleenews.com</u>

Construction Plans must Be Submitted For Approval



Our covenants state that all external changes to our homes or lots must be approved by the Board of Directors, in

order to maintain the integrity of the architecture and landscaping in Westerlee:

"No garages, outbuildings, fences or other structures shall be erected without prior permission of Westerlee Community, Inc., its successors or assigns, or its duly appointed agent, and no building shall be built closer to the front street than forty (40) feet, no closer to the side street than twenty-five (25) feet."

For that reason, an Architectural Review Committee studies all plans and submits their findings and recommendations to the Board only at the regular quarterly meetings. That means that you must plan ahead if you wish to add an addition, a shed, or even a fence. Architectural plans must be submitted four weeks before a board meeting to give the Architectural Review Committee and the Board adequate time to review the plans. The dates for the upcoming Board of Directors meetings are listed elsewhere in this newsletter.

The committee requires a full set of architectural drawings for any changes to the exterior of your home. If you contact one of the Architectural Review Committee members:

Klaus Philipsen at (410)747-5351 or by e-mail at archphips@aol.com Shirley Smith at (410)744-6171 or by e-mail at sjs@westray.net Richard Maxwell at (410)744-3449 or by e-mail at rfmaxwell@comcast.net

Hurricane Season's Here!

Do you have what you need if the power goes out in a bad storm (it happens frequently here!)? Attached to this newsletter is an Emergency Supply List. Check off what you have and try to get the rest beforehand. Although it's published by Homeland Security, it's a list of things we should always have on hand for basic survival.

> ☐ Matches in a waterproof container ☐ Fire Extinguisher □ Complete change of clothing including a long sleeved shirt, long pants and sturdy shoes. Consider additional clothing if you live in a □ Sleeping bag or warm blanket for each person. Consider additional bedding Emergency reference material such as a first aid book or information □ Cash or traveler's checks and change Feminine supplies and personal hygiene items Important family documents such as copies of insurance policies, Pet food and extra water for your pet ☐ Infant formula and diapers Prescription medications and glasses cold-weather climate. if you live in a cold-weather climate. from www.ready.gov identification and bank account records in a waterproof, portable container Additional Items to Consider Adding to an Emergency Supply Kit:

□ Household chlorine bleach and medicine dropper – When diluted nine parts water to one part bleach, bleach can be used as a disinfectant. Or in an emergency, you can use it to treat water by using 16 drops of regular household liquid bleach per gallon of water. Do not use scented, color safe or bleaches with added cleaners.

□ Mess kits, paper cups, plates and plastic utensils, paper towels

Paper and pencil

□ Books, games, puzzles or other activities for children





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Local maps	Can opener for food (if kit contains canned food)	Wrench or pliers to turn off utilities	Moist towelettes, garbage bags and plastic ties for personal sanitation	Dust mask, to help filter contaminated air and plastic sheeting and duct tape to shelter-in-place	Whistle to signal for help	First aid kit	Flashlight and extra batteries	Battery-powered or hand crank radio and a NOAA Weather Radio with tone alert and extra batteries for both	Food, at least a three-day supply of non-perishable food	Water, one gallon of water per person per day for at least three days, for drinking and sanitation	Recommended Items to Include in a Basic Emergency Supply Kit:
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Through its Ready Campaign, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security aducates and empowers Americans to take some simple steps to prepare for and espond to potential emergencies, including natural disasters and terrorist attacks. Ready satural disasters and terrorist attacks. Ready satural disasters and terrorist attacks and the and terrorist attacks at a family an emergency supply kit, make a family smergency plan, and be informed about the inferent types of emergencies that could occur and their appropriate responses.

All Americans should have some basic supplies on hand in order to survive for at east three days if an emergency occurs. "-ollowing is a listing of some basic items that very emergency supply kit should include. However, it is important that individuals eview this list and consider where they live and the unique needs of their family in order o create an emergency supply kit that will meet these needs. Individuals should also consider having at least two emergency supply kits, one full kit at home and smaller ortable kits in their workplace, vehicle or other places they spend time.



U.S. Department of Homeland Security Washington, DC 20528

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YOU'RE INVITED TO

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

AMERICA'S NIGHT OUT AGAINST CRIME! TUESDAY, AUGUST 1, 2006 TIME: 5:30 - 8:00 p.m. LOCATION: 6424 Wirdsor Mill Rooad (precifict 2) EVENT SPECIFICS: McGruff, Child ID Kits, Give-Aways arid much much more!

PLEASE JOIN US ...

BRING A FRIEND, BRING A NEIGHBOR, BRING YOUR COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION! ALL ARE WELCOME TO THIS FAMILY STYLE REUNION! COOKOUT. We'll provide the hotdogs and grill and you can bring drinks and other dishes to share. Come out and Shout out against crime by teaming up with Police and other neighbors for a FESTIVE NIGHT OF FUN, INFORMATIVE CRIME PREVENTION TECHNIQUES AND NETWORKING.

HELP US SPREAD THE WORD ABOUT THIS EVENT!

IF YOU WILL BE BRINGING FOOD ITEMS, MAKING A DONATION OR WOULD LIKE TO SIGN-UP FOR A TABLE FOR YOUR ASSOCIATION, PLEASE CONTACT OFFICER T. WEINSTEIN AT 410-887-4714 OR TWEINSTEIN@CO.BA.MD.US

> Don'T FORGET YOUR LAWN CHAIRS! SEE YOU THERE!



Bertamini's Salon welcomes four new members, Kelli, Lisa, Becky and Brandi, to their already impressive staff of hair and beauty styling experts.

Make your appointment soon!

410-747-7052

1719 Edmondson Ave Catonsville MD 21228