



**Dulaney
Valley
Improvement
Association, Inc.**

P.O. Box 102 · Lutherville, MD · 21094-0102

**DVIA
Newsletter
February
2008**

President's Message – by Larry Townsend

So far, we have dodged winter weather again this year. Except for a little snow and some ice, it has been an uneventful season. If we do have snow, please remember to clear your sidewalks as soon as the snow has stopped – this is a Baltimore County regulation – and is for your safety and mine.

The Greenridge Sewer interceptor project continues and, of late, has not caused too much concern. We will again have to put up with the pumping equipment when they hook up the new line that has tunneled under the beltway. Last time they completed this in a few days – keep your fingers crossed.

I have received a few calls concerning crumbling pavement here and there especially at curbs and at the end of driveways. I would like to submit a list to the county so that they can come and spend the day! Please let me know if the street in front of your house needs attention, preferably via email at president@dvia.org. If you do not have email or would prefer to call, the number is 410-321-8242.

The quadrennial process of re-zoning is well under way in Baltimore County. Only one property in our area has been added to the list. Please see further information in the Zoning article.

Be sure to check the enclosed flyer for information on the Easter Egg Hunt (March 15, 2008) and the Yard Sale (April 26, 2008).

Neighborhood News – by LaRue Oster

Our condolences go out to:

- Mrs. Anne Shores and family of Tenbury Road on the loss Anne's husband Pat.
- Mr. Russell Mellinger also of Tenbury Road on the loss of his wife Kathleen.
- Mr. Henry Henkelmann and family of Weston Court on the loss of Henry's wife Lucille.
- To the family of Margaret Lew of Charmuth Road on their loss.

Please email LaRue at correspondingsecretary@dvia.org or call her at 410-494-9198 with any community news that you might have – births, weddings, new neighbors, etc.

DVIA NEEDS YOU!

If you check the DVIA website, www.dvia.org, you will see that the office of Vice-President is currently vacant. Jeff Sanders and his wife Lisa have moved out of our community. Jeff was not only our Vice President but also our webmaster. Thankfully, we have been able to fill the webmaster's slot with community member Tim Ruppalt. Lisa was active in organizing, and cooking for, our annual wine and cheese party. We will certainly miss them both. At last year's annual meeting, President Larry Townsend agreed to remain at his post until someone else came forth that was acceptable to the board. So far, no one has stepped up. It is your community. Please try to become an active member. At the last meeting, we had four new visitors (we sure hope that they come back) and three returning visitors. The best thing that could happen is if we outgrew the library at Hampton Scholl and had to move into the cafeteria for meetings.

Holiday Decoration Contest Winners

The winners of the 2007 Dulaney Village Improvement Association have been announced. Judging took place on the afternoon and evening of December 23, 2007, and the winners received gift certificates to Mars Grocery Store.

Congratulations to all of the winners and thank you to everyone who decorates and makes the community so festive. It is a pleasure to drive through and see the lights and decorations at this time of year. The winners are

Daytime/Doorway Decorations

- 1st Place: Kathleen and Edward Rusen, 201 Meadowvale Rd.
- 2nd Place: Virginia and James Miller, 1400 Charmuth Rd.
- 3rd Place: Mitzi and Ray Sells, 107 Ridgefield Rd.

Nighttime Decorations

- 1st Place: Sandy and Michael Feeney, 104 Strathdon Rd.
- 2nd Place: Carolyn Class, 319 Meadowcroft Lane
- 3rd Place: Kathleen and Michael Sandaal, 209 Meadowvale Rd.

Thank you, thank you! – from Conrad Poniatowski

To wreath decorators; Glade Alcarese, Barbara Houck, Barbara Poniatowski, and Dorrie Wilfong. Shorthanded they were. Long did they work.

To wreath hangers; Max Collins, Bill Hoyt, Bob Johnson, Tom O'Dwyer, Ang Peng, Brad Potterfield, and Larry Townsend.

To the Santa Run Crew; The Fire Museum for the antique apparatus and driver, to the Birkenthal elves, and to the Great Man his own self.

And a great big Thank You! to Conrad Poniatowski for organizing everything. Barbara and Conrad are making another attempt at moving to Florida and will not be available to help this year. Anyone interested? If so, contact Conrad BEFORE the big moving van arrives.

Did You Know?

That the U.S. Letter Carriers are not allowed to deliver mail on foot if the access to your mailbox is ice covered or obstructed by low hanging branches. If they do, it is at their own risk and their medical plan will not provide coverage if they are injured. So, if you wonder why you haven't gotten any mail lately, it might be a good idea to plan a clean up!

Canine Cleanup

We post this notice so often that you would think everyone has gotten the message. YOU MUST PICK UP AFTER YOUR DOG! FAILURE TO DO SO IS SUBJECT TO FINES from Baltimore County Animal Control. Considering that the Animal Control Director is a community resident, enforcement is not a great effort for us. FOR THE PERSON(S) WHO THINK THAT THE STRETCH OF TENBURY BETWEEN GREENRIDGE AND RIDGEFIELD IS THEIR OWN PRIVATE CANINE TOILET, WE WILL FIND OUT WHO YOU ARE!

And while we are talking about dogs... we have received a number of inquires/complaints about dogs that bark excessively, especially late at night. Please be aware that Baltimore County Animal Control regulations do contain a prohibition against a barking dog. Please be considerate of your neighbors and don't let your dog become a nuisance. Be sure that they are licensed, leashed when you are walking them and not a disturbance. Also, cats DO NOT have to be or go outside. They do very well inside - at all times. As we have a population of foxes in the area, it would be best to keep "Tabby" inside!

Zoning and Code Enforcement

Only one property in our community has been recommended for a zoning change during the quadrennial zoning process. The 23 acre property at the northwest corner of Dulaney Valley Road and Valley Court Road has been recommended for down-zoning by our Councilman T. Bryan McIntire. The property is currently zoned "DR1" which would allow one home per one acre. Bryan is recommending that it be down-zoned to "RC4" a category that will still allow development but at a lesser density and will require conservation measures be taken to protect our community. The DVIA board has unanimously approved his recommendation. While the Planning Department was posting the property, they found that the old zoning line for the DR1 zoning ran through the back yards of several homes on Felton Road and on Valley Court Road. Some of you may already have received notice that your property is being considered for rezoning. The rezoning is only to correct an error that was probably made when the plat for the development of that area was drawn. It will have no effect on your property usage.

We recently negotiated and reached agreement with Valley Baptist Church on a new sign to be erected in front of their church on York Road. The existing sign has to be removed due to the widening of York Road and they requested a variance to allow a sign that has a "changeable copy" section that would allow them to electronically change the information on their sign that now requires a trip out to the sign – and a ladder. The net effect will be a sign that is almost the same overall size but oriented vertically instead of the current horizontal orientation. The old changeable part will be replaced by an electronically changeable sign. They agreed in the zoning hearing that we will not be seeing any "dancing angels" or the like.

The Appeal Board of Baltimore County finally, after almost a year, sided with the Galleria and has allowed them to continue to park in a residentially zoned area and has allowed them to over sell the leased area of the shopping center at Seminary Avenue and York Road. The DVIA board will discuss appealing this ruling at our meeting on March the 10th. As always, your comments are appreciated.

The board decided to discontinue our affiliation with the Greater Towson Council of Community Associations. The reasoning was that the Beltway offers a demarcation line between the interests of GTCCA and DVIA and we are in a separate councilmanic district from all of the other communities represented by GTCCA. We will continue our affiliation with the Greater Timonium Community Council (GTCC).

Commercial vehicles continue to appear in the community. Please remember that they are NOT permitted. Any vehicle that has advertising anywhere on it except for the two front doors is considered a commercial vehicle. Regardless of advertising, any vehicle that exceeds a gross vehicle weight of 10,000 pounds is a commercial vehicle as well as any vehicle where equipment is visible. DVIA vigorously pursues commercial vehicle infractions.

The sale of an automobile in a residential neighborhood by other than the titled owner is **prohibited** – this includes “dealer” titles! You may sell your own titled vehicle from your yard or the street immediately in front of your house. DVIA vigorously pursues any violations.

Baltimore County Code specifically prohibits more than two unrelated individuals, students included, from occupying a residence in a residentially zoned area – our entire community.

Maryland Motor Vehicle law requires the registration of any motor vehicle after it has been in the state for a specified period of time that we believe to be thirty (30) days. DVIA reports vehicles seen in our community that have out-of-state license plates.

Effective July 1, 2008, ALL rental properties MUST be licensed. Before a license can be issued, an inspection is required. We know of approximately twenty-five (25) properties in our community that are “rental properties”. It would be best that you include a note with your next rent payment that this regulation becomes effective July 1, 2008. The fine for non-compliance is \$1,000 per day! This includes properties owned by out-of-state landlords.

Traffic Calming

We continue in our attempts to get some relief for Charmuth Road. So far, the county has refused any request that we have made. Delegate Bill Frank has written to the county and our councilman has made a personal request. If you live on Charmuth Road, please be aware that we are trying to help you – and the rest of the community. We may be contacting you in the very near future to sign a petition asking for relief. Please be ready to react.

A suggestion has been made that a “speed hump” be installed on Valley Court Road immediately behind the play ground of Hampton School. The board feels that this is worth pursuing. A neighbor that lives in that area may be contacting you for support especially if you live on Valley Court Road. It appears that some motorists have found the Charmuth to Felton to Valley Court to Dulaney Valley “freeway”!

Easter Egg Hunt

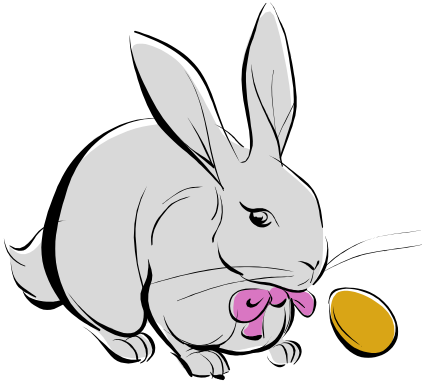
Hampton Elementary School

Saturday

March 15, 2008

Check-In at 9:45 A.M.

Begins at 10:00 A.M.



Join the Easter Bunny – bring your neighbors – to the DVIA Easter Egg Hunt

Don't forget to bring your Easter Basket!

(For DVIA Member's Children and Grandchildren – Ages 8 and under)

In case of rain, have your picture taken with the Easter Bunny and pick up your "goody" bag under the awning in front of Hampton Elementary School from 10:00 to 11:00 A.M.

Please RSVP to by March 8th to Bebe Ferro at 410-821-8177

Yard Sale Registration

Name: _____

Check for \$ _____
included please

Address: _____

Annual Yard Sale

Saturday

April 26, 2008

9:00 A.M. until



Clean out the attic!
Clean out the garage!
Get the junk out from under the bed!

Reservations **required**:

Members - \$3.00

Non-members - \$6.00

Send to:

Dulaney Valley Improvement Assoc., Inc.

P. O. Box 102

Lutherville, Maryland 21094-0102

MUST be received by April 19th to be included on the map

Tear off and mail to the above address

Fire Museum of Maryland

The Fire Museum will be open again soon and will be **air conditioned** for the first time! Thanks to a grant from the State of Maryland – thank you, Bill Frank. Susan Aumann and Jim Brochin – and matching dollars from donors, the project has moved forward over the winter. They will be open weekends starting in the spring. Summer hours are still being discussed by the Fire Museum Board of Directors. Look for a “cookout” sometime this summer and a bull roast in conjunction with their annual Steam Muster in the fall. Donations are ALWAYS welcome. Right here in our community, is the largest collection of fire fighting apparatus that still has its original paint in the country. Recent additions to the museum include more displays on the Great Baltimore Fire. The façade of old Baltimore City Engine House 8 will soon takes its place probably on the west inside wall. If you haven't become a member, please consider doing so.

Welcoming Committee

We have had a suggestion that a welcoming committee, sort of a “Welcome Wagon” be re-established again in our community. If you are willing to participate, please let us know. New neighbors always need to know about trash collection, services, shopping, schools, churches, etc., and you can help.

Another Thank You

Thank you to Paula Setters, Executive Director, Forward Visions, Inc., for coming to our meeting in January and reassuring us about the goals of her organization.

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