

DULANEY VALLEY NEWS

Dulaney Valley Improvement Association, Inc.
P.O. Box 102 Lutherville, MD 21094-0102

Fall, 2011



BOO !!

Hello again to all of our neighbors in our entire community. Here it is, fall again, with winter soon to come, but before then, we have some exciting events coming up!

Our annual HALLOWEEN KIDS EVENT is scheduled for Monday, October 24, 2011, from 7 – 8 P.M. at the Valley Baptist Church gym, located at 1401 York Road, right here in Lutherville.



This is for the children and grandchildren of the DVIA community (birth to 9 years old). Please RSVP via the email address shown below by October 17th. Bring the children all dressed up and ready to have some fun with games and snacks!

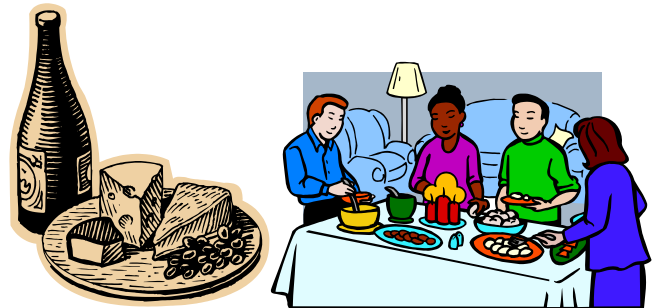
RSVP: DviaHalloween@yahoo.com



and



allowed!!!



Be Sure to Mark Your Calendar !

Our annual Wine & Cheese Party is to be held this year on Saturday, November 19, 2011 from 5 – 7 P.M. at the Fire Museum in Heaver Plaza , 1301 York Road.

This is an EXCELLENT opportunity to meet more neighbors and the DVIA Officers and Board Members.

Enjoy good food, wine, sodas/juices, and goodies for the kids – the whole family is welcome to come, as usual!

This year your Community Association needs help! If you can assist with this event this year, please call the DVIA President, Joyce O'Dwyer at 410-321-4724.



**Annual Santa Run - Sunday, 12/18/11
2 P.M.**

**As He Rides Through The Streets,
White Beard Flowing Down
You May Notice What He's "Riding"
In & Through Our Town....
Is NOT In Any Way An Animal Form
And Is Certainly Not, for Santa, The Norm
But A FIRE ENGINE
Perched Up There - For All To See
To Bring Our Children
A Bit of Glee!**



Holiday Decorating Contest

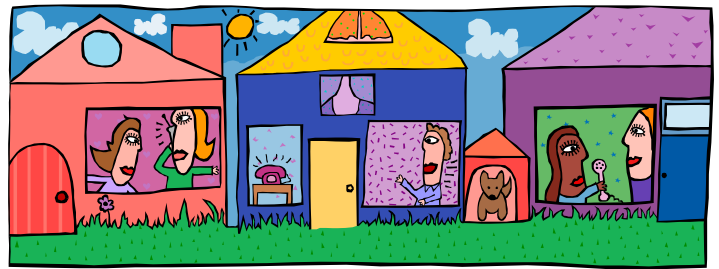
The annual DVIA decorating contest will take place the weekend of December 17 & 18, 2011. Again this year, prizes will be awarded to the top three (3) homes for daytime/doorway displays and to the top three (3) nighttime displays. Untangle the lights and dust off the wreaths and decorate those doorways! Make sure your lights are on the evenings of December 17 & 18.



A SPECIAL REQUEST

Due to all of the recent storms and bad weather, a lot of debris is being noticed in our community.....with school back in session and a lot of people walking about, walking can become more difficult. Please do your part in ridding our community of the debris.

THANK YOU !!



Of Interest To Our Community

The Police Precinct for our community has been kind enough to forward information to our Association concerning criminal activity, fraudulent scams, and the like. For those of you who have not received this information already via our Community website, it is being re-posted here, in this newsletter, for your information:

(somewhat edited)

.....there have been persons fraudulently purporting themselves to be public works or utility workers, including a scam by those who say they work for BGE; these BGE impostors were responsible for four deception burglaries in August - these burglaries were not concentrated in any one particular area of the County. The impostors wear BGE-life uniforms, carry clipboards and some wear construction helmets. They tell the victim that some outside work needs to be done and walk the person outside. While the two are out of the house, an accomplice goes inside to remove the victim's property.

Below is some information as to how the scam works and this will hopefully show you the importance of verifying I.D.'s or calling 911. (At the time this information was received from the police in August, they indicated that none of the incidents they spoke of had been reported within the boundaries of Precinct 7).

Deception burglaries have one common theme & that is to get the homeowner distracted by getting them to walk into another room or, more frequently, asking the homeowner to step outside & then getting them to move to the side or rear of the house (out of view) while an accomplice enters the house through the unlocked door & steals whatever is quickly accessible to them. This accomplice is almost always out of the house before the homeowner comes back in. Here's how it works:

The first suspect will come to the door, knock or ring, and use some type of ruse to win the confidence of the homeowner.....i.e., the suspect may tell homeowner

that he works for a fence company, or satellite TV, or roofing company or landscaping company – you name it...and tell the homeowner that he/she needs to step outside with him and examine a portion of their property. For instance, he might say “he doesn’t want to infringe on property lines, so he needs the owner to examine the line in the rear of the property”. If the homeowner does step outside, he/she will generally leave the door unlocked and the suspect will escort the homeowner around the back – out of view – of that door. Sometimes, the suspect will even use a cell phone he is carrying to “call his boss...or the office...or Land Records”, when, in fact, he is actually calling the accomplice to give him the go-ahead to come in, without detection. Sometimes, the first suspect will remain on the phone the entire time & actually feed information back to the accomplice who has entered the house. After about 10 minutes, the first suspect and the homeowner will walk back into the house AFTER the accomplice has slipped out. It may not even be immediately apparent that items were stolen from the house (i.e., money & credit cards from a purse or wallet – jewelry, etc.) These burglars generally take smaller items that are easy to grab and conceal quickly.

That’s how it works and it has been found that there are generally common themes to all of these types of burglaries.

1. A ruse or scan is used to gain trust & confidence.
2. The elderly are more likely to be a victim of these burglaries.
3. Distraction is a key element that allows an accomplice to enter the house while the owner is outside or out of sight of the door – which is usually left open or unlocked.

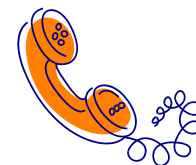
Keep in mind that there are variations to this “scam” burglar. Some use a ruse in which 2 subjects are allowed inside. One might ask for a glass of water, and as the homeowner walks the one to the kitchen and engages in conversation, the second one slips off and very quickly steals small valuables. Others use a Power Company/Water Dept. employee scam in which says he is an employee of one of the companies & needs to get to the basement to investigate a “problem in the lines or the pipes”. When the homeowner walks that person down to the basement, the second suspect enters and steals the valuables.

Please remember – and make sure your neighbors known too – DO NOT let anyone that you do not know & trust into your house. Employees of BGE & the City

Water Dept. carry photo ID & do not mind being challenged for proof of employment. It is suggested that you don’t stop there – CALL the appropriate agency for verification. For BGE, the contact number is 410-685-0123. For Baltimore City Public Works/Water, county residents should call 410-396-5352. Do not call any number provided by the alleged employee because, if the person at the door is trying to scam you, the number he provides is probably the cell phone number of the accomplice who will tell you, yes, it’s perfectly OK to let that person into your house! So, call those numbers; better yet, if you are really suspicious, tell the person you are calling 911. A legitimate employee will wait for the police.....the deception burglars won’t.

Remember, too, that those Precinct 7 residents who have well water & live outside the area of home water service provided by Baltimore City should not be visited by such a representative!

Finally, these burglars seem to bounce around the entire county and parts of the surrounding jurisdictions. Now that you know how it works & the myriad of scenarios that are used, I hope you can see the common threads that I wrote about. Here’s where we need your help – stay alert & get this word out, especially to your elderly neighbors, family members & friends. Awareness is the key. Tell them to call 911 immediately to report suspicious activity. Memorize the suspect’s appearance (scars, marks, anything unusual). If a vehicle description can be safely obtained (look to the license plate number...write it on your hand, if you have to), provide that to the 911 operator so the officers can start looking right away. Be alert, be aware and be curious. Make that call to 911.



Other Useful Telephone Numbers:

Aging/Senior Inform. & Assistance	410-887-2594
Senior Centers & Clubs	410-887-3654
Environmental Concerns/Main #	410-887-3733
Air Quality (Odors)	410-887-3775
Community Hygiene (for trash, Junk, rodents, overgrown Properties)	410-887-4066
Animals (licenses – dogs & cats)	410-887-3630
Control	410-887-5961
Waste Management	410-887-3745

DVIA EVENT/MEETING SCHEDULE

10/10 Meeting – Hampton Elementary
10/24 Halloween Event – Valley Baptist
11/19 Wine & Cheese – Fire Museum
12/12 Meeting – Hampton Elementary
12/18 Santa Run – 2 P.M.
12/17 – 12/18 Holiday Decorating Contest

2012 MEETING SCHEDULE

1/9 Meeting – Hampton Elementary
2/13 Meeting – Hampton Elementary
3/12 Meeting – Hampton Elementary
4/16 (3rd Monday) Meeting – Hampton Elementary
5/14 Meeting – Hampton Elementary

DVIA OFFICERS:

Joyce O'Dwyer President 410-321-4724
P.J. Connolly Vice-President 410-821-0374
Max Collins Treasurer 410-583-7977
Edna Jones Recording Secy. 410-825-5421
LaRue Oster Corresponding Sec. 410-494-9198

Ginny Thompson Newsletter Editor 410-494-1647

DVIA Website: www.dvia.org

A Reminder: Advise of your E-Mail Address So YOU can receive our Newsletter via e-mail!!!!

Dulaney Valley Improvement Assn., Inc.
P.O. Box 102
Lutherville, MD 21094-0102

PRSRT STD
U.S. Postage
PAID
Lutherville, MD
Permit No. 102