



New Mark News

YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Calendar

Saturday, September 21—Game Night at the clubhouse, 5:00 p.m.

Thursday, October 3—Board of Director's meeting at the clubhouse, 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, October 8—NMC Garden club meeting at the Chiappa's, 818NME at 6:00 p.m.

Thursday, October 10—NMC Special Interest Groups meeting at the clubhouse 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Saturday, October 12—Board of Director's annual Open House at the clubhouse, 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Monday, October 14—Columbus Day holiday

Thursday, October 31—Halloween

Saturday, November 2—Annual cleanup of the common area along the bike path. Meet at the clubhouse at 9:00 a.m.

Sunday, November 3—Daylight Savings Time ends

Tuesday, November 5—Election Day

Thursday, November 7—Board of Director's meeting at the clubhouse, 7:30 p.m.

Monday, November 11—Veteran's Day holiday

Wednesday, November 27— Hanukkah begins at sundown

Thursday, November 28—Thanksgiving

Thursday, December 5—Board of Director's meeting at the clubhouse, 7:30 p.m.

NMC Open House

Your NMC Homes Association Board of Directors invites all residents to our annual **Open House**. This is a great opportunity to meet new and old residents, friends and neighbors.

Date: Saturday, October 12, 2012

Place: The New Mark
Commons Clubhouse

Time: 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Hors d'oeuvres and beverages will be served.

This Open House is for Adults Only. Please RSVP to Jim by October 7th at jhdennyii@verizon.net or 301.340.0288.

GAME NIGHT
AT THE CLUBHOUSE
See page 7 for details

SPLINTERS FROM THE BOARD

JUNE 6, 2013

Robin Ziek, City Staff liaison to the Historic District Commission (HDC) and two commissioners from the commission were present to give the Board an overview of the Historic District Commission’s mission and their role in the City.

Pat Reber was present to discuss planting a tree and possibly a plaque in memory of Edmund Bennett.

Jonathan Smith was present to discuss his proposal for a families game night in the clubhouse. He was hoping for one night a month beginning in July.

John Hansman presented the revised Architectural Control (AC) Guidelines and Procedures. The revised guidelines include pictures of approved exterior doors and exterior light fixtures for the contemporary style town homes and detached homes. Dunja mentioned we need more examples of doors that would be acceptable for the contemporary detached homes and townhomes. It was agreed that additional doors would be selected by the committee, added to the AC Guidelines and reviewed by the Board.

Jim informed the Board seventy seven residents have not paid the second installment of the 2013 home owners’ association dues. That number includes three residents who have a balance from prior years.

We have a new life guard staff this year. Our manager, Yovana, worked for Continental Pools last year. This is the first time the other two guards, Dusko and Lliya, have been to the United States. We received fifteen new chaise lounges before the pool opened for the season.

The new restroom partitions were installed before the pool opened for the season.

Several female turtles have been observed on New Mark Esplanade as they search for a nesting area.

We received the representation letter back for DeLeon and Stang, the Association’s auditors, with the changes we requested. We will sign the letter and return to the auditors.

The disc jockey and the children’s entertainment have been arranged for our annual 4th of July celebration. John Brown

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

New Mark Commons Homes Association, Inc.

Website

www.newmarkcommons.net

Mail Address

New Mark Commons
P. O. Box 4206, Rockville, MD 20849-4206

Administrator

Jim Denny
jhdennyii@verizon.net

Board of Directors

Margaret Chao, President
Jeff Miller, Vice President
John Hansman, Secretary/Treasurer
Dunja Baker
John Brown
Ellen Stein
Magnus Turresson

Committee Chairpersons

Architectural Control

Mary Lee

Community Enhancement

Richard Berman

Lake

Richard Berman

Landscaping/Grounds

Vacant

Pool

Nancy Wood

Swim Team

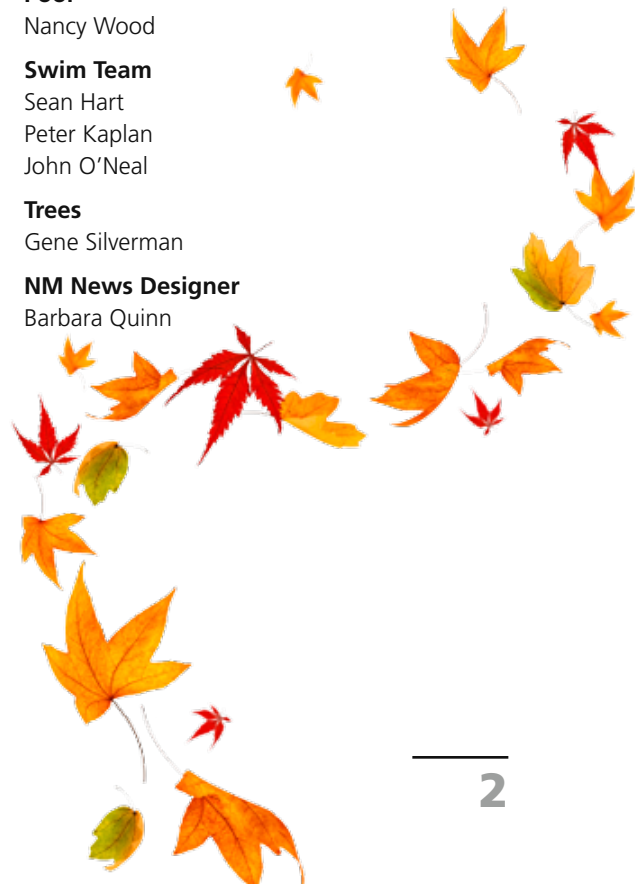
Sean Hart
Peter Kaplan
John O’Neal

Trees

Gene Silverman

NM News Designer

Barbara Quinn



SPLINTERS CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

will not be cooking this year. Jim contacted Cozy Restaurant for a quote to cater the event. We have used them in the past and were very satisfied with the performance.

The Association has changed the broker of record from Russell Insurance to HMS Insurance. The change necessitated a cancellation and reinstallation of our liability, workman's compensation, and umbrella policy with no lapse in coverage. HMS Insurance was able to secure an excess liability umbrella policy that included coverage for a diving board and athletic events.

Margaret mentioned she spoke with Brian Bichy, the Association's new attorney, regarding the transition process from Hileman and Associates to Linowes and Blocher. He will arrange to have our files transferred from Hileman and Associates, LLP to his office.

Jim informed the Board the 2013 reserve fund contribution of \$73,688 has been deposited in a money market account earning 1% annual interest.

JULY 11, 2013

There were no residents present for community forum.

John Hansman presented the revised Architectural Control Guidelines and Procedures. The revised guidelines included pictures of additional exterior doors that would be acceptable as discussed at the June 2013 Board meeting. The Board unanimously approved the new guidelines. They will be printed and delivered to each home in the community, as well as posted to the NMC website.

Jim informed the Board that twenty-seven residents have not paid the second installment of the 2013 home owners' association dues. That number includes three residents who have a balance from prior years.

Continental Pools assigned a permanent substitute to our pool, Peter Murtland. A couple of concerns were raised: life guards are not always in the office; sporadic membership check-in; need to standardize the process for swim test and permission forms for kids ages of 8 to 11 years old. Jim will research a pool admission system for 2014 that includes picture IDs for all residents.

The representative from Solitude Lake Management was able to spot-treat the small duckweed bloom along the lake shore. If the duckweed returns and rapidly expands, we may have to

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New Mark Commons Newsletter

General Information

Published monthly (except August and December) by the New Mark Commons Homes Association, Inc. P. O. Box 4206, Rockville, MD 20849-4206

Distributed free-of-charge to the 384 homes within the community.

New Mark Commons Administrator

Jim Denny, 301 340 0288
jhdennyii@verizon.net

Advertising Rates

\$35.00 full-page ad
\$27.50 half-page ad
\$22.50 quarter-page ad
\$18.00 any ad less than 1/4 page

The last page may be reserved for full-page ads for only an additional \$15.00.

Small listings for public services or sale of used goods are free to residents in good standing and \$5.00 for all others.

Services provided by youths 18 years of age and younger are free to residents and \$5.00 for all others.

Submitting an Ad

All advertisements must be submitted to the administrator electronically by email, or on a CD. Acceptable formats are pdf or jpeg in black and white. The ad must be sized properly for the ad purchased. Any changes required for the ad copy or layout will be charged an additional fee of \$40.00.

Advertisements, along with checks payable to "New Mark Commons" should be submitted to Jim Denny, Administrator. Call 301 340 0288.

All listings, advertisements, letters to the editor, articles, and notices must be submitted to the NMC Administrator or before the last day of the prior month and must be signed by the author. Under no circumstances will the NMC Administrator or editor take information over the telephone.

SPLINTERS CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

drop the water level in the lake in order to treat with an aquatic herbicide.

There have been rat sightings and residents have trapped rats in the 200 and 800 block of New Mark Esplanade. We had a similar problem several years ago. At that time, the source was traced to the trash enclosures at the Fireside Park Apartments. The Fireside Park management was notified of the current problem and they have been extremely responsive. Fireside Park management company has increased refuse pickups to four per week and have added additional bins to provide ample receptacle space for trash.

The annual Fourth of July celebration at the pool was a success. Cozy Restaurant from Thurmont, MD. handled the lunch catering.

Jim mentioned he spoke with the representative from Liberty Mutual Insurance assigned to New Mark Commons. Liberty Mutual has not received any information or reports from the police departments or emergency medical personnel who responded to the accident at the pool on June 29th.

Jim gave the Board an update on the financial status of the Association as of June 30, 2013. He presented the Income Statements, actual expenses year-to-date versus the budget, and reviewed the Association's Operating and Reserve Funds balances as June 30, 2013.

John Hansman mentioned that after reviewing several proposed locations for a plaque honoring Edmund Bennett, he believes the clubhouse would be a good location. Specifically, the brick wall to the right of the front door as you look at the main entrance of the clubhouse.

Two residents asked the Board for permission to landscape a community-owned parcel across the driveway from their home. They offered, at their expense, to build a small, stacked stone retaining wall, less than seven inches high and approximately thirty-five feet long. They would like to plant annual and perennial flowers in

the area. The Board agreed to the proposal with the following caveats: adjacent neighbors must approve of the plan, planting must be 'no maintenance' to the community; all planting must be directly in the ground; and there will not be any flower pots, planters, trellis, fencing, or manmade accessories placed in the area.

It was brought to the Board's attention that a resident in the townhouse area is consistently taking up three parking spaces for two automobiles. They have also extended their gardening to the common area on the side of their home.

The Board accepted a proposal from the Gold Leaf Group to supply and install playground mulch.

The Board approved the scope of work, not to exceed \$6,905, covering seventeen items of tree maintenance and tree removal throughout the community. Jim will solicit an additional proposal from H & H Tree Experts. Based on the proposal, Jim will select the contractor.

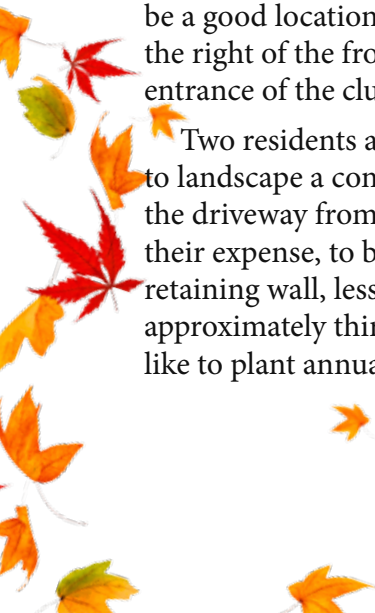
The Board accepted two proposals for storm water management from Stolburg Landscaping totaling \$7,500.

AUGUST 1, 2013

There were no residents present for community forum. Julie Palakovich Carr, a candidate for Rockville City Council, was present. She is interested in any issues and concerns Rockville's neighborhoods may have and wanted to know how the City can help.

John Hansman presented a design for the plaque honoring Edmund J. Bennett. The Board approved a proposal from Artistic Bronze Inc. for the plaque.

Jim informed the Board that thirteen residents have not paid the second installment of the 2013 home owners' association dues. That number includes three residents who have a balance from prior years.



SPLINTERS CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

Jim informed the Board that there are thirty-five non-resident pool members this summer which equates to \$19,250 in revenue. A circuit of four underwater pool lights malfunctioned. Three of the lights have been repaired. The remaining light will have to have a new conduit installed under the concrete pool deck during the offseason. Montgomery County has enacted a bill that requires all licensed swimming pools to have at least one automated external defibrillator in good working order and at least one staff member who is trained in its use by November 13, 2013. Jim will check with Continental Pools to see how they are fulfilling this requirement.

A beaver has been observed swimming in the lake. So far, he has not done any damage. All the trees bordering the lake are wrapped in wire. Solitude Lake Management was able to spot-treat a small duckweed bloom along the lake shore.

The rat sightings have somewhat diminished since earlier in the summer. Hopefully the increased vigilance of the Fireside Park

Apartments staff and additional refuse collections are helping to diminish the rodent problem

Jim gave the Board a report he received from Liberty Mutual Insurance. It was a copy of the Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Department report covering their response to the June 29, 2013 accidental drowning at the NMC pool.

The Gold Leaf Group installed the new playground mulch.

Stolburg Landscaping completed rebuilding the berm and stone swale along the walking path and built a swale between 326 and 328 NME to channel storm water runoff into an existing culvert behind 328 NME.

The Board approve Jim’s request to increase the limit on the tree proposal approved at the last Board meeting from \$6,905 to \$7,500 to cover additional tree work in the community.

RainScapes Rewards

Rockville’s RainScapes Rewards Program is designed to help residential owners improve storm water runoff conditions on their property. Financial rewards are granted to residential properties for the installation of rain barrels or conservation landscaping, and Rockville residents are eligible to win a rain barrel.

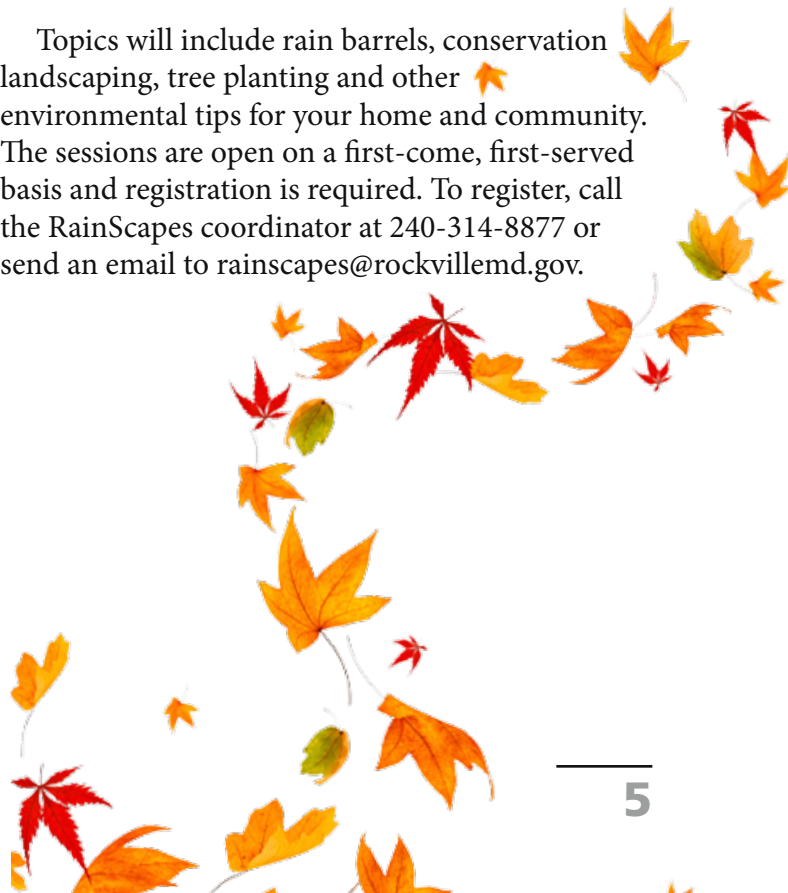
Free RainScapes Rewards information sessions on how to “Green Your Backyard” will be held on three dates:

Croydon Creek Nature Center—Sunday, Sept. 8, 1:30 to 3:00 p.m.

Twinbrook Community Center—Saturday, Sept. 14, 9:30 to 11:00 a.m.

Rockville Senior Center—Saturday, Sept. 21, 9:00 to 10:30 a.m.

Topics will include rain barrels, conservation landscaping, tree planting and other environmental tips for your home and community. The sessions are open on a first-come, first-served basis and registration is required. To register, call the RainScapes coordinator at 240-314-8877 or send an email to rainscapes@rockvillemd.gov.



ARCHITECTURAL CONTROL

ACC approvals

Install new energy-efficient windows and sliding doors at 3 Tegner Way.

Repaint the front door at 864 NME.

Install a backup generator at 1 Basildon Circle.

Replace the existing, failing retaining wall next to the driveway with a concrete wall with a brick veneer to match home at 24 Welwyn Way.


Remove wooden timber planters along the sidewalk and in front of the house and replace the front patio with concrete. In addition, enlarge the opening of the brick trash can enclosure so the new style refuse and recycle containers will fit in the enclosure at 208 NME.

CLASSIFIEDS

MULTI-FAMILY YARD SALE,

Don Mills Court, Saturday September 21, 8:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m. Something for everyone.

**Autumn 2013
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Barbara Quinn @ 301.294.6890 or email barbara@barbaraquinn.com

Rockville Police Implement Street Smart Campaign This Fall

With school now in session, the City of Rockville wants to remind all pedestrians, bicyclists and motorists to stay alert while out on Rockville's roads. As part of a regional pedestrian safety initiative, the Rockville City Police Department (RCPD) will be using the «Street Smart» campaign to encourage better driving and pedestrian and bicycling safety behavior this fall.

Police are focusing on the areas around Richard Montgomery High School, Jefferson Street near the courthouses, the Twinbrook and Rockville Metro stations and Town Center.

Here are just a few tips to keep in mind when traveling by car, bike or foot on Rockville's roads:

Drivers:

Look twice for people in crosswalks and yield to pedestrians and bicyclists.

If parked on the street, look for cyclists and cars before opening your door.

Pedestrians:

Watch for turning vehicles; before crossing, look left, right and left again.

Make it easy for drivers to see you with light clothing or something reflective.

Bicyclists:

Obey all traffic signs and traffic signals.

Ride in the direction of traffic, keeping at least a car door's width away from parked cars.

The «Street Smart» program is an annual public education, awareness and behavioral change campaign in suburban Maryland, northern Virginia and Washington, D.C. that started in 2002.



New Mark Commons

Presents

GAME NIGHT

AT THE CLUBHOUSE

Saturday, September 21, 2013, 5PM

Come join New Mark residents for an evening of fun and games in the clubhouse. Bring your favorite board or card games, meet new neighbors and make new friends. All over 18 are welcome to attend, younger participants must be accompanied by an adult.

Please contact Jonathan Smith with questions or to RSVP
301-738-0066, jonsmith20850@gmail.com or via Next Door Neighbor
nextdoor.com/join/fgawzc.

RIGHT IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD

New Mark Commons Garden Club Fall Activities

On Tuesday, October 8th, the Garden Club will plant daffodil bulbs in the New Mark Community. Participants will meet at the home of Chris and T. Chiappa, 818 New Mark Esplanade, at 6:00 p.m. Nonmembers are encouraged to join us. Be sure to bring garden gloves, trowels, and something to kneel on. Chris will purchase the bulbs and will provide directions for planting. Refreshments will be served afterwards. For more information, please contact Chris at cchiappa525@gmail.com

Mark November 12th on your calendars, also. The Garden Club will hold a flower arranging workshop at 7:30 p.m. at the club house. Flowers

and oasis will be provided (free for members/\$5 for nonmembers) but participants should bring a planter or dish for the arrangement, clippers or scissors to cut stems, and greens for filler. Refreshments will be served. For more information or to reserve a spot, contact Linda Silversmith at linsil@verizon.net.

For more information about the club and future activities, contact Rose Sharkey at rose.a.sharkey@gmail.com or 301.762.7862. Happy gardening!

New Mark "Special Interest Groups" Formation Meeting

Have you ever thought that it might be nice to get together with other New Mark residents to share common interests? For example, perhaps you might like to:

- be part of a book group, or
- play music with others in the neighborhood, or
- plan ongoing game or movie nights, or
- take day trips to various local sites of interest, or
- discuss gardening tips, or
- be part of a current news discussion group, or...



The possibilities are endless!

If you think that participating in a *yet-to-be-formed* New Mark Commons special interest group may be of interest to you, then plan to attend:

WHAT: New Mark Commons Special Interest Groups Formation Meeting

WHEN: Thursday evening, October 10, 7:00- 9:00 pm

WHERE: New Mark Commons Clubhouse

WHO: Adult residents of New Mark Commons and friends

WHAT WILL HAPPEN AT THIS MEETING:

Two fellow residents (Rhonda Gordon and Marirose Coulson Ziebarth) will facilitate the evening, asking participants to brainstorm topics of interest. These topics will be posted around the room, and those attending will gather around a topic of interest, sharing ideas on the group's goal and logistics. There will be two rounds of this process, in case participants have an interest in more than one topic. For those topics that generate enough interest, a future meeting will be planned among group members, and contact information will be exchanged. Light refreshments will be served.

If you have questions about this event, feel free to contact Rhonda Gordon on 202.744.5560.

DID YOU THINK YOU MISSED THE REFINACE WAVE?

THINK AGAIN!

GRAB YOUR BEACH TOWEL AND CALL FELLOW NEW MARK NEIGHBOR TERRYE GAMAGE TODAY FOR A FREE ANALYSIS OF YOUR CURRENT SITUATION. MANY OF YOU INQUIRED IN 2011 AND 2012 BUT THE VALUES WERE NOT THERE.

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AND

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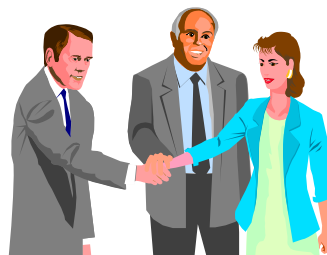
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Enjoy Autumn & Drive Carefully

