

Neighbors Helping Neighbors

Here are some tips on ways we can watch out for each other:

- Put your house number on your trash cans and recycle bins using an indelible ink marker. That way, on windy days, you and your neighbors will know whose trash can or recycle bin is laying in the middle of the road.
- When you see your neighbor's trash can or recycle bin laying in the middle of the road, place it in their driveway up next to the garage door so it will not block other drivers.
- If you're going out of town, let your neighbor know so they can be aware of anyone suspicious hanging around your house. Ask them to collect your mail and newspapers while you're away. Burglars look for houses with overflowing mailboxes and piled up newspapers as a potential target. Provide a telephone number of where you can be reached in case of an emergency.
- If you notice suspicious activity at a neighbor's home, such as a stranger peering into a parked car, someone walking or driving by the house at regular intervals, or a broken window, report it to your neighbor or to the police if you can't get in touch with your neighbor. You may be preventing a crime!

CHEF'S CORNER

By Denny Moser



Finger Jello®

Fun way to eat jello – with your hands! Use cookie cutters to make different shapes

Ingredients

- 2 cups water
- 2 cups boiling water
- 5 packages Knox® gelatin
- 4 packages Jello®.

Directions

Soften the Knox® gelatin in 2.5 cups of water. Broil two cups of water and add to the mixture. Stir in the flavored gelatin until dissolved. Refrigerate until solid. Keep leftovers in the fridge

Peanut Butter Cake

Ingredients

- 1 package yellow cake mix
- 1/2 cup brown sugar
- 1 cup crunchy peanut butter
- 1 cup water
- 1/4 cup vegetable oil
- 3 eggs
- 1/3 cup chocolate chips
- 1/3 cup peanut butter chips

Directions

Preheat oven to 350° F. Combine cake mix, peanut butter and brown sugar. Mix until crumbly. Set aside 1/2 cup of this mixture for topping. add water, oil and eggs. Mix until smooth. Add chips, stir. Pour into greased pan and bake for 45 minutes or until toothpick inserted into batter comes out clean. Let cool Top with the reserved peanut butter cake mixture as a crumb topping

Fun Night Tacos

Ingredients

- 1 package taco shells
- 1/2 lb. ground turkey or beef
- 2 cups shredded lettuce
- 1 1/2 cups shredded cheddar cheese
- 1 cups tomatoes
- 1 cup black olives
- 1 tablespoon chili powder
- 1/2 cup salsa
- 1/2 cups sour cream

Directions

Preheat oven to 250° F. Chop all vegetables. Brown ground meat in frying pan on medium heat (a little oil may be required to keep the meat from sticking). When meat is almost fully cooked, add salsa and chili powder and bring temperature down to simmer. Add about 1/4 cup of the mixture to each taco shell and place on cookie sheet. Bake shells for about 10 minutes. Place shells on plate and sprinkle cheese over the meat mixture. Add remaining ingredients in equal portions to each taco shell and serve.

Spicy Sweet Potato Wedges

Ingredients

- 3 Sweet potatoes
- 1 tablespoon vegetable oil
- 1 teaspoon sugar
- 1 teaspoon chili powder
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 2 tablespoons maple syrup
- 1 teaspoon cider vinegar

Directions

Heat over to 475° F. Cut potatoes into wedges and toss with oil, sugar, chili powder and salt. Spring on lightly greased baking sheet and roast for 15-20 minutes. Drizzle with maple syrup

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Crab Grass Control



Annual Yard Sale

It's that time of year Farmington Villagers. Start cleaning out those closets, basements and garages for the Annual Yard Sale. Saturday, May 4th from 8-12 is the chosen day. The rain date will be Saturday, May 18th.

Join your neighbors, have fun, do some shopping and best of all make some extra money.



This article was going to be devoted to water conservation, but it appears that we may end up with some water restrictions. That being a real possibility is all the more reason we should look at crabgrass control. With water restrictions, distressed lawns are sure to follow. The weaker a lawn is the easier it is for crabgrass to get a firm start in your lawn. Did you know that crabgrass was introduced in this country as a forage plant for animals by the US government in 1849?

Crabgrass seeds infest your lawn in early spring; this is when your lawn is at its weakest point. This is the time when you want to apply a crabgrass preventer plus fertilizer. This will keep the crabgrass seeds from germinating while it feeds your lawn. The best time for this area is April 11 to May 12. Also, if you have any bare spots, seed now and water heavy to get the new grass started. Do not water often; frequent watering with the onset of warm weather tends to favor crabgrass.

A dense, thick lawn provides a great defense against crabgrass. This is accomplished by regular feedings and proper mowing height. A lawn that's mowed too short will "open up" and allow crabgrass to invade. You can promote a thick lawn by mowing your lawn at a 3-inch height.

Parts of this taken from Scotts Lawn Care, Spring 2002 issue.

Inquiring Minds Want to Know

Anyone going north on Waterford Road toward Mountain Road has most likely noticed the wooded area to the east between North Star Drive and Mountain Road. I have had some community members ask about that parcel and pass on some rumors they have heard. To quell any rumors, I would like to share with you the possible plan for that area. Koch Homes has entered into a contract for the purchase of that property and plans to build there in a few years. The development will maintain the Farmington

Village look and feel. The only real difference will be that these homes will be designed for residents age 55 and over. Approximately 50 single family age-restricted homes are planned for this 20-acre parcel. It will be similar to the Crofton Colony project that Koch is building in Crofton. This group of homes will become a part of the Farmington Village community and should greatly enhance the appearance of that stretch of road. As more information becomes available, I will pass it on to the community

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

By Bill Kayser

It doesn't seem possible that the Home Owners Association has been responsible for the Farmington Village Community for two years, and that we are coming up on our second annual meeting. With each annual meeting comes the election of two new board members to replace those whose terms have ended. As you consider the possibility of becoming a board member, you might find the next paragraph of some interest.

When the board was elected two years ago, it was decided that each board member would serve as chairperson of one of the existing committees. While this was thought to be an effective solution at the time to maintain coordination between the board and the committees, recent experience has proven that the two can be separate and work quite well together. An excellent example is Pam Pully, who has been successfully chairing the Traffic and Parking Committee while not being a board member. Therefore, the board will be considering that a board member will not be required to be chairman of a committee. My hope is that this will encourage more people to agree to serve as either a board member or as a committee chairperson. I invite all to attend this annual board meeting and vote for your choice of new board members.

As you can see from the committee reports, we have an exciting year planned from the recreation committee, and several of the other committees are working very hard.

Again as always, I am available to talk to anyone, and I can be reached at 410-255-5565.

Atlantic City, Hear We Come!



Like to gamble, shop, surf or just lay on the beach? Well Farmington Villagers mark your calendars for Saturday, June 15th. The Recreation Committee along with Gunther Charters has put together a one day bus trip to Atlantic City, New Jersey. The cost of \$25.00 per person. Departure time is 8 am from the Clubhouse. The Recreation Committee will provide donuts, danishes, coffee and juice in the Clubhouse parking lot before departure, as well as guaranteed fun, games and prizes on the short drive to Atlantic City. Whether it's a get away day for one or a family trip to the beach what a great way to spend a day and get to know our neighbors (old and new). The bus will return to the Clubhouse at 8 pm. There is room for 57 people. Call Aimee Kelly at 443-770-0198 no later than May 22nd to reserve your seats. The Recreation Committee is also looking into scheduling a bus trip in the Fall to the Outlets in Reading, Pennsylvania and another in early December to New York City. Any suggestions are welcome.

COMMITTEE UPDATES

ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW COMMITTEE

Spring has arrived and many new projects will be under taken. Many applications have already been submitted in March for decks, fences, sheds, and landscaping. In order to speed the process up, please submit with your application the following:

- A copy of your plat
- A complete description of the work to be done, fence detail, stain, deck railings, etc.
- A drawing may be needed to show construction
- If necessary for clarification please attach a picture
- Sign and date your original application, copies are not accepted.

If anyone needs an architectural application or has questions please call Pat Maize at Comanco 410-793-0034 (ext. 125).

An approval from the ARC committee does not relieve the homeowner of his responsibility to obtain any permits the county may require.

Effective June 1, 2002 any improvements that are found not to have an application on file with the ARC committee will be charged a \$75.00 processing fee when submitting the application for that work. **This will only apply to someone who does not have an approval from the ARC committee.** If you have any work that has been done without an approval from the ARC committee, please send in the application before June 1, 2002.

Thank you for your response to our compliance request. The Architectural Review Committee and the Board of Directors appreciate your cooperation in this matter. Your participation helps us to maintain our beautiful community.

RECREATIONAL COMMITTEE UPDATE

Just a reminder that the Recreation Committee meets the last Tuesday of every month at the Clubhouse at 7 p.m. The Committee is looking for creative and ambitious volunteers to help plan fun and exciting events for the Community, kids and adults alike. Hope to see you there.

And the winners are....

The Recreation Committee awarded Home Depot Gift Certificates to Steve and Nicki Piechowiak of 8212 Red Wing Court and Jerry Stanley and Dawn Hooper of 8251 Green Ice Drive for their spectacular and original outdoor Christmas decorations. Congratulations!!

Traffic Committee

The Traffic Committee has continued to meet on a monthly basis to discuss potential options for slowing the speed of traffic throughout the community, ultimately ensuring the safety of our residents.

A display sign trailer was posted at two locations within the community for inbound traffic to alert drivers of their speed as they entered the community near both entrances of Farmington Village this winter. Committee members met again with Mr. Hagen, Anne Arundel County Traffic Engineer, to review study results and consider potential design measures to reduce the speed of drivers in our community. The ultimate goal is to provide the least invasive, effective proposal to assist in reducing driving speed throughout Farmington Village.

The option that was unanimously agreed upon was to work with the County Engineering Office to have temporary islands installed at each of the entrances. The islands would be placed in the entry areas, beyond each gatehouse of the community in a temporary capacity. This option was received well by Farmington Village Board of Directors and will be presented to the FV Residents at the 2nd Annual Meeting with County Engineer Hagen and Corporal Tanis of the Anne Arundel County Police there to address concerns and offer insight from their many years of experience with communities that have also had speed issues. If, over time, the option is deemed successful the islands can be permanently installed by the County. Once permanently installed, trees and plantings can be added in order to keep the community aesthetically pleasing.

Remember, be conscious of your speed and obey the speed limit! This is critical as the weather begins to break and more of the FV residents are outdoors enjoying the upcoming warmer months in our beautiful community.

CLUB HOUSE COMMITTEE UPDATE

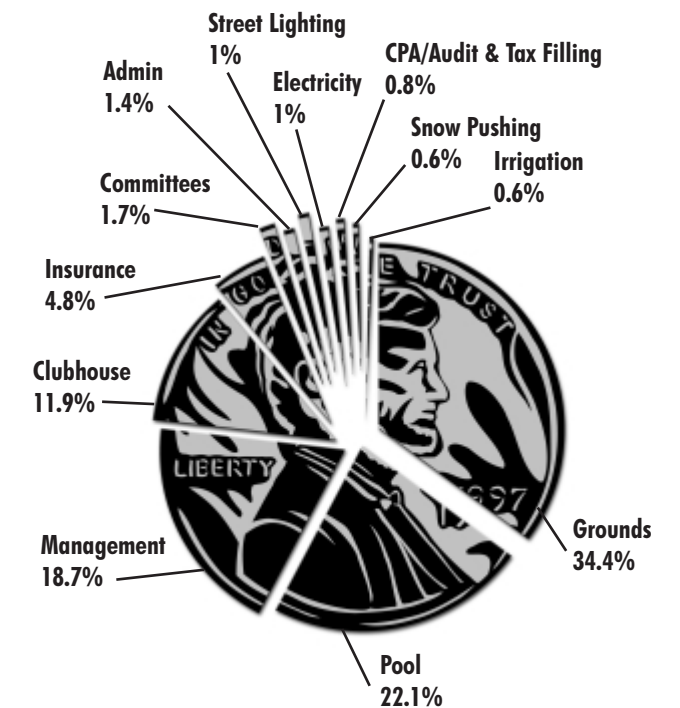
The report on the clubhouse is very positive. Based on our first year's rentals, we budgeted for one rental per month. In actuality, this year we are averaging over two parties per month. In the month of February we had three rentals within a two-week period. It is great to see the community using this beautiful facility for its functions.

Again, the procedure for renting the facility is as follows:

- Call Camanco to insure that your date is available. They will forward you the agreement and the rules.
- You will have the opportunity to walk through the building for logistics purposes by setting up an appointment with me or another board member.
- On the day of your function, either I or another board member will unlock the building, turn off the security alarm, and give you the key with instructions on how to secure the building when your function is over.

TREASURERS REPORT

2002 Categorized Annual Expenses: Tennis Courts and Taxes are both 0%.



FV Announces New Board Member

In January 2002 Robert Marlowe was elected to the Home Owner's Association Board of Directors and assumed the position of Newsletter Chairperson. He would like to thank the Community and Board for this opportunity.

Robert is aware that having a Home Owners' Association is important in such a wonderful community as Farmington Village. In the last few years in the family's previous community there was no where to turn for any recourse when the neighborhood had an unfortunate turn for the worse. A Home Owners' Association in the community is a positive and beneficial structure which Robert is committed to upholding as a member of the Board.

He is also proud and pleased to be part of the newsletter committee and his goal is to keep the community informed through the Farmington Villager Newsletter.

Neighbors may reach Robert at GL1200rgm@aol.com to share any ideas on maintaining the care of our community.