

The Homeowners' Association newsletter for THE GABLES AT LAWYERS' HILL ELKRIDGE, MARYLAND

The Docket



Page
1
1
1
1
1
2
2

H.O.A. BOARD MEMBERS

President: John Markus

Vice-President: Bob Vanhoorebeck

Treasurer: Mike Oehler

Secretary: Chris Heinrich

Members-At-Large: Brian Kelly

Contact information for all HOA Board Members is available on the Gables website: www.thegablesinfo.com

Community Calendar

(upcoming events)

► First day for Seasonal Yard Waste Collection Monday, April 4th

► Spring dumpster weekend

April 30th - May 1st (CHANGED!)

► Autumn dumpster weekend October 15th - 16th

ANNUAL DUES REMINDER:

MANY THANKS to everyone who paid their Gables' annual HOA fees by the due date of February 1st.

There are still 8 outstanding balances that we'd like to have cleared as soon as possible (and prior to our upcoming Financial Audit).

With the late fee, payment now due is **\$274.50** Remittances (by check) should be mailed to:

The Gables at Lawyers Hill Association, Inc.

Attn: Treasurer P.O. Box 8023 Elkridge, MD 21075

Next year's dues notices will be sent electronically.

WEBSITE CHANGES UNDERWAY

Now that we will be relying almost exclusively on electronic communications for conducting official Gables HOA business, the Website Committee is planning on re-vamping our website ("www.thegablesinfo.com") with the goals of

- reducing operating costs
- adding functionality (such as providing central e-mail in-boxes for Board and Committee members, and broadcast e-mail capabilities)
- improving user-friendliness and ease of navigation
- increasing and enhancing content.

The Committee is trying to ensure that users will experience a completely seamless transition (and will be able to log-on with the same user names and passwords that they currently use), but the "look" and "feel" of the website will be changing. STAY TUNED!

Trash Pick-Up "Slider Schedule" for 2011 (reprinted by request from the January 2011 edition of The Docket)

Howard County's trash, recycling, and yardwaste pick-ups at The Gables will be affected by 2011 holidays. INSTEAD OF OUR USUAL TUESDAY AND FRIDAY COLLECTIONS, dates will shift as follows:

HOLIDAY RECYCLE & YARDWASTE **TRASH** Memorial Day Wednesday, June 1st Saturday, June 4th Saturday, July 9th Independence Day Wednesday, July 6th Saturday, September 10th Labor Day Wednesday, September 7th Thanksgiving NO CHANGE (Tuesday, November 22nd) Saturday, November 26th Wednesday, December 28th Christmas Day Saturday, December 31st New Year's Day Wednesday, January 4th Saturday, January 7th

For more info, visit http://www.co.ho.md.us/DPW/holiday_schedule_inclement_weather.htm

The Docket

"IN THE SPOTLIGHT"

describes the community activities of our GABLES residents. Submissions for profile consideration may be sent to the GABLES Webmaster via our website.

IN THE SPOTLIGHT:

Howard Johnson

Howard Johnson(6241 Latchlift Court) was an active Board member for the Gables HOA during many of the earlier years of our community's life. In 2001, when an initiative for major re-zoning of the Route 1 corridor (and a corresponding plan for development of the property behind Latchlift Court) was placed on the local political agenda, Howard met with Gables residents and others in Elkridge to make sure that our voices were heard. These grass-roots actions introduced him to The Greater Elkridge Community Association, where he has served as a Board member and, since 2008, as Association President.

Commonly known as "GECA", the stated purpose of the Association is "to maintain and improve the quality of life and to promote the general civic welfare of all neighborhoods within the First Election District of Howard County".... including our home community of The Gables at Lawyers' Hill in Elkridge.

GECA holds its General Meetings in May, September, November, January and March of each year, typically on the 4th Thursday of the month. Meetings are held at 7:30 PM at the Norbel School, 6135 Old Washington Road, Elkridge, MD. For more information, please visit the GECA website at

www.geca-elkridge.org

Architecture & Landscape Committee Update

ARCHITECTURAL NEWS

- ► Thanks to everyone who submitted plans for "fixing up" items noted during our annual property inspections last Autumn. With the nice weather on its way, we've seen several homes in the neighborhood undergoing repair work and general "sprucing up". We hope that the trend continues, and that we see fewer concerns when we follow up with this year's inspections.
- ▶ Please remember that any CHANGES to the exterior of your home or landscaping should be approved by the Architecture & Landscape Committee in advance. Forms and instructions for the approval process are on our website www.thegablesinfo.com
- under the HomeOwners' Association tab; just follow the links to Community Forms.
- ▶ The Committee has received several queries about reliable power-washing companies in the area. If anyone has any recommendations, you can post your information on our website in the "Community Classifieds" section. Just go the "Contact Us" tab in the website to send your message to our Webmaster for insertion.

LANDSCAPING NEWS

► After screening through detailed bids from several area landscaping companies, the Committee has recommended, and the Gables Board has approved, a change to Oak Tree

Landscaping as the new provider of our Spring/Summer/Fall common-area landscaping services. This year, the work will include general Spring and Fall clean-up (including the removal of trash, debris, and broken trees & branches), renovating the flower beds in the community, and starting a new fertilizer and re-seeding program for the grassy areas, as well as routine grass-cutting and trimming during the growing season.

▶ Overall, the Committee is aiming to refresh our community's appearance, in part to stay abreast of the real estate market competition that we will experience from the new housing developments on Lawyers' Hill Road. It may take several years for all of the Committee's desired plans to take effect and be seen, but with the help of Oak Tree and Mother Nature, we think you'll like the differences!

New Committee members are always welcome; please contact Gail Hoffer at "ghoffer@juno.com" if you'd be willing to dedicate some time to the Committee's activities. Help will be appreciated in either the Architecture or the Landscaping areas – or both, if you're feeling energetic!