

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

The Docket



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Community Calendar (upcoming GABLES events)

Nothing at this time.

2011 ANNUAL MEMBER MEETING

The Gables H.O.A. Annual Member Meeting was held as announced on December 1st.

Meeting minutes have been posted in our community website.

Please log onto

www.thegablesinfo.com

and, under the tab for "Gables HOA", scroll down to "HOA Meeting Minutes" for complete details.

The 2011 Financial Report has also been posted on the website in the "Gables HOA/Financials" section.

2012 BOARD OFFICERS ARE NAMED

Following the election of new Officers at the Annual Meeting, the Board met on December 27th to determine among themselves the new slate of Officers for 2012.

Our new Board Officers are:

PRESIDENT Chris Heinrich
VICE-PRESIDENT Brian Kelly
TREASURER Laura Johnson
SECRETARY Bob VanHoorebeck
MEMBER-AT-LARGE Lance Johnson

Board members may be contacted at any time by sending an e-mail message to:

HOABoard@thegablesinfo.com



On behalf of the entire GABLES community, the Board wishes to extend a sincere THANK YOU to our outgoing Officers – **President JOHN MARKUS** and **Treasurer MIKE OEHLER.**They both served several terms on the Board, and their efforts over the years are gratefully recognized and appreciated.

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2012 H.O.A. Dues

Annual Assessment notices were mailed to all GABLES Homeowners on December 30th.

A copy of that notice is reprinted below, and a full copy is also available in the "Financials" section of the GABLES HOA tab of our website **www.thegablesinfo.com/GablesHOA/Financials**

If you did NOT receive this letter in your mail, and still wish to have a paper copy, please contact **HOABoard@thegablesinfo.com**, and a new mailing will be sent to you.

Both that letter and the electronic postings constitute official notifications of the 2012 Annual Assessment. You will see that dues have been increased to \$275 this year, and that there are new provisions for both early and late payments.



Dear GABLES Homeowner,

December 29, 2011

Hello! This letter is your notice of the 2012 Annual Assessment for The GABLES.

At the December 1st Annual Membership Meeting, the H.O.A. Board declared its intention to increase The GABLES' Annual Assessment by \$25 (10%, as allowed by Section 6.2.5. of the Declaration of Covenants) to cover higher expenses for common-property maintenance needs (storm damage recovery, extra snow removals, enhanced landscaping, etc.). The 2012 Annual Assessment amount is \$275.

Along with this increase, the Board has also chosen to

- offer an early-payment discount of \$25 (net \$250) if the dues are paid before the end of January
- require that the full amount of \$275 be due for any payments made after Jan. 31st but before Feb. 29th
- exercise the rights granted to it under the Declaration of Covenants to assess a \$20 penalty amount and sliding scale of additional fees (calculated as monthly increments of a 20%-per-year interest charge) on all payments made after February 29th

Therefore, the detailed payment timetable for 2012 dues is as follows:

IF YOU PAY YOUR DUES	YOUR PAYMENT AMOUNT
BY THIS DATE	WILL BE
January 31, 2012	\$ 250
February 29, 2012	\$ 275
March 31, 2012	\$ 300
April 30, 2012	\$ 305
May 31, 2012	\$ 310
June 30, 2102	\$ 315
July 31, 2012	\$ 320

Please note that these dues are not covered by your Mortgage escrow, and are directly payable by you. When paying your Annual Assessment, please

✓ Make your check payable to: "The Gables At Lawyers' Hill Association, Inc."

✓ Mail your payment to: G.A.L.H. Association, Inc.

Attn: Treasurer P.O. Box 8023

Elkridge, MD 21075-8023

A remittance form is enclosed on Page 2 for your convenience. All future payment reminders will be sent to you via e-mail only.

Thank you for your understanding and co-operation, and for your prompt payment.

Any questions or concerns may be directed to The GABLES Board by e-mail at HOABoard@thegablesinfo.com

Regards, and Best Wishes for a Happy New Year! *Laura Johnson*, Treasurer, G.A.L.H. Association, Inc.

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NEW CHANGES TO MARYLAND DRIVER'S LICENSES

Maryland drivers can now add three emergency contacts to their driver's license so police will know who to call if an accident occurs. The emergency contact information is stored electronically on an individual's driver's license and will be available only to authorized law enforcement personnel. You can go to the MVA's website at www.mva.maryland.gov and add your three emergency contacts in just a few minutes. You will need your driver's license number to complete the process.

Also beginning January 1, 2012 the MVA will no longer be sending out driver's license renewal notices. It will be your responsibility to keep track of when it is due for renewal. Your license renews every five years on your birthday. If you forget to renew your license for longer than one year, you will have to take the driver's test again!

Thanks to Webmaster Brenda Schweiger for this info.



BLASTING ALARMS PESIDENTS

GABLES residents, especially those on Judge Dobbin Ct and Grafton's View Ct, have some new "shake, rattle, and roll" tales to tell, thanks to the blasting that is occurring in the new housing construction sites along Lawyers' Hill Rd.

We have received the following information from the office of Council member Courtney Watson:

According to Bryan Kirk, Construction Supervisor with the Engineering Section of Howard County's Department of Public Works, the noises and rumbles are coming from a rock blasting operation at the Cypress Springs development off of Lawyers Hill Rd. The contractor (T.J. Angelozzi) is blasting rock in order to install a pipe outfall for the Storm Water Management Facility. In Howard County, use of construction explosives is regulated by the State Fire Marshall. HoCo DPW has an inspector on site, and the blasting contractor has been diligent in meeting the requirements of the Fire Marshall. They also use a seismograph, generally situated between the shot and the nearest residences, to monitor and control their work.

Queries or concerns may be directed to Bryan Kirk at 410-313-1899. *Thanks to Donna Smith for investigating this, and sharing this info.*

ARCHITECTURE AND LANDSCAPE COMMITTEE UPDATE

Architectural News

The results of the Committee's Annual Property Inspections from this past October will be e-mailed to homeowners later in January.

Landscaping News

- The Board has agreed to use H.O.A. funds for clearing snow from community sidewalks if snowfalls exceed six (6) inches. Notices of HOA-paid snow-blowing will be posted in the "Bulletin Board" section of the home page at **www.thegablesinfo.com**. By agreement with the contractor, we will pay only for those areas that he actually has to clear, so feel welcome to continue with your own shoveling exercise routine as much as you wish!
- In response to traffic and speed concerns along Summer Home Terrace, the Committee has contacted Howard County's Traffic Division for information about various speed control options.
 - o Our current speed-limit signage meets County requirements.
 - o The County would consider installing speed "humps" only if traffic volume exceeds 1200 vehicles per day, and only if monitoring wires show that over 10% of them exceed the posted speed limits by more than 10 MPH.
 - o The County may be willing to arrange for temporary, lighted, radar speed signs along SHT.

Please contact the Committee via e-mail at arch_comm@thegablesinfo.com if you wish to express additional concerns or have some added perspectives on this subject.

• The Howard County DPW has been contacted about the problem with the clogged storm drain at the intersection of Summer Home terrace and Lawyers' Hill Road. A work order is in process.

CALL FOR MEMBERS

The GABLES would like to start up a **WELCOME COMMITTEE** to help with new-neighbor orientation. The first meeting is planned for sometime in February.

We are especially in need of a volunteer from Judge Dobbin Ct.

If you are interested, please send an e-mail to: welcome_comm@thegablesinfo.com