

THE GLENCANNON

A Newsletter for the Glencannon Community

April 2007

President, Ron Schmiedekamp – Vice President, Dennis West – Treasurer, Dave Blankenship – Secretary, Katherine Brown – Member-at-Large, Libby Baylies – Ex-Officio, Charley Ferrara

Spring Clean Up of the Park

The annual spring clean up of the Glencannon Community Park (also known as the Common Area) is scheduled for the last two Saturdays in April from 9 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. We hope many of you will be able to participate on one or both of these days!

On **April 21st**, for those not available to attend on April 28th, we will have a preliminary clean up of the stream bed (wear boots), and the wooded areas (wear gloves). Our goal is to haul trash, fallen branches and sizable limbs from these areas creating piles of debris in accessible areas.

April 28th is our big clean-up day and we will have the help of a hired crew who will cut down identified dead trees (a continuing process from years past), trim trees of any dangerous limbs in high traffic areas, and haul away all the debris if it cannot be chipped. This is also the day for “weedwackers” to trim areas along the pathways, as has been done in the past, and invasive vine removal. Anyone impervious to the evils of poison ivy can really be used on this day! **(RAIN DATE: MAY 5)**

With respect to the fragile creek banks and animal habitats that are under our stewardship in this park area—we have heard the concerns voiced by many in the community and we plan to proceed cautiously in these areas. There will be no clear cutting or “bushhogging” along the creek banks, only invasive vine removal. And not all dead trees will be removed so that nesting and feeding places remain for many different types of birds. If you have any concerns about a particular area of the park, please call Libby Baylies at 703-938-1540 prior to the clean up dates.

Signs for Park Clean Up and Annual Meeting

New reusable signs will be available for clean up in the park and for advertising the annual meeting and other events. Signs will be put out at the park entrances to notify residents of times and dates for these events.

Park Committee

A Glencannon Park Committee is being formed. The Committee will consist of community members and one Board member. Committee members will serve three year terms. The Committee will be charged with creating a long range plan for the Common Areas and a budget for their maintenance and improvement. Anyone interested in serving on this committee is asked to call Libby Baylies at 703-938-1540 by April 30th.



New Telephone Directory

A new telephone directory for the Glencannon Community is in the works. This new directory will contain email addresses, as well as members' names, addresses and phone numbers. Homeowners are asked to check their current directory and if the information is incorrect or needs to be updated, email Carmody Bornemann at cgbornemann@cox.net or call Libby Baylies at 703-938-1540 by April 30th. For those who do not want email addresses listed, notify Carmody or Libby prior to April 30th as well.

Telephone Tree

A telephone tree has been established in the event the community needs to get immediate information out to those residents without email. Thanks to Angie Granholm who will coordinate our telephone tree.

Website

The community website will be revamped to provide the most current information to residents. If you have suggestions for specific features or items you would like to see, please contact Dave Blankenship at daveblankenship@hotmail.com

Recreation Committee

A Recreation Committee is being formed to assist with upcoming social events in the community. Thanks to Charlotte Brisach, Pamela Dion, and Melissa Mannino for offering to help. We need more help! Other residents interested in event planning or sharing ideas for social gatherings should contact Katherine Brown at 703-938-2028 or kmlowder@hotmail.com

Community Progressive Dinner

Lily Heagy had a great suggestion that we have a "Dinner Club" or "Progressive Dinner" for the community. Possible ideas:

- The Dinner Club would meet at pre-determined intervals (monthly, quarterly, etc.) at a different house each time. The meal would be potluck and the host/hostess could determine a limit on number of people.
- The Progressive Dinner would be held on one night and several residents would volunteer their homes for a dinner "course" (ex: drinks/appetizers at one house, meal at another house and dessert at another). The guests would go between houses as a group for an evening of fun!

If you are interested in either of these fun social activities, please contact Lily directly at 703-281-9226.

Homeowner Access to Board Meetings

The Glencannon Homeowners' Association Board meets the second Wednesday of each month at 7:30. Any homeowner who wants to meet with the Board to present a proposal or concern should call the president to be put on the agenda and should present the topic to be discussed in writing at least one week in advance. The presentation time will be limited to ten minutes for each topic. Any matter which will have significant impact on the community will be presented to the community to determine the broader views before a decision is made.

Speeding Problem on Garrett Street

A letter has been sent to Fairfax County Supervisor Hudgins requesting a follow-up to the traffic study which was presented at the annual meeting. The police have targeted Garrett Street as a concern for speeding and as a result they will be monitoring the speed with radar and issuing tickets. Community members are asked to help by observing the 25 mile an hour speed limit throughout the neighborhood.

Lights on for Safety!

We would like to remind all residents to please turn on your outdoor lights at night. Because the community does not have traditional street lights, we need to rely on the driveway lamp posts and front porch lights at each home to keep our streets safe. On a recent drive through the community one resident noted 30% of homes without proper lighting and brought this to the attention of the board. Let's strive to have all lights repaired and shining brightly!

Curb Painting of House Numbers

House numbers painted on the curb can help with locating a house in cases of emergency. The police and fire departments highly recommend that house numbers be painted on the curb for this purpose. The person who has done this for Glencannon residents in the past is no longer listed in the telephone directory. If any of you know of someone who offers this service, please let someone on the Board know. We will provide this information to all homeowners if it becomes available. We encourage all homeowners to get this done for safety reasons and for uniformity within the community.

Yard Debris Removal

With the onset of warmer weather, the board would like to remind residents about yard waste and debris removal. Yard waste is picked up on Wednesdays in our community from March-December. Please use the following guidelines:

- Grass clippings, leaves and twigs may be placed in paper bags, clear plastic bags or in personal containers and should be set at the curb on the day of pick up. Yard waste should not be placed in dark plastic bags.
- Brush and limbs must be cut to 4-foot lengths, bundled (arm-full size) with rope or twine, and should not exceed 50 lbs. Tree limbs larger than 6 inches in diameter and 4 feet in length will not be collected.
- Collection is limited to 20 bags, bundles or containers of yard debris per scheduled pick up day.
- Customers with more that 20 bags or bundles can call your service company to arrange for a special pick up.

Architectural Control Committee

The following homeowners have agreed to serve on the Architectural Control Committee: James Owen, Ron Tharrington, and Barbara Stewart. The purpose of the committee as outlined in the by-laws is "to assure that the general appearance of the Glencannon community remains consistent with the intent and design of the original community. No exterior addition or changes or alteration shall be made to the individual properties until the plans and specifications showing the nature, kind, shape height, materials and location of the same shall have been submitted to and approved in writing as to harmony of external design and location in relation to surrounding structures and topography by the Architectural Control Committee."