The Montgomery West Homeowner’s

Association Newsletter

http://www.montgomerywesthoa.org

# OCTOBER, 2019

**Community News**

**Fall Bulk Pickup:** The MWHOA has arranged for Ecology Services to do a bulk pickup in our community on Saturday, October 26. Your items should be curbside by 7 a.m. Bulk items would include old toys, furniture (sofas, chairs, mattresses, dressers). Do not include any metal items.

**LakeForest Mall Redevelopment:**

The Board has arranged for a representative from the City of Gaithersburg to attend our November 12th annual meeting at Strawberry Knoll ES. The representative will discuss proposed redevelopment of the Lake Forest site. You are encouraged to attend to be informed of the City's plans.

**Neighborhood Notes:**

**Parking:** Parking in our community continues to be on concern. As a reminder, the HOA has no control over street parking in our neighborhood. Our residents should be mindful of their neighbors by being courteous and respectful of others. Take a look at your street, if vehicles are parked on both sides of the street, then it is very possible that space for vehicles to enter or exit will be limited, including emergency vehicles. Therefore, watch your speed as you traverse our neighborhood streets, and always be courteous. Be especially careful and watch for any children who may be in the area.

**Pets and pet waste:**  Last fall, the HOA urged pet owners to be responsible for their pets and the proper disposal of pet waste. While there has been improvement in this area, we continue to have a few instances where pet owners are not cleaning up after their pets. Please take a few extra minutes to properly dispose of pet waste. Don’t dispose of the waste by tossing it into the wooded area along Centerway Road. If you see someone not properly disposing of pet waste, you can make a complaint with the Montgomery County Police at their non-emergency line *301 279-8000*. As a reminder, Montgomery County regulations require that all owners clean up after their pets on common and public property. Montgomery County animal control laws and fines can be found at <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/animalservices/ask/laws.html>.

**Safety in our Community:** While our community does not have a “neighborhood watch program,” it is imperative for all of us to be aware of what’s happening on our neighborhood streets. As a reminder, please remember to lock your vehicles, even if they are parked in your driveway, also it is a good idea to check and double check the doors to your home to ensure they are locked. You can never be too careful.

**Fall is Coming:**

Even though the temperatures are still rather warm, fall is here. This is the perfect time to take a look at your property to ascertain what projects you might want to embark upon before winter sets in. If you are considering any changes to your property—new roof, new garage door, new door color—please note that **any and all proposed** changes must first be submitted in application form for approval by the AERC Committee. The forms are available on-line, simply go to the HOA’s website.

Leaves are falling and gutters are probably collecting lots of dry leaves. Now is the perfect time for cleaning the gutters and downspouts. If you notice mold or mildew on your home’s siding, you can remove it by simply power washing the siding.

**AERC Violations:**

The AERC Committee conducts a spring and fall survey of the neighborhood. The fall survey is scheduled for Saturday, October 12. The survey is conducted to ensure that homeowners do not have violations of the HOA covenants (Article XI) i.e., split rail fencing down, gate off hinges, trash/tree debris piled in yard. When violations are noted during survey, the homeowner is notified in writing. In past surveys, minor violations have been noted and in a majority of the cases, the violations were corrected. In the event, a violation is not corrected, there is a course of action which the Board may pursue. Please refer to Article VIII (Enforcement).

**Useful Contacts for the Community**

*Police*

Emergency: 911

Police non-emergencies (noise, nuisance pet complaints): 301 279-8000

*Montgomery West Services*

MWHOA Board of Directors

info@montgomerywesthoa.org

<http://montgomerywesthoa.org/>

Trash Collection: Ecology Services

<http://www.ecologyservices.com/esrr/index.html/>

Recycling: Montgomery County

<http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/sws/programs/>

**Recipe for you to try this fall:**

*Artichoke Dip:*

 Rinse and drain 2-14oz cans artichoke hearts. Wrap in paper towels, press to remove as much excess liquid as possible. Chop coarsely. In large bowl stir together 1-8 oz. carton sour cream and 2 Tbsp flour. Stir in artichokes, ½ C mayonnaise, ½ C finely shredded parmesan cheese. Transfer to a 9 inch pie plate. Sprinkle with 1/4 C parmesan cheese. Bake at 350 degrees for 30 minutes or until edges are lightly browned and mixture is hot in center. Cool 15 minutes. Great served on crackers, chips, veggies or toast points.

You can spice this up by adding (to your taste) cayenne pepper.

 **MWHOA Meetings**

Remaining meeting dates for 2019: October 15

Annual Meeting – November 12

Email us at: info@montgomerywesthoa.org