



The WREporter

The Voice of West River Estates

Volume 12 Number 1

March 2006

Message from the President

By Debra Patrick



Welcome to the SPRING addition of our newsletter. This will inform you of upcoming events and improvements that will be taking place in our community.

- April 9th Easter Egg Hunt 1:30 pm corner of Plantation and Sweetwater in the Common area
- General Home Owner's Meeting April 26th 7:30pm – 9:00pm @ the West River United Methodist Center
- Annual Community Clean Up May 6th 8:00am
- Annual Community Yard Sale May 20th 8:00am
- 3rd Annual Golf Outing date TBD

If at anytime there is something you would like to appear in the newsletter please feel free to forward information to the West River Estates Home Owner's Association. Additionally, if you want to have something brought up at a monthly BOD meeting feel free to attend or send your topic of interest. If you are truly passionate about your idea please include research.

I have been made aware of some suspicious activity in our neighborhood. Examples include:

- Suspicious vehicles in driveway while homeowner is away
- Locks tampered with while homeowner is away
- Vehicle tampering in the DRIVEWAY
- Broken car windows

As mentioned in the winter WREPORTER we are having some problems with vandalism in the community. I have talked with the Southern District

Anne Arundel County Police Department about this and Officer Shawkey will be attending our next General meeting April 26th to talk with the residence of West River Estates on how we can help the Police Department help our community.

If you see any kind of suspicious activity it should be reported immediately to the Anne Arundel County Police Southern District, 410-222-1961, and make sure that a case number is given to you after filing a report.

As previously announced we are scheduling a day this Spring to build benches and ladders at the community pier. Volunteer help for that would be greatly appreciated. If you would like to help you can contact any persons on the BOD.

From the Board

Please be advised that the WRE Homeowners Association dues will increase effective January 1, 2007, to \$400 annually. Dues will continue to be billed in January and July.

It is important to note that the current assessment of \$300 per year has been in place since November, 1989, when the community was turned over by the builder, despite obvious increases in the cost of services and goods. While our current structure allows a basic level of care, it is becoming increasingly prohibitive to maintain our public areas in the manner fitting to the value of homes within West River Estates.

The increase in dues will enable continued maintenance of our public areas, as well as provide opportunity for further improvements to the community. Your comments and suggestions on desired improvements are welcome and will be discussed at the upcoming General Homeowners' Meeting to be held April 26 at the West River Methodist Center.

WREHOA Board of Directors

Covenants

Here is a list of most common covenants violations. If you have any of these please make the appropriate changes per section 6.02

(H) NO DECORATIVE LAWN ORNAMENT, NO STRUCTURE OF A TEMPORARY CHARACTER, AND NO TRAILER, TENT, SHACK, BARN, PEN, KENNEL, STABLE, OR OTHER BUILDINGS SHALL BE ERCTED, USED OR MAINTAINED ON ANY LOT AT ANY TIME;

(O) LAWN FURNITURE SHALL BE USED AND MAINTAINED IN REAR YARDS OR DECKS ONLY AND SHALL BE MAINTAINED IN A NEAT AND ATTRACTIVE MANNER;

(U) CHILDREN'S PLAY AND SIMILAR EQUIPMENT SHALL NOT BE ALLOWED TO REMAIN OVERNIGHT WITHIN ANY FRONT YARD OF ANY LOT OR WITHIN THE COMMON AREAS;

- Ornamental Statues in front yard
- Ornamental Bird Houses in front yard
- Bird Bath front or side yard
- Fountain in front yard
- Wood piles that are not in the back yard
- Basket ball hoops are not to be placed community property

Easter Egg Hunt

By Andrea Shove

Hello West River Estates homeowners, I think Spring is now on its way. So it is time to discuss our upcoming Easter Egg Hunt. This year Colleen Horvath and Johanna Davis have graciously stepped forward to do this event. They will be having it at the corners of Plantation Blvd. and Sweetwater Dr. on April 9th at 1:30 PM. I know many of you are looking forward to this event, so please remember to RSVP so we can make sure there are enough eggs for everyone.



See you all outside this Spring,

Andrea

Landscaping Committee

By Jack Mateosky

Hello, fellow WRE residents:

Spring is around the corner and the HOA will be kicking off another year of grounds maintenance and improvement.

Spring brings the need to straighten out damage sustained during the winter months: excessive standing water has created minor sink holes in one or two spots; the unfortunate tire track and snow plow damage to the turf grass will also be repaired; also several areas have become over-grown and will be trimmed back along sidewalks and paths.

As always we will have our annual spring clean-up in early May ... all volunteers are welcome!

This year the HOA has made plans to hire a more dedicated gardener to maintain the community sign areas, flower beds and mulched areas. The plan is to have the gardener make improvements to the 'look' of the beds by replacing and/or embellishing some of the existing shrubs and plant life in the seven main beds. These beds include the two at the main entrance of Plantation, two at the main entrance to Lavender, and the two at the corner of Birch and the one on Beauvoir Court as well. After the initial improvement, the gardener will visit our neighborhood four additional times throughout the spring, summer and fall to edge, weed and prune the beds and trees, and he will be responsible for a spring and a fall mulching as well.

It is worth noting that the HOA plans on paying for the new contractor with funds in the existing budget which were previously going to our general landscaper. The general landscaper will still be responsible for grass cutting and general common area lawn care, but will no longer have the responsibility of bed maintenance.

As always, please make every effort to refrain from driving or parking on ANY grass areas and sidewalks, also please work to clean up after your animals and pick up trash and litter as well. The neighborhood belongs to ALL of us so please be considerate.

If anyone has suggestions or comments please feel free to give me a call.

Jack Mateosky
410.867.3226
jmateosk@ieee.org

West River Estates Directory

By Mia Jones

Welcome to our new residents. If you would like to be included in our West River Estates Directory please email or complete the following form. We only include people that forward their information.

West River Estates Directory

To be included in the directory, please submit the following information to Mia Jones at 641 Plantation Blvd. or Miabjones@aol.com.

Last Name: _____

Family Members' First Names: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Submit your information

There are many families in WRE who would like to have a list of reliable, responsible babysitters. We also would be happy to print the names and phone numbers of teens who wish to perform services such as grass cutting, dog walking, etc. Are there any honor roll students in WRE? How about upcoming graduations, promotions, or new babies? Submit your info in writing to 641 Plantation Blvd. or Miabjones@aol.com. We would love to publish your family's proud moments.

Lost and Found

Are you missing a cat? On Feb. 20th an orange and white cat was found. If you think this cat belongs to you or someone you know please call Debra @ 301-261-9745.

Upcoming Events

<i>Event</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Location</i>
Easter Egg Hunt	April 9	1:30 pm	Corner of Plantation & Sweetwater
General Homeowner's Meeting	April 26	7:30 pm	West River Center
Annual Community Clean-up	May 6	8:00 am	
Annual Community Yard Sale	May 20	8:00 am	
3 rd Annual Golf Event	TBA		

From the Shady Side Rural Heritage Society

By Mavis Daly

MAGGIE SANSONE TO PERFORM AT SHADY SIDE MUSEUM MARCH 10

Maggie Sansone, award winning hammered dulcimer artist, will present her concert, A Celtic Celebration, at the Capt. Salem Avery House Museum, 1418 E. W. Shady Side Road, on Friday evening, March 10, at 7 p.m. Admission is \$15 for members, and \$20 for non-members, and reservations may be made by calling 410 267 0654. Coffee and desserts will be served prior to the program. Guests are urged to make reservations early because of limited seating.

After sold-out appearances in previous years, the Shady Side Rural Heritage Society is proud to bring this internationally famous artist and Shady Side resident back for a return engagement. Performing with her are Sue Richards on the Celtic harp and Andrea Hoag on the fiddle. One of the premiere harpers in America, Richards is a four- time Scottish harp champion. A versatile performer, Hoag will bring her exciting fiddling style to the performance.

Considered to be America's finest hammered dulcimer player, Maggie Sansone is know for her exquisite and virtuoso playing which brings a special beauty to Celtic music. She has been featured on CBS-TV Sunday Morning, and NPR's All Things Considered, Performance Today, and Thistle and Shamrock.

A portion of the proceeds from this program will benefit the Shady Side Rural Heritage Society's NEH Challenge Grant

EXHIBIT OF TOBACCO BARNs TO BE DISPLAYED AT CAPT. SALEM AVERY HOUSE MUSEUM

Local amateur photographers Joanne Riley and Bea Poulin will mount an exhibit at the Captain Salem Avery House Museum, 1418 EW Shady Side Road, of their work depicting tobacco barns and artifacts from them. The exhibit will be presented on the opening of the Shady Side Rural Heritage Society's Winter Luncheon Series on January 18, 2006, and will remain on display through spring.

Recognizing the fact that tobacco barns are becoming extinct as the once flourishing tobacco growing industry in South County has diminished, the two photographers determined they would preserve their heritage by photographing as many of the remaining structures as they could. Ms. Riley observed that many of the old barns were built from old lumber such as telephone poles, reflecting the frugality of the builders. She also sensed the rich family heritage of the tobacco farmers as sons spoke with pride of the work of their fathers.

The two photographers are hoping to publish a book containing their pictures and the stories they have collected from the owners of the barns. Their research project is ongoing, and they welcome any owners of old barns to contact them so they can add to their collection.

Ms. Riley is the owner of Joanne's Touch on Deale-Churchton Road, and Ms. Poulin is a Community Specialist in the County Executive's Office of Community and Constituent Services.