



LAUREL PARK PLACE SUMMER 2021 NEWSLETTER

Looking back, I see that I have not done a Newsletter since the fall of last year, so for that, I apologize. I will try to play catch-up. We have many newcomers, and in an effort to keep everyone advised and in the loop, it is necessary to repeat information from Newsletter to Newsletter. Your patience and understanding in this regard is appreciated.

It has been a very trying year+ for many of us in coping with the affects of the pandemic. Some of us have lost friends and loved ones. It is truly heartening to see things slowly returning to normal. Many of us have been vaccinated, and for that, we are thankful.

Annual Meeting:

The first ever annual meeting via Zoom was held this past December. There were a few positions up for re-election. Your current Board consists of Eddie Leach, President, Norma Hoglander, re-elected to serve as Member-At-Large, Kathleen

Vard to remain on as Vice-President after Don Jackman's departure/resignation, Bob Boyton as Treasurer upon Steve Hopkin's resignation, and myself, Marianne Michelin, as Secretary.



Social Life:

Our social life has certainly taken a hit as a result of this pandemic. The Social Committee has continued to meet periodically and hope to plan some activities as soon as possible, while keeping in mind the safety and health of all. We all are eager to get together, especially with so many new residents to welcome and get to know.

Of Local Interest:

*The *Bee Mural Project* was completed and the City of Hendersonville held a dedication on May 13. This project was made possible by community donations, and in-kind support from Burlett Painting, and will help to call attention to the importance of honey bees and other pollinators.

*The *Garden Jubilee* is back on this year on Main Street as usual, with a limited number of vendors to allow for more spacing between each. This will be held in conjunction with the Nurseries and Orchards Tour. The Main Street event will be held Saturday and Sunday, May 29-30, with the self-guided orchards tour running Friday, the 28th through Sunday the 30th.

*June 12th is *National Get Outdoors Day*. Chimney Rock Park will host a variety of events with vendors and specialists.

*The latest crop of Bears on Main Street was revealed on May 13 and are now located all up and down the street.

The Visitors Center on Main Street is a good place to check for upcoming activities.

Pending Work Around the Community:



A sink hole had developed at the corner of NPP and LPP, and this has been repaired. We are still working on the repair of the area at SPP and LPP, where Duke Energy tore up the asphalt in their repair work some months ago. Our President, along with Marion, have been communicating with both Duke Energy and the Town of Laurel Park in an effort to resolve this.

Painting of Phase III is scheduled to begin soon.

Speaking of work around the community, Linda Barat of 621 EPP wondered if any residents would be interested in joining her for a walking clean-up of the area along Pisgah Drive. She walks her dog and has observed trash thrown out and littering the area. Please feel free to contact Linda if you would like to participate in periodic clean-ups.

Landscape Life:

The word on the street is that our community has never looked better. Our Landscape crew has continued to work to improve our grounds and it shows. Our Landscape Chair, Kathleen Vard, along with her committee members, all work hard to keep up with the never-ending landscape issues.



An often repeated but necessary reminder: Our Landscape Committee has the unenviable and nearly impossible task of keeping all residents happy, while working within the schedule of our Landscape contractor and within the Covenants and By-Laws. Realizing it is impossible to please everyone, all work is done with the **best interests of the entire community** in mind, erosion control being a major issue, and keeping in mind that the grounds and common areas are property of, and governed by, the HOA.

Also, it is important to remember that we own the footprint of our homes only; the area surrounding our homes is actually common area. It may be particularly difficult for those coming from single family home living to townhome living to come to terms with the fact that it is not actually "your backyard", but HOA property. Any changes or modifications **MUST** be submitted to Worthy for approval by the Board. You may find yourself subject to fines for violations of these rules and covenants.

Residents are again reminded not to approach Zach and his workers directly with any issues or requests, but to instead convey those to Marion at Worthy.

Helpful Suggestions & Info:



*If you need someone to do some work at your home and don't quite know who to call, here are some suggestions:

- 1) Ask a neighbor for a recommendation. There are even members of our community who are able and happy to do work 'on the side' and some of whom are licensed.
- 2) Call Worthy Association Mgt. for a recommendation. They deal with multiple associations and many contractors. We, and other associations, pay them for their expertise in finding good, honest contractors for all sorts of work.

Before making blind calls to plumbers, electricians, HVAC techs, or handymen, or if you are not sure if work such as duct cleaning or other work really needs to be done, check with a neighbor who might have had a similar experience.

Remember to check out our website for lots of useful information.

www.laurelparkplace.org. Our webmaster is John Pezanno. John is a happy grandfather and he and his wife love to travel so if anyone is tech savvy and would be interested in assisting John, please reach out to him.



*Are your **smoke detectors** more than 10 years old?

If your smoke detectors are over 10 years old or chirp when they shouldn't, it's time to do something. NEVER disable them as they are critical to your safety. Chirping is usually a sign that batteries need to be changed. But it could mean the smoke detector is beyond its useful life.

Valley Hill Fire Department will check the smoke detectors of anyone who wishes them to do so, and will also replace batteries and provide up to 4 new ones, all free of charge.

*Garage Doors - A power failure can cause a garage door to automatically open and this could happen when an owner is away. If anyone is interested in learning how to prevent this from happening, please give Eddie Leach a call - 828-692-2344.

Some Hellos and Good Byes:



We are sad to report the passing of residents Lester Swink, Bob Moser, Jackie Lunardon, Mabel Brooks and Grant Morrill.

Leslie Morrill has relocated to be near family in California, Pamela Rietdorf has also relocated, as well as Gene and Pat Stines.

We also welcome new owners Joyce Catarineau of 164 LPP, the Efird family of 152 LPP, Bruce and Lori Gusman of 344 LPP and James and Dolores Asbell of 376 LPP.



Important Reminders Worth Repeating:

*Remember, grilling is **not** allowed on decks and patios. This is not just an HOA rule, but also a NC fire code regulation and is even more important in a community where units are in such close proximity to each other. You will not only be endangering your unit but also that of your neighbors. Grilling is permitted on driveways - an easy option by storing your grill in your garage and simply pulling it onto the driveway when needed.

*If there are homeowners/residents among us who are unable for any reason to keep up with any yard or home matters, let your Association know... there may be volunteers among us willing to lend a hand.



*We are fortunate to have several residents who have contributed their time and effort into beautifying common areas within our community. It is much appreciated. Always remember, though, before doing anything in or to a



common area, approval **MUST BE** obtained from Worthy or the landscape committee, which works in conjunction with the Board. This includes any modifications to yards as yards are HOA property.



*Remember to check your dryer vent for lint accumulation. This is not just an efficiency issue, but also a fire/safety issue. An ounce of prevention - always worth it!

*Live-in caregivers are permitted under the Covenants of Laurel Park Place. However, residents must register caregiver information, identity, etc. with management, and care-givers must park in that unit's guest parking spot. Vacation rentals, such as VRBO and Airbnb are absolutely **NOT** allowed and are specifically prohibited under our Covenants.



***OBEY SPEED LIMITS & PLEASE DON'T SPEED!** Signs are posted for a reason; please be considerate and watch your speed driving in the community. The signs are posted for a 15-mph speed limit. If the offenders are postal or delivery trucks, this will be reported to the responsible entity. Meanwhile, try to set a good example!



*In the interest of keeping our property and lawns looking tip-top, please refrain from parking on grassy areas, and kindly ask your guests to honor this as well. If you need extra parking at any time, check with a neighbor - someone is usually willing to "lend" their space on a temporary basis.

*Always, always submit requests for approval for any exterior changes, including plantings, railings, steps, etc. **PRIOR** to commencement of any work. Please put the request in writing. Your written request is an important matter of record-keeping for both your protection and that of the HOA.



***IT IS ABSOLUTELY REQUIRED** that owners pick up after pets when walking them. This is not optional and does not mean tossing waste into the woods! Besides being a rule, it is simply common courtesy and also a part of responsible pet ownership. We are fortunate that pets are allowed at LPP so please do not take this for granted. Dog owners are asked to walk their dogs either along the road or in common areas as much as possible to prevent spotting on lawns. It would be a good idea to carry a bottle of water with you as you walk your dog - just in case it happens to relieve itself on someone's lawn, pouring the



water on that spot can help dilute the urine and thereby preserve the grass. Also remember, leash laws apply to cats as well as dogs!!



*Trash and recyclables are picked up on Thursday mornings, often as early as 7:30 a.m. If at all possible, please put trash out that morning no later than 7:30 a.m. and it is recommended that a hard-sided trash container be used. This is especially important when placing trash at the curb the night before. Crows or other critters will tear into trash bags as they sit at the curb and it makes quite an unsightly mess to have to pick up. For recycling, collectors request that you use the blue bags for all items that will fit (found at most grocery stores, Sam's, etc.).



*And please remember - **DO NOT FEED THE WILDLIFE!** This is a dangerous practice and can result in not just annoyance, but injury! Some of the neighborhood turkeys can be aggressive on occasion. And bird feeders are an open invitation to bears - take them in at night and be vigilant if you have them out during the day...bears forage during the day as well as at night and have been seen on occasion in our community.

A Word of Humor from Your Editor: I hate when I go to the kitchen looking for food and all I find are ingredients.



Eddie Leach - President, Building & Nominating Committee

Kathleen Vard - Vice-President, Landscape Committee

Bob Boyton - Treasurer, Rules & Covenants Committee

Marianne Michelin - Secretary, Nominating Committee, Newsletter Editor

Norma Hoglander - Member at Large, Social & Building Committees

John Pezzano - Webmaster