



LAUREL PARK PLACE Fall 2022 Newsletter



Fall is upon us...personally, my favorite season. Time for another Newsletter!

As usual, in an effort to keep everyone informed and in the loop, especially for newcomers, it is always necessary to repeat some information from Newsletter to Newsletter. Your patience and understanding in this regard are always appreciated. That being said, there is always something new to report! Read on!

New and Improved Website: Webmaster, Gail Boyton, continues to do an outstanding job on our website. She keeps it very current and you can go there anytime to check on all things happening in Laurel Park Place, including social events. Remember to check it out: www.laurelparkplace.org She is always making updates and additions as she receives helpful information.

Social Life:



*Our Social Committee continues to give us opportunities to socialize.

*The coffee get-togethers have been enjoyed by those who have attended. They are held on the second Tuesday of the month at 10:30 a.m., locations to be announced. The next one will be October 11th at the Dixie Diner, with Norma Hoglander hosting. ☕

*A "cheesy" get-together was held this September in the SPP cul-de-sac, and was enjoyed by all those who attended. The committee outdid themselves, with snacks of chilled shrimp, dips, chips, crackers, cheeses and brownies. A special thanks to Jan and Lars Woodruff for providing the delicious shrimp and homemade triple chocolate brownie cookies. The committee had suggested bringing donations for the local food pantry, and many who attended contributed. Over 100 non-perishable food items were delivered to the IAM food pantry at 310 Freeman Street, and were received with much appreciation. It was a lovely afternoon.



*Plans are set for the holiday party. It will be held at the Eagle Bar & Grill in the Cummings Cove Golf Course Community. This year, it will be a luncheon instead of an evening event, hopefully allowing more to attend. The cost will be \$35 per person, with a cash bar, and the Social Committee will need to have your \$\$ and commitment by December 1. Stay tuned for more information closer to the date.

*Be sure to check the website for upcoming events. www.laurelparkplace.org

*Remember, we now have a Lending Library, which is making the rounds throughout our community. It is currently located on Laurel Park Place near the intersection of NPP/SPP. Many have enjoyed donating and borrowing books from this great addition to our community. Check it out if you are in need of some new reading for those cozy fall days.

Pending Work Around the Community:



Exterior painting for Phase I has been completed. Phase II is scheduled to be done in 2023, along with the remaining stucco work. Most have appreciated the new, updated color palette, which was chosen after consultation with a graphic designer and color specialist, who took into consideration the color of our roofs, siding and stonework.

Landscape Life:



*Like so many local businesses, our new landscape company, OKA, has had to deal with staff shortages and personnel changes within their company, but efforts are being made to see that everything stays on track. Our Landscape Committee makes every effort to stay on top of things in this demanding job.

*We would like to explore the possibility of forming of a Garden Club. Nothing strictly structured and **no one person in charge**. More of a community effort for anyone who would might enjoy interacting with others who have an interest in gardening, and also allow an opportunity to work on some of the somewhat neglected common areas, weeding and such. We are open to suggestions - if interested, give Cate McHugh (828-712-8059) or myself (828-551-6683) a call.

Board Positions:

From the Nominating Committee: We have three Board positions opening up at the end of the year. Our interim Treasurer, Gary Lowder, who stepped in this past summer, has agreed to continue in that position. We have two homeowners who have stepped up and have also agreed to serve, Jane Claypool and Elyse Meltz. A big thank-you to both. Below is a brief bio of both Jane and Elyse, to help you get to know them a little better.

**Jane Claypool - I was born and raised outside Pittsburgh Pennsylvania and I come from a family of steel mill workers. When I graduated college, I moved down to St. Petersburg, Florida where I worked for the state in a social work position. Once I wised up to the horrible heat and humidity I came here to this beautiful area and I've been here since 2006. I have a bachelor's degree in social*

work and a master's degree in rehabilitation counseling. I currently work for the Department of Veterans Affairs as a vocational counselor.

My brother and I live at 329 LPP with our dog gypsy and two cats, Sammie and Ella. If you walk by our house, you are likely to see the two cats in the front window keeping watch. In my spare time I enjoy doing embroidery and cross stitch. My Covid lockdown project was to learn to quilt and I am almost finished with my first hand- stitched quilt.

**Elyse Meltz - I moved to Laurel Park Place with my husband, Paul Weichselbaum, in Dec. 2018 after living in Syracuse, NY for 44 years. He wanted to live in a warmer and sunnier climate and I wanted to live somewhere with 4 seasons, so the mountains of NC appealed to us both. After retiring as a librarian in public libraries I have more time to focus on my fiber arts interests which include weaving, spinning and knitting and western NC is a good place to do that. After seeing many houses in the area that were either beyond our budget or required more yard work than we wanted, we chose LPP.*

Our daughter, son-in-law and granddaughter (who just turned 2) live in Canandaigua, NY. Our son, his wife and their 2 daughters (almost 3 and 5 1/2) live in Kansas City, KS. We try to see them as often as we can.

**If there is anyone else interested in throwing their hat in the ring, please contact any on the Nominating Committee: Sonya Cole, Jan Woodruff, or myself.*

Of Local Interest:

** For those of you who are Facebook users, there is a Hendersonville, NC page where much useful information of local interest is shared. You can often find recommendations of everything from hairdressers to electricians to massage therapists to pest control. This can be very helpful, especially to newcomers.*

**Cruise and Groove Concert Series held at the parking lot of Firehouse Subs on certain Saturdays through mid-October. The free event includes a classic car show, line dance lessons and a concert. Call 828- 697-8344 for more information.*

**The Blue Ridge Audubon Society meets at the Administration Building at Jackson Park on the second Saturday of the month for their monthly bird walk. Jackson Park is supposedly renowned for viewing species of birds.*

*There is still time to enjoy the Hendersonville Farmers Market, which runs through October, rain or shine. It is located at the Historic Train Depot, 650 Maple Street in the Seventh Avenue District. Other similar Farmer's Markets include Flat Rock and Mills River.

*The 2022 Bears have been in place and much photographed all summer in downtown Hendersonville. This year marks the 20th anniversary of Hendersonville's Bear Footin' Art Walk. They will be auctioned off soon and you can bid online until October 15.

*The French Broad Railroad Club is located in the Historic Train Depot at 503 7th Ave., Hendersonville. Open every Saturday from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., you will find miniature, scale model trains, and you just might run into one of your neighbors from LPP.

*Weekly Guided Trail Walks (1 - 2 miles in length) at the NC Arboretum from April - October. Walks are limited to 15 people, first come, first served. 828-665-2492 for details.

*Annual Tree Lighting - Nov. 25th, 5:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m., at the Historic Courthouse on Main St. Enjoy horse-drawn carriage rides, shopping, hot drinks and treats at local merchants, topped off by a visit from Santa. A great way to kick off the holiday season.

*Christmas Parade on Dec. 3, 6:00 p.m. on Main St. Sponsored by the Hendersonville Merchants and Business Association.

*From Nov 25 - Dec 16, merchants all over town and the county compete for the Best Holiday Window Display, voted on by the public.

*The Visitors Center on Main Street is also a good place to check for upcoming events and activities in and around town.

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. Our resident handyman, Dave Swink, is available, with reasonable rates and has done work for many in community.
- 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 or the vendor list on our website. Our webmaster, Gail Boyton, is continually updating our vendor list for our website, so if you have a recommendation, be sure to let her know.



*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. 828-692-2581

*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 welcome new owners, Mary Ellen Quinn-Zikos, of 206 LPP, Kevin and Sherry Ann McKisson, of 631 EPP, Neil and Marien Dimacali of 266 LPP, Kenneth and Jan Abrams of 120 LPP.

We also send well wishes to all our former residents.



Important Reminders Worth Repeating:

*With winter around the corner, please take note of the policy regarding snowplowing: The town of Laurel Park plows our streets, with the exception of the two extensions, one beyond the cul-de-sac of SPP and the other beyond the cul-de-sac at the top of LPP. The HOA takes care of those. Driveways and sidewalks are and have always been the responsibility of individual homeowners. Names and numbers of people to call for that service may be available from Worthy. (*I have a barely used electric snowblower that I will sell CHEAP! 828-551-6683*)

*It is the policy here at Laurel Park Place that homeowners are to address any issues, complaints, concerns to Worthy, who will then coordinate with the appropriate committee in an attempt to resolve same. This is an important policy that is unfortunately often not followed.

*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 town home living to come to terms with the fact that it is not actually "your backyard", "your tree", etc. but HOA property. Any changes or modifications **MUST** be submitted to Worthy for approval by the Board. Homeowners may find themselves subject to fines for violations of these rules and covenants.

*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: *A policeman stopped a driver who appeared to have had a few too many as he went down a one-way street the wrong way. The officer asked the driver "didn't you see the arrow?" The driver replied "Man, I didn't even see the Indian".*



Eddie Leach - President, Building Committee

Kathleen Vard - Vice-President

Gary Lowder - Interim Treasurer

Marianne Michelin - Secretary, Nominating Committee, Newsletter Editor

Norma Hoglander - Member at Large, Social & Building Committees

Gail Boyton - Webmaster