



## LAUREL PARK PLACE NEWSLETTER Summer 2023 Edition

If there was any doubt, you can tell by the rains of summer that we are well into the season. Plants are thriving; new crop of bears are on Main Street, and it is a good time to be outside now that the sun is coming back.

**NOTE:** You have only a few more days to vote on the proposed Amendments to our Covenants. Please call Angel if you have any questions at all. There is no reason NOT to vote, and every reason to do so!! This is important.

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!

**Our website:** Webmaster, Gail Boyton, keeps our website 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](http://www.laurelparkplace.org) Gail is always working on updating a vendor list of contractors, workmen, etc. that homeowners have used and have had a good experience with. These are only suggestions based on personal homeowner experiences.



## Social Life:

\*Our Social Committee, headed up by Jan Woodruff, continues to give us opportunities to socialize.

\*A few members of our community took part in an outing to Bullington Gardens on June 15. They enjoyed touring the gardens, and the Fairy Trail/Village was a delight.



\*The coffee get-togethers have been enjoyed by those who have attended. They are typically held on the second Tuesday of the month at 10:30 a.m., locations to be announced. The next one will be **July 11<sup>th</sup> at the Dixie Diner.**

\*There is a another "Cheesy" social event in the planning stages for some time in September in the SPP cul-de-sac. Stay tuned for further details.



\*The Social Committee would like to highlight the endeavors of our residents so that we can support each other. We will not publish any names without permission. For example, Janice Woodruff sings with the Carolina Concert Choir and they will be providing music at the Visitor's Center on July 4 at 6pm.

If you would like to share any event, concert, art showing, etc. that you are involved in with the community, please contact Janice Woodruff at [readknitcook@gmail.com](mailto:readknitcook@gmail.com).

\*Be sure to check the website for upcoming events. [www.laurelparkplace.org](http://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 material.



### Pending Work Around the Community:



\*Exterior painting and pressure-washing for Phase II was just completed. Now, all units enjoy the updated color pallet. Looking very smart!

\*Long overdue drainage and tree work continues to be a work in progress.

### Landscape Life:



\*Most will agree that our community is looking good. Our Landscape Committee makes every effort to stay on top of things with the unique challenges that our community presents. There have been approved improvements made to the berm at the corner of LPP and EPP; volunteers relocated the bench, installed a sturdier foundation for it, removed weeds and planted some colorful annuals. Thanks to those who gave their time and efforts.

## 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.

\***4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebration** - the day begins with a parade on Main Street. Later in the evening, family-friendly festivities include food trucks, kids' activities, two stages of live music, and the evening is capped off with a fireworks display launched shortly after dark.



\***Summer Rhythm & Brews Concert Series** - Runs through Sept. 21 on the south end of Main Street and is free. 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month, 5:30 - 9:30; includes live music and food trucks.

\***Music on Main** - Free live music on Friday nights through August 18; 5 pm -7 pm at the Visitors Center on Main Street. Bring a chair and enjoy.



\***Street Dances** - July 8, August 12 & 18, 7 pm - 9 pm., Welcome Center on Main St. This free event dates back to 1918 when the city welcomed back soldiers from War by celebrating in the streets. The series often includes traditional local bluegrass music, square-dancing, and Appalachian clogging.

\***Hendersonville Farmer's Market** - Saturdays through October, 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. at the Historic Train Depot (650 Maple Street) in the Seventh Avenue District. Lots going on at this weekly event.

\***Jackson Park Bird Outing** - The Blue Ridge Audubon, a chapter of the National Audubon Society, holds their monthly bird walk on the second Saturday of each month at Jackson Park, a renowned birding location.



\***The French Broad Railroad Club** is located in the Historic Train Depot at 503 7<sup>th</sup> 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 run through October. Walks are limited to 15 people, first come, first served. 828-665-2492 for details.

\*The Visitors Center on Main Street is also a good place to check for upcoming events and activities in and around town. This is also the time of year when local orchards start opening their door as we get deeper into summer.

## Helpful Suggestions & Info:

\*At this time of year, we are likely to notice the more frequent appearances of baby snakes, along with adult ones. The majority of them are harmless and actually very beneficial to our environment. So, instead of immediately chopping their heads off because you are in doubt, consider giving our neighbor, Eddie Leach a call. Eddie has the background and is willing and able to identify any specimen for you. Give him a call at 828-692-2344 and he will come to your place and identify and even relocate if he is available. Try to keep any eye on the specimen so that he can take a look before it crawls away.



\*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, will be 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



### Some Hellos and Good Byes:

We welcome new resident, Teresa Case of 900 SPP, and say farewell to Clare Sahling who relocated to Carolina Village. We also send our condolences to the family of Sharon Dunlop, 317 LPP, who passed away recently.

We also send well wishes to all our former residents.



### Board Positions:

It is not too early to be thinking about Board positions for next year, as two positions will be expiring. Please consider serving your community as a Board Member, and reach out to Sonya Cole, Jan Woodruff or Marianne Michelin on the Nominating Committee.

### Important Reminders Worth Repeating:

\*We escaped any snow this past winter, but just in case, 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.

\*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. Many do this very thing.

\*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 and much appreciated if dog walkers would carry a bottle of water along as you walk your dog - just in case it happens to relieve itself on someone's lawn or even common area grass; 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 break down cardboard boxes.



\*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.

Wishing a happy Independence Day to all. God Bless America!



Eddie Leach - President, Building Committee  
Jim Miller - Vice-President  
Gary Lowder - Treasurer  
Marianne Michelin - Secretary, Nominating Committee, Newsletter Editor  
Elyse Meltz - Member at Large  
Gail Boyton - Webmaster