
Kings Park West Pages

January 2002

December 1, 2001

Dear PWCA Homeowners and Residents,

The Park West Community Association Board of Directors would like to wish you and your family a happy, healthy and safe holiday season.

I would like to share some good news that was first announced at the Annual Meeting in November. The Park West Community Association Board of Directors (BOD) has reduced the quarterly dues for each household by \$12 per quarter beginning with the payment due on January 1, 2002. The new quarterly assessment per house will be \$215.00. You will see this new amount reflected on the enclosed statement.

This reduction is a result of the hard work of the BOD and our new management company, Koger Management. As you may know, in October 2001, PWCA signed on with Koger Management to provide full-service management for the association. At the same time, several of our major contracts, including trash removal and grounds care, came up for renewal. Koger Management solicited bids from competing companies in the area. The Board of Directors reviewed the bids and selected new companies that would best serve our community. These new contracts were significantly lower than the previous contracts. The BOD has passed the savings of these contracts on to the homeowners.

In the upcoming year the BOD hopes to: consider the possibility of placing an entrance sign at the Roberts Road entrance to the community; install additional lighting around the community to increase the safety of all residents; review the interim trash policy; and coordinate community activities for all to attend.

This year the BOD has made a conscious effort to keep you, the community, more informed with the actions of the Association. We hope that all community members are pleased with the actions of the BOD and, as always, look forward to your feedback. Our community website is regularly updated with valuable information. I recommend that everyone sign-up for email alerts so that we may notify you when the website is updated. You can contact the BOD by email at pwca@parkwestcommunity.org or by using the phone numbers found in this newsletter. All homeowners and residents are also welcome to attend all BOD meetings. The dates and times for these meetings are posted on the website and included in the quarterly mailings.

In closing, I would like to thank the Board of Directors and all of the numerous volunteers throughout the community for helping make this neighborhood a great place to live. We hope that all community members, owners and renters alike, will take an active interest in what the BOD does and we hope that all members will actively participate in community activities in the future.

Happy Holidays!

James P. McHugh

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President

Park West Community Association

Holiday Trash/Recycling Schedule

As AAA prepares for the busiest time of year, please note the following trash/recycling pickup schedule:

Date	Day	Service
December 25, 2001	Tuesday	No Trash Pickup
December 29, 2001	Saturday	Recycling Pickup Only*
January 1, 2002	Tuesday	No Trash Pickup
January 2, 2002	Wednesday	Christmas tree pickup
January 9, 2002	Wednesday	Christmas tree pickup

*Please note this is an alternate pickup date for recyclables only.

Note: Pickup days after holidays are the heaviest days of the year—delays will result due to the additional volume of trash and trips to the landfill.

Christmas Tree Collection: This service is free of charge and requires no advance scheduling by the resident. Please place trees at the curb on one of these two days. All tinsel and ornaments must be removed from the trees. Any trees that are not collected on the dates listed above may be placed at the curb on a regularly scheduled trash collection day after January 9th. If you have any questions, please call AAA at (703) 818-8222.

Environmental Committee Report

Community Clean up Day: several members of the community donated their time last April to help clean trash out of the common areas in our community. Approximately 600 pounds of trash was removed from the community. If you were unable to participate in the clean up day you will get your chance next April!



Tree Trimming/Removal/Planting: several trees in the community have been trimmed or removed over the past year. Trees were removed only if they were dead or causing property damage.

Trash Regulation: the PWCA Board changed trash regulations early this year to help alleviate the problem with loose trash in the neighborhood. Major changes in the regulations included:

- * No bags are to be placed out before 6 a.m. the day of collection.
- * If you use a trash can, place it out after 6 p.m. the day before collection.
- * The use of white bags is prohibited, unless in a covered container.
- * You must place your trash in a common area rather than in front of your home.

If you have any questions about the new regulations, you can find information on the website.

Eagle Scout Project

In August 2001, the Board of Directors approved a proposed Eagle Scout Project to be completed in our community. The project included the planting of 322 trees throughout the neighborhood. The Scout worked very hard to receive the necessary approvals from the County. The trees were finally planted on Saturday, November 10. The majority of these trees were planted in the water retention area behind Carriage Park Court.



The BOD felt this project was important for many reasons. First, the trees slow the water drainage so that the water doesn't have a chance to pick up as many fast moving particles (dirt, sand, and pollution). These particles, if picked up, would travel in the water all the way to the Chesapeake Bay. The trees and shrubs act as a filter for the water and ultimately protect the Bay. Second, the slow moving water allows more water to be absorbed into the ground resulting in less erosion and more fertile soil. Slower water keeps unnatural fertilizers in the grass and out of the rivers and bays. Third, the trees warm the area in the winter by acting as a natural windscreen and cool the area in the summer by providing natural shade. Finally, the area will no longer need to be mowed in the summer (saving the Association money).

We are grateful for the hard work of the Scouts and the members of the BOD and the community who helped out with this project. We are looking forward to seeing this area of new trees grow and develop over the next several years!



Parking Reminder

With the holidays approaching the Parking Committee would like to remind everyone of the community parking regulations. Cars double-parked or parallel parked more than 24 inches from the curb (not touching the concrete gutter) or parked in areas designated with yellow curbs (fire zones) are subject to immediate towing. Also, please be courteous of your neighbor's reserved spaces. Parking in another resident's space without permission is subject to immediate towing.

Finally, if you are having someone to your house YOU are responsible for notifying them of the community parking regulations. If your or your guest's car is towed, please call Advanced Towing (703) 978-7990.

If you would like to contest the tow or would like to see the photograph showing the violation, please call the Parking Committee Chair, Jim McHugh, at (703) 425-5080 between 8:00 A.M. and 9:00 P.M. to schedule an appointment.

PWCA Makes Donation To Pentagon

The PWCA BOD unanimously voted to donate \$540 (\$2 per home) to the Pentagon Fund for the survivors and families of those killed in the September 11th attacks on the Pentagon. Please keep those injured and the loved ones of those killed in the September 11th terrorist attacks in your thoughts and prayers. To show our support to our country and our respect for those injured and killed, the BOD purchased and distributed a small American flag to every house in the community.



Park West Community Hit By Vandalism

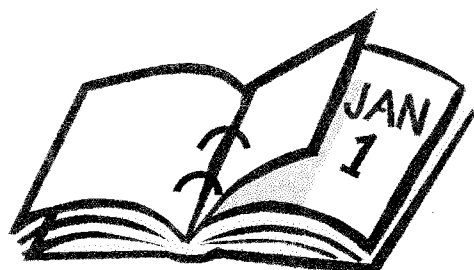
The Park West Community has recently experienced a series of vandalistic acts. In the middle of November, nearly all of the trees that were planted by the boy scouts around the water retention area were removed from the ground and nearly destroyed. The following week, someone removed the American flags that the Association placed in the front yards of the homes on Carriage Park Road in response to the events of September 11th. The very next day, the large flag that a community member generously hung over the entrance sign at Braddock Road was stolen.

We need the assistance from everyone on the community to help stop these crimes. If you see anything suspicious happening in our neighborhood, please do not hesitate to call the police non-emergency number at (703) 691-2131. The police would rather have you call and have them check something out than not call at all.

The Community Watch Committee will be having an organizational meeting in January. If you would like to join, please call the committee chair, Paul Downey at (703) 764-2536. We would like to have residents from each area of the community take part in the program. Residents that are at home during the day and those who take walks around the community would be ideal, but everyone is welcome. Fairfax County Police have statistics that show that communities with strong neighborhood watch programs experience a reduction in crime. As we are here all the time, we can be the eyes and ears for the police.

Also, the police have a program set up where they will come out and do a free home security check of your house. If you are interested in this service, please call the Springfield District station at (703) 644-7377. The inspection will take about a half-hour and you will receive a written report after the police are done.

Calendar of Events for 2002



March: Easter Egg Hunt (30th or 31st)

April: ACC inspections, Community Clean-Up Day

May: Pool Opening Day

July: 4th of July Pool Party

August: National Night Out

September: Pool Closes

November: Annual Board Meeting

December: Holiday Home/Door Decorating Contest