

ARBOR LANE COMMUNITY NEWS



April 2013

GETTING INVOLVED

KEEPING ARBOR LANE SAFE

It's no secret that times have changed, and it's certainly no surprise that many cities are encouraging, and even coordinating, Neighborhood Watch Programs. They really work! The reason they work is simple: One of the best ways to deter crime and vandalism in a community is to create a network of neighbors looking out for each other. While the Board of Directors is working with the Sherwood Police Department to learn more about Neighborhood Watch programs, here are some ways we can all work together to help eliminate neighborhood crime. Please watch out for these activities in our neighborhood and call Sherwood Police IMMEDIATELY if you see any of the following (remember—you can remain anonymous in most cases):

- Business transactions conducted from a vehicle. This could involve the sale of drugs or stolen goods.
- Excessive noise or traffic late at night.
- Someone screaming. If you can't explain the screams, call law enforcement and report them.
- Someone going door-to-door in the neighborhood,

Continued on page 2

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 Getting Involved
- 1 Our Board of Directors
- 3 Email Address Request/Spring Cleaning Ideas
- 4 Calendar of Events

OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The following Arbor Lane homeowners will be volunteering their time and effort as our HOA Board of Directors for 2013/2014:

www.arbor-lane.com

Trenna Landers, President: trennae@comcast.net

Mike Gush, Vice President/Architectural Review: michael_gush@yahoo.com

Phil Wagner, Vice President/Architectural Review: Pjwagner7@gmail.com

Ken Smith, Secretary: smithken01@gmail.com

Bridgette Storey, Treasurer: bds330@msn.com

Board meetings are held quarterly and are open to the homeowners; please feel free to email anyone on the board if you would like to attend.

DUTIES OF OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Our Board of Directors is charged with maintaining, preserving and enhancing the common assets of our Association. In order to perform those duties, our Board depends upon the advice and counsel of experts in various fields of knowledge: Infinity Property Management, attorneys, landscapers, insurance specialists, and the like.

When making decisions regarding our community, the Board is expected to consider all the facts and factors involved in the issue and make the best business decision possible. Sometimes those decisions may not appear to be in the best interests of all of the owners, however if each owner understood all of the underlying issues that go into making the decision; they would understand that the board's choice of action is usually the most practical and well thought-out response.

In addition to dealing with insurance and maintenance, as well as financial and contractual decisions, the

Continued on page 3

or looking into windows and parked cars.

- Someone asking about past residents.
- Someone who appears to have no purpose wandering through the neighborhood.
- Unusual or suspicious noises that you cannot explain, such as breaking glass or pounding.
- Vehicles moving slowly without lights or without an apparent destination.
- Offers of merchandise available for ridiculously low prices. The merchandise might be stolen.
- Someone walking or running while carrying property at an unusual time or place.
- Someone removing property from unoccupied residences.
- A stranger entering a neighbor's home that appears to be unoccupied.
- A stranger in a car who stops to talk to a child.
- A child resisting the advances of an adult.

Not only do police and sheriff's departments encourage Neighborhood Watch Programs, they sponsor seminars to help participants learn more about fighting crime in local communities. Taking part in a Neighborhood Watch program is simple! If you would like to participate in a Neighborhood Watch Program for our community, please email Board member Ken Smith at smithken01@gmail.com.

For additional information and updates, please visit us on Facebook at:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/SherwoodArborLaneHOA/>

IF YOU WANT TO THRIVE IN YOUR COMMUNITY, GET INVOLVED!

Community Association living is a very personal experience. Some owners prefer to forget that they are members of a non-profit corporation (your community association) and refuse to take any active role in the operation of their association. Others resent their membership and take every opportunity available to express their discontent and frustration. And still others embrace their community and their association and work diligently to improve their community. They volunteer their time to serve on an association committee and even take their turn to serve on the Board of Directors. And they do this, not just for themselves, but for the entire community (even for those owners who refuse to participate and those who

are overly critical).

To thrive as a member of a community association is to recognize the important role that each member of the association serves and to act on that recognition. To thrive is to step up to the plate and take your best swing. When your community's assets are maintained, preserved and enhanced, then your property values and the investment you have in your home are also protected.

Getting involved does not always mean serving on an association committee or the Board of Directors. Every time you obey and comply with your community's governing documents (Rules & Regulations, Architectural Guidelines, and CC&R's) then you are involved. Whenever you take the few minutes needed to fill out, sign and mail in your proxy prior to our Annual Meeting, you are getting involved. When you assist the Board of Directors by helping them identify owners who fail to comply with your governing documents you are getting involved. When you choose to attend a Board of Directors meeting, you are getting involved. When you read your community's newsletter, you are getting involved. Involvement has many faces!

Certainly the investment you have in your home is worth a little involvement. Community association members have a tremendous opportunity to work together in the achievement of common goals and objectives. Each time one of those goals or objectives is reached, everyone benefits and thriving in your association becomes a bit easier. Start thriving today...get involved!

TOP TEN RULES FOR BEING A GOOD NEIGHBOR:

1. Don't make judgments about your neighbors.
2. Respect your neighbors.
3. Curb your dog.
4. Don't play the stereo too loud.
5. Park in your own space.
6. Don't be a six-car household.
7. Clean up after yourself.
8. Take care of your property.
9. Keep an eye out and report suspicious activity.
10. If there is a problem in the community, talk about it. Direct conversation is more effective than sending a letter or banging on a door.

WE NEED YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS!

In an ongoing attempt to keep the lines of communication open between our Board, Infinity Property Management, and our homeowners, it is crucial that we have a current email address on file for homeowners, renters, and landlords. Please email trennae@comcast.net and/or leasing@infinitypropertymgmt.com with the email address (es) you'd like us to include in future exchanges. This information will be kept confidential. Thank you!

SPRING CLEANING IDEAS

Springtime is a great time to organize! Clearing out the house of old items you don't use any more? One man's trash, as they say, is another man's treasure! The Arbor Lane Community Garage Sale on May 18 is a great way to make a little extra cash on the items your household no longer needs or uses. Please refer to our Facebook page for upcoming details and information. Leftover items can be donated to The Vietnam Veterans of America for a tax deduction and a very worthy cause. They'll even come to you for a scheduled pick up! Call (800) 775-VETS for more information.

ARBOR LANE COMMUNITY GARAGE SALE

May 18, 2013

VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA

(800) 775-8387

www.vva.org

For some useful tips to prepare your yard for the growing season, check out OregonLive's "21 Tips to Get Your Yard Ready for Spring."

http://www.oregonlive.com/hq/index.ssf/2013/03/21_tips_to_get_your_yard_ready.html



VISIT US ON FACEBOOK AT:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/SherwoodArborLaneHOA/>

Board must also balance their positions with their role as homeowners. If assessments are increased, that means they are increased for them also. If rules are enacted, that means they have to obey them, too. Being a member of the Board does not grant one immunity from the responsibilities of living in an association. On the contrary! Serving on the Board reflects just how seriously they take the responsibility of home ownership. Please keep in mind that our volunteer Board members are actually doing "double-duty" for our community: they serve as Board members and neighbors, all while running and contributing to families of their own.

OUR MANAGEMENT COMPANY IS HERE TO HELP YOU!

Our management company, Infinity Property Management, works on behalf of our Board of Directors to oversee the operational issues that our association must deal with on a daily basis. One of the most important roles that our management company has is to act as the communication liaison between you, the homeowner, and the Board.

If you have any association-related questions, or have an issue that you would like the Board to address, please take advantage of our management company's desire to assist you and contact them. It is always more effective if your concerns are communicated in writing and not submitted anonymously. That way, there is a written record of your concern and you can be updated on the progress in resolving or addressing it.

Infinity Property Management: (503) 625-6555

leasing@infinitypropertymgmt.com



THE MOUNTAIN STORY

A son and his father were walking in the mountains. Suddenly, the son falls, hurts himself, and screams "AAAHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHH!"

To his surprise, he hears the voice repeating somewhere in the mountain:
AAAHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHH!"

Curious, he yells, "Who are you?"

He receives the answer, "Who are you?"

Angered at the response, he says, "Coward." He looks to his father and asks, "What's going on?"

The father smiles and says, "My son, pay attention." And then he shouts to the mountain, "I admire you!" The voice answers, "I admire you!"

Again the man shouts, "You are a champion!" The voice answers, "You are a champion!"

The boy is surprised, but does not understand. Then the father explains, "People call this an ECHO, but really this is LIFE. It gives back everything you say or do. Our life is simply a reflection of our actions. If you want more love in the world, **create more love in your heart**. If you want more competence in your team, improve your competence. This relationship applies to everything, in all aspects of life; life will give you back everything you have given to it.

MAKING CHANGES?

Don't Forget to Obtain Approval First!

Our governing documents require that the Association approve all proposed architectural changes before any work is started. The importance of this requirement cannot be overstated when you consider the reason for such restrictions. Membership in a community association necessitates compliance to pre-existing conditions and regulations. One of the biggest advantages of these conditions is the protection of our property values. The value of your home is directly related to the condition, appearances, and aesthetics of our community as a whole. By regulating the kind and types of architectural changes that can be done, our Association is better able to maintain our property values.

Getting our Association to approve all proposed architectural changes, from exterior paint colors to fences, is not only a good idea to protect your investment—it's a requirement! If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact either Infinity Property Management at (503) 625-5555, Phil Wagner at pjwagner7@gmail.com, or Mike Gush at michael_gush@yahoo.com.

The Architectural Review form can be found online at <http://www.arbor-lane.com/ArchitecturalReviewForm.pdf>.

UPCOMING CALENDAR OF SHERWOOD EVENTS

APRIL

Monday, 4/1 Sherwood Schools not in session
Friday, 4/12 Archer Glen Elementary School EAGLE MARKETPLACE and Fair, 4:00-8:00 PM
Friday, 4/19 Sherwood Schools Early Release
Hopkins Elementary School HOOP DE DOO Carnival, 4:00-8:00 PM

MAY

Saturday Old Town Market begins every Saturday through September, 9:00 AM-1:00 PM
Sunday, 5/5 Running Water 5K Run/Walk, Sherwood Presbyterian Church
Friday, 5/10 Mini Relay for Life, Hopkins Elementary School Field
Friday, 5/17 Sherwood Schools Early Release
Saturday, 5/18 **ANNUAL ARBOR LANE COMMUNITY GARAGE SALE**
Tualatin River Bird Festival, Tualatin Wildlife Refuge
St. Francis Friar Trot 5/10K Run/1Mile Walk, 8:00 AM
Friday, 5/24 Sherwood Schools not in session
Monday, 5/27 Memorial Day (no school)

JUNE

Friday, 6/7 Sherwood High School Graduation, 7:00 PM
Saturday, 6/8 Annual Sherwood Cruisin' Car Show, Old Town, 9:00 AM
Wednesday, 6/12 Last Day of School!