

The Spring Mills Bulletin

Volume 4, Issue 2

December 2009

Elections are Coming!

Each year we are required to have an election as stated in our CCR'S for the association. This means that three people are to be elected to the board of directors each year. A majority of the homeowners (233) are required to vote in this election in order to satisfy the requirements of the covenants.

We hope to hold the election the first or second Thursday of February at the annual meeting. At press time we are waiting for the confirmation on the time and location. As the date and time are firmed up the announcement will be included with the ballots you each will receive at your homes in early January.

Once again the ballots will be collected in advance, and all those who submit their ballots in advance will be entered into the drawing for a \$50.00 prize check. Those home owners who attend will be able to vote in person. More details on this will come out with the ballots.

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From the Desk of the President

The holiday season is near, and the year end is coming very soon. It's time again to ask for people to run for the board. This year there are three board members whose term ends. At this point I believe only one board member wants to run again. To be a board member you should have a desire to help keep your community to stay at the high standards we all have come to appreciate. There is no salary; the only payment is the personal satisfaction you get from doing your part. Qualified individuals should have had a strong background in a leadership role at some point in their life time. To have a strong board we need leaders not followers. As your president the greatest fear I have is not having strong leadership in the future. There are many HOA's in Berkeley County that have poor leadership, and it is reflected in the way the development looks. If we fail to find strong leaders, then the SMUHOA will need to hire a management company to maintain what we have worked so hard to achieve. Our home values have dropped as we all know, but they will return if we keep the development at a high standard. At some point we all must move on so, we need to get the maximum return on our home investment.

How to Apply for Nomination to the Board

By December 7th, please submit a personal resume to the SMUHOA. You can mail the resume or send it as an attachment to an Email. Let the board know your qualifications, and what area you feel you are best suited for. An example is the treasurer's position. In some areas we will train you to take over an area, such as grounds and property. After the review, qualified candidates' names will be entered on the ballot. The election

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As I stated in my main article, we are looking for leaders who want to keep our development moving ahead, and at the high standards we have come to expect. The board normally meets once a month to cover items which require action. We also stay in close contact with one another by Email.

Submit your qualifications or resume to our PO Box 421, Martinsburg, WV 25402 before January 5th 2010. Please list your name and phone number. You may also submit your qualifications to our Web Site Email address, or leave a message on our office phone at 304-274-3086. Whatever you choose, we want to hear from you. I will give each of you a personal call to go over your qualifications and answer any questions you may have.

Santa Claus is Coming to Spring Mills!

Santa Claus is coming to Spring Mills again! Last year was the first year that Santa gave us a special visit with the help of the Bedington Fire Department. We had such a good time that he has decided to visit us again! Mark your calendar, because he will be here on Saturday, December 19 at 4:00 p.m. This is such a great treat for all the community and we hope that everyone enjoys it as much this year as we did last year. Just in case the weather does not cooperate, we have a rain date of Sunday, December 20.



will be held the first Thursday of February at the annual SMUHOA meeting. We hope to have a large response.

Your board appreciates your confidence in our management of this development. It is a job that requires a lot of hard work by a group of dedicated working people.

Ed Flake, President

Snow Removal 2009-2010

Once again that dreaded season is upon us and we must prepare for the worst when it comes to snow and ice. Yes, last year I made a couple of bad calls and I apologize for that, but none of us are perfect (well, maybe a few of which I am not one).

We have once again contracted with Panhandle Builders & Excavating, Inc., to provide us with snow & ice removal service. We have a policy for this work which has been provided in the past but I feel that we should redistribute this again so everyone is up to date and complaints can be minimized.

1. We do not start pushing snow until we have at least 4” on the ground.
2. We start by opening all streets with one lane of traffic.
3. T.J. Jackson Drive is opened first by Panhandle, because they have a vested interest in the businesses on that road and they start pushing once the snow starts. Although that road is used by our homeowners, Panhandle pays us a portion of the upkeep on that road as called for in the CR’s & Bylaws.
4. Once all streets are opened, we will double back and complete the process to fully open all streets.
5. Our contractor ***IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:***
 - ***DAMAGE TO MAILBOXES***
 - ***DAMAGE TO FLOWER GARDENS OR PLANTINGS.***
 - ***DAMAGE TO DRIVEWAY PAVING NEW OR OLD.***
 - ***DAMAGE TO VEHICLES LEFT PARKED ON THE STREET.***
6. We request that you not clean your driveway entrance prior to the streets being fully plowed since during the plowing operations your driveways will have snow pushed into them as a part of the process.

Chuck Hydorn, Vice President

Trick or Treat Follow Up

Trick or Treat night was a lot of fun this year! We would like to thank the people that spent their evening keeping the roads safe while the children were enjoying their evening. Thanks to Brent and Angel Smith, Clark Catlett, Bob Ayrrer, and J.R. Arnold. A special note for next year: if you are having a Halloween party or visitors during the trick or treat time, make sure your guests know your address. Anyone coming into the neighborhood during trick or treat hours will be turned away by the road watchers if they do not know where they are going. This is to keep the children safe and to keep traffic in the neighborhood to a minimum while the children are out for trick or treat. Thanks so much for your future cooperation.

Shadow Box

Some of you may have noticed an addition at the pool area. The Spring Mills community now has a shadow box where we can display community or personal announcements. The shadow box will be ready soon, and if you have a special announcement that you would like to have displayed, you can email it to Angela Carriddo at rn0414@aol.com. For those who do not have access to a computer, please call the HOA voicemail at 304-274-3086 and Angel Smith will call you back to take your message request.

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Goodwill Drive

December 12

Swimming Pool Parking Lot 10AM to 2 PM

This is an excellent time to get your closets, and garages cleaned out. During the past two years this drive has been very successful. Goodwill can take all types of clothing, providing they have no rips, tears, holes, or stains. They also need housewares, knickknacks and other useful items.

This year they have a partnering agreement with Dell Computers to take household computers and peripherals (all brands) that are no longer needed, as long as the units are not broken. Donors are responsible for wiping all info from the donated hard drives. These are reconditioned and resold by Dell.

If you have furniture to donate, call one week in advance. Please be sure the furniture has no rips, tears, or stains. You can schedule the pickups with Cindy Trails at 301-733-7330 ext 112. The furniture will be picked up after the drive ends at the pool. Please give Cindy directions to your unit.

The Goodwill drive is headed up by the Goodwill Manger, Virginia Stotler. Some of you may remember Virginia was the manger of the development for Bruce Van Wyk, before it was turned over to the home owners.



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By now, everyone should have received a flyer from your block captain about this year's annual Spring Mills Community Dinner. This year, we have changed the venue from the Holiday Inn to the Purple Iris. Below is the menu and information about the dinner. We hope to see many of you there!

SPRING MILLS HOMEOWNERS ANNUAL HOLIDAY DINNER

When? **Wednesday, December 16, 2009**

Where? **Purple Iris**

Cash Bar Opens at 6:30 p.m.
Dinner will be served at 7:00 p.m.

Menu

Herb Marinated Chicken Breast with Mustard Sauce

Roasted Garlic Potatoes

Sautéed Vegetables and House Salad

Dessert: Wild Berry Parfait with Pound Cake, Served with Fresh Whipped Cream

Coffee, Tea, Ice Water, Dinner Rolls and Butter

Price per person: \$30.00 (Includes all taxes and gratuities)

Directions: I-81 to Exit 12; at ramp, turn left and follow until you reach U.S. 11 South. Turn right; Purple Iris is approximately 1.5 miles on the right. Look for the sign.

Happy Holidays to All!

Hanukkah: December 11-18
Winter Solstice: December 21

Christmas: December 25
Kwanzaa: December 26-January 1

SPRING MILLS WOMEN'S CLUB ANNUAL CHRISTMAS DINNER

WHEN: DECEMBER 6, 2009

WHERE? PURPLE IRIS

COST? \$21.50 PER PERSON AND INCLUDES ALL TAXES AND GRATUITIES

MENU

Chicken Scaloppini with spinach and artichoke sauce

Seafood AuGratin

Rice Pilaf

Green Beans with Almonds

Dessert: Apple Cobbler with Ice Cream

All meals include coffee, tea, ice water, rolls and butter.

Please make reservations with Arlene Orlando (telephone 274-6778) no later than Dec. 1, 2009. Make your checks out to **THE PURPLE IRIS** and mail to Arlene at her home 15 Phoenix Lane, Falling Waters. W.V. 25419. We will be entertained by the **BLUE & GREY CHORUS**.

Contact Us

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Association

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Preventing the Flu

Good Health Habits can Stop Germs

The single best way to prevent seasonal flu is to get vaccinated each year, but good health habits, like covering your cough and washing your hands often, can help stop the spread of germs and prevent respiratory illnesses like the flu. There are also flu antiviral drugs that can be used if you get the flu.

The swine flu vaccinations have limitations at this time. Only children (infant to 18), pregnant women, patients with preexisting disease such as heart disease, diabetes, cancer, or decreased immune systems can get the swine flu vaccine.

There are several things you can do to prevent the flu:

1. **Avoid close contact** with people who are sick. When you are sick, keep your distance from others to protect them from catching your illness.
2. **Stay home** when you are sick. If possible, stay home from work, school, and errands to protect others.
3. **Cover your mouth and nose** with a tissue when coughing or sneezing.
4. **Clean your hands!** Frequent hand washing will often protect you from germs.
5. **Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth.** Germs are often spread when a person touches something that is contaminated with germs and then touches his or her eyes, nose, or mouth.
6. **Practice other good health habits**, such as getting plenty of sleep, staying physically active, managing your stress, drinking plenty of fluids and eating nutritious food.

The most important thing is hand washing. Lather up with soap and water and wash all hand surfaces for 20 seconds (singing two full choruses of "Happy Birthday" equals 20 seconds).