# The Good Neighbor

June 2009



Calendar of Events:

- Jul 6th Board Meeting @ Town Hall, 6:30pm
- ♦ Jul 18th Bulk Trash P/U
- ♦ Jul 18th Movie Night, 9pm
- Aug 3rd Board Meeting @ Town Hall. 6:30pm
- Sep I4th Board Meeting @ Town Hall, 6:30pm
- ◆ Sep 26th Fall Picnic @ Pavilion
- Oct 5th Board Meeting @ Town Hall, 6:30pm



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## **OUTDOOR MOYIE NIGHT**

at the Pavilion

We provide the movie, giant screen and lots of popcorn!!!!!! You bring your chairs or blankets!!!!

Date: Sat, July 18th @ 9pm

**Looking to borrow a GENERATOR & PROJECTOR.**Please contact Lisa Baker as soon as possible if you can help.



## Annual Neighborhood Picnic



## SATURDAY, SEP 26th, 2pm til

TO BE HELD AT THE PAVILION

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR PLANNING—PLEASE EMAIL LISA BAKER (lbaker940@aol.com)

LOOKING FOR NEW IDEAS!!!!!!!!!!!

The HOA will be supplying the hamburgers, hot dogs, and drinks. We will also be providing some special treats for the kids to enjoy. Please reply with the number of people that will be attending the picnic so that we can buy food accordingly. We are also asking that if you would like to bring something, that it either be a side dish or a dessert. This is a great way to meet your neighbors and have a day of fun with your family. We had a great turn-out last year and everyone really enjoyed themselves.

R.S.V.P. to Lisa Baker (lbaker940@aol.com)





MUSIC



<u>Visit www.northcarrollfarmshoa.org or email</u> <u>Northcarrollfarmshoa@hotmail.com for questions!</u>

#### A MESSAGE FROM THE HOA PRESIDENT...Ray Baker

Greetings Neighbors! Since our last news letter, there has been a lot going on around our community. I'd like to take this opportunity to recap our annual meeting and to update you on some issues that are of great concern to our community. Unfortunately much of below is not of a positive nature.

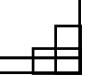
Annual Meeting: Our Annual meeting was held on May 4<sup>th</sup> 2009 and here is the readers digest version. Guest in attendance was Mayor Haven Shoemaker, Town Manager Ken Decker, Police Chief Ken Meekins and our Patrol Officer Clint Thorn. Our guest supplied us with information concerning the by-pass, future plans and growth for Hampstead, and various crime statistics for our community and town. They also participated in a question answer session. Elections were held for two open board positions. Lisa Baker and I were re-elected to serve another 3 yr term. As a result, the officers for 2009-10 will remain the same as they were for 2008-09. HOA Committee Chairman gave us updates on their respective committees and fielded question from those in attendance. Jeff Lawson, our treasurer gave a complete financial report and went over the findings of our semi-annual review. (A copy of the semi-annual review was emailed to those whom we have a valid email address, and is included with the paper copy of this newsletter for your review.) If you would like a copy of the minutes from this meeting please contact Matt Muller our HOA Secretary.

<u>Vandalism in NCF:</u> Recently there has been a rash of vandalism in our community. We have had cars painted with unmentionable and offensive pictures and words, signs removed and thrown in neighbor's yard, and on several occasions' neighbors being disrespect by our youth. I am sure you will agree all of the above is completely unacceptable. Anyone caught vandalizing HOA property will be prosecuted. Please share this information with your children as they will also share it with their friends. It is our hope that getting this message out will deter future issues.

<u>Pet owners:</u> YOU must take responsibility for your pets! The HOA gets several emails a week concerning dog feces and cat waste. Please clean up after your animals. Do not let them run free and use your neighbor's property as their bathroom. Take a plastic bag with you and clean up after your dog when you take them for a walk. Do not allow your cats to run free and use your neighbor's flower beds as a litter box. This is common sense and above all common courtesy. This is your final warning. Going forward we will recommend that anyone having these issues report them to the Carroll County Humane Society. They have the power to issue citations, fine pet owners and even remove the animal from the home. We have pleaded with you numerous times to correct this problem. I am very sorry to say now it has had to come to this. The HOA will also be reporting any problems concerning our property as well. You can reach the Human society at 410-848-4810.

Lastly on a more positive note, our Pavilion project is complete! Please bring your family down and enjoy the many amenities it offers! This project was made for your enjoyment so please use it! Thanks to everyone who worked so hard to make it happen!

Ray



#### A MESSAGE FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT...

Dear Friends,

Let me open by extending my congratulations to all of our recent high school and college graduates! Your work and perseverance over these many years will reward you well. I wish all of you the best of luck in the years ahead.

Summer is now in full swing. That being said, this year your neighborhood has more to offer! As you know the pavilion and the surrounding grounds are now complete. In addition to the structure itself, there are 8 picnic tables and 2 park-style charcoal grills. The grounds offer soccer goals, a volleyball net, horseshoe pits, and an additional basketball hoop and net.

Events of 40 or more people require the use of our reservation form. Details for reserving the pavilion, and the rules and regulations for use can be found at the HOA website. As I mentioned in the last newsletter, the pavilion is a private pavilion and is for use only by North Carroll Farms residents and their guests and intended for birthday parties, family reunions, anniversaries, etc... No business functions will be allowed.

I want to extend my personal thanks to all of those individuals that have contributed to the success of this project. It is your neighbors that have so generously supported and donated their time to make this project a reality. Those people include:

Allison Edgar, Laurie and Charlie Frederick, Mike Cutler, Lisa and Ray Baker, Andre Davis, Joyce Williams, Dave Jackson, Jeff Lawson, Henry Herr, Gerry Colman, Carl Harris, Terry Farlow, Mike Daddario, Gary Armstrong, Matt Muller, Ken Krieger, Jamie Haberkorn, and Craig Boynton. These individuals also represent many of the neighborhood streets including Flail, Harness, Tumbrell, Sickle and Upper Forde Drive, Harrowsmith Court, and Upper Forde Lane. My thanks to all of you!

On another subject, although unfortunate, since our last newsletter there have been a few occurrences where emergency vehicles have needed resident access by way of the various common access roads. This is where our "No Parking" policy really pays off. We thank our neighbors and their guests for continuing to recognize the "No Parking" zones around community. Although parking violations have been written and issued, parking violations on the access roads overall have declined since the curb markings and sians have been installed.

With this time of year also comes' more outdoor activities. The HOA board of director's receives a variety of issues through the use of the HOA e-mail address. Most recently, we have received a concern with regards to the whereabouts of bicycle riding. Please emphasize and encourage your children to be respectful of people's lawns and property. Our neighborhood looks great due to our many neighbors who enjoy the therapy of outdoor landscaping. Bicycles do not belong on other peoples' property. While the HOA cannot enforce this request, reports of property damage due to bicycles can be filed with the Hampstead Police Department.

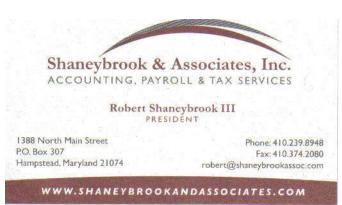
Lastly, please exercise caution when travelling about our streets as our children are now out and about!

Sincerely,

Ron Williams

VP NCF Homeowners' Association





Please support these local businesses. They have provided donations and sponsorship for HOA activities.

#### SOCI \_\_L NE\_\_S....

#### We have been busy and have had lots of fun since our last newsletter.

<u>Easter Egg Hunt</u> (April 9th) - 18 of our little ones braved the wind and came out for our annual Egg Hunt at the Tot Lot. Following the hunt we were able to be the first to use our new picnic tables at the Pavilion for juice and cookies provided by the HOA.

<u>Golf Tournament</u> (April 24th) - We had a fantastic turnout with 13 teams participating. All enjoyed the golf, many prizes and a lunch of hamburgers and hot dogs.

<u>Yard Sale</u> (May 16th) - The HOA provided advertisement in the Carroll County Times to benefit all participants. We had a many homeowners

<u>Pavilion Grand Opening</u> (June 6th) - With over 45 people attending, we had a beautiful day to grill hot dogs and play volleyball, soccer and basketball. We enjoyed the day and hop you will take advantage of the fun the pavilion has to offer.

Volleyball (June 28th) - The first of many casual volleyball games for all ages.

#### Coming Up...

<u>Movie Night</u> (July 18th) - Family movie night at the pavilion. We provide the movie and popcorn, you bring chairs and blankets!!!!! Many thanks to Carl Harris for donating the screens.

<u>Fall Picnic</u> (Sept 26th) - Our annual picnic to be held at our new pavilion. Come out for hamburgers, hot dogs and a fun filled day of games.

#### \*\*\*REMINDERS\*\*\*

YARD WASTE - P/U on Mondays Do not set out bags until Sunday evening

**TRASH** - P/U on Thursdays Do not set out trash cans until Wednesday evening. Cans should be put away by Thursday evening.

**DOG FECES** - Please cleanup after your dog. Carry a plastic bag when walking your dog.

### 2009 - 2010 HOA Board of Directors

President - Ray Baker
Vice President - Ron Williams
Treasurer - Jeff Lawson
Secretary - Matt Muller
Architectural Chair - Andre Davis
Land Use Chair - Gary Armstrong
Social Chair - Lisa Baker



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Please support our local businesses

## Great gifts for grads

June is graduation time, an important rite of passage for young graduates.

One-third of all Americans typically give at least one graduation gift at this time of year. Sometimes it can be difficult to find just the right gift to mark the occasion, but the Maryland Association of CPAs recommends these money-savvy options.

#### Kick in for tuition

Cash is the most popular graduation gift, but there are many creative ways to give it. The average college graduate leaves school with roughly \$21,000 in student loan balances, according to the Project on Student Debt. That means they will appreciate any help in cutting that debt load.

To ensure your gift gets used for this purpose, find out if it's possible to write a check directly to their college or student loan company. That way you help them whittle down their debt and remove the temptation to spend a cash gift on an impulse purchase.

#### Start them on the right road to retirement

The years after college are a great time to begin saving for retirement, but few young people do it because there are so many expenses associated with beginning their adult lives. In addition, it's often tough to take retirement seriously when it's so far away.

You can do a new graduate a favor by making the first deposit in a Roth individual retirement account for them. Earnings on a Roth IRA are tax free and the withdrawals are tax free if they are made after age  $59\frac{1}{2}$ .

Even if the graduate doesn't begin chipping in right away, you've started him or her on the right path and begun a nest egg that will grow as the years pass.

#### Get the right gift card

It's hard to go wrong giving a gift card, since the graduate can then pick out the item he or she really wants. In fact, gift cards are the second most popular type of graduation gift, after cash.

To make yours special, think ahead to what your graduate will need in the coming months, including linens for a dorm room or first apartment or new electronics or books for classes, and decide which store or online option will best meet their needs.

Remember, though, to be aware of the potential drawbacks to gift cards when you buy one. Find out whether there are any restrictions on how or where the recipient can use the card and if it has an expiration date. Ask also if there are any fees that will be deducted from the card's value. Some merchants charge purchase fees, transaction fees, inactivity fees and shipping and handling costs, which can slash the card's value in a hurry.

#### Improve their financial savvy

Whether they are graduating from high school or college, young people are facing a new wave of financial responsibilities at they enter this stage of life.

To educate them on how money works, consider buying your graduates subscriptions to your favorite personal finance magazine.

NORTH CARROLL FARMS HOMEOWNER'S ASSOCIATION P.O. BOX 367 HAMPSTEAD, MD 21074

## www.northcarrollfarmshoa.org Northcarrollfarmshoa@hotmail.com

Check out our website for the most up to date news, calendar of events, contact information for board members and other important things you want to know.



#### **BULK TRASH - SATURDAY, JULY 18th**



REMINDER : THE ITEMS BELOW WILL **NOT** BE PICKED UP

\* Tires \* Paint \* Engines \* Hazardous materials \* Construction waste \*

\* Any appliance that contains Freon \*