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CARDEROCK SPRINGS COMMUNITY NEWS

SAFETY AND SECURITY IN CARDEROCK SPRINGS

We were fortunate to have Officer Dana Stroman speak at our CSCA annual meeting. She has been with the Montgomery County Police Department for several years, and had some important information to share on how to keep Carderock Springs and our own individual homes safe and secure. The following is a summary of the main points she made in her talk:

* Carderock Springs is NOT a center of crime in Montgomery County. However, we do have "waves" of theft from time to time. This has involved a few car and home break-ins over a couple days. Nothing more may happen for several weeks/months until another wave hits. Most home thefts occur during the day, usually after someone knows that everyone has left the house. Car thefts occur anytime during the day, though more likely to happen at night.

* Officer Stroman's main point about security was to encourage neighbors to "be the eyes of the police force". She stated that because it was impossible to have officers in neighborhoods 24/7, it was important for residents to report any "suspicious behavior" to the non-emergency phone number. After a discussion on the chat that followed, I made the point that we need to make a distinction between suspicious behavior and suspicious people. It is my feeling that Officer Stroman was NOT encouraging us to report **people** whose reason to be in our neighborhood might not be known. Instead, if we witness an odd or out of place **behavior**, than that should be reported. For example, if you see a solicitor go to someone's front door, that would not be suspicious. However, if no one comes to the door, and you witness the solicitor go to the back door or look into the windows, than that would be suspicious behavior and should be reported.

Officer Stroman also talked about developing a Neighborhood Watch Program for Carderock. This would be a more formal approach to being the eyes of the police department. The CSCA Board's new security committee will discuss this in the coming months. However, I would like to say that my hope is a Neighborhood Watch Program for Carderock would encompass more of a neighbor looking out for neighbor approach than becoming a kind of vigilante watch dog. I think this would especially be welcomed by those elderly members of our community who live alone. Being a safe and secure neighborhood has more to do with

Carderock Springs Community Calendar

(All events are at the Club unless otherwise noted)

<u>Date/Day</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>
May 19	Monday 7:00	CSCA Board Monthly Meeting
May 21	Wednesday 3:00-4:30 pm	Preparing for Your Doctor's Appointment

each resident feeling there are others who care about them and keep an eye out for their welfare and needs than knowing there are people watching out for suspicious behavior. Officer Stroman shared a litany of things individuals can do to promote safety and security. These include:

- * All doors should have a deadbolt lock
- * House numbers should be clear and visible so that emergency responders can more easily locate our homes when needed. Because most of us have a mailbox in the front of our houses, this would be a good place to have house numbers posted.
- * Do not post personal names anywhere on a mailbox, house, etc.
- * Do not place mail in personal mailbox with red flag up.
- * If we have a package that will be delivered at a time when no one is at home, make arrangements with a neighbor to either have the package delivered to their home or have the neighbor pick up the package after it is delivered.
- * Always lock our cars when in the driveway. Never keep valuables in the car.
- * Don't advertise our absence (e.g., a vacation) on public media, (e.g., our chat, Facebook, etc) nor on a telephone message.
- * Use a timer light at night, especially when not at home.
- * Install an outdoor motion light directed at main entry of home. This might also deter deer.
- * Lock up valuables in a safe place. Most thieves look first in the master bedroom and dining room, looking for valuables. They will also check the freezer because many people think that is a safe place to hide jewelry. Officer Stroman encouraged us to have a written list and description of all valuables. Having pictures is also helpful when locating stolen property.
- * When we go on vacation or are away from our homes for any extended period of time, let a neighbor know so they can keep an eye on our homes while we are gone. Always arrange to have newspapers/mail held or picked up each day. Do whatever that will indicate someone is in the home, such as having a night timer light in a room visible from the road.

As part of the discussion at the end of the meeting, an important point was made that I think puts all this in a more positive perspective. The goal of focusing on safety and security is **not** to make us a neighborhood of paranoid people, always looking over our shoulders to see if some harm is coming our way. Instead, the suggestions made are simple and reasonable things we can do to make our homes safer from theft, so we can feel **more** secure and **less** afraid. I personally think this is true when we think of a "neighborhood watch" as neighbor keeping an eye out for the welfare of neighbor. How much more secure we would all feel if we knew our neighbors (and ourselves) cared enough for each other to watch out for each other. My hope is we will all take on this important responsibility.

Phil Rider, President CSCA

New to our Neighborhood

Please welcome Amie and Erik O'Donoghue, daughter Shauna (5) and son Tynan (8) to 8 Park Overlook Court, former home of Bea and Carl Goodman. You can reach Amie and Erik by email on amiebraman@yahoo.com or by phone 301-908-8147.

We are sorry to see Bea and Carl Goodman move but know they will enjoy living in Chapel Hill, N.C. where, according to Bea "the pace is slower and the climate milder." If you did not have a chance to say goodbye, you can reach on email goodmanbea@msn.com or by phone--919-967-9042.

May Senior Program

Wednesday, May 21, 2014, 3:00-4:30 p.m.

Head to Toe: Preparing for your Doctor's Appointment.

Speaker: Dr. Lila McConnell is with Internal Medicine Physicians in Friendship Heights and has special training in geriatrics.

If you would like to get a small group together for lunch at a local restaurant, a walk on the C&O Canal or maybe watch a movie together, send me, maryloushannon@verizon.net, the information and I'll get it out to the senior e-mail list.

If you would like to receive e-mail notices and reminders for the Senior Program, please send an email to maryloushannon@verizon.net.

New Members of the CSCA Board

Anne Carlson is pleased to serve as the Board's secretary. Ann has lived in Carderock for over 20 years, along with her husband Donald Goldberg and their two daughters. She has been involved in her daughters' schools, through the Carderock Springs Elementary School Foundation, the music programs, rec basketball, etc. However, she decided to join the CSCA Board as she will soon be an empty nester. She loves to garden and greatly appreciates the park-like qualities of Carderock and the people who live here.

Rob Gorman is pleased to serve as the Board's treasurer. Rob is an attorney with the US Department of Transportation. Rob, his wife Stephanie, and two children Ben (14) and Jane (13) moved to Carderock (8211 Lilly Stone) in April 2012, and love the neighborhood!

David Wahl Joins Architectural Review Committee

The Carderock Springs Citizens Association Board approved at its April meeting the addition of David Wahl as a member of its Architectural Review Committee (to serve along with existing members Doug Soe-Lin and Scot Willets). David is replacing Ryan Robbins, who will be relocating out of the area.

Architectural Review Committee's Responsibilities and Recent Approvals

The Architectural Review Committee (ARC) reviews requests of homeowners to make exterior modifications to their homes, including home additions as well as the addition of sheds, outbuildings and fences, to insure that these additions are consistent with the architectural guidelines established for the community. The ARC meets monthly, generally on the first Wednesday of the month, to consider applications for exterior modifications from homeowners.

Many people have moved to Carderock Springs to enjoy the architectural sensibilities of our community, the concept that homes should be "of the land" not just "on it;" that the homes be of a simple, contemporary design, with clean horizontal lines, while avoiding being overly decorative; that there be proportionality to the homes in the arrangement of windows and

doors and the siting on the lot; that the exterior design consist of planar surfaces of wood and brick, with expansive openings of glass, and that hardwood vegetation be preserved. The community has been listed on the National Registry of Historic Places for its architecture and is one of the prime examples of situated modernism in the greater Washington DC area.

Homeowners seeking to make such modifications should submit an application to the ARC by following the procedures set forth on the CSCA website: <http://www.carderocksprings.net/article/3/architectural-review> The members of the ARC are willing and able to work with residents and their architects to achieve individual goals while preserving the exterior look and feel of our community. Given their experience, they often can provide useful suggestions on ways to modify our homes in a cost-effective manner.

In addition to architectural review of modifications, the community has adopted guidelines for the removal of healthy, hardwood trees. These guidelines can also be located on the CSCA website. The CSCA will make available signs to be posted in front of properties that have obtained approval by the ARC of additions, or approval of the removal of hardwood trees by the Tree Removal Contact. Please contact Phil Rider, CSCA Board President, if you are interested in obtaining a sign.

Below is a list of some of the more recent modifications to Carderock homes and properties that have been approved, or are being considered, by the ARC:

- Rider-Hanson addition 8109 Fenway Road, Addition of room off of dining area
- Tave exterior modifications, 5 Carderock Court, Replace siding, paint exterior
- Gold exterior modifications, 6813 Persimmon Tree Road, Replace roof, exterior paint
- Marcus addition, 7709 Persimmon Tree Lane, Addition of master bedroom & bath
- Glaessner addition, 8323 Fenway Road, Enlargement of master bedroom and bath
- Sanchez-Wray addition, 7704 Hamilton Spring Road. Car port, breakfast room, enclosed pool addition
- Ludwig-Boeke addition, 8115 Lilly Stone Road
- Willets fence, 8009 Hamilton Spring Road, Exterior fence approved

The Carder-Eco Column

News from the Environmental Committee

It's the season....with various critters enjoying our yards (today we saw a raccoon, rabbit, fox, chipmunks, squirrels and deer all in the backyard) , birds nesting, plenty of rain, weeds popping up, Spring cleaning inside and out , and lawn and garden work. It has brought to mind several items that may be of interest to some of you who might be trying to incorporate more natural and eco-friendly practices into your routines.

All-natural animal repellent

4 eggs, 1 T red pepper, 1 T garlic powder, 1 cup vinegar, in water to make one gallon. Shake. Sit in sun for a week. Spray it around garden and on foliage. Repeat after rain and/or every few days.

Pesticides

When necessary, use environmentally friendly pesticides as a spot treatment, and not across your entire lawn and landscape. Look for horticultural oils and soaps, botanical insecticides, biological controls and beneficial insects. Local nurseries can help you choose.

Rather than spraying your dandelions with Round-up, or some other controversial weed killer, try first to apply full strength vinegar. You may have to do this a few times, but worth the effort. Use a spray bottle and Dandelion greens very early in the Spring are quite healthful, and

the flowers are edible. At this time, however, the greens are likely to be too bitter. One should always be sure that such greens have not been subjected to chemicals applied by yourself, or, if in the swale areas, present in the run-off that rolls down our easements.

A fork-like trowel will help you dig out their long taproots so that they do not reseed. Round-up is a controversial product... if you are interested, Google various environmental sites, including SafeGrowMontgomery. Just because governmental policies have not yet changes does not mean that using these products is safe....just think of tobacco! And like antibiotics, the more one uses these chemicals, the more it interferes with natural processes, whether it be in our bodies with antibiotics, or our soil with the use of excess and unnatural fertilizers, weed killers and pesticides.

Freecycling

Many neighbors are cleaning garages, homes and other home areas at this time of year. In the trash on Tuesday mornings, I have recently seen many items that still have use in them, or that can be repurposed. Before leaving them out for the trashmen and thus incinerating them, post your items on the CS-chat or on BCC-freecycle or other list-serves. If you have no "takers", then you can contact me and I will tell you the most environmentally friendly and useful way to dispose. One of our CS residents recently did that with a foam bed pad in good condition that he delivered to A Wider Circle, but I am afraid I was too late for the twin headboard I saw outside that might have made one previously-homeless child extremely happy.

Outdoor equipment/mowers

Many neighbors have complained about noisy mowers and blowers and outdoor equipment, used by residents themselves or by the many lawn and garden companies that residents hire. Nobody is pleased with this noise, whether it occur during the weekdays or weekends...we have quite a heterogeneous community and residents are here and enjoying the outdoors at all hours and on all days of the week.

One remedy is using electrical equipment instead of gas equipment. My own vacuum/blower/leaf grinder is electrical and less noisy than that of my neighbors. Our newest lawn mower is electrical and quiet. On the other hand, it does take a bit more time since one has to be aware of the electrical cord, one has to have extension cords, as well as an outdoor or otherwise convenient outlet.

I have secured a second electrical mower with extension cord and instructions, and would like to offer it if any residents would like to try it out, should they want to consider purchasing one. My husband John can give you pointers on how to use it. However, I am looking for a volunteer who would coordinate this for me, and who would ideally have tried ours and is aware of the details needed to use it. Please contact me directly (dianekarlik@verizon.net) if you would like to borrow it, but especially if you would like to coordinate this for me by housing the mower at your home and keeping track of those who borrow it. I am unable to coordinate this myself on an on-going basis.

In the meantime, enjoy this lovely Spring. It seems that everything opened after the recent rains. Once things dry up, do not forget to provide water for the birds and little critters, changing it every few days so that it does not attract insects and their larvae. All one needs is a flower pot saucer, shallow bowl, trash can top, etc. The birds have plenty of food, but water is not always available.

Diane Karlik, CSCA environmental committee chair

Classified

Cabin John Dog Walking: Midday walks to keep your pets happy and healthy. Many happy Cabin John and Carderock pet owners and their pets will happily give their recommendations. Call Carolyn at 240-204-2953.

Looking For Rental: Do you have more space in your home than you need? Empty nester or travel frequently and don't want to leave the house unattended? You could rent that extra space! Cabin John renter for many years is looking for private space with private bath. Impeccable references, including current landlord for the past three years. Quiet, dependable and considerate. Please email Carolyn at: cdcabinjohn@gmail.com or call (240) 204-2953

Donations of Soccer Gear for Honduran Children: My name is Alexander Oshinsky, I have lived in Carderock my entire life and have been a part of both the swim and dive teams and the tennis team over the years. I also worked at the club for many years doing everything from buildings and grounds to the front desk to the snack bar. For the past three years though I have gone to Honduras on a medical mission trip with the Virginia Medical Brigade. Over the course of a week the brigade helps approximately 3,000 people. Last year I got to play soccer with some of the children in one of the remote villages that we travel to. What I found was that not only did they not have an actual ball to play with but most of them didn't have shoes, needless to say the field they were playing on was not safe to be running around barefoot on. As a result I have taken it upon myself to collect used soccer gear (balls, cleats, shoes, shin guards, shirts, shorts, nets...) to bring down to Honduras with me when I go this year in November. If you do not have gear that you want to donate but you want to get involved you can also provide a monetary donation that I will use to buy new gear to bring down. If you would like to donate gear or get involved you can send me an email at oshinsa@hotmail.com or reach me on my cell phone at 240-731-1686. Thank you.

Carderock Springs Board Members

Phil Rider	President
Jack Orrick	Vice President
Donna Schwartz	Secretary
Rob Gorman	Treasurer
Barbara Ames	Membership
Larry Ondrejko	Member-at-Large
Anne Carlson	Member-at-Large
Bill Moore	Member-at-Large
Noëlle F. Lewis	Newsletter Editor
Doug Soe-Lin, Scott Wilets, David Wahl	Architectural Review Committee

Residents of Carderock Springs and surrounding areas may join the Citizens Association for an annual due of \$50 for a membership year ending December 31, 2014. Dues and family information for the Carderock Springs telephone directory may be mailed to the Carderock Springs Citizens' Association at P.O. Box 237, Cabin John, MD 20818-0237. Our Association represents the Carderock Springs community and implements its land covenants.