

The Meadow Lark

A Monthly Publication by and for the Residents of The Meadows, a Family Condominium Community

President's Corner

Community Clean-Up Performed

Hello fellow residents!

On Saturday morning, June 3, myself and a few other kind residents met up to take part in a community cleanup effort sponsored by Clean Fairfax, a non-profit group whose mission is to encourage environmental stewardship and urban sustainability in Fairfax County through education, programming and community involvement. Clean Fairfax had reached out to the office a few weeks ago regarding the stream located at the end of our community by Golden Oak. Of course, the Board unanimously agreed to participate!

Within minutes of my arrival at the basketball court behind Golden Oak, myself, the other community volunteers and Wendy, a Clean Fairfax Program Manager, jumped right in to pick up trash that has built up near the sewer drain next to the basketball court. On the surface, we could see that there was a good deal of trash there, but as we started putting things in trash bags, it seemed as though the pile never ended! Bottle, cans, blankets, toys, food wrappers, etc. However, after two hours and many trash bags later, the area showed complete transformation!

I'd like to thank Wendy for reaching out to our community to host this wonderful event! Not only was this a great way to clean up our community, this short 2-hour event raised awareness regarding the impact of trash in our water systems.

Lastly, I want to thank the residents that participated in the event and those who stopped by to donate snacks and water! Without your help and support, the focus area behind Golden Oak would not have turned out as wonderful as it did. On behalf of the Board of Directors, thank you for your help that Saturday!

If anyone has any interest in setting up additional cleanup events in our community or area, feel free to contact the office! For more information on Clean Fairfax, please visit their website: www.cleanfairfax.org.

~ Eric Sokolowski



Meadows Day
July 22 | 5-11 PM

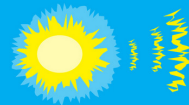
Sixth Annual Meadows Day, July 22

Please plan to attend the Sixth Annual "Meadows Day", which will be held on Saturday, July 22. This annual celebration will be start at 5:00 PM at the pool and in front of the clubhouse and last until the end of the movie at about 11:00 PM. Food for all residents will be available inside the pool area and there will also be free activities, a moonbounce and games outside the clubhouse on Strasburg Drive.

Please note that Strasburg Drive will be closed to traffic between Avocado and Cool Oak during this celebration. Food is expected to include hot dogs, chicken, pizza and some sides as well as soft drinks. The pool will close at 8:00 PM as usual and the fun will move outside. There will be a raffle prior to the movie, which will start around 8:45 PM, or as soon as it is dark enough. Popcorn will be provided for movie goers. The movie will be *Sing*.

Come out and bring your neighbors for this once-a-year community activity.

JULY



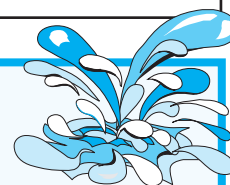
Board of Directors Meeting: Thursday, July 20, 2017, 7:30 PM in the Clubhouse. Residents and Co-Owners are encouraged to attend. Agendas are posted online and at the Clubhouse on the Tuesday before the meeting. Minutes available upon request at The Meadows office and online at mymeadows.net.

Adopt-a-Highway: Sat., July 8, 9 AM

Meadows Day: Sat., July 22, 5-11 PM

Residents and Co-Owners are welcomed and encouraged to attend any committee meeting. Meetings are held in the Clubhouse.

Pool Hours:



July 1 – September 4

Monday–Thursday Noon – 8 PM

Friday–Sunday 11 AM – 8 PM

Holidays

Independence Day 11 AM – 6 PM

Labor Day 11 AM – 8 PM

No Charcoal Grills

Everyone is reminded that due to insurance requirements charcoal grills are not allowed anywhere within The Meadows. You may use your propane grills for holiday and other cookouts, but please do so responsibly – keep the grill as far away from the walls of your unit as possible.

Noise Reminder

In the summer months we all like to spend time outside to enjoy the warm weather and socialize with our friends and neighbors. It is important to remember that we need to minimize disturbances to others even when we are outdoors. Loud music and boisterous conversations can create a lot of unwanted noise for others. Residents of upper units need to be especially careful of heavy walking and running in their units in the late and overnight hours.

Please remind children to be respectful of others while playing. Avoid rowdy horseplay and loud games near windows and patios, never use items from neighbor's porches or patios and do not bounce balls on the exterior of the buildings.

Adopt-a-Highway

Volunteers are needed for an Adopt-a-Highway trash pick-up along St. Germain to be conducted on Saturday, July 8 at 9 AM. Meet at the clubhouse.



Keep the Lights On!

In order to promote safety in our neighborhood, everyone is reminded to leave your porch lights on, both front and rear. Generally, criminals like to operate in the dark, so the more light that is present, the less likely they will be to strike in that area.

Although we are blessed to have street lights, they cannot provide full light everywhere. If all units keep their porch lights on, the level of light in the community will be much more of a crime deterrent.

Board of Directors Motions

At the June 15 Meeting:

- Passed a motion to approve an Architectural Review Form for a new front door.
- Passed a motion relating to an Architectural Review Form to approve an herb garden and placement of a bakers rack only on a patio and deny a request to plant in the area where air conditioning units may be installed.
- Passed a motion to accept a bid of \$21,106 from KGS for waterproofing both sides of a unit.
- Passed a motion to accept a bid from Bright View of \$344 to remove a tree that is too close to a building and replace it with a shrub.
- Passed a motion to purchase an additional pet station at a maximum cost of \$400.
- Passed a motion to allow a resident to use a car cover.
- Passed a motion to grant a parking exception once all requirements are met.
- Passed a motion to approve the draft Reserve Study.
- Passed a motion to accept a bid from Bright View of \$288.21 for replacement shrubs.
- Passed a motion to make one change to the proposed renewal contract for property management.

COMPLETE MINUTES OF BOARD MEETINGS
AVAILABLE AT THE OFFICE

Parking in The Meadows

As a reminder, any vehicle parked on Meadows property must display a valid parking permit. The acceptable forms of a permit can either be a Meadows parking sticker, a green Visitor hang tag, or a red Frequent Visitor hang tag. For details on our parking rules and regulations, please feel free to contact The Meadows office, or refer to the 2017 Meadows Rules and Regulations, Section X: Rules Governing Motor Vehicles.

Security Totals

May 15 – June 14, 2017

Calls for service and/or situations involving or requiring security assistance, by street:

Avocado Court:	0
Cool Oak Lane:	5
Golden Oak Court/Road:	13
Rustling Leaves Lane:	1
Saguaro Place:	4
Saint Germain Drive:	12
Strasburg Drive:	16
Turin Lane:	1
Vehicles Ticketed:	65
Vehicles Towed:	9
Calls referred to FCPD/FCFD:	6

The Meadows



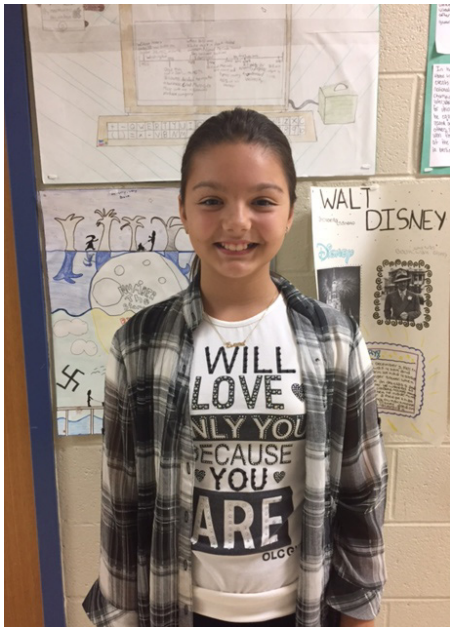
Fire Regulations

- Kerosene, or any fuel heaters, are forbidden by Meadows regulations.
- Residents should not store combustibles in furnace rooms. It is a serious fire hazard and is against County and Meadows regulations.
- Smoke detectors are required on *each level* of homes in The Meadows.
- Charcoal grills are prohibited on The Meadows property.
- Residents should maintain a fire extinguisher in their units. It should be rated at least 2A:10BC.



Carbon Monoxide Detectors

The furnaces and most hot water heaters in The Meadows use gas. It is imperative that all homes have a working carbon monoxide detector. Carbon monoxide is a colorless and odorless gas which can cause death.



Meadows Outstanding Student

Evona Dimova

Each school year the community recognizes the outstanding sixth grade student from Centre Ridge Elementary School who resides in The Meadows. This award has been presented since 1979.

This year's recipient of the Outstanding Student award is Evona Dimova. She has lived in The Meadows her entire life with her parents and has a younger sister. She was an A-B student whose favorite subject is Language Arts. While at Centre Ridge she was involved in chorus and strings as well as being an SCA Representative. She enjoys gymnastics and being with her family and friends.

In the fall she will be attending Liberty Middle School, she says that she is "excited and nervous but looking forward to it." Congratulations to Evona.

Meadows 46th Birthday!

The Meadows opened in July 1971 in what at the time was a very rural area. In the forty-six years since the Centreville area has been built into an urbanized suburb.

Happy Birthday to our community.

Tip From Security

Summer is here and people will be out enjoying the weather, cook outs, and family gatherings. As a reminder, it is illegal to offer or consume alcoholic beverages in a public setting (VA Code 4.1-308). This includes your porches, patios, and all common areas of The Meadows. Also, if you are outside and have had too much to drink you could be in violation of the "Public Intoxication" law (VA Code 18.2-388). It is important for residents to share this information with their guests as non-residents of The Meadows may also be issued a trespassing ban if they are found in violation of either of the two aforementioned Codes as these violate Meadows rules under Section V, Rules Governing Behavior; Rule 1: *No noxious or offensive activities shall be conducted in or about any unit, the common elements, or vehicle parked on The Meadows property; nor shall anything be done or be permitted to remain in or about any unit or vehicle parked on property which may reasonably be or become a nuisance or annoyance to any other residents.*

Please enjoy your summer. Be mindful of neighbors and drink responsibly if you choose to do so, and keep your drinks inside your homes.

Vacant Seat on the Board of Directors

We currently have an open seat on the Board of Directors. If you are interested in investing your skills, talents and time into your community, then the Board would like to talk with you! To be considered for appointment to this seat you must be a co-owner and your account must be in good standing. The Board meets on the third Thursday evening of every month with a few work sessions or special meetings/events throughout the year. If you meet these requirements and are interested in serving, please drop an email to brooke.themeadows@verizon.net or stop by the Management Office to complete an application.

Photos from Community Clean-Up on June 3



Trash Removed from Creek

Council of Co-Owners
The Meadows
6100 Strasburg Drive
Centreville, VA 20121

The Meadow Lark is published each month exclusively for the benefit of the residents and owners of The Meadows. It is the official publication of the Council of Co-Owners and is under the purview of the Board of Directors. News items, personal ads, and such are welcomed and should be placed in the large mailbox in front of the Clubhouse, emailed to meadowsoffice@verizon.net or faxed to 703-815-0755. The deadline is the 20th of each month. Personal ads must be 25 words or less, on 8½x11-inch paper. Include your name, Meadows address, and telephone number. They must be renewed each month. The Meadows does not endorse any advertisers.

EDITORS: Bill Liedtke and Joan Orvis

Meadows Office
Monday–Friday, 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM
Phone: 703-830-4464
Fax: 703-815-0755
E-Mail: meadowsoffice@verizon.net
Website: mymeadows.net

24-Hour EMERGENCY ONLY
Service First: 1-888-980-8958

Security
703-628-9481

Towing
Battlefield Towing: 703-378-0059

AAA/Republic Services
703-818-8222
Call for special pick up, Thursdays only

Remodeling?

Any desired changes to the exterior or interior of your unit must be submitted on an ARF or Request for Interior Alteration form to the Board of Directors for approval **PRIOR** to the change being done.

A/C UNITS

If you replace your air conditioning unit, you may install it inside your utility room or submit an ARF for proposed exterior installation.

Satellite Dishes in The Meadows



Requirements for Installing Exterior HVAC Units

Recent EPA changes in air conditioning and heating standards have made future maintenance and availability of interior HVAC units much more difficult. While there should be no problem maintaining an existing interior unit for the rest of its useful life, units installed in the near future will have difficulty finding a machine that will fit into the utility closet and obtaining the refrigerant for these units will become pricey. Eventually, the refrigerant currently used will no longer be available and these units will not be able to be recharged.

As a result of these changes, The Meadows Board of Directors has reconsidered allowing HVAC units to be installed on the Common Elements. Going forward, Co-Owner's who would like to install an HVAC unit on the grounds will need to follow the steps below:

- Any Co-Owner wishing to install an HVAC unit on the Common Elements must submit their request in writing to the Management Office.
- Once a request is received an appointment will be made for The Meadows Maintenance Supervisor to meet with the Co-Owner and/or the Co-Owner's HVAC contractor to review the specifications and provide detailed requirements for the installation.
- After this meeting the Co-Owner must submit a completed Architectural Review Form (ARF) outlining the agreed upon details of the proposed installation, an Installation Agreement and a copy of the contractor's license. The Board of Directors will then review the documents and make a determination on whether or not to approve the installation.

REMEMBER:

ANY HVAC UNIT INSTALLED ON THE COMMON ELEMENTS WITHOUT WRITTEN BOARD APPROVAL MAY BE REQUIRED TO BE REMOVED AT THE CO-OWNER'S EXPENSE.

Meadows Website www.mymeadows.net