

FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS

Constant Friendship Home Owners Association Newsletter

Winter 2010 /2011

Santa Claus is coming to town

Be sure to stop out and see Santa Claus on Saturday, December 18 between 1pm – 4pm. This year, Santa will be traveling through Constant Friendship in a horse drawn sleigh.

'Tis The Season - Annual Holiday Decorating Contest

Get ready to deck the halls! Judging will take place between December 13 and December 17

To learn more about Santa's visit and our decorating contest, check out the attached Holiday flyer or visit cfhoa.com

Holiday Tree Pickup

Harford Sanitation will pick up Holiday trees on **Saturday February 5** and **February 19 ONLY**. Please place your trees in the common area adjacent to the mailboxes, in the center island or along the curbs. We ask that you do not place them in the street, parking pads or put them out earlier than necessary. Trees should not be discarded into the common area woods. If you witness such a disposal, please notify the Alliance Management Team.

Catalog Cutback

It's the season to receive unwanted catalogs. To reduce the amount of catalogs you receive, be sure to check out catalogchoice.org. You can reduce your unwanted mail in just a few minutes.

Do It Yourself - Winter Savings

More information at bge.com/WinterReady
Here are some tips you can do now that will save energy (and money) during the cold months.

- ♦ Check/add insulation in your attic to reach an R-30, the depth of twelve inches.

- ♦ Check ductwork coming from your furnace for leaks or gaps.
- ♦ Change your furnace filter monthly.
- ♦ Caulk or weather-strip around doors and windows to seal out cold air.
- ♦ Add draft-sealers around electric switches and outlets.
- ♦ If you have a fireplace, close the flue when it's not in use.
- ♦ Consider insulating your hot water pipes.
- ♦ Consider lowering your thermostat. Every degree below 73°F could save 2-4% on heating costs.
- ♦ Get a heating system tune-up and seal leaks in your furnace ducts.

Winter Weather Outlook

For 2011, the Farmer's Almanac predicts that Old Man Winter will exhibit a "split personality." The eastern third of the country, (New England down to Florida and as far west as the lower Ohio River and Mississippi River Valley), will experience colder-than-normal winter temperatures. Across New England, where relatively balmy temperatures prevailed during the winter of 2009–2010, the upcoming winter will be the equivalent of a cold slap in the face, as we forecast much colder-than-normal temperatures. *More information can be found at farmersalmanac.com*

Recycling Day – Each Thursday

Until recently, there were a few streets that recycled on Mondays. Great news!!! All Constant Friendship recycling will now take place every Thursday. Be sure to make note.

FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS

Constant Friendship Home Owners Association Newsletter

Winter 2010 /2011

Single Stream Recycling

More information at harfordcountymd.gov

What can be recycled?

♦ Newspaper, paper bags, magazines, catalogs, telephone books, junk mail, envelopes, paperboard boxes, corrugated cardboard, soft cover books, hardback and text books, paper packaging including cereal boxes, frozen food boxes, #1-7 plastic containers (i.e. beverage and food, laundry soap, dish soap, peanut butter jars, margarine tubs, yogurt containers), glass food and beverage bottles and jars, aluminum and metal cans, aluminum foil, aluminum disposable bake ware, rigid plastic items (lawn furniture, plastic coolers, drinking cups, 5-gallon buckets, flower pots, nursery pots, laundry baskets, garbage cans, plastic toys), milk and orange juice cartons, juice boxes and empty aerosol cans (i.e. deodorant, hair spray and spray paint).

- ♦ Stickers are also available at:
 - ♦ The County Office Building
 - ♦ Bel Air, Fallston, Havre de Grace, Jarrettsville or Joppa libraries
 - ♦ Or download your own at the above website.

Homeless in Harford County

- ♦ Population is approximately 250
- ♦ 20% are children

- ♦ Some stay at shelters, other known locations are the woods in Aberdeen, the Pa & Pa Trail in Bel Air, behind the Best Buy store in Bel Air.
- ♦ The homeless are identified by the Harford County Department of Community Services 410.638.3389.

- ♦ Organizations have made it their mission to provide help to those in need.
 - ♦ Habitat for Humanity 410.638.4434

- ♦ Cooperative Food Ministry at Calvary Baptist Church, Bel Air. 410.838.0186
- ♦ Sandwich ministry. Help prepare and deliver lunches to area homeless on Sunday afternoons. 410.877.7517

- ♦ Faith Communities Civic Agencies United or FCCAU 410.272-2229 operates two facilities:

1. *Welcome One Emergency Shelter* located in Riverside is a 28 bed facility that provides homeless individuals a safe place to sleep, nutritious meals and programs to start them on the path to self sufficiency. Operates from 4:30pm - 8:00am, seven days a week.

2. *Welcome One Fellowship Center* located in Edgewood is a day facility that provides breakfast and lunch to homeless and low-income individuals. Operates from 9:00am -1:30pm, Monday through Friday

- ♦ Assist by donating clothing, money, food, and/or volunteering your time.

Rodents in Motion

We have recent reports on rats in the neighborhood. We remind all homeowners to do the following:

- ♦ Check for any outside entries to the house.

- ♦ Place garbage in metal or plastic containers with tight fitting lids.

- ♦ Do not put trash out at the curb earlier than the night before.

- ♦ Remove fecal matter deposited by your pets on a daily basis.

- ♦ Clean up spilled pet food and bring containers of food and water indoors immediately after feeding.

FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS

Constant Friendship Home Owners Association Newsletter

Winter 2010 /2011

- ♦ Remove accumulated debris from under decks, stairways, etc.
- ♦ Keep brush/weeds cut low and remove any litter that collects along fences and shrubbery.
- ♦ Elevate your fire woodpiles 12-18 inches above ground level.
- ♦ Cut and remove debris from vegetable gardens and remove dead brush piles.
- ♦ Seal openings under walkways and landings.
- ♦ Do not overfill bird feeders.
- ♦ Eliminate sources of standing, stagnant water.

If you see a rat in the area, please notify your neighbors and call an exterminator. Do-it-yourself poisons and bait traps may be hazardous to children and pets. Although Alliance Management will report rat sightings to the county, they are not responsible to take action to remove such rodents.

I-95 / Route 24 Interchange

As you know, the I-95/Route 24 interchange is slowly underway. To learn more on the plan and its progress, visit mdta.maryland.gov and click on "Capital Projects". Check this site on a regular basis for construction updates, road and lane closures as well as shifts in traffic patterns. The diagrams will help understand the coming changes. Recorded project information is also available at 877.368.1141.

Pet Owners ... Do the Doodie

Once again, the board is reminding residents to pick after your pets. It's against the law and Constant Friendship regulations to not

pick up pet waste. If your pet uses the common area, please pick up after it. It is unsanitary, attracts rodents, spreads disease and is a mess when tracked in your house. Your pet is your responsibility

Guidelines

The Board would like to remind you of a few Constant Friendship guidelines.

- ♦ An Application for Approval of Architectural Improvements, must be submitted, and approved, prior to the start of any external improvement project. This includes, but is not limited to, installing a fence or storm door, building a deck, or painting front the door and shutters.

- ♦ Each home should be in good order and repair. This includes a) seeding, watering, weeding and mowing of lawns; b) pruning and cutting of trees and shrubbery; c) clearing of debris from sidewalks; and d) painting/appropriate external care, of all buildings and structures on the lot.

- ♦ Disposing or storing of waste (including grass clippings) on common areas is not permitted. Unsightly accumulation of litter, building materials or trash of any kind shall not be permitted within or upon any lot.

- ♦ Trash must be kept in a sealed container or a secured bag. Trash and recyclable materials shall be placed at the curbside no earlier than the evening prior to the scheduled pickup time.

- ♦ At all other times, trash and recyclable material containers shall be stored inside the house or at the back of the house.

- ♦ Bulk Items Options

- ♦ *Harford Waste Disposal Center*
3241 Scarboro Road, Street, MD
410.638.3636, M-Sat, 7:00am-3:00pm

FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS

Constant Friendship Home Owners Association Newsletter

Winter 2010 /2011

- ♦ Free Drop off: lawn and garden recyclables, grass clippings, leaves
- ♦ Household Recyclables: plastics bottles & jugs, bi-metals, aluminum cans, glass bottles & jars, commingled in blue bags: mixed paper in paper bags; flattened corrugated cardboard.
- ♦ Car & truck batteries; up to 5 gallons used motor oil and/or antifreeze; scrap metal and appliances; computers, monitors, speakers, printers, scanners, mouses, keyboards, cables, modems, external disc drives; up to 5 tires up to 17" diameter off rim per year
- ♦ *Tollgate Yard Trim*
703 North Tollgate Rd, Bel Air
Saturday only, 7:00am-3:00pm
Drop-off facility only accepts residential yard trim including grass clippings, leaves, and brush/tree limbs.
- ♦ *Purple Heart:* 410.712.0109, front door pickup service to collect usable clothing and household item donations to raise funds for the support of Veterans and their families.
www.purpleheartpickup.org
- ♦ *Salvation Army:* 410.525.0530

Crime Reports

Stay in touch with what's going on in our neighborhood. Information on area criminals can be found at crimereports.com

Useful Phone Numbers

- ♦ Alliance Property Management
410.836.8036 or cfthoa@allmg.net
- ♦ Office of the Sheriff
410.836.5400
- ♦ Harford Co. Sheriff (non- emergency)
410.838.6600
- ♦ Upper Chesapeake Medical Center
410.643.1000

- ♦ Harford Sanitation Services
410.838.5472
- ♦ BGE – bge.com
1.800.685.0123
Street Light Out, Possible Gas Leak,
Power Lines Down, Tree on Power Line

Board Meetings

Monthly Board meetings are held at Alliance Management Group, 217 East Churchville Road on the last Wednesday of each month at 7:00pm. If you would like to attend a meeting, please contact Alliance to reserve a seat.

- ♦ 410.836.8036
- ♦ www.allmg.net
- ♦ cfthoa@allmg.net
- ♦ *Payment Options*
 - ♦ Online Payment - eCheck or Credit Card
 - ♦ US Mail/Lockbox
 - ♦ Your Bank's Online Bill Pay

What Do You Think?

The Board of Directors would like know what you think about your community. What's good? What needs improvement? How can we make things better? We would like to hear your concerns as well as recommendations for improvement. Not only will we get back to you to discuss issues, we may put it in future issues of the newsletter to encourage discussion. We are actively trying to get more homeowner participation regarding community priorities. To do this we need to hear from you!

Website – cfhoa.com

Log onto cfhoa.com for the latest community information, updates and news.