



THE YORK COURTS OF GUILFORD

A HISTORIC COMMUNITY WITH MODERN IDEAS

WELCOME

This month's issue includes a synopsis of the last York Courts meeting, including information on the annual yard sale, further developments on the York Courts signs, the latest on safety issues and a wrap-up of Super Spring Sweep Thing 6.

We'd still like to include a bio column that will highlight a York Courts homeowner. If you'd like to let your neighbors know a little bit about yourself, please e-mail Michael Keevican, 34 York Court, keevegan@yahoo.com. Please include a brief bio and picture.

Again, If there is something you'd like to see in future issues, please e-mail Michael Keevican or Phil Reely, PhilReely@aol.com.

Have a safe and fun summer!

A TREE GROWS IN YORK COURTS

Some trees in the courts may be in need of maintenance. This includes trees in the common areas and on individual properties. A request will be submitted to the Guilford Association for evaluating trees and providing maintenance where needed.

In a related foliage issue, passageways between the courts are in need of maintenance—especially for those who must use them for placement and retrieval of trash cans. Please help maintain a clear pathway for all by trimming hedges, cutting overgrowth and removing any items that may prevent passage.

ANNUAL YARD SALE

SATURDAY, JULY 9, 2005

7 A.M. TO 4 A.M.

At the June 2 York Courts meeting (pictured right) a proposal to hold the annual yard sale received full support from all attendees.

We decided that the recognition our community receives

from surrounding communities, organizations and city agencies makes it worthwhile to continue this annual event.



Residents are requested to support the yard sale by setting up their own table of items, donating items to the refreshment stand and volunteering time at the stand. Also, helpful hands will be needed for retrieving and returning tables borrowed from Roland Park Presbyterian Church.

This year's possible highlights include:

- Participation of local communities and craft vendors.
- Potential sale of beer and wine, with proceeds to be used toward flower beds and plantings for each court.
- Funding from a city grant for advertising, decorations, banners and entertainment.

Volunteers are needed to assist with planning and coordination of this event. Call 410-235-3860 or e-mail Phil (philreely@aol.com) if you wish to reserve a table, volunteer or provide donations, including soft drinks, water, baked items, juice, hot dogs, buns, ice or paper products.



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HANGING OUR SHINGLE



The Greater Homewood Community Corporation (GHCC) has approved all three grants for signs that will identify the historic York Courts.

At the June 2 York Courts meeting, Laura Amos presented a replica of the latest design for review and critique of text sizing,

fonts, colors and overall sizing.

Other issues regarding the signs included:

- Voting to use *The York Courts of Guilford*, rather than *The York Courts at Guilford*, with the issue of using *of* versus *at* being revisited before the signs design is finalized.
- Finalizing the established date after a review of historic documents substantiating that 1913 was the year the York Courts were established.

Laura will contact the contracted sign maker for color samples to review and make arrangements to create a physical prototype for visual review at a proposed placement location.

Once the appropriate sizing and colors have been selected, the sign maker and hardware designer will work together to create the three signs, which will take approximately three weeks to complete.

All volunteers on this project will be contacted for coordinating the installation date(s) and follow-up celebration.

ALLEY PARKING

As more residents move to the courts, parking resources become much more demanding as availability of spaces decreases.

Several issues involving alley parking include:

- High volume of vehicles for individual residence.
- Inefficient parking practices that prevent passage of DPW vehicles.
- Auto damage.
- Unused vehicle parking (no tags).

Everyone is encouraged to be considerate and respectful by allowing room for all residents to park in the alley. We suggest limiting the number of vehicles per household as a compromise and hope each home will be receptive to this idea.

One suggestion is to inquire of the city about permit parking. Ann Dugan and Michael Bracey have volunteered to further research parking issues and follow up with proposals for potential solutions, including permit parking.

Please consider teaming with Ann and Michael on this effort by contacting them directly at 20 York Court #2 or 25 York Court #3.

Anyone owning a non-operable car is encouraged to donate their vehicle to a local charity like the Salvation Army, Kidney Foundation or Diabetic Society, which offer tax-credit incentives.



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A PATH TO SIDEWALK REPAIR



The Guilford Association has agreed to split the cost of sidewalk repair/replacement and has offered to provide no- or low-interest loans to those interested. Residents with connecting walkways requiring repairs/replacement are encouraged to work together. Sidewalk repairs

can be coordinated with Howard Friedel at howard@friedel.com. If you prefer to call Howard, please contact Phil at 410-235-3860 for his home phone number.

TRAFFIC LIGHT

Mary Pat Clarke contacted DPW to address the timing of the traffic light at 39th St. and Greenmount Ave. An adjustment has been made to the light's timing. Additional adjustment may be needed based on feedback from residents.

SUMMER SAFETY

A rash of vandalism and a serious robbery has prompted GSP to issue warnings to all residents to be aware of possible gang activity in the area. They have requested that residents call 911 if they observe suspicious individuals in the area. Again, use caution when outdoors, and never leave items in your vehicle that may invite vandals.

All are encouraged to join the GSP. For information, contact Brenda Brooks, bbrooks000@aol.com.

ARCHITECTURAL ISSUES

Balustrades

If you haven't had the opportunity to see the new porch at 31-33 York Court #3, it appears they are doing a wonderful job with the construction and return of the balustrades.

If you are interested in replacing your home's balustrades, the following are quotes from the people doing the work.

Also, GHCC may have additional grants coming available in the near future that could fund this exact type of project, and Phil will be glad to pursue this for anyone who might be interested.

Estimate for balustrade(s):

- End unit with three segments: \$950
- End unit with two segments: \$800
- Middle unit: \$800
- Entire set (three units): \$2400

Prices include construction, priming, painting installation and flashing bases of balustrades. For more information, please contact Joe Wilson at 410-302-3250.

Painting

Stuart and Brenda Brooks have found a good painting company that they recommended. The Brookses had them strip and paint about half the interior of their home and feel that they did a great job—and they were done quickly.

For more information, contact Mike Kavanaugh, Flawless Painting Contractors, 410-894-5151 or 410-382-7425. Please feel free to mention Stuart and Brenda when you call.



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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JUNE 14 and 21

6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

GHCC Block Captain Training

This is another great opportunity offered by GHCC for those motivated to get more involved in the community. Training is available to anyone interested and consists of two evening sessions and a Block Captain Challenge/Wrap-up on Saturday, June 25. Please send inquiries to Phil or call 410-235-3860.



JUNE 15 (Rain date: June 16)

8:45 p.m.

Movies at Sunken Park featuring *Finding Neverland*

The Madhatters will also perform live before the show. Popcorn and refreshments will be sold. The event is free to Guilford residents, but donations are greatly appreciated. Sunken Park is located at the intersection of Charles Street and Overhill Road.

JUNE 19

5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Sixth Annual Dinner at Dusk at Sherwood Gardens

If you have not received a flyer detailing the dinner, please send a request for information to philreely@aol.com.

JULY 9 (Rain date: July 16)

7 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The York Courts of Guilford Annual Flea Market and Crafts Fair

JULY 20 (Rain date: July 21)

8:45 p.m.

Movies at Sunken Park featuring *The Incredibles*

SWEPT AWAY

SATURDAY, APRIL 23, 2005



The annual Super Spring Sweep Thing was another success, with participation by many residents from all three courts. Due to the continued awareness and attention to the appearance of our homes and surroundings, our efforts were completed in a record three hours.

Starting along the main corridor, bus stop and street, the effort proceeded north with passes through the walkways and then looped west along the alley to the north and proceeded south with meticulous coordination among rakers, sweepers and baggers.

After completing the clean-up around 1 p.m., residents enjoyed refreshments at a small celebration at 25 York Court.

Thanks to everyone for their efforts as a group and independently!

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