



THE YORK COURTS OF GUILFORD

A Historic Community with Modern Ideas

SUPER SPRING SWEEP THING 8

Saturday, April 21 was a perfect day for our spring clean-up around the courts—and a great way to celebrate Earth Day. The day was marked by sunny skies, no clouds and best of all—no mosquitoes! With such a large resident turnout, we were able to not only thoroughly clean up the courts and alley, but also spruce up the bus stop at 39th Street.

Thanks to everyone for such hard work—with your muscles and sweat, we filled two and a half truckloads of debris—nearly 75 bags! Special thanks to all who participated, and especially Laura Amos, who put so much effort into organizing and getting



Large Turnout Made Alley Cleaning a Breeze

everyone together (not to mention the delicious home-baked breakfast). Participants included Monroe Johnson (#8), Jenny

Saccenti (#14), Melissa Goldman (#15), Javier (renter at #17), A.J. and Jane O'Brien (owners of #17), Joe Connelly (#18), Gladys Lee (#19), Pat Russell (#21), Denise Lucas and Egbert Bunbery (#23), John and Twana Jones and their son (#24), Michael Bracey and Phil Reely (#25), Jessica Kim and Jeffrey Wasserman (#27), Jon Zubin (#28), David Mitchell (#31), Lloyd Moore (#32) and Colleen Bathon (#36).

We also thank Sharon and Chuck (#7), Ken Hubbard (#12) and Sherry Berlow (#29) who weren't able to join us on Saturday, but who contributed by cleaning up the areas around their homes earlier. Additional thanks to Ken (#12), Jenny (#14), Michael and



Facelift at the 39th and Greenmount Bus Stop

Phil (#25) for their wonderful food contributions!

SIDEWALK REPLACEMENT PROJECT AT COURT #2

As many of you are aware, the southern portion of Court #2's sidewalks are in poor shape. The original 2" thick concrete slabs have deteriorated so badly that they present a tripping hazard for family, friends, guests and of course our mailperson, Donna. This condition only worsens in the winter when the uneven levels make it difficult to shovel snow off of the walks.



Cracking Sidewalk in Court #2

To address this problem, the residents of #13, 14, 15, 16, 17 and 18 have banded together to work towards replacing the sidewalks. This includes the main sidewalk which wraps around the court, as well as some of the individual sidewalks which lead to each home. This effort did not happen

overnight. Work began last December to identify the scope of the project and to set a spring deadline so all involved residents had time to budget for the work. Laura Amos at #16 donated her architectural services which include field verifying and documenting existing conditions and drawing up a plan to determine square footage cost per resident. Jenny Saccenti at #14 was instrumental in obtaining contractor proposals. Additionally, the process included presenting the project to the Guilford Association Architectural Review Board and working with

them to come to an agreement on an acceptable concrete finish. Laura and Jenny worked together to manage the contractor selection effort and all six groups of residents met to discuss and finalize outstanding financial issues. We are happy to report the contractor will begin work Monday, May 14. Please be sure to stop by Court #2 sometime soon and see our new walkways!

YCOG QUARTERLY MEETING

At the February 6 YCoG meeting, hosted by Laura Amos (#16), we welcomed guests Lynda Riley, Guilford Association President, and GA Treasurer

Cathy Boyne. Attendees considered how to approach residents about unpaid GA dues and how to implement a collections process. Everyone also discussed the Guilford Security Patrol and all present agreed the GSP provides value and YCoG residents should pay all or at least a portion of the GSP fee. Lynda indicated that the patrol covers our alley and Greenmount Avenue in front of the courts several times each day. If you see any crime or suspicious activity, please call the GSP at 410-206-6453.

May 10 Crime Incident

An individual who may have been stabbed on Old York Rd. was witnessed on the porch of 18 York Court #2—home owners immediately called 911. The individual was removed by EMS, and police are actively canvassing the area for information related to this crime. Anyone who may have witnessed any aspect of this event should call police immediately to report any details.

Unfortunately, EMS and police responding to this incident were hindered by the lack of lighting necessary to identify home addresses. Please consider installing light sensor and/or motion sensors to your porch lights (back and front) to not only provide the necessary lighting for emergency situations but also for the safety of you and your neighbors.

ADIRONDACK CHAIR PROJECT

Monroe Johnson (#8) has proposed this novel idea for YCoG residents to build these chairs themselves to use on our porches. Monroe is still working out details about planning and costs for the project, so look for more information in a future issue. If you are interested in helping out with this innovative project, please email Vze2bsyh@verizon.net.

NEW PROPERTY ASSESSMENTS

Many York Court residents were surprised at the beginning of the year by the new property assessments issued by the city—meaning significantly higher taxes for just about everyone. It is certainly worthwhile to challenge these assessments, and the process, which is defined in the assessment document itself, is simple. To see the assessments of other homes, log on to: http://sdatcert3.resiusa.org/rp_rewrite/



Tulips at Sherwood Gardens

Upcoming Events

Guilford Supper Club

May 12th, 7 PM
212 E. 39th St.
RSVP to mfinley@som.umaryland.edu or 410-366-2882

Strawberry Festival

May 12th, 10 AM - 3 PM
Roland Park Presbyterian Church
4801 Roland Ave

One Wisdom Fellowship Flea Market & Community Yard Sale

May 19th, 9 AM
500 E. 39th St.

Guilford Elementary/Middle School cleanup campaign

May 19th
Prepare school grounds for construction of new playgrounds. Details to follow.

Preakness

May 19th
many events are occurring around the city and the entire state. Visit <http://www.preakness.com/> for details.

Sherwood Garden Tulip Dig

May 26th, 7 AM
Bulbs sell for 25¢ apiece.
No bulbs from any plot less than perfect will be sold. Read the article in the upcoming newsletter for more details.

ANNUAL FLEA MARKET AND CRAFTS FAIR

Mark your calendars for July 14, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., when we'll once again enjoy this annual YCoG event. Plans will likely be consistent with past years, but this year we are interested in finding a resource that can donate lightweight tables. Otherwise, we may need to resort to a "bring your own table" policy since the effort involved in acquiring and returning the tables typically used simply is too much for the limited number of volunteers involved with this event. As always, we plan to have published advertising to draw vendors outside the YCoG with space rentals at a nominal fee.

Spread the word to your local organizations and help us to make this event even more successful than those from the past. Look for an announcement soliciting volunteers to help plan this event at the end of May.

RODENTS AND TRASH CANS

Trash cans strewn along the alley continue to be a primary concern for many residents that use the alley for access to and from their homes. Please be considerate of others and retrieve your trash cans in a timely manner after pick-up. Additionally, cans without lids are a key draw for rodents, and all are encouraged to maintain their trash cans in accordance with city law. Those tossing plastic bags into the alley are requested to please obtain cans for your trash to eliminate the possibilities of spillage and drawing rats.

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