

Long's Pond ESTATES

Homeowners Association Newsletter

www.longspond.org

October 2011

NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

As in previous years, we have had a change in the Board members this fall season. The Board was very happy to appoint Jon Handrock to the Board and fill the positions as follows:

Matt Bullard, President
Jon Handrock, Vice President
Michelle Jones, Treasurer
Laura Murray, Secretary
Board Member at Large, Vacant

We are extremely thankful and appreciative of the significant effort and time the former Board members, Connie Parsons and Debbie Kessel, put into taking care of numerous projects and tasks that occurred during their tenure. They were instrumental in not only improving on the documentation and processes for normal Board activities, but also on ensuring the front entrance construction and landscaping were handled efficiently and professionally. Thanks to Greg Garrett as well for his overseeing the project.

As indicated in the positions description above, the Board has a vacant position and welcomes anyone interested in participating in a Board capacity. Please contact us if you are willing to volunteer and/or have any questions.

Matt Bullard
President – Longs Pond HOA
2011-2012



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS

Wednesday, October 11, 2011 at 7:30 PM
Wednesday, November 9, 2011 at 7:30 PM
Tuesday, January 17, 2012 at 7:30 PM
Tuesday, February 7, 2012 at 7:30 PM

GENERAL HOA MEETINGS LOCATION: Red Bank Community Center

Thursday, December 8, 2011 at 7:00 PM
Thursday, March 15, 2012 at 7:00 PM
Thursday, June 14, 2012 at 7:00 PM

ANNUAL MEETING:
Thursday, September 13, 2012 at 7 PM

DECEMBER GENERAL MEETING



We would like to encourage everyone to come out to the general meeting on December 8, 2011, at 7 PM at the Red Bank Community Center. Last year we were fortunate enough to have one of our

neighbors cook for us, but this year we would like to make this more of a community effort. We would like to encourage everyone to bring their favorite appetizer or cookies to the meeting. The HOA will be providing soft drinks and paper goods. We will also be giving away a \$25 gift card to one lucky attendee. We look forward to seeing more community participation at our general meetings, especially as we celebrate the holiday season!

ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW COMMITTEE

We would like to thank those that over the last couple of months have sent in requests for projects to be done on their properties. The ARC committee will work hard to ensure that any submissions are handled in a timely manner. It is imperative that all homeowners be sure to put in a request for approval on any changes as dictated by the architectural guidelines, which can be accessed through the longspnd.org website. If you want to make an architectural change that the guidelines do not appear to address, please do not hesitate to contact the ARC committee with any questions.

CRIME WATCH

We've had several incidents during the last quarter, most of which have been car break-ins. As usual, these break-ins have been almost entirely associated with unlocked vehicles and items that someone would want to steal visible in plain sight inside the vehicle. It is extremely important for everyone to ensure that their vehicles are locked and any high valued items removed from the vehicle. If everyone can consistently keep their cars empty and locked the criminals will find other neighborhoods that are more fruitful to vandalize.

In addition, there was an incident on October 15th whereby a vigilant neighbor took the time to stop and investigate a possible criminal activity. The neighbor saw a young male looking through the window of a house on Knotts Road on his way out of the neighborhood. Although he was on a timeline to take care of some personal business, this neighbor took the time to stop and question the youth. After receiving several ambiguous answers about the reasons for being on the property and looking into the windows, the neighbor called the police. After further

questioning, the police determined that they [the police] should personally take the youth to his home and inform the parents of the circumstances that transpired.

Taking actions such as this is exactly the kind of effort that will help ensure the security of the neighborhood. On behalf of our community, I would like to thank Joe Alexander for taking the initiative to investigate the suspicious activity he witnessed. As this holiday season approaches, and the likelihood of a similar incident, I would encourage everyone to put forth this type of extra effort to help ensure the security of our community.

Matt Bullard

YARD OF THE MONTH

Announcing the 2011 YOTM WINNERS!

The 2011 Longs Pond Yard of the Month picks are based not only on the yard and landscaping, but on the mailbox and overall appearance of the front & sides of the home. Winners receive the YOTM signage in their yard for the following month as well as a \$25 Lowes Gift Card to help them with future home/yard improvements.

This year's WINNERS are:

May....Monty & Rachael Putnam at 1200 Knott's Haven Loop

June....Tim Barnes at 1308 Knott's Haven Loop

July....Dave & Barb Bindewald at 308 Knott's Circle

August....Joe Alexander & Pamela Hoffman at 1229 Knott's Haven Loop

September....Greg & Debi Garrett at 1438 Knott's Haven Loop

Congratulations to our winners & **THANK YOU** for keeping our community looking great!

Special **Halloween** recognition will be given for the last 3-4 days of October.

October's winner will be awarded on the following weekend...November 5 or 6; **Christmas** to be awarded in mid-December.

I would like to apologize if any of you have tried to contact me through the Long's Pond website email. I have not gotten ANY emails from that link

for the past 2 years for whatever reason, so feel free to contact me directly at bryjen2598@windstream.net with any comments, questions or nominations you may have.

Thanks so much!

Jenny Bullard

HALLOWEEN



Over the last several years, we have hired two Lexington County Deputy Sheriff Officers to patrol and help control parking at the front entrance. It appears from numerous comments by homeowners, and from the lack of incidents, that the officers' presence in our neighborhood has had significant positive impact.

This year, we are fortunate to again have two Deputies, and they will be in place from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm on **Monday, October 31st**. We will have one at the front entrance and one patrolling. If you have any trouble, or see anything suspicious, please let the deputies know.

We are expecting another great holiday season starting with the Halloween trick-or-treat on Monday evening, the 31st.

HALLOWEEN SAFETY TIPS

FOR CHILDREN:

- The best costumes are light colored or bright and reflective. Keep costumes short to avoid tripping and falling. Minimize the risk of contact with candles or other ignition sources by avoiding baggy pants, loose frills, or billowing skirts.

- Give every child a flashlight with fresh batteries. Remind them of traffic safety rules, and that they should cross streets at corners and never cross between parked cars.

- Make sure that children know how to call 9-1-1 or their local emergency number if they experience an emergency.

- Teach children to STOP, DROP and ROLL should their clothing catch fire: STOP immediately, DROP to the ground and cover face, and ROLL over and over to extinguish the flames.

FOR ADULTS:

- Be extra careful when driving as excited children can forget safety rules when crossing the street.

- Appoint a designated driver if you attend adult Halloween parties.

- Accompany children when they go out trick-or-treating.

AT HOME:

- Consider using only battery-powered lanterns, flashing lights or chemical light sticks instead of candles in decorations.

- Small flashlight candles are the safest for use in jack-o'-lanterns. If you must use a candle, try a tea light or votive candle in a non-combustible holder. Always keep candles, matches and lighters out of the reach of children. Place candlelit jack-o'-lanterns on sturdy tables, away from curtains and other flammable objects. Never leave them unattended. Candlelit jack-o'-lanterns should be kept away from landings and doorsteps where costumes can brush against the flame.

- Indoor candlelit jack-o'-lanterns should be kept away from curtains, decorations and other furnishings that can be ignited.

SAFETY PRECAUTIONS



Oh, the great outdoors...who doesn't enjoy it. It's good for children to be outside to get fresh air and sunlight; now that the weather has cooled down a bit, and it's no longer hot enough to fry an egg in

the shade, the outdoors beckons. With a few precautions, we can all ensure that the time between the final school bell and dinner is a safe one – or whenever weather permits and the kids are outside.

We all agree that keeping children away from the street is one of the most important precautions a parent can take. Statistics show that children between the ages of 5 and 9 are at the highest risk of being hit by a car because they are more likely to dart into traffic without looking in both directions.

There are some simple steps that we, as parents, can take to make sure our children stay safe. Make sure they look both ways before crossing the street, especially when chasing any kind of a ball; stay close to the curb when walking, since we have no sidewalks in the neighborhood; escort them down the street, or around the block, when they are riding in their motorized cars; make sure they wear a helmet and don't ride down the middle of the street when they are on their bike, skateboard or scooter; tell them not to run out into the street when chasing the dog; and make sure they fully understand that a car cannot stop on a dime and if they dart out into the street, the consequences could be serious.

The ball...the bike...even the dog ...can be replaced – **children cannot!!** By explaining, quite clearly, what could happen, we can all hope that nothing will.