

# The Glen Echo

**Newsletter of Fairlington Glen** 

# December 2006

# PRESIDENT'S 2006 YEAR-END REPORT

Inside this issue:	
Report Continued	2
Mice, Trees, & More	3
2007 Calendar	4

# Christmas Tree Pick Up

Please place any trees outside (beginning on January 2) on the curb WITHOUT \* any plastic wrap.

\* We are taking part in an Arlington County recyclingprogram which does not want the trees wrapped in plastic. Thank you! 2006 has been a year of change and challenge for the Glen. We began the year with a major change in Board membership, welcoming Alison Burns Trimble and Margaret Windus to the Board. Immediately after that election, we set out to change the way we do business.

- We have much to do and we need help doing it. We have been establishing more volunteer committees, some temporary and some more permanent, to help to get things done.
- I would especially like to thank the following individuals who have taken on leadership responsibilities within the Glen this year with committees and task groups— Maynard Dixon, Court Representatives Group; Bob Wilson, Maintenance Committee; Fred and Linda Hohlweg, Landscaping Committee; Greg Lukmire, Variance Coordinator; Dean Montanye, Security Committee; Kari Boe Doyle, Pool Committee and Pool, Office, Workshop Task Group; Will Smith, Tennis Committee; Patrick Murray, Basketball Committee; Liz Finos, B-Building Redecoration Task Group; Paula Mathews and Lisa Driskill, Tot Lot Task Group; Hal Vorhies and Madelyn Johnson, By-Laws Task Group; John Fuller, Management Company Task Group; Alison Burns Trimble, Communications Committee; and Margaret Windus, Finance Committee.
- These individuals, together with the Court Representatives and the many committee and task group members, comprise a group of committed volunteers who are helping to keep our mini government operating. We couldn't function without them.
- After some thinking during our strategic planning meetings, we met with the Buildings & Grounds committee and proposed a different model for their operations. Our most important goal is to insure that we communicate consistently with our community, both as a whole, to each court and to every resident.
- We hope that a revamped Court Representatives Group will enable us to hear from people and to speak to them as quickly and effectively as possible. We want you to know when we think something should be done and why. And we want to hear from you when you disagree or want to suggest alternative solutions. We hope that the Court Reps can help all of us to achieve those goals.
- Our Finance Committee has been working closely with Legum and Norman to supervise spending and record-keeping. They will continue to do so as we transition to Cardinal Management Group, our new management agent as of January 1, 2007. (Message continued on page 2.)

- We face continued demands on our resources to maintain our buildings and other community assets. These are demanding tasks both to get the jobs done and to get them done well and cost-effectively. Thanks to all of you who understood our need to substantially increase our reserve contributions and voted overwhelmingly to support the 2007 budget.
- We devoted over \$350,000 of replacement reserves in 2006 to long-term maintenance needs in the Glen over a wide variety of areas including slate roofs, porch stoops, parking lots, sidewalks, redecorating the B-buildings hallways, and renovating the single tennis court and the tot lot. Our program of long-term maintenance will continue in 2007, focusing especially on roofs and our needs in the pool area.
- We have enhanced our newsletter and published monthly, all the while staying well within budget. We are also making greater use of the Web and e-mail as well as other communications efforts. This is an area on which we concentrate all the time, trying to stay in touch with the community on all issues. It remains an area in which we can still do better, and we commit to do so in the future,
- We opened our decision-making processes to greater examination by co-owners, inviting participation in an open forum at the beginning of each board meeting and using e-mail to distribute our agendas.

We faced a particularly difficult early summer with unprecedented rains at the end of June. The rain uncovered a number of circumstances and practices which, when put to the test, were found to be wanting. Nonetheless, I believe as a community we dealt with those issues and difficulties with fairness, civility, and courtesy. We will continue in 2007 to work on the issues identified. A number of residents who were particularly concerned with the problems with drainage which the storms uncovered came together in July to begin to address those issues. With their assistance along with the Court Reps and the Maintenance Committee, and of course the on-site staff, we will try to make progress on these important concerns.

Your Board began a strategic planning process in 2006, focusing on the areas of governance structures, volunteer participation, common area facilities, rules and regulations, finances, and operations and staff. Our goal as a Board is to lead boldly and manage wisely. We have not always met that goal, but we continue to strive toward it. We will also be reaching out during 2007 to get your views on the future of the Glen. We want to keep co-owners and residents well informed as to what we are doing, when, and why.

I have been particularly proud to serve on the Glen Board for 2005-2006 as your President. I believe that Board members have come together and worked as a team to move us forward on many fronts. With the assistance of our able volunteers, we hope to continue to do so as we head into 2007. Action and change may be as much a theme in 2007 as it was in 2006.

In particular, I want to thank retiring Board Member **Charlie Robbins** for his contributions to the process over the last several years. And, at the same time, I want to welcome **Jasper Thomson**, our newest member, who I am sure will be an asset to the Board and to the Glen as a whole. He'll be getting his feet wet almost immediately by serving as the Board's liaison to the Landscape Committee.

In closing, please keep in touch by e-mail, by phone, and by talking with me and my fellow board members in person. Let us know your views so that we may consider them as we make the decisions you have elected us to make. We commit to keeping you informed as we work and will seek your input to that process as well as your participation in it.

Bob Patrician, President December 2006



# Christmas Tree Disposal

Christmas trees will be picked up by Capital Trash starting on January 2nd. The dates for curbside pick up are Tuesdays and Thursdays the first two weeks in January 2, 4, 9 and 11).

This year Arlington County has asked Fairlington Glen to participate in a tree recycling program. The trees picked up by Capital will be brought to the Shirlington environmental waste site for recycling. To be a part of this important program, the trees should not be left wrapped in plastic. If you use a tree bag to move your tree without leaving a trail of needles, please cut it off at the curb and dispose of the plastic. Thanks so much!

## **Rodent Alert**

Court 16 has had a significant mouse problem this fall. Triple S, our pest service, has again recommended that residents NOT put bird seed out, especially on the ground directly, as this attracts mice and rats. Please be considerate of your neighbors and place your trash out ONLY in the MORNING on designated pick up days. Trash is easily strewn by squirrels which leads to attracting more pests.



## **REMEMBER:** NO TRASH PICK UP ON DECEMBER 25 OR JANUARY 1



**Glen Staff scaling the heights in Court 1.** 

To our dedicated Glen staff, Ricky Solares, On-Site Manager; Nelson Ordonez and Maria Castro Thank you for the work you have done this year in the Glen ! The new date for 2007 Glen Board meetings will be the first Thursday of the month. The meetings will be held at 4820 S. 31st beginning January 4, 2007. A special strategic planning meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 10 at 3525B S. Stafford at

7:30pm.

## FAIRLINGTON GLEN CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES 2007 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS

## (First Thursday of month, 7:30 pm, 4820 S. 31<sup>st</sup> St.)

January 4	July 5
February 1	August 2
March 1	September 6
April 5	October 4
May 3	November 1
June 7	December 6

#### **ANNUAL MEETING SCHEDULE**

September 6	Board meeting to approve draft 2007 Budget
September 13	Call for candidates in September GLEN ECHO
September 20	Community Forum
September 27	Deadline for comments on proposed budget
October 4	Board meeting to approve proposed 2007 budget
October 10	Notice of Annual Meeting with Budget and Candidate Profiles
October 25	Budget Amendments to Board President
October 31	Amendments mailed to Co-Owners
November 6	Proxies due to Cardinal Management Group
November 14	Annual Meeting

## **COURT REPRESENTATIVES GROUP**

## (Third Tuesday of month, 7:30 pm, normally at 4820 S. 31<sup>st</sup> St. No meetings in April, August, November, & December)

January 16	June 19
February 20	July 17
March 20	September 18
May 15	October 16

#### **FINANCE COMMITTEE**

(Tuesday following Board meetings, 7:30 pm, normally at 3525B S. Stafford St. No meetings in September, October, & November)

January 9	June 12
February 6	July 10
March 6	August 7
April 10	December 11
May 8	