



GLEN FARMS & TARA

Civic Association - Winter 2008 Newsletter

Annual Holiday Food Drive: Once again, the Glen Farms/Tara civic association will be holding an annual Holiday Food Drive. It will be held on the weekend of December 13 and 14. Non perishable food items will be collected at the Gangemi's home at 1 Woodbine Circle and will be distributed to Elkton agencies for the needy. This year more than ever, your help is needed. Times are tough for organizations that help the needy so please consider contributing generously.

Neighborhood Watch: After years of dedicated service to our community, Jen Muldoon has decided to give another community member the opportunity to serve as Neighborhood Watch Coordinator. To keep this important part of our civic community robust, the Board is looking for a new volunteer coordinator. The time commitment is about four half-days a year.

Coordinator responsibilities include contacting watch members, many of whom are regular volunteers and very willing to help, to schedule them for a week of service. Even if you have never volunteered for Neighborhood Watch, you can serve as the coordinator if you have a little time and a telephone.

Contact our interim coordinator Tobi Ackerman at (410) 392-9419 for more details and to discuss signing up for this position. Also contact Tobi if you'd like to volunteer for neighborhood watch.

Spring Yard Sale: The fall yard sale was well received and the board has been given feedback that residents are interested in holding a spring yard sale in 2009. Begin collecting your items now for an April sale date. Residents also expressed interest in an earlier start time and that will be incorporated into next year's plans.

Ice Cream Social/Carriage Ride and Dinner: Congratulations to Nick & Jane Cantera of 5 Atkinson Circle – winners of the annual drawing for a carriage ride and dinner at Fair Hill Inn. The raffle is a fund raiser for the civic association so thanks to everyone that participated in another successful year. Many thanks to Russ Holland for coordinating the raffle and officiating at the drawing. The winning entry was selected by Masha Bojko, dressed as Snow White at the annual ice cream social. The social was well attended with over 125 residents stopping by to enjoy Kilby's ice cream and share a beautiful fall day with neighbors. Thanks to Lisa Hower and Hannah Kreidel for coordinating the event.



Masha at the social with the winning entry!

Attention Teenagers: Are you in need of service hours as part of your academic requirements? Are there projects you'd like to have the civic association assist you with? If so, please email your thoughts and ideas to our GFCA President, Earl Loomis at: eloomis@usaschool.net.

Home Safety: At the October membership meeting, the Sheriff's Department reminded residents to report all thefts - no matter how minor – and to alert them of suspicious behavior they may observe. This information is used by the department to develop crime patterns and schedule patrols. While it might sound simple, keeping your vehicles and homes locked is the best defense against theft. In the event of an emergency, dial 911. For non-emergencies, the Sheriff's Department can be reached at (410) 996-5500.

Property Maintenance: Board members are frequently asked to contact homeowners concerning unkempt property, improperly registered vehicles and public nuisances. Glen Farms is not a deed restricted community and Tara has minimal restrictions. Enforcement of the law exceeds the scope of the board's authority and responsibilities. Residents with these types of issues should make direct contact with the appropriate county enforcement organization. If you are a homeowner with physical limitations and in need of some neighborly assistance, please contact a board member and they will match you with a volunteer.

ARCA: The Appleton Regional Community Alliance continues its mission of promoting responsible growth and land use. ARCA is partnering with Cecil Land Use Alliance (www.cecillanduse.org) uncovering and translating ambiguities surrounding the Aston Point project and several public water and sewer proposals. At the October General Membership meeting, Owen Thorne provided a detailed update on the legal challenges ARCA has been handling on behalf of our communities. He can be reached at (410) 620-2078 or owen@arca-md.org for more information. ARCA membership is still just \$10 per household. Contributions of all sizes are needed to help offset substantial legal expenses and can be forwarded to Treasurer, Ron Hartman, 164 Little Egypt Road, Elkton, MD 21921.

Concrete Signs: Volunteers continue to make progress on the concrete sign restoration project. Just a few signs remain to be finished. Many thanks to the many volunteers working on this initiative to restore these historical markers.

Welcome Committee: Many thanks to Maggie Welshmer for her service to the community. Maggie has graciously welcomed new residents for many years and she now passes the torch to Amy Kovach. Thanks to Amy for assuming this important role.

Community Web Site: Check out the community Website at www.glenfarmscivicassoc.org. If you have content you'd like posted, please contact community Web Master, Tobi Ackerman at tobirh@hotmail.com or at (410) 392-9419.

Community Directory: Need a community directory? Please contact Earl Loomis (410) 398-2420 or Robin Griffith (410) 398-3842.

Save the Date: The next general meeting will be held on January 27 at 7:00 p.m. at the Newark Baptist church. At this meeting, we will have the election of two officers and one director as well as the presentation of the annual budget. We hope to see you there!

Board Members: Contact information can be found on the GFCA Website and in the community directory. Members include: Earl Loomis, Mike Kelly, Robin Griffith, Tobi Ackerman, Amy Kovach, Lisa Hower, Hannah Kreidel and Kim Silva.

About this newsletter: Are you interested in providing content, graphics or design? We'd love to have your input. Please contact our interim Editor, Lisa Hower at (443) 566-0220 or lhower41@comcast.net.