## Heatherwood News

Prepared by R. Gutleber

SPRING 2013



#### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Beth Rossini

Another winter, soon to be over, reminds us all of how quickly the time goes by. While the weather for 2012 was surely challenging, i.e., heavy rains and strong winds, we fared rather well, especially considering the threatening destruction of Hurricane Sandy. Additionally, we caught a break on the snow front. As presented at the October 2012 Community Open Meeting and stated in the 2013 Budget Justification, the projected snow removal emergency fund of \$21,000 has now been secured for 2013. Knowing how costly snow removal can be, this is surely a relief and a blessing. In addition, as projected, the volunteer savings realized in 2012 have allowed us to pay back our savings account for the Pleasant Valley Drive new vinyl fence. All great news!!!

And speaking of great news, it appears that Mother Nature continues to be on our side. We actually made it through another two snow months, i.e., January and February, without any snow removal costs. Keep your fingers crossed for the month of March. This now puts us in a good position to consider the replacement of the remaining wood fence located between Caserta Drive and the Pleasant Valley Drive cul-de-sac.

All is well in Heatherwood, and soon it will be time for our volunteers to prepare for the spring.

#### WISHING EVERYONE A GREAT SPRING!!!

#### FROM THE TREASURER

Beth Rossini

Please refer to the attached Financial Report.



#### **IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER**

Heatherwood's Open Session Meetings will be held at the Washington Township Municipal Building at 7 p.m. on the following dates:

Thursday, April 18, 2013 Thursday, October 17, 2013

#### **NOTIFICATIONS**

Please be advised of the following changes:

#### Heatherwood Secretary E-mail Address

Please be advised that the Board of Trustees Secretary's e-mail address has been changed to Heatherwoodsec@comcast.net.

#### Target Management Company Staff

Please be advised that Denise Adamic, Marcie Hummer's (Property Manager) assistant, has been replaced with Jennifer Johnson.

#### "IN THE HOLIDAY SPIRIT"

The Heatherwood homeowners surely know how to get into the holiday spirit. Hopefully, you had a chance to drive around Heatherwood and take in the sights. Heatherwood looked fantastic!!! Below are just a few of the snapshots.













### MAILING COMMITTEE DELIVERY PLASTIC BAGS

**Reminder**: In support of the recycling effort and to save Heatherwood money, you can help Heatherwood in this effort by either bringing your bags to a Community Open Meeting or just drop them off at 3 Sickler Court.

#### **BUSINESS CARD ADVERTISEMENT**

If you know of anyone who would like to run a business card ad in the Heatherwood newsletter, just tell them to send or drop off their business card and a check for \$20 made out to "Heatherwood Homeowners' Association" and send to:

Beth Rossini 3 Sickler Court Sewell, NJ 08080

The cost of \$20 is for one ad. Additionally, the newsletter is posted on the Heatherwood website and remains on the website for one year. All proceeds are used to off-set our newsletter printing costs.

#### **LOST AND FOUND**

Please be advised that a woman's silver stretch bracelet was found at the Heatherwood Holiday Luncheon on December 9, 2012. To claim bracelet, please call Donna Ulmer at 856-401-8018.

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**Heatherwood website's address is:** http://heatherwood\_nj.home.comcast.net

#### HEATHERWOOD WEBSITE PASSWORD



Please be advised that the password for the Financial and Open Meeting sections of the Heatherwood website can be obtained by sending an e-mail

to the Secretary at <a href="mailto:heatherwoodsec@comcast.net">heatherwoodsec@comcast.net</a>.

#### **E-MAIL COMMUNICATIONS**

**REMINDER:** For those homeowners who are already on the Heatherwood e-mail distribution list, should you change your e-mail address, don't forget to inform the Heatherwood Secretary.



If you would like to add your e-mail address to the distribution list, please send an e-mail to <a href="mailto:heatherwoodsec@comcast.net">heatherwoodsec@comcast.net</a> instructing the Heatherwood Secretary to do so. Please be advised that when a bulletin is sent out, the e-mail addresses are kept confidential.

#### MAINTENANCE PROJECTS

Beth Rossini – Project Coordinator

The following projects have been completed since our last newsletter:

- **❖** Gazebo Landscaping Clean-Up & Improvement
- **❖** Pond Fountain Storage

#### **SPRING REMINDERS**

#### **COMMON GROUNDS**

Please do not throw trash or food on the common grounds, inclusive of the wetlands.

#### **EMERGENCY CONTACT LIST**

A couple of years ago, the Board of Trustees created a Heatherwood Emergency Contact List. This list currently has contact information for 72 of our homeowners. If you should experience any circumstances that necessitate calling the police on behalf of another homeowner and this contact information can be of assistance to the police officer, the emergency contact information can be obtained through our Management Office – Marcie Hummer – 856-988-8000, Ext. 320, or Beth Rossini, President – 856-232-4753. Please be advised that all information is kept confidential.

If you are not currently on the list and want to be listed, please send an e-mail with contact information to Beth Rossini at bethrossini@comcast.net.

#### **GEESE**

Please do not feed the geese.



### HELP PREVENT LAWN DAMAGE

Please note the following helpful hints on preventing lawn damage:

- Avoid watering your lawns on scheduled lawn cutting days;
- ❖ Lawns should be watered early in the morning;
- Avoid watering lawns at night as this promotes fungus;
- ❖ Spray zones on the sides of your homes where the swales are located should be

monitored to avoid over saturation. Seven to ten minutes should be an appropriate water time depending upon exposure to sun, ground absorption or whether or not you have a flowerbed, etc. This is especially relevant due to the proximity of homes to each other; watering overlaps.

❖ If your swale is too saturated and you do not want the area to be cut, mark the swale area with flags to signify a "no cut."

#### LANDSCAPING ISSUES

Any issues regarding the landscaping process are to be called in to Heatherwood's Management Company, namely Target Property Management: Marcie Hummer at 856-988-8000, Ext. 320, for proper tracking and follow-up. Please do not call Board of Trustee members or our Landscaping Company, namely Thorobred, directly.

#### **SIGN POSTING**

Since this time of year many of us have contractors performing work either inside or outside our homes, please be reminded that signs by such contractors, inclusive of lawn services, are not permitted whether it be while work is in the progress or after completion. Please refer to Exhibit E – Rules & Regulations – Page 3 of Heatherwood's Governing Documents.

#### **TRASH**

Please be advised that in accordance with Township ordinances, trash shall not be placed at the curb before 6 p.m. on the day preceding trash pick-up. Excess trash in heavy duty tie bags can only be placed at the curb on the day of trash pick-up. Please refer to your copy of Heatherwood's Governing Documents – Exhibit F – Rules & Regulations – Trash – Page 1 for the specifics.

#### **SPRING CHECKLIST**

In preparation, you may find the following checklist helpful:

#### ✓ SPRINKLER SYSTEM:



up sprinkler system. After start-up, check sprinkler heads after the first few times of operation to ensure that heads are retrieving properly and are flush with the ground. Probably a good idea to check sprinkler heads monthly during its operation season.

NOTE: OUR LANDSCAPING COMPANY
IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR
SPRINKLER HEADS THAT MAY
BE DAMAGED DURING LAWN
CUTTING DUE TO MALFUNCTIONING HEADS.

- **❖ BATTERY REPLACEMENT** − Check battery in sprinkler system timer box and replace if necessary.
- SCHEDULED DAYS Check to ensure that system is set for "odd" watering days only.

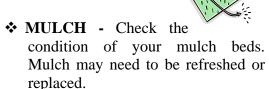
NOTE: THIS IS A TOWNSHIP ORDINANCE.

- \* WATERING TIMES Set the watering times to avoid "over" watering especially on the sides of the homes where the swales are located and in the courtyards.
- ❖ SPRINKLER HEADS Check the location of the sprinkler heads to ensure proper coverage. For those homeowners who have a courtyard behind their homes, check to ensure that the sprinkler heads are positioned at least 12 inches from the drainage grates.

**❖ SENSOR** – Check sprinkler system sensor to ensure proper operation.

#### ✓ LANDSCAPING:

- COURTYARD DRAINS Check courtyard drains to ensure that they are clear of grass overgrowth.
- FERTILIZATION -Fertilize trees and bushes.



- ❖ PVC WIRES Check to ensure that any PVC, pipes, or wires located on the sides of your homes are protected from weed whackers or lawn mowers. This would be especially relative for those homes that do not have landscaping beds located on the sides of their homes.
- ❖ SEWER PIPE & CAP For those homeowners who have their sewer pipes located on their front lawn, check to ensure that the pipe and cap are flush with the ground. A few options to consider:
  - Cut pipe flush with the ground.
  - Mark area with a flag on lawn cutting days.

NOTE: OUR LANDSCAPING COMPANY
IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR
SEWER PIPES AND CAPS THAT
MAY BE DAMAGED DURING
LAWN CUTTING IF THEY ARE
NOT FLUSH WITH THE GROUND
OR MARKED WITH FLAGS.

❖ SINKHOLES – Check grass area between the sidewalk and street for sinkholes; may need to be filled in. This would be especially warranted

if you have a street storm drain located by your grass.

## STREET TREES Check to ensure that your street tree branches do not

your street tree branches do not interfere with pedestrians walking by; may need to be trimmed.



- ❖ **SUPPLIES** Check your lawn care supplies to ensure sufficient stock if you treat your own lawns.
- SWALES Check your swales between your home and your neighbor for proper drainage. Swale should not be saturated or have standing water. A few options to consider:
  - Coordinate watering times with your neighbor. Due to the proximity of homes, less water is needed.
  - Check the pitch of the swale to ensure that the water is draining properly. May need to fill in or correct pitch.
  - NOTE: IF YOU FIND THAT YOUR SWALE IS SATURATED BEFORE A LAWN CUTTING DAY, YOU MAY WANT TO MARK AREA WITH FLAGS TO SIGNIFY A "NO CUT" TO PREVENT RUTS/DAMAGE BY THE LANDSCAPERS.
- ❖ TREES Check to ensure that all trees (excluding street trees) are in compliance with Heatherwood's guideline for tree height restriction; may need to trim trees.
- ❖ WATER HOSES Check the condition of your water hose(s). Ensure that hoses are on a platform or patio and not left on the lawn.

NOTE: OUR LANDSCAPING COMPANY
IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR
HOSES AND/OR HOLDERS THAT
MAY BE DAMAGED DURING
LAWN CUTTING IF THEY ARE
LEFT ON THE LAWN.

❖ WEEDS - Check for weeds in flowerbeds, tree beds, around mailbox posts, utility boxes, and seams in driveways. Remove weeds and/or spray with weed killer.

#### ✓ PROPERTY MAINTENANCE:

- ENTRANCE DOOR Check front entrance door for fading and nicks; may need a fresh coat of paint.
- **\* HOME SIDING -** Ensure that the siding on your home is free of embedded dirt and mildew; may need to be power-washed. For those homeowners who have a problem with mildew on their siding, it may need a special treatment to help eliminate the problem. For those homes that have stucco, you may want to consult a professional on best cleaning treatment.
- ❖ MAILBOX POST Check the condition of the mailbox post. May need to be sanded and/or painted. In addition, please ensure that the base of the mailbox post is protected to avoid damage that may occur from the landscaper's weed whacker. Clearance should be at least 12 inches from the mailbox post.

NOTE: OUR LANDSCAPING COMPANY
IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR
UNPROTECTED MAILBOX
POSTS THAT MAY BE
DAMAGED DURING WEED
WHACKING.

- ❖ PAINTED TRIMS Check the condition of all painted trims, i.e., front entrance door trim, garage door trim, and sliding door trim, etc.
- **❖ ROOF SHINGLES** Check your roof shingles for fungus; may need to be treated/cleaned.
- ❖ SIDEWALKS Check the sidewalks to ensure that there are no fertilizer/dirt/rust stains from your lawn; may need to be cleaned.
- WINDOW SHUTTERS Check window shutters for fading; may need a fresh coat of paint.
- ✓ **TIPS:** May want to check out the "Tips" section on the Heatherwood Website
  - Gardening
  - **❖** Homeowner Tips
  - Insects & Landscaping Pests

#### **BOOK CLUB**

Dona McKenney, Homeowner

Attention Book and Reading Enthusiasts! Are any Heatherwood residents interested in being part of a book club here in the community? I recently moved here from Maryland and am interested in being part of a book club that is close by, that reads good books, that likes to have interesting discussions, and that likes to have fun. I see the club providing opportunities to escape into a great book, and have great discussions. These would be very relaxed and easygoing get-togethers and discussions about books. Each month, a different book would be chosen by the group to read, and then discussed at the next meeting. If anyone is interested, please contact me at donamckenney@comcast.net, or 410-382-7441. I would be willing to host the first get-together and select the first book. Happy reading!

#### ARB COMMITTEE

Sandra Imaoka, Chairman

#### ARB APPLICATION

Spring is in the air and you may be thinking about doing some improvements to the outside of your home. Please remember that an Architectural Review Board (ARB) application needs to be submitted and approved **prior** to beginning any work.

For your convenience, the ARB application form can be accessed through the Heatherwood website under Table of Contents – Forms. For those homeowners who do not have access to the Heatherwood website, contact Marcie Hummer at Target Property Management at 856-988-8000 (Ext. 320) for a copy. In addition, a copy of Addendum F-1, which is an itemized list of those improvements not requiring an application, can be accessed under the Table of Contents – Governing Documents.

#### **COMMUNITY ARB INSPECTION**

This year the Architectural Review Board (ARB) members will be conducting a site inspection of our entire community beginning in early May. For identification purposes, we will be wearing a bright colored vest.



Have a great spring...

#### **SOCIAL COMMITTEE**

Ruth L. Gutleber, Chairman

Our Heatherwood Holiday Luncheon, held at The Palace on December 9, 2012, had a great turnout ....83 attendees!!! A grand time was had by all. The food, beginning with fruit salad, grilled marinated vegetable platter, Caesar salad, followed by Flounder Florentine stuffed with spinach,

mushroom, and aged Romano cheese, Tortellini Aurora served with grilled asparagus in a cream tomato basil sauce, Boneless Breast of Capon stuffed with vegetable bread stuffing with cherry amaretto demi glaze, grilled mashed potatoes, and sugar snap peas, was mouthwatering. All this, followed by ice-cream and cake and, of course, beverages, beer, and wine.

The atmosphere was festive, enhanced with a holiday tree topped off by the many, many auction items that added to the fun, not to mention the special auction items which included wine baskets, a Keurig Platinum Mini Brewer, Bath Set, Bedding Ensemble (queen size), and a 32" LG LCD Flat Screen TV.

Heatherwood thanks our very own Social Committee members for making this a special holiday gathering.



Such a good time was had at the Holiday Luncheon in 2012 that the Social Committee is planning the luncheon again in 2013 at The Palace.

There will not be a Garage Sale in Heatherwood this year, but we will hold one in the spring of 2014, so start saving those items you wish to sell.

#### **GARDEN COMMITTEE**

Norman Imaoka, BOT Liaison

The Garden Committee, once again, raised the bar with this past holiday season decorating. As the committee members promised, a little something special was definitely added for our delight. The lighted reindeer was accompanied with a companion, while our very own Charlie Brown tree was topped with a lighted red bow. All this, complemented by the nearby brightly lighted Gazebo with lighted soldier at its entrance and presents below, beautiful bows on the benches, and two lighted spiral trees in the landscaping bed recently spruced up for the coming seasons; a vision surely to bring back the memory of childhood excitement during the holidays.

And let's not forget the grand entrance with its lighted wreaths, lights and beautiful bows, the lighted wreaths hanging on the pond fence, the lighted geese, and red and green tree lights. We, once again, thank our Garden Committee members for making this holiday season a dream come true.





#### WELCOME COMMITTEE

Rose Mary Colombo, Chairman

The newly-formed Welcome Committee held its first meeting on January 10, 2013. There are currently six volunteers on the Committee (Ed Behrens, Kathy Logan, Dona McKenney, Donna Ulmer, Peg Yoast, and Rose Mary Colombo.)

The Welcome Committee plans to visit new homeowners within one to two weeks after they move into our Community. Some of the Committee members have volunteered to prepare a bakery item to give to the new homeowner. The Welcome Committee will provide a copy of the Resource List, which contains the names and addresses of area businesses and services, to help the new homeowner get to know Washington Township. A copy of this Resource List is also available on Heatherwood's Website. The Welcome Committee will also discuss the various Social Committee events during the year.

We hope that a visit by the Welcome Committee will make our new homeowners feel welcome in our Community and encourage them to not only participate in the events that occur during the year but also consider volunteering on one of our wonderful Committees.

#### HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW HEATHERWOOD

- 1: Who is responsible for the streets in Heatherwood?
- 2: Where was the 2012 Heatherwood Holiday luncheon located?
- 3: What is the name of the newest Heatherwood committee formed?
- 4: How many stop signs are located within Heatherwood?
- 5: How many homes sold in Heatherwood in 2012?

#### **ANSWERS:**

1: The Township; 2: The Palace; 3: The Welcome Committee; 4: 10; 5: 6



#### NEIGHBORS' NEWS - 2013

Our condolences to the families of Sandra Lepo and Esther R. Handwerker, Heatherwood residents who recently passed away.

If you would like to post a note in future newsletters, please send your message to Ruth Gutleber at <a href="heatherwoodsec@comcast.net">heatherwoodsec@comcast.net</a>.

# Heatherwood Business Ads



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