

Furnace Hills Homeowners Assoc., Phase 1 Community Newsletter

Fall Edition 9/05

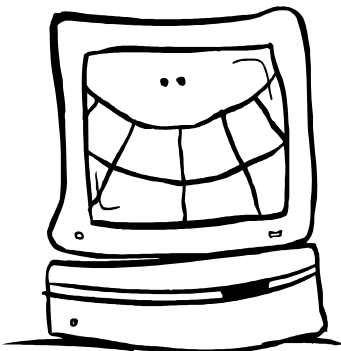
Page 1 of 4



Board of Directors Announces Tot Lot Replacement in 2006 at the National Night Out Against Crime.

The Furnace Hills Tot Lot on Windsor Drive has been here since the community was originally developed in the late 80's. There haven't been any major changes to the tot lot since it was created and there was no contingency plan put in place by any previous Board of Directors for replacement or for major repairs. One evening last month, members of the Board of Directors visited the tot lot at the request of a homeowner and they were deeply concerned with the state of the equipment. So much so that the board decided that the old stairs needed to be removed and replaced with a new set of stairs within a few days of our visit. But this visit made it clear that the equipment is rapidly becoming an unsafe environment for our children (splinters, nails, etc.). We are pleased to announce that the Board of Directors has decided that it is time to replace the tot lot. Not just repair it but completely remove the old equipment and replace it with new equipment. We are in the process now of deciding which playground company we wish to contract and we would like to hear from all of the parents in the community for suggestions that we should consider when deciding on what we need. When taking on this project, we knew from the outset that we did not have the needed funds readily available. We are asking the community to keep an eye on our new website for information on how you can donate to the Tot Lot replacement fund, when you can visit local businesses for fund raising events* and find out other ways you can assist us. If you are familiar with fundraising projects and have had a successful project of your own, please let us know. Our goal is to raise \$25,000 between fundraising events and finding matching grants. We hope everyone in the community will assist us with this project. We know that many of you without children may feel that this is not an issue that concerns you. Well, think of it this way...if the neighborhood children do not have a fun and safe place to go to, then where will they be playing? The answer: in the streets, on the street corners and possibly even on your private property. It is vital to the WHOLE community that we provide our neighborhood children with a safe place to play.

*See page 3 for information on the first fundraiser.



Furnace Hills HOA, Phase 1 is on the Web!

As was announced in the last newsletter, the Furnace Hills Homeowners Association is now on the web. The website has a lot of information for all residents in the community. Homeowners can download Architectural Request Forms, there are Web Logs for each of the courts and email addresses have been set up to reach the board of directors. Newsletters will only be published quarterly, the website will be updated as decisions are made by the board. Stop by today! Stop by often!

www.furnacehills.org

Furnace Hills Homeowners Assoc., Phase 1 Community Newsletter

Fall Edition 9/05

Page 2 of 4



McGruff visits the neighborhood kids

Watch for Neighborhood Children

School is now in session. Please be cautious on Windsor Drive, as the School Bus will make frequent stops and pick up or let out area children three times a day.

Notice on House Trim Paint Colors

Effective immediately, the proper paint colors for the trim on the houses in our community can be found at Westminster Duron. We have found many problems occurring at our previous location...colors not being on file, etc.

From this point on, when you need to re-paint the trim on your house, please go to Westminster Duron for your paint. The colors have all been logged into their computer system...you will need to ask for Furnace Hills Phase I and ask for the paint color by name. If you do not know the name of the paint color, please contact our architectural committee for that information (ARC@furnacehills.org).

Westminster Duron
7 Carroll Plaza
410-876-8383



National Night Out

Furnace Hills joined thousands of other communities nationwide to celebrate the occasion on August 2, 2005. This year, Pfc. Douglas McAllister of the Westminster City Police, Brinks Home Security, as well as Westminster Mayor Thomas Ferguson and members of the Westminster City Council joined us and met several enthusiastic families from the community. Members of the FHHOA Board of Directors were on hand to speak about an exciting project for the members of the community as we are going to begin the process of replacing the current tot lot on Windsor Drive. We also had a discussion and quiz for the children about bicycle safety and a prize was given to one of the local kids for having the most correct answers on the quiz. Mark Rose, from Brink's Home Security led a discussion, which included tips for protecting your house and family. As in years past, the evening also included a visit by McGruff the Crime Dog and the K-9 Unit from Westminster City Police, where Pfc. William Long and his partner Rex showed everyone how smart a police dog needs to be.

Many local government officials stopped by to join members of the community. Westminster Mayor Tom Ferguson, Westminster Chief of Police Jeff Spaulding, Westminster City Council Members Kevin Utz, Suzanne Albert and Dr. Robert Wack all stopped by. They spoke with members of the community about life in Westminster and learning about what we would like to see to continue to improve life in Westminster. Chief Spaulding also presented a letter from Senator Barbara Mikulski's office congratulating the entire community on our continued commitment to making life in Maryland better for everyone. Plenty of other officers from the Westminster City Police stopped by as well. Capt. Randy Barnes stopped by with Councilman Wack, Lieutenant Misty Budzinski stopped by with Councilwoman Albert, Cadet Workman assisted with McGruff. Also with McGruff was Sgt. Kenny Carlisle who is a volunteer with the department's SCORE program. The final guest was Sgt. Mike Bible who helps all the communities in Westminster with this event every year. We thank him for his assistance in organizing the event.

There were plenty of door prizes and we would like to thank all of the community sponsors who donated prizes. We encourage everyone to show your appreciation by patronizing these businesses whenever possible: Brink's Home Security, The Baltimore Sun, Kim Pintzow - Tastefully Simple Independent Consultant (Silver Court Resident), Jennifer Helm - Pampered Chef Independent Consultant (South Hills Court Resident), Loretta Grieves - Partylite Independent Consultant (South Hills Court Resident), Legends Café, Time Out Sports Grill, Classic Pizzeria, Frisco's Family Pub, NuBoys Automotive, Coffey Music Center, Target, Safeway and Great Moments in Sports. We hope everyone will join us again next year.

**Furnace Hills Homeowners Assoc., Phase 1
Community Newsletter**

Fall Edition 9/05

Page 3 of 4

YOU'RE INVITED

**TO COME HAVE A DELICIOUS MEAL,
DO SOME EARLY HOLIDAY SHOPPING AND
HELP YOUR COMMUNITY ALL AT THE SAME TIME!!!**

Come to Legends Cafe between 5:00pm and 9:00pm
on Wednesday, September 21st, 2005.

Bring this flyer and present it when ordering
and Legends will donate 10% of your bill to the
Furnace Hills Phase I Tot Lot Replacement Project!

In addition,
come visit the back room at Legends for some great shopping with:

Tastefully Simple, presented by Kim Pintzow (Silver Court resident)
Pampered Chef, presented by Jennifer Helm (South Hills Court resident)
Partylite, presented by Loretta Grieves (South Hills Court resident)
Last-minute addition: Creative Memories, Presented by Erin Inman (South Hills Court resident)

Each of these three ladies will be donating portions of their sales
from this event to the Tot Lot Replacement Project!

Even if you don't have kids of your own that would be using the Tot Lot,
you can still come out and enjoy a delicious meal at Legends and support
the community in which you live and some of its local business owners.

We look forward to seeing you there!

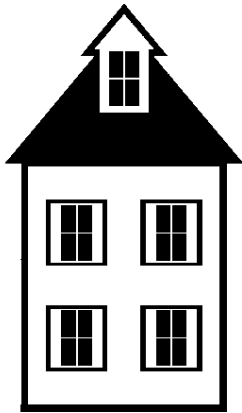
Furnace Hills Homeowners Assoc., Phase 1 Community Newsletter

Autumn Edition 9/05

Page 4 of 4

Homeowners Dues to increase in 2006

For the first time in 4 years, the Furnace Hills Homeowners Association has voted to raise the annual homeowner's fees in 2006. The actual amount is still being determined, but as the bylaws permit the board to raise the annual dues by no more than 10% per year, the new dues will be no more than \$204.49.



Useful Phone Numbers

Westminster City Police

Emergency - 911

Non Emergency Number – (410) 848-4646

Westminster Dept. of Planning And Public Works

General Number - (410) 848-9002

Westminster Bulk Trash – (410) 848-9077

Carroll Co. Times – (410) 848-4400

Village Management – (410) 323-1778

Furnace Hills Homeowner's Association, Inc.
P.O. Box 294
Westminster, MD 21158

Visit us on the web at www.furnacehills.org

Email: Board of Directors: BOD@furnacehills.org • Architectural Committee: ARC@furnacehills.org