

FELLOWSHIP FOREST
BOARD OF DIRECTORS:
Kevin Koepenick, President
Dan Aldinger, Vice President
Nancy Reigle, Treasurer
Christine Horel, Secretary

AT LARGE MEMBERS:

Indira Bucci
Patrick Chaulk
Kaveh Hosseinzadeh

Past Presidents:
Jason Fitzsimmons
Mary McGowan

A Forest Welcome to:

625 Hillen - Luis Argueta
627 Hillen - Milton & Freida Diggs
703 Hillen Rd - William and Wendy Borden
715 Hillen Rd - Libia Belisario
721 Hillen - Rohan Raju and Ashley
606 Valley - Christopher Graham
616 Valley - John and Barbara Westgate

So glad to have you in the Forest!

Condolences

We wanted to share some sad news. Bob Reigle, a resident since 1977, passed away in June. Bob served two terms as FF treasurer and was a block captain for several years. Before cell phones, he provided instant photos for the neighborhood children's visit with Santa. Bob was husband to Nancy, our current FF treasurer. He will be greatly missed.

Long time resident, Dr. Elsa (Merani) Manuel from 501 Forest Lane, passed away this past fall. Our sincerest sympathy goes out to her daughter Pamela and grandchildren Dylan and Allison who reside in the family home.

F Fellowship Forest

January 2020

<https://www.facebook.com/fellowshipforest/>

<http://www.fellowshipforest.org/>



President's Report

Dear Neighbors,

Happy New Year! I hope everyone had an enjoyable and relaxing holiday season. Our Children's Holiday Party at the Lake on December 8 was a lot of fun, and I could see that the kids really enjoyed getting to visit with Santa. I want to thank Amy Smith for organizing the event and Bill Rowles for hosting at his picturesque property.

The Boundary Line Study for Pleasant Plains Elementary continues on schedule. Kathleen Naughton has been diligently going to the meetings and keeping a finger on the pulse of this important process for our neighborhood. I am happy to report that the committee will be recommending "Option B" for adoption by the Baltimore County Board of Education. This option will move all the homes in our neighborhood into the Hampton Elementary School zone. Assuming the Board of Ed agrees, this will be a great result for our community. There is a final public hearing regarding the proposed change on February 26, 2020 at 6:30 pm at the Loch Raven Academy Auditorium. I urge as many residents as possible to attend the meeting to show our support for "Option B."

In October, Fellowship Forest signed an amendment to our agreement with the owners of Towson Place Shopping Center and the surrounding communities. This amendment will allow some additional "fast casual" restaurants to lease in the shopping center in exchange for the shopping center agreeing to install a shopping cart control system that will prohibit shopping carts from leaving the property. It took several months to hash out the details but in the end I felt the new agreement was a real "win-win."

It's been a very active year for new residents in the Forest. We have had at least 10 new neighbors moving in throughout the community in 2019 (see sidebar welcome for a list of the most recent new residents). The FFCA has provided welcome packets to all the new neighbors and invited them to join the association. Speaking of new neighbors, I am happy to report that Bill and Wendy Borden who recently moved in at 703 Hillen Rd have offered to host our Winter Party on January 25 from 7-10 PM (see announcement elsewhere in this newsletter for details). This is always a fun event that breaks up the cold days of January and will be a great warm up to the Superbowl the following weekend (where we will no doubt be watching the Raven's win it all!). I hope you will plan to attend and show a warm welcome to Bill and Wendy.

Sincerely,
Kevin Koepenick



Next Fellowship Forest Board of Governors meeting:

January 21, 6:30 pm.
Anyone wishing to attend, please contact Kevin Koepenick.

kkoepenick@baltimorecountymd.gov

Save the Date!

We will be doing our annual stream clean on April 25th. We will start at Ridgewood and move up and down the stream to collect trash before it enters the Chesapeake Bay.

This is a great opportunity to help the neighborhood and the environment at the same time! Hope to see you there.



It's time for our annual Adult Winter Party!

Saturday January 25, 2020, from 7-10 pm

The home of Bill and Wendy Borden

703 Hillen Rd

The Fellowship Forest Community Association will provide ham and turkey as well as beer, wine, and sodas.

If your last name begins with A-P, please bring a side dish.

If your last name begins with Q-Z, please bring appetizers.

The Board Members will provide desserts.

Kindly RSVP to kkoepenick@baltimorecountymd.gov by January 23.



Safety in the Forest

By Kathleen Naughton



Every now and then we need to remind ourselves about safety practices in our homes and in the neighborhood. We live in such a lovely, quiet area, let's not get lulled to sleep!

- When walking your pets after sunset/before sunrise, please wear reflective clothing or carry a flashlight. It is hard for drivers to see you, especially when rounding corners.
- Please mind the speed limit in our neighborhood; with bends and blind spots, nastiness can happen. Make sure your young drivers (AND THEIR FRIENDS) know that too.
- When you will be away for a few days, let your neighbors know to look out for any suspicious activity. Have them pick up your newspapers and mail/packages. Being neighborly goes a long way in opportunistic crime prevention.
- Lock your car doors! Thieves can pilfer coins, EZPasses, garage door openers, and create other annoyances that you could avoid by locking your car.
- And while you are at it – if you are in the rear yard of your home, secure your front door. Keep bushes trimmed around windows and doors so that thieves can't hide.
- Consider motion sensor outdoor lighting – you might scare a thief or a deer munching on your foliage!
- If you see something or someone that raises your suspicion, report it to 911.

Notice to Landlords

Over the years, the FFCA has had a number of complaints about houses in the neighborhood being rented out to multiple people (usually students) and in one case renting rooms on Air B&B. The complaints generally arise from one or a combination of issues that related to noise, parking problems or lack of house maintenance.

Anyone renting or considering renting a house in Baltimore County should be aware that all rental properties must be registered with Baltimore County Department of Permits, Approvals and Inspections. In addition, it is prohibited to allow more than 2 unrelated people to live in a rental house.

The County Council recently passed a bill to clarify that this rental limit applies to any person that stays at a given property for more than 30 days, whether they pay rent or not, and allows landlords to be fined up to \$1,000 for lying to code officials.



Fellowship Forest

It's cooler in the Forest.



Please send your family's accomplishments (graduations, births, marriages, etc.) for inclusion in the next newsletter to
Christine Horel
cmaccardo@yahoo.com
Or call 410-227-3386
with your news!

Please mark your calendars and plan to attend the Pleasant Plains Overcrowding Public Meeting:

Loch Raven Academy Auditorium
Wednesday, February 26, 2020
6:30pm
(Snow Date: Thursday, February 27, 2020)

We need a large group to support Option B!

Please wear your Fellowship Forest T-shirt if you have one.



Jumping bugs in your basement?

Submitted by: Nancy Reigle

When my children were young, they called them jumping bugs. At first the insects were mainly in the garage but then they came inside and began multiplying in the basement. After some research, I found that the bugs are Camel Crickets. They do not chirp and can jump high and far. The crickets like dark, damp, and humid conditions. They are completely harmless and very rarely cause damage inside a home. They do not sting or bite and are not known to carry a disease. The bugs are accidental invaders and enter your home because there was an opening. Wood piles, piles of newspaper, and fallen trees are favorite places and they will eat anything. Frankly, the crickets are just annoying!

So, how do you combat these critters that can scare you with their jumping? Here are some tips:

- Reduce the humidity in your basement by using a dehumidifier.
- Seal up any openings where they can enter.
- Crickets do not like light. I use a timer to have lights go on and off in my basement at various times or you can leave a light on in dark areas.
- Glue traps. I bought Roach Motels and placed them around the areas where they frequent. They get stuck in the glue and die. The traps do work. There is a sticky substance on the top and the bottom, so you flip it over when one side is filled.

I hope this helps solve your cricket problem. If you have any questions, please contact me at <nnreigle@gmail.com>



Serving your community

Living in Fellowship Forest is a unique experience with its wonderful trees, our lovely lake, proximity to a golf course, and convenient shopping. Since 1946, the Fellowship Forest Community Association has been helping to foster friendships and communications. Hopefully, you have attended some of our social events that include:

- Winter Party (January)
- Spring Gathering/Community Meeting (May)
- Fourth of July Picnic
- Wine and Cheese Party (September or October)
- Children's Party/visit with Santa (December)

Our association is also active with the Towson Alliance of Communities, which is an umbrella group for communities surrounding Towson. Representatives from the community attend meetings about issues that may have a direct impact on our neighborhood (and property values) such as the development at Towson Place and school rezoning. As necessary, we may also communicate with County Council members and State Representatives in Annapolis.

Would you like to help out and be a part of the decision making team of officers and board members? The board meetings occur 5-6 times per year in the neighborhood. It is a good way to meet neighbors and share your ideas. Volunteers are also needed to help organize social events, deliver newsletters, write articles for the newsletter, and occasionally attend a hearing or a community input meeting. Understandably, you may be concerned about a time commitment, but if you talk to any of our past or current board members you will find that it is generally not a lot of time, and there are a number of ways you can get involved that will fit your availability.

If you are interested in being a part of the team or to serve in an area of need, please contact our president, Kevin Koepenick at kkoepenick@baltimorecountymd.gov

2020 FFCA Dues Drive

Please renew your household's membership in the Fellowship Forest Community Association. As we enter our 74nd year, the association needs your support to continue our many events and to maintain our critical "Rainy Day" fund. The FFCA General Fund helps pay for the newsletters, directories, website, the 4th of July Picnic, the Wine and Cheese Party, the Children's Holiday Party, the Adult Winter Party, and neighborhood beautification. In addition, your dues help support activities in the greater Towson community such as: the Towson Community Alliance (TCA), the July 4th Parade, and the Loch Raven Fireworks. Your dues allow FFCA to support legal issues and to hire an attorney if necessary.

Our annual budget is \$3400.00. This supports our neighborhood events, publications and additional possible legal expenses. With 138 homes in our neighborhood, we need at least 70% of our households to pay the minimum dues of \$35 to meet our yearly budget. PLEASE support your neighborhood.

Please mail your check or use PayPal or Venmo to pay your dues no later than May 1, 2020.

Dues are \$35.00 per household;

Please place tear-off (below) in envelope along with your dues payment;

Make checks payable to Fellowship Forest Community Association and mail or hand deliver to Nancy Reigle, 701 Hillen Road, Towson MD 21286;

Pay through PayPal using nnreigle@gmail.com and use the "sending to a friend" option.

If using this option, please email the information below to nnreigle@gmail.com

Pay through Venmo using @Nancy-Reigle

You may also want to participate in our optional ROUNDUP campaign – round up your dues to \$40, \$45 or \$50 (or any amount of your choice) and designate where your **additional** contribution will go:

\$ General Fund \$ 4th of July Parade \$ Loch Raven Fireworks

\$ Rainy Day Fund (savings)

Directory Information

Check here if any of the information below is different from what is in the current directory

Name(s): _____ Names of children living at home: _____

Names of other adults living in the home: _____

Address: _____

Land line phone Number: _____ Cell phone Number: _____
Directory: Yes No Directory: Yes No

EMAIL Blast

We periodically email important community information and neighborhood events and updates. If you do not currently receive these and would like to be included on this list, please give us your current email address. WE DO NOT SHARE these addresses.

EMAIL(please print): _____ @ _____

EMAIL(please print): _____ @ _____

Would you like your email address to be published in the directory? Yes No

Do you currently receive the email blast with the email address listed above? Yes No