

# The Meadow Lark



A Monthly Publication by and for the Residents of The Meadows, a Family Condominium Community

**This Weekend!**

## Meadows Annual Yard Sale & Community Clean-Up

### YARD SALE

**Saturday, May 1**

(Raindate – Saturday May 8)

8:00 am – 1:00 pm

The annual Yard Sale will once again be a yard sale right here in the community (really a “Sidewalk Sale”), just like was tried last fall but that sale was rained out.

You may place your wares for sale in front of your unit, on your front balcony or porch, or in the common areas near your unit. Be careful not to block access to any parking spaces or to the sidewalks which will be used for passage throughout the community.

### COMMUNITY CLEAN-UP

**Dumpster next to Clubhouse  
May 1 & 2**

In keeping with the spring cleaning theme, a dumpster will be provided near the Clubhouse for use by all residents the first weekend of May.

Place items you no longer need in the dumpster for disposal, but there are some things you cannot throw away here: any hazardous materials such as paint, batteries, or tires, as well as concrete and landscape debris may not be disposed of here.

The dumpster will be here rain or shine.

### Comment Meeting on May 6

## Parking Changes Proposed

The Parking Enforcement Committee was tasked by the Board of Directors to make recommendations for changes to the way parking is handled here in The Meadows. We have a limited number of parking spaces, and in at least some areas of the community have a parking problem. They have worked very hard over the last couple of months to come up with a revised parking plan, and now have a draft proposal. The Board has reviewed and made some changes to these proposals at a special session on April 21.

The Board would now like to give the community input into this review process. This will be done on Thursday, May 6, at 7:00 PM in the Clubhouse, prior to the Board meeting.

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## Important Swim Parents Meeting

**Monday, May 3 at 7:30 PM  
in the Clubhouse**

There will be an important meeting of the Swim Team Parents Committee on Monday, May 3 at 7:30 PM in the Clubhouse. The committee is in need of volunteers for various upcoming functions, and needs your attendance at this meeting to be able to begin the proper planning for the upcoming swim season for the Sharks swim team.

In order for the swim team to be a meaningful activity for our children, parental involvement is needed. This is one sport that is a family affair, the parents have as much (or more) fun than the kids do!

We also need more swimmers, if you know of someone in your neighborhood that might be interested, please encourage them to join the team.



**Board of Directors Meeting:** Thursday, May 6 & 20, 7:30 PM in the Clubhouse. Residents and Co-Owners are encouraged to attend. Agendas are posted online and at the Clubhouse on the Tuesday before the meeting. Minutes available upon request at The Meadows office and online at mymeadows.net.

**Swim Team Parents Committee:** Monday May 3, 7:30 PM

**Public Comment on Parking:** Thursday, May 6, 7:00 PM

**Social and Recreation Committee:** Tuesday, May 11 at 7:00 PM

**Pool Committee:** Tuesday, May 11 at 7:30 PM

**Neighborhood Watch Training:** Sunday, May 16 at 2:00 PM.

*Residents and Co-Owners are welcomed and encouraged to attend any committee meeting. All meetings are held in the Clubhouse.*

## Don't Forget! Pool Pass Renewal

Saturday, May 15, 10:00 AM to Noon & Wednesday, May 26, 6:00 to 8:00 PM

## The President's Corner

It's May already! Time to plant and get those tomatoes growing! Don't forget the Yard Sale on May 1, with a rain date of May 8. It's our first "Sidewalk" sale, so remember; items can be placed on your patio, front porch, in the common area surrounding your unit, or in your reserved parking space. Please do not block sidewalks, unreserved parking spaces, or any other roadways or walkways. Good luck with your sales.

The Swim Team will be rolling out the carpet soon, and having a registration event, and fundraisers. Please be on hand to sign your children up to join the team, and help with the fund raising. Towards the end of this month, we will be reissuing pool passes. The pool will open on Memorial Day weekend.

Have a wonderful month.

~ Joy C. Foshier

## Board of Directors Motions

### At the April 15 Meeting:

- Passed motions to approve four and deny two Architectural Review Forms and approve two Interior Alteration Requests.
- Passed a motion to approve a bid from Culbertson for additional powerwashing at a cost of \$1,271.
- Passed a motion to affirm the approval of two motions passed using email regarding tot lot mulch and street sweeping.
- Passed a motion to accept a bid from Reliable Rails for rail repair work in the amount of \$1,466.
- Passed a motion to accept a bid from Katchmark Construction of \$325 for a siding repair.
- Passed a motion to accept a bid from National Antenna of \$343.99 for antenna repairs.
- Passed a motion to accept a bid from Continental Pools for pool repairs at a cost of \$3,850.
- Passed a motion to approve two requests to change the location of reserved parking spaces.
- Passed a motion to approve a bid of \$8900 from KGS Construction Services for a waterproofing job.
- Passed a motion to report the delinquency of a former owner to the credit bureaus and close the account.
- Passed a motion to deny a towing reimbursement request.

COMPLETE MINUTES OF BOARD MEETINGS  
AVAILABLE AT THE OFFICE

## Safety First!

As the weather has now gotten warm, folks of all ages will be out and about walking and riding bicycles both day and night. Be extremely careful as you back your vehicle out of parking spaces, and observe all stop signs as well as The Meadows speed limit of 15 MPH. Parents – please teach your child(ren) to look for and stop whenever they see back-up lights on a vehicle! Drivers have a hard time seeing bikes (and big-wheels, scooters, etc.) at the rear of their cars when other vehicles are parked around them. Children should walk on the sidewalks and not play in the streets.

The pool will open on Sat., May 29 for the season. Please be aware that families and children will be walking and riding bikes to the pools. Remember to be especially cautious around the clubhouse area. Parents – please remind your child(ren) to only cross at intersections and to look both ways before crossing.

### Parking, from page 1

Some of the changes being proposed are allowing only two stickers plus one hang tag for each unit, not allowing paper visitor passes, and requiring a Virginia registration with a Meadows address to get a parking sticker.

Copies of the proposed new rules can be obtained by stopping by The Meadows office or by email upon request for such to meadowsoffice@verizon.net. These are only proposals at this point, if you have questions or would like to comment please attend the meeting on May 6, 7 PM.

## Neighborhood Watch Meeting, Training

There has been renewed interest in the Neighborhood Watch program, and as a result a meeting has been scheduled for Sunday, May 16. Training will also be conducted at this time, it will be held at 2:00 PM in the Clubhouse and everyone in the community is invited and encouraged to attend.



## Fire Safety

Fuel type heaters are *strictly forbidden* by Meadows regulations. In the past fire has occurred here in the Meadows due to the use of kerosene or other fuel heaters. Fire and smoke quickly spread to surrounding units and are a real threat to life, limb and property.

- Kerosene, or any fuel heaters, are forbidden by Meadows regulations.
- Residents should not store combustibles in furnace rooms. It is a serious fire hazard and is against County and Meadows regulations.
- Smoke detectors are required on *each level* of homes in The Meadows.
- Residents should maintain a fire extinguisher in their units. It should be rated at least 2A:10BC.

## Bits & Pieces

### ■ Spring Planting

Spring is fast approaching and many residents are planning on putting in flowers and other plants. Before planting, please check the 'Meadows Rules and Regulations'. If you have any questions, please contact the Meadows Office. The contact information is on the back of this issue.

### ■ Carbon Monoxide Detectors

The furnaces and most hot water heaters in The Meadows use gas. It is imperative that all homes have a working carbon monoxide detector. Carbon monoxide is a colorless and odorless gas which can cause death.

### ■ Lost & Found

In the Meadows Office, 703-830-4464.

## Kindergarten Registration Days

May 3-7 and May 17-21

10:00 AM to 1:00 PM

Centre Ridge Elementary

To schedule a registration appointment,  
call Dianne Shvets, 703-227-2600

## Security Totals

March 16 – April 15, 2010

Vehicles Ticketed: 26

Vehicles Towed: 9

Calls for service and/or situations involving  
or requiring security assistance, by street:

Avocado Court: 0

Cool Oak Lane: 7

Golden Oak Court/Road: 2

Rustling Leaves Lane: 4

Saguaro Place: 3

Saint Germain Drive: 4

Strasburg Drive: 2

Turin Lane: 2

Calls referred to police/fire/rescue: 3

## Important Pool Pass Information for New and Renewal Passes

It's hard to believe, but pool season is right around the corner! Below please find instructions on how to obtain your pool passes for 2010.

**Renewal Passes** – If in the past you received a pool pass with your photo on it, you will not need to come to the Management Office or a pool pass session to get your 2010 pool pass. Simply complete the Pool Registration form (on the website or enclosed if this newsletter was mailed to you) and return it to the Management Office by mail, email, fax or hand delivery. For after-hours convenience you can also leave the form in the council mailbox located in front of the Clubhouse. Provided your account is in good standing, once we have received your completed registration form your pool passes will be updated and either mailed to you or left at your front door. Keep in mind that it will take several days for your passes to reach you once the registration is received, so plan ahead to ensure you are able to enjoy the pools as soon as possible. Only the 2010 pool passes will be accepted by pool staff.

**New Passes** – For new residents or those who have not had a photo pool pass before, you will need to attend one of the pool pass sessions at the Clubhouse in order to have your photo taken and pool pass issued. The pool pass sessions for 2010 will be *Saturday, May 15 from 10 AM until 12 Noon and Wednesday, May 26 from 6 to 8 PM*. If you are a new resident you will need to be sure that a copy of your settlement sheet or lease agreement is on file with the office. If not, please bring the document with you to the pool pass session. If you are not sure, feel free to contact the Management Office to find out if we have your documents already on file. You will also need photo identification and completed Pool Registration Form (on the website or enclosed if this newsletter was mailed to you). Be sure to attend one of these sessions as you must have a 2010 pool pass to enter the pools.

**All Residents** – It is important for new and existing residents to remember that your account must be in good standing in order to receive a new or renewal pool pass. Tenants should check with their Landlord to confirm account status as The Meadows is unable to discuss accounting information with Tenants under any circumstances.

As always, if you have any questions please contact the Management Office.

## Are You Exposed?

During recent property inspections it has been noticed that at some Units the insulation covering the electric wiring and gas lines running from the meters into the utility closet have deteriorated, which could eventually result in exposed wiring. These sections of wiring and gas lines belong to the Co-Owner and it is the Co-Owner's responsibility to maintain them; however, we have been made aware that the utility companies will often perform this work at no cost. Please take a moment to inspect your wiring and gas line and contact the utility company or a certified electrician to make any necessary repairs as soon as possible. You can reach Washington Gas at (703) 750-1000 and NOVEC at (703) 335-0500.

## Noise Reminder

In the warm months we like to spend time outside enjoying the warm weather and socializing with friends and neighbors. We need to remember to minimize disturbances to others even when we are outdoors. Loud music and boisterous conversations can create a lot of unwanted noise for others. During any season residents of upper units should be especially careful of heavy walking and running in their units in the late and overnight hours.

Please remind children to be respectful of others while playing: avoid rowdy horseplay and loud games near windows and patios, never use items from neighbor's porches or patios and do not bounce balls on the exterior of the buildings.

Council of Co-Owners  
**The Meadows**  
6100 Strasburg Drive  
Centreville, VA 20121

The Meadow Lark is published each month exclusively for the benefit of the residents and owners of The Meadows. It is the official publication of the Council of Co-Owners and is under the purview of the Board of Directors. News items, personal ads, and such are welcomed and should be placed in the large mailbox in front of the Clubhouse or emailed to meadowsoffice@verizon.net. The deadline is the 20th of each month. Personal ads must be 25 words or less, on 8½x11-inch paper or emailed to meadowsoffice@verizon.net. Include your name, Meadows address, and telephone number. The Meadows does not endorse any advertisers. EDITORS: Bill Liedtke and Joan Orvis

**Meadows Office**

Monday–Friday, 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM

Phone: 703-830-4464

Fax: 703-815-0755

E-Mail: meadowsoffice@verizon.net

Website: mymeadows.net

**24-Hour EMERGENCY ONLY**  
**Service First: 1-800-309-4709**

**Security**  
703-628-9481

**Towing**  
Battlefield Towing: 703-378-0059

**American Disposal Services**  
703-368-0500  
Call for special pick up, Thursdays only

**Satellite Dishes in The Meadows**



**Remodeling?**

Any desired changes to the exterior or interior of your unit must be submitted on an ARF or Request for Interior Alteration form to the Board of Directors for approval **PRIOR** to making the change.

**A/C UNITS**

If you replace your air conditioning unit, you may install it inside your utility room or submit an ARF for proposed exterior installation.

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**The Visitors Parking Pass can be located at [www.mymeadows.net](http://www.mymeadows.net)**

**Click on Meadows Business in the sidebar menu, then on Forms and Files and scroll down to Online Forms and click to find the Visitors Pass. If you prefer, visit the Meadows Office to pick up copies.**