# The Reflection Homes Association Community Newsletter

June 2021



# **RHA Board**

# & Committee News:

# **Upcoming Meetings:**

**Board** June 14 (tentative) June 28

ACC June 1 (tentative) July 6

REC June 22

**Parking** June 16

SA June 2

Until further notice, all meetings will be online at 7pm & are subject to change.

The RHA website has instructions on attending online meetings.

www.rha-homes.org

## Important Dates:

May 31 Memorial Day May31 Pool Opens! June 6 D-Day Anniversary June 14 Flag Day June 19 Juneteenth June 20 Father's Day June 21 First Day of Spring **RHA Birthday** June 27 July 1 Canada Day July 4 Independence Day

## **RHA Board**

President: Willie Jimenez Elias Vice President: Don Nuss Treasurer: Charlie Marts At Large: Mike Olson Secretary: Colleen Ward

L&N Property Manager: Karen Sine 703-970-8856

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### Board:

by Willie Jimenez Elias, RHA Board President

Key items addressed in May by the RHA Board:

- Town Home (TH) parking lots are about to receive new paint. The Board is in discussion with Battlefield Towing & Storage to restripe, label the reserved parking spots with lot numbers and refresh all the handicap spots.
- Look for maps of TH reserved parking spot assignment details on the RHA website in early June. Send any comments to the RHA board by June 15th.
- The Board is considering TH Drainage and Erosion issues. A Request for Proposals (RFP) is planned to be released to contractors shortly.
- TH light project RFP is ready to be sent out for bid to contractors. The Board should be evaluating/deciding on a contract in the month of June.

### Architectural Control Committee:

by Georgette Nuss, ACC Chair

At the last regularly scheduled meeting of the ACC, there were no applications for change. The Committee changed the June meeting date to Tuesday, June 1.

Inspections have been completed and homeowners have received letters from L&N detailing what needs to be done to bring their houses into compliance with the guidelines. Owners/residents need to heed the correction letters they receive because the Board of Directors will be enforcing RHA's legal right to fine for uncorrected violations as authorized by the 3rd amendment.

DID YOU KNOW...Taking care of your lawn does not mean simply mowing it. If, after it is mowed it appears your lawn looks more like you harvested it, you need to rake it. In order to avoid that, either mow the lawn twice at two different heights, or mow it once and rake the lawn after you mow it. (continued on page 2)

Announcement: Recreation Committee Vacancy. One of the six RHA members of the eight person Recreation Committee is departing. If you are interested in serving the community on this unique way, please submit your name and a brief statement about yourself to RHAboard@rha-homes.org

# Street Ambassador Corner by Derek Briggs, Schwenger Pl Street Ambassador

# Time for some trash talk!

A little reminder about trash bins. Trash and recycle bins in the Town Homes (TH) must have your address on them, but it's not required in the Detached Homes (DH). The bins also need to have covers/lids on them to prevent stuff from blowing out. Do not put your bins out prior to dusk (7:00 PM) the day before pick-up and put them away by the evening of the pick-up.

When your toter (trash bin) is put away, it should not be visible from the common

areas (TH) or from the sidewalk (DH). Have a screen, corral or a carefully placed bush that will cover at least 75% of the bin.

In the TH, bulk item pickup is on Fridays. Please do not put your bulk items out before 2:00 PM on Thursday.

This and more was covered in the flyer sent to all TH last month. All of the rules can be found at the RHA web site, RHA-Homes.org/trash-details, plus other useful information can also be found on the site.

Have a great summer!



Do This

Not This



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ACC (cont'd from page 1)

In addition, residents in the detached homes (DH) are required to edge their sidewalks. There are some sidewalks in the DH where it is impossible to walk side-by-side without stumbling on protruding

clumps of grass. Plus, it looks a lot nicer when it's edged.

DID YOU KNOW...The ACC is concerned with all aspects of keeping property values up—not just approving applications for change. However, the ACC needs everyone's help to maintain a beautiful community. It is difficult to do that when people continue to put their trash out wherever and whenever they want. Your trash can should be placed in front of your home on the appropriate day and time and removed by end of day.

Additionally, the amount of litter in the community is disgraceful. If you're going to buy a Slurpee from 7-11, it doesn't mean you can drop the cup on the street whenever you're done with it. Take it home and place it in your trash can.

Those are only two things everyone can do to help. There are lots more, and it has nothing to do with painting your house or putting on a new roof. TOGETHER WE CAN CLEAN UP OUR COMMUNITY.

DID YOU KNOW...Don't forget, as of April 19, Fairfax County's enforcement of their new yard waste policy began. The policy requires that all yard waste be placed in paper bags or reusable containers—plastic bags are not allowed.



DID YOU KNOW... The next ACC

meeting is scheduled for **TUESDAY**, June 1, 7:00, via Zoom. Use this link, <a href="https://zoom.us/join">https://zoom.us/join</a>, to join the meeting. The Meeting ID is 865 4474 6564, and the Passcode is RHAACC. To join the meeting by phone, please call 301 715 8592. The Meeting ID is 865 4474 6564, and the Passcode is 446550.

### Recreation Committee, Inc. (RCI):

by Lourdes Umana & Gene Harper, Recreation Committee members Cold, rainy weather kept people away from the scheduled pool opening day on Saturday, May 29 (and on Sunday, May 30). But sunny and warmer conditions Monday, Memorial Day, May 31, brought out sunbathers and swimmers.

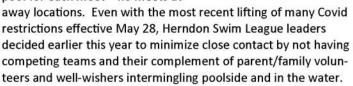
Pool pass applications are being quickly processed and passes mailed out. Passes must be requested online at

https://swimmingpoolpasses.net/Reflection-recreation. If you prefer to mail your application, instructions are on that website.

Swim team practice began June 1, and the Riptides season is slated to begin June 12 with team time trials. However, 2021 team meets promise to be quite.

team meets promise to be quite different from pre-pandemic times.

Competition begins June 19, but each team will swim in its home pool for each meet – no meets at



Here's how it works: Swim team meets consist of each team's swimmers doing its events in its home pool waters, with only its coaches, swimmers, starters, timers, judges and score-sheet runners present. The judges then rank the competing team swimmers' times to determine winners in each event. The team with the best times wins the meet.

Supporting family members won't be able to cheer from the sidelines. Current rules call for only swimmers and volunteers working the meet (i.e., timers, runners, judges, etc.) to be allowed within the pool area during meets.

The Riptides season's 10 scheduled meets will end July 24. For more info, email the team at reflectionriptides@gmail.com.

As reported in the May issue, the creek cleanup yielded many items pulled out of the creek and bagged for removal. But some pieces proved too bulky and heavy and needed help being moved beyond the creek's bank. So contractor Peter's Landscape, Inc. was called into action.

Pamela Chilet is moving and has resigned from the Recreation Committee. We thank her for her dedication and wish her well in the future. If you are interested in volunteering to step into her vacated spot, please contact the RHA board, or any RCI current member for information on how to apply.

Doggie bags have been replenished in the dispensers around the community, and we are asking residents to please pick up after your pets.

The next committee meeting will be June 22, 2021. Property owners will receive more details in the mail.

# **Property Manager Comments:**

TH Parking passes for July–December were mailed out the last week of May. Owners are responsible for getting them to their tenants. Mailing them this early should give plenty of time for the transfer to tenants and them being placed on the vehicles. If an owner has not received them by June 15<sup>th</sup>, they should contact the L&N office at 703-600-6000 or pm@rha-homes.org.

by Karen Sine, L&N Community Association Manager

Hearing Notifications from the Annual Inspection will be sent out soon to owners who have not contacted covenants@legumnorman.com with evidence of their corrections or requested an extension. Owners who have not taken the actions required need to respond immediately showing their corrections have been completed or be prepared to attend the hearing on the date and time stated in the letter they will or have already received.

**Parking Committee** 

by Brenda Brown, Parking Committee Chair

TH Parking Stickers: According to L&N, TH parking stickers for the next six-months are being sent out early this time -- watch for the new stickers which will be valid from July thru December. Put the new one on next to your current one, & don't remove the current one until after July 1. Remember, stickers must be on "clear" glass. No smoked or tinted glass.

TH Lot Striping: Watch your mail for updates on parking lot striping and dates your vehicles will need to be moved to accomplish this.

Assigned TH Parking Spaces. We are in the final stages of working out marking and assigning spots. Maps will be posted on the RHA website with proposed assignments. Send any questions/concerns to: Parking@rha-homes.org



May Flowers in RHA





# Eewweee! Crunch! Gross! Yum-yum! Disgusting! Enjoyable! (...unprintable!)

by Gene Harper, Recreation Committee member One way or another, we've have had our fill of bug-eyed cicadas. They've surfaced everywhere around our RHA community.

They've left holes in our yards that don't count toward soil aeration. Their skeletons are skewed on tree branches and trunks, and even along fences. Our pet dogs have eaten way too many, with bad digestive results from head to tail. And we all know of or have seen a fellow

human munch on a culinary cicada delight! And we're all sick of that low-frequency, constant whirring mat-

ing sound that unites these thousands of winged invaders.

But rest assured, by the end of June, this group of invaders – Brood X of the cicada family will be gone for another 17 years. They're kind of like us - Millennials; Generation Xs, Ys and Zs; and Baby Boomers: They arrive

in great numbers, leave their influences everywhere, and then disappear them, suddenly; us, over a much, much longer period.

They've even helped bring us out of The Pandemic: We too were shut down for a long time, and now we too are out in full force. And like our winged guests, we too are enjoying life once again. But hopefully, unlike the plight of the cicada bugs, we get to



Blue Jay swallowing cicada nymph

keep thriving in the decades and years ahead.



Nymph ready to emerge

Cicada



Cicada nymph empty exoskeletons on a neighbor's fence

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## \*\*\*\*NOTES\*\*\*\*

# Spring Spruce-Up Reminders:

# Lawns and Landscaping

by Charles Marts, Board Treasurer

-All lawns should be mowed on a weekly basis and kept weedfree, plus all trees and shrubs should be trimmed, maintained, and dead material removed. The resulting grass clippings and yard waste should be placed in paper bags (not plastic).

-All flower beds should be kept weed-free.

#### **Fences**

 -Fences should be repaired and power washed to eliminate mildew as needed.

### **Home Exterior**

- -Power washing should be done to clean and eliminate mildew on siding and other surfaces such as sidewalks, front porch, steps, and driveways.
- -Window shutters need to be repaired, painted, or replaced if missing, faded and/or in disrepair

# Trash/Recycle Containers

-Should not be visible from street on non-trash days.

#### Mailboxes

-Ensure your mailbox post is in good repair and repaint if needed. Mailbox posts should be painted at least once every two years as needed.

Thanks to everyone for your cooperation in support of maintaining the beauty and comfort of our Reflection Homes community!

# Hot Fun In The (Almost) Summertime!

On Oram and Berger Place during one of the May heat spells.

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2nd Free Library is Up: Located on the corner of Monahan Drive and Parcher Avenue. Help yourself to a free book to read -- drop off a donation for other folks. Thanks to Charlie Marts and Bilal Kheri for making it happen a second time.



HelloUNE



Iune 2021



Sun Wed Fri Mon Tue Thu Sat 1 7:00-9:00pm 7:00-9:00 5 30 (May) 31 Architectural Street Pool Opens! World Ambassadors online meeting Bicycle online meeting Memorial Day CORPUS CHRISTI Day CHEESE DAY 10 11 12 CHOCOLATE V ICE CREAM DAY World Oceans Day 13 14 7:00-9:00pm 15 16 7:00-9:00pm 17 18 RHA Parking Committee online meeting Board online International meeting Picnic Day 22 7:00-9:00pm 24 25 26 Recreation Committee online meeting RHA 2 27 28 7:00-9:00pm 30 1 (July) Birthday RHA Board online meeting National BET AWARDS Camera Day

This newsletter is created by the Board of Directors of Reflection Homes Association in order to inform you about its work, and to keep you updated on things important to our neighborhood. If you have any questions, suggestions, or contributions to this newsletter, please email them to: RHAboard@RHA-Homes.org and/or newsletter@RHA-Homes.org

Visit: http://rha-homes.org to read past newsletters, or to request email newsletter delivery.