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The Georgetown

A monthly Georgetown Community Services Association
Publication

April, 2013

Mission Statement

To preserve and enhance property values and amenities by maintaining common property, collecting and disbursing assessments, promoting safety and welfare of residents, and enforcing governing documents.

Vision Statement

To become a world-class Homeowners Association that is characterized by wise resource management, proactive problem resolution, and top-notch member service.

Core Values

- We are member oriented.
- We are committed to excellence.
- People are our most importance resource.
- We work as a team and advocate teamwork.

President's Corner

On behalf of the Association and Board of Directors, I would like to welcome David L. Campbell, Sr. as a new member of the Board of Directors. His appointment was approved by the Board at the General Meeting held on Tuesday, March 12th. Mr. Campbell is the owner of Sidney A. Jones and Campbell Funeral Services and has lived in our community for nearly 13 years. Mr. Campbell will finish out the term of Mrs. Carmen Ward who had to resign for personal reasons. I would like to thank Mrs. Ward for her contributions as a member of the Board. Best regards, Rich Lindsey

Annual Easter Egg Hunt

Please join us at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, March 30th at the Southside Clubhouse for the Annual Association Easter Egg Hunt. Children 11 years old and younger are invited to participate. The Easter Bunny will be here, so don't forget your camera and basket for gathering eggs.

Annual Elections

The annual election for Board of Directors is just around the corner. Anyone interested in running for one of the four open seats can come by the office and pick up a Candidacy Petition. A copy of the petition may also be printed from our web site: www.georgetowncsa.com. Completed petitions must be returned by April 26th. Ballots will be mailed on May 7th and are due back by June 10th. Ballots will be counted and the results announced at the Association's Annual Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, June 11th at 7:00 p.m.

Lagoon Dredging Project

The dredging and re-landscaping of the lagoon adjacent to Avocet Way, West White Hawthorne Drive, and Red Fox Drive has been finished. The project was completed within budget and to specification. We thank the residents living in the area for accommodating the noise and mild traffic congestion during the project.

Archeology Site in Georgetown

Recently, archeologists discovered evidence of plantations and Civil War activity behind Parker's Convenience Store at the corner of King George Blvd and GA 204. Free 90-minute tours are being offered from March 19th through May 11th. Tour times are 8:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m., and 2:30 p.m. No reservations are required for parties of 10 or less. Larger groups need to contact Rita Elliott at relliott@newsouthassoc.com. Closed-toe shoes are recommended. You are welcome to take pictures but no artifacts may be removed from the site. Children younger than 16 must be accompanied by an adult. Parking is available in the green space behind the car wash. Please do not park in the Parker's parking lot.

GCSA Board Members

Richard Lindsey (President)
 Kenneth Corder (VP)
 Warren Smith (Sec/Treasurer)
 Robin Byers Butch Braddy
 Renee Rabbitt Barbara Rubin
 John Thompson David Campbell



Architectural Review Board Members

Robert Smith Warren Smith
 Renee Rabbitt Robin Byers
 Ray Sili Mike Richardson
 Matthew Delano Mike Yardman (coordinator)

New ARB Member

The Association would like to welcome Matthew Delano as its newest member of the Architectural Review Board. Mrs. Delano's nomination was approved by the Board of Directors at the February General Meeting. We thank him for volunteering for this very important organization.

ARB Violation Summary Thru February 28, 2013

The following is a summary of current ARB violations:

Total new violations	277	YTD	480
Total violations repaired	353	YTD	607
Hang Tags issued	95	YTD	147
Letters mailed	279	YTD	478
Issues referred to GM/atty	76	YTD	117

Total current violations at the end of February: 467



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CSA Website:

www.georgetowncsa.com

March Calendar of Events

Apr 2 7:30 ARB Meeting (SS)
Apr 9 7:45 BOD Meeting (SS)
Apr 16 7:30 ARB Meeting (SS)

Change of E-mail Address

As of March 20th, the Association's new e-mail address is: georgetown1234@comcast.net.

Monthly Payment E-mail Reminders

If you would like to receive a monthly e-mail reminding you that the monthly assessment is due, please let us know via e-mail at georgetown1234@comcast.net.

Playground Improvements

Some of you may have noticed that we have sprucing up the playgrounds at our Southside Clubhouse and at Sugar Mill. The equipment has been re-painted and new swings have been installed. In April, we will be adding new sand to both sites, and some safety berms around the ends of the slides at the Sugar Mill Playground.

Soliciting in GCSA Neighborhoods

From time to time, most of us experience the annoyance of soliciting in our neighborhoods. This soliciting can come in the form of unexpected knocks on the door, to advertisements being thrown in your yards or put in (or on) our mailboxes. Solicitation is banned in our townhome and duplex communities, and it is discouraged in our single-family home neighborhoods. Any solicitor must have a business license or permit issued by Chatham County or the City of Savannah. Religious entities simply handing out literature are not required to have permits. Here are some things you can do to deter or respond to solicitors: (1) Residents who hear unexpected knocks on the door should verify who is there before opening the door. If the caller is unwanted, the resident should yell through the door for the caller to leave. If the resident chooses to open the door and confront the caller, the resident should demand to see the caller's license or permit. If he/she is soliciting something and cannot produce a license or permit, the resident should call the Police and report the solicitor. If at any time the resident senses danger or suspicious activity, he/she should likewise call the Police (911). (2) Residents should contact the Postal Inspector when solicitors, or either handbill or ad solicitors put advertising in or on their mailbox. (3) Residents who receive unwanted PennySavers and other advertisements thrown onto their property should contact those entities directly and request they be deleted from distribution. (4) Residents should post "No Solicitation" decals on their doors. If any person comes onto your property without permission and fails to leave upon your request, you can call the Police and report a trespassing violation.

Limitations on Cash Payments

Beginning on April 1st, the Association will not make change when cash payments are provided from members. Members desiring to pay with cash will need to provide exact change or be willing to allow any excess to be applied to their account. This policy was adopted by the Board at the February meeting as Administrative Resolution 2013-1. This resolution has been posted to our web site: www.georgetowncsa.com.

Feral Cats

Did you know that one female cat and her offspring can create as many as 420,000 cats in 7 years? Did you also know that some feral cats in Chatham County may carry rabies? Further, when someone puts out food for these cats, other animals that potentially carry disease are drawn to that location? With these things in mind, the Association strongly recommends that residents do not feed or approach feral cats. Further, residents need to note that it is against County regulations to feed or provide sustenance to any animal, dog, or cat upon public property or private property of others without express permission of the animal and property owner. This includes all Association green space, lagoons, and other areas.

Pet Waste Pick-up

As a reminder, Chatham County Ordinances require dog owners to have a leash on their pet when located outside the confines of their house or fenced yard. The ordinances also require owners to both carry and utilize equipment (such as plastic bags) to pick up after their pets do their "business."

Yard Waste Pick-up

Please help keep the neighborhoods looking nice (and enhance property values) by keeping the leaves and pine straw picked up. Chatham County Public Works Department picks up yard waste curb-side every Monday. Clippings, leaves, and/or straw must be put in reusable containers or in paper bags (available at hardware stores). Cut up limbs and brush may be placed neatly at the curb for pick-up. The use of plastic bags is not authorized. Yard waste may not be placed curb-side earlier than 6 p.m. on Sunday evenings.

Collections Procedures

As a reminder, the Association implemented revised collections procedures in 2012. Please note that payments are due on the first of each month. Accounts become past due after 30 days and finance charges begin to accrue. When an account remains unpaid for 60 days, the remainder of that year's assessments are added to the account and are due in full at that point. Once the remainder of the year's assessments has been posted, it will not be removed in trade for partial payments. Accounts over 60 days in arrears will also receive a Lien Warning Notice and if the account is not paid in full within 10 days, a lien will be filed against the property. Subsequent collection actions include filing law suits and garnishment actions as needed. The cost of collection actions, including but not limited to reasonable attorney's fees, court fees, and admin fees will be posted to past due accounts at the appropriate point in the process.