

WHITE SANDS CIVIC ASSOCIATION

October - November - December
Volume 9, Issue 4 - Fall 2007



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BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE

The members of the Beautification Committee are in the process of creating a front entrance that will enhance the image of White Sands. In the meantime, we are asking for your help in keeping our community clean & litter free.

A few reminders / suggestions:

1. Please do not throw bottles, cans and fast food packaging alongside our roadways and lots.
2. If you are a smoker, please do not discard your cigarette packages, and cigarette butts from the window of your vehicle.
3. Please do not discard your personal, household trash on someone's property or empty lot.
4. "Directional" real estate signs are to be posted only on weekends and holidays. (Signs may be posted directly on the property at any time.)
5. Please remove your yard sale signs at the closing of your yard sale.

Our Fall Community Clean-up and Dumpster Day is scheduled for Saturday, October 6, 2007 from 8 AM - 2 PM. There will be free item pickup for our senior, disabled, and limited income residents.

We are asking residents to spend at least 30 minutes removing litter/debris from an area close to your home. If you wish to volunteer additional time assisting with fall planting, lot clearing and item pick up, please call us at 410-586-8201. If you are a Calvert County student and would like to earn credit for community service hours, forms will be available and signed on site.

Lastly, as a group, we would like to express our continued gratitude to: 1. those who routinely remove trash and debris from our roadways. 2. Those that stop to say thanks for our voluntary efforts, and 3. Those who stop and offer to transport litter for us.

We appreciate your graciousness,

Lee Reed, Edie Sheahan, et al.
Beautification Committee

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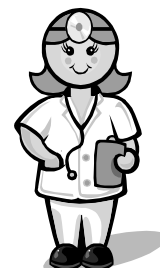
Free Mammograms and Pap Tests

The Woman's Wellness Center of Calvert Memorial Hospital offers free breast and cervical screening to eligible women, funded by *The Maryland Breast and Cervical Cancer Program*.

Who is Eligible?

- o **Women who are** Maryland residents
- o 40-64 years of age
- o Have no health insurance
- o Have commercial insurance with no screening benefits
- o Have only Part A of Medicare
- o Have limited income (There is an income eligibility requirement but it is very generous...so please call and check even if you think your income may be too high to qualify)

The key to a good outcome with breast and cervical cancer is **early detection**. Call today to see if you qualify for **FREE** screening, **410-286-7992**.



A Message from Mattie

There is so much information in this issue, that I'm going to keep my ramblings short and to the point.

I want to remind everyone that invoices have been issued and are due no later than 10/31/07 in order to avoid a late fee. If you have not received your invoice, please contact the office at 410-586-8201 for a duplicate copy.

Please be sure to check out our Crime Bulletin for important information about what is going on in your community. The Board of Directors has taken these issues very seriously, and have been working hard to make White Sands a safe and happy place to live. Remember, if you have an emergency; please report it to the police immediately!

The holiday season is fast approaching, and once again we are going to be sponsoring the Lend A Hand program to assist 3 White Sands families in need to have a happy holiday. Please read the details on page 4 and donate what you can. Helping a neighbor is a great way to embrace the holiday spirit.

Have a Safe & Happy Holiday Season!

Mattie

The impersonal hand of government can never replace the helping hand of a neighbor.
~Hubert H. Humphrey

Christmas in April

Christmas in April, which started in Calvert County in 1991, is a non-profit organization that repairs and rehabilitates the homes of low-income homeowners, particularly the elderly, disabled, and families with children.

Months of planning and preparation by volunteers culminate in a flurry of April activity, ending with a National Rebuilding Day, the last Saturday in April.

Low-income homeowners, especially the elderly and disabled, who are unable to do the work themselves, are eligible to apply for Christmas in April services, as are non-profit agencies and shelters. Applications on behalf of homeowners can also be submitted by churches, community organizations, service groups, friends and family. **Before making a referral, please obtain the homeowner's permission. The homeowner must live in the home.**

All repairs are paid for by Christmas in April. Homeowners are not expected to pay for any services provided. Each year we buy hundreds of gallons of paints, boxes of nails, lumber, roofing tiles, sealant, pipes and in some cases even fixtures such as stoves or bathtubs. Repairs can be done in many areas, including carpentry, plumbing, electrical, plastering, painting, weather stripping, cleaning, and trash removal.

Homeowners who are able-bodied are expected to work along side volunteers on Christmas in April day. While that is not always possible, homeowners have found other special ways to make volunteers feel welcome and appreciated, by providing a special snack, words of appreciation, or a note of thanks. Once a home is referred, a home visit is made by the house selection committee. A committee of the Board ultimately makes the difficult determination as to whether the house meets the eligibility criteria, is in need, and can be repaired by Christmas in April.

Christmas in April – Calvert County, Inc. will work on twenty-five homes the last Saturday in April 2008. There is no cost to the homeowner approved for the program, although we encourage able-bodied residents and family members to assist the volunteers.

Eligibility criteria for house selection includes:

- ★ Residence in Calvert County
- ★ All homeowners must live in the home
- ★ Inability of the homeowner to do the work or have the work done
- ★ Consent of the homeowner to have referral made

Deadline for receipt of applications is October 22, 2007. Applications are available at the White Sands administrative office.

Please contact us if you are aware of anyone interested in providing services or financial support to Christmas in April. We are in particular need of house captains, groups willing to work on a home, and skilled laborers. Call 410-535-9044 for further information.

WHITE SANDS CIVIC ASSOCIATION NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH COMMITTEE



BULLETIN



Weapons Discharged in White Sands

During the weekend of August 4, 2007, there were several instances of gun fire in White Sands. At this time we are unsure where the shots originated from, however, there were reports of hearing the shots from Sailboat Lane, Heron Lane, Evergreen Drive, Spruce Drive, and Circle Drive. Unfortunately, this is not the first time something like this has occurred in our community this year, however, it is the first time that a shot penetrated the front window of a residence and was imbedded in a wall, narrowly missing a female resident of the home.

During the month of September, we had a resident on White Sands Drive have a "bottle bomb" or "Molotov cocktail" thrown in her yard. Fortunately, when the bottle broke, the fire was extinguished instead of there being an explosion and no injuries or property damage occurred.

There have also been several reports of teenagers performing lewd acts on public roads, shouting profanities at passing adults, and damaging residents' property, such as mailboxes and tires. We want to assure you that these types of activities are not being ignored, nor are they acceptable. The Association as well as the State and County police departments are taking positive steps towards reducing these and other types of crime, in our community.

We have hired an off duty police officer to patrol our streets beginning the week of September 24, 2007. He will be working on a part-time basis, several nights a week.

There are also several steps that you, as residents of this community, can take to help promote the safety of your home and your streets.

Be alert!

Paying attention to what is going on in your immediate neighborhood can go a long way towards discouraging unwelcome and inappropriate behavior. If you see someone or something that you feel is suspicious, please contact the Sheriff's department at 410-535-2800. It is also important to stay informed about what is going on in the community as a whole. We want to encourage everyone to attend the monthly meetings, read your newsletters, and visit your website. This is **YOUR** community, be proud and take part in it!

Follow the Rules!

The discharge of weapons in the White Sands Community is strictly prohibited per Section 10 of the White Sands Civic

Association Rules & Regulations as follows:

Section 10: Weapons – Hunting or discharging any firearms, including BB guns, pellet guns, paint ball guns or any projectile emitting device, is strictly prohibited in White Sands.

If you have innocently participated in the firing of any weapon as listed above in the White Sands Community, possibly thinking that it's not hurting anyone to shoot this BB gun, or to fire this paint ball gun off my deck; please remember that it is *against our rules and regulations*. If you are aware of another resident participating in this type of activity, please contact our administration office. If you have seen or heard someone firing a dangerous weapon, please contact the Sheriff's office **IMMEDIATELY!** This is a highly populated residential area and even the most innocent of intentions or accidental firings can cause serious damages.

Be Safe!

If you are a gun owner, please take the necessary precautions to store your guns safely and keep them out of the hands of children. The Calvert County Sheriff's office provides **FREE** gun locks to anyone who asks. They are available at the Sheriff's office in Prince Frederick. We will also make every effort to keep a supply at our administrative office.

Be Respectful!

There will always be people who live near you who you may not particularly care for; however, they are your neighbors and you may need each other someday. If you were away and someone was trying to break into your home or destroy your property, you would want these individuals to report the incident; and they would want the same from you. You don't have to be best friends or have block party cook outs with them every weekend, but you do need to respect them. Keep your music at an acceptable level, refrain from operating loud, heavy equipment at early morning or late evening hours, keep your property in a neat and sanitary condition, and maybe even wave hello once in a while. You'd be surprised how far a friendly smile or wave can go towards developing positive, neighborly relationships.

We want to applaud the efforts of our County and State police officers, as well as the White Sands Neighborhood Watch Committee, for diligently working towards improving our community and reducing criminal activity. Our new Neighborhood Watch Coordinator, Bob Williams, is working hard, along with our block captains, to make this a community we are proud of! We have made a lot of progress, but there is still a lot of work to be done. The results will not always be immediately visible and crime is not going to go away overnight; but with all of us working together, we can continue to improve, one day at a time. And to those individuals who work everyday to make our world a safer place . . . Thank you!

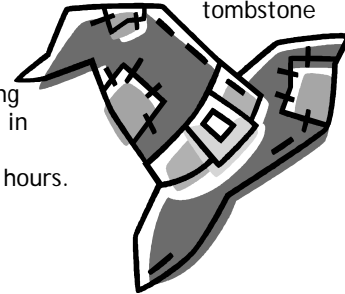


UPCOMING EVENTS



COMMUNITY CLEAN UP / DUMPSTERS: Our neighborhood community clean up and dumpster day is **Saturday, October 6, 2007 from 8 AM - 2 PM**. The dumpsters will be at the playground on White Sands Drive. Please remember that household trash and lawn debris are not allowed to be thrown in the dumpsters. We will also be working to clean up a vacant lot at the end of Balsam Road. If you would like to assist with this project, please meet at the playground at 10 AM.

HALLOWEEN PARTY: It's time again for our 3rd Annual Halloween Party . . . and boy do we have some great things planned . . . games, prizes, food, candy . . . plus educational activities to help you stay safe during this holiday season! So come on down, bring the family and enjoy some good old fashioned neighborhood fun! **Saturday, October 28, 2006 from 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM** at the playground on White Sands Drive. If you would like to participate in our decorating contest, please contact the administration office to pick up a "tombstone" as soon as possible. All tombstones need to be returned to the administrative office, in all of their decorated glory, no later than Monday, October 22, 2007. We are also looking for donations of candy, as well as volunteers to work at the party. If you are interested in volunteering, please call the office at 410-586-8201 or Bob Williams at 410-231-0985. Candy donations can be dropped off at the administrative office during normal business hours. Thanks for your help and we can't wait to see you there!



LEND A HAND: This program was such a huge success last year; that we've decided to make it an annual event. On **November 20, 2007**, we will be delivering food baskets to a few families in White Sands who may otherwise not be able to eat healthy, nutritious food this winter. If you would like to contribute to these food baskets, please drop off canned goods, non-perishable food items, or grocery store gift cards by **November 19, 2007** at the administrative office. Please remember the spirit of the season and give what you can, it will not only help your neighbors, it'll make you feel good too!



LEND A HAND - TAKE 2: Keeping with the spirit of giving, we have decided to add a second act to the lend a hand program; this time with donations of winter clothing. Coats, hats, gloves, boots, or anything else you may have in your closet that you're not using anymore, can go a long way to helping others this winter. Please drop off your donations of clothing at the administrative office prior to **December 19, 2007**. The clothing must be in a "gently used" condition, meaning it must be clean, in good repair and wearable. We will then open the office on **Friday, December 21, 2007** from 6 PM to 8 PM to allow residents interested in receiving these articles of clothing a chance to pick them up. With the help of everyone, this program can be just as successful as the food baskets given in November. Remember to help your neighbors and drop off your donations!

HOLIDAY PARTY: We are combining the two parties held last year into one exciting event this year! On **Saturday, December 8, 2007** from 2 PM - 4 PM, we will gather at the administrative office to give the youth of the community the opportunity to decorate our community Christmas tree. Cookies and cocoa will be provided and Santa will arrive around 3:30 PM to take photos with all the children. The children truly enjoyed this party last year, and we hope that everyone will plan on attending again this season!



HAVE A SAFE AND HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON!

OCTOBER

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6 COMM CLN UP DAY 8 AM - 2 PM Playground
7	8	9	10	11 Open Board Mtg 7 PM Admin Office	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24 Neighborhood Watch Mtg 7 PM Admin Office	25	26	27 Halloween Party 6 PM - 8 PM Playground
28	29	30	31 HAPPY HALLOWEEN			

NOVEMBER

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8 Open Board Mtg 7 PM Admin Office	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19 Lend a Hand Food Donations Due	20	21	22 HAPPY THANKSGIVING	23	24
25	26	27	28 Neighborhood Watch Mtg 7 PM Admin Office	29	30	

DECEMBER

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4 HAPPY HANUKKAH	5	6	7	8 Holiday Party 2 PM - 4 PM Admin Office
9	10	11	12	13 Open Board Mtg 7 PM Admin Office	14	15
16	17	18	19 Lend a Hand Clothing Donations Due	20	21 Lend a Hand Clothing Pick Up 6 PM - 8 PM Admin Ofc	22
23	24	25 MERRY CHRISTMAS	26 HAPPY KWANZAA	27	28	29
30	31					

**White Sands Civic
Association, Inc.**

8306 Swallow Lane
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Lusby, MD 20657

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410-586-8201

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240-235-2781

E-mail:
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Website:
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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

WSCA Board of Directors Meeting

2nd Thursday of the Month, 7pm - Administrative Office

WSCA Neighborhood Watch Meeting

3rd Wednesday of the Month, 7pm - Administrative Office

Please see the calendar included here for additional events.

*WSCA Administrative Office Hours
Tuesday and Thursday
10AM to 3PM
Community Manager
Mattie Scicchitano*



White Sands Civic Association, Inc.

PO Box 57
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Lusby, MD 20657**