



Mountain View Messenger

Volume 1 Issue 2

Fall 1999

The Official
Newsletter
of the
Mountain View
Improvement
Association

NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

FALL MAINTENANCE & CURB APPEAL

So, you think our neighborhood isn't at the top of the real estate market with regard to dollar value for Brighton? You're right. The truth of the matter is that we're at the top of the real estate market when it comes to appeal and desirability. Why? Our homes aren't 5000 square feet, but they aren't 1000 square feet either. They're somewhere in that nice affordable, but not too small range. Our lots aren't 5 acres, but they aren't 65' X 130' either. We don't have any fences; we have wide-open spaces, mature trees and plenty of room between each home to allow for privacy. All of these assets make our neighborhood very appealing and affordable to a wide range of buyers. We have lots of curb appeal. Before potential buyers even set foot in your home, they like what they see. And the price is right.

Let's work to keep it that way. Take a walk around your home. Look at it with a critical eye the way a potential buyer might. Does your trim need painting? Do you have plants sprouting in your gutters? YIKES! How are the bushes? Do they need a trim? How about weeding? How's the lawn doing? What about that pile of...whatever that stuff is out back? Get rid of it! Even cleaning-up goes a long way toward improving the appearance of your home and it doesn't cost a thing.



Several homeowners in the neighborhood have made improvements. Throughout the summer we have watched as new roofs,

and windows have been installed. These improvements prevent the deterioration of our neighborhood and improve the bottom line for all of us when it's time to sell. In the same way, when a home falls into disrepair, it hurts the bottom line for all of us. In fact, it could discourage a potential buyer from even making an offer.

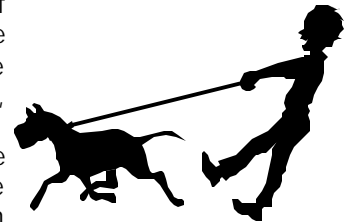
Major improvements like roofs and windows aren't always necessary. But, a gallon of paint and a little elbow grease can go a long way toward improving your home's curb appeal and value. To that end, here is a list of fall maintenance tips to get you started. There will still be a few nice days ahead to get out in the yard and work around the house. Show a little pride in ownership. Go for it!



- Clean downspouts and gutters
- Cover air-conditioning unit
- Check roof and attic for leaks
- Rake leaves and Re-seed lawn if needed
- Clean out shrubbery and flowerbeds
- Paint trim and doors
- Clean and check furnace

GONE TO THE DOGS?

Has Mountainview gone to the dogs? Some days it sure seems like it. Especially on garbage day, Thursday, what a mess! Several neighbors have called me with complaints about dogs running loose in the neighborhood. While some of them may be from out of the neighborhood, if you're a dog owner please keep these pointers in mind.



-If you aren't using an invisible fence system, you need to have your dog on a

SPEED LIMIT

In case you've forgotten, (it seems a few of us have), the speed limit in the sub is 25 mph. We have lots of little people in the neighborhood walking, playing and riding bikes. To make things even more challenging, we have several blind spots and curves. So, please slow down! Thanks.



THANKS TO THE KOVATHS!!

The subdivision get together at the Kovath's was great. We want to thank them for all of their efforts in organizing and hosting that enjoyable picnic. Ernie, next time, beware of gasoline near bonfires!!

leash. It's the law, and it's really safer for everyone, including the dog. Aside from the garbage issue, there's the danger of dog bites.

-If you take your dog for a walk, on a leash, let him do his business somewhere other than one of your neighbor's yards. If your neighbor wanted to clean up dog mess, they'd have their own dog! Or, maybe they do have their own dog and have enough doggy mess to clean up already! Or, bring along something to clean up after your pet.

-If your dog barks or howls continuously, it's probably getting on your nerves. Imagine how your neighbors feel! Don't leave your dog leashed outside for long periods while you're away. Be considerate, give everyone a break, including your pet, and bring the dog in.

Finally, everyone try putting your garbage out on Thursday morning instead of Wednesday night. Since we also have raccoons in the neighborhood, this might help.

THANKS

Thank you to the many neighbors that have taken the time to say how much they enjoy the newsletter and neighborhood directory. Your positive feedback is a great incentive to keep working. We're glad to hear that you're enjoying these informative additions to our neighborhood. It's great to know our efforts are appreciated.

Also, thanks to Sara Thomas for the great article on recycling and our first ever Mountainview Financial Statement!

If you have information you would like to contribute, please contact our editor, Rick Zahler.

Finally, I hope you enjoy your newsletter and please call me if you have any questions, suggestions or comments. I welcome them.

Trish Petrat

BASKETBALL



the gym. Questions?

A t t e n t i o n
Mountainview guys over 30: Interested in a little B-Ball? If so, be at Maltby Middle School, Monday nights from 9-10pm. The cost to each player is about \$3.00 for the use of

**MOUNTAINVIEW MARINA?
MOUNTAINVIEW-U-STORE IT?
NEITHER!**

As tempting as it may be, please do not store your boat and/or trailer of any kind on your lot. This is clearly a violation of the deed restrictions. Trailers, boats, motor homes and such are to be stored in your garage or off-site.

There has been much discussion of late regarding the multitude of trailers, boats etc. being stored at 6580 Grand Circle Drive. While it is not the practice of the ACC to discuss the addresses or names of individuals that are violating the deed restrictions, (these issues are addressed privately), in this case there is no other way to bring this issue to everyone's attention.



The home at 6580 Grand Circle is NOT a part of the Mountainview Improvement Association. At one time, the home did fall under the same deed restrictions and monitoring of the Mountainview Improvement Association's ACC. All deed restrictions expired for this property in 1997. This includes the oversight by the Architectural Control Committee.

DO NOT assume that because you see storage of this nature going on at the above-mentioned address, that it is acceptable or allowed for Mountainview

homeowners. IT IS NOT. To clarify, the following is taken from our deed restrictions:

AGREEMENT AND DECLARATION OF RESTRICTIONS FOR "MOUNTAIN VIEW SUBDIVISION"

Page 3 - Paragraph 11

Temporary Structures. No temporary building or structure, trailer, mobile home, tent, shack, barn, or temporary building of any design whatsoever shall be permitted within said subdivision, and no temporary occupancy shall be permitted in any unfinished residential building; Provided that the foregoing shall not prevent the use of a trailer or any temporary structure for office or storage purposes during the period of construction in said subdivision. Boats shall be stored within enclosed garages unless otherwise permitted by the Architectural Control Committee. No outbuildings shall be constructed without the approval of the Architectural Control Committee.

If you have any questions about this, or any other deed restriction, please contact a member of the Architectural Control Committee. Their phone numbers are on page one of this newsletter.

NEIGHBORS in BUSINESS

A place for neighbors to list merchandise or services

COSMIC CANDLES



Need a last minute gift and don't want to leave the neighborhood? Hand made candles by Anne Rogers. I use the finest ingredients to ensure extra long burning. Custom colors and scents to match any decor. Over 60 different styles from country to contemporary to wedding candles. Low cost price before store mark-up. Make great gifts for yourself or any occasion. Ask about hosting a candle party to receive free candles! Call to stop by and see my large selection.

PRECIOUS TIME ERRAND SERVICE

You owe it to yourself! There's not a task too great or too small. Precious time is just a phone call away. Our services are perfect for that busy executive, the elderly or someone with just not enough time.

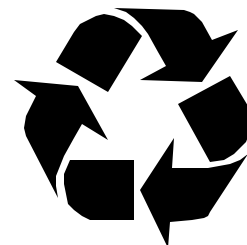
ARE YOU RECYCLING?

By Sara Thomas

If not - why? It's easy and almost pain-free! For example, as you clean up your kitchen after a meal, rinse your cans and other recyclable containers and unfold cardboard food boxes and flatten them. Have a basket under the sink or elsewhere to hold items until you go to the garage where you have the yellow recycling bag - already open on a wire holder. (It can be purchased at a hardware store or use a large box with the bag opened inside.) Remember - all Genoa Township residents get one package of bags to use at no charge. Extras can be bought at Meijers, etc. The key with recycling is keeping up with it - like any household chore, it's no fun doing it after its had a week to pile up!

If you find yourself suspicious of all the recyclables being "commingled" in one bag and can't believe it doesn't just get tossed in the landfill...well, surprise! They really do get recycled! I have been to two separate recycling facilities and can attest to seeing those bags broken open on conveyor belts where the items are sorted by machines and people alike. Giant magnets collect the steel resources and chutes distribute the recyclables in to bins. It really does work and it is a much better alternative then burying everything. So much of what we throw away really can be used again in some capacity.

The biggest factor with recycling is attitude. Decide now to rethink some of your shopping habits - less packaging, less to



BEFORE YOU KNOW IT!

Before you know it the holiday season will be here. Several neighbors have expressed the desire to once again place luminaries along the road on Christmas Eve and Christmas evening. Start saving your plastic milk cartons now. To make a luminary, simply cut an opening to pour in sand or cat litter, place a votive candle or tea light in the sand and light it. Make sure the opening isn't too large, or the wind will continuously blow out the candle! Line the luminaries along your property at the road. When you're done, put those milk cartons in your yellow recycle bag! Our neighborhood will look great!

A happy and safe holiday season wish to all our Mountainview residents.

throw away (or recycle for that matter.) Do you really need a bag for your milk? How about bringing your own bags? Also - pay attention to purchasing items in recycled containers. We, the consumers, need to buy products made of recycled materials - essentially closing the recycling "loop" and providing a market for all that we put out at our curb weekly.

Reusing or finding new uses for things is equally important. For example, no clothing should ever have to be thrown away - unless it is in really bad shape. Charities, like the Salvation Army, are glad to take it. (Remember - just one natural disaster can

deplete the resources of these organizations quickly.) In fact, I would be willing to coordinate a pick-up date in Mountain View every other month to have Purple Heart come in and pick-up used clothing, toys, etc. Just give me a call.

So start thinking about what your family throws out to the curb and keep this New England Proverb in mind: 'Use it up, wear it out, make it do, or do without.'

NEED A COPY?

If you don't have a copy of the Mountain View Deed Restrictions or Association by-laws, contact your Secretary/Treasurer - Sara Thomas. She'll get a copy to you as soon as possible.



HALLOWEEN

Halloween is just around the corner. Let's light up the neighborhood. While everyone thinks it's spooky and fun to run around trick-or-treating in the dark, it's really not very safe. Let's light the way for our trick-or-treaters on Halloween night. Have fun!

TODDLER PLAY GROUP

If you're interested in participating in a toddler play group, please call Anne Rogers. Anne would like to start a neighborhood playgroup and needs to know if there is any interest.

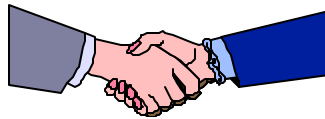
MOUNTAINVIEW NEWS MAKERS

Welcome to our newest and youngest Mountain View member, Lucas David Carpenter, born on Friday, October 1, 1999, and weighing in at 7 lbs./1 oz. Cale is the very special big brother and Lisa and Carter are the proud parents. Congratulations to all of you.

Please call, write or send an e-mail to Rick Zahler if you have news in your family that you would like published in the MVM.

A MOUNTAINVIEW WELCOME

Thank you to Cindy Perlman for volunteering her services as our Welcoming Chairperson. If anyone knows how to lay out the red carpet, it's Cindy. She's friendly, caring and always has a smile for everyone. We're glad she's agreed to help with this important job. Thanks Cindy!



HOMEOWNERS - IT'S YOUR RESPONSIBILITY

The Board of Directors recently contacted the Livingston County Board of Realtors. We asked them to please inform their membership of our association. We learned that it is the SELLERS responsibility to notify their listing agent and/or potential buyers of the existence of our association. So if you're selling your house, please don't leave your agent in the dark. Let them know about the Mountainview Improvement Association.

HAVEN'T PAID YOUR DUES YET?

If you haven't paid your Mountainview Association dues for 1999, you haven't received your neighborhood directory and this will be your last newsletter. But, there's still time to send in your \$30.00. Send your check, payable to Mountainview Improvement Association, c/o Sara Thomas. If you have questions, please call any board member. It would be great to have 100% participation.



YARD WASTE ON LOT #5

It has been brought to the attention of the Board of Directors, that yard waste is being dumped on Lot #5. (Check the map in your neighborhood directory if you're not sure which lot we're talking about.) Please discontinue this practice immediately. The

owner of that property has had to clean it up several times.

Please find a better way to dispose of your yard waste.

Y2K COMMON SENSE TIPS

-Keep a paper trail for three months before and after 1/1/2000 of significant financial transactions involving mortgages, stock and insurance.

-Keep cancelled checks as proof of payment for three months before and after 1/1/2000. If you bank by computer, download your records.

-Keep statements from your creditors for three months before and after 1/1/2000 showing your payments toward principal, interest and other charges. If they don't provide a statement, ask for one.

-Both before and after 1/1/2000 get a copy of your credit report from one of the three major bureaus:

- Equifax 800-685-1111
- TransUnion 800-916-8800
- Experian 800-682-7654

Check it for accuracy and make corrections.

KIDS KORNER

A place for the younger set in the neighborhood to list the services they

Need a babysitter, pet sitter, help around the house or yard work? Call Kim Wilke to get the job done! She's just down the street!

Don't have time to do those little things? Then call Lauren at Time Savers. Available services include: Babysitting-children under 11, Tutor-Math & Science (grades K-6), Birthday party planner/helper, Parents helper, Pet sitting/walking, Vacation Services, Party Server, Plant Sitting, Mail retrieval and other small jobs.



**NOT MVIA MEMBERS BUT
STILL OUR NEIGHBORS**



The Board of Directors is trying to obtain information about a few of our neighbors that are not association members. We would like to publish the names, addresses and phone numbers of these families in a future newsletter for everyone's information. We also have occupants of homes in Mountainview that are non-owners. We would like to gather information from these families as well. Watch the next newsletter for the names and phone numbers of these families to help us all to keep in touch.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

- The Board of Directors will meet to discuss the location and date of our next member meeting. Let us know what you would like to discuss at this meeting
- The agenda for the next member meeting will be discussed.
- Let us know what you think about entrance signs. Any suggestions?
- Any and all ideas for the neighborhood are welcome.



**NEIGHBORHOOD
DIRECTORY**

The Mountain View Neighborhood Directory has been distributed to all members that have paid their dues. We hope everyone finds the directory useful