



Mountain View Messenger

Volume 1 Issue 1

Summer 1999

The Official
Newsletter
of the
Mountain View
Improvement
Association

WHERE TO BEGIN...

Our homeowner's association was formed in 1973 as our subdivision was being developed. Over the years, it has experienced various levels of activity. The neighbors that have been here the longest, twenty years or so, still talk about neighborhood parties and get-togethers that took place in the past. The Mountain View Improvement Association was busy reviewing construction plans for new homes, and making arrangements for get-togethers that provided everyone the opportunity to get to know their new neighbors.

In more recent years, the association has experienced several inactive years. Some members have expressed concern about the missing sense of community. For example, not knowing your neighbors. These families would like to see more social activities that would allow all of us the opportunity to get to know each other better.

Some would like to see the association initiate improvements, such as subdivision entrance signs and flowers, and use of the natural area referred to as the neighborhood park.

Still others have expressed concern regarding the potential decline of property values due to incidents of poor home/yard maintenance.

All of these are valid issues that can be addressed if we get organized. The good news is we already have the mechanism in place to manage them -The Mountain



View Improvement Association. All we have to do is utilize it.

Thanks to the efforts of Carl Mauch, we are already underway. Carl organized and ran a meeting, which resulted in nominations and a ballot for a new Board of Directors. Thank you Carl.

The members of the new Board of Directors are Carter Carpenter, Sara Thomas, and myself. Thank you for your votes of confidence and for taking the time to return your ballot to Carl. Your concern and support for our neighborhood is appreciated. Appreciation and thanks are also extended to Bob Heaslip and Cristy Kovath for running for the Board of Directors. Clearly, we have many members that care about the neighborhood.

The newly elected Board of Directors met on July 29, 1999. The issues that were discussed at that meeting are contained in this newsletter. Among them, you will find a ballot request for annual association dues of \$30.00. The amount of dues assessed each year is at the discretion of the members of the association. The Board of Directors does not have the authority to establish the dollar amount of the annual dues. You do. That's why we're asking you to vote.

All organizations require funds to conduct business. Ours is no different.

What will the money be used for? Here are a few examples: Copy costs for a quarterly newsletter, (like the one you're reading), and other association paperwork such as a neighborhood directory, by-laws and deed restrictions for new neighbors, postage, envelopes, mailing labels, meeting place reservations, document filing fees, membership certificates...you get the idea. Funds can also be set-aside for projects that the membership may decide to undertake.

GARDENING TIPS

What do my flower beds need to survive the winter? What about those begonias, why do they look so awful? What's that bug doing on my tomatoes? Should I take care of it?

If you love to garden and would enjoy publishing a Gardener's tip column in this newsletter, we'd like to hear from you.

For example, entrance signs and flowers. I'm sure many of you have great ideas.

It is the intention of the Board of Directors to conduct regular association meetings. The by-laws require an annual meeting. This would allow each of you the opportunity to present ideas and make suggestions for the use of our funds. It may be the desire of the membership to meet more than once a year. If so, all the better.

To the best of my knowledge, this could be the first ever Mountain View newsletter. It could also be the last without your support. The Board of Directors would like to continue providing the newsletter on a quarterly basis. In order to maintain the momentum of our "more active" association, I am asking you once again for your support. Just as you voted to re-establish a Board of



Directors, cast your ballot in support of this minimal annual fee. Please remind and encourage your neighbors to return their ballots. We need at least twenty-three (23) "yes" votes. Ballots are due on

August 16, 1999. These funds will provide us with another key element needed to communicate, get together and become acquainted with each other.

Please call me if you have any questions, suggestions or comments. I welcome them.

Trish Petrat
President, MVIA

NEW OFFICERS

At the July 29th meeting of the Board of Directors new officers were appointed. It was mutually agreed by all that the officers would be as follows:

President - Trish Petrat
Vice President - Carter Carpenter
Secretary/Treasurer - Sara Thomas

RESIGNATIONS

In the recent past we have accepted the resignations of three individuals who contributed much time and effort for the good of our neighborhood. Thank you to John Cort, Carl Mauch and Hal Perlman for several years of commitment and service. We appreciate the time and energy you devoted to Mountain View.

Thanks are also in order to David Park for his continuing services and advice with helping us to regroup and get going. Dave is also an excellent historian on the neighborhood. Thanks Dave!

**SOCIAL ACTIVITY
COORDINATOR**

Thank you to Cristy Kovath for volunteering her services as our Social Activity Coordinator. Cristy says she loves a fun party and loves planning them even more. Please call her with any suggestions you may have for future events. How about a Halloween activity or neighborhood decorating theme?



**ARCHITECTURAL CONTROL
COMMITTEE**

The Board of Directors has appointed Carter Carpenter, Jeanette Mauch and Rick Zahler as the new members of the Architectural Control Committee.

All concerns/complaints must be presented in writing to a committee member. Anonymous concerns will not be

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.

accepted.

All complaints will be kept in the strictest confidence. It is not our intention to pit neighbors against each other.

Please contact Carter
Please contact Jeanette
Please contact Rick

Thank you to Carter, Jeanette and Rick for taking on these sometimes-difficult positions.



STATE of MICHIGAN ANNUAL REPORT

Each year the Mountain View Improvement Association is required to file a report with the State of Michigan. The report must list the members of the Board of Directors, Officers, purpose of the association and a Corporate Agent for the association. This report has been completed and mailed. Our corporate agent for 1999 is Trish Petrat. The annual filing fee of \$10.00 has also been paid for 1998 and 1999.

MOUNTAIN VIEW NEWS MAKERS

Welcome to our newest and youngest Mountain View resident - Lindsie Rogers - born July 9th. Anne and Scott Rogers are the proud parents. Lindsie also has a big sister, Hallie. Congratulations to all of you.

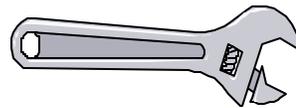


Ryan - Son of Ann and Tom Matthews will be attending the New England School of Law - Way to go Ryan - Good Luck

Trisha - Daughter of Trish Petrat and Rick Zahler will be attending Eastern Michigan University this fall - Congratulations Trisha - If anyone happens to be driving to Ypsilanti, give Trisha a call; maybe you can car pool!

NEIGHBORS in BUSINESS

How would you like to know what services your Mountain View neighbors can provide for you? Maybe construction or plumbing advice before you pay big bucks to an outsider. Did you know you can buy great kitchen supplies, photo album goodies, cosmetics and pottery, (just to name a few), without even leaving the neighborhood? Would you like to know how? Let me know what you think about this idea. It's your newsletter. What would you like to see in it?



Rick Zahler - Editor

HELPFUL NEIGHBORS

Do you know of a neighbor that needs help? Running errands, a ride to the store, someone to walk their dog when they aren't able to? The Board of Directors would like a volunteer(s) to possibly act on these kinds of requests should the need arise. To volunteer, call any board member.



HOUSEHOLD CLEAN-UP/ MAINTENANCE

It's hard to think about now. Frankly, who wants to think about winter! But it won't be long before the snow flies. Prevent bigger, more costly problems by taking care of outside maintenance while the weather cooperates. In our next newsletter, we'll print a checklist of clean-up/fix-up tips. For now, take a look around your yard. How about that pile of, well, junk, that really needs to be dealt with. If you take care of eliminating it now, you won't have to deal with it or look at it all winter!

WELCOME NEW NEIGHBORS



When someone new moves in, wouldn't it be great to

welcome them to their new Mountain View community. If you're the kind of individual that would enjoy doing just this sort of thing, call any board member to sign-up for the job.



NEIGHBORHOOD DIRECTORY

The Mountain View Neighborhood Directory is underway. The Board of Directors has obtained a complete and up to date list of names and addresses of all Mountain View lot owners from the Genoa Township Hall. They did not provide us with telephone numbers. We need your help with that. The annual dues ballot has a place for you to write in your name and phone number.

If you do not want your name/address and phone number published just let us know. We do respect your right to privacy. On the annual dues ballot, (attached to this newsletter), you will find a place for you to indicate that your name be removed.



We hope everyone finds this information helpful in the future.



MVIA MEETING PLACE

At the suggestion of Sara Thomas, the Genoa Township Hall was contacted to inquire about the use of the hall for our meetings. The thought was, maybe we could use the hall at no charge. It was a great idea Sara. But..."Sorry", they said, "we don't rent the hall for outside use."

For now, we will continue to meet at Maltby Middle School. More information about the next meeting will be coming soon.



KIDS KORNER

Do you have a youngster at your house? Would she/he like to earn a little money around the neighborhood? There are lots of services that kids can perform right here at home to help out and earn a little cash at the same time. Take care of pets, water plants, mow the lawn, and get the mail while someone's on vacation. Do we have any good babysitters in our neighborhood? I bet we do. Let me know and I'll add the information to our Kids Korner next time.



DON'T FORGET TO VOTE!



Please return the attached ballot by August 16, 1999.

- IN OUR NEXT NEWSLETTER:**
- Y2K Concerns
 - MVIA Web-site?
 - Fall Clean-up/Fix-up List
 - Basketball Anyone?

Mountain View Annual Picnic

Don't miss the Mountain View Annual Picnic - September 11th at the Kovath home. More details will follow soon.



Architectural Control Committee To Remain In Force

The original MVIA By-laws called for the termination of the Architectural Control Committee effective 12/31/97. By a majority vote of the MVIA members, the authority of the Architectural Control Committee was extended in perpetuity. These documents were filed with the Livingston County Clerk on 12/18/97. A copy of this documentation is attached for your records.