

RIVER-VIEWS – FALL – December 1, 2016

Thanksgiving is in the rear-view mirror and December is upon us. Most of the trees are bare, the colors long gone. Here is a reminder - yard waste is only picked up until the end of this month (see <http://co.kent.de.us/Public-works-dept> for schedule information or www.dswa.com for information about recycling). Winter is just around the corner with snowstorms in many parts of the country already. We are ready with our revised snow removal contract here in Riverview Estates. Hopefully this will improve the clearing of our roads early in the day when we do have measurable snow. No plowing occurs until we get at least 4 inches of snow but we are hoping that in such situations our roads will be cleared before folks leave for work in the morning. Let us know if there are problems.

These are a few of the issues your HOA is working on presently.

- 1) We will have new signs for the Lorraine Drive entrance in the very near future. Designs and bids are being reviewed and it is hoped the signs can be in place before year end.
- 2) The spotlight on the pavilion was replaced after the big snowstorm last winter destroyed the old one. It is motion activated LED spotlight. It stays on for only a short time, unless there is continual motion.
- 3) A new light pole will be installed between the pavilion and the wooded area to light the playground area (recommended by the State Police). It will be also be an LED type light activated similar to other street lights. Our children will no longer have to wait for the school bus in the dark once the days get shorter and the sun comes up later. This should happen on December 9.
- 4) We will have a full HOA meeting in January at the Frederica Senior Center. The focus will be on getting signatures on the petition to join the Kent County Storm-water Maintenance Program. Details of this program have been (and will again be) sent to all residents. As mentioned earlier, the cost of repairs and cleanup that will enable us to join this program is only \$400. The Board has approved the expenditure pending approval of the plan by a majority of residents. Another topic will be reactivating the Crime Watch program with a presentation by the Kent County Crime Watch organization.
- 5) The lawn-care contractor we have worked with for the past two years has declined to renew our contract so we will be entertaining bids for services next season. If you know of a business that would like to bid on such services (mowing of common areas, maintenance of the entryway and keeping the pathway around the woods cleared), please give them our email address (bod@riverview-estates.org) so that we can send them the solicitation in February.

Several homes have sold recently and we are seeing some refinancing in anticipation of rising interest rates. If someone new to our community lives near you, please welcome your new neighbors. There are presently more than 80 households participating in Nextdoor RE with over 110 individuals signed up. Even though there are some drawbacks to participating, we believe the positives outweigh the negatives. Please try it if you have not.

We are in the 33rd Representative District - our newly elected State Representative is Charles "Charlie" Postles. He is known to many of us and will be an excellent representative. Our former representative, Jack Peterman, died in office so we have not had a representative for some time. Our Senate District is the 16th - our State Senator is Colin Bonini who unsuccessfully ran for Governor.

We wish to extend our condolences to the Stauch family in the recent loss of Ben, and to the Ward family in the loss of Carol (many may know the Wards even though they are not part of the HOA).

We have much to be thankful for living in the USA, Delaware, Kent County and Riverview Estates at this time in history. Let us dwell on the positives, encourage and support one another, and reach out to help a neighbor when we can. That is what makes a community a great place to live.

This memo was copied to the BOD email site and sent to all addressees. Dec 1, 2016

Steve Halstead