



DON'T FORGET THESE DATES

Aug 22: Ice Cream Pool Party, 2 – 4PM down by the pool. Contact Barb D'Amaddio, bdjf@comcast.net or 688-8700, today to let her know how many of your friends and family members will be attending. Also give her a call if you're willing to provide some badly needed help.

Sept 7: Special Homeowners Meeting, 7PM at the Meeting House, hosted by the Conservancy Board to share information about the proposed Maintenance Building. Homeowners will have the opportunity to sign a petition to change that portion of the Declaration that requires the developer to construct the building. Sixty-seven percent of ALL homeowners (currently 160 out of 239) must sign the petition before the Declaration can be changed.

Sept 11: Community Tag Sale, 9 - 2PM Contact Janine Malave (298-8991, malavejan@hotmail.com) or Genevieve Lattimer (687-1438, genevieve.lattimer@comcast.net) if you want to participate (for a fee of \$10) and/or if you want to help out the organizing committee by posting promotional and directional signs.

Sept 25: International Pot Luck Dinner, No details yet, but this was great fun last year. Homeowners provide a sampling of home-cooked appetizers, main courses, side dishes, and desserts from around the world. Beverages and music are provided by the Social Committee. There's limited seating so reservations are required. Contact Barbara D'Amaddio at: bdjf@comcast.net or call 860-688-8700.

NEW "COMMITTEE" IN WALDEN WOODS

Add another creature to the growing list of wild animals inhabiting Walden Woods. In addition to coyotes, black bears, beaver, deer, fox and raccoons, we now have vultures. A small group of vultures, known as a committee (or a wake or venue), were recently sighted having dinner on our sacred meeting house lawn. Trying to preserve the dignity of this newsletter prevents us from revealing the bird's eating habits, suffice to say they are scavengers rather than predators and consider road-kill a delicacy. They are, however, a joy to watch in flight as they are quite graceful – although probably not if they're circling directly above you.



THE PLATFORM IS COMING! THE PLATFORM IS COMING! (MAYBE)

Based on the results of a homeowner survey conducted last month, it appears that the majority of homeowners would like to have an observation deck built atop the concrete dam foundation on Walden Pond – IF (and it's a big IF) the cost of its construction could be limited to the \$30,000 that the Country Walk Developer, CWD, promised to reimburse us. A preliminary estimate had indicated the cost would be as much as \$48,000 but the Conservancy Board is looking into alternative designs that could lessen the expense. More to come on this later.

TENNIS ANYONE?

Have you ever wanted to play tennis but didn't have anyone to play with and were frustrated because you were sure there must be other homeowners who played? If so, and you are interested in adding your name and phone # to a database of potential opponents or partners (doubles anyone?), contact Bob Ellis, 688-5949 or pollyandbob@sbcglobal.net. Bob promises he won't play but will maintain a list of players (for the time being) for anyone interested.

Heaven is where the Police are British, the Chefs are Italian, the Mechanics are German, the Lovers are French, and it's all organized by the Swiss.

Hell is where the Police are German, the Chefs are British, the Mechanics are French, the Lovers are Swiss, and it's all organized by the Italians.

COUNTRY WALK DEVELOPMENT

As reported in the February issue of the Walden Woods News, the Conservancy will assume ownership of all un-developed property in Country Walk, including any un-finished/un-declared homes, when the developer's rights expire on February 1, 2011. Any finished homes not yet sold will be owned by the developer and he will assume the same responsibility as any other owner including the payment of association fees. As of August 1st, with six months to go, here's a summary of the developer's progress based on a visual walk-around and the town's recorded closings:

Street	Units Planned	Units Completed (1)	Compltd Units <u>Un-Sold</u> (2)	Under Construction
Rhodora Terrace	32	12	11	20
Jacobi Drive	3	3	3	0
Last Leaf Circle	49	45	5	4
Scarlet Lane	28	28	5 models	0
Marble Faun	38	38	22	0
Dunbar Drive	8	8	5	0
Haskins Road	22	10	10	12
TOTAL	180	144	61	36

- (1) For the purpose of this summary, "completed units" are those where the exterior construction appears finished with the installation of siding and garage doors, but also includes those where landscaping is not completed and the interior is in various stages of completion.
- (2) "Unsold units" may include some that have been sold but the sale has not yet been closed.

BEING A GOOD NEIGHBOR . . .



ABOUT SPEEDING - Here's a message for those of you who use Walden Meadow Road to practice your Indy 500 raceway skills: How do you feel about having to go over 3 or 4 speed bumps on the way to and from work every day?. Hmm, not so good huh? How about a couple of stop signs? No? Then **SLOW DOWN!!!** There's a 25mph speed limit out there and the town of Windsor has suggested these alternatives to help ensure our safety if you continue to ignore the limit. It's up to you!

ABOUT DOGS - A big thanks to all you homeowners who are so diligent about curbing your dogs during your walks and picking up their waste. Your efforts are really appreciated. For those of you who haven't yet gotten the message, please, for the 342nd time, listen up. Your cute little dog's poop is not cute and yellow grass doesn't add much to the aesthetic beauty of Walden Woods. Be a good neighbor and do the right thing. **And don't forget Rule 5.3.1: "In no event will any dog be permitted in any portion of the Common Elements unless carried or on a leash."**



Overheard at poolside: "My wild oats have turned into shredded wheat."

LITTLE WALDEN POND PROGRESS BUT NOT YET PERFECTION

by Warren Johnson

Little Walden Pond, the pond between the swimming pool and the recreational parking lot, has had its water quality negatively impacted in recent years by invasive plants and sedimentation from the banks and inlets. Reversing these negative impacts and improving water quality have been ongoing agenda items for Walden Woods' Environmental Committee.



In early 2009, the Committee secured the approval of the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection (CDEP), the Windsor Environmental Officer, the Conservancy Board and our neighbors on the north shore of the pond to introduce 15 neutered carp into the pond as an experiment to combat the invasive plants (duck weed, water meal, algae) that had formed an unsightly green scum on the pond surface. The success of that experiment, begun on May 13, 2009, is visible today by the substantial absence of green scum.

Life on the pond, however, is not perfect. Water lilies have invaded the pond, invasive plants such as poison ivy and sumac have gained footholds on the banks of the pond, and sedimentation continues to accumulate. To secure a CDEP license for dredging and a Windsor Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission approval to complete both the dredging and bank improvements, the Committee, assisted by homeowner volunteers, recently measured water depths and sediment depths of the pond. The strings currently forming a grid over the south end of the pond (*see photo*) denote spots where the Committee plotted these measurements using a 1988 topographical map secured from Town Hall.

The Committee continues to work toward dredging the worst area of sedimentation and the bank restoration within a \$5,000 budget approved by the Conservancy Board for this year. If successful, the major environmental and aesthetic improvements of Little Walden Pond will be completed by next year, if not this year.

THE WALL

As you've probably noticed, the condition of the stone wall that defines the eastern boundary of Walden Woods on Marshall Phelps Road has deteriorated to the point of making the wall an eyesore rather than a landmark to be proud of. Preliminary estimates indicate that it will cost almost \$30,000 to have the entire wall re-built with a concrete cap to help prevent weather-related damage in the future.

The Conservancy Board of Directors, wanting to keep our budget reserves at a level to handle emergency expenditures, is considering an option of having only a portion of the wall repaired this year. The remainder of the wall would be repaired next year after reserve contributions from our association fees will have suitably replenished the reserves to a safe level.



BOB'S JOKE CORNER

A Doctor was addressing a large audience in Tampa:

"The material we put into our stomachs is enough to have killed most of us sitting here, years ago. Red meat is awful. Soft drinks corrode your stomach lining. Chinese food is loaded with MSG. High fat diets can be disastrous, and none of us realizes the long-term harm caused by the germs in our drinking water.

"However, there is one thing that is the most dangerous of all and we all have eaten, or will eat it. Can anyone here tell me what food it is that causes the most grief and suffering for years after eating it?"

After several seconds of quiet, a 75-year-old man in the front row raised his hand, and softly said, "Wedding Cake?"

NEW NEIGHBORS

Duplex Council:

Lisa Shakun	5 Dunbar Dr.
Debra Durr	6 Dunbar Dr.
Peggy & Ken Ornell	7 Dunbar Dr.
Karen Lee Gale	2 Marble Faun
Kathy & Don Lucas	9 Marble Faun
Lynn & Henroy Douglas	13 Marble Faun
Leona & Susan Rinehart	18 Marble Faun
Jodi Holsten	19 Marble Faun
Chris Duffy	24 Marble Faun
Esau Gardner	11 Scarlet Lane

Townhome Council:

Christine Looby	7 Rhodora Terr.
Dipali Kalia	31 Scarlet Lane

Village Council:

Lynn Fitzgerald	503 Hawthorne
Karen & Paul Gelinas	123 Heather Way

Annie Roy & Matthew Abraham	139 Pierce Blvd.
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Woodmoor Council:

Gnan & Neeru Karthikeyan	115 Pierce Blvd.
Sonia & Odel Powell	140 Pierce Blvd.

Ridge Council:

Sasa Blidgen	411 Pond Bridge
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**HOPE WE DIDN'T MISS ANYONE.
WELCOME TO ALL !!!!**

HELP!!

The Meeting House Committee is in dire need of volunteers to help carry on the management of this facility. If you've been procrastinating about becoming a more active participant in our community or are new to Walden Woods, here's a golden opportunity to be of service.

If you have access to the internet, you can find a description of the committee's function on the Walden Woods website (waldenwoodsct.com) under "Committees". Otherwise, please call Polly Ellis (860) 688-5949. She'll be glad to explain how committee members help manage the use and condition of this important amenity.

The Recreation & Social Committee is also in need of additional volunteers to help plan, coordinate and manage the various events that we all enjoy throughout the year. These things don't run themselves. It's time to give a little of your spare time. Contact Barb D'Amaddio, bdjf@comcast.net or 688-8700.

THE ECONOMY IS SO BAD

I got a pre-declined credit card in the mail.

When the bank returned my check marked "Insufficient Funds" I called and asked if they meant me or them.

Motel Six won't leave the light on anymore.

Exon-Mobil laid off 23 congressmen.

SENIOR DRESS CODE

For all you seniors trying to stay young by conforming to current fashions, here are a few guidelines about combinations to avoid:

1. A nose ring and bifocals
2. Spiked hair and bald spots
3. A pierced tongue and dentures
4. Miniskirts and support hose
5. Ankle bracelets and corn pads
6. A belly button ring and a gall bladder surgery scar
7. Unbuttoned disco shirts and a heart monitor
8. Midriff shirts and a midriff bulge
9. Bikinis and liver spots
10. Mini skirts and varicose veins
11. And last but not least, speedo's and cellulite.

SIGN OF THE TIMES

On the back of septic tank truck:

"Caution - This Truck is full of Political Promises"

TRIVIA CORNER

In case you're thinking of escaping the summer heat with a trip to Antarctica, here's some pretty useless information you can use to impress your fellow travelers:

Antarctica is the only land on our planet that is not owned by any country.

Ninety percent of the world's ice covers 99.6% of Antarctica. Although the ice represents 70% of all the fresh water in the world, Antarctica is the driest place on the planet. With an average yearly total precipitation of about two inches, it is essentially a desert with an absolute humidity lower than that of the Gobi desert.

And how about this for a drought? The driest place on Earth is in the valleys of the Antarctic near Ross Island. There has been no rainfall there for two million years.