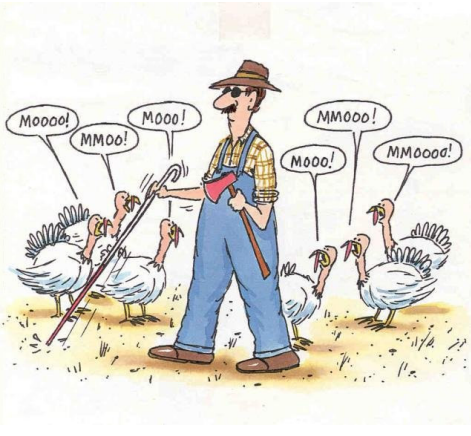


Walden Woods News

OCTOBER - NOVEMBER 2007



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WALDEN WOODS NEWS is a bi-monthly publication produced and distributed by homeowner volunteers for the edification and enjoyment of all Walden Woods homeowners. Questions, ideas and news contributions may be submitted to any member of the Communication Committee: Bob or Polly Ellis (688-5949), or Ruth Johnson (688-5128),

Is it true that cannibals don't eat clowns because they taste funny?

BUDGET NEWS

It's that time again. Our Conservancy Board of Directors, guided by data collected and analyzed by our property manager representative Frank Goeckler, is in the final throes of preparing our 2008 budget.

The preliminary budget will be presented to homeowners at the next Conservancy Board of Directors meeting on **November 28th (7:00PM at the Meeting House)**. All homeowners are encouraged to attend the meeting, a portion of which will be devoted to answering any questions we may have about the budget. Pending any last minute changes, the finalized budget will be voted on at the Annual Homeowner Meeting on December 19th (*see below*).

ANNUAL HOMEOWNERS MEETING

The Annual Homeowners Meeting is set for Wednesday December 19th at 7:00PM. All homeowners are encouraged to attend this important meeting at which we will have the opportunity to not only vote on the budget, but to elect Council Directors to serve on next year's Conservancy Board. All current Directors are expected to volunteer to continue serving on the Board, but other homeowners may be nominated as well. If you are interested in serving as a Council Director and as a representative of your Council on the Conservancy Board, please contact Frank Goeckler at Elite Management, 1-888-666-8300 (toll free):or frank@epmlc.com

HALLOWEEN REPORT

Based on recent feedback from trick or treaters visiting the Ellis household, the least popular Halloween handout for 2007 was Chocolate Covered Prunes. Runner up was the Colored Crisco on a Stick.

..... and based on a personal experience report from Linda Dinucci (Sagewood Lane) **YOU KNOW YOU'RE TOO OLD FOR HALLOWEEN WHEN**

- You get winded from knocking on the door.
- You have to have another kid chew the candy for you.
- You ask for high fiber candy only.
- People say, "What a scary mask!" but you're not wearing one.
- When the door opens you yell, "Trick or..." and can't remember the rest.
- You're the only Power Ranger in the neighborhood with a walker.



SHUTTER MATTER



If you've been wondering about the shutters and bi-colored siding on Bob and Malvi Lennon's home on the corner of Pierce and Walden Meadow Road, you should know that the changes were reviewed and approved by the Conservancy Board of Directors, acting as the Standards Committee. The garage siding on the Pierce Blvd. side of the house had to remain unchanged because the garage shares the same vertical plane (and siding color) with the garage belonging to Bob and Malvi's neighbor's Joe and Sheila Sikora.

What makes this a newsworthy item is that the shutters are the first to be approved for installation on any Village Council home. While encouraging for those Village homeowners who have long-wanted to have shutters, the approval does not necessarily mean automatic approval of future shutter requests. The Board has indicated that, as always, each addition, alteration or improvement (AAI) request will be evaluated on its own set of circumstances. To provide homeowners and future Board members with some guidelines as to what might be acceptable, the Board has assigned an ad-hoc committee to research and recommend standards identifying the style and color of shutters that would be in keeping with our New England motif. The committee's recommendations will be submitted to the Board for their approval as soon as possible.

BE A GOOD NEIGHBOR

None of our mailboxes were designed to hold the newspapers, phone books or other unsolicited, sometimes voluminous packages that are delivered to our homes almost every week. They don't fit and when jammed into whatever nook and cranny outside the mailbox is available, they don't look nice – especially after being exposed to bad weather and left there day after day.

One of the obvious reasons they may be left there is because of a homeowner's absence. If you know or suspect that your neighbors are away for awhile, help them out by removing the visible non-US Mail material they receive and keeping it until they return.

Another reason may be that there are some homeowners who just don't bother to promptly remove material they think they won't read or need right away. If you're one of those people, please consider how unattractive a collection of such material can be and how annoying it might be to others. Be a ~~good~~ better neighbor.

MORE PONDERISMS

If a deaf person swears, does his mother wash his hands with soap?

If a parsley farmer is sued, can they garnish his wages?

If someone with multiple personalities threatens to kill himself, is it considered a hostage situation?

Does the Little Mermaid wear an algebra?

If the police arrest a mime, do they tell him he has the right to remain silent?

If you ate pasta and antipasto, would you still be hungry?

Would a fly without wings be called a walk?

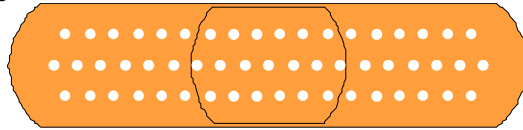
NEW TOWNHOME COUNCIL DIRECTOR.

Hip, hip, hooray! Edgar Rodriguez, has stepped up and volunteered to be the Townhome Council's first Director. Edgar, already a volunteer on the Environment Committee, was approved as a Director by the Conservancy Board of Directors at their September meeting. He will also serve as the Townhome representative on the Conservancy Board. Townhome homeowners may contact Edgar at 219-9718 or edgar.g.r@comcast.net.



SPECIAL ASSESSMENT FOR VILLAGE COUNCIL HOMEOWNERS

In a move intended to replenish depleted reserves and allow for the completion of the fence replacement project, the Conservancy Board of Directors approved a Village Council Board recommendation to implement a special assessment for Village homeowners in 2008. The actual amount of the assessment and how it is to be paid is still being determined, but it is expected to be in excess of \$200



Village Board Director Joe Paladino emphasized that the assessment decision was not made without concern over the impact on individual budgets and without consideration of other possible remedies. But the bottom line is that the Village Council does not have sufficient funds to complete the fencing project and still handle other capital expenditures such as the tree pruning and removal project needed in 2008. **NOTE: THERE WILL BE NO VILLAGE COUNCIL BOARD MEETING IN NOVEMBER. THE NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING IS DECEMBER 17TH.**

TREES

Trees. We got trees. Bushes and ground cover too. In case you haven't noticed, CWD, the Country Walk developer, has re-forested the area along Walden Meadow Road where a large number of trees had been removed due to the construction of new homes. A four foot high berm now serves as a bed for some fast-growing Norway Spruce, Dark American and Emerald Green Arborvitae, and White Pine that should soon serve as a nice visual hedge between the Country Walk homes and the road. Some Northern Bayberry shrubbery and Juniper ground cover will also help fill in the area. . .



The landscaper, Russo Lawn and Landscape of Windsor Locks, will soon be adding some Kousa and Varigated Red Twig Dogwoods, Purple Leaf Sand Cherry and various kinds of Crabapple and Viburnum, all of which should provide a beautiful

contrast to the evergreens from the spring season through the fall.

SEX JOKE

(that got your attention didn't it?)

A woman walked into the kitchen to find her husband stalking around with a fly swatter.

"What are you doing?" She asked.

"Killing flies" He responded. "Got 3 males and 2 females so far."

Intrigued, she asked. "How can you tell them apart?"

He responded, "3 were on a beer can, 2 were on the phone."

SERVICE PROVIDER DATABASE?

Have a plumbing job that needs doing but don't know who to call? How about an electrician? Or a dentist? Hairdresser? Painter?

When the need for professional service arises, most of us, at some time or other have been forced into taking a chance on whoever has the slickest ad in the yellow pages or someone with a local address who we assume will be friendly, courteous, at least reliably on time and comparatively inexpensive. Assumptions, of course, are generally a poor basis for making decisions.

In any event, a number of people have suggested that we develop a sharable database of professional service providers that have been used and recommended by our neighbors. The database, perhaps accessible on our waldenwoodct.com web-site, would be a simple categorized list of the service providers, their contact information plus any endorsement-like comments a homeowner might want to share. The information would also be added to the package of material the Welcome Committee hands out to new homeowners.

Although this should still be considered in the planning stage, if you know of any service providers who might qualify for our database and you feel comfortable in recommending them to other homeowners in Walden Woods, please provide the information and any comments to Bob Ellis, 688-5949, pollyandbob@sbcglobal.net.

FOR SALE

Black and Decker electric, 18" lawn mower. Adjustable cutting height, great for small area. Very good condition. \$40. Call Bette Harner, 688-4886.

WINE TASTING PARTY



On the evening of October 13, the Social & Recreation Committee hosted a "Wines Around the World" wine tasting at the Meeting House. About 50 guests joined Jim Nussbaum from Bert's Spirit Shoppe in Windsor Locks as he and his staff led the group through a selection of wines from Australia, Chile, Germany, Italy and even New Zealand. All guests were issued a one day "Passport" and as they completed their tours the stamped passports were deposited in a container and served as the tickets for the evening's doorprize - a fine bottle of French Champagne taken home by Molly Loftus.

Everyone agreed the evening was both educational and enjoyable and all are looking forward to doing it again.

DATES TO REMEMBER

- Wed, Nov 14th @ 7:00** Duplex Council Meeting at Win and Bonnie Farmer's home, 22 Scarlet Lane
- Mon, Nov 26th @ 7:00** ~~Village Council Meeting at the Meeting House~~
- Wed, Nov 28th @ 7:00** Conservancy Board Meeting at the Meeting House
- Sat, Dec 1st 7:00 – 10:30** **Holiday Party** at Meeting House (contact Janet Terkildsen, 683-1239 or janterk2000@yahoo.com)

IF YOU KNOW OF ANYONE WHO HAS NOWHERE TO GO FOR THE HOLIDAYS OR NEEDS ASSISTANCE, CONTACT DEB GIAMPOLO, 298-8782 OR DGIAMPOLO@HOTMAIL.COM.

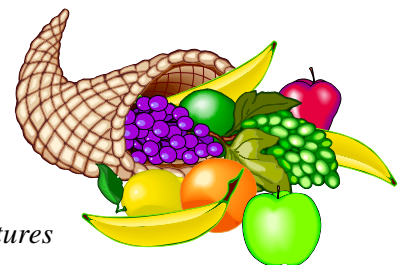
COMINGS AND GOINGS

- Left:** David and Leslie Luby, 402 Pond Bridge
- Arrived:** Regina Sanchez
- Country Walk Arrival:** Kevin and Beth Burke, 1 Scarlet Lane

WELCOME TO WALDEN WOODS REGINA, KEVIN AND BETH !

A hangover is the wrath of grapes.

A THANKSGIVING MESSAGE



Thanksgiving is always a good time to do a little thinking about what we have instead of what we don't. To give you some food for thought, here are a few statistics taken from the publication *If the World Were a Village of 100 People*:

If you have never experienced a war, a loneliness of an imprisonment, an agony of tortures or a famine, you are happier than 500 million people in this world.

If you are able to go to church, mosque or synagogue without fear of harassment, arrest, torture or death, you are happier than 3 billion people in this world.

If there is a meal in your refrigerator, if you are dressed and have shoes, if you have a bed and a roof above your head, you are better off than 75% of the people in this world.

If you can read this message, you are blessed because there are 2 billion people who cannot read at all.

So don't feel so bad if you overcook the turkey. Be thankful you've got the means to buy, cook and serve the bird and the friends who will understand.

HAVE A HAPPY THANKSGIVING !!