

# RICHLAND FOREST

## HOME OWNERS ASSOCIATION

### Annual Meeting

The Richland Forest Homeowners Association Annual meeting was held on October 16, 2008. With the bare minimum of signed proxies, we were able to conduct the annual meeting. All residents are encouraged to attend our monthly meetings, as well as the annual meeting, and participate in the decisions that are made regarding your community. Sheila Green-Singleton, Pam Valatka and Shonnie Dennis were re-elected to the board. Charlie Peng was elected to the board as a new member.

At the November meeting of the board, Sheila Green-Singleton and Steve Satre were re-elected as President and Vice-President, respectively, and Charlie Peng was elected as the new Treasurer, taking over from Sue Kysela. Many thanks to Sue for an outstanding job as Treasurer over the past two years. She kept our financial records balanced and in good order during a period with some unique challenges. And welcome to Charlie Peng, who moved here from Alexandria this past February. Charlie's family (including the dog) are happy to be living here in our community and he has generously stepped forward to volunteer his time to make this a better place for all of us.

### Committee Chairs

The Committee Chairpersons remain as follows:

Architectural Review Control	Steve Satre
Communications	Natalie Rose
Developer Closeout	Shonnie Dennis
Landscaping and Snow Removal	Pam Valatka
Traffic and Parking	Colleen Long

The HOA can always use the help of residents who are interested in making our community a better place to live. Residents who are interested in participating in committee activities should send an e-mail to **board@richlandforest.com** or call the GHA management office.

### Accomplishments for 2008

During the Annual Meeting the President and Committee Chairs reported on the following 2008 events:

- The Board of Directors held seven meetings.
- Three newsletters were published.
- HOA dues increased by 5%.
- Audits were completed for 2004, 2005 and 2006.
- Updated Architectural Design Guidelines for decks, gazebos, screened porches, exterior lighting, entry doors and garage doors.
- Trash removal contract was renewed.
- Landscaping contract was renewed for 5 years.
- New Community sign at Ducksprings Way and Augusta Drive was completed.
- Repaired or replaced several fences within the community property.
- Repaired tot lots.

# New Richland Forest Sign

*...and it only took 15 years to get it!*



Another milestone in the developer close-out for Richland Forest was achieved with the completion of the community sign, which sits on the corner of Augusta and Ducksprings Way, just across from Dominion High School.

It didn't take long for our new sign to be vandalized with spraypaint. We've had it cleaned, but this could run into serious money if it becomes a recurring problem.

Please notify the Sheriff's office if you see any acts of vandalism taking place.

## LEAVES, LEAVES, AND MORE LEAVES...



Please rake and bag your leaves from your yard and curb areas. They will be picked up by CSI if you put them in bags and place them on the curb for Wednesday pickup. Don't expect your neighbors to do it for you when they blow into their already cleaned yard. Be neighborly.

Also, **PLEASE** do not put your leaves onto common areas. We all pay to have our common areas cleaned for Fall. Let's make our grounds look great for holiday visitors, as well as ourselves.

**NOTE:** After January 1 and up until April, yard waste should be placed on the curb on normal trash pickup days (i.e. Tuesday and Friday).

## ...AND THEN COMES THE **SNOW**

Winter is bearing down on us with cold weather and SNOW! **Remember:** county ordinance requires that snow (or ice) must be removed from sidewalks within 6 hours of the end of a snowfall. If the snowfall occurs overnight, the sidewalks must be cleared by 12:00 noon the following day. Individual homeowners will be held liable for any injuries and accidents that occur on their sidewalks due to snow and ice. Please be a good neighbor and promptly clear your sidewalks and walkways.

Sidewalks in the common areas will be cleared by the Landscaping Company. Plowing of the streets will be done by Centex.

### **Christmas Tree Pickup**

Place your bare trees on the curb on the *evenings* of December 31 or January 7.

# Hey, funny story...

*(did we mention the embezzlement?)*

No, it's not funny. But we've taken action to recover the funds.

Koger Management Company handled our financial affairs for several years. In 2008, an employee of Koger was charged with embezzling over \$3 million dollars from 400 different homeowner associations. Our 2005 audit discovered that \$50,000 was missing from our account. Richland Forest HOA filed a claim with our insurance broker in an effort to recover the funds.

### Richland Forest's First Walking Group

Lace up your walking shoes and come join us for an invigorating walk (roughly 3 miles) on Tuesday and Thursday evenings. If you are interested, please give Jody Guarino a call at 703-404-9512 or 703-401-4801 for more information.

### Richland Forest's First Knitting Group

Come join us for an evening of knitting, crocheting, sharing project and learning new techniques. If you are interested, please give Jody Guarino a call at 703-404-9512 or 703-401-4801 for more information. All levels are welcome.

## Two Puzzles

(check [www.richlandforest.com](http://www.richlandforest.com) for puzzle solutions)

### When Are We?

Alf, Bert, Charlie, Doug, Ernie, Fred and George are having an argument about which day of the week it is. Let's listen in...

**ALF:** The day after tomorrow is Wednesday.

**BERT:** No, today is Wednesday.

**CHARLIE:** You're both wrong; tomorrow is Wednesday.

**DOUG:** Nonsense. Today is neither Monday, Tuesday nor Wednesday.

**ERNIE:** I'm quite sure yesterday was Thursday.

**FRED:** No, you've got it the wrong way around. Tomorrow is Thursday.

**GEORGE:** Anyway, yesterday was not Saturday.

**Only one of these remarks is true. Which one? What day of the week is it?**

### Incorrect Division

In the following, obviously incorrect, division the pattern is correct but every single figure is wrong.

$$\begin{array}{r}
 179 \\
 79 \overline{)9398} \\
 \underline{66} \\
 189 \\
 \underline{156} \\
 135 \\
 \underline{130} \\
 \hline
 \hline
 \end{array}$$

**Find the correct figures. (The correct division comes out evenly.)**

## Street Light Out?

As we have mentioned in previous newsletters, Dominion Power has the responsibility for the repair of malfunctioning street lights. They can be reached 24 hours a day at 888-667-3000. To expedite repair, use the identification number which can be found on the pole.



Sheriff Stephen O. Simpson

**LOUDOUN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**  
880 Harrison Street SE, Leesburg, Virginia 20175  
Telephone 703-777-0407

## Thefts from Vehicles in Loudoun County are on the Rise!!

The most common items taken include GPS units, small electronics (MP3 players), and money.

According to the Loudoun County Sheriff's Office Crime Prevention Unit, here are some ways to help prevent these thefts:

- Remove all items from your vehicle when not in use. When you cannot do this, put the items out of sight (inside a lockable glove box or trunk).
- A visible GPS unit is an obvious target, but car prowlers also look for any signs that one may be inside your vehicle, such as a mount on the window or dashboard. Even the circle impression left on the windshield from the suction cup mount is enough for thieves to break-in. They assume a GPS is hidden somewhere inside. Please try to rid your unattended vehicle of all tell-tale signs.
- Park inside your garage, if available, and keep the garage locked. Or, try to park your vehicle near or under an illuminated area.
- **KEEP YOUR VEHICLE LOCKED.** Most stolen items are taken from vehicles that are left unlocked.

If your vehicle is broken into remember to immediately report it to the Loudoun Sheriff's Office. It is also helpful to have the serial numbers of the stolen items available when the deputies arrive.

To report a crime please call the Loudoun County Sheriff's Office:  
Non-Emergency call 703-777-1021  
or in an emergency CALL 911.

