

News on the Creek

South River Park
Citizen's Association
2021 Board of
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Newsletter Editor

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Community Calendar

All events are at the community
clubhouse unless otherwise
noted

November 3, 2021

Annual Community Meeting
and Election - 7:30 pm

Book Club

September 29, 2021

Contact Diane Mairs
dmairs11@yahoo.com

Matt Tippet, President SRPCA

September 2021 is a month that few of us will forget. I am writing this column just half way through the month and already so many things have happened. I don't want to dwell on the tornado that hit our community, others in Edgewater and Annapolis, but I will say again how proud I am of our neighborhood response to help each other. For some, the impact has been devastating. For others, an inconvenience. For some, no impact on property but still a day of worry and concern for others. Regardless of the immediate effect on each of us, I feel gratitude that no one was injured in this terrible and quick event.



There are others we thank – the police who came quickly, the power companies' diligence to make the area safe from downed wires and restore service as soon as possible. The tree companies seemed to just materialize from everywhere and worked side by side without incident. The Fire Department inspected for our safety and other agencies, such as the County Emergency Operations team and the American Red Cross reached out to assist. All deserve our appreciation for their help and concern about our welfare, especially during the first confusing days.

We have shared information via email as we have received it from the county. In this newsletter, we are providing more information that may still be useful to you. We alerted you to the September 13th call in Town Hall sponsored by our District 30 state legislative elected officials provided additional notes for those seeking assistance with insurance, disaster aid and also about how to deal with scammers or difficult contractors. We covered this call and have included notes in his newsletter that may be helpful. We are also sharing a useful link to the County's Citizen Emergency Preparedness Handbook that has helpful contact information as well as tips on how to prepare for and deal with any future emergencies, included storms or flooding. You may want to download this booklet and consider some of the suggestions. As a small community, we feel our best bet is to help each other out as neighbors. As we hear of helpful information or resources, we can pass that along as soon as possible.

The **South River Park Annual community election** coming up. Nominations are due by October 8 to Nancy Cox at ddee@comcast.net. Ballots will be mailed to homeowners by October 15 with a request to return them by the Annual Meeting on November 3. Please strongly consider volunteering for a position on the Community Executive Committee. If you have questions or

would like to know more about the duties of the office or volunteer opportunities, please contact me or any of the community officers and we will do our best to answer them. *We need your help!*

I have a few announcements to share –



The 2021 Party to Celebrate our Centennial Birthday was postponed. Committee Chairperson, Karen Tollestrup and her team assure us they are ready to roll this event in full when our concerns about COVID are better in hand. At this point, we are hoping for a new date in May 2022 so please stay tuned!



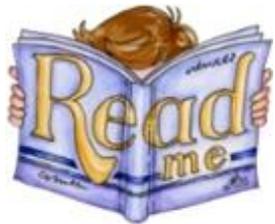
Kayak and Paddle Board Racks – The kayak and paddle board storage rack at Ingalls Beach is available for residents to use on a first come/first serve basis at no charge. However, we remind users to please secure you craft well. A few went a bit airborne in the recent storm. This is to protect your property as well as others.



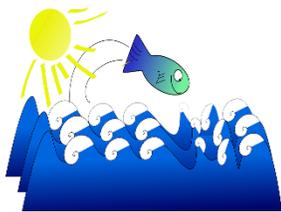
Website Reminder - The community website is always open! Minutes from community meetings, water quality readings, past newsletters, forms to rent the clubhouse facility and a collage of community photos are all there for your review. Please visit the site at www.southernriverpark.org. Webmaster **Andrew Keppel**, welcomes your suggestions or comments. Please contact Andrew at agkeppel@gmail.com.



Clubhouse is available! Consider renting the community clubhouse! Tables and chairs are included in the rental fee and there is plenty of outdoor space, free parking and a catering kitchen. Members of the community can rent the clubhouse for \$150 and non-residents \$250. We adhere to whatever the COVID guidelines are but it is never too early to book your event. Contact **Matt Tippet** at tippettmatt@gmail.com or 301-938-2530.



Upcoming SRPCA Book Club Meeting Dates and Reads – The Book Club is meeting as COVID guidelines allow. For the September 29 meeting, an outdoor discussion will be held to talk about "*The Four Winds*" by Kristin Hannah. *New Members always welcome!* Meetings are usually held once a month at 10 am. and includes a lively discussion of the book and an enjoyable short get-together of neighbors for conversation. Contact **Diane Mairs** at dmairs11@yahoo.com or call 410-956-5633.



Good Water Quality Readings on Warehouse Creek in 2021! We are pleased to report that the water quality readings from Warehouse Creek were in the good range this summer. Our community participates with the Arundel Rivers Association for weekly samples to be tested between Memorial Day and Labor Day to check for harmful bacteria that may be present. The results of these tests are available each week on the community website. This has been a good year for water quality!

News You Can Use

Useful Contact Information for help with Insurance, Disaster Aid and Dealing with Scammers or Fraudulent Contractors – The District 30 State Legislative Delegation hosted a call in Town Meeting on September 13 to introduce State and local officials and to provide information that would be helpful to those continuing to address issues resulting from the Hurricane Ida Tornado that hit on September 1. Here are a few notes from the call that may be of assistance:

- Help with Insurance: The Maryland State Insurance Administration has a team of people able to assist you in understanding your policy, help you file a claim and understand the process. If you are having problems with your insurance company, they can contact the company on your behalf to get assistance. People needing help should contact them at 1-800-492-6116. Their website is www.insurance.maryland.gov
- Debris removal: The County Department of Public Works may be able to assist in the removal of debris if it is brought to the edge of your property along the street. Please contact them at 410-222-0600.
- Registering with the Office of Emergency Management: Please report damages at www.aacounty.org/damagesurvey. All storm related events must be registered on this site by September 23. Once received, the office can forward your concerns to other appropriate county offices for help. In addition, the results of this survey will help the county in reporting the extent of damage to FEMA, qualifying for additional resources.
- Complaints Regarding Insurance: The People's Counsel of the State Attorney General's Office is available to assist in addressing complaints against insurance companies. It is recommended that you keep a chronology of all contacts and interactions with your insurance company as well as photographs. You can reach the People's Counsel at 410-576-6432.
- The American Red Cross is available to assist families or individuals in need of aid as a result of the storm. The Southern Chapter of the Chesapeake Region has already given aid to 2 families. To register for their assistance, go online to <https://www.redcross.org/find-your-local-chapter.html> and enter your zip code and find the Southern Maryland Chapter. You may send an email or call to register. Someone will respond within 24 hours.
- Help with Fraudulent Contractors or Scams: Unfortunately, cases of fraudulent contractors and people claiming to be selling insurance have been detected in Edgewater since the storm. If you believe you have come into contact with such a person or need help, there are several resources available.
- For Fraudulent Contractors or Scams, contact the Maryland Department of Labor, Home Improvement Commission. At their website, <https://www.dlir.state.md.us/license/mhic/> you can check the license status of a contractor or report suspected fraud. The Commission phone number is 888-218-5925.
- For Insurance Fraud, contact the Maryland Insurance Administration at 800-492-6116.
- The State Attorney General's Office can also assist in Fraud Investigation. The website for their office is https://www.marylandattorneygeneral.gov/Pages/CPD/immFraud/immFraud_complaint.aspx

The Citizen's Emergency Response Handbook - The Anne Arundel County Emergency Management has several useful resources. The Citizens Guide to Emergencies could be very useful to you and your family. The 25 page easy to understand Guide can be downloaded at <https://www.aacounty.org/departments/office-of-emergency-management/forms-publications/citizens-guide.pdf> This booklet contains contact information, guidelines for citizens prior to and during emergencies. This guide has three sections: Preparedness Essentials, Natural Hazards, and Man-Made Hazards suggestions for preparedness and also simple instructions for what to do in the event of any kind of emergency.

A Useful Reminder - Neighbor Fred Hunt reminds us that roofing and siding debris has often included nails and strong staples. Care should be taken walking through any area that collected such materials, not only for yourself, but for your pets. Flip flops and sandals are risky!

Tree Replacement: The August issue of the News on the Creek newsletter (found on the southriverpark.org website under news and events) contained information about tips for planting new trees as well as the Tree Trooper Program for homeowners who may be interested in finding out more to see if they may qualify for replacement tree planning and planting. Watershed Steward Carolyn Ricketts can be contacted at clynnline@gmail.com for more information. We will share additional news we learn about other reforestation opportunities that may become available.

Charlie Barber: We lost a good friend this past week. Charlie William Barber, long-time Munroe Avenue resident of South River Park, passed away unexpectedly at home. As a proud veteran, Charlie retired from his job at the US Capitol but that never kept him from working. Charlie has done many things for our community over the years. He helped with community clean-up activities and for many years, he helped maintain the lawns on all of the community properties. He was always on the look-out for neighbors who might need assistance. Charlie was a caring friend who will be remembered for always being ready to lend a helping hand and for his love for his beautiful dogs. He will be missed. We have been asked to share information about his service with the community.

Tuesday September 28, 2021 - 10:30 am
Cheltenham Veterans Cemetery
11301 Crain Hwy
Cheltenham, MD 20623

And FINALLY, a bit of really good news.....

Congratulations to Jess and Andrew Keppel on the happy arrival of a healthy son! Our newest community resident!



Note from the Newsletter Editor: Thank you for reading! The Editor is always looking for stories to share and welcomes useful community information! Please send your ideas for short articles or topics you would like to learn more about to me at missyc825@gmail.com.

Does anyone have a good fishing or crabbing story to share? Or boating or boarding adventure? Please send me a note – I will be glad to help you share your tale of the creek, river, or bay in a future edition!