

June 2018

What good is the warmth of summer without the cold of winter to give it sweetness.

- John Steinbeck

Spring has finally sprung in the Manor! The trees are budding, and the grass is lush. Individuals are starting to plant flowers and hang baskets and clean up after a LONG, LONG winter. The pool cover is off and the happy laughter of children enjoying the water on hot summer days has returned. You may even hear the laughter of a few adults enjoying the lounge chairs on a hot summer day, as well. There are some exciting things happening in the Manor this year.

This is the first year of a new landscape contract with Sarver Landscaping. The grass will be cut each week in a single day. So far, we have received a lot of positive feedback about how the Manor lawns are looking. You will note that the grass is being cut a little higher. This is healthier for the grass and avoids scalping of the higher areas.



The Board established a Communications Committee, chaired by our Vice President Maggie Noble. We are hoping to give the Messenger a new look and use it as an up-to-date communication tool. If there is anything



that you would like included in the Messenger, please forward it to either Maggie directly or Office Manager, Susan Moran at shmha@verizon.net.

We are a small interdependent community. Our success depends upon each homeowner's participation. If there are issues that you would like to address, please feel free to share them either by attending a Board Meeting or by dropping us a note at the Manor office. We value your input and appreciate your comments. Please let me know what you like about our community as well. Positive feedback is as necessary as constructive criticism. If you would like to contact me directly, my email is listed below.

Judy Haluka
President
Sewickley Heights Manor Home Owners Association
jhaluka@gmail.com

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance: Cathy Cartieri, Chairperson

Just a reminder that dues are collected by the Manor office July 1. Please make your payment on time so as to avoid the \$50 late fee and ask your bank about auto payments! Lastly, the Finance Committee welcomes new members. Please contact Cathy Cartieri directly at cathycartieri@gmail.com for more information.

Recreation: Tom Corbett, Chairperson

Pool hours are 10am – 8pm seven days a week. Thank you for helping us keep the pool clean and safe for all to enjoy by picking up and keeping a smoking section outside the pool area. If you wish to reserve a tennis court this summer, please do so at the court and your request will be confirmed by the office. Happy summer!

Landscape: Mike Kaszer, Chairperson

Plan four, the final year of our landscape plan, has been completed. Lark has fertilized and sprayed for crabgrass and dandelions. The Manor landscape crew is proceeding with weed removal, seeding and clean-up in various beds. Bob Merriman and his crew have been working on completing work orders and landscape requests. As mentioned, the Board hired Sarver Landscaping, (the same vendor that the Ridge neighborhood utilizes) this year for grass cutting and leaf removal. I am happy to hear neighborhood feedback, positive and negative and can assure you that we will deal with every situation with a quick response. The Landscape Committee has been much involved with our landscape plan and requests. We will be working on replacement of trees next. We have met with a resident who would like to strategically plant wildflower beds through the Manor. If you would like to be a part of this project, please contact the committee through the Manor office.

Ridge Landscape: Tim Miller, Chairperson

We've continued our contract with Sarver Landscaping and are happy with their work. If you have any concerns regarding landscaping on the Ridge, please contact the main office.

Architecture: Tim Miller, Chairperson

This is the season for exterior work. If you are thinking about replacing windows or doors or adding an awning to your deck, please contact the main office or website for a review form. The Architecture Committee will work with you to get your projects moving forward quickly.

Maintenance: Len Kinter, Chairperson

Arena Painting is continuing the paint and stain project on the decks. It is a two-step process requiring a 4 hour drying time between each application. Preliminary work on deck refurbishing by McCoy Builders will be starting in July or August. Homes affected are 502-512, 802-812, 901-911 SHD. McCoy Builders are working on routine siding replacement and repairing wood trim as needed. Driveway sealing will be starting. Nether

Asphalt Sealing will be sealing 64 driveways with a completion date of July 31. Homes affected are 101-107, 102-104, 201-207, 301-311, 302-304 TS, All of FE, All of SL, 101-111, 402-412, 802-812, 1002-1012 SHD.

Communication: Maggie Noble, Chairperson

As mentioned above, the Communication Committee is a brand-new group of neighborhood volunteers with a combined goal to develop and enhance methods of keeping our community informed. Our first meeting will be held this month and is TBD, so it is not too late to join! We will be discussing benchmarks with other HOA communities, the website, as well as email communication and distribution of the Messenger going forward. Please contact me directly if you are interested in volunteering your time by serving on this committee. sewickleymanorcommunications@gmail.com

Management: Judy Haluka, Chairperson

We are at full staff for the summer. Due to the contacted services, we have just two summer employees, Roger and Alex. Say 'Hi' when you see them. Our three full time staff are Bob, Operations Manager, Susan, Office Manager, and Jesse, our Maintenance Assistant, who continues to work with Bob. All of our employees work hard to keep the Manor and our homes looking great!

WE NEED YOU! The best way to see change or maintain something good is to get involved and join any committee. We thank you for your efforts! Please contact the Manor Office if you do not see a committee chair's contact information listed in this issue.

AROUND THE NEIGHBORHOOD

June Board Meeting:

The Board will meet at the **Manor Office on June 11th at 6:30pm**. All residents are welcome to address the Board with concerns. Please contact the Manor Office in advance to be placed on the agenda.

Manor Office Vacation Dates:

The office will be closed June 15 – June 27. Bob Merriman will be in and out of the office fielding phone calls.

Feral Cats and Coyotes in the Manor:

There is a growing feral cat problem in our neighborhood. It appears to be centered around Timber Lane. Animal Control did sterilize many last year, but, because of continued feeding and a wondering tomcat, the population is again growing. Be aware that feral cat colonies represent a food source for coyotes who will aggressively hunt them at night. It's a danger to all Manor residents and especially our small dogs. Please **DO NOT FEED** feral cats. It feels like you are doing a good thing, but according to wildlife officials, feeding encourages growth of the colony that becomes bothersome and introduces various feline diseases. It also exposes properties to an unpleasant aroma of cat excrement. Animal control will be contacted about availability to capture as many as is feasible, sterilize them, clip their ears (for ID purposes) and return them to their original environment. Thank you for your help!

Doggy Cans:

Please do not dispose of garbage in the cans meant for dog waste. There are a number of animals, including racoons, that routinely spread trash all over the neighborhood. Please use the cans only for pet waste. In an effort to modernize a bit and improve the general look we are replacing the wooden walled cans with the brown plastic can that has been trialed at the beginning of SHD. This can is used at Misty Pines Dog Park with success. It takes the same standard garbage can bag that the prior cans do, but with a small less obtrusive profile and a completely attached lid. Manor funds are not being used for this project, they are being replaced by an individual donor in the Manor and a second donor in the Ridge. This project should be complete by the end of June.

Neighborhood Beautification:

The HOA Board thanks individuals who have gone out of pocket to improve the Manor, both in their own landscaping and in special projects like the above-mentioned provision of new doggy cans. We know there is a high cost to living in this bucolic setting, and we have high expectations. The Board is dedicated to maximizing our budget dollars, and we are very grateful as neighbors to those who have gone above and beyond to enhance everyone's overall experience in the neighborhood. If you have a project in mind that you would like to support, please contact the Manor Office. Thank you!

Fern Hollow Nature Center Event:

GET OUTDOORS DAY OF GIVING June 9 8:00am – 8:00pm

Support the Fern Hollow Nature Center and give back while getting outside and enjoying all that nature has to offer! Make a donation to FHNC on National Get Outdoors Day and get a dollar-for-dollar match. Thanks to the generosity of a local Family your support will help us get even more children outside to Explore, Learn, and Discover. GET OUTDOORS FREE ACTIVITIES: 8:00 AM Sunrise Yoga with Salt Power Yoga Sewickley 9:00 AM Bird Walk 10:00 AM Natural Outdoor Classroom Playdate 12:00 PM Volunteer Appreciation Lunch 1:30 PM Insect Walk 3:00 PM Archery 6:00 PM Amazing Park Race 8:00 PM Bonfire & S'mores

Aleppo Township News:

Aleppo Township will begin reconstruction of Sewickley Heights Dr. this summer. The project will extend from Sewickley Ridge Dr. to the cul de sac. This is a major project and will replace not only the asphalt but the underlay as well. Please be understanding and observe the posted detours as work progresses. No start date has been set for this project.

Townhouse for Rent:

3-bedroom townhouse for rent

Available end of August

Call 724.672.7973